The mission of the Berkeley Startup Cluster is to make Berkeley a more *vibrant, accessible* and *equitable* place for startups to launch and grow.

OBJECTIVES	Provide local innovators with information about resources and opportunities.	Improve the number and quality of events & networks for Berkeley entrepreneurs.	Improve Berkeley's image as a place for startups.	Develop local infrastructure to meet the needs of the innovation sector.	Increase high quality commercial real estate & wet lab space.	Align city policy to support local innovation and startup growth.	Increase the diversity of participants in the innovation sector.
ACTION ITEMS	Publicize Berkeley innovation ecosystem activities and resources through *BSC website: berkeleystartupcluster.com.*	Host signature events that connect Berkeley entrepreneurs and key support organizations, e.g. the annual *Visionary Awards ceremony & Visionary Lab* event series.	Increase Berkeley *residents' awareness* of Berkeley's innovative entrepreneurs and assets.	Improve internet speed and reliability in the City of Berkeley. Introduce free wifi downtown.	Improve value & utilization of *www.LocateinBerkeley.com* to help the innovation sector find available Berkeley real estate.	Increase *elected leader awareness* of & commitment to innovation ecosystem.	Support and expand the mentoring activities led by the *Women Entrepreneurs of Berkeley* .
	Publicize Berkeley innovation ecosystem activities and resources through BSC *newsletter* .	Co-sponsor and promote startup or innovation-focused events hosted by *Women Entrepreneurs of Berkeley (WEB)* .	Market Berkeley's innovation assets *externally.*	Increase *public transportation options* between Downtown and West Berkeley.	Establish a *land use roadmap for City and University collaboration* to grow Berkeley's innovation ecosystem.	Develop a process for Berkeley entrepreneurs and innovators to *pilot products, services or technologies* in the City of Berkeley.	Help local startups to *employ Berkeley residents & Cal graduates* .
	Publicize Berkeley innovation ecosystem activities and resources through BSC *social media* (Twitter, Facebook).	Co-sponsor and promote startup or innovation-focused events hosted by *Berkeley -Emeryville BIO, Biocom, and other local tech or biotech industry orgs* .	Highlight Berkeley's *unique innovation venues and assets* through annual BSC events.	Decrease time required to find *parking in Downtown Berkeley* .	Help existing *co-working spaces* to increase visibility, find tenants & maintain/desired occupancy levels.	Explore a modification to the Berkeley Municipal Code to *exempt state & federal R&D grants from the calculation of gross receipts* for local taxation.	Educate Berkeley startup founders about opportunities to *give back to the community* and *support STEM education* .
	Help local entrepreneurs *access financing* through Berkeley funds and pitch events. *Help VCs navigate and access the Berkeley ecosystem* .	Co-sponsor or help promote startup or innovation-focused events hosted by Berkeley *coworking spaces and accelerators* .		Participate in regional solutions to increase *affordable housing* and Bay Area *public transportation* .	Promote *physical spaces offered by local accelerators and incubators* .	Update *zoning* and *permitting* to support innovation activities.	Co-sponsor and promote *events with a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion* .
	Promote *mentoring and coaching* offered by local accelerator and incubators.				Meet with select downtown property owners to share opportunities for *conversion of existing buildings into high quality office space* .	Create a roadmap or checklist to help startups navigate processes for starting a business in Berkeley.	*Share stories from diverse founders* through BSC events, communications & marketing materials, where diverse entrepreneurs include women, people of color, LGBT and disabled people.
	Develop *metrics* to track BSC progress over time.						