

BERKLEY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of February 17, 2026

6:30 PM

Council Chambers, City Hall

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

Called to order 6:31PM by Chair Richardson

Present: Tricia Losey, Jason Benedict, Mark Richardson, Madeline Alexander, Councilmember Gary Elrod

Absent: Noel Rendleman, Caroline Brohn-Dicks, Alex Brown

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve by Losey, second by Alexander. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes, January, 2026 meeting

Motion to approve by Losey, second by Alexander. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment

Chair Richardson called for comment. There was no response from the public.

5. Chairperson's Report: (Richardson)

Richardson confirmed BEAC will host a bike corral at the Berkley Art Bash on June 13, 2026.

6. City Council Liaison Report: (Councilmember Elrod)

Councilmember Elrod shared

- Southfield is considering programs over composting and solar energy; may serve as model for Berkley
- City is moving into the budgeting cycle
- State Representative Natalie Price presented to Council recently to discuss priorities at the state level and how they affect local governments

7. Liaison Report: (Brown)

Absent, but shared the following notes before the meeting

- New members have been appointed by Council.
- Requesting timelines for scheduling a tour of SOCRRA facilities
- Requested timelines for e-recycle days.

- Meeting with DTE to discuss their EV charging options for the parking lots downtown.
- No updates on Berkely days to share at this time.
- MOGO bikes are still being used; pending discussion with DDA.
- Shared SOCRRA data; refer to *Appendix*

8. Action item: finalize and adopt 2026 events calendar
Proposed the following event dates

Event	Proposed Date
Berkley Art Bash (bike corral)	June 13, 2026
Native plant bed installation	June 3, 2026
E-recycling event - spring	May 23, 2026
E-recycling event - fall	October 10, 2026
Clothing swap - spring	TBD - partnership with library
Clothing swap - fall	TBD - partnership with library
Native plant sale - spring	May 31, 2026
Native plant sale - fall	September 12, 2026
SOCRRA tour	TBD
Berkley Street Art Fest (bike corral)	TBD - July 2026
Touch a Truck (bike corral or table)	TBD - fall 2026

Motion to table for confirmation at next meeting by Losey, second by Alexander. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Discussion Item: Work Plan Priority: increasing Berkley Recycling rates (all)
Richardson summarized recycling statistics shared by Brown; refer to Appendix.

Richardson reminded BEAC of goal of reaching the Michigan state average for recycling, which is currently at 25% with State goal of reaching 30% by 2029, and shared resources available to cities to improve recycling adoption.

Richardson invited BEAC to review guidance at <http://www.recyclingpartnership.org>

Richardson noted state grant programs exist to support improvement of recycling adoption. While the deadline has recently passed for this year, we intend to explore for future years.
<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/materials-management/recycling>

Richardson confirmed goals for BEAC are education and creating opportunities for improved recycling adoption.

10. Discussion Item: Work Plan Priority: review Berkley Energy Efficiency Plan (all)

Richardson referred to the Berkley Energy Efficiency Plan, which was adopted in 2019. See https://berkleymi.gov/PDF%20Downloads/BerkleyEnergyPlan_July2019-compressed.pdf.

Richardson proposed reviewing progress to the plan through inquiry of the City Manager. Elrod agreed to discuss with City Manager Crystal VanVleck at their next regular meeting.

11. Discussion Item: comments and updates on other work plan priorities
Tabled until future meeting

12. Old Business:

Recommendation for locating native plant bed (All)
Tabled until future meeting

13. New Business:

Richardson discussed possibility of adding additional members to the BEAC.

Motion by Losey to propose update to the BEAC member count - from seven to nine, second by Alexander. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Announcements:

SEMCOG General Assembly is scheduled for March 19, 2026 in Detroit.
https://semconnect.semcog.org/Events/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=GA031926

15. Adjourn.

Motion by Alexander, second by Losey. Motion carried unanimously.

Appendix: Shared Items related to item 7. Liaison Report: (Brown)

February 6, 2026

Board of Trustees
SOCRRA

Subject: Holiday Cardboard Collection

Board Members:

SOCRRA staff worked with the collection contractors to place rollofs for holiday cardboard recycling in Berkley, Birmingham, Clawson, Huntington Woods, Oak Park, Royal Oak and Troy. The amounts of cardboard generated from these locations is summarized below.

Community	Tons
Berkley	5.11
Birmingham	2.91
Clawson	0.96
Ferndale	0.47
Huntington Woods	1.32
Oak Park	0.54
Royal Oak	1.46
Troy	7.49
TOTAL	20.26

Last year 21.28 tons of cardboard was accepted. The decrease year-over-year was 4.8%.

SOCRRA also accepts cardboard for recycling year round at our recycling drop-off center in Troy.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric L Griffin
General Manager

Suggested resolution: "That the report on Holiday Cardboard Collection be received and filed."

SOCRBA TONNAGE PERCENTAGES
January, 2026
Percentage of City's Total Waste Stream

Municipality	MSW			Compost			Recyclables		
	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
City Of Berkeley	78%	79%	74%	0%	0%	9%	22%	21%	17%
City Of Birmingham	61%	79%	82%	23%	0%	0%	15%	21%	18%
City Of Clawson	81%	83%	85%	0%	0%	0%	19%	15%	15%
City Of Fremdale	77%	71%	85%	8%	17%	0%	15%	12%	15%
City Of Hazel Park	89%	86%	93%	0%	0%	0%	11%	14%	7%
City Of Huntington Woods	75%	72%	77%	0%	3%	0%	25%	25%	23%
City Of Lathrup Village	83%	82%	88%	0%	3%	0%	17%	15%	12%
City Of Oak Park	79%	87%	86%	10%	5%	0%	11%	9%	14%
City Of Pleasant Ridge	74%	71%	73%	0%	5%	0%	25%	25%	27%
City Of Royal Oak	79%	82%	76%	1%	0%	8%	20%	18%	16%
City Of Troy	84%	82%	82%	0%	0%	1%	18%	18%	17%
Village of Beverly Hills	72%	77%	76%	5%	0%	0%	23%	23%	24%
SOCRBA TOTAL	79%	82%	81%	5%	2%	3%	17%	16%	16%

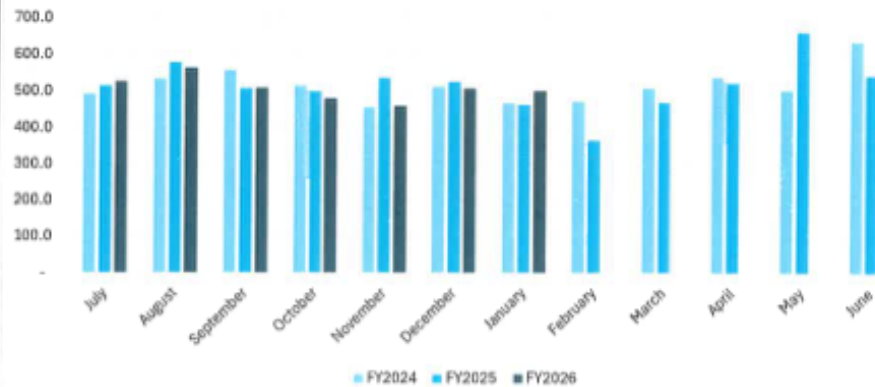
SOCRBA TONNAGE PERCENTAGES
RECYCLING / MSW
Percentage Breakdown of MSW and Recycling

Municipality	MSW			Recyclables		
	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
City Of Berkeley	78%	79%	82%	22%	21%	18%
City Of Birmingham	80%	79%	82%	20%	21%	18%
City Of Clawson	81%	85%	85%	19%	13%	15%
City Of Fremdale	84%	85%	85%	16%	15%	15%
City Of Hazel Park	89%	86%	93%	11%	14%	7%
City Of Huntington Woods	75%	75%	77%	25%	25%	23%
City Of Lathrup Village	83%	84%	88%	17%	16%	12%
City Of Oak Park	86%	91%	86%	12%	9%	14%
City Of Pleasant Ridge	74%	74%	73%	26%	26%	27%
City Of Royal Oak	80%	82%	83%	20%	18%	17%
City Of Troy	82%	82%	83%	18%	18%	17%
Village of Beverly Hills	75%	77%	76%	25%	23%	24%
SOCRBA TOTAL	82%	84%	84%	18%	16%	16%

City of Berkley

Trash Tonnage				Recycling Tonnage			
Month	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Month	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
July	491.4	516.1	527.1	July	106.4	130.7	117.6
August	535.2	579.7	564.4	August	121.0	128.1	117.7
September	558.8	507.2	508.8	September	130.9	104.2	107.8
October	514.4	498.5	479.0	October	122.4	117.3	115.0
November	456.2	537.7	458.5	November	108.5	130.0	108.2
December	512.8	527.4	506.8	December	137.0	136.9	131.0
January	467.2	463.1	499.4	January	132.6	122.3	111.2
February	472.0	364.3	-	February	104.1	104.1	-
March	507.6	469.0	-	March	111.7	98.8	-
April	540.1	522.9	-	April	126.3	113.5	-
May	502.7	662.5	-	May	114.4	133.7	-
June	635.9	544.9	-	June	134.1	107.6	-

Trash Tonnage by Fiscal Year and Month



Recycling Tonnage by Fiscal Year and Month

