

Timeline of Events – Durham’s Gang Reduction Strategy

2002 - 2006	An average of 45% of Durham’s homicides for the years 2002 – 2006 are classified as “gang-related” according to the Durham Police Department (DPD). DPD also reported the largest number of gang-related homicides (15) between 2002 and 2004 among the 18 Southeastern jurisdictions reporting gang-related homicides. DPD’s analysis of involvement of gang member in cleared crimes in the Bull’s Eye area (generally described as North East Central Durham) found that validated gang members were involved in 39% of the solved violent offenses with guns.
Summer 2006	A comprehensive assessment of gangs in Durham is undertaken with funding from the Durham Police Department (DPD) and the Durham County Sheriff’s Office (DCSO). Durham adapts the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model.
September 2007	The Comprehensive Gang Assessment is completed and submitted to DPD and DCSO. Authors are Deborah Lamm-Weisel and James C. (Buddy) Howell.
November 2007	Assessment authors note that “Durham has made little progress in implementing the administrative structure of the Comprehensive Gang Model”. Missing elements include a Project Coordinator, a Steering Committee, and an intervention team. The Juvenile Justice Institute at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) is designated to perform ongoing assessment of Durham’s Gang Violence Prevention Program. A Steering Committee is formed in late November.
January 2008	Raleigh/Durham is awarded \$2.5 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Justice through the NC Governor’s Crime Commission for the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI). Raleigh and Durham evenly split the 3-year grant funding. Durham City/County funding was distributed as follows: Anti-Gang Program Administrator \$235,625 Law Enforcement (City) \$385,750 Prevention/Intervention (City) \$385,750 Re-Entry (County) \$192,875 Researcher (NC Central) \$50,000
2008 - 2010	Elements of Durham’s CAGI grant are implemented. These elements include: -Suppression by law enforcement (efforts in the Bulls Eye area, data collection) -Prevention and intervention services by public/non-profit community (EDGE GED program, NC Child Response Initiative, Communities in Schools, Religious Coalition for a Non-Violent Durham) -Reentry services offered by local government entities -Evaluation
Summer 2009	Project BUILD is initiated. Project BUILD consists of an Outreach Team, and Intervention Team and a Program Director.
July 2010	The 2010 GRS Community Indicator Report is completed and distributed internally.
April 2011	The Gang Reduction Steering Committee is reorganized with Tom Bonfield and Mike Ruffin as co-chairs. Plans are developed to hire a full-time GRS Manager.
June 2011	The tenure of Tim Henderson, Anti-Gang Program Administrator, ends. Durham Public Schools (DPS) creates a policy that prohibits identifying students as gang members. Project BUILD has lost grant funding. The City and County are working on an Interlocal agreement to keep the program open
August 2011	Jim Stuit is hired as the Gang Reduction Strategy Manager. Funding for this position is authorized through a City/County Interlocal Agreement. The same agreement

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	authorized continued funding of Project BUILD.
October 2011	Ann Oshel provides the Steering Committee with information about BECOMING, a program that will be funded for 6 years through a \$9 million Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) grant. The program has an intervention focus for increased literacy and graduation rates for youth age 16 – 21. Bud Lavery provides an update on Communities in Schools, and that program’s focus on drop-out prevention and increasing graduation rates.
December 2011	Ripley Rand, US Attorney for the NC Middle District, explains the partnership between his office, Project Safe Neighborhoods, and the Durham law enforcement community. Dr. Eric Becoats and Tina Ingram of DPS provide information on DPS efforts to reduce suspensions, drop-outs and truancy. DPD submits a report on DPD efforts to increase federal prosecution of gun crimes. DCSO reports that it has lost funding for GangNet positions, and is no longer using the software. Project BUILD submits an update and is requested to update the Steering Committee at each meeting.
February 2012	Ann Oshel is a new Steering Committee member. Leon Stanback (interim DA) replaces Tracey Cline on the committee. Arnold Dennis of NCCU (CAGI research partner) presents the CAGI Evaluation Report. DPD discusses their Violent Incident Response Team and their continuing partnership with DCSO on responses to gun violence. Judge Morey provides information on bond guidelines, and Mayor Bell indicates that he hopes to bring up the bail and bond issue to the General Assembly. The GRS Manager provides an update to the Durham County BOCC at a work session. The GRS Steering Committee sponsors “Gangs and Faith – A Dialogue on Driver Street”, a community forum attended by 132 individuals.
March 2012	The GRS Prevention/Intervention Team (PIT) is formed and begins meeting on a regular basis. The Gang Reduction Strategy Prevention/Intervention Team (PIT) is a group of individuals representing the nonprofit sector, youth serving organizations and community organizations that meets on a regular basis to collaborate, to discuss issues of common interest and to receive training on organizational development.
April 2012	Law enforcement provides an update on the status GangNet. The Steering Committee examines a plan for data collection. Ripley Rand and Rob Lang (Anti-Gang Coordinator for U.S. Attorney) discuss the emerging trend of “focused deterrence policing” and the benefits of focusing on chronic offenders. Rob Lang and representatives of several organizations conducted a “call-in” in Durham where 14 offenders were summoned.
July 2012	Jim Stuit provides the Steering Committee with an update of GRS Manager activities. DPS, the City and the County report on prevention/intervention funding strategies for FY 2012-13. Continued funding of the Durham County Youth Home is being evaluated. The Youth Home has limited capacity (14) and higher costs per occupant (\$220/day) than the County jail (\$100/day). The Steering Committee reviews House Bill 673 (the North Carolina Street Gang Nuisance Abatement Act) scheduled for October 2012 implementation. The Steering Committee reviews and approves the <i>2012 Youth and Crime Community Indicator Report</i> .

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	The Mayor’s Task Force on Violent Crime conducts a public forum at the Holton Center.
August 2012	The <i>2012 Youth and Crime Community Indicator Report</i> is presented to a City Council Work Session, a BOCC Work Session, and a joint City/County/School District Leadership Team meeting.
September 2012	The GRS Suppression Team is organized, and is comprised of representatives from DCSO, DPD, Parole/Probation, the Division of Juvenile Justice, the District Attorney’s office and CJRC. They will be working through the original recommendations assigned to suppression, completing the recommendations and updating them as necessary.
October 2012	Heidi Carter, the new DPS Board Chair, replaces outgoing DPS Board Chair Minnie Forte-Brown on the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee reviews Durham Housing Authority’s (DHA) Youth Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Program as presented by Dallas Parks, CEO of DHA. DA Leon Stanback updates the Steering Committee on efforts to make the DA’s office more visible and accessible to the community. DA Stanback also reported on a recent case of witness intimidation. Tom Bonfield updates the Steering Committee on the Connecting Youth effort that originated with an IBM Smart Cities grant and final report. Ripley Rand updated the Steering Committee on the Greensboro Latin King racketeering trial, expected to be the first of several gang racketeering trials in North Carolina.
December 2012	Fred Foster Jr., the new BOCC Chair, replaces outgoing BOCC Chair Michael Page on the Steering Committee. Michelle Smith, a Senior Research Assistant for the National Gang Center, suggests that Durham has only partially implemented the Comprehensive Gang Model, and that Durham may be due for an update to its Gang Assessment document. Steering Committee members are given a presentation on improving services to Durham’s youth of incarcerated parents. Jim Stuit is directed to form a sub-committee to study this issue and to explore a related Governor’s Crime Commission Grant related to the effort. Staff from the Duke University Office of Durham and Regional Affairs presents the Steering Committee with information about the Enlaces Latino Youth Outreach Program that has shown steady growth and participation. DPD updates the Steering Committee on recent gang-related shootings in Durham.
February 2013	The Steering Committee was updated on the activities and progress of the GRS sub-committee on improving services to children of incarcerated parents. Asst. District Attorney Tom Crosby reported on efforts by the DA’s office to move as many gang crimes as possible to Federal Court. Larry Smith and Alonzo Jaynes of the Durham Police Department (DPD) provided information on recent Latino gang activity, and on DPD’s efforts to resolve ongoing feuds by conducting Violent Incident Responses (VIR’s) and “knock and talks”. Jim Stuit submitted a report on Durham’s adherence to the Comprehensive Gang Model as evaluated by the draft National Gang Center Model Fidelity Score Sheet.
May 2013	Rev. Jerome J. Washington was welcomed as a new Steering Committee member, representing the faith community. Jim Stuit notified the SC that an application to the National Gang Center for technical assistance for an updated Gang Assessment was approved. Ellen Paddock, a Duke MPP intern, will be assisting with the project. The Youthful Offender Gun Crime “frequent flyer” list has been updated with mental

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	<p>health and other information.</p> <p>Durham Public Schools staff provided an update on truancy.</p> <p>Tom Bonfield led a discussion on City public safety funding, specifically funding for the GREAT program, currently funded at \$934,638. Several in attendance spoke in favor of continued funding; others noted that there is no evaluation or research indicating how effective the local program has been.</p> <p>Mengie Parker (NCCU) reported on gang assessments he completed in Caswell and Person counties.</p> <p>The continued vacancy in Project Build (outreach worker) was noted.</p>
June 2013	<p>Kedrick Lowery presented a report from Project BUILD. The program has served 197 youth to date and 67 are currently receiving services. Dr. Lowery noted that he will be resigning his position in July 2013, and a search committee is being formed to find a replacement to administer the BUILD program.</p> <p>Jim Stuit provided an update on GRS Manager activities. Prevention/Intervention Team meetings have been well attended and are ongoing. DPD and law enforcement partners conducted a Violent Offender Call-In on June 6, 2013, with 10 offenders, aged 17 – 22, attending.</p> <p>Michelle Young, Senior Research Associate with the National Gang Center (NGC), gave a presentation entitled “Conducting a Comprehensive Community Gang Assessment”. NGC will be providing technical assistance for Durham’s Updated Gang Assessment (UGA).</p> <p>It was noted by Tom Bonfield that the GREAT program will be funded at the requested level for FY 2013-14.</p> <p>Ellen Paddock, CJRC intern from Duke, provided information on her research project entitled “Juvenile Gang Membership and Self-Identification Study”.</p>
August 2013	<p>Two full-time Project BUILD outreach workers will be hired with funding from a GCC grant, and 1 part-time position will be funded by JCPC. Interviews for a Project BUILD director have taken place, and a final candidate has been identified.</p> <p>Ripley Rand reported that the NC Middle District is 6th in the nation for gun crime prosecution according to a Syracuse study.</p> <p>Jim Stuit gave a status report on the Updated Gang Assessment, and provided findings from the <i>Community Resident Gang Activity Survey</i>.</p> <p>Stormy Ellis is the new grant-funded gang/gun prosecutor for Durham.</p> <p>DCSO is initiating the “Choices” program, which is similar to other “scared straight” programs across the county. It will serve ~ 20 youth, ages 11-16 once a month on Saturdays.</p>
October 2013	<p>The Steering Committee received information on Step Up Ministry from Executive Director Steve Swain, who hopes to replicate this jobs and life skills training model in Durham, placing 250 people in jobs with a \$750K budget, beginning July 2014.</p> <p>Michelle Young will begin her duties as Project BUILD Manager on October 14, 2013.</p> <p>Jim Stuit provided updates on activities of the Prevention/Intervention Team and the Suppression Team. He also reviewed progress of the Update Gang Assessment document.</p> <p>Tasha Jones (Chief Court Counselor) reviewed the merge of Juvenile Justice and Adult Correction.</p> <p>Jon Peter (DPD) provided information on the recent Drug Market Intervention.</p>
December	<p>Michael Page was elected chair of the Board of County Commissioners, and in that</p>

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<p>2013</p>	<p>position, replaces outgoing chair Fred Foster Jr. on the Steering Committee. Larry Smith (DPD) gave an update on the recent shootings that occurred on December 2, December 3 and December 9. Jim Stuit reported on the analysis of a staff perceptions survey conducted by the Durham Public Schools. Ellen Paddock (Duke Public Policy student/CJRC summer intern) presented findings from her Public Policy Honors Thesis, which explored how changes in juvenile gang membership impact government’s public safety policy. Brian Lewis was introduced as the new gang/gun prosecutor. Co-chair Mike Ruffin is retiring in January, and this was his last Steering Committee meeting. A search is being conducted for a new County Manager.</p>
<p>January 2014</p>	<p>GRS Manager attends Steering Committee meeting in Tacoma, Washington, another site that has deployed the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model. Meetings were held with Tacoma’s Steering Committee Chair and Vice-Chair and with the Tacoma GRS Manager. Tacoma plans to send a delegation to Durham in April 2014.</p>
<p>February 2014</p>	<p>The Steering Committee reviewed law enforcement data from the pending Updated Gang Assessment. Representatives from DPD and DCSO discuss gang data collection and the use of GangNet. DPD has mostly discontinued use of GangNet due to software restraints and administrative challenges, while DCSO uses it mostly in the jail. The GRS Suppression Team will meet in February 2014 with other area law enforcement agencies to discuss further.</p>
<p>April 2014</p>	<p>A contingent of visitors from Tacoma, WA was present for the meeting, including the chair and vice chair of the Tacoma Gang Reduction Steering Committee. With the assistance of an outside facilitator, those in attendance finalized recommendations and indicators for law enforcement, Durham Public Schools and service provision.</p>
<p>June 2014</p>	<p>Wendell Davis (County Manager) is the new co-chair replacing Mike Ruffin. The Steering Committee finalized the 2014 Updated Gang Assessment with minor revisions. Plans are to post it on the County website and do a media release. Attendees are provided information on two Department of Justice grants that are being pursued. Faith community initiatives and challenges are presented by Rev. Washington. Law enforcement provides updates on recent gang-related activity.</p>
<p>August 2014</p>	<p>Dr. Bert L’Homme, new superintendent of Durham Public Schools, joined the Steering Committee, replacing Dr. Eric Becoats. The Steering Committee received a report on Public Housing safety programs, and a report on validated gang members (STG designation) who returned to Durham County from correctional facilities in 2012. Durham PD provided updated information on YTD arrests of validated gang members, weapons seized and aggravated assaults involving multiple victims and firearms. Issues surrounding truancy were discussed, and a coordinating meeting on this topic will be planned for the near future.</p>
<p>October 2014</p>	<p>A new member representing the JCPC (DeWarren Langley) was approved. The Steering Committee received a report on juvenile arrests/petitions (2010-2013) and also reviewed new data related to the Updated Gang Assessment recommendations. Capt. Raheem Aleem provided a report on School Resource Officer activities and data.</p>

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	Dr. Bert L’Homme presented information on a proposed Truancy Center.
December 2014	Brittany Edwards was introduced as the new gang/gun prosecutor, replacing Brian Lewis, who transferred to Cumberland County. Jim Stuit gave a presentation entitled “ <i>Progress in 2014/Persistent Challenges for 2015</i> ” DPD reported on a rash of shootings that occurred in November 2014, and on the number of validated gang members arrested year-to-date. Ann Oshel provided longitudinal data on youth enrolled in the BECOMING program. Brian Jones gave an overview of educational initiatives in the detention center.
February 2015	Dr. James (Buddy) Howell delivered a presentation entitled “ <i>Risk Factors for Gang Joining: How to Address These in the Comprehensive Gang Model</i> ” Michael Page gave an update on the <i>My Brother’s Keeper</i> initiative Larry Smith reported on the number of gang members arrested and related charges in CY 2014
April 2015	There was a panel discussion with 3 validated gang members who returned to Durham from prison: Topic was “ <i>Re-Entry Challenges and Solutions for Validated Gang Members Returning to Durham</i> ”: Panelists were Brian Wiley, Umar Muhammad and Kenny Lunsford III.
June 2015	Durham Public Schools reported on truancy reduction efforts (Future Forward Center), suspensions and graduation rates. Jim Stuit summarized the new <i>Durham Gang Crime Report (2009 – 2014)</i> which contains the most recent data available. Tom Bonfield summarized the recently released Department of Justice Violent Crime Report for Durham, which contains major recommendations in four areas. Kristin Uicker was introduced as the new Special Assistant serving Durham through the US Attorney’s Office, Middle District.
October 2015	Reports were received on Fayetteville’s “Educating Kids about Guns” program, activities of the Prevention/Intervention Team and the Suppression Team. A summary report was given on a Risk and Needs Assessments and the clues they provide as to Durham’s higher percentage of court-involved youth who are also gang involved. DPS Superintendent reported on efforts to mitigate truancy, suspensions and drop-outs and the status of Future Forward Center. DPD reported on YTD arrests of validated gang members and on some recent shooting incidents.
December 2015	Robert Brown (Director of NCCU’s Department of Criminal Justice) was welcomed as a new Steering Committee member, and provided an overview the Department. Jim Stuit updated the committee on sub-committee activities and provided a list of anticipated reports to be delivered in 2016. Dionne Hines provided an overview and update on the <i>My Brother’s Keeper</i> initiative.
February 2016	Community activities reported on were the Campaign4Change MegaEventure in January, the Go Mentor Program and the Criminal Justice Resource Center roundtable featuring Father Gregg Boyle of Homeboy Industries. The GRS Suppression Team met with NCDPS staff from Polk Correctional Institution and learned about the new validation procedures for gang members in prison. The Steering Committee received a report on Gun Crime and Gun Arrests in Durham (2010 – 2015) with a focus on numerical trends, age distribution of arrestees, drug charges, stolen weapon charges and repeat offenders.

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	Three Project BUILD clients spoke to the Steering Committee about their involvement in the program and answered questions from the group.
April 2016	Rob Shields gave an overview of ReCity. The Committee reviewed progress towards the 2009 recommendations (45) and the 2014 recommendations (25), and looked at data for indicators. SRG staff from Polk Correctional Institution provided information on the new gang validation process for all NC inmates. Ann Oshel reported on Year 3 BECOMING longitudinal data.
June 2016	Durham’s new police chief – C.J. Davis, was welcomed to the Steering Committee. The Committee reviewed data on juvenile crime trends (2010 – 2015) and gang crime trends (2009 – 2015). Pam Peoples-Joyner visited the meeting on behalf of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Gang Reduction Steering Committee. Jim Stuit attended a WSFCGRS meeting in May as part of an information/strategy exchange. Scott Proescholdbell presented information on the North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System. Bert L’Homme and Elizabeth Shearer spoke about the five-year Student Support Services Implementation Plan.
August 2016	Anthony Scott (CEO of Durham Housing Authority) was welcomed as a new committee member. Donnie McQueen (Torchtlight Academy), Dianna Powell (Justice Served) and a contingent of former Raleigh gang members were present to provide information on the Raleigh gang truce, how it started, its current status and potential for replication in Durham. Barker French updated attendees on the East Durham Children’s Initiative, which has been operational for 5 years. Robert Brown provided an update on the NCCU Department of Criminal Justice and the Juvenile Justice Institute.
October 2016	Jim Stuit reported that Information sharing/partnership continues with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Gang Steering Committee. Scott Proescholdbell and Josie Caves if NC Division of Public Health provide Durham-specific data on violent deaths and on the violent death “gang-like” variable. Syretta Hill provided information on StepUp Durham. Tina Ingram discussed the role of the school district’s Director of Security.
December 2016	Wendy Jacobs (newly elected chair – Board of County Commissioners) was welcomed as a new member of the Steering Committee. Jim Stuit provided a summary of GRS activities/accomplishments for 2016 Cure Violence staff (including violence interrupters and peer support specialists) gave an overview of the Cure Violence/Bull City United effort that will be launched in the near future.
February 2017	No reports or special speakers were scheduled for this meeting. Rather, GRS Steering Committee members took some time for discussion questions and long-term planning. Topics included budget priorities, an increase in fights, drugs and weapons at some DPS sites and data gaps.
March 2017	This was the 2 nd of two planning meetings. Topics included tracking employment provision outcomes and developing a structured communication strategy between law enforcement, the jail, state prisons and Probation.

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April 2017	Employment and related metrics was the focus of this meeting. Speakers included Rachel Porter (YouthBuild), Robin Heath (Criminal Justice Resource Center) and Erin Roesch (StepUp Durham).
June 2017	Roshanna Parker (CJRC) presented information on the newly-formed Durham County Local Reentry Council. Jim Stuit gave an overview of the recently completed report “ <i>Gang Crime Report (2009 – 2016) Durham NC</i> ”. Attendees discussed the findings.
August 2017	Attendees were provided information on findings of an ATF report on firearms recovered and traced to Durham. Anthony Marsh and Chief Davis discussed the formation and operational plan of the DPD Gang Unit.
December 2017	Duke professor Philip J. Cook was present to discuss his research on gun acquisition through social networks, and to provide recommendations for keeping guns out of reach of gang members and other dangerous individuals.
February 2018	Mayor Steve Schewel was welcomed as a new Steering Committee member. Presentations by Bull City United and Project BUILD Update from Polk C.I.
April 2018	Employment focus with presentations by Reentry Council employment specialist Demetrius Lynn and Bull City YouthBuild manager Cory Rawlinson Sgt. Swartz reports on DPD’s RMS Gang Activity Module Presentation by City of Durham Innovation Team (Josh Edwards/Ryan Smith)
June 2018	The Durham Gang Crime Report (2009 – 2017) was presented and there were updates on prevention/intervention and suppression efforts.
August 2018	Jim Stuit presented a comprehensive report on Project BUILD Rob Shields provided information on ReCity and how it facilitates networking among youth-serving nonprofits Gudrun Parmer reported on agencies to be funded by the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
October 2018	New members Gail Harris and Stelfanie Williams welcomed. Durham Public Schools presented information on strategic plan, student services and school safety. NCCU provided update on the Juvenile Justice Project and other initiatives. Duke University provided information on the Duke Regional Affairs Office
December 2018	Sheriff Clarence Birkhead welcomed as new member Panel discussion on gang suppression, gang suppression units (RPD/DPD) Report on court involved juveniles (FY18) Report from Probation/Parole on supervision, SRG’s
February 2019	US Attorney (NC Middle District) Matthew Martin explained the role of US Attorneys and outlined MDNC priorities. Reports from Bull City United and Project BUILD Report from City of Durham Innovation Team initiatives DPD reports on number of validated gang members and aggravated assaults with multiple victims

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April 2019	Meeting cancelled due to explosion in downtown Durham
June 2019	Continued discussion on restarting Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) in Durham County Report on Juvenile Crime Prevention Council funding priorities Updates on 2020 gang assessment and 2019 Felons with Firearms in Durham report Request from Project BUILD for Steering Committee members to appoint individuals to the Project BUILD Intervention team
August 2019	Supt. Mubenga updates on school safety Jim Stuit reviews report on Felons with Firearms in Durham NC Continued discussion on Project Safe Neighborhoods
October 2019	Sheriff Birkhead updates on SRO program, DA Deberry updates on school-based referrals, DJJ updates on school-based offenses Jim Stuit previews plans for the 2021 Comprehensive Gang Assessment Report on collaboration efforts with Forsyth, Randolph and Vance counties
December 2019	Phil Cook (winner of 2020 Stockholm Prize in Criminology) presents information on effort by Chicago PD Bureau of Detectives to improve shooting investigations and on research that supports assigning a higher priority to nonfatal shootings Discussion on courthouse security concerns Presentation of tasks for 2021 Gang Assessment
February 2020	Representatives from the National Gang Center were in attendance Chief Davis provided a “Gang Unit Update” Durham County Sheriff’s Office shared some recent intel information DA Satana Deberry gave an overview of District Attorney Office operations Reports, updates from Project BUILD and My Brother’s Keeper
April 2020	No meeting due to COVID19
June 2020	No meeting due to COVID19
August 2020	Zoom meeting: Co-Chair Tom Bonfield is retiring and was thanked for his many years of involvement in GRS. Jim Stuit gave an overview of the <i>Gang Incidents in Durham (2019)</i> report and provided an update on RFP development for consultant services related to the 2021 Comprehensive Gang Assessment for Durham. Updates were provided by Durham Police Department, Durham County Sheriff’s Office, Durham Housing Authority, District Attorney’s Office, Public Health Department, Durham Public Schools and North Carolina Central University.
October 2020	Wanda Page (Interim City Manager) was welcomed as new co-chair. Consultant proposals for assistance with the 2021 Gang Assessment are being evaluated. Q&A session was held with Otis Lyons (Campaign4Change/Virtual Community Connections); topics included changes in gang activity in past 5 years, very young gang members being involved in the recent string of shootings, and suggestions for community response to the issue