



Ashland

PARKS FOUNDATION

Date: February 2, 2023

To: Ashland Parks and Recreation Board of Commissioners

Subject: Ashland Parks Foundation – Butler-Perozzi Fountain Recommendation

After considerable research, discussion and debate it is the unanimous recommendation of the Ashland Parks Foundation (Foundation) that the most viable way to address the deterioration of the Butler-Perozzi Fountain (Fountain) is through a comprehensive restoration program. Such a program would involve replacing and bringing up to modern standards all infrastructure and components that are not of historical significance while simultaneously repairing and restoring those aspects of the fountain that represent meaningful historical and cultural value to the City of Ashland.

For the past several years the Foundation has been actively involved in seeking a solution to the deterioration of the historic Fountain. As part of this activity we have funded consultation and reports from outside experts on potential ways to move forward with the Fountain restoration. Much of this investigation has been focused on understanding the causes of the fountain's degradation, the choices of restoration vs. replacement, the costs involved in each of those refurbishment choices as well as the future longevity and maintenance costs of one vs. the other.

We are finding that a significant majority of Ashland citizens prefer restoration over replacement of the fountain. This is meaningful in both recognizing the will of the majority and helping to build a successful community wide fund-raising effort and increasing our chances for raising all the necessary funds to complete the project.

By following this path we would successfully replace much of the foundational structures of the fountain assuring maximum longevity while also preserving and restoring the main fountain centerpiece. This plan would be accomplished at a final cost that is expected to be equivalent to the cost of full replacement.

The Foundation has already set aside up to \$200,000 for the Fountain restoration. We are anxious to move ahead with a fund-raising effort but need the certainty of a decision and approval by the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission to begin these fundraising efforts.

Thank you,

Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

Board Members

*Mike Gardiner, President * Donna Rhee, Vice President * Michael Murray, Treasurer
Jeff Mangin, Secretary * Mark Knox * Jim Lewis * Nan Kane*