



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

Agenda FFE Board of Directors

Monday, September 22, 2025 2:00 PM

251 Mills St., Kalamazoo, MI 49048

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Agenda
3. Welcome Guests

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve Minutes of April 28, 2025, Meeting

C. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. (No Action) Robert's Rules of Order
2. (No Action) 2025 Aspirational Project Progress Report

D. CONSENT AGENDA

E. REGULAR AGENDA

1. (No Action) Draft 2026 Budget
2. Foundation for Excellence Investment Subcommittee Membership
3. Approve 2026 Schedule of Meetings

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

H. ADJOURNMENT

General information about the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) including board meeting schedules, meeting agendas and minutes, bylaws, and much more can be accessed at: <https://www.kalamazoocity.org/ffe>.

Agendas and previous minutes and video streams for FFE meetings are available directly at: <https://kalamazoomi.civicclerk.com/>.

Questions regarding agenda items may be answered prior to the meeting by contacting the FFE Manager at 269.337.8047 or ffe@kalamazoocity.org.

KALAMAZOO FOUNDATION OF EXCELLENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT RULES

1. Persons attending a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kalamazoo Foundation for Excellence shall be permitted to address the Board in conformity with this rule and the Michigan Open Meetings Act.
2. An individual wishing to address the Board shall wait to be recognized by the presiding officer.
3. A person addressing the Board shall provide their name and whether they are a resident of the City.
4. Remarks by a speaker shall be confined to matters within the purview of the Board and KFFE.
5. The chairperson of the meeting or a majority of the Board in attendance may permit individuals to speak once, for up to four (4) minutes, on specific matters being considered on the meeting agenda of the Board, except no comment is permitted on secondary or procedural motions to a main motion.
6. A speaker is permitted to address the Board once during the Public Comment portion of the meeting for up to four (4) minutes.
7. A speaker is not permitted to yield any unused portion of speaking time to other speakers.
8. A speaker may be ruled out of order for conduct that interrupts or disrupts the meeting.

Updated October 23, 2023



Minutes FFE Board of Directors

Monday, April 28, 2025 - 2:00 PM

DRAFT

Mayors Riverfront Park - 251 Mills St, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call
 - ◆ Present - Calderon-Huezo; Ritsema; Balkema, Bostrom; Bogan; Carrel; Hess; Lonberg; Salas; Vazquez-Alatorre; Anderson and Decker
 - ◆ Excused absence - Parker
 - ◆ Unexcused absence – Taylor; Hoffman
2. Approve Agenda
 - ◆ Motion to approve agenda - Mayor Anderson
 - ◆ Second - Bostrom
3. Welcome Guests
 - ◆ President welcomes guests
 - ◆ Keri Lynn Williams
 - ◆ Sharilyn Parsons
 - ◆ Crissy Westbury (Faith Sector) Appointment begins
 - ◆ Sarah Drumm (Neighborhood)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of the February 24, 2025, meeting
 - ◆ Motion to approve agenda - Balkema (w/correction of typo on page 5)
 - ◆ Second - Bostrom

C. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. (No Action) Receive Annual Financial Report Information and Annual Audit
 - ◆ **Presented by:** Executive Director Steve Brown
 - ◆ **Key Points:**
 - Annual financial reports and independent audits are conducted as per governing documents.
 - Audit Subcommittee and Finance Committee review drafts with the independent auditor.
 - **Treasurer Balkema:**
 - Positive audit results with an unqualified opinion.
 - No audit findings; praised the City's Management Services

- Department.
- Enhancements in reporting:
 - Expanded City Manager’s report to include detailed metrics and reporting.
 - Addition of output and outcome metrics on pages 11 and 12.
 - Annual report on page 32 available publicly on the website.
- **CFO Vicenzi:** Confirmed the comprehensive coverage of the annual report.

2. (No Action) Housing Development Fund updates

- ◆ **Presented by:** Sharilyn Parsons
- ◆ **Discussion:**
 - **Definition:**
 - **Engagement Activities:** Required for Imagine Kalamazoo plan and neighborhood plans.
 - **Activation Projects:** Quick Win projects providing small grants for neighborhood initiatives.
 - **Challenges:**
 - Difficulty in establishing metrics due to the qualitative nature of meetings.
 - Only one measure was established; not successfully completed.
 - Need for better outcome measures reflecting changes in community engagement.
 - **Outcome Suggestions:**
 - Implement surveys to assess perceived engagement.
 - Develop metrics for changes in community state
 - Director Bogan commented on the City of Kalamazoo’s timeline for development and attempts to expedite the process.

3. (No Action) Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

- ◆ **Presented by:** Keri Lynn Williams, Grants Division Manager
- ◆ **Key Points:**
 - **Process:**
 - FFE Board approves projects; city commission also approves.
 - Projects develop one to three outputs and outcomes.
 - **Outputs:** Quantifiable measures (e.g., number of trees planted, youth served).
 - **Outcomes:** Qualitative changes (e.g., increased tree canopy, improved youth skills).
 - **Examples of 2025 Projects:**
 - Counselor and Training Program: 30 youth serving in camps.
 - Youth Advisory Council: 13 youth planning 12 events.
 - Super Rec Program: 125 weekly slots providing meals and activities.
 - All Things Possible Program: 40-50 youth exploring career opportunities.

- **Data Tracking:**
 - Using Kalamazoo Youth Development Network’s Hello Insight model for pre and post assessments.
 - Collecting demographic data from participants.
 - Surveys for families participating in programs.
- **Long-Term Impact Discussions:**
 - Challenges in tracking long-term outcomes like graduation rates.
 - Considering partnerships with local colleges for broader impact assessment

D. CONSENT AGENDA

No Action

E. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approve Nominations and (Re)Appointments of Directors to the Foundation for Excellence Board
 - ◆ Re-appointment of Jamauri Bogan to a three-year term ending May 31, 2028.
 - ◆ Re-appointment of Mary Balkema as Housing Stakeholder Director to a three-year term ending on May 31, 2028.
 - ◆ The appointment of Reverend Christina Westbury, three- year term. Faith-based appointment.
 - ◆ The appointment of Sarah Drumm as Neighborhood Stakeholder to a three-year term, ending on May 31, 2028.

2. Elect Officers for One-Year Terms Ending at the Annual Board Meeting to be held in April of 2026
 - ◆ President - Dr. Andrea Bostrom
 - ◆ Vice President - James K. Ritsema
 - ◆ Treasurer - Mary Balkema
 - ◆ Secretary - Jamauri Bogan

3. Approve Committee Appointments for One-Year Terms Ending at the Annual Board Meeting to be held in April of 2026
 - ◆ **Finance Committee**
 - Bostrom
 - Balkema
 - Steve Vicenzi
 - James Ritsema
 - Parker – (Nominated by Carrel)
 - Vazquez-Alatorre (Nominated by Decker)
 - ◆ **Executive Committee**
 - Bostrom
 - Ritsema
 - Balkema

- Bogan
- Decker (Nominated by Balkema)
- Vazquez-Alatorre (Nominated by Balkema)
- ◆ **Nominating Committee**
 - Bostrom
 - McKague
 - Salas
 - Drum
 - Westbury
- ◆ **Audit Subcommittee**
 - Bostrom
 - Anderson
 - Balkema
 - Ritsema
 - Carrel
- ◆ **Action:** Motion to approve appointments - Balkema
- ◆ Second - Bostrom

4. Approve the Estimated 2026 Grant Distribution to the City of Kalamazoo

- ◆ **Presented by:** ED Brown
- ◆ **Discussion:**
 - Establishing resource availability for the upcoming year's grants.
 - Defined grant categories: tax amount, budget stabilization amount, and aspirational amount.
 - **Action:** Motion - Approval of estimated 2026 grant distributions unanimously passed roll-call vote - **Decker**
 - Second - Balkema

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Director Lonberg:
 - ◆ Emphasized the importance of using funds to support all community segments.
 - ◆ Reiterated confidence in the team's ability to make impactful decisions.
2. Outgoing President - Calderon-Huezo:
 - ◆ Thanked everyone for their commitments. Thanked Steve for his leadership and guidance.

H. ADJOURNMENT



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

FFE Board of Directors Staff Report

TO: Foundation for Excellence Board of Directors

FROM: Steve Brown, Executive Director

DATE: September 22, 2025

SUBJECT: (No Action) Robert's Rules of Order

RECOMMEDATION:

(No Action) Robert's Rules of Order

BACKGROUND:

With guidance from FFE counsel, the Board will review and refresh understanding of meeting operations using Robert's Rules. The one-page rule sheet included in each Director's binder at the time of onboarding is attached to this item for convenience.

Robert's Rules of Order

Role of meeting chair (in our case, the president)

1. Calling the meeting to order on time
2. Announcing the business before the group in the order noted on the agenda
3. Determining the presence of a quorum
4. Recognizing members who want to speak
5. Processing all motions
6. Expediting business
7. Ruling on points of order
8. Conducting the meeting in a fair and equitable manner

Notes:

- The goal of following Robert's Rules is to protect the rights of the minority, ensure legality and expedite business.
- Chair should remain neutral, not making motions and not debating. If chair participates in the debate, he or she should relinquish the chair's position until after the vote.
- When the meeting strays from the business item being addressed, the chair needs to bring the focus back to the specific motion, even if it means interrupting a speaker.

Making a motion is a six-step process:

1. Member makes a motion.
2. Another member seconds the motion.
3. The chair states the motion, formally putting it before the group.
4. The members discuss the motion.
5. The chair puts the question to a vote.
6. The chair announces the results of the vote.

Debates and decorum

- After a motion is made, the floor is open for debate.
- The person making the motion has the right to speak first.
- Each speaker needs to be recognized by the meeting chair.
- Ideally, speakers should alternate between those in favor of a motion and those opposed.
- Each speaker is given a specific time limit to present his or her argument, usually 10 minutes. {Our meetings typically don't have the luxury of time, so this may be too long.}
- A longer time can be given, if approved by a two-thirds vote.
- A person who hasn't spoken out yet gets precedence over people who have already spoken to the motion.
- No speaker can speak more than two times.
- Maker of the motion (or the chair) calls for closure of the debate after everyone who wishes to speak has been heard. If someone calls the question before that, the group must vote on whether to end debate (no discussion). A two-thirds vote is required to end a debate.
- To keep the discussion focused on the motion, avoid discussing personalities of the people involved, questioning the motives of other members, making derogatory remarks, including name calling.



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

FFE Board of Directors Staff Report

TO: Foundation for Excellence Board of Directors

FROM: Steve Brown, Executive Director
Kerry Lynn Williams, City of Kalamazoo Grants Manager

DATE: September 22, 2025

SUBJECT: (No Action) 2025 Aspirational Project Progress Report

RECOMMEDATION:

(No Action) 2025 Aspirational Project Progress Report

BACKGROUND:

The regularly scheduled progress report for FFE-funded Aspirational projects is attached.

2025 FFE Project Summary

Project Details									
Dept	Project Name	Project Lead	Carryover FFE Funding	ARPA Funding	2025 FFE Funding	Other Funding	CIP Funding	Total Funding	Progress To Date
CPED	SPK High Impact Fund - TriCare (3/15/2026)	Ford	\$65,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$65,000	
PS	Neighborhood Tree Maintenance	Randolph	\$80,663	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$80,663	
PS	Tree Planting (Carryover transferred to maint)	Randolph	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
PS	Portage Street Shared Use Path (SS4A Match)	Randolph	\$41,941	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$41,941	
PS	Sidewalk Snow Clearing Pilot	Randolph	\$53,294	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,294	
CMO	Youth Mobility Fund	Williams	\$78,677	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$78,677	
CPED	BDF CanDo Business Incubator	Hubbarth-Downs	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	
CPED	Green Affordable Housing (Energy Audit - Elevator)	McCarthy	\$112,075	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$112,075	
CPED	Dangerous Building Demolition	Vincent	\$39,297	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$39,297	
CPED	IKE&O Planning Imp and Engagement	Anderson/Slaby	\$71,039	\$172,892	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$243,931	
CPED	Capacity Building Small Business Support	Ford	\$0	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	
CPED	322 Stockbridge - Continued Planning	Kik	\$50,877	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,877	
CPED	Critical Code Repair	Parsons	\$0	\$0	\$138,000	\$0	\$0	\$138,000	
CPED	Housing Development Fund (Loan Pool)	Parsons	\$0	\$810,000	\$1,706,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,516,000	
CPED	HomeShare Pilot Program	Parsons	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	
CPED	HDF Site Acquisition	Parsons	\$385,658	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$385,658	
CPED	HDF Pathways Lease Purchase	Parsons	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	
CPED	HDF Housing Pre-Development	Parsons	\$141,778	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$141,778	
CPED	HDF Lawrence Properties	Parsons	\$104,262	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$104,262	
CPED	Clearing Clouded Titles	Parsons	\$9,734	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,734	
PR	MyCITY Summer Youth Employment	McVerry	\$0	\$0	\$619,000	\$0	\$0	\$619,000	
PR	Counselor-In-Training Program	Wendt	\$0	\$0	\$24,000	\$0	\$0	\$24,000	
PR	Youth Action Council	Wendt	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	
PR	SuperRec	Wendt	\$0	\$0	\$230,000	\$0	\$0	\$230,000	
PR	All Things Possible	Wendt	\$0	\$0	\$116,000	\$0	\$0	\$116,000	
PS	Cemetery - Riverside Cemetery Restoration	Palumbo	\$11,628	\$129,350	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,978	
PS	Pedestrian Sidewalk Improvement Projects*	Palumbo	\$433,350	\$161,000	\$1,360,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,954,350	



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

FFE Board of Directors Staff Report

TO: Foundation for Excellence Board of Directors

FROM: Steve Brown, Executive Director

DATE: September 22, 2025

SUBJECT: (No Action) Draft 2026 Budget

RECOMMEDATION:

(No Action) Draft 2026 Budget

BACKGROUND:

The draft 2026 proposed budget is attached for first review. No action is requested at this time.

Attachments

- The proposed 2026 Foundation for Excellence Budget, including the 2025 Amended Budget for comparison;
- The 2026 Grant Request Memo from the City of Kalamazoo to the Foundation for Excellence;
- The 2026 proposed Aspirational Project list.

Timeline:

9/8/25 - FFE Finance Committee: Recommend draft for Board review

9/22/25 - FFE Board: Review first draft

10/6/25 - FFE Finance Committee: Recommend final draft

10/6/25 - City Commission: Review final draft

10/27/25 - FFE Board: Approve and recommend to City Commission

Jan. 2026 - City Commission: Approve

Account Name	2025 Amended Budget	Proposed Budget
INVESTMENT INCOME	21,833,000	25,650,000
CONTRIBUTIONS*	55,000,000	55,000,000
Total Revenue	76,833,000	80,650,000
PAYROLL - BASE PAY	157,426	165,307
PAYROLL - BENEFITS AND EXPENSES	33,185	33,926
OFFICE SUPPLIES AND FORMS	200	200
MEETING SUPPLIES	200	250
POSTAGE	8,610	8,600
BANK FEES	700	1,000
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES	230,000	300,000
CONSULTING FEES	200,078	180,000
AUDIT FEES	16,500	18,000
CUSTODIAN FEES	171,600	170,000
LEGAL SERVICES	80,000	80,000
MEMBERSHIPS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	385	400
DUE DILIGENCE	20,000	20,000
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	8,000	8,000
SOFTWARE AND APPLICATIONS	9,700	7,200
LIABILITY INSURANCE	42,008	42,000
ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	51,500	55,000
CONTRIBUTION TO CITY - TAX REIMBURSEMENT	15,904,940	16,515,097
CONTRIBUTION TO CITY - TAX REIMBURSEMENT RECONCILIATION	86,660	119,080
CONTRIBUTION TO CITY - BUDGET STABILIZATION	4,886,859	5,126,556
CONTRIBUTION TO ASPIRATIONAL PROJECTS FUND	5,000,000	4,000,000
Total Expenses	26,908,551	26,850,616
Revenue over Expenses	49,924,449	53,799,384

*Contributions budgeted on a cash basis. FFE has recognized long term contribution receivable on the financial statements.



Department of Management Services

241 West South Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4796
Phone: 269.337.8020
Fax: 269.337.8448
www.kalamazoocity.org

August 28, 2025 (revised September 17, 2025)

Steve Brown
Executive Director, Kalamazoo Foundation For Excellence (FFE)

Mr. Brown,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Kalamazoo to formalize the initial budget request for 2025. We are requesting the following amounts for the 2025 budget.

- \$16,515,097 – Tax reduction
- \$119,080 – Tax reduction reconciliation payment
- \$5,126,556 – Budget Stabilization
- \$21,760,733 – Total operational funding request

- \$5,016,000 – Aspirational from Endowment (Any remaining Grant funds expended first)
- \$26,776,733 – Total funding request

TAX REDUCTION

Bylaws, Section 9.03, Subsection A: “Equal to the difference between the amount that the City would have received in real estate tax and personal property tax revenue for the fiscal year-in-question calculated using a millage rate of 19.2705 mills (\$19.2705 per \$1000 of taxable value) less the amount of real and personal property taxes that the City is budgeted to receive for the fiscal year-in-question under the City's proposed millage rate, so as to provide the City a tax rate that is correlative to other municipalities in the Kalamazoo area (...)”

Total 2025 Projected Net Effective Taxable Value = \$2,137,111,246

Projected difference in taxes under 19.2705 mills and current 12 mills = \$16,515,097.

TAX REDUCTION RECONCILIATION PAYMENT

Due to the timing of the Foundation for Excellence’s budget timeline, the City provides an estimate for the upcoming year’s tax valuations. The City sets taxable values less exemptions after the March Board of Review. The values are then created by assessing for the tax bills to be sent out in July.

The final personal property tax value to be reimbursed for the prior year is provided by the State of Michigan in October.

Due to the timing of the estimates and the State’s reporting, this calculation is done on a lookback basis that can span multiple years.

The following summarizes the tax reimbursement payments to the City starting from 2023 through 2025.

- Payments to the City for tax reduction - \$45,829,410
- Projected property taxes eligible to be reimbursed - \$45,238,976
- Tax reconciliation payments made - \$471,354

The difference is \$119,080. This amount becomes the requested tax reconciliation payment in 2026.



Department of Management Services

241 West South Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4796
Phone: 269.337.8020
Fax: 269.337.8448
www.kalamazoo-city.org

BUDGET STABILIZATION

Bylaws, Section 9.03, Subsection B: \$4 million for budget fiscal 2019 and thereafter adjusted annually by the Municipal Cost Index developed by the American City & County Magazine, or another credible model addressing the price of the unique market basket of goods and services purchased by local governments, to address the structural revenue imbalance to City finances due to Michigan's broken municipal finance system. This year's request is calculated using the amount provided in 2025, \$5,126,556 increased by 2.7%.

ASPIRATIONAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Bylaws, Section 9.03, Subsection C: Additional annual distributions may be approved (...) (i) consistent with the purposes set forth in Article II in the Articles of Incorporation of this Corporation; and, (ii) consistent with donor intent as specified in the Statement of Donor Intent (...)

Our proposed 2026 aspirational projects will be drawn on a reimbursement basis. These funds will be utilized on the projects described in the chart on the following pages.

I am also proposing the following draw schedule from the endowment for 2026.

March 2	\$5,126,556 – Budget Stabilization
June 1	\$16,515,097 – Tax Reduction
June 1	\$119,080 – Tax Reconciliation
Various	\$5,016,000 – Aspirational and operational funds reimbursed quarterly.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Vicenzi'.

Stephen Vicenzi
Chief Financial Officer
City of Kalamazoo

Proposed 2026 Aspirational Projects, Alignment, and Details

New or Continuing Program	Request Name	Project Summary	IK2025 Goal Alignment	FFE Goal Alignment	2026
Continuing	Youth Mobility	Fund to help youth overcome transportation barriers.	Youth Development	Promote Youth Development	\$67,000
New	Disaster Relief Funds	Investment to partially fund the Community Resilience Program Manager role and provide support for disaster response in conjunction with the city emergency manager.	Safe Community	Address Generational Poverty	25,000
New	Emergency Shelter Programs	Coordination with Kalamazoo County and community partners to identify service providers to operate an emergency shelter during extreme weather.	Shared Prosperity	Address Generational Poverty	500,000
Continuing	All Things Possible Camp	Supports a program for students transitioning from Middle to High school during the summer to eliminate "summer slide" and build social emotional learning.	Youth Development	Promote Youth Development	152,000
Continuing	Councilor in Training	Supports up to 30 youth who serve as leaders in Parks and Rec summer youth programming, receiving stipends and learning life and leadership skills.	Youth Development	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	30,000
Continuing	Kalamazoo Youth Action Council	Supports Parks and Recreation department's Youth Advisory Board providing input and leadership for programs, activities, and events.	Youth Development	Promote Youth Development	22,000
Continuing	KRESA Career Connect*	Partnership with KRESA to employ youth ages 6-12 at five neighborhood sites in Kalamazoo.	Youth Development	Promote Youth Development	416,000
Continuing	Event Sponsorship	Supports events hosted by non-profits which are open to all residents and free to attend.	Strength through Diversity	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	40,000
New	Spring Valley Tennis Court Improvements	Repair the tennis court surface at Spring Valley Park that are no longer functioning and transition the court into four pickleball	Inviting Public Places	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	110,000
Continuing	Super Rec Camp	Provides nine week of free summer camp for city youth ages 6-12 at five neighborhood sites in Kalamazoo.	Youth Development	Address Generational Poverty	264,000
Continuing	Demo Funds	Funds to be used when CDBG funds cannot be for abated building demolition, removal of foundation, and restore the site per City of Kalamazoo ordinance.	Complete Neighborhoods	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	50,000
Continuing	Neighborhood Planning	Support the neighborhood planning effort that will follow the approval of the 2035 Master Plan.	Good Governance	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	9,000
Continuing	Kalamazoo Micro-Enterprise Grant (KMEG) Fund 2.0	Partnership with United Way to offer \$5,000 and \$10,000 support to business' for business improvement including hiring, equipment, technology, real estate, and other capital needs.	Economic Vitality	Address Generational Poverty	537,000

New or Continuing Program	Request Name	Project Summary	IK2025 Goal Alignment	FFE Goal Alignment	2026
Continuing	Neighborhood Capacity Building	Support to small neighborhoods to help establish a neighborhood organization.	Good Governance	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	6,000
Continuing	Foreclosure Prevention	Partnership with the County to reduce or eliminate the number of annual tax foreclosures on owner-occupied homes in the City of Kalamazoo with a one-time relief program.	Shared Prosperity	Address Generational Poverty	60,000
Continuing	Housing Development Fund	Supports affordable housing opportunities through three strategies; mixed income multi-family gap financing, housing rehabilitation, and appraisal gap/rental subsidy.	Complete Neighborhoods	Capital and Human Infrastructure	1,720,000
New	Downtown Circulator Feasibility & Planning	Feasibility and planning study for a downtown circulator for Downtown business' during the upcoming transformational street construction and beyond for the event center	Connected City	Capital and Human Infrastructure	120,000
Continuing	Critical Code Repair	Partnership with Community Homeworks which provides free critical repairs to low income households to bring their homes into code compliance.	Safe Community	Capital and Human Infrastructure	135,000
Continuing	Sidewalk Snow Clearing	Project to remove snow from selected sections of sidewalk throughout the City adjacent to City properties, Brownfield properties, and other priority streets	Connected City	Neighborhood Improvement to Attract and Connect	60,000
Continuing**	Police Athletic League Program	Provides mentorship and helps to build positive relationships between Kalamazoo Community Youth and Kalamazoo Public Safety through youth programming.	Youth Development	Promote Youth Development	39,000
	Total of Requested Projects				\$4,362,000
	Project Administration	In accordance with Federal grant guidelines, de minimis administrative costs to support project implementation, administration, and evaluation.	Good Governance		654,000
	Total Funding Request for Aspirational Projects				\$5,016,000

*previously called MyCITY Summer Youth Employment

**returning project, previously funded with ARPA

Long Term Planning

In an effort to streamline planning and provide greater certainty around funding requests, the City anticipates seeking ongoing support for the following list of projects through 2030. Establishing this multi-year horizon not only helps align projects with available resources but also enables more strategic, long-term planning. The project list is expected to evolve over time, with new initiatives added as priorities emerge and others removed as they are completed or no longer needed. By looking ahead over the next several years, the City can better coordinate investments, reduce uncertainty for stakeholders, and ensure that resources are directed toward the most impactful and sustainable outcomes.

Request Name	2027	2028	2029	2030
Youth Mobility	\$67,000	\$67,000	\$67,000	\$67,000
All Things Possible Camp	154,000	156,000	159,000	161,000
Councilor in Training	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Kalamazoo Youth Action Council	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
KRESA Career Connect	210,000	-	-	-
Super Rec Camp	266,000	271,000	276,000	282,000
Neighborhood Capacity Building	6,000	-	-	-
Foreclosure Prevention	50,000	-	-	-
Housing Development Fund	1,568,000	1,618,000	1,618,000	1,618,000
Downtown Circulator Feasibility & Planning	50,000	50,000	-	-
Critical Code Repair	130,000	120,000	110,000	100,000
Sidewalk Snow Clearing	62,000	64,000	66,000	68,000
Police Athletic League Program	40,000	41,000	42,000	43,000
Total of Requested Projects	\$2,655,000	\$2,439,000	\$2,390,000	\$2,391,000



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

FFE Finance Committee Staff Report

TO: Foundation for Excellence Finance Committee

FROM: Prepared by: Steve Brown, Foundation for Excellence Manager

DATE: September 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Reappoint Foundation for Excellence Investment Subcommittee Members

RECOMMEDATION:

It is recommended that the Finance Committee approve appointments and re-appointments to the Investment Subcommittee:

- the reappointment of Nick Griffith for a term expiring on March 31, 2028;
- the reappointment of Joshua Sledge for a term expiring on March 31, 2028;
- the reappointment of Dean Bergy for a term expiring on March 31, 2028;
- the reappointment of Sandi Doctor for a term expiring on March 31, 2028.

BACKGROUND:

The Investment Subcommittee, as it was formed under the Finance Committee in 2018, comprises a group of volunteer members that administers and oversees the FFE Endowment. Simultaneously, this group also serves to administer and oversee investments of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, the Kalamazoo County Retirement System, and the City of Kalamazoo Retirement System. In order to serve, members must meet the criteria set by all entities. Some of those criteria include: the members must have a proven financial background, cannot be members of the Retirement System and, to avoid a conflict of interest, cannot be employed or associated with any organization that provides similar investment services to those retained or used by the Committee. It has been the practice to reappoint with appreciation members willing to continue their service to the Investment Subcommittee for its crucial role in overseeing the FFE endowment.



Kalamazoo
Foundation for
Excellence

FFE Board of Directors Staff Report

TO: Foundation for Excellence Board of Directors

FROM: Steve Brown, Executive Director

DATE: September 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Approve the 2026 Schedule of Meetings

RECOMMEDATION:

Approve the 2026 Schedule of Meetings

BACKGROUND:



DRAFT 2026 Schedule of FFE Meetings

Board meetings are held in Parks & Recreation Headquarters at 251 Mills Street. Finance and Executive Committee meetings and Audit Subcommittee meetings are held in Kalamazoo City Hall, 241 W. South Street. Agendas can be viewed online beginning no later than the Friday prior to a meeting via the “Meetings” section of FFE’s website.

Date	Finance Committee	Audit Subcommittee	Executive Committee	Nominating Committee (Non-OMA)	Board of Directors
January 26	2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.		
February 16				3:00 p.m.	
February 23					2:00 p.m.
March 2				3:00 p.m.	
March 23		2:00 p.m.			
March 30	2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.		
April 6				3:00 p.m.	
April 27					2:00 p.m.
August 10				3:00 p.m.	
September 14	2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.		
September 21		2:00 p.m.			
September 28					2:00 p.m.
October 5	2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.		
October 26					2:00 p.m.
December 7	2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.		
December 14		2:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.	