ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

ROCKY MOUNT CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021

CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021
4:00 PM

AGENDA

1. City of Rocky Mount Redistricting	Caroline Mackie Poyner Spruill
2. Unity Cemetery	Lois Watkins
3. Affordable Housing Strategic Plan Update	Jayson Dawkins
4. American Rescue Plan Funding Update	Ken Hunter
5. Crime Statistics	Chief Hassell
6. Closed Session Attorney-Client Privilege	

MEMORANDUM

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

To: Rochelle D. Small-Toney, City Manager

Cc:

From: Jep Rose, City Attorney

Date: 8/6/2021

Re: Council Ward Redistricting for City of Rocky Mount

Attached is a presentation by the Local Redistricting Service for the services of redistricting City Council Wards for the next municipal election in 2022. Caroline Mackie will make this presentation to Council during the August 9, 2021, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

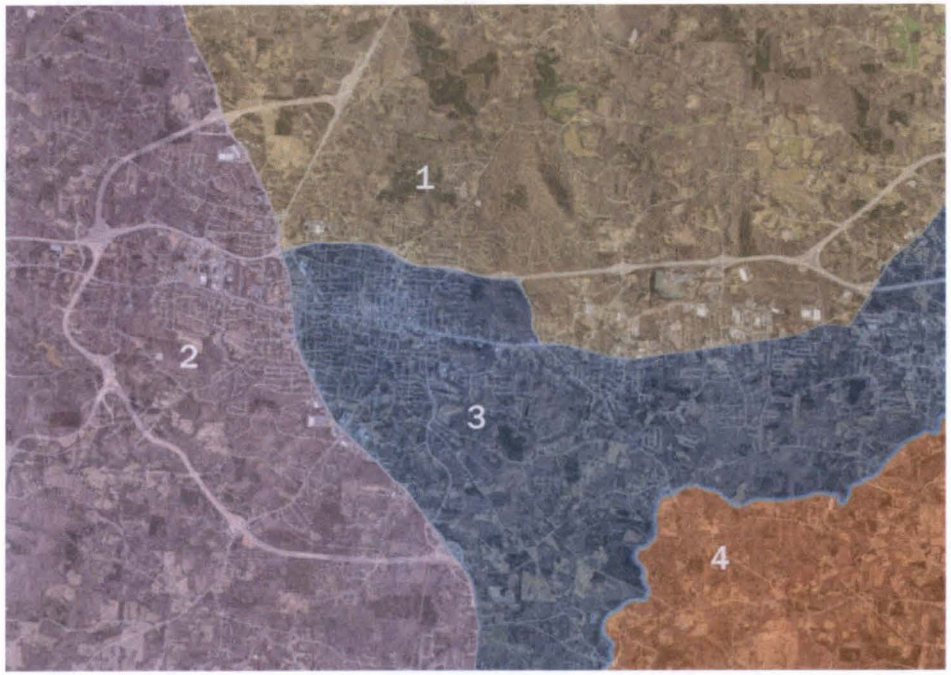
The presentation provides an overview of the costs and processes utilized by Local Redistricting Service. Please let me know if you have any questions.

City of Rocky Mount Redistricting 2021

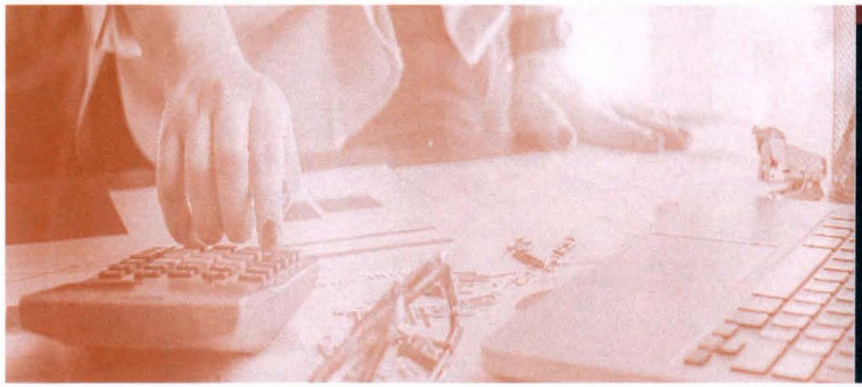
Caroline Mackie
Poyner Spruill LLP

Tara Bright
Poyner Spruill LLP

Bill Gilkeson
Demographer



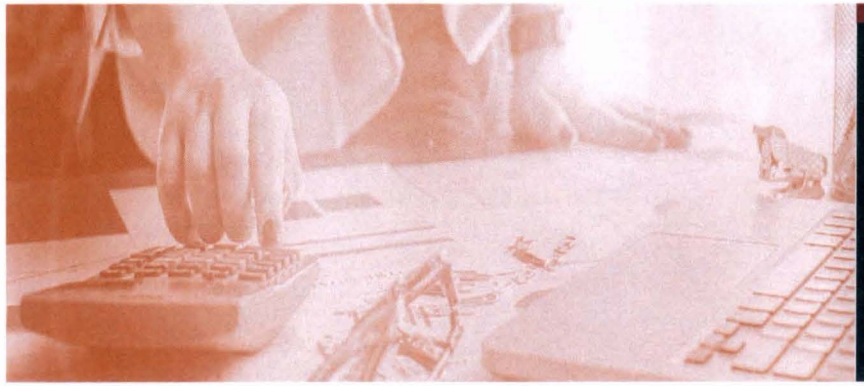
Local Redistricting Service
August 9, 2021



Local Redistricting Service

A Project of North Carolinians for Redistricting Reform

- Non-partisan redistricting expertise for local governments that use districts to elect members
- An open, public, and non-partisan process
  - No election data
  - Open meetings
- NC4RR
  - Co-chaired by former Rep. Chuck McGrady (R-117) and former UNC System President and current Volker Alliance President Tom Ross
  - Led by a bipartisan board of directors



Local Redistricting Service Pricing

Standard Package: $17,500

- Includes 3 lawyer visits and 2 demographer meetings with the jurisdiction
  - Meetings should be public
  - Suggested meeting schedule:
    - (1) initial meeting to discuss the process and solicit input regarding guiding principles/instructions to the demographer
    - (2) meeting to discuss proposed redistricting plans
    - (3) meeting for a public hearing and/or adopt final resolution approving selected plan
- Includes 3 potential redistricting plans by Demographer, with legal review
- Includes preparation of final resolution/ordinance needed to accomplish the redistricting
- Includes export of final plan to board of elections and other relevant entities, if requested

- Additional visits/services: $275/hour
- Additional plans beyond 3: $2500/plan

Redistricting

The Basics

- Why do you need to redistrict?
- Demographic changes
- Legal considerations
- An overview of the process
- Timeline

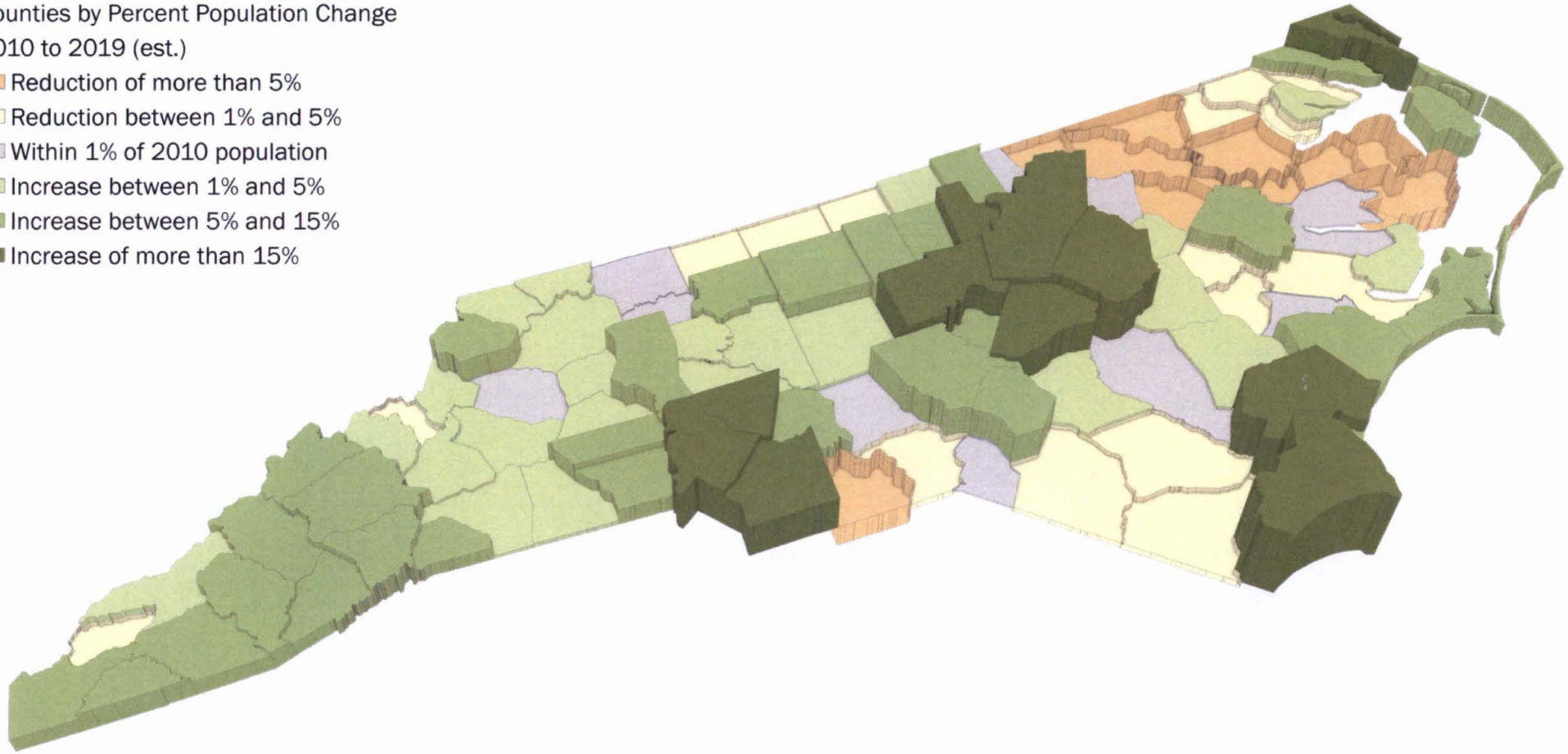
Redistricting

Do you need to redistrict?

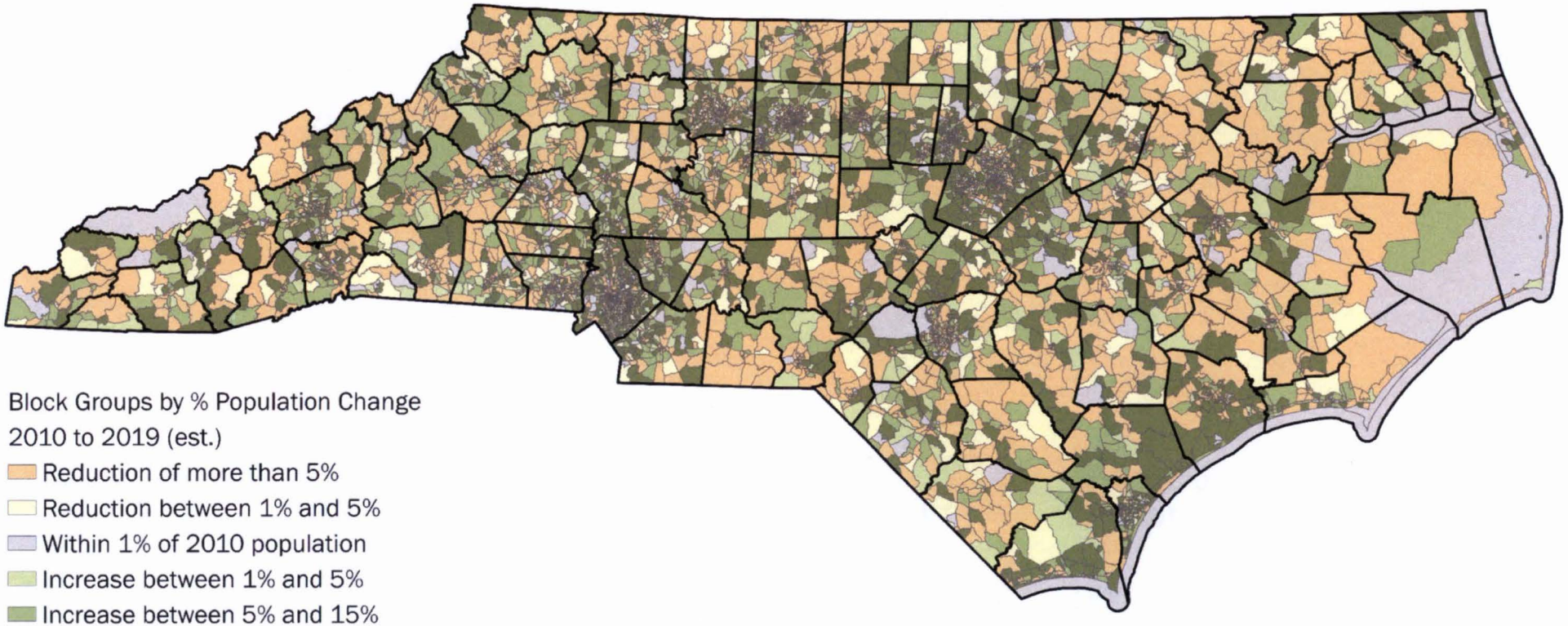
- Do you use true election districts? (Yes – 7 wards)
- Are you within the permissible deviation range? (TBD)

Counties by Percent Population Change
2010 to 2019 (est.)

- Reduction of more than 5%
- Reduction between 1% and 5%
- Within 1% of 2010 population
- Increase between 1% and 5%
- Increase between 5% and 15%
- Increase of more than 15%



Source: 2010 US Census and NC OSBM 2019 County Estimates



Source: 2010 US Census and ACS 2015-2019 5-Year Estimates

Redistricting

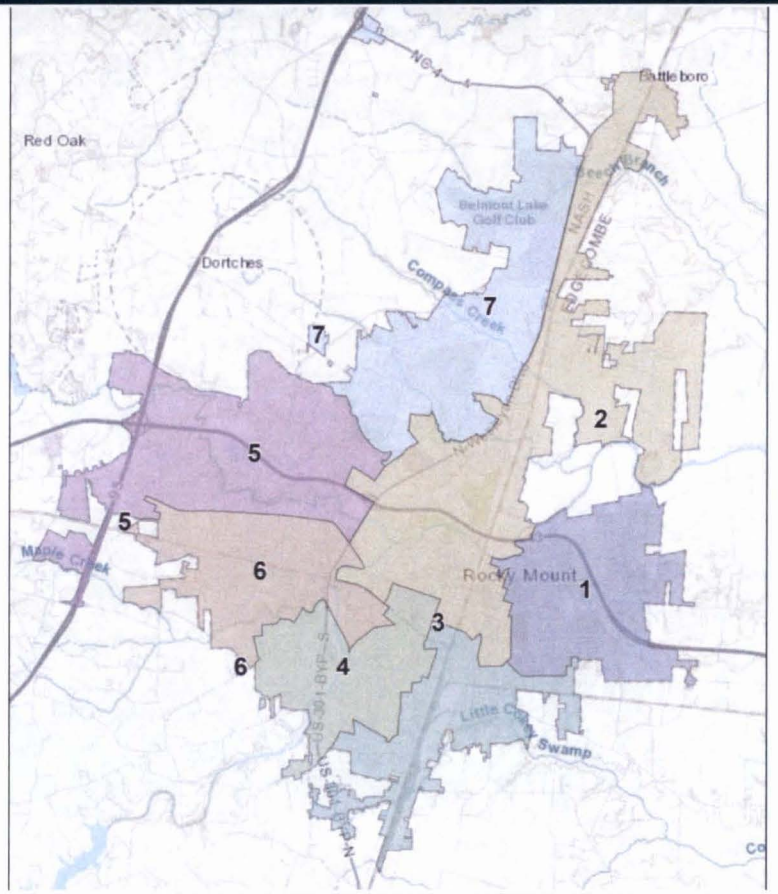
Determining whether there is substantial equality

- +/- 5% rule: Using total population from the 2020 Census, are the current districts within +/- 5% of the ideal district population?

Redistricting

City of Rocky Mount Wards

- 2019 estimated population: **54,548**
- Ideal ward population: **7,793**
- Range: **7,403 - 8,183**



Redistricting

Who draws the new districts?

Council + staff + consultants.

The governing body for the local government is responsible for enacting new districting plans every 10 years. N.C.G.S. § 160A-23

One caveat: The General Assembly retains the power to redistrict for the board by local act

Redistricting

N.C.G.S. § 160A-23(b)

The council shall have authority to revise electoral district boundaries from time to time. If district boundaries are set out in the city charter and the charter does not provide a method for revising them, the council may revise them only for the purpose of (i) accounting for territory annexed to or excluded from the city, and (ii) correcting population imbalances among the districts shown by a new federal census or caused by exclusions or annexations. When district boundaries have been established in conformity with the federal Constitution, the **council shall not be required to revise them again until a new federal census of population is taken or territory is annexed to or excluded from the city, whichever event first occurs. In establishing district boundaries, the council may use data derived from the most recent federal census and shall not be required to use any other population estimates.** (1969, c. 629; 1971, c. 698, s. 1.)

Race and Redistricting

- Racial gerrymandering/Equal protection clause of the 14th amendment:

  Race cannot be the predominant factor in redistricting unless the use of race is narrowly tailored to a compelling governmental interest
  - What does predominant mean?
    - The race of voters better explains the boundary of a district than traditional criteria
    - Example: precincts are split based on race
  - What is a compelling governmental interest?
    - Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, if the preconditions are met

Race and Redistricting

- Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act
  - The VRA was enacted in 1965 to protect minority citizens from voting methods that dilute their votes
  - 3 preconditions under *Gingles* (1983):
    - Is the minority group sufficiently large and geographically compact to form a majority in a district?
    - Is the minority group politically cohesive?
    - Does the majority vote sufficiently as a bloc so that it usually defeats the minority-preferred candidate?

Redistricting

Guiding Principles

- Some examples:
  - Equal population (required)
    - Total population, not voting age population or registered voters
  - Contiguity
  - Consideration of certain administrative boundaries (using whole precincts as building blocks, e.g.)
  - Recognizing communities of interest (prioritizing the intactness of neighborhoods, or other historical, cultural, or economic communities)
  - Seeking to have boundaries follow visible physical features like roads, waterways, and other geographic features

Guiding Principles (cont.)

- Some examples:
  - Preserving the core of existing wards AND/OR ignoring existing wards (i.e., clean slate)
  - Compactness
  - Avoiding pairing incumbents (also known as "double bunking")
  - Plan for population growth
  - No political considerations

Redistricting

Process

1. Determine necessity of redistricting based on population disparities
2. Reach consensus on criteria/guiding principles
   - Note: the first 2 steps can be taken in any order
   - Possible public hearing on criteria
3. LRS consultants to draw 2-3 alternative plans
4. Public hearing
   - Can include receipt of plans from members of the public
5. Review/revision of plans
   - All meetings to review plans should be open
6. Adoption of resolution
7. Export of plans to Board of Elections, GIS department, etc.

Redistricting

Senate Bill 722 (SL 2021-56)

Deadline: November 17, 2021 unless notify county boards of election that additional time is needed. If so notify, deadline extends until December 17, 2021

Redistricting

Timeline

Questions?

- Caroline Mackie, cmackie@poynerspruill.com
- Tara Bright, tbright@poynerspruill.com

- Local Redistricting Service, LRS@ncredistrict.com
  - www.ncredistrict.org/lrs

MEMORANDUM

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

To: Honorable Mayor & Councilmembers

Cc:

From: Rochelle D. Small-Toney, City Manager

Date: 8/6/2021

Re: Unity Cemetery Restoration Update

On March 8, 2021, City staff presented, and City Council approved a plan for acquisition and restoration of Unity Cemetery. The following is an update on the status of this project:

Project Funding

Unity Cemetery's restoration is included in the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program, with total costs of $1.45 million planned for the five-year period. The Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Operating Budget, adopted by City Council on June 28, 2021, includes the following funding for the next 12 months:

- $700,000 for site acquisition, surveying, access road repair, gravesite restoration, and development of a maintenance plan;
- $50,000 for ongoing maintenance; and
- $32,000 for consulting services.

Project Leadership

The Unity Cemetery Restoration & Preservation Steering Committee is being established to coordinate this important initiative. The Steer Committee will work with City staff on the planned restoration and preservation projects funded in the City's budget. The attached presentation prepared by Lois Watkins provides information on the proposed structure of this Committee, which includes an Executive Committee and Program Committees for History, Public Relations, Veteran Affairs, Fundraising, and Friends of Unity program.

Recommendations for members of the Steering Committee are attached. We look forward to Council's review and comment on these recommendations, and we will request approval of committee membership at the August 23, 2021, Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR

UNITY CEMETERY RESTORATION & PRESERVATION STEERING COMMITTEE

NAME	TITLE	COMMITTEE ROLE	EXPERIENCE/SKILLS
Rochelle Small-Toney	City Manager	Steering Committee Ex-officio Member	Administrator, City of Rocky Mount. Set policy, budgets, day to day activities
Jep Rose	City Attorney	Steering Committee Ex-officio Member	Legal Advisor to CRMT
Angela Bryant	Community Strategist	Steering Committee Ex-officio Member	Former, NC Senator, House Rep, CRMT Council Member, Attorney
Lois Watkins	Consultant, Unity Project	Steering Committee Co-Committee Chair	Former CRMT Council Member. Founder, Nonprofit Director, Legal Assistant
Loretta Braswell	Retired, CRMT Community & Business Development	Steering Committee Co-Committee Chair	Rocky Mount Edgecombe CDC, CRMT Human Relations
Terri Bryant	Programs Managers Golden Leaf Foundation	Steering Committee Trainer/Facilitator	Grant Funding
Tammi Phillips	Community Manager Ravenwood Crossing	Steering Committee Admin Support	Manager of Ravenwood Apts; strong administrative skills
Chauncey Stokes Jr	Heir, Unity Cemetery Stokes Mortuary	Steering Committee Ex-officio	Faith-based Coordination
Sharon Williams	Workforce Solutions President, AKA	Steering Committee Chair, Public Relations	Community Leader Volunteer Coordinator
Arnold Bay Gordon	Retired Army General	Steering Committee Chair - Veteran Affairs	
Angela Thorpe	NC State Archives, DNCR, African American Heritage Commission	Steering Committee Consultant	Exec Director, NC African American Heritage Commission
Traci Thompson	Local Historian Braswell Library	Steering Committee Local History Consultant	Member, Edgecombe County Historic Society
Nadia Orton	Phoenix Heritage Society Hampton Road Project	History Committee Historian & Genealogy	Historian, Researcher African American Cemeteries

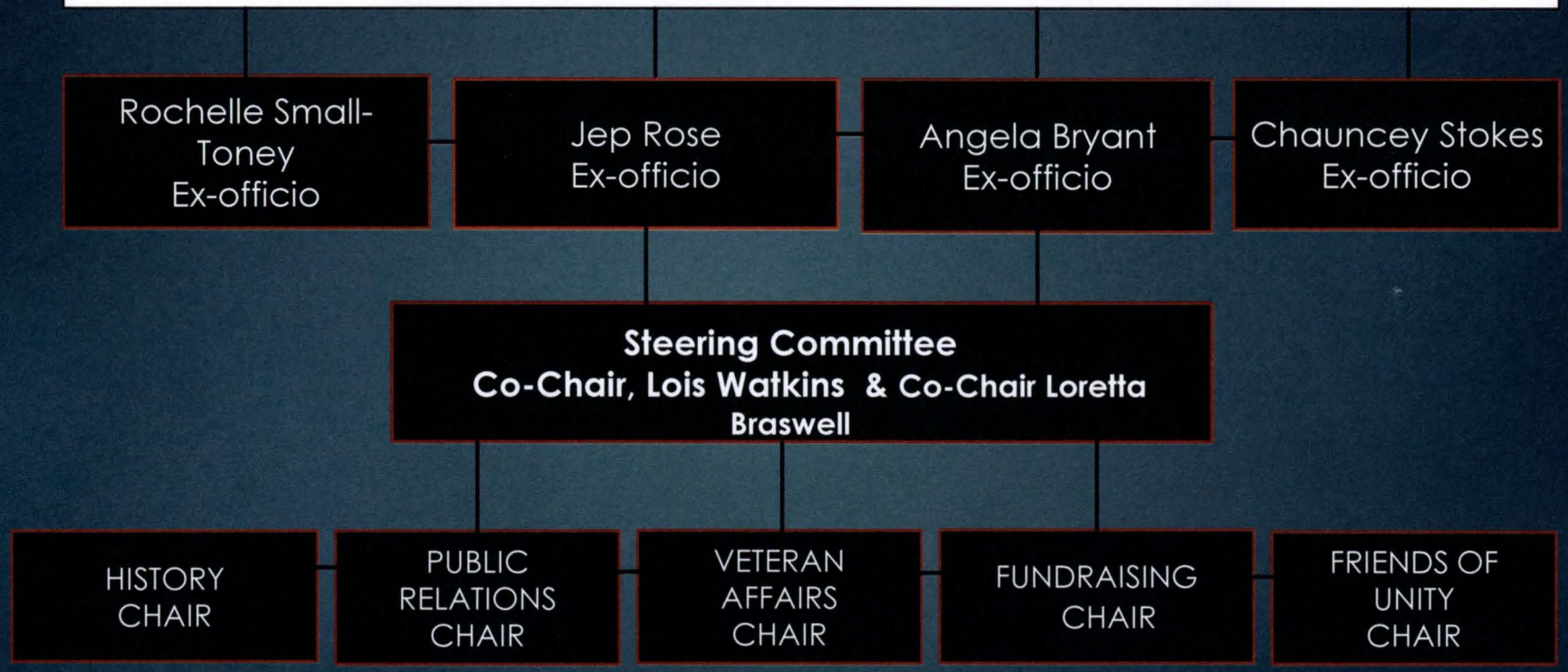
NAME	TITLE	COMMITTEE ROLE	EXPERIENCE/SKILLS
Mavis Stith	Phoenix Heritage Society	History Committee	Researcher, AA Heritage, Edgecombe County
Dr. Bruce Panneton	Edgecombe Community College Dean, Office of Historic Preservation	History Committee Student Interns	Oversees Historic Preservation and Trade Program
Hal Turner	Consultant, Front Porch Project	History Committee Research Consultant	Unity Cemetery Researcher
Rose Hunter	Executive Director, Buck Leonard Association Front Porch Project	History Committee Member	Front Porch Heritage Project, Oral History
Pete Armstrong	Retired - CRMT, NC State Recreation Resources	Steering Committee Chair, Fundraising Committee	Retired, CRMT Parks & Recreation, Cemetery Maintenance
Gloria Davis	Licensed Counselor LMHA Citizen Academy	Fundraising Committee	Event Planning
Barbara Smith	Program Officer Golden Leaf Foundation	Public Relations Committee	Fundraising, Grant Funding
Josie Davis	Retired	History Committee Member	Family Member of the Interred
Mrs. Marian Lewis	Former Secretary Stokes Mortuary	Friends of Unity Committee Member	Historic Knowledge of Unity Cemetery
Glen Draughn	Retired, Cummins Business owner	Friends of Unity Committee Chair	2015 Unity Cemetery Committee Member
Sandra Draughn	Community Leader	Friends of Unity Committee Member	Family Member of the Interred
Willie Arrington	Retired Community Leader	Friends of Unity Committee Member	Family Member of the Interred
Viola Harris	Reporter, RMT Telegram; Edgecombe County Commissioner	Public Relations Committee	Community Leader Organizer
Linda Joyner	Case Manager, OIC	Friends of Unity Committee	Event Planning Fundraising

UNITY CEMETERY PROPOSED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

LOIS WATKINS

AUGUST 9, 2021

UNITY CEMETERY RESTORATION & PRESERVATION EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE



COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Ex-Officio Committee Members

The term "**ex-officio**" describes an obligation or privilege a person has, by virtue of their status to serve on a board or committee.

The Committee is proposing that Ex-officio members may include people who are not actual members of the Committee but who do hold some position of relevance to the Committee be allowed to serve. These ex-officio members hold expertise and positions of influence important to the Unity Cemetery project.

They also possess the privilege associated with membership and some do not share any of the obligations associated with the Committee. Therefore, these members should not be included when determining the number of members needed for a quorum or counted when determining if a quorum is present.

COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE:

The Executive Committee consists of (4) proposed ex-officio members, (2) Committee board co-chairs, and (7) executive committee chairs & co-chairs. Names of recommended committees are: (1) chair for History Committee, (2) co-chairs for Public Relations, (1) chair for Veteran Affairs, (2) co-chairs for Fundraising , and (1) chair for Friends of Unity. Total Executive Committee members are 13.

The Executive Steering Committee responsibilities includes:

- Establish structure. Set goals and objectives for FY 2021-2022.
- Establish subcommittees. Train Committee members and volunteers. Monitor outcomes and report project activities to the CRMT Council as requested.

COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

HISTORY COMMITTEE

- Works under the leadership of a historian who reports to the Executive Committee.
- Collect, catalog and preserve all data including recordings, articles, and publications about Unity Cemetery.
- Make reports to the Executive Board and prepare an annual historic book with information gathered. Take pictures and record oral histories.
- Train committee members to sort and input data on interred members and family data into Unity cemetery software program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Create awareness about Unity Cemetery project and activities to promote a positive community vibe about the vision, value, and work of Unity Cemetery.
- Coordinate with the Executive Committee prepared reports, press releases, and media exposure on issues of importance to the Executive Committee.

COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- Promotes a cooperative relationship between the Unity Cemetery Committee, and family members of veterans interred at Unity.
- Recruit volunteer veterans to support the work of honoring veterans interred at Unity.
- Develop relationships with veteran organizations at the local, state and national level.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

- Develop financial support for the work of restoring Unity Cemetery. Establish an annual fundraising plan to raise money for Unity Cemetery unmet needs.
- Train committee members on basic fundraising activities. Work in collaboration with the Executive Committee in promoting activities and building financial support for Unity.

COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

FRIENDS OF UNITY COMMITTEE

- Work in coordination with the Executive Committee. Advocate and educate the community about the Unity Cemetery project.
- Support volunteerism needed for the work of Unity Cemetery.
- Support fundraising, oral histories and other events in support of Unity Cemetery goals.
- They advocate for the expansion of the Black Cemetery Network.

SUPPORTERS OF UNITY CEMETERY INCLUDE:

North Carolina State Archives
NC Division of Cultural & Natural Resources
African American Heritage Commission
Raleigh, NC

Edgecombe County Registrar of Deeds
Tarboro, NC

Nash County Registrar of Deeds
Nashville, NC

City of Rocky Mount
City Clerk's Office
Rocky Mount NC

Braswell Memorial Library
Local History
Rocky Mount, NC

MEMORANDUM

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

To: Rochelle D. Small-Toney, City Manager

Cc: Kenneth Hunter, Assistant to the City Manager for Budget & Evaluation

From: Jayson Dawkins, Policy Analyst

Date: 08/09/2021

Re: Housing Strategic Plan Implementation Updates

City staff continues to work on the implementation process for the remaining recommendations in the Rocky Mount Affordable Housing Strategic Plan. The following is an update on the progress:

The Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

Regarding the "Rocky Mount Housing Trust Fund" recommendation, city staff continues to finalize the HTF's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Approval of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws would designate the HTF as a non-profit corporation in the State of North Carolina and allow for the non-profit to claim tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Upon completion, staff will request the selection of members appointed by the City Council to serve as the HTF's Board of Directors. The HTF's Board of Directors will have 11-members, divided between 7 city directors and 4 housing partners. The 7 city directors are appointed by members of the City Council, 1 per ward. The remaining 4 members represent the city's housing partners and would be appointed as representatives from the following non-profits: Rocky Mount Housing Authority; Rocky Mount Edgecombe Community Development Corporation; Joy Community Development Corporation; and Opportunities Industrialization Center. Each member will have equal voting status. The Rocky Mount City Manager would serve as an ex-officio member of the HTF. Upon meeting, the Board of Directors will review and adopt their bylaws and hire an Executive Director to manage the day-to-day operations. The standard term on the Board of Directors would be 3-years. Membership terms would be staggered with the option to be reappointed by Council upon expiration.

The Community Land Trust (CLT)

Regarding the "Community Land Trust" recommendation, city staff continues to work with Dr. Jim Johnson, Ph.D., and Professor Jeanne Bonds from UNC-Chapel Hill on program implementation. City staff is planning two community and stakeholder meetings in August with Dr. Jim Johnson, Ph.D., and Professor Jeanne Bonds to present and answer potential questions regarding the CLT. Furthermore, city staff will continue with the process of identifying potential development projects for the CLT.

Financial Support Recommendations

Regarding the "Pass a General Obligation Bond," city staff is still analyzing its existing and future debt capacity and affordability with the interim Finance Director.

For the "Implement Residential Production Program," Council passed that program at the July 26th City Council meeting after changes were made to the lifetime caps for downtown tax incentives.

Land Assembly Recommendations

Regarding the "Increased Construction of Multi-Family Housing Near Major Transit Stations" recommendation, city staff is compiling an inventory of the vacant properties near our major transit stations to study the viability of placing housing in those corridors.

For the "Implement a Tax/ Lien Foreclosure" recommendation, city staff met to begin the process of identifying eligible properties. The process would originate in the targeted neighborhoods with later expansion city-wide. City staff is developing a scoring method for qualifying properties with the basis depending on location, the severity of delinquent debt, length of time under-code, and economic impact.

Regarding the "Implement a Receivership Program" recommendation, city staff is still evaluating options to address the length of the receivership process, finding eligible receivers based on the law's criteria, and continuing to monitor the pilot program in Greensboro.

The City of Rocky Mount has experienced some recent success regarding land assembly leading to the Five Points Crossing. Through a partnership with Woda Cooper Companies, Inc. (The Woda Group), Five Points Crossing is intended to be a multi-family workforce housing downtown development off Tarboro St, near Edgecombe County College. Construction is scheduled to commence in 60 days, creating 50 new units at 60% AMI. The estimated date of completion is for next summer 2022.

Planning Improvement Recommendations

Regarding the "Residential Housing in Commercial Districts" and the "Revisions and Additions to the Existing Definitions for Dwellings in the Land Development Code" recommendations, the Planning Board approved both amendments at their last meeting. Both amendments will be presented for public comment and approval at the August 9th City Council meeting.

Regarding the "Revised Density Bonus Policy" recommendation, staff will be adopting a blanket approach to identify set bonuses on a tiered level in commercial and residential districts based on area median income (AMI). Upon completion of those revisions, staff will present them at the next Planning Board meeting.

Regarding the "Revised Minimum Parking Requirements" recommendation, the policy is being revised and presented at the next Planning Board meeting.

Regarding the "Increase Promotion of Accessory Dwelling Unity Policy" recommendation, Developmental Services will work with the Communications, Marketing, and Public Relations to work on additional promotions on the policy change.

Innovation Recommendations

For the recommendation of "Utilizing Solar Energy for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation," staff will present a revised policy on incorporating solar energy to the Council at the September 6th Committee of the Whole meeting. The policy will contain marketing options for residents and developers.

For the "Utilizing Green Building Practices for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation" recommendation, city staff has researched potential strategies to incorporate into the affordable housing construction and rehabilitation efforts.

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
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Update on Affordable Housing Strategic Plan

08/09/2021, City Manager's Office

Purpose

- Create a menu of potential options to address absence of affordable housing in Rocky Mount.
- Preserve and rehabilitate existing housing stock.
- Improve the homeownership and rental marketplace.

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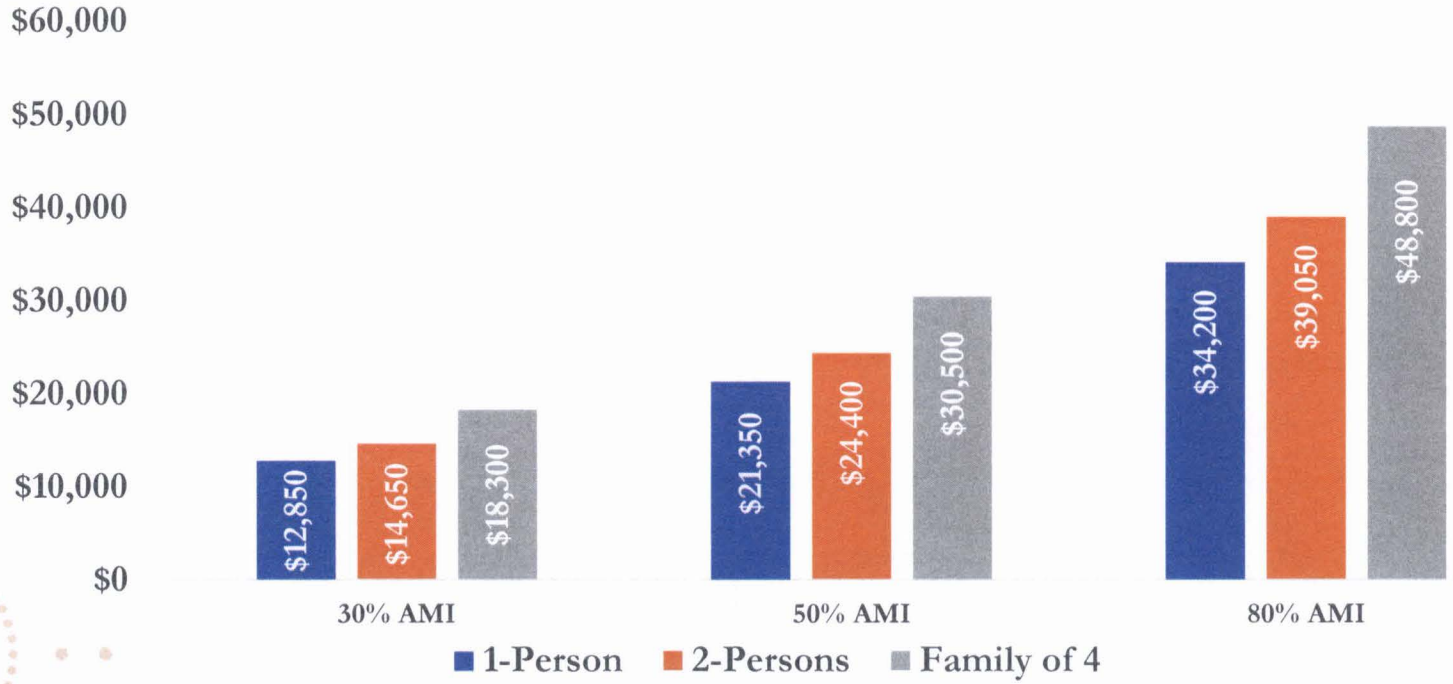
Housing Supply Statistics

Rocky Mount Area Median Income (AMI) Limits



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Current Affordable Housing Strategic Plan Recommendations

Financial Support	Land Assembly	Planning Improvement	Innovation
• Creation of a Housing Trust Fund • Creation of an Acquisition Fund • Creation of a Preservation Fund • Creation of a Community Land Trust • Pass a General Obligation Bond • Implement Residential Production Program	• Increase Construction of Multi-Family Housing near Major Transit Stations • Implement a Tax/Lien Foreclosure Policy • Implement a Receivership Program	• Revise the Density Bonus Policy • Increase Promotion of Accessory Dwelling Unity Policy • Revise Minimum Parking Requirements • Revise & Add to the Existing Definitions for Dwellings in the LDC • Residential Housing in Commercial Districts	• Utilizing Solar Energy for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation • Utilizing Green Building Practices for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation

Update on Affordable Housing Strategic Plan Recommendations

Financial Support

Recommendation	Current Status
Creation of a Housing Trust Fund	Staff will present Council organizational documents for approval at a future City Council meeting. • Bylaws & Articles of Incorporation
Creation of an Acquisition Fund	To be established and managed by Housing Trust Fund.
Creation of a Preservation Fund	To be established and managed by Housing Trust Fund.

Financial Support (Continued)

Recommendation	Current Status
Creation of a Community Land Trust	Staff will present Council with a How-To Guide for creating 501(c)3 Community Land Trusts, including: • Three Founding Board Members from each of the three tiers of a Board of Directors • Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Community Land Trust regarding financial support and mission and professional services needed • Community-Wide training • City-owned land contributions: use and timing Dr. Johnson and Prof. Bonds will host two community and stakeholder meetings in August to present a "step-by-step" presentation and answer questions regarding the Community Land Trust.
Pass a General Obligation Bond	Analyzing existing and future debt capacity and affordability.
Implement Residential Production Program	Policy was passed by Council on July 26th.

Update on Affordable Housing Strategic Plan Recommendations

Land Assembly

Recommendation	Current Status
Increase Construction of Multi-Family Housing near Major Transit Stations	Compiling list of vacant properties near major transit stations to study suitability for housing.
Implement a Tax/Lien Foreclosure Policy	Identifying eligible properties within focused neighborhoods. Developing a scoring method for qualifying properties.
Implement a Receivership Program	Staff is evaluating options to address length of receivership process, developing process to identify receivers and continuing to monitor Greensboro's pilot program.
Workforce Housing In Progress (Five Points Crossing)	The City partnered with "The Woda Group" to construct a multi-family workforce housing development (50 units at 60% AMI) off Tarboro St, near Edgecombe County College. Construction should begin in the next 60 days, with a completion date of summer 2022.

Update on Affordable Housing Strategic Plan Recommendations

Planning Improvements

Recommendation	Current Status
Revise the Density Bonus Policy	Staff is adopting a blanket approach to identify set bonuses on a tiered system for commercial and residential districts based on Area Median Income (AMI). This policy will be presented to September 7, 2021, Planning Board Meeting.
Increase Promotion of Accessory Dwelling Unity Policy	Scheduling CITYTV-19 interview. Working on additional promotions with Communications, Marketing, and Public Relations.
Revise Minimum Parking Requirements	Policy drafted and scheduled for August 10, 2021, Planning Board Meeting.
Revise & Add to the Existing Definitions for Dwellings in the LDC	Positive recommendation returned by the Planning Board. Will be presented for public comment tonight.
Residential Housing in Commercial Districts	Positive recommendation returned by the Planning Board. Will be presented for public comment tonight.

Innovation

Recommendation	Current Status
Utilizing Solar Energy for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation	Staff will present a revised policy to Council for September 13th Committee of the Whole meeting. Planning marketing options for residents and builders.
Utilizing Green Building Practices for New Construction and Home Rehabilitation	Research continues to identify strategies to incorporate into affordable housing construction and rehabilitation efforts.

MEMORANDUM

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
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To: Rochelle D. Small-Toney, City Manager

Cc:

From: Kenneth Hunter, Assistant to the City Manager for Budget & Evaluation

Date: 8/2/2021

Re: American Rescue Plan Update

The following information is intended as an update on the City's participation in and utilization of funds provided under the American Rescue Plan.

Receipt of Funds

As of present, the City has received $5,760,590 (50%) of the total $11,521,180 in funding scheduled for distribution from the American Rescue Plan. The remaining balance will be distributed to the City before June 30, 2022.

Reporting Requirements

The American Rescue Plan Act requires the City to report regularly on its allocation and expenditure of received funds. The first report, which serves as an interim summary, will be due to the U.S. Department of Treasury no later than August 31, 2021. Future quarterly reports will be due no later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, with the first report due by October 31, 2021. These reports will be required until the end of calendar year 2026.

Appropriation & Allocation of Funds

Eligible use of these funds falls within the following categories:

- Support Public Health Expenditures
- Address Negative Economics Impacts Caused by COVID-19 (This includes "exacerbation of pre-existing disparities" and expanded latitude for projects in Qualified Census Tracts as identified by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development)
- Replace Lost Public Sector Revenue
- Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers

- Invest in Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (For the purposes of this funding, this also includes stormwater)

Qualified Census Tracts within the City of Rocky Mount are as follows:

- Edgecombe County Tracts 202, 203, 204, and 206
- Nash County Tract 102

Neighborhoods focused on for affordable housing development via the recommendations of the Affordable Housing Strategic Plan are located in the above-listed tracts, except for the neighborhoods of Happy Hill and Villa Place. In both of these cases, conditions are in line with the requirements necessary to appropriate funding for affordable housing.

On June 28, 2021, City Council approved a Project Ordinance appropriating the $11,521,180 scheduled for receipt from the American Rescue Plan. Currently, these funds have been allocated for the following purposes:

Purpose	**Funding Amount Obligated**
Negative Economic Impacts 2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries	$0
Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities 3.10 Affordable Housing	$3,000,000
Revenue Replacement 6.1 Provision of Government Services	$0
Reserved for Future Projects	$8,521,180
Grand Total	**$11,521,180**

No funds have been expended as of present. American Rescue Plan funds must be obligated by the City no later than December 31, 2024, and they must be expended no later than December 31, 2026.

We look forward to further discussion with City Council in regards to the utilization of these funds for various purposes.

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

American Rescue Plan Funding Update

8/9/2021, City Manager's Office

Overview

- Total Allocation: $11,521,180
  - Received as of June 30, 2021: $5,760,590 (50%)
- Reporting Requirements & Deadlines
  - Interim Report: August 31, 2021
  - Project & Expenditure Report: October 31, 2021
    - Quarterly through end of 2026
  - Single Audit

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Allowable Categories

- Support Public Health Expenditures
- Address Negative Economics Impacts Caused by COVID-19
  - Includes "Exacerbation of Pre-Existing Disparities"
  - Expanded Latitude for Projects in Qualified Census Tracts (HUD)
- Replace Lost Public Sector Revenue
- Provide Premium Pay for Essential Workers
- Invest in Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure
  - Includes Stormwater

ROCKY MOUNT, NC
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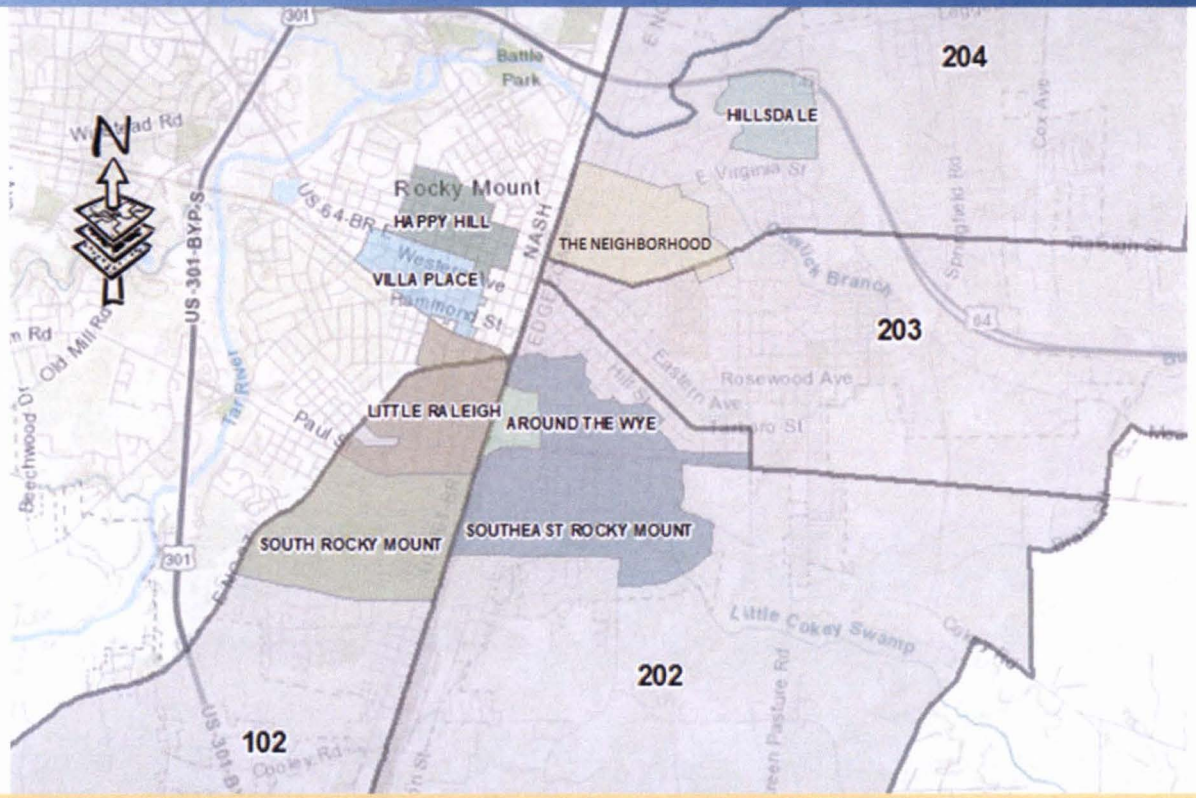
Rocky Mount's Qualified Census Tracts



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Current Plan of Allocations

Category	Amount Planned	Amount Expended
Negative Economic Impacts		
2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries	$0	$0
Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.10 Affordable Housing	$3,000,000	$0
Revenue Replacement		
6.1 Provision of Government Services	$0	$0
Reserved for Future Projects	$8,521,180	$0
Grand Total	**$11,521,180**	**$0**

MEMORANDUM

ROCKY MOUNT
POLICE
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

To: Rochelle Small-Toney, City Manager

Cc:

From: Robert Hassell, Chief of Police RH

Date: 8/09/2021

Re: Presentation of Crime Statistics

The purpose of this memo is to present a summary of the city wide crime numbers to the Committee of the Whole during the August 9, 2021 meeting.

Discussion

The presentation covers the crime incidents throughout the city currently and compares them to last year during the same time period. The crimes tracked in this presentation are crimes labeled as part 1 crimes in the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) by the federal government. These crime numbers are tracked by the FBI and shared with the Bureau of Justice Statistics for tracking purposes.

The presentation includes investigation outcomes for the violent crimes and the related arrests. It also includes maps depicting the areas of shots fired, incidences of aggravated assault and murder. The presentation also highlights the efforts and successes of the police department to combat the violent crime occurring in the city.

Requested Action

None

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Hassell
Chief of Police

ROCKY MOUNT
POLICE

July 2021 Crime Report

July 2021 Data

August 09, 2021
Robert Hassell, Chief of Police

ROCKY MOUNT
POLICE

July 2021 Crime Report

NIBRS Parts 1 & 2 Comparisons

CRIMES	Jul 2020	Jul 2021	+/-	YTD 2020	YTD 2021	+/-
Murder	2	0	-2	7	8	1
Rape	1	0	-1	4	7	3
Com Robbery	4	3	-1	15	17	2
Ind Robbery	5	2	-3	28	13	-15
Agg Assault	38	18	-20	243	221	-22
Violent	50	23	-27	297	266	-31
Commercial B&E	1	7	6	28	77	49
Residential B&E	14	6	-8	136	92	-44
Non Residential B&E	6	4	-2	22	18	-4
Larceny	85	70	-15	566	499	-67
MV Theft	8	8	0	48	45	-3
Arson	1	2	1	6	7	1
Property	115	97	-18	806	738	-68
Total	165	120	-45	1103	1004	-99

The table is a comparison of crime numbers by month and year to date compared to the same time periods last year.

July 2021 Crime Report

Aggravated Assault Cases and Investigations

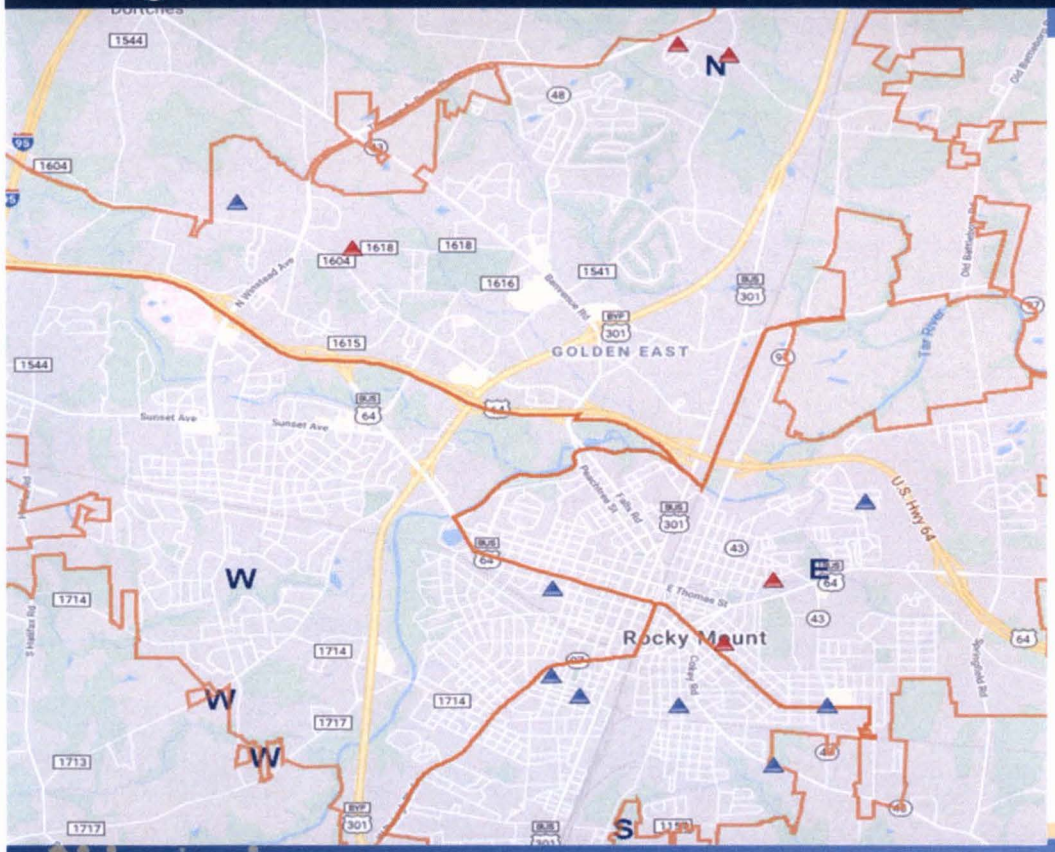
• Aggravated Assault Cases	13
• Aggravated Assault Victims	18
• Numbers Cases with Multiple victims	4
• Aggravated Assault Arrests	7
• Aggravated Assault Cases Cleared	7

Case Dispositions

• Cases Cleared by Arrest	7
• Inactive Cases	2
• Open Cases	4
• Exceptionally Cleared	0
Grand Total of Incidents	**13**
• Gang Related	0

ROCKY MOUNT
POLICE

July 2021 Crime Report



▲ Murder

▲ Aggravated Assault

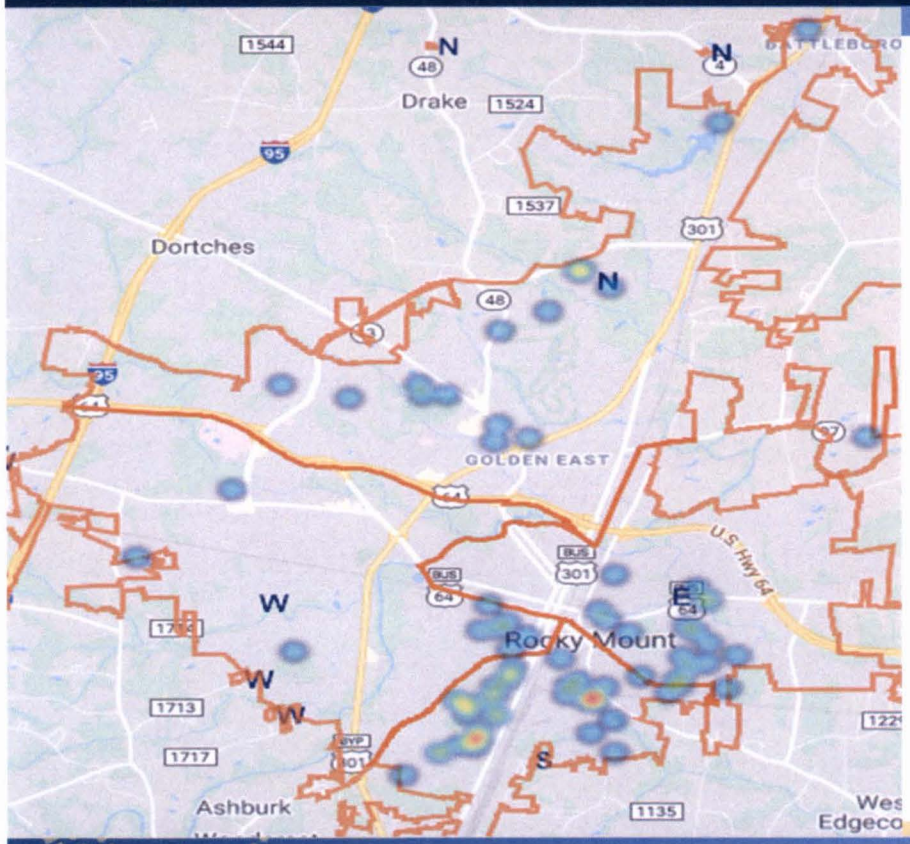
▲ Shooting Into OCC Build/Veh

- Victims with Injuries 9
- Victims Without Injuries 9

Grand Total of Victims 18

ROCKY MOUNT
POLICE

July 2021 Crime Report



Shotspotter & Citizen Calls Throughout the City

• Shots Fired	82
• Shell Casings were Found	28
• Number Shell Casings Found	123
• Number of Firearms Seized	22
• Number of Firearms Seized YTD	242
• Weapon Violation Arrests	7

Community Involvement

- ***Police Athletic/Activity League***: We are focusing on establishing the board and developing our PALS chapter

- ***Junior Police Academy***: Concluded with 8 participants completing the program

- ***Active Shooter Training:*** We are continuing to train all city employees on survival techniques during an active shooter. So far we have trained 215 employees from 8 departments.

- ***Summer Night Lights:*** We had Summer Night Lights during the month of July and will continue into August.