

**Toledo City Council**  
**District Improvement Program**  
**2018 Application**

**Toledo Community Coalition**

**Applicant - Community Group or Organization**

**Juanita Greene**

**Project Contact Person**

**Mailing Address**

**3016 Collingwood Blvd. Juanita Greene <jgreene411**

**Phone**

**E-mail Address**

**Smith Park Playground**

**Project Name**

Smith Park, Dorr Street, Toledo, OH 43607. The property is owned by the City of Toledo.

**Project Location**

**\$ 25,000**

**\$ \$125,000**

**Grant Request**

**Total Project Budget**

1. **Brief Description of the Project.**

Smith Park is a space in transition. With the opening of the new, world-class Mott Branch Library in June, the space continues to grow as a positive hub of activity for the immediate neighborhood and beyond. The current play-system is old, tired, and broken. In order to lift up the entire space and provide the children with an appropriate place to play, a new system is proposed.

2. **Purpose and Need – State the goals and objectives of the proposed project. Identify the problems or needs which will be addressed. Identify the population that will benefit from this improvement.**

The new play system is part of a larger project to lift up Smith Park and complement the new library with an appropriate park. The proper park amenities to serve the surrounding neighborhood include this new playground, and a new open-air picnic shelter. Other features already installed include a completely rebuilt set of tennis courts and a recently refurbished basketball court. Upgrades to Roosevelt Pool are

3. **Project Location** – Describe in detail the location of the proposed project. Is this project in an area already targeted by the city of Toledo or any other state or federal agency for funding? Identify the property owner and provide, as an attachment, proof of the owner's permission to complete the proposed project.

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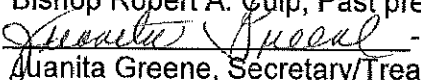
4. **Support and Sustainability** – Identify plans for securing additional funding if needed to complete this project. Also identify plans to secure ongoing support and maintenance for this project.

\$50,000 in funding has already been secured: \$25,000 through the COT Parks Division's Capital Improvements Project budget, and a \$25,000 donation from the Toledo Lucas County Library. Additional donations are being sought from local business leaders to close the remaining gap of \$50,000, assuming the DIP funds are secured. The ongoing maintenance of the park and the playground system will be the responsibility of the COT Parks Division, in collaboration with neighborhood stakeholders.

5. **Organizational Background** - Provide a brief background and history of the community group or organization applying for the grant. Include when and how it was established, its mission or purpose, accomplishments to date and a listing of all current programs and services.

The Toledo Community Coalition was formed in October 2011, a community issue concerning funding for Neighborhood Community centers located in the urban core of our City. Community leaders met with United Way and other funders to challenge this issue, and to try to bridge an understanding and assistance that children of minority, and underserved families should have the same opportunities to enhance their quality of life. The coalition has been successful in collaborating and planning with businesses, non profit organizations, elected officials, and community citizens to help bridge an understanding with civic engagement through forums called; Changing Minds & Changing Lives. These forums were held on the topics of Racial Bias, Profiling, Housing, Health, and Economic Development. We have created a followup program to these forums called Dialogue to Change sessions to talk about issues and build relationships with other cultures. The mission of Toledo Community Coalition to promote collaboration among groups and organizations dedicated to improvement and empowerment for African-American and other underserved populations of Toledo. We strive to eliminate racism in all forms and to educate, empower, and act as a support base. We are privileged to join our partner organizations listed below to support this grant and to enhance our Smith Park and surrounding community.

6. **Organizational Structure** – Provide a list of board members, principal staff, directors, trustees, or key decision makers inside your community group or organization.

Toledo Community Coalition  
Dr. Otis Gordon , President  
Bishop Robert A. Gulp, Past president  
  
Juanita Greene, Secretary/Treasurer

Toledo Lucas County Public Library

Smith Park Advisory Board

Interdenominational Minister Alliance

United Pastors for Empowerment