The following recommendations were presented to the BGC on December 10, 2015 and revised by the education ad hoc subcommittee on Jan 21, 2016. Revisions to the original text are highlighted in color.

Berkeley Global Campus Working Group
Education Ad hoc Subcommittee Recommendations

The Education Ad hoc Subcommittee is making four (4) primary recommendations:

1. Commit to a Richmond Educational Partnership. See more details below.

2. Partner with the Richmond Community to develop and operate an Education Center, Museum and/or Visitor Center at the Berkeley Global Campus, with consideration for satellite and/or mobile centers within close proximity to transit hubs and schools. Details available on the Draft Recommendation Matrix.

3. Commit to funding a minimum of $3 million annually toward a Richmond Youth and Adult Education Opportunity Fund in partnership with the Richmond community, UC Berkeley, LBNL, and corporate partners to seed and scale new and existing best practice programs that model university/lab/school and community partnerships and to address barriers students face in taking full advantage of career and college exposure and preparation opportunities. Based on The recommended minimum contribution is determined by an analysis of costs for programs currently providing student exposure and support, as well as professional development, in the Richmond community. The recommended minimum contribution is an estimated to cover based on participation of 20% of Richmond sophomores, juniors and teachers participating in similar programs. Details available on the Draft Recommendation Matrix.

4. Partner with Richmond community-based organizations and regional transportation entities, as well as anchor institutions and funders, to provide infrastructure improvements to increase accessibility of educational programs, activities and resources. This includes specifically developing systematic and robust communication and outreach efforts to improve the distribution of program information and ensure accessible and inexpensive transportation options.

Richmond Educational Partnership Recommendation

Based on Chancellor Dirks’ May 2015 open letter to the Richmond community, the University of California, Berkeley is deeply committed “to advancing the greater good on both global and local levels”.

However, the Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the Berkeley Global Campus (BGC) Working Group has recognized from the start of our process that increasing educational opportunities and successful outcomes for Richmond students requires sustained collaboration and community engagement that goes beyond the University’s current programmatic offerings in Richmond and other Bay Area communities.
BGC Working Group members have consistently heard from students, parents, and community partners that UC Berkeley and LBNL programs offered in Richmond are not widely shared or accessible. Additionally, data on both participation and outcomes of Richmond students and faculty from West Contra Costa Unified School District and Contra Costa College in UC Berkeley and LBNL sponsored programs has been piecemeal and lacks rigorous assessment and evaluation. To date, the Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee is still waiting on both current and longitudinal data from UC Berkeley Office of Undergraduate Admissions regarding UC Berkeley acceptance, attendance, and completion rates for students from Richmond.

Over the past five months, the Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee has been actively learning about existing partnerships and programs in Richmond and mindfully collecting community ideas on possible foci for recommendations. While many of these ideas have great merit, the ad hoc subcommittee recognizes that the scope of the BGC Working Group’s recommendations around education need to be aligned and supported by partners in Richmond, keeping in mind access, equity, and scalability to ensure the greatest chance for successful implementation.

To this end, the Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee recommends that UC Berkeley and LBNL commit to a long-term, codified educational partnership with high-level administrators and key education partners in Richmond to create sustained identification, assessment, and investment in mutually beneficial programs and initiatives which boldly address the critical educational and societal issues that impede the development of activities, curriculum, resources and, professional development to help prepare educated and engaged students. This level of community engagement and collaboration will require a commitment to data-sharing, development of shared goals, transparent communication, and investment of both financial and human capital toward advancing the greater good in Richmond.

Furthermore, the Education Ad Hoc Subcommittee recommends that a Richmond educational partnership is established within the first quarter of 2016 or when UC Berkeley and LBNL agree to the Richmond Partnership Compact (whichever comes first) and that a data-driven, strategic plan with key benchmarks, activities and assessments is jointly adopted, and widely communicated, by the educational partnership within six-months of convening.

The strategic plan, and resulting agreements, should address the following key areas summarized from the Draft Recommendation Matrix:

A. College Exposure & Preparation
   1. Support and expand college advising at Richmond middle and high schools.
   2. Support and expand experiential learning and academic preparation for students- pre-K to adult.
   3. Increase college knowledge & reinforce college-going culture and transfer opportunities for Richmond students.
   4. Increase financial aid availability by partnering with Richmond Promise.

B. Career Exposure & Readiness
   1. Support multi-partner coordination by investing in work-based learning partnerships and related curricular alignment across UCB, LBNL, and educational and community partners.
   2. Support success by investing in research and evaluation of work-based learning.
3. Solicit partnerships with regional and local employers to provide systematic opportunities for work-based learning, internships, and field trips, including support for career pathways and STEM development.

C. Teacher and Staff Professional Development
1. Facilitate partnerships that provide opportunities for K-14 and adult education teachers and staff to participate in externships in business, STEM, etc.
2. Facilitate partnerships that support K-14 curriculum development and implementation.
3. Provide professional development for K-14 and adult education teachers and staff, including content support, pedagogy and training in areas such as literacy and contextualized learning (e.g., literacy and STEM).
4. Provide training for tutors and mentors to support students.

D. Universal Preschool Education
1. Recognizing the fact that many Richmond children grow up in poverty and are already behind by kindergarten, preschool education was identified as a priority for some community members. It is included here as a placeholder for further discussion/consideration.

The strategic plan, and accompanying agreements, should be aligned with local priorities, including the West Contra Costa Unified School District Local Control Accountability Plan, the Contra Costa College Strategic Plan, the Richmond Promise Strategic Plan and other documents that have been developed with extensive community participation. The strategic plan should also detail timeline and milestones, agreed-upon goals and measureable outcomes for all programs and activities, metrics to ensure accountability, and a comprehensive evaluation plan that will drive continuous assessment and improvement.