

# *Forward* **Together**



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City of Shaker Heights | Shaker Heights Schools | Shaker Heights Public Library

# Introductions

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**Mr. David Weiss**, Mayor, City of Shaker Heights

**Dr. David Glasner**, Superintendent, Shaker Heights City School District

**Ms. Amy Switzer**, Director, Shaker Heights Public Library

# What is Forward Together?

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- A partnership among the City, Schools and Library
- Often associated with facilities planning — but it's broader
- Focused on collaboration to address shared community needs

# Our Purpose

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- Build strong connections and relationships between the three organizations at a variety of levels
- Be good stewards of our community's tax dollars: avoid duplicate services, do things together to get efficiency of scale where possible, amplify effectiveness of services/programs
- Work together to solve complex community problems and strengthen our community

# Our Origins

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- Started as the Joint Facilities Task Force
- Developed 15 original priorities focused on shared facilities
- Served as the foundation for collaboration among the three organizations

# Expanding the Work

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- Restructured about a year ago to include broader collaboration
- Now includes:
  - Executive Committee
  - Steering Committee
  - Workgroups – communications, youth programming

# Collaborative Accomplishments

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- School Registration and Welcome Center located in Library
- Recreational programming opportunities
- Composting at all five elementary schools and Library
- Ludlow playground
- Coordinated communication and support in response to crisis events
- Woodbury renovation planning

# Ongoing Areas of Focus

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- Recreation
- District facilities
- Lee Road development
- Communications
- Out-of-school time youth programming and support
- Sustainability
- Sharing financial information

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