



Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7
 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
 PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177
 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR
 March 25, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Kriss Worthington, District 7, Berkeley City Council
 Subject: City Manager Referral: Create One Joint Email Address for all Nine Berkeley City Councilmembers

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Manager create one joint email address for all nine members of the Berkeley City Council in order to facilitate easier communication with constituents.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley Unified School District has already created a joint email for school board members, boardofed@berkeley.net.

Currently, there is no joint email address for all Berkeley City Council Members. There are only individual email addresses for each council member. If a Berkeley resident, merchant, or stakeholder wants to communicate a concern to the entire City Council, they must look up and type in the individual email addresses of every council member. Including commas and spaces between email addresses, this would amount to a total of 241 characters that a constituent must type in after looking up each individual email address.

Without a joint email, constituents are less likely to communicate questions, concerns and suggestions to the City Council, thus preventing Councilmembers from best serving constituents and stakeholders effectively.

Having a joint email address, such as CityCouncil2014@cityofberkeley.info, could be easily looked up on the City Council homepage, and would only require typing in 35 characters total. Many residents are excited about creating this effective tool.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Using a joint email address reduces the amount of energy consumption as a person will spend less time in a building and on the computer searching for all nine council member's email addresses and typing them out. This encourages an environmentally-sound information technology infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

CONTACT:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington

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