



Agenda Item Request Form

- Commission Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 2:00 PM.
- Committee Meetings are held on the second and last Tuesday of each month, beginning at 1:00 PM.

Click [here](#) to view the full Commission and Committee Calendar.

Meeting Type *

Meeting Date *

- Commission
- Public Safety Committee
- Public Services Committee
- Administrative Services Committee
- Engineering Services Committee
- Finance Committee

6/16/2026

Contact Information for Individual/Presenter Making the Request:

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Caption/Topic of Discussion to be placed on the Agenda: *

****Subject:** Urgent: Bernie Ward Community Center – Outstanding Upgrades and Immediate Action Required**

I am writing to formally express concern regarding the continued lack of progress on critical upgrades at the Bernie Ward Community Center.

Since October 2018, following the tragic death of Melquan Kwame Robinson, there was a clear commitment and approval to move forward with essential improvements to this facility. Unfortunately, years later, many of those promised upgrades remain incomplete or inadequately addressed. The community center continues to reflect neglect rather than the investment and care that were pledged.

The originally identified upgrades included:

- * A new and improved playground that does not retain standing water after rainfall
- * A new HVAC system for the gymnasium
- * Leveling and improvement of the baseball fields
- * A new workout area with updated equipment

At present, the facility still has significant unresolved needs, including:

- * Relocation and replacement of the playground to an area that does not flood
- * Fully updated and functional restroom facilities
- * Reliable HVAC systems in all meeting rooms
- * Installation of a full-service kitchen
- * Updates and repairs to the swimming pool and splash pad
- * Proper leveling and restoration of the baseball field

Immediate repair of the driveway and parking lot, which were severely damaged by Hurricane Helene truck debris is the top of our repair list.

The condition of this facility is unacceptable and does not reflect the level of advocacy or urgency expected from leadership. The South Augusta