Outlook

City of Berkeley Permit Application on Paid Parking for Waterfront lots

From Jeffrey Bokor <jbokor@berkeley.edu>
Date Tue 9/29/2026 9:17 AM
To publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>

1 attachment (1 KB)
smime.p7s;

ATTN: Larry Goldzband, Lindsay Martien, Olivia Ilsley

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Jeffrey Bokor. I live in El Cerrito. I come to the marina to take my child to Adventure Playground, picnic, enjoy the Bay view and windsurf in the Bay. Parking fees will impact my ability to enjoy the waterfront by forcing me to park too far away from the windsurfing launch and picnic area.

Today, I'm writing as a member of the Berkeley Waterfront Community Coalition to ask that BCDC reject the current permit application and require the City to defer any move towards paid parking until the public and the BCDC can review the entire waterfront plan.

The paid parking proposed in the permit application states that there is alternative free parking elsewhere in the waterfront (such as the Marina Boulevard lot) as substitutes for the spaces that the city wants us to pay for in the future. But many of those substitute spaces are a mile or more away from the lots being converted, a 20+ minute walk while carrying gear for sailing, swimming, or picnicking. Some of what the City counts as available parking is also slipholder-only, reserved for boat owners and not actually open to the general public at all.

Importantly, as the city itself has stated previously, adding more paid parking to the Marina is an essential component of the much larger, unapproved, Pier-Ferry project — but it's being brought forward on its own, separately from the ferry permitting process and separately from the broader Waterfront Specific Plan. Reviewing parking changes piece by piece makes it impossible to see the full picture of what's happening to our shoreline.

BCDC's mission is to protect and enhance San Francisco Bay and to encourage the Bay's responsible and productive use for this and future generations. BCDC's own guidance states that public access is for everyone - that it should provide "barrier-free access for people with disabilities, people of all income levels, and people of all ages and cultures, and that in general, public access to the Bay should be available to the visiting public free of charge." In keeping with that mission and standard, I'm asking BCDC to reject this permit application, and require the City to bring back a comprehensive waterfront parking plan, not standalone lot-by-lot approvals.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeffrey Bokor

Outlook

Public parking!

From Alissa Beckerman <alissab5757@gmail.com>
Date Sat 9/26/2026 5:16 PM
To BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>

You don't often get email from alissab5757@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi!
we like free public parking
we do not want you to charge for parking.
please do not make us pay for parking, i am likely to come to the marina less if i have to pay
i really don't want to pay for parking.

Thank you

Outlook

Waterfront Parking

From Alicia Phang <aliciaphang97@gmail.com>
Date Mon 9/28/2026 4:18 PM
To BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>
Cc Bwccoalition@gmail.com <Bwccoalition@gmail.com>

You don't often get email from aliciaphang97@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Commissioners,

I hope this finds you well! I am writing to express my disinterest in the potential implementation of paid parking at the Marina. I love going to the Marina to exercise with my dog, take a long walk, and look at the views of the Bay. The free parking allows my fellow Bay Area residents to enjoy these simple pleasures as well. Implementing paid parking to the waterfront area where it's always been free would rob folks of an (extremely) accessible way to enjoy the city. Please consider rejecting the current parking permit application. Thank you and I appreciate your time.

Best,

--
Alicia Phang

Outlook

No to Parking Fees at the Berkeley Marina

From Romy Susvilla <rsusvilla@yahoo.com>
Date Mon 9/28/2026 8:16 PM
To BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>

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Dear Commissioners,

My name is Romy Susvilla. I live in Hercules, CA. I come to the marina to wingfoil. Parking fees will impact my ability to enjoy the waterfront by limiting the diversity of the people who can enjoy the marina. As a regular wingfoiler at the Berkeley Marina, I enjoy seeing lots of people, young and old, enjoying the marina. Most would come down the docks, take some pictures, and some ask me about the water sport that I do. These kind of interactions add to my enjoyment of the marina.

The parking lots that the city now wants to charge for have always been free, and the City itself has described them that way - including in its own 2025 decision memo, which called the South Cove West lot a "free public resource" that provides "enhanced equitable access" to the Bay. Turning free lots into paid ones is a real change in who gets to use our shoreline. Research on parks and beaches elsewhere consistently shows that parking fees fall hardest on lower-income visitors, and Berkeley's own visitor survey backs this up: the south waterfront lots see far more lower-income visitors than the north waterfront does, and they're the lots this plan targets.

Thank you for your consideration,

Romy Susvilla
Hercules, CA

Outlook

Re: parking meters along marina BLVD for the Waterfront Park

From Save CC <savecc6@gmail.com>
Date Mon 9/28/2026 12:34 PM
To Stefani Berger <stefaniberger43@gmail.com>
Cc BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>; Camille Antinori <camilleantinori@gmail.com>

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Thank you Stefani for sending this. I can alway count on you for drafting very compelling and articulate written letters. Thank you very much. Jeff

On Sun, Sep 27, 2026 at 2:49 PM Stefani Berger <stefaniberger43@gmail.com> wrote:

> ATTN: Larry Goldzband, Lindsay Martien, Olivia Ilsley
>
> Dear Commissioners,
>
> Today, I'm writing as a member of the Berkeley Waterfront Community Coalition to ask that BCDC reject the current permit application and require the City to defer any move towards paid parking until the public and the BCDC can review the entire waterfront plan.
>
> My name is Stefani Berger. I live in Berkeley and have gone to the Marina Waterfront Park everyday since it opened in the late 90's. I enjoy the Off Lease Area because I have dogs and it is accessible to walk. (I am 74 and have had 2 total knee replacements.) I enjoy the social meetings of dog owners and dogs.
>
> The paid parking proposed in the permit application states that there is alternative free parking elsewhere in the waterfront (such as the Marina Boulevard lot) as substitutes for the spaces that the city wants us to pay for in the future. The idea that people can park for free in an area that has no crosswalk, no clear pathway and no directions for use, make this entire idea unsafe.
>
> But mostly, I am upset that a public area will now unfairly discriminate against families and individuals with limited income.
>
> The parking lots that the city now wants to charge for have always been free, and the City itself has described them that way -including in its own 2025 decision memo, which called the South Cove West lot a "free public resource" that provides "enhanced equitable access" to the Bay.
>
> BCDC's mission is to protect and enhance San Francisco Bay and to encourage the Bay's responsible and productive use for this and future generations. BCDC's own guidance states that public access is for everyone - that it should provide "barrier-free access for people with disabilities, people of all income levels, and people of all ages and cultures, and that in general, public access to the Bay should be available to the visiting public free of charge." In keeping with that mission and standard, I'm asking BCDC to reject this permit application, and require the City to bring back a comprehensive waterfront parking plan, not standalone lot-by-lot approvals.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stefani Berger

Best,

In dance!

Stefani

"*In this time of crisis, the arts give us hope, elevate our spirits and help us transcend the difficulties facing us now.*"

Outlook

waterfront parking

From wini williams <wini_working4you@yahoo.com>
Date Mon 9/28/2026 9:20 AM
To BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>
Cc Bwccoalition@gmail.com <Bwccoalition@gmail.com>

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WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

I am an elderly 46 year Berkeley home owner with disabilities and a dog I walk every day, sometimes twice a day at the Marina. The free parking has allowed me to utilize the Marina for many years.

Fortunately for me I can afford to pay for parking; having to walk long distances would be a great hardship for me, making my visits onerous. There are many people who rely on the park for family gatherings and recreation who would be unable to pay for parking.

Berkeley claims to be a refuge for the disenfranchised. I'm afraid it is devolving into a typical city with little regard for those without resources to pay for privileges that should be available to all. What a shame.

Please consider all of the people of the city and find alternate ways to finance our needs.

Respectfully,
Wini Williams
2765 Mathews St
Berkeley, 94702