

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: 07/21/08  
Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT: Resolution #08-50 Regarding the Appointment of Albany  
Representatives to the Berkeley Mental Health Commission**

**REPORT BY:** Judy Lieberman, Assistant City Administrator

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve Resolution #08-50 and transmit to the Berkeley Mental Health Commission and the Berkeley City Council.

**BACKGROUND**

The Berkeley Mental Health Commission is an advisory Board to the Berkeley/Albany Mental Health District (BAMHD). The BAMHD is one of only two city mental health districts in the State (the remainder are County based), and provides a range of community-based mental health services to Berkeley and Albany residents. State funding for the BAMHD is determined by residents who meet “medical necessity” and poverty requirements, and are not determined on a per capita basis. The City of Berkeley also provides a significant subsidy from City funds for BAMHD services.

The Mental Health Commission is established based on the State Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5604, and by Berkeley Resolution 57,078. The Commission is composed of 17 members, as follows: One member who is the Berkeley Mayor or Mayor’s designee; two Albany residents, one of which is a “special interest” member; nine Berkeley “special interest” members, and five Berkeley general public interest members. Special interest members are those who are or have been clients of the BAMHD, or family members of current or prior clients. The Commission has a “Recruitment and Selection Committee” that interviews and recommends appointments to the Commission. These recommendations are then presented to the Berkeley City Council for its appointment action to the Commission.

**DISCUSSION**

Currently there is no formal process by which Albany recommends an appointee to the Berkeley Mental Health commission. The BAMHD has encouraged the City of Albany to develop written procedures for how it will recommend Mental Health Commission appointments to the Berkeley City Council. The attached resolution outlines the process as follows:

1. The Secretary of the Mental Health Commission will notify the Albany City Clerk of vacancies.
2. The City of Berkeley will direct Albany applicants to submit applications to both the City of Albany and the City of Berkeley
3. The Albany City Council will transmit its recommended appointments to the Berkeley City Clerk
4. The Albany City Council recommended appointments should have priority with the Berkeley Council for its Albany appointments to the Commission

**Financial Impact**

None.

Attachment: Resolution No. 08-50