Urgent Unfunded Maintenance and Capital Needs



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Introduction

This document outlines the City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation's immediate deferred maintenance, capital improvement, and property acquisition needs that total approximately **\$9,891,695***. These high priority needs address equity and connectivity, safety, growth and demand for sports tourism, and functionality, and are organized by these themes. This list is not all-inclusive, as the department has documented deferred maintenance needs totaling **\$284,987,666** in its unfunded Capital Improvement Program.

The Parks and Recreation Commission and department leadership recognize the projects included in this document as critical to maintaining the current level of service. Failure to fund improvements will result in removal of additional equipment or closure of some facilities over the next one to three years.

- Deferred maintenance spending covers small projects that are a result of maintenance backlog and includes items such as building maintenance and roof repairs, playground equipment, parking lot, accessibility needs, dock upgrades, and more.
- >> Capital improvements include projects that have reached the end of their useful life and require replacement.
- Property acquisition is also included for parcels that have been identified as critical to expanding existing park spaces and to better connect them to the community.

As part of the 2019 Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan, Plan2Play, an analysis of Greensboro's maintenance and operations practices was completed and compared to peer cities around the nation. Greensboro lags behind in capital spending per capita. Using peer city averages, Plan2Play recommends that the City should allocate \$5.15 million annually to Parks and Recreation deferred maintenance if it wants to remain comparable with other similarly sized cities. A 2023 study commissioned by Parks and Recreation and led by UNC Charlotte to explore deferred maintenance funding strategies



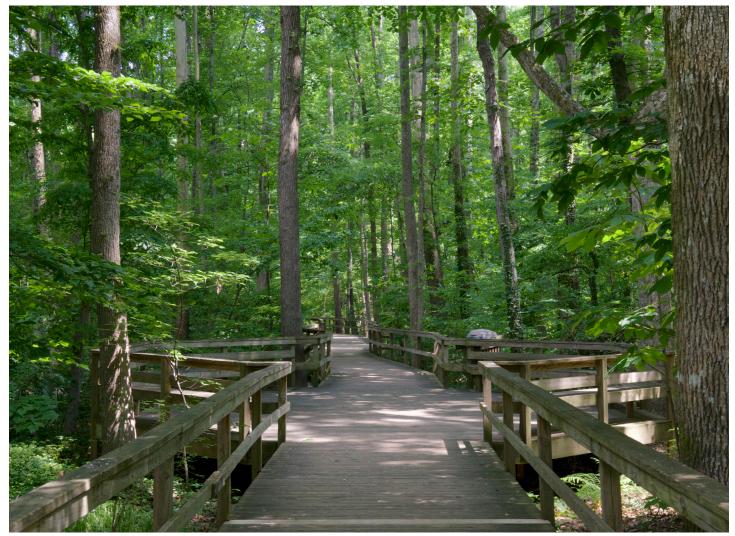
Douglas Park Playground

recommended an annual capital and deferred maintenance funding allocation as one best practice that should be implemented.

The lack of regular Capital Improvement Program funding also impacts Parks and Recreation's ability to leverage grants and other alternative funding sources that require matching funds. Historically, the department is only able to fund projects that have bond or other funds allocated that can be used to match. Some American Rescue Plan funding was allocated to deferred maintenance; however, in some cases it was not able to cover full project costs. The City should also consider establishing an ongoing funding source for property acquisition for Parks and Recreation needs so that it can take advantage of market trends and negotiate needed properties when they become available. The projects identified in this document are critical not only to the Parks and Recreation department, but to the overall organization. Parks and Recreation is integral to citywide goals, including becoming the best mid-sized city in America and becoming car optional. It is directly tied into the City Council priorities of "Hub of Recreation and Entertainment", "Youth Sports Capital", and "Most Connected City", and indirectly tied to other priorities. As such, each project included is connected not only to Plan2Play, but GSO2040 and the City's Strategic Priorities.

The impact of Parks and Recreation is significant. In 2023, collectively Parks and Recreation facilities had over 3.7 million visitors and reported economic impact of over \$59.3 million.

*This figure does not include the Bingham Park remediation cost as this is still being determined.



Bog Garden Boardwalk

Some projects addressing deferred maintenance are currently underway, including:

- A&Y Greenway trestle bridge and greenway repair planning, Bur-Mil to Strawberry Rd. (Greensboro Department of Transportation partnership)
- >>> Bryan Park Soccer Complex master plan, lighting addition, and turf field installation
- ✗ Gillespie Golf Course safety netting
- ≫ Peeler pool repairs
- » Spencer Love Tennis Center storage
- >>> Warnersville pool repairs

The following new construction projects are also under design and address systemwide needs:

- » Keeley Park adaptive mountain biking trail
- Windsor Chavis Nocho Community Complex (to address needs at these three facilities through construction of new facility)



Rendering Depicting Future Nocho Park Development

Urgent Unfunded Maintenance & Capital Needs



Parkland Remediation



Improve Connectivity to Parks and Community

>>> Bring up the Basics

>> Make Greensboro

Accessible

Hearts

BINGHAM PARK

COST RANGE: \$10,000,000+*

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 1



Bingham Park is a 12 acre park located in East Greensboro, and an integral part of the Cottage Grove and Willow Oaks neighborhoods. In 1923, despite significant opposition from area residents, a landfill and incinerator were placed on this site, which operated until the 1950s. In the 1970s, Bingham Park opened on the site. In the early 2000's, residents asked Parks and Recreation to repair a cracking and sinking basketball court. It was then determined that the park was built on top of an unregulated landfill and was the cause for the court's failure.

Since then, Parks and Recreation has worked with the surrounding neighborhoods, the Bingham Park Environmental Justice Team, various City departments, NC Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ), community leaders, and state and local officials to conduct extensive testing onsite, draft several options for remediation, conduct community engagement, and advocate for funding.

Currently, the park can only be used for passive recreation, namely walking through the park. A basketball court cannot be repaired due to the state of the soil, and a softball field is unusable. Full remediation of the park, which involves removing all contaminated soil, is the remediation option being sought as it allows the park to be reconstructed without any limitations on what can be placed in the ground. While external funding commitments have been received from the state and federal governments, development of a remedial action plan has not yet occurred. The figure reflected above is a preliminary unfunded cost range estimate.

*Unfunded, estimated costs to the City exceed \$10 million. External funding sources (NC DEQ, state and federal budget appropriations, etc.) are committed to the project. The actual cost of the project will be determined through the planning process. Park renovation costs, after remediation is complete, are not included in the above total.



Bingham Park Basketball Court (Closed)



- >>> Becoming Car Optional
- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- Prioritizing Sustainability



- >> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- \gg Most Connected City
- » Safest City

Property Acquisition



- \gg Bring up the Basics
- Improve Connectivity to Parks and Community Hearts



- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- >>> Growing Economic Competitiveness



- >> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- >> Most Connected City
- >> Safest City

BROWN COMMUNITY PARK

3 GRIFFIN COMMUNITY PARK

COST: \$1,320,000

COUNCIL DISTRICTS: 1, 5



The Parks and Recreation department, with the support of community partners, has identified two properties located at 301 Near Humble Rd. (8.2 acres) and 389 Fairystone Dr. (18.67 acres) for possible acquisition. The parcels are located adjacent to Brown Community Park and would provide surrounding neighborhoods with access to additional green space with future park and trail development potential. Completed in September 2023, an appraisal values the properties at \$392,500.

A 3.24 acre parcel adjacent to Griffin Community Park is located at 5309 Hilltop Rd. The property currently has a single family home on it and is critical for aquatics expansion identified in the recently approved Greensboro Aquatics Facilities Master Plan. The property is pending sale

to an outside party per annexation and rezoning approval. The City of Greensboro Planning and Zoning Commission approved the rezoning at their January 8, 2024 meeting and moved the item forward to City Council for consideration on February 20, 2024.

GREENSBORO **Brown Community Park** Parks & Recreation Available Properties GREENSIDE DR 5 FORESTGLADE DE E VANDALL 301 YY HUMBLE RD 8.2 Acres Brown MALSER Community Park MT OLIVE DR BETHANY WOODS PALM TREE CT HUMBLE RD City of Gre **389 FAIRYSTONE DR** 18.67 Acres CEDAR CREEK MHI Legend Available Property Community Park 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

Brown Community Park Available Properties

Boardwalk Replacement





THE BOG GARDEN

COST: \$1,700,000

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3



The Bog Garden is a unique environmental treasure in the center of Greensboro. It features an elevated boardwalk which meanders through seven acres of natural wetlands and enables visitors of all abilities to experience nature. Stone pathways traverse a forested hillside, and visitors can enjoy the sounds of water at Serenity Falls - a re-circulating waterfall - while viewing the many varieties of plants, birds, and other wildlife inhabiting the area. The garden has been in existence for over 30 years, and its boardwalk is in significant disrepair. In 2022 the City completed a design to replace the entire wooden boardwalk and associated bridges. While small repairs are made on an as needed basis, the boardwalk will soon need to be closed to the public if replacement is delayed. The garden sees approximately 20,000 visitors a year, with almost 30,000 visitors during the pandemic. Greensboro Beautiful, Inc. (GBI) and Parks and Recreation have had a public-private partnership for over 50 years. GBI supports this project as a high priority need. The design and cost estimation has been completed and the project is ready to move forward to bid when funding is secured.



Boardwalk at The Bog Garden

- \gg Bring up the Basics
- » Make Greensboro Accessible



- >>> Becoming Car Optional
- >> Building Community Connections
- >> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework
- >> Prioritizing Sustainability



- >> Hub of Recreation & Entertainment
- » Most Connected City

» Safest City

Dock & Bulkhead Replacement



LAKE TOWNSEND MARINA

COST: \$350,000

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 2



The bulkhead at Lake Townsend is failing and the walkway along it presents tripping hazards and accessibility challenges to visitors. The initial cost estimate for the full replacement of the existing bulkhead was \$791,900. After consultation with a structural engineer and staff, it was determined a removal of a portion of the existing bulkhead and beach like bank stabilization is the best solution. The estimated cost is \$350,000. The final design is underway.

Parks and Recreation is investing \$142,000 for two of three dock replacements this year. This was identified as a significant safety issue due to their condition and high use by the general public. Funding for the third dock is still necessary and is estimated at \$82,000. For FY22-23, over 50,000 people visited Lake Townsend and \$39,273 of revenue resulted from rentals. Lake Townsend is the only venue in Greensboro offering sailing in partnership with the Lake Townsend Yacht Club. Lake Townsend is also a primary source of drinking water for Greensboro. The department is partnering with Water Resources to ensure future water quality standards are maintained.



Failing Bulkhead at Lake Townsend Marina

- \gg Bring up the Basics
- » Make Greensboro Accessible



- >>> Building Community Connections
- >> Creating Great Places
- >> Filling in the Framework
- >> Prioritizing Sustainability



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- » Safest City
- \gg Youth Sports Capital

Greenway Improvements





BROWN COMMUNITY PARK

7 SHANNON HILLS PARK

COST: \$500,000

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 1



Parks and Recreation manages a little over two miles of trails at these locations. These trails are popular spots for Southeast Greensboro residents to exercise and are important recreational amenities for the community. Many of these trails are in significant disrepair due to deferred maintenance and lack of capital funding. Extensive improvements are needed to bring them up to acceptable standards. If not funded, users will have a low-quality recreational experience and trails will continue to deteriorate. Many of these trails are in census tracts considered high or medium to high on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Social Vulnerability Index. These are often the only nearby walking trails which are accessible to users with disabilities or mobility concerns. Failure to improve these trails and bring them up to design standards could expose the City to potential lawsuits under the Americans with Disabilities Act. While these paths do not serve as transportation corridors and are ineligible for state/federal transportation dollars or Powell Bill funds, they provide important community connections.



Greenway Conditions on Park Trails



- Improve Connectivity to Parks and Community Hearts
- >> Make Greensboro Accessible



- Becoming Car Optional
- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- Prioritizing Sustainability



- >> Hub of Recreation & Entertainment
- \gg Most Connected City
- » Safest City

Maintenance Building





GILLESPIE GOLF COURSE

COST: \$500,000*

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 1



The maintenance and storage building at Gillespie Golf Course must be replaced due to the condition of the roof and structural integrity. The storage area is also open to the weather elements affecting the overall condition of maintenance equipment. Parks and Recreation worked with the architecture firm under contract for the Gillespie Golf Course Master Plan to identify a solution. The intent of this solution is to address current storage needs for the maintenance building at Gillespie Golf Course. The recommendation is to provide and install a pre-engineered metal building at a site to be determined. This type of metal building can be installed turnkey and erected in a short time frame, typically within a few months. This structure will meet the urgent needs for the golf course maintenance team and provide a good, low maintenance, economical solution for the foreseeable future.

*While American Rescue Plan funds were allocated for Gillespie Golf Course, they were dedicated to master planning and replacing the driving range net and other high priority needs which directly affect the playability of the course, not the maintenance building. An assessment has been completed as part of the master planning process which identified the need to replace the maintenance building to allow for the golf course configuration to be improved.



Gillespie Maintenance Building

Gillespie Maintenance Building Roof

- \gg Bring up the Basics
- >> Make Greensboro Accessible



- Building Community Connections
- >> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework



>>> Hub of Recreation & Entertainment

- » Safest City
- \gg Youth Sports Capital

Playground Replacement



- >>> Bring up the Basics
- >>> Improve Connectivity to **Parks and Community** Hearts
- >> Make Greensboro Accessible



- >>> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework



- \gg Hub of Recreation & Entertainment
- >> Safest City

- **ARLINGTON PARK**
- 10 **BIG TREE WAY PARK**
- 11 CASCADE PARK
- 12 **DOUGLAS PARK**
- 13 **ELMWOOD PARK**
- 14 **ROSEWOOD PARK** WESTBURY PARK

COST: \$600,000

COUNCIL DISTRICTS: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Approximately 80% of all Greensboro's neighborhood park playgrounds were installed in the early 2000s. The life cycle for playgrounds is 20 years. After this time, playgrounds will start to show signs of aging and have increased safety issues including cracking and exposed metal. Thorough inspections made by department certified playground inspectors have identified seven sites in the most immediate need of replacement. The funding requested will begin to address the highest safety concerns for playgrounds in an equitable manner throughout the City. Community engagement for playground type will also be conducted along with data analysis of the surrounding neighborhoods. Additionally, paved pathways will be added to the playground as necessary to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

Approximately 85 playgrounds are in need of replacement to maintain our current level of service. To meet this need, Parks and Recreation will need approximately \$600,000 annually over the next ten years.



Playground Conditions at Douglas Park





Pour in Place Playground Resurfacing



16 LEBAUER PARK

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3

COST: \$1,000,000

» Bring up the Basics



- >> Building Community Connections
- >> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework
- Scowing Economic Competitiveness



- >> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- » Safest City



LeBauer Park was completed in 2016 through a public private partnership led by the City of Greensboro and the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro. This park is home to the first and only public playground in the central business district, and heavy use has resulted in damage to the pour in place playground surface. Funding will be used to replace the existing surface with new and improved material along with an appropriate maintenance plan. Additional improvements in the children's area will be included. LeBauer Park hosts approximately 156,000 visitors per year and keeping this park in great condition is essential. There may be opportunities to leverage private funding to make this improvement. This would be coordinated by the partner organization operating the park, Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc.

🖤 Visitor data derived from Placer.ai



Pour in Place Surface at LeBauer Park

Pump Room





LINDLEY POOL 17

COST: \$1,000,000*

>>> Bring up the Basics



- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework
- >> Prioritizing Sustainability



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- >> Safest City

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4



The requested funding is needed to support the balance for repairs to the Lindley pool's pump room ceiling and deck stabilization. City Council allocated \$1,000,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) enabled funds to support swimming pool repairs in August 2022. Of that funding, \$76,000 has been utilized for design work for the repairs as required for bidding by NC General Statues; \$650,000 for a repair contract for Peeler pool and Warnersville pool; and \$140,000 for initial Lindley pool surface repairs. The remaining funds from the ARP enabled allocation, plus requested funding, is necessary for structural repairs to the pump room ceiling and deck stabilization discovered while completing other maintenance activities. Due to these changes, additional electrical and ventilation work are under design which will further elevate the funding needs at this location. Until these significant repairs are made, the pool will be unable to open.

*Estimated balance needed to support completion of ARP funded projects.



Pump Room Condition at Lindley Pool

Stadium Fencing





>>> Bring up the Basics

18 PENN WRIGHT STADIUM

19 STONER-WHITE STADIUM

COST: \$300,000

COUNCIL DISTRICTS: 1, 3



- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- >> Filling in the Framework



- » Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- \gg Youth Sports Capital

This request provides funding for upgrades to the perimeter fence at Penn Wright Stadium at Barber Park and Stoner-White Stadium at Jaycee Park. Fence replacement at these locations will immediately enhance the appearance and functionality of these facilities, both of which are located at very popular parks which have seen significant improvements in recent years.



Stoner-White Stadium Fence

Parking Lot Resurfacing





20 JAYCEE PARK

» Bring up the Basics



- >>> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework
- Scowing Economic Competitiveness



- >> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- >> Youth Sports Capital



COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3



The parking lot in Jaycee Park is in poor condition and needs repaving and striping in order to support an increase in tournaments and public use through recent tennis court expansion. Spencer Love Tennis Center is now considered the largest public clay court facility in North Carolina and falls in the top 10 in the Southern region. With 18 clay courts, the complex will increasingly host large events with significant economic impact like the U.S. Open 12U National Championship hosted in summer 2023. This site was also recognized with a U.S. Tennis Association Outstanding Facility Award in August 2023.

Stoner-White Stadium, also located in Jaycee Park, holds multiple baseball tournaments, and the parks multipurpose fields host youth soccer and football games and tournaments. This parking lot serves these venues in addition to adjacent Country Park. Jaycee Park, including its parking lot, must be maintained as a high quality destination. Without the infrastructure to support these tournaments, the City will lose tax revenue and not meet the City's priorities for "Youth Sports Capital" and "Hub of Recreation and Entertainment".



Jaycee Community Park Parking Lot

Roof Replacement





21 GREENSBORO SPORTSPLEX

COST: \$416,695*

Bring up the Basics
COUNCIL DI

impact of:



- Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework



- >> Hub of Recreation & Entertainment
- » Safest City
- \gg Youth Sports Capital

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 2 Requested funding is needed to support the bid for the roof replacement at the Sportsplex. The City allocated \$1,000,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) enabled funds to support the roof replacement at the Sportsplex. Of that funding, \$44,500 has been utilized for design work as required for bidding by NC General Statues. Parks and Recreation bid the project in October 2023 and received four bids. The lowest bid was \$1,373,195 which is comparable to the cost estimate for the project. Based on current funding available, \$416,695 is needed for the bid to be accepted. The Sportsplex is an integral facility for Greensboro's sports tourism with an annual economic

- » FY 19-20 \$28,142,906 (estimated 356.4K visitors)
- » FY 20-21 \$12,821,465 (estimated 180.5K visitors) 👳
- ≫ FY 21-22 \$12,821,465 (estimated 398.9K visitors) 🤯
- » FY 22-23 \$15,940,963 (estimated 389.5K visitors)

*Estimated balance needed to support completion of ARP funded projects.

Wisitor data derived from Placer.ai



Existing Roof at the Greensboro Sportsplex

Sports Tourism

Tennis Court Upgrades





22 HESTER PARK

» Bring up the Basics



- >>> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework
- Scowing Economic Competitiveness



>>> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment

 \gg Youth Sports Capital

COST: \$800,000

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 5



There are currently 11 courts located at this site. The Hester Park Site Plan was approved in 2015 with a recommendation to reconfigure the existing complex to include both tennis and pickleball. This project is an unfunded capital improvement request and as such, has not been completed. Parks and Recreation has explored opportunities with the street maintenance division for resurfacing but due to the need for proper function, an acrylic surface is required. Parks and Recreation is not able to utilize these courts under an existing contract with Triad Tennis Management, and most of the courts are unplayable. Due to the condition, the City is missing valuable economic impact revenue for tournaments and community access in Southwest Greensboro, an area in which there are no other public tennis and pickleball courts.



Tennis Court Condition at Hester Park

Adaptive and Inclusive Field Replacement





23 POMONA PARK

 \gg Bring up the Basics

- Improve Connectivity to Parks and Community Hearts
- >> Make Greensboro Accessible



>>> Building Community Connections

>> Creating Great Places

 \gg Filling in the Framework



- >> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment
- >> Youth Sports Capital



COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4



Pomona Park is the City's only accessible field for adaptive sports. The existing field was installed through a public private partnership in the early 2000s. The field is currently used by Parks and Recreation's adaptive sports, training for Special Olympics, and Challenger Baseball through the Arc of Greensboro. The infield's surfacing is in need of replacement due to use, condition, and age, and is not a result of the Doorway Project which utilizes the outfield area.



Pomona Park Surface

Parking Lot Restriping



- \gg Bring up the Basics
- >> Make Greensboro Accessible



- >> Building Community Connections
- >>> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework



>>> Hub of Recreation and Entertainment

- 24 BROWN COMMUNITY PARK
- 25 CRAFT COMMUNITY PARK
- **26** GRIFFIN COMMUNITY PARK
- 27 WARNERSVILLE COMMUNITY PARK

COST: \$400,000

COUNCIL DISTRICTS: 1, 2, 5

Parking lots supporting several of our recreation centers and community parks are in need of restriping. Normal wear and tear has resulted in faded lines that are no longer functional and do not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The parking lots at these facilities are representative of conditions at many other facilities.



Parking Lot at Warnersville Community Park



Restroom Replacement

29



28 LATHAM PARK

COST: \$500,000

LINDLEY PARK

» Bring up the Basics

>> Make Greensboro Accessible



- >> Building Community Connections
- >> Creating Great Places
- \gg Filling in the Framework



- >> Hub of Recreation & Entertainment
- » Most Connected City
- » Safest City
- \gg Youth Sports Capital



COUNCIL DISTRICTS: 3, 4 The restroom support facilities located at both Lindley Park and Latham Park were built in the late 1960s and have not been renovated. They are in need of replacement due to age and condition. Both of these sites support practices and games for various youth and adult sports activities. Parks and Recreation has received multiple complaints in recent months due to the condition of the ceilings, floors, and other amenities that are stained to the point of appearing dirty even when recently cleaned. This perception negatively affects the experience of each person that attends these facilities for practices, games, tournaments, and overall recreation experience. These facilities are also used by greenway, skate park, and Greensboro Arboretum visitors. In 2023, Latham Park hosted 47 games and 204 practices in the spring and 18 games, 121 practices, and seven tournaments in the fall. Lindley Park hosted 33 games and 88 practices in the spring, and 36 games, 88 practices, and 17 tournaments in the fall. Combined, these sites saw 243,200 visitors in the last 12 months.



Restroom Conditions at Lindley Park

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

ChesKesha Cunningham-Dockery, Chair Cecile Crawford, Vice Chair Sue Henshall Anthony Izzard Walter Johnson Emily Linden Scott Neely Robert Nudelman Blake Odum Alex Zaleski, Volunteer Coordinator and Staff Liasion

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