



CITY OF GREENBELT
25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

**AUGUST 3, 2026
7:30 PM**

[Zoom Link](#)

Dial-in: 301-715-8592

Webinar ID: 811 9648 1632

I. WORK SESSION

1. Recognition Group Policy Review

Suggested Action:

- Introductions — 10 minutes (7:30–7:40 pm)
- Council Discussion — 60 minutes (7:40–8:40 pm)
- Question and Answers — 20 minutes (8:40–9:00 pm)

II. REVIEW OF AUGUST 10TH DRAFT AGENDA

2. Review August 10th Draft Agenda and Meeting Schedule

Suggested Action:

- Discussion on upcoming agenda — 15 minutes (9:00 -9:15 pm)
- Discussion and review of the meeting list — 10 minutes (9:15–9:25 pm)
- Other Items — 5 minutes (9:25–9:30 pm)
 - Informational Items

Memorandum

To: Josué Salmerón, City Manager
From: Greg Varda, Director, Recreation
Nicole DeWald, Arts Supervisor
Cathy Pracht, Administrative Coordinator
Date: July 29, 2026
Re: **Discussion Topics for Recognition Group Worksession (8/3/26)**

Background

The City of Greenbelt provides in-kind and financial support to a broad array of Greenbelt-based, not-for-profit community organizations through its Recognition Group Program. As stated in the program's Policy and Information Guide, "the primary purpose of the organization[s] should be to provide or underwrite ongoing cultural, athletic, recreational, civic, service and social opportunities which are open to the general public." The organization[s'] activities "should reflect significant participation by, and benefit to, Greenbelt residents." Groups are granted Recognition Group status by the Greenbelt City Council after considering the advice of an advisory board or committee. Political and religious organizations are not eligible to apply. Operating grant applicants must hold 501(c)3 status, have applied for such status from the IRS, or have a fiscal sponsor; this requirement does not apply to project grant applicants.

Recognition Group policies and procedures are evaluated by staff annually to identify opportunities for updates. Adjustments are made periodically to help meet the needs of the City Manager and Council and to best serve the program applicants. This year, staff have been invited to meet with Council in a worksession to discuss the program. This Memorandum proposes two areas for discussion, stemming from the FY27 budget process in which Recognition Group grant requests exceeded proposed funding for the program by \$77,107. Suggested topics include: options for cost management, and strategies for efficient program administration. Staff are not necessarily endorsing particular strategies except as explicitly stated.

Proposed discussion topics

1. Policies: managing cost increases

The Recognition Group program serves a growing number of valued community organizations that vary greatly in scale as well as mission. Over the past five years, the total amount of funding requested has increased by 212%, reaching \$199,307 for FY27. While the total cost of grant awards represents less than ½ of 1% of the city budget, this consistent trend nonetheless merits attention. For the first time this year, the applicant pool included three organizations with operating budgets of over \$100,000 and substantial funding requests. A fourth applicant of this scale is expected to apply within the next few cycles. With appropriations lagging behind requests due to the full range of city needs and functions, difficult decisions need to be reached in making awards. This section identifies areas where program guidelines could be

updated, at Council's discretion, in such a way as to help manage rising Recognition Group requests and award expenses.

- a. **ELIGIBILITY.** As the basis for funding opportunities, is eligibility for basic Recognition Group certification defined as clearly as Council would like? Is it sufficiently inclusive? Is it too inclusive? The program was originally developed to support community organizations that were providing recreational and cultural opportunities, complementing the services of the Recreation Department. The mission and catchment of the program have expanded significantly over the years. Is Council comfortable with the trend toward this program serving as an all-purpose mechanism for in-kind support and grant making?

There are currently 62 community organizations holding Recognition Group status, and 3 additional pending applications are under review. In the FY27 budget process, only 15 of the groups currently certified applied for funding. It is possible that more groups may apply in the future. Council might want to consider adding eligibility requirements to help moderate the growth in requests. As noted above, operating grants are already limited to groups that hold or have applied for 501(C)3 status or that have a fiscal sponsor. Council might consider limiting project grants to organizations with bylaws, elected leadership, a minimum number of Greenbelt resident participants, a minimum budget size, and/or other criteria.

- b. **REQUEST LIMITS/ MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.** Currently, organizations are permitted to request funding for up to 50% of their projected expenses for the coming year. This means that organizations (except first-time project grant applicants) must match city contributions on at least a 1:1 basis with savings or funds from other sources.

In the FY27 application round, groups requested funding in a range from 13% to the full 50% allowed, and the final grant awards spanned the same range. Based on those awards, applicant organizations are expected to match FY27 city funding at ratios ranging from 1:1 to 11:1. A chart showing these percentages and effective matching requirements is attached.

Given Council's implicit determination that variable matching requirements are appropriate across the field, they could at their option formalize request limits/ funding eligibility tiers as part of the grantmaking process. Below are the tiers used by Recreation in preparing a draft funding distribution for FY27, but the limits could be set wherever Council sees fit.

Organization's budget	Maximum grant request as a % of the group's budget	Effective matching requirement
Up to \$5,000	50%	1:1
\$5,001 - \$10,000	48%	1.1 : 1
\$10,001 - \$25,000	45%	1.2 : 1
\$25,001 - \$50,000	40%	1.5 : 1
\$50,001 - \$75,000	35%	1.9 : 1
\$75,001 - \$100,000	30%	2.3 : 1
\$100,001 and up	20%	4:1

- c. **BUDGET YEAR.** If Council has any concern regarding possible budget inflation in the applications, that could be addressed by limiting requests to 50% (or another specified percentage) of the group's PRIOR year actual expenses rather than that same percentage of their PLANNED fiscal year expenses as per current practice. New applicants could use their CURRENT year budgeted expenses as their baseline. The trade-off with this strategy is that it would make the program less nimble in supporting groups that are growing quickly.
- d. **AWARD CAPS.** There is currently a \$5,000 cap on project grant awards. Does that limit still seem appropriate to Council?

There is currently no cap on operating grants by dollar amount, but Council could consider setting one.

- e. **OTHER CITY APPROPRIATIONS.** Some community organizations currently receive – or have previously received – significant funding through other sources and programs at the discretion of the City Council and City Manager. Examples include: direct contracting (Greenbelt Cinema), American Rescue Plan Act funding (GAC and the SPACE), and “PEG” fees from Comcast (GATe). At Council's option, the City could consider establishing rules to bar or limit Recognition Group program funding for participating organizations in a fiscal year when they are receiving other funding through City appropriations, whether or not Greenbelt taxpayers are the direct source of those funds. The rules could be tailored to different scenarios per the examples above.
- f. **USE OF FUNDS.** There are currently very few restrictions on how groups can use public funds which they are awarded. Funds may not be used for political or religious activities, to purchase alcohol, or for equipment purchases over \$1,000 without prior consultation with the Recreation Department. Funds may not be regranted or used to compensate Board members for their Board service. If Council has any concerns about the purposes for which funding is being sought by applicant organizations, additional restrictions could be added.

2. Procedures: improving efficiency in program administration

Unfolding annually between February and May, the current application review process entails the following steps:

- Staff review applications for eligibility, clarity and completeness, following up with applicant groups for additional information as needed.
- All applications are reviewed, discussed and scored by a Grant Review Panel comprised of members of Greenbelt advisory boards and committees who have been vetted for any conflict of interest.
- Recreation presents to the City Manager and Council a summary of the Panel's findings and draft award allocations that reconcile the Panel scores with the City Manager's program budget.
- All requests are discussed by Council with the applicant groups' representatives at two worksessions, with staff present to represent the Review Panel and answer questions.

- Council deliberates at the final budget worksession and approves awards in conjunction with the municipal budget adoption.

The Grant Review Panel evaluates applications based on these factors:

- The alignment of the applicants' activities with the Recognition Group Program mission
- Participation by Greenbelt residents in all capacities
- The depth and breadth of the organization's community impact
- The applicant's likelihood of success in delivering the proposed services
- The applicant's financial reserves, additional income streams, and projected surplus or deficit
- Value (reasonableness of the city request per resident served)

This review process is quite labor-intensive, requiring a significant investment of time and effort on the part of applicants, staff, panelists, and Council. The process is intended to foster good stewardship of valued community organizations, to ensure fairness through peer review and the application of consistent evaluation criteria, and to provide Council all the information they may need to make informed funding decisions.

While staff continue to believe in the principles underlying this method, we do have increasing concern regarding an imbalance between the workload and the ultimate utility or impact of the current procedures in the budget process. We recommend correcting this imbalance and focusing in on the criteria that matter most to Council by making the following adjustments:

1. Simplify the application if possible, while continuing to capture the information which Council finds valuable.
2. Discontinue the Grant Review Panel. In lieu of the panel review, make all of the grant applications and established program evaluation criteria available to the city's standing advisory boards and committees. Any group would be welcome to review and provide feedback at their option through a report to Council. This allows board members to determine how much time and effort they wish to invest in the process.
3. Discontinue the practice of scoring applications. Instead, provide an interactive worksheet for Council's use at their option in making notes on the applications, prior to and during the work sessions with the applicants. A sample worksheet is attached that reflects the existing review criteria summarized above.
4. Discontinue the preparation of draft award allocations. Instead, provide an interactive spreadsheet for Council based on those which members themselves generated this year. A sample spreadsheet is included in the attached workbook with the notes worksheet referenced above.

As always, we applaud the Recognition Groups for providing a fantastic array of opportunities for Greenbelt residents and we thank Council and the City Manager for their support.

Attached:

Greenbelt Recognition Group Policy and Information Guide

Roster of current Recognition Groups

Overview of FY27 Recognition Group grant requests and awards

Sample workbook for Council's use

CITY OF GREENBELT POLICY AND INFORMATION GUIDE FOR RECOGNITION GROUPS

Updated: July 2026

For assistance:
contact the Recreation Department's Administrative Coordinator
at 301-397-2200 or cpracht@greenbeltmd.gov

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

The City of Greenbelt welcomes the initiative and creativity of citizens who organize to enhance the range of cultural, athletic, recreational, civic, service and social opportunities available to Greenbelt residents. In support of these efforts, the City offers three levels of support:

1. **BASIC RECOGNITION GROUP CERTIFICATION** entails the following privileges:
 - limited free use of Recreation Department facilities in accordance with facility guidelines for cultural, athletic, recreational, civic, service and social activities that are open to the general public. Requests for use of City facilities will be handled at the staff level. *Note: free use is not available for religious or partisan political activities. Fees may not be charged for admission to or activities in free-use spaces. Free use is not available for events organized for the express purpose of fundraising. Voluntary donations may be accepted at events held in free-use spaces.*
 - inclusion in listings of contacts in City online and print publications as space allows
2. **PROJECT GRANT:** Eligible community organizations may apply for up to \$5,000 in City matching funds to help meet expenses associated with discrete, time-limited programs spanning less than 12 months. Examples include: festivals, tournaments, artist's residencies and specific community service initiatives. Project grant recipients receive all the privileges of basic Recognition Group certification and they have standing to apply for a project grant or operating grant in the following fiscal year if needed.
3. **OPERATING GRANT:** Eligible Recognition Groups may apply for City matching funds to help meet both programming and operational expenses. These may include: salaries and wages; contractual services; facility rent and utilities; fundraising expenses; marketing costs; supplies and equipment. Operating grant recipients receive all the privileges of basic Recognition Group certification and they have standing to apply for a project grant or operating grant in the following fiscal year if needed. An organization may apply for up to 50% of its operating budget (no cap).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are available on the City's website: www.greenbeltmd.gov. All completed applications will be reviewed by staff. Organizations will be contacted for any corrections or clarifications as needed.

BASIC RECOGNITION GROUP CERTIFICATION

Organizations may submit an initial application at any time. All first-time applications will be reviewed by a City of Greenbelt Advisory Board or Committee as appropriate. New applicants are required to send a representative to meet with the group which is reviewing their application. First time applications will be approved or denied by the Greenbelt City Council.

Groups must re-apply annually for renewal of their Recognition Group certification (usually in February), regardless of the timing of the organization's original filing. Applications will be reviewed by Recreation Department staff. Advisory boards may review your application at their option. If there are no concerns, your application can be approved by Recreation staff. If there are concerns, your application will be forwarded to the City Manager for further review.

PROJECT AND OPERATING GRANTS

Eligible organizations will have one opportunity each year to apply for grant funding, usually with a February deadline*. All applications will be reviewed by staff to ensure completeness and eligibility. Advisory boards may review the applications at their option. All applications will be reviewed by a Grant Review Panel which will make funding recommendations to City Council. The Panel may request to meet with a representative of the applicant organization. Final decisions regarding funding will be made by the City Council in June for the period of July 1 through June 30 (the City's fiscal year).

*** First-time project grant applicants only:**

July – November: organizations that did not submit an application in the last cycle for the current fiscal year may submit a first-time project grant application for the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Out-of-cycle applications will be assigned to a Greenbelt advisory group for evaluation, and Council will make a final funding determination. The group may then apply during the normal cycle (December – February) for funding in subsequent fiscal years.

December – early February: normal annual application cycle. Window to apply for funds that will be available July 1. All groups are expected to apply on this schedule.

February – June: first-time project grant applications will be accepted after the normal application deadline for the following fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Out-of-cycle applications will be evaluated by the Grant Review Panel or by a Greenbelt advisory group, depending on the application timing. Council will make a final funding determination. The group may then apply during the normal cycle (December – February) for funding in subsequent fiscal years.

ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

ALL RECOGNITION GROUPS

1. **Mission.** The primary purpose of the organization should be to provide or underwrite ongoing cultural, athletic, recreational, civic, service and social opportunities which are open to the general public.
2. **Political organizations are not eligible** for Recognition Group designation. These organizations are defined as groups having an affiliation with a political party, and/or having a primary mission of influencing legislation or public policy at the local, county, state or federal level. Approved Recognition Groups are not prohibited from engaging in public policy advocacy, as long as such advocacy is non-partisan and it is not their primary purpose or activity, at the discretion of the City Manager and Council.
3. **Religious organizations are not eligible** for Recognition Group designation. These organizations are defined as groups having an affiliation with a religious organization or tradition and/or a mission which includes proselytizing activities, religious education, or worship practices.
4. **Non-profit status.** Recognition Group certification is available to not-for-profit organizations only.
5. **Benefit to the community.** The organization's activities should reflect significant participation by, and benefit to, Greenbelt residents.
6. **Liability insurance.** The City may require an organization to secure liability insurance for programming activities which the group intends to provide at City facilities. Insurance binders must be submitted to the Recreation Department business office before any such activities take place.
7. **Complementary services.** In order to be eligible for City recognition and support, an organization's proposed activities must be compatible with City of Greenbelt facilities, programs, services and financial interests.
8. **Non-Discrimination.** In applying for City support, Recognition Groups will affirm their commitment to providing a respectful, safe and fair environment for all leaders, personnel (paid or volunteer), participants, and spectators. Discrimination or abuse on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, religion, national origin, age*, marital or parental status or disability may result in the reduction or termination of City support at the discretion of the Greenbelt City Council. Recognition Groups are encouraged to identify and address any barriers to participation by diverse residents in their sponsored activities and governance. **Age ranges are permissible in program design.*
9. **City staff participation.** Classified City of Greenbelt employees are not permitted to hold appointed or elected leadership positions (as an officer, Board member, etc.) which are responsible for policy making, development, oversight and/or fiscal management of a City Recognition Group. This policy does not preclude classified employees from membership in Recognition Groups or participation in their sponsored activities in a non-leadership capacity.
10. **Background checks.** To help ensure the safety of young program participants, all staff, contractors, and/or volunteers whom the Recognition Group intends to entrust directly with the care and control of minors must complete a criminal background check. These individuals will undergo a criminal background check at the City's expense based on their social security numbers. Background checks are valid for only one year and must be resubmitted accordingly. It is the responsibility of each Recognition Group to ensure full compliance with this requirement, throughout the year. If your organization currently conducts background checks mandated by a parent organization, your organization's leader will be required to sign an affidavit affirming that all volunteers have completed

a background check, provided the background checks meet or exceed the standards of the City's policy. For assistance with the background check policy, please contact the Assistant Director for Recreation Facilities and Operations at aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-542-2194.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS - PROJECT GRANTS

1. **Financial review.** Prior to awarding a grant, the City of Greenbelt may at its option require an organization to provide a report from a certified public accountant reflecting the findings of a review of the organization's financial records. Any such review is to be conducted at the expense of the applicant organization.
2. **Checking account.** Any organization awarded a project grant will be required to maintain a checking account in the organization's name at a financial institution of their choice.
3. **Matching funds.** For every dollar awarded by the City of Greenbelt, a project grant recipient must contribute at least one dollar from other sources toward meeting their project expenses. Funds raised from any other source count toward this match, as long as they are spent in the fiscal year for which the grant is awarded. Examples include: dues; registration fees; donations; sales of memberships, tickets or goods; and other grant income. Funds spent from the organization's savings can be counted toward the match. Loans, planned giving commitments and income channeled into investments or endowment funds would not count toward the match.

First-time project grant recipients only: for every dollar awarded by the City of Greenbelt, the organization must contribute \$.50 (rather than \$1.00) from other sources toward meeting their project expenses.

A **match certification statement** will be required at the end of the fiscal year from all organizations which receive grants. If an organization is found to have fallen short of their required match, the amount of revenue that they contributed from other sources will be the maximum funding they are eligible to receive from the City in the following fiscal year, even if a higher award is approved provisionally through the budget process.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS - OPERATING GRANTS

1. **Previous recipient of City funding.** In order to apply for an operating grant, an organization must hold current Recognition Group certification AND they must have received a project or operating grant from the City in at least one of the three fiscal years preceding the period of support. *For FY 2025 operating grants: groups must have been functioning as a Recognition Group in FY 2024, AND they must have received Recognition Group funding in FY 2022, FY 2023, and/or FY 2024.*
2. **501(c)3 non-profit status.** Operating grant applicants must hold 501(c)3 status, have applied for such status from the IRS, or have a fiscal sponsor that is a separate organization with 501(c)3 status through which the organization is able to raise funds.
3. **Financial review.** Prior to awarding a grant, the City of Greenbelt may at its option require an organization to provide a report from a certified public accountant reflecting the findings of a review of the organization's financial records. Any such review is to be conducted at the expense of the applicant organization.
4. **Checking account.** Any organization awarded a project grant will be required to maintain a checking account in the organization's name at a financial institution of their choice.
5. **Matching funds.** For every dollar awarded by the City of Greenbelt, an operating grant recipient must contribute one dollar from other sources toward their program and operating expenses. Funds raised from any other source count toward this match, as long as they are spent on program and

operating expenses in the fiscal year for which the grant is awarded. Examples include: dues; registration fees; donations; sales of memberships, tickets or goods; and other grant income. Funds spent from the organization's savings can be counted toward the match. Loans, planned giving commitments and income channeled into investments or endowment funds would not count toward the match.

A **match certification statement** will be required at the end of the fiscal year from all organizations which receive grants. If an organization is found to have fallen short of their required match, the amount of revenue that they contributed from other sources will be the maximum funding they are eligible to receive from the City in the following fiscal year. For example: if a group received \$5,000 from the City in FY 2026 but they only spend \$4,000 from other sources this year, \$4,000 is the maximum funding they could receive from the City in FY2027, even if a higher award is approved provisionally through the budget process.

DISBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

PROJECT GRANTS

1. Organizations awarded a project grant will be issued a check in the amount of 50% of their award, up to a maximum of \$2,500, in July. The organization will submit qualifying receipts for expenses in the amount of the initial disbursement before any additional funds will be released. Receipts may be submitted at any time at the Recreation Department business office located at the Greenbelt Youth Center.
2. After all qualifying receipts matching the initial disbursement have been received, the balance of the recipient's grant will be disbursed in a second check. The organization will submit receipts for qualifying expenses in the amount of the second disbursement **no later than June 1**.
3. Receipts should be accompanied by a note indicating the purpose of the expenditure. City funds can only be used for the purposes stated in the organization's application and approved by Council.
4. Disbursements will be issued exclusively in the form of checks made payable to the organization.
5. **Any allocated funds not used by the organization by the conclusion of the fiscal year on June 30 will revert to the City and not carry over into the next fiscal year. Any disbursed funds which the organization is unable to use for the approved purposes must be repaid to the City of Greenbelt by June 30.**

OPERATING GRANTS

1. Organizations awarded an operating grant will be eligible to submit qualifying receipts for reimbursement. Receipts may be submitted at any time at the Recreation Department business office located at the Greenbelt Youth Center. **For the fiscal year ending June 30, all receipts must be submitted by June 1.**
2. Receipts should be accompanied by a note indicating the purpose of the expenditure. City funds can only be used for the purposes stated in the organization's application and approved by Council.
3. Disbursements will be issued exclusively in the form of checks made payable to the organization itself.
4. **Any allocated funds not used by the organization by the conclusion of the fiscal year on June 30 will revert to the City and not carry over into the next fiscal year.**

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS FOR PROJECT AND OPERATING GRANTS

1. **City funds may not be used to purchase alcohol.** Alcohol may not be served at any City of Greenbelt facility without prior permission from City Council.
2. **City funds may not be used for equipment purchases over \$1,000** without the permission of the Recreation Department Director. Permission is required even in instances where a purchase was specifically noted in the group's funding request. The City reserves the right to purchase a requested item directly and make it available to the group for use as an alternative to reimbursing the group for purchase of that item. In the event that permission is granted for an outside purchase, the City will retain the right to borrow any equipment purchased with City funds at times of mutual convenience. In the event that an organization no longer needs a piece of equipment that was purchased with City funds, the organization will contact the Greenbelt Recreation Department and offer to donate the equipment to the City before making any other arrangements.
3. **Recognition Group awards may not be used to offset rental fees** for use of City facilities or any other fees owed to the City of Greenbelt.
4. **City funds may not be re-granted** to any other organization or party. City money may be paid to individuals and organizations only for goods purchased or services provided. City funds may be used to provide scholarship support to participants in the group's own activities; the City recommends that such assistance be need-based.
5. **City funds may not be used to compensate any board member for their board service.** The City recognizes that some board members may also serve the organization in a staff or contractor role. City funds may NOT be used to compensate personnel if they hold an executive office on the board (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, for example.) However, City funds MAY be used to compensate personnel who hold a non-executive position on the board (Artistic Director, committee chair, at-large member, etc.)
6. **City funds may not be used for any partisan political activities or religious activities, and free room use will not be available for these purposes.** *Partisan political activities* are defined as any activities intended to promote or benefit a single political party or to promote declared party-affiliated candidates for public office. *Religious activities* are defined as worship practices, religious education, and proselytizing activities.

Greenbelt Community Pledge

"The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. By sharing together all are enriched. We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people."

FY 27 RECOGNITION GROUPS

Updated 7/29/26

OPERATING GRANTS

Greenbelt Access Television
Greenbelt Babe Ruth Baseball
Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club
Greenbelt Community Orchestra
Greenbelt Concert Band
Greenbelt Cultural Arts
Greenbelt Maker Space
Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team
Greenbelt Soccer Alliance
Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League
The Space

PROJECT GRANTS

Chesapeake Education Arts Research Society
(CHEARS)
Friends of the New Deal Café Arts
Greenbelt Business Alliance

BASIC CERTIFICATIONS

Astronomical Society of Greenbelt
BSA Venture Crew 746
Boys to Men Mentoring Network of Greater
Washington
Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek
(CCRIC)
Connecting Across Greenbelt
Cub Scout Pack 202
French Conversation Group
Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre
Girl Scout Troop 1069
Girl Scout Troop 2427
Girl Scout Troop 22014
Girl Scout Troop 22085
Girl Scout Troop 23007
Girl Scout Troop 23010
Girl Scout Troop 23017
Girl Scout Troop 23021
Girl Scout Troop 23023
Girl Scout Troop 23035
Greenbelt Alliance for Reproductive Freedom
(GARF)

(BASIC CERTIFICATIONS, continued)

Greenbelt Badminton Club
Greenbelt Beltsville Garden Club
Greenbelt Biota
Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee
Greenbelt Book Club
Greenbelt Chess Club
Greenbelt Community Garden Club
Greenbelt Farmers Market
Greenbelt Golden Age Club
Greenbelt Homeschoolers
Greenbelt Honk! Situation
Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association
Greenbelt Intergenerational Vol. Exchange Srvc
(GIVES)
Greenbelt Labor Day Committee
Greenbelt Photography
Greenbelt Pottery Group
Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance (GREa)
Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee (GRACE)
Greenbelt S.I.T.Y. Stars
Greenbelt Tennis Association
Greenbelt Ultimate
Greenbelt Unplugged
Great Greenbelt Volksmarch Club
New Deal Café
Peace & Justice Coalition of PG County
Poetry in the Garden
Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK)
Ukulele Ladies

PENDING APPLICATIONS

The Games That Made You (Basic Cert., being
considered by PRAB)
Greenbelt Rotary (Project Grant, being referred to
CRAB)
Revolutionary Self-Care Yoga (Basic Cert., being
considered by PRAB)
Eleanor Roosevelt Robotics (Basic Cert. being
referred to PRAB)

GREENBELT RECOGNITION GROUP PROGRAM

Overview of FY27 requests and awards

Organization	Request type	Request amount	Organization's budget	Request as % of budget	FY 27 award	Award as % of budget	Effective Match Required
CHEARS	Project	\$ 1,800	\$ 3,675	49%	\$ 1,800	49%	1:1
FONDCA	Project	\$ 2,900	\$ 5,799	50%	\$ 2,700	47%	1.1 : 1
Business Alliance	Project	\$ 5,000	\$ 14,150	35%	\$ 2,000	14%	6.1 : 1
GATe	Operating	\$ 65,000	\$ 142,060	46%	\$ 12,000	8%	11.5 : 1
Babe Ruth	Operating	\$ 3,500	\$ 8,282	42%	\$ 3,400	41%	1.4 : 1
Boys and Girls Club	Operating	\$ 11,000	\$ 40,600	27%	\$ 11,000	27%	2.7 : 1
Concert Band	Operating	\$ 4,375	\$ 8,750	50%	\$ 4,375	50%	1:1
Orchestra	Operating	\$ 4,500	\$ 9,510	47%	\$ 4,500	47%	1.1 : 1
GAC	Operating	\$ 34,600	\$ 105,925	37%	\$ 25,175	24%	3.2 : 1
Makerspace	Operating	\$ 7,132	\$ 21,132	34%	\$ 6,700	32%	2.1 : 1
Swim Team	Operating	\$ 10,000	\$ 44,950	22%	\$ 10,000	22%	3.5 : 1
Refugee Aid	Operating	\$ 10,000	\$ 22,950	44%	\$ -	0	N/A
Soccer Alliance	Operating	\$ 4,000	\$ 13,687	29%	\$ 4,000	29%	2.4 : 1
Youth Baseball	Operating	\$ 10,500	\$ 39,405	27%	\$ 9,350	24%	3.2 : 1
The SPACE	Operating	\$ 25,000	\$ 193,200	13%	\$ 25,000	13%	6.7 : 1

GREENBELT RECOGNITION GROUP PROGRAM

City Council Notes on Project and Operating Grant Applications

Applicant organization: _____

Council member: _____

Council members: please record your notes in the yellow boxes according to topic. Use the tabs at the bottom of the page to navigate among the sheets for all applicant organizations.

1. MISSION. The purpose of the Greenbelt Recognition Group program is to "enhance the range of cultural, athletic, recreational, civic, service and social opportunities available to Greenbelt residents." Political and religious organizations are not eligible for support. How well are the applicant's proposed activities aligned with the mission and restrictions of the Recognition Group Program?

Comments :

2. PARTICIPATION. How many Greenbelt residents are active in this organization as Board members, employees, contractors, volunteers, participants, and audience members/spectators?

Comments :

3. IMPACT. How broad an impact will the organization's activities have in the community? How significantly will the group's proposed activities expand the range of opportunities available to residents? How deep or lasting will the personal impact be for the individuals served?

Comments :

4. FEASIBILITY. How likely is it that the group will succeed in delivering the proposed services? Consider past performance and whether other needed resources and connections are in place yet.

Comments :

5. NEED. How great is the applicant's need for city funding in the amount requested? Consider the group's financial reserves, other income streams, any other grants that need to be matched, and projected surplus/deficit.

Comments :

6. VALUE. How reasonable is the group's request per Greenbelt resident served?

Comments :

7. ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Comments :



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

AUGUST 10, 2026
7:30 PM

[Zoom Link](#)

Dial-in: 301-715-8592

Webinar ID: 878 8867 2429

Passcode: 207732

I. ORGANIZATION - 15 minutes (7:30 - 7:45 p.m.)

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Suggested Action: **Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge**: The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together, all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe, and fair.

4. Petitions and Requests
5. Consent Agenda

Suggested Action: Approval of Staff Recommendations (items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by Council and staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)

- a. * Appointment to Advisory Board/Committee
- b. * Board Membership Update
- c. * Committee Reports
- d. * Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee
- e. * Meetings
6. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS - 15 minutes (7:45 - 8:00 p.m.)

7. Presentations
8. Minutes
 - a. Statement of Record — Closed Session, July 8, 2026
 - b. Statement of Record - Closed Session, July 15, 2026
9. Administrative Reports

Suggested Action: The link will display the weekly report for the City Manager and City Departments. [Weekly Reports Greenbelt, MD](#)

III. LEGISLATION

IV. OTHER BUSINESS - 60 minutes (8:00 - 9:00 p.m.)

10. Request for Letter of Support for the Maryland State Arts Council

Suggested Action: The Maryland State Arts Council is a key supporter of the City's arts programs. MSAC is in the midst of multi-year policy adjustments which are resulting in increased funding for Greenbelt and hundreds of other arts programs statewide. MSAC's continued progress is currently being challenged, and City advocacy is requested to help keep their equity-focused program updates on track.

11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Greenbelt Skate Park Mural Project

Suggested Action: Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to proceed with the Greenbelt Skate Park mural project and execute any necessary contracts, provided no individual contract exceeds the City Manager's \$10,000 spending authority and the total project cost does not exceed \$50,000.

12. Discussion: City Council Sub-committee Working Group(s)

Suggested Action: Enclosed in the Council packet are proposals submitted by several members of Council regarding the establishment of City Council Working Groups. This item is presented for Council review, discussion, and consideration of the proposed working groups and their intended roles.

13. Policy Discussion: Landscaping and Playground Maintenance Agreements with HOAs and Private Property Owners

Suggested Action: Council will discuss the City's policy for entering into, renewing, and administering agreements with homeowners associations, condominium associations, and private property owners for the maintenance of City-owned landscaping, traffic circles, private playgrounds, and other public improvements.

14. Council Reports

15. Council Activities



City Council Meetings & Work Sessions August – October

Work Session – Recognition Group Policy Review	Mon.	08/03	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meetings)	Wed.	08/05	
Four Cities Meeting – (Town of Berwyn Heights)	Thurs.	08/06	7:00 pm
Regular Meeting	Mon.	08/10	7:30 pm
Work Session – Administrative Session/ Legislative Priorities (tentative)	Wed.	08/12	7:30 pm
No Meeting - Council Summer Recess	Mon.	08/17	
No Meeting - Council Summer Recess	Wed.	08/19	
No Meeting - Council Summer Recess	Mon.	08/24	
No Meeting - Council Summer Recess	Wed.	08/26	
Work Session – Greenbelt Homes Inc.	Mon.	08/31	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meetings)	Wed.	09/02	
No Meeting – Labor Day	Mon.	09/07	
Work Session – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Discussion (tentative)	Wed.	09/09	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting	Mon.	09/14	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meetings)	Wed.	09/16	
No Meeting – Yom Kippur	Mon.	09/21	
Work Session – Board of Elections Council Referral Follow-up Review	Wed.	09/23	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting	Mon.	09/28	7:30 pm
Work Session – Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB)	Wed.	09/30	7:30 pm
Work Session – Economic Development Strategy Discussion	Mon.	10/05	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meeting)	Wed.	10/07	
Regular Meeting	Mon.	10/12	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meeting)	Wed.	10/14	
Work Session – TBD	Mon.	10/19	7:30 pm
No Meeting (Advisory Board/Committee Meeting)	Wed.	10/21	
Regular Meeting	Mon.	10/26	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	10/28	7:30 pm

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation, call 301-474-8000. Regular and Special meetings and Work Sessions are open to the public. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-3870 no later than 10 a.m. on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building (MB) at 25 Crescent Road and virtually by Zoom. Zoom meeting information for public participation is posted on the City's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov on the meeting calendar.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

Ready to be scheduled:

County Council At-Large Member &
County Executive Aisha Braveboy
Greenbelt Road Corridor
BARC
Greenbelt National Park
WMATA (Real Estate) - combine w/VIA
Transportation
Pre-Budget Planning and Process
Overview (11-16-26)
Green Ridge House Council Meet & Greet
County Councilmember Tim Adams &
County Councilmember Jolene Ivey
(Reschedule)
Policy Discussion: Naming Memorials and
City Facilities

For later scheduling:

Arts & Entertainment District
Bernard Penney (*Memorial Donation in honor
of Leonie Penney*)
City Manager Updates (Jan, Pre-budget;
July & Sept/Oct)
GHI/Prince George's County (Stormwater
issues)
MARC Train Service/ MDOT
Northway Fields Master Plan
Parkway Apartment Owners/GHI (*parking*)
Potential Bond Referendum/Capital Financing
Quantum Properties (Beltway Plaza)
Zoning Enforcement