



Durham County

200 E. Main Street
Durham, NC 27701
(919) 560-0025

Meeting Agenda Board of County Commissioners

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

9:00 AM

Commissioners' Chambers

Work Session

"Public Charge"

The Board of Commissioners asks its members and residents to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous manner, both with the Board and fellow residents. At any time, should any member of the Board or any resident fail to observe this public charge, the Chair will ask the offending person to leave the meeting until that individual regains personal control. Should decorum fail to be restored, the Chair will recess the meeting until such time that a genuine commitment to the public charge is observed.

"Land Acknowledgment"

As we convene for the Durham County Commissioners meeting, it's crucial to recognize the painful truth of history. We stand on the stolen ancestral lands of the Catawba, Eno, Occaneechi, Shakori, and Tuscarora peoples, whose deep connection to this land predates our arrival. We acknowledge with humility the unjust displacement and violence that occurred, leading to the dispossession of indigenous peoples from their homelands. Their resilience in the face of such adversity is a testament to their strength and spirit.

May we humbly honor the ancestors and elders of these nations, both past and present, by committing ourselves to fostering understanding, healing, and justice for all who inhabit this land. Let us walk forward together with open hearts, acknowledging the past and embracing a future guided by compassion, respect, and unity.

9:00 am Work Session Agenda

1. Citizen Comments (30 min)

[26-0468](#)

Citizen Comments (30min)

Agenda Text:

The Board of County Commissioners will provide a 30-minute comment period at a meeting once a month. Any resident of Durham County wishing to speak shall have an opportunity to do so. The Board may direct staff to research and reply to the concerns, if appropriate. Speakers were asked to provide comments prior to the start of the meeting so that staff may reply to comments and/or

questions. All speakers are requested to refrain from addressing issues related to personnel matters.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Resident engagement aligns with all five of the strategic goals by allowing the Board to receive comments and concerns from the community related to important issues in Durham County.

Resource Persons: Monica W. Wallace, Clerk to the Board

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the board receive resident comments and direct staff to respond, as deemed appropriate.

2. Consent Agenda (20 min)

26-0384 Approval of FY 2026-2027 Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant Funding Resolution, Funding Two Deputies with 75% County Funding and 25% Federal, as well as Reduce Sheriff's Office Authorized FTE Count by One Position

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve a one-year extension of the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant for the Sheriff's Office and have the Chairman sign the Resolution, and approve a reduction of one position from the Sheriff's Office authorized full-time equivalent positions. In FY22, the Governor's Highway Safety Program awarded the Durham County Sheriff's Office a four-year step-down reimbursement grant that requires a local match at varying percentages each year to fund three sworn deputy positions to work traffic enforcement. This renewal, and all subsequent renewals, will require a local match of seventy-five percent (75%) and a federal allocation of twenty-five percent (25%). This action will reduce the Sheriff's Offices' original (3) grant funded deputy positions to (2) two grant funded deputy positions. For FY 2026-27, the local match will be in the amount of \$143,251.00 (75%) and a federal allocation in the amount of \$47,750.00 (25%); for a total amount of \$191,001.00. The BOCC initially approved these funds on September 13, 2021 (21-0550).

The Governor's Highway Safety Program helps fund law enforcement agencies to reduce traffic crashes in North Carolina. The Sheriff's Office will work to reduce traffic accidents across Durham County in the following categories:

- Overall Fatalities
- Alcohol Fatalities
- Unrestrained Fatalities
- Speed Related Fatalities
- Motorcycle Fatalities

- Teen Fatalities
- Pedestrian Fatalities

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with the County's Strategic Goal 3: Safe Community.

Resource Persons: Michael Hogan, Lieutenant, Durham County Sheriff's Office; Clarence Birkhead, Durham County Sheriff.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve a one-year extension of the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant for the Sheriff's Office and have the Chairman sign the Resolution and approve a reduction of one position from the Sheriff's Office authorized full-time equivalent positions. In FY22, the Governor's Highway Safety Program awarded the Durham County Sheriff's Office a four-year step-down reimbursement grant that requires a local match at varying percentages each year to fund three sworn deputy positions to work traffic enforcement. This renewal, and all subsequent renewals, will require a local match of seventy-five percent (75%) and a federal allocation of twenty-five percent (25%). This action will reduce the Sheriff's Offices' original (3) three granted funded deputy positions to (2) two grant funded deputy positions. For FY27, the local match will be in the amount of \$143,251.00 (75%) and a federal allocation in the amount of \$47,750.00 (25%); for a total amount of \$191,001.00. The BOCC initially approved these funds on September 13, 2021 (21-0550).

Attachments: [FY27 GHSP Grant application](#)
[Grant Award Notification](#)
[County Resolution - unsigned](#)
[GHSP 26-27](#)

26-0426

Approval to Enter into a Contract with Hayti Reborn - Justice Movement in the Amount of \$330,000

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the contract with Hayti Reborn - Justice Movement (HR-JM) in the amount of \$330,000. The Hayti Reborn - Justice Movement operates as an "umbrella organization" that works in concert with existing community partners, with a goal of developing coordinated strategies that interrupt the cycle of violence, while concurrently increasing the health and prosperity within marginalized communities.

HR-JM functions as a centralized hub that coordinates community-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, and service providers into a cohesive network focused on interrupting recidivism. This collaborative framework addresses the factors that contribute to criminal justice system reengagement, including unemployment, housing instability, and limited access to support systems. HR-JM's centralized coordination model is essential because

individuals return from multiple facilities across two correctional systems (state and federal), creating complex reentry needs that require unified, comprehensive support.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Safe & Resilient Community.

Resource Persons: Krystal Harris, MSW, Community Intervention & Support Services Director

County Managers' Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the contract with Hayti Reborn - Justice Movement in the amount of \$330,000.

Attachments: [Hayti Reborn Contract FY26-27](#)

26-0428

Approval of Proposed Interlocal Agreement and Joint Use Agreement for the New Emergency Operations Center & Backup 911 Call Center Facility Located at 2422 Broad Street, Durham, NC

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and Joint Use Agreement (JUA) with the City of Durham for the new Emergency Operations Center & Backup 911 Call Center Facility located at 2422 Broad Street, Durham, NC; and to authorize the County Manager to execute the agreements pending approval by the County Attorney and City of Durham at their September 21, 2026, Council Meeting.

The total project budget is set at \$55,156,315.24. Of this total budget, the County will be responsible for \$25,869,253 (46.9%) and the City will be responsible for \$29,287,061.43 (53.1%). These figures include the facility design and construction cost as well as the provisioning of furniture, fixtures & equipment, IT, technology and other departmental specific provisioning. Refer to attached exhibit D for the cost sharing methodology based on prior interlocal agreements (attachments #3 & #4).

A separate agenda item is concurrently being proposed to appropriate funding and execute a GMP contract to construct the new facility.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Safe and Resilient Community: Supporting the Emergency Operations Center, Backup 911, & Sheriff's Backup Call Center is a key factor in strengthening emergency response and prevention systems throughout the County.

Resource Persons: Joel T. Jones, Project Manager; Dan Nosbusch, Project Manager, Peri Manns, Deputy Director; James Faress, Sr. Project Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and Joint Use Agreement (JUA) with the City of Durham for the new Emergency Operations Center & Backup 911 Call Center Facility located at 2422 Broad Street, Durham, NC; and

to authorize the County Manager to execute the agreements pending approval by the County Attorney and City of Durham at their September 21, 2026, Council Meeting.

Attachments:

[Exhibit A - Durham County Emergency Operations Center](#)

[Exhibit B - Durham County EOC, Sheriff and 911 Backup Call Centers – Floor F](#)

[Exhibit C - JUA for EOC - Review Draft 1 - 8.28.26 JTJ](#)

[Exhibit D - Durham County Emergency Management, City of Durham 911, and I EOC ILA Review Draft 1 - 8.28.26 JTJ](#)

[Attachment #3 - Emergency Management ILA, July 1, 1998](#)

[Attachment #4 - 911 ILA, Jan. 1, 2008](#)

26-0438

Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC018 Increasing Both the Expenditures and Revenues of the Shoppes of Hope Valley Fund Center by \$365,000 to Align the County Budget with Recent Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Requirements; there will be a Net Zero Change to the FY 2026-27 Budget

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC18, increasing both the expenditures and revenues of the Shoppes of Hope Valley Fund Center (4730263800 in Environmental Protection Functional Area) by \$365,000 to align the Durham County budget with recently released GASB requirements. There will be a net zero dollar change to the FY 2026-27 budget because the expenditures and revenues will be increased by an equal amount.

The Shoppes of Hope Valley Fund Center accounts for revenue and expenses for the Shoppes of Hope Valley and the Bell Building restaurant spaces. For accounting purposes, the Shoppes of Hope Valley was recently re-classified from a Capital Project to a Revenue Generating Asset, which, in compliance with NC Local Government Commission GASB Statement 87, requires line-item accounting of every revenue and expense item, instead of allowing one accounting entry of net revenue. This is a technical change and will not impact budget availability.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This agenda item aligns with the County's Sound Financial Stewardship Goals.

Resource Persons: Christy Raulli, Senior Real Estate Officer; Jonathan Yeomans, Budget and Management Analyst; David Ades, Asst Director of Budget and Management; Keith Lane, Director of Budget and Management; Pat Haley, Executive Accountant; Conniecia Brown, Asst Chief Financial Officer; Crystally Wright, Chief Financial Officer; Peri Manns, ASLA, LEED GA Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services; H. Jay Gibson, PE, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC18, increasing

both the expenditures and revenues of the Shoppes of Hope Valley Fund Center (4730263800 in Environmental Protection Functional Area) by \$365.000 to align the Durham County budget with recently released GASB requirements. There will be a net zero dollar change to the FY 2026-27 budget because the expenditures and revenues will be increased by an equal amount.

Attachments: [AAF-18 SoHV Exp and Rev GASB Adjustment \(\\$365K\)](#)

26-0439

Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA010 & Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC017 Reducing the Available Budgets of Six Durham Public School Capital Project Budgets to \$0, Transferring \$48,404.11 to the Debt Service Fund and \$12,517.87 to the County's Lottery Fund Account (for Future Allocation), and then Closing the Projects in the County Accounting System

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC017 and Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA010 reducing the available budgets of six completed Durham Public School Capital Project budgets to \$0, transferring \$48,404.11 to the County Debt Service Fund and \$12,517.87 to the County's Lottery Fund Account (for future allocation), and then closing seven completed DPS projects in the Durham County Accounting system. The remaining Lottery funds will be held at the County until DPS requests them through the process with North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and/or they are returned to the State for future allocation to DPS.

Project Name and Number	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
High School Theater Renovations (59105400SH291)		\$2,411,442.00	(\$45,934.38) \$2,365,507.62
DPS Radio Replacement (59105400SH321)	\$341,672.00	(\$2,469.73)	\$339,202.27
Mult. Schools - LED Lighting Installation (59105400SH302)		\$1,239,000.00	(\$3,498.01)
	\$1,235,501.99		
K-5 Schools Replace Playground Equipment (59105400SH305)		\$3,189,948.90	(\$19.16)
	\$3,189,929.74		
Districtwide - Carpet and Flooring Updates (59105400SH324)		\$100,000.00	(\$268.89) \$99,731.11
Districtwide - Roofing Repairs (59105400SH322)		\$150,000.00	(\$8,730.81) \$141,269.19
Districtwide - Life Safety Equipment Upgrade (59105400SH323)		\$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00
TOTAL	\$7,432,062.90	(\$60,920.98)	\$7,371,141.92

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This agenda item aligns This capital project amendment aligns with Goal 1-Community and Family Prosperity and Enrichment, though providing access to educational, vocational, economic and cultural opportunities and by providing support for educational opportunities that ensure high academic achievement.

Resource Persons: Clifton Williams, Durham Public School Executive Director of Facilities

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC017 and Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA010 reducing the available budgets of six

completed Durham Public School Capital Project budgets to \$0, transferring \$48,4041.11 to the County Debt Service Fund and \$12,517.87 to the County's Lottery Fund Account (for future allocation), and then closing seven completed DPS projects in the Durham County Accounting system.

Attachments:

[AAF-17 Reducing DPS Capital Project \(\\$48,404.11\)](#)

[CPA-10 LEGAL FORM Reducing DPS Capital Project](#)

[CPA-10 LEGAL FORM CLOSING DPS Capital Projects](#)

26-0440

Approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC019 Recognizing a \$15,000 Grant from the Burt's Bees Foundation to Support Conservation Corps North Carolina's Ecological Restoration Work on Durham County Open Space Preserves

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC019 to recognize \$15,000 in grant revenue from the Burt's Bees Foundation to support Conservation Corps North Carolina's (CCNC's) ecological restoration work on Durham County Open Space Preserves.

Recent ecological research supported by the Durham County Open Space Program has identified specific actions to improve wildlife habitat and biodiversity on County preserves. A key recommendation is careful vegetation management - specifically removing invasive species - to protect native plants that sustain Durham County's most significant and sensitive ecosystems.

For seven weeks this Fall, Durham County's Open Space Program will partner with Conservation Corps North Carolina (CCNC), a nonprofit that provides workforce development for young adults interested in conservation careers. CCNC crews will remove invasive species and help restore native plant communities on County Open Space land in the New Hope Corridor, the Little River Corridor, and eastern Durham County near Falls Lake.

This is the sixth grant award Durham County has received from the Burt's Bees Foundation in support of the Open Space Program. This \$15,000 grant covers 16% of the CCNC project cost. Durham County is contributing \$55,000 (60%) through budgeted contracted services funds, and CCNC is providing \$29,999 (24%) as in-kind personnel support, for a total project cost of \$91,999.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This Burt's Bees Foundation grant award and the partnership with CCNC aligns with Durham County Strategic Plan Goal 1: Community Empowerment and Enrichment's Workforce Development Objective as well as Strategic Plan Goal 4: Environment's Natural Resource Stewardship and Protection Objective.

Resource Persons: Celeste Burns, Open Space and Real Estate Division Manager; David Bradley, Open Space Specialist; Jessie Birkhead, Executive Director of Conservation Corps North Carolina; Peri Manns, Deputy Director, Engineering and Environmental Services.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that

the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC019 to recognize \$15,000 in grant revenue from the Burt's Bees Foundation to support Conservation Corps North Carolina's (CCNC's) ecological restoration work on Durham County Open Space Preserves.

Attachments:

[AAF Supplemental - Grant Revenue from Burts Bees 2026 for Conservation Co](#)

[AAF-19 Recognize Burts Bees for OSRE \(\\$15K\)](#)

26-0446

Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA011 appropriating \$1,649,000 of Sewer Utility Fund Fund Balance to Support the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Capital Project (7100SE063); as well as Approve the County Manager to Enter Into A Service Contract Amendment with Hazen and Sawyer for Professional Engineering Services for the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (FR24-715) in the amount of \$1,649,000 Bringing the Total Contract Amount from \$1,053,026 to \$2,702,026 with a not to exceed amount of \$2,912,635

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA011 appropriating \$1,649,000 of Sewer Utility Fund Fund Balance to the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade for the Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP) Project SE063. The Board is also requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract amendment with Hazen and Sawyer to provide engineering services for the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (FR 24-715) in the amount of \$1,649,000 bringing the total contract amount from \$1,053,026 to \$2,702,026 with a not to exceed of \$2,912,635.

Name / Location of Project	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
Project Status			
TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (SE063)		\$1,263,635	\$1,649,000
\$2,912,635 ONGOING			

Project Background:

The Scope of Services has been broken into three categories with multiple tasks included as part of each one. To date Category 1 has been completed which included the Basis of Design Report, Equipment Pre-Selection for the UV Disinfection System, UV Disinfection System 30% Design, and Evaluation of the Reclaimed Water System.

This approval will cover tasks within Category 2 that have been determined to be the priority to remain in compliance. Tasks included are:

- UV & Cascade Aeration Final Design Completion \$1,449,000
- Headworks & IPS Improvements - 30% Design Only \$200,000

Future phases will include final design of headworks and IPS improvements, filter replacement final design, reclaimed water modeling and improvements and additional items as outlined in Category 3.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment by ensuring TWWTP

continues to meet effluent standards as required by NPDES Permit NC0026051.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of E&ES; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of E&ES; Jerry Morrone PE, Project Manager; David Ades, Assistant Director of Budget & Management Services.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends the Board approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA011 appropriating \$1,649,000 of Sewer Utility Fund Fund Balance to the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade for the Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP) Project SE063. The Board is also requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract amendment with Hazen and Sawyer to provide engineering services for the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (FR 24-715) in the amount of \$1,649,000 bringing the total contract amount from \$1,053,026 to \$2,702,026 with a not to exceed of \$2,912,635.

Attachments:

[AAF Supplemental Doc](#)

[Hazen & Sawyer Contract](#)

[Hazen & Sawyer Quote](#)

[CPA-11 LEGAL FORM for TWWTP Rehab App \(\\$1,649,000\)](#)

26-0449

Sole Source Exemption Approval for Utilities Division Purchase of 75 HP Nord Motor and Spare Parts from Veolia Water Technologies, Inc. (dba Kruger)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to provide approval for sole source exemption for the purchase of a replacement Nord 9082.1 75-horsepower helical-bevel gearmotor and spare parts from Veolia Water Technologies, Inc. (dba Kruger) in the amount of \$112,194.73. Veolia Water Technologies, Inc. (dba Kruger) is the sole source of sales, distribution, and service provider of Kruger equipment for the United States market. Attached are the sole source letter and quote.

This item has been reviewed by the Purchasing Division for compliance with the request for sole source exemption. North Carolina General Statute 143-129(g) (3) allows local governments to be exempted from competitive bidding requirements when a sole source is available, performance or price competition for a product is not available, a needed product is available from only one source of supply, or standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration. This purchase will be funded by the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment and will result in compliance with NPDES Permit NC0026051.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of E&ES; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of E&ES

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends the Board approve the sole source exemption for the purchase of a replacement

Nord 9082.1 75-horsepower helical-bevel gearmotor and spare parts from Veolia Water Technologies, Inc. (dba Kruger) in the amount of \$112,194.73.

Attachments: [AAF Supplemental Document](#)

[Quote](#)

[Sole Source Letter 2026](#)

26-0450

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC022 to recognize \$171,408 in Grant Funding and Approval of Interlocal Agreement for the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC022 recognizing \$171,408 from the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to the Durham County Sheriff's Office and to authorize the County Manager to execute the interlocal agreement between the City of Durham and the County of Durham for these funds. This award will be shared in a 50/50 split between the Durham County Sheriff's Office and the Durham Police Department.

The Durham County Sheriff's Office will use these funds to obtain a virtual reality training system for the Sheriff's Office Training facility. The Durham Police Department will use funds to modernize, update, and expand the capabilities of its Training and Forensic Services Divisions. More information on the technology and equipment that will be purchased using this grant funding can be found at

<https://www.durhamsheriff.com/Home/Components/News/News/10873/3199?npage=2>

The full amount is being recognized in the County, and the City's expense will be seen as an expenditure in the County's system. The full revenue will also be budgeted and collected in the County's system as a reimbursement for expenditures.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with the County's Strategic Goal 3: Safe Community and Goal 5: Accountable, Efficient, and Visionary Government

Resource Persons: David LaBarre, Director of Planning & Development, Durham County Sheriff's Office; Clifford Webster, Major of Operations, Durham County Sheriff's Office

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC022 recognizing \$171,408 from the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to the Durham County Sheriff's Office and that the County Manager be authorized to execute the interlocal agreement between the City of Durham and the County of Durham for these funds.

Attachments: [FY25 JAG Award Letter](#)
[DCSO-DPD Program Narrative](#)
[FY25 JAG Supplemental](#)
[JAG25 Interlocal Agreement](#)
[BCC-22 Legal Form 2025 JAG Grant Award \\$171,408 in County Sheriff Office.g](#)

26-0451 **Approval of Raftelis Contract Amendment for Financial Planning, Rate Study, and Support Services for the Durham County Utilities Division in the Amount of \$44,793.75 Bringing the Total Amount to \$99,793.75 with a Not to Exceed Amount of \$110,000**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract amendment with Raftelis (FR 25-501)(RFP 24-048) to provide Financial Planning, Rate Study, and Support Services for the Utilities Division in the amount of \$44,793.75 bringing the total contract amount from \$55,000 to \$99,793.75 and to execute any other related contract amendments not to exceed \$110,000, subject to budget availability. This contract is funded by the Sewer Utility Enterprise Fund.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This action is in accordance with Durham County Strategic Plan focused on Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment and Financial Stewardship as this study ensures the Division can adequately fund sewer operations, known and projected capital improvement costs and bond debt, while keeping rates affordable.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of E&ES; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of E&ES

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends the Board to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract amendment with Raftelis (FR 25-501)(RFP 24-048) to provide Financial Planning, Rate Study, and Support Services for the Utilities Division in the amount of \$44,793.75 bringing the total contract amount from \$55,000 to \$99,793.75 and to execute any other related contract amendments not to exceed \$110,000, subject to budget availability.

Attachments: [Durham County SDF Scope 5.14.26](#)
[FR 25-501 Raftelis Financial Consultants Inc. Amendment #2](#)
[Raftelis Supplemental Doc](#)

26-0452 **Authorize Award of contract for Easement Maintenance Services (RFP 26-034) for Durham County Utilities to Stormwater Operations Specialists, LLC, in the amount of \$300,000.00 and to execute any related contract amendments not to exceed \$325,000.00**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract with Stormwater Operations Specialists, LLC (RFP 26-034) for easement maintenance services for Durham County Utilities in the amount of \$300,000.00 and to execute any other related contract amendments not to

exceed \$325,000.00. This service is funded by the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This action is in accordance with Durham County's DCo Forward 2029 Strategic Plan:

- Strategic Plan Goal "Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment" by maintaining, protecting, and improving natural and built systems to support a sustainable community
- Strategic Plan Goal "Financial Stewardship" by improving access for routine and preventive maintenance, prolonging infrastructure life span, and reducing response times for emergency repairs.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of E&ES; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of E&ES; Jerry Morrone PE, Project Manager; Vincent Chirichella PE, Sr. Project Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends the Board authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract with Stormwater Operations Specialists, LLC (RFP 26-034) for easement maintenance services for Durham County Utilities in the amount of \$300,000.00 and to execute any other related contract amendments not to exceed \$325,000.00.

Attachments:

[AAF Supplemental Document Easement Mowing](#)

[RFP 26-034 Proposal Tabulation Easement Maintenance Services for DCo Util](#)

[Small Business Review Form-Agenda Action Form - RFP 26-034 Easement Cle](#)

[Summary Evaluation Form RFP 26-034 Easement Maintenance Services](#)

26-0454

Budget Ordinance Amendment 27BCC021 Appropriating \$25,000 of Eno Fire Tax District Fund Balance and Increasing the Distribution to Eno Fire and Emergency Services, Inc. for the Purchase of a new Multipurpose Response and Utility Vehicle

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment 27BCC021 Appropriating \$25,000 of Eno Fire Tax District Fund Balance to purchase a new 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 pickup truck to be used as a response and utility vehicle. Eno Fire and Emergency Services Inc. has requested this fund balance distribution to support the procurement of a new response and utility vehicle. Eno Fire and Emergency Services Inc. provides fire, rescue and emergency services for approximately 2 square miles of western Durham County and responds to 20 calls in the area on average annually. These funds will be distributed to the district at their request and used to fund a portion of the vehicle purchase (\$42,617.40) and upfit costs (\$9,741.25). Vehicle upfit will be performed by Mincey's Graphics and in-house by Eno Fire and Emergency Services Inc. members. The remaining funding for the purchase will be provided by Eno Fire and Emergency Services Inc.

These funds are in a county-held fund balance for the district. Distribution of this amount complies with Finance's fiscal policies and ensures that the

remaining balance reserve level is sufficient for future needs.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Focus Area 3: Safe and Resilient Community Initiative 2a: Innovate and strengthen emergency response and prevention systems

Resource Persons: Tyler Fitts, Chief Fire Marshal, Office of Emergency Services

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment 27BCC021 Appropriating \$25,000 of Eno Fire Tax District Fund Balance and Increasing the Distribution to Eno Fire and Emergency Services, Inc. for the Purchase of a new Multipurpose Response and Utility Vehicle

Attachments:

[Spare 2026 Silverado CK10543 \(1\)](#)

[Upfitting Costs](#)

[August 2026 - Letter to County \(Fund Balance\) \(003\) \(1\) \(1\)](#)

[Est 6999 from Minceys Graphics LLC 29692](#)

[BCC-21 Legal Form](#)

26-0456

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC020 Appropriating \$212,000.00 of General Fund Fund Balance to the Vehicle Fund Center for Increased Costs Related to a Previously Approved Ambulance Purchase

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC020, which authorizes the appropriation of \$212,000.00 of General Fund Fund Balance to the Vehicle Fund Center to cover increased costs associated with the purchase of 11 previously approved Braun Liberty Custom Type I ambulances built by Spartan Fire and Emergency Apparatus.

When Durham County EMS placed its order for these ambulances in 2023, the price reflected the specifications and regulatory requirements in place at that time. After the order was submitted, the State of North Carolina adopted updated CAAS standards for all newly manufactured ambulances, requiring additional equipment, configuration changes, and compliance features not included in the original build. Spartan Fire and Emergency Apparatus confirmed that these CAAS updates increased the manufacturing cost of each unit, creating an unanticipated cost impact across all 11 ambulances.

In addition to the CAAS-related cost increases, the initial purchase did not account for the mandatory 3% Highway Use Tax applied to the total vehicle purchase price at delivery, and together these State-mandated CAAS upgrades and required Highway Use Tax produce a total cost increase of \$212,000.00 above the originally approved amount for the ambulance purchase, ensuring this budget amendment fully funds the procurement of all 11 ambulances so Durham

County EMS can move forward without delay while meeting regulatory requirements and satisfying all financial obligations tied to delivery, inspection, and vehicle titling.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Focus Area 3: Safe and Resilient Community Initiative 2a: Innovate and strengthen emergency response and prevention systems

Resource Persons: Mark Lockhart, NRP, Director, Office of Emergency Services and Marc Ferguson, Business Operations Officer

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approves Budget Ordinance No. 27BCC020 appropriating \$212,000.00 of General Fund Fund Balance to the Vehicle Fund Center to cover increased costs associated with the purchase of 11 Braun Liberty Custom Type I ambulances built by Spartan Fire and Emergency Apparatus.

Attachments:

[AAF-XX SUPPLEMENTAL \\$212,000 in GF Fund Balance to Vehicle Fund Cent](#)

[7 Durham County EMS quote](#)

[FR 23-1184 SPARTAN FIRE AND EMERGENCY](#)

[BCC-20 Legal Form](#)

26-0457

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC024 Public Health to Recognize \$300,000 from Carolina Complete Health's Community Reinvestment funding for Durham County's Health Consortium: Project Access Durham County

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC024 Public Health to Recognize \$300,000 from Carolina Complete Health's Community Reinvestment funding for Durham County's Health Consortium: Project Access Durham County

Through Durham County's Health Consortium, Durham County Department of Public Health and Project Access Durham County have been awarded funding aimed at supporting innovative projects that address social drivers of health and advance health equity in North Carolina. Funds will be used to improve health outcomes for people by addressing barriers to health care and providing resources to uninsured or underinsured individuals through a comprehensive approach to care.

Please note that this amendment requires no additional County funds.

The Board of Health has approved this amendment.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Healthy Community.

Resource Persons: Dr. Rodney Jenkins, DrPH, MHA, Public Health Director

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC024 Public

Health to Recognize \$300,000 from Carolina Complete Health's Community Reinvestment funding for Durham County's Health Consortium: Project Access Durham County

Attachments:

[AAF Durham County Health Consortium-Carolina Complete \\$300,000](#)

[Project Access Durham County Award Letter](#)

[AAF Supplemental Durham County Health Consortium-Carolina Complete \\$300](#)

[AAF-24 Legal Form](#)

26-0459

Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA014 Appropriating \$48,919,120 of Funding to Support the New Durham County Emergency Operations Center Capital Project (4730DC158); and Authorizing the Execution of the Construction Manager At-Risk Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Bordeaux Construction for the Construction of the Emergency Operations Center at a Total Amount Not-To-Exceed \$45,422,037 (Base Bid, Alternates Plus Owner's Contingency)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA014 appropriating \$48,919,120 of funding to support the new Durham County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Capital Project (4730DC158), and authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with Bordeaux Construction Company for the construction of the Emergency Operations Center at the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$44,099,065 (Base Bid, Alternates Plus Owner's Contingency); as well as execute any other related contracts - including change orders if necessary - for a not-to-exceed budget of \$45,422,037 (See Attachment 1). The remaining balance of funding outside of Bordeaux's Construction Contract - \$3,497,083 - will be used to purchase furnishings, fixtures and equipment, code required Construction Materials Testing/Special Inspections, network equipment, and other necessary occupancy requirements. Debt issuance and funding determinations will be finalized in the coming months.

Project #	Current Budget	INCREASE	Revised Budget
Emergency Operations Center (4730DC158)		\$6,237,195	\$48,919,120 \$55,156,315
Summary	\$6,237,195.00	\$48,919,120.00	\$55,156,315.00

On January 13, 2025, the BOCC awarded a Construction Manager at Risk (C, M @R) Pre-construction Services contract to Bordeaux Construction. The pre-construction services phase of the project was the first step in the Construction Manager at Risk process, during which the contracting team provided cost estimating, constructability reviews, schedule development and value analysis of the project design. Following the pre-qualification of subcontractors, bids were received, publicly opened, and read by Bordeaux Construction.

This project will pursue LEED Gold certification as part of the County's adoption of the high-performance building policy and will incorporate

technologies aligned with the adoption of the Renewable Energy Resolution. When activated, this facility operates 24/7, making it an excellent candidate for incorporation of these conservation strategies as an appropriate long-term investment. The current project budget includes rooftop photovoltaics, infrastructure for a battery energy storage system (BESS), and other sustainability strategies that will have budget implications now but will result in markedly reduced energy costs, carbon footprint, and maintenance for the duration of the building's anticipated fifty-year life span.

The Emergency Operations Center will be constructed on the existing Broad Street site, beside the present EOC facility. The existing facility will remain in operation until the new building can be occupied. Once the occupants have been relocated to the new facility, the existing EOC building will be demolished to make room for activation parking and other site improvements.

The new EOC will also house a backup 911 communications call center and backup DCSO emergency call center. These backup call centers will be co-located on the 2nd floor of the new facility. In partnership with the City, the City will be responsible for their portion of the associated cost, which will be outlined in a forthcoming interlocal agreement (ILA) between the County & City. The City will also be responsible for a portion of the new EOC costs, as there is an existing ILA that stipulates that costs associated with the operations of the EOC are split evenly between the City & County (see attachment #3 for reference).

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Safe and Resilient Community: Supporting the Emergency Operations Center, Backup 911, & Sheriff's Backup Call Center is a key factor in strengthening emergency response and prevention systems throughout the County.

Resource Persons: Joel T. Jones, Project Manager; Dan Nosbusch, Project Manager; Peri Manns, ASLA, LEED GA, Deputy Director Engineering & Environmental Services; Jay Gibson, P.E., Director of Engineering & Environmental Services; Elizabeth Schroeder, Chief Emergency Manager; Blair Bordeaux, President, Bordeaux Construction

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA014 appropriating \$48,919,120 of funding to support the new Durham County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Capital Project (4730DC158), and authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with Bordeaux Construction Company for the construction of the Emergency Operations Center at the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$44,099,065 (Base Bid, Alternates Plus Owner's Contingency); as well as execute any other related contracts - including change orders if necessary - for a not-to-exceed budget of \$45,422,037 (See Attachment 1). The remaining balance of funding outside of Bordeaux's Construction Contract - \$3,497,083 - will be used to purchase furnishings, fixtures and

equipment, code required Construction Materials Testing/Special Inspections, network equipment, and other necessary occupancy requirements. Debt issuance and funding determinations will be finalized in the coming months.

Attachments:

[Attachment #1 \(GMP Proposal\)](#)

[Attachment #2, Cost Share Breakout](#)

[Attachment #3 - Emergency Management ILA, July 1, 1998](#)

[Attachment #4 - 911 ILA, Jan. 1, 2008](#)

[Supplemental Document](#)

[CPA-14 LEGAL FORM for EOC \(\\$48,919,120\)](#)

26-0460

Approve Acquisition of Three Agricultural Conservation Easements: Matthew & Brittany Eagle for 64.5 acres, Penny Family for 201 acres, and William H. Sparrow, Sr. for 47 acres

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve acquiring three agricultural conservation easements from Matthew and Brittany Eagle, the Penny Family, and William H. Sparrow Sr.; to authorize using existing open space capital project funds for up to 50% of the easement costs; and to authorize the Manager to execute options to purchase and funding agreements if funds are awarded.

- Eagle Acres - 65 acres: Beef cattle farm and managed pine forest, a portion of 1317 Thompson Road (REID 160294)
- Penny Family Farm - 201 acres: Beef cattle farm, a portion of 880 Johnson Mill Road (REID 190202), 9021 Roxboro Road (REID 190199), and REID 19020
- Sparrow Farm Phase 2 - 47 acres: Sheep farm and managed pine forest at 3903 Red Mill Road (REID 169351); expands protection of the Sparrow Family Farm

Protecting these properties will preserve agricultural, scenic, wildlife, and water-quality resources. All three properties are eligible for USDA-NRCS (United States Department of Agricultural- Natural Resource Conservation Service) Agricultural Lands Easement (ALE) funds, which would pay 50% of the easement value if funding is granted. The Farmland Protection Advisory Board has considered and supports the protection of these three farms.

To proceed, the County must secure signed real estate options confirming landowner and County intent for the anticipated October 2026 ACEP-ALE application deadline. The total cost for all three easement projects is estimated at \$3.5 million. At this time the County's open space and farmland preservation capital project account has sufficient funds to cover its 50% share, so no additional funding is required. If ALE funds are awarded, final budgets will be presented to the Board for approval prior to closing which would likely be 18-24 months from now.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: The acquisition of conservation easements for permanent open space aligns with Strategic Plan Focus Area: Sustainable

Infrastructure and Environment, Objective SI 3: Preserve and restore the natural and built environment, and SI 3d: Protect and restore natural resources, land, recreational, historical, and rural spaces.

Resource Persons: Celeste Burns, Open Space & Real Estate Manager; Jill Fusco, Open Space Coordinator; Peri Manns, Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services, Jay Gibson, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve acquiring three conservation easements from Matthew and Brittany Eagle, the Penny Family, and William H. Sparrow Sr.; to authorize using existing open space capital project funds for up to 50% of the easement costs; and to authorize the Manager to execute options to purchase and funding agreements if funds are awarded.

Attachments:

[AAF Supplemental - Three Conservation Easements - September 2026](#)

[Maps and Photos - Three Conservation Easement Projects - Eagle - Penny - Sr](#)

26-0465

Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA013 Appropriating \$700K of North Carolina Public School Building Repair Fund Funding to Support Five New Durham Public School Capital Projects

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA013 appropriating \$700K of North Carolina Public School Building Repair Fund Funding to support Districtwide Improvement Projects for: water heater replacements, flooring repairs, roofing repairs, life safety system repairs, and elevator repairs. The repairs will ensure the building systems are repaired or replaced to adequately meet the needs of students and staff.

Water heater replacements will include the installation of tankless water heater systems, which are more sustainable, energy-efficient, and cost-effective to operate. **Floor repairs** will improve the functionality, safety, and appearance of multiple instructional and support spaces across the district. **Roofing repairs** will address ongoing leaks, prevent further water intrusion, and improve the overall integrity of the building envelope. **Life safety system repairs** will include the repair and replacement of backflow prevention devices, fire alarm components, and kitchen fire suppression systems identified as deficient during annual inspections. **Elevator repairs** will address code compliance violations and repair critical equipment to ensure safe, reliable, and consistent operation for students, staff, and visitors.

All projects are expected to be completed by June 2027. The table below indicates funds reconciled by DPS and the County that are available for transfer:

Project Name and Number	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
Districtwide - Water Heater Repair (59105400SH326)		\$0.00	\$200,000.00 \$200,000.00
Districtwide - Roofing Repairs (59104500SH327)		\$0.00	\$100,000.00 \$100,000.00
Districtwide - Flooring and Carpet Upgrades (59105400SH328)		\$0.00	\$100,000.00 \$100,000.00
Districtwide - Fire Alarm and Life Safety Repairs (59105400SH329)		\$0.00	\$200,000.00
			\$200,000.00
Districtwide - Elevator Repairs (59105400SH330)		\$0.00	\$100,000.00 \$100,000.00
Summary	\$0.00	\$700,000.00	\$700,000.00

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This capital project amendment aligns with Goal 1-Community and Family Prosperity and Enrichment, though providing access to educational, vocational, economic and cultural opportunities and by providing support for educational opportunities that ensure high academic achievement.

Resource Persons: Clifton Williams, Durham Public Schools, Executive Director of Facilities

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA013 appropriating \$700K of North Carolina Public School Building Repair Fund Funding to support Districtwide Improvement Projects for: water heater replacements, flooring repairs, roofing repairs, life safety system repairs, and elevator repairs. The repairs will ensure the building systems are repaired or replaced to adequately meet the needs of students and staff.

Attachments: [CPA-13 LEGAL FORM for DPS \(\\$700K\)](#)

26-0467

Approval of One Peer Support Specialist FTE for the Justice Services Department

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve one Peer Support Specialist FTE for the Justice Services Department. As part of the FY 2026-27 budget process, the Opioid Fund awarded the Justice Services Department funding to support the departments work in opioid use prevention. This funding will be used to create one Peer Support Specialist position. A new Peer Support Specialist will increase the department's ability to offer person-centered, strengths-based support for all JSD clients. Peer support specialists utilize their lived experience with substance use and justice involvement to aid participants during their recovery process, guide them through the justice system, and help them connect to resources in the community. This staff member will help justice-involved clients engage with the recovery assistance they need, connect them to prosocial community support, and provide transportation to appointments.

This approval is for the FTE only, funding is already allocated within the FY 2026-27 Budget.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Safe & Resilient Community.

Resource Persons: Roshanna Humphrey, Justice Services Department, Jaeson Smith, Opioid Fund, Dwane Brinson, Assistant County Manager

County Managers' Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve One Peer Support Specialist FTE for the Justice Services Department

26-0470

Sole Source Exemption Approval for Utilities Division Purchase of Lamps, Sleeves, Ballasts, and Seals from Trojan Technologies

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to provide approval for sole source exemption for the purchase of replacement lamps, sleeves, ballasts and seals for the Trojan Ultraviolet System from Trojan Technologies in the amount of \$582,255.56.

Trojan Technologies is the sole source of sales and distribution of Trojan equipment for the United States market. Attached are the sole source letter and quote.

This item has been reviewed by the Purchasing Division for compliance with the request for sole source exemption. North Carolina General Statute 143-129(g) (3) allows local governments to be exempted from competitive bidding requirements when a sole source is available, performance or price competition for a product is not available, a needed product is available from only one source of supply, or standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration. This purchase will be funded by the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment and will result in compliance with NPDES Permit NC0026051.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of E&ES; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of E&ES

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends the Board approve the sole source exemption for the purchase of replacement lamps, sleeves, ballasts and seals for the Trojan UV System from Trojan Technologies in the amount of \$582,255.56.

Attachments:

[AAF Supplemental Document](#)

[QM0009250- revised](#)

[Sole Source - PJ 410916 - Durham County](#)

26-0471

Budget Amendment Ordinance No. 27BCC025 Cooperative Extension to Recognize \$35,000 from the City of Durham to Increase Access to Food and Nutritional Support and Approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Durham County and the City of Durham

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested approve Budget Amendment Ordinance No. 27BCC025 Cooperative Extension to Recognize \$35,000 from the City of Durham to Increase Access to Food and Nutritional Support and Approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Durham County and the City of Durham

The City of Durham has received a \$175,000 grant from the African American Mayors Association and the American Beverage Foundation for a Healthy America to advance community health and expand access to nutritious food. Through its grant project, "The Together Table," the City will fund four existing food security initiatives in Durham to enhance their impact and deepen collaboration across organizations.

Durham County Cooperative Extension is one of the awardees. The City intends to pass through \$35,000 of the grant funds to Cooperative Extension to expand and strengthen Durham's community garden network, and to provide

community-centered cooking and nutrition education.

At Cooperative Extension, the project will be co-led by the Food Security, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Agriculture teams. This grant allows the Extension teams to expand several successful programs to meet increased community need. Funding will support a part-time contractor for a Community Garden Coordinator role. The Coordinator will lead technical assistance, resource planning, and training to help community gardens become more productive, resilient, and accessible-particularly in neighborhoods with limited access to food and garden resources. The project will also expand community cooking and nutrition education programming, helping residents prepare healthy, affordable meals.

While the County typically leads food security efforts in Durham, this grant creates an important opportunity for new County-City collaboration. This project will provide immediate support to existing initiatives during a time of heightened food insecurity, while building a foundation for future partnerships to expand food access in Durham.

The City of Durham will present the interlocal agreement for approval at the City Council meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2026. The funding for this interlocal is provided through September 2027.

Alignment With Strategic Plan: This interlocal agreement, and associated funding, aligns with the strategic focus areas of Healthy & Inclusive Community, Empowered Community, and Financial Stewardship.

Resource Persons: Raina Goldstein Bunnag, County Food Security Coordinator; Donna Rewalt, County Extension Director.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board Approve Budget Amendment Ordinance No. 27BCC025 Cooperative Extension to Recognize \$35,000 from the City of Durham to Increase Access to Food and Nutritional Support and Approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Durham County and the City of Durham

Attachments: [Durham County Cooperative Extension ILA City of Durham Together Table AAF-25 Legal Form](#)

3. Discussion Items (290 min)

26-0429 Review and Adopt the 2026 Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan (20min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to receive and adopt the 2026 Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan from the Farmland Protection Advisory Board. This revised plan establishes the framework to enhance, promote, and preserve agriculture in Durham. Agriculture contributes significantly to Durham's green spaces and rural character while serving as a foundation for natural resource

conservation and food security.

With ongoing loss of farmland to development and increasing public interest in local foods, the updated plan is both timely and essential. Originally adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on December 14, 2009, the Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan has guided substantial progress over the past decade. The 2026 revision recognizes these accomplishments and provides clear, forward-looking recommendations to support the future of agriculture in Durham County.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Aligns with Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment and High Performing Organization

Resource Persons: Dwane Brinson, Assistant County Manager; Nicole Connelly, Farmland Protection Advisory Board Chair; Mark Waller, Farmland Protection Advisory Board Vice-Chair; Gerry Cohn, Contractor that assisted with the Plan; Sherry Scully, Durham Soil and Water Ag Development Coordinator.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive and adopt the 2026 Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan from the Farmland Protection Advisory Board.

Attachments: [Sept 2026 - Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan](#)

26-0432

Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways (60min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to receive a presentation on Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways.

Durham County, and the Triangle, are home to many excellent career pathways that offer opportunities for promotion, salary, and benefits. When combining Durham and Raleigh Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), there are over 1.14 million jobs within those 7 counties (Durham's MSA includes Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Person. while Raleigh's MSA includes Wake, Johnston, and Franklin). Many of those jobs are part of the Life Sciences, Tech, Healthcare, Financial, Public Sector, and Manufacturing industries that offer career pathways.

The Urban Institute defines a career pathway as a mapped series of manageable education and training steps toward industry-aligned skills, credentials, and career advancement. Ultimately, career pathways are the best tool to promote economic mobility.

Joining us for today's conversation are partners with Durham Public Schools Career and Technical Education, Durham Technical Community College, Novo Nordisk, and Made in Durham. Partners will speak to how they promote access to certified career pathways with high-wage, high-growth jobs (potential for

promotion, competitive wages and benefits) as well as how they connect to the larger workforce development ecosystem.

To give the presentation parameters, in certain examples it will focus on BioPharma Manufacturing, Skilled Trades, and Nursing (LPN/RN). This conversation is not inclusive to all local efforts or County workforce development programming but allows for a consumable framework.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Focus Area: Regional Leadership 1a.

Resource Persons: Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Director; Maurice Jones, Deputy County Manager of External Affairs; Casey Steinbacher, Executive Director, Made in Durham; Darian Harris, Director, Durham Public Schools Career and Technical Education; JB Buxton, President, Durham Technical Community College; Nicole Niwa, Alliance Development and Social Responsibility Principal, Novo Nordisk.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive a presentation on Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways.

Attachments: [Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways](#)

26-0469

Violence Reduction Working Group Recommendations (45min)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to receive a presentation on the recommendations from the Durham Violence Reduction Working Group and to adopt a resolution endorsing and supporting the recommendations of the Durham Violence Reduction Working Group.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with the Strategic Plan Goal Safe and Resilient Community

Resource Persons: Krystal Harris, MSW, Community Intervention & Support Services Director and Roshanna Parker, Justice Services Director

County Managers' Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation and provide input to staff if appropriate.

Attachments: [Violence Reduction Recommendations BOCC Presentation](#)
[Resolution Endorsing Violence Reduction Working Group Recommendation](#)

26-0448

Update Presentation on the Cultural Roadmap Plan (45min)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to receive the final report from the consulting team and staff on the Cultural Roadmap Plan.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Strategic Plan Goal of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment.

Resource Persons: Brenda Hayes-Bright, Assoc. AIA, CDT, MPM,- Project Manager/Public Art Manager, Sarah Martin, MFA - Public Art Coordinator,

Rebecca Holmes - City of Durham Cultural & Public Art Manager, Jaci Field - City of Durham, Community Programs Division Manager, Steve Schewel-Cultural Roadmap Planning Group Co-Chair, Margaret McNab-Durham Cultural Advisory Board Chair, Margie Reese- MJR Partners.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the update and provide input to the County staff.

Attachments:

[1 - MEMO - 1 - AGENDA MEMO DURHAM CULTURAL ROADMAP - 9-17-2026](#)

[2 - Attachment A - Proposed Durham Cultural Roadmap](#)

[3 - Attachment B - Presentation on the Durham Cultural Roadmap-upload](#)

[4 - Attachment C - Implementation Guide](#)

26-0462

Approval of the FY27 Q1 Durham Transit Work Program Amendment (30min)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve an amendment to the FY27 Durham Transit Work Program (Work Program).

As part of the appropriations process for the Durham County Transit Plan, an Annual Work Program is developed to outline the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Transit Governance Interlocal Agreement (ILA) establishes the process for developing and approving this budget, requiring formal approval by both the Durham Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees.

At its meeting held on August 19, 2026, the Staff Working Group (SWG) recommended approval of an amendment to the Work Program. The BOCC is requested to adopt this amendment.

If approved, the proposed amendments would result in a net zero impact on the adopted Multi-Year Operating Plan (MYOP), which is programmed through FY40. GoTriangle plans to fund the increased costs for Route 800 and Route DRX through schedule efficiency savings on Route 700 and by deferring the planned Route 400 changes from FY30 to FY37. This amendment updates the MYOP to reflect these adjustments.

Although the amendments are cost neutral overall, they create a small change to the FY27 budget summarized below:

1. Route 700 Improvements - decreases FY27 budget by \$219,996
2. Route 800 Improvements - increases FY27 budget by \$109,998

The resulting net decrease to the FY27 Work Program is \$109,998.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Focus Area: Regional Leadership

Resource Persons: Brandi Minor, CLGFO, Transit Program Administrator

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the FY27 Q1 Durham Transit Work Program Amendment.

Attachments: [FY27 Q1 Amendment Memo](#)
[FY27 Q1 Amendment Presentation](#)
[FY27 Q1 Amendment Packet](#)

26-0463 **2025 Durham County Community Health Assessment County-wide Survey Results (45min)**

Agenda Text: The Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH), Partnership for a Healthy Durham, and Duke Health collaborate every three years to design, implement, analyze, and present the survey data from the latest Durham County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The 2025 County-wide survey was conducted between March and June 2025 and reached more than 1200 Durham County residents.

A Community Health Assessment is a process of collecting, analyzing, and sharing information about community assets and needs. Community members and stakeholders gather and supply data to aid in understanding the health issues of the county. The process results in the selection of community health priorities.

Data is vital in giving an accurate picture of Durham County's health and driving decisions to best improve health outcomes for all Durham residents.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Healthy Community.

Resource Persons: Rodney Jenkins, DrPH, MHA, Public Health Director

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the Durham County Department of Public Health presentation on recent health data and health outcomes.

Attachments: [AAF Template for 2025 CHA County-wide survey results](#)
[CHA Data report County-wide 082526 FINAL](#)

26-0466 **Resolution Adopting the Durham Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness Rare and Brief by 2031 (45min)**

Agenda Text: The proposed resolution adopts the Durham 5-Year Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness Rare and Brief by 2031. Developed through a collaborative community-driven process, the Framework establishes a shared aim that by June 30, 2031, homelessness in Durham will be rare and brief for all populations. The resolution authorizes the County Manager and staff to work with our partners to implement evidence-based strategies, coordinate with community partners, and utilize measurable outcomes to evaluate progress.

Background

Durham County has partnered with the City of Durham's Department of Community Safety (DCSD) and community partners to develop a Five-Year Strategic Framework to address the issues related to homelessness in Durham.

Last year, Durham's Continuum of Care (CoC) launched an effort to develop an evidence-informed strategic planning process. The strategic framework that emerged from the process was developed in collaboration with the community, including service providers, healthcare organizations, individuals with current lived experience of homelessness, local government partners, business and philanthropic leaders, among others.

The Strategic Framework is built on five core strategy lanes designed to move the community from managing a crisis to proactive resolution.

1. Set Foundations for an Effective, Resilient System: This pillar focuses on establishing the core infrastructure needed for a high-functioning response.
2. Establish and Maintain Effective Ways of Working: This lane transforms how partners interact on a daily basis to ensure no individual is lost in the system. It prioritizes cross-sector case conferencing, where frontline staff from different agencies meet regularly to solve barriers for specific unhoused neighbors.
3. Influence Enabling System Conditions: This strategy targets the broader environment that makes long-term change possible. Efforts include aligning local and state policies, mobilizing new resources through public-private partnerships, and shifting the public narrative to build sustained community will.
4. Drive Homelessness Reduction Strategies: These are the direct interventions aimed at improving housing outcomes. The primary focus is a "Resources First" approach, which lines up housing units and financial assistance before engagement begins.
5. Ensure Strong Backbone Operations: The Durham Community Safety Department serves as the "Backbone," providing the central coordination and accountability required to drive the five-year strategy.

The Durham Strategic Framework to End Homelessness moves from a reactive model of "managing movement" that displaces people to a proactive focus on housing outcomes. This shift is powered by four interconnected reduction strategies that function as a single engine for resolution.

1. Pre-Lining Up Housing Units: The process

begins with sourcing real offers of housing before outreach teams ever engage with an encampment.

2. Flexible Housing Assistance Fund: Once units are identified, the \$9 million Flexible Housing Fund provides the speed of access to the resources needed to secure them.
3. Expansion of Interim Housing: For neighbors who cannot move immediately into permanent homes, the framework calls on the addition of hundreds of interim housing options.
4. Housing Stabilization Case Management: To ensure that people can remain stably housed and do not reenter homelessness, the city is investing \$1.25 million to scale up dedicated case management.

The Framework outlines a comprehensive, multi-year plan for the City of Durham and Durham County to build a resilient system that prevents homelessness and ensures it is rare and brief. The overarching goal is to achieve a state where homelessness is rare and brief for all populations by June 2031. The framework specifically defines “rare and brief” as a state where no one experiences homelessness for more than 30 days.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This agenda item aligns with two of Durham County’s Strategic Plan Focus Areas - Healthy & Inclusive Community and Safe & Resilient Community.

Resource Persons: Maurice Jones, Deputy County Manager; Ryan Smith, Director
Durham Community Safety Department

County Manager’s Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the presentation on the framework and discuss the recommendations in the report.

Attachments: [Agenda Memo -- County Resolution to Adopt Strategic Framework](#)
[Resolution -- Adopting the Durham Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness:](#)
[Durham Strategic Framework Final \(2\)](#)
[Strategic Framework Companion \(2\)](#)
[Rare and Brief Comprehensive Slidedeck County Overview](#)

4. Closed Session

26-0472

Closed Session

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to adjourn into Closed Session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which

privilege is hereby acknowledged by G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Strategic Goal: High Performing Organization

Resource Persons: Larissa S. Williamson, County Attorney

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board adjourn into Closed Session and provide direction to staff.

5. Adjournment

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

9:00 A.M. Work Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second floor, Durham County Government
Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chair Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair Nida Allam, Commissioners Michelle Burton,
Wendy Jacobs and Stephen Valentine

Presider: Dr. Mike Lee

Zoom Hybrid
Participants: 5

Citizen Comments

The Board of County Commissioners provided a 30-minute comment period to allow Durham County citizens an opportunity to speak. Citizens were given the option to deliver their Citizen Comments in-person, virtually or via email to the Clerk no later than Sunday, September 6th at 12 noon.

The following citizens voiced their concerns regarding Data centers: *Crystal Norford, Leslie St. Drey, Abbigale Johnson and Erica Yberg.*

The following citizens endorsed the Cultural Road Map: *Cara Russo, Tim Walter, Chris Vitello and Evonne Coleman.*

The following citizens endorsed the Violence Reduction Working Group Recommendations: *Tiffany Swoope, Kevin McGiver and Larry Thomas.*

Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the following Consent Agenda items for the September 14, 2026, Regular Session meeting.

26-0428 Approval of Proposed Interlocal Agreement and Joint Use Agreement for the New Emergency Operations Center & Backup 911 Call Center Facility Located at 2422 Broad Street, Durham, NC

The Board asked if the HEART team was a part of the conversations and for a reconciliation of previously approved funds.

Peri Manns, Deputy Director of Engineering stated the HEART team was included in the conversations and he would provide the Board with the requested information,

Commissioner Jacobs provided the following statement for the record:

“Unfortunately I feel that we are stuck in this process. I do not feel in this situation that we are following best practices and it is an additional cost to have a separate backup center costing \$3.7 million just for the space and then ongoing operational cost in a time when we have many things which are on our agenda today that we would really like to invest in. It feels really difficult and frustrating to be allocating funding this way. I want to feel like Durham County is always leading the way and following best practices and right now when it comes to response to behavioral health crisis, we are not. We have many case studies, data and examples from all over the United States and other Counties, and I have participated at the National level in peer learning discussions and visiting other 911 call centers across the country. The best practice is that all 911 calls be coordinated and all mental health crisis behavioral responses be diverted whenever possible from our crisis response system to reduce any person in our communities contact with the justice system. This ties into our discussion about reducing violence in our community. For me there is an urgency around this, I understand its been a long time and I know that we are going to get numbers but I do not know what kind of number we can put on the value of keeping somebody from having contact with our criminal justice system when what they need is mental health support. I just wanted to express my frustration and again the amount of time that it is taking. I really encourage everyone to collaborate on this. The NAACP will be having a forum Wednesday night at the Zafra Temple and unfortunately our Board has a conflict with Durham Tech that night. I appreciate the NAACP for taking the lead on this issue and I just hope that we will move forward in a collaboration. Thank you.”

Directive

- The Board requested a list of all legal concerns/issues.

26-0439 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA010 & Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC017 Reducing the Available Budgets of Six Durham Public School Capital Project Budgets to \$0, Transferring \$48,404.11 to the Debt Service Fund and \$12,517.87 to the County’s Lottery Fund Account (for Future Allocation), and then Closing the Projects in the County Accounting System

The Board asked if the funds were specifically used for capital projects. Keith Lane, Budget Director, stated that lottery funds were only for capital projects for Durham Public Schools.

26-0440 Approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC019 Recognizing a \$15,000 Grant from the Burt’s Bees Foundation to Support Conservation Corps North Carolina’s Ecological Restoration Work on Durham County Open Space

The Board asked to hear more about the program. Celeste Burns, Real Estate Manager Open Space stated this was a workforce and development program that allowed the youth to participate outdoors. She also invited that Board to attend a workday.

26-0446 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA011 appropriating \$1,649,000 of Sewer Utility Fund Fund Balance to Support the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Capital Project (7100SE063); as well as Approve the County Manager to Enter Into A Service Contract Amendment with Hazen and Sawyer for Professional Engineering Services for the TWWTP Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (FR24-715) in the amount of \$1,649,000 Bringing the Total Contract Amount from \$1,053,026 to \$2,702,026 with a not to exceed amount of \$2,912,635

The Board asked if this was for sewer systems that were only in the County, and if they function and run into the same system or were there two different systems. Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of Engineering stated that a portion of Durham City water was treated with the system that was owned and maintained by Durham County.

26-0456 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC020 Appropriating \$212,000.00 of General Fund Fund Balance to the Vehicle Fund Center for Increased Costs Related to a Previously Approved Ambulance Purchase

The Board asked were hybrid ambulances an option. Mark Lockhart, Director of Emergency Services stated that hybrid ambulances were still in the testing phase and not available for purchase.

26-0460 Approve Acquisition of Three Agricultural Conservation Easements: Matthew & Brittany Eagle for 64.5 acres, Penny Family for 201 acres, and William H. Sparrow, Sr. for 47 acres

The Board expressed thanks to the families, property owners and staff.

26-0465 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA013 Appropriating \$700K of North Carolina Public School Building Repair Fund Funding to Support Five New Durham Public School Capital Projects

The Board asked if the schools receive funds every year or was it sporadic. Keith Lane, Budget Director stated that the schools receive funds annually.

Directive

- The Board requested an update from Durham Public Schools concerning HVAC repairs.
- The Board requested an update on the Double Bucks Program.

26-0471 Budget Amendment Ordinance No. 27BCC025 Cooperative Extension to Recognize \$35,000 from the City of Durham to Increase Access to Food and Nutritional Support and Approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Durham County and the City of Durham

The Board thanked the Durham City Council for their contribution.

Directive

- The Board requested an update on the Double Bucks Program.

There were no questions regarding the items below:

26-0384 Approval of FY 2026-2027 Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant Funding Resolution, Funding Two Deputies with 75% County Funding and 25% Federal, as well as Reduce Sheriff's Office Authorized FTE Count by One Position

26-0426 Approval to Enter into a Contract with Hayti Reborn - Justice Movement in the Amount of \$330,000

26-0438 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No.27BCC018 Increasing Both the Expenditures and Revenues of the Shoppes of Hope Valley Fund Center by \$365,000 to Align

the County Budget with Recent Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Requirements; there will be a Net Zero Change to the FY 2026-27 Budget

26-0449 Sole Source Exemption Approval for Utilities Division Purchase of 75 HP Nord Motor and Spare Parts from Veolia Water Technologies, Inc. (dba Kruger)

26-0450 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC022 to recognize \$171,408 in Grant Funding and Approval of Interlocal Agreement for the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

26-0451 Approval of Raftelis Contract Amendment for Financial Planning, Rate Study, and Support Services for the Durham County Utilities Division in the Amount of \$44,793.75 Bringing the Total Amount to \$99,793.75 with a Not to Exceed Amount of \$110,000

26-0452 Authorize Award of contract for Easement Maintenance Services (RFP 26-034) for Durham County Utilities to Stormwater Operations Specialists, LLC, in the amount of \$300,000.00 and to execute any related contract amendments not to exceed \$325,000.00

26-0454 Budget Ordinance Amendment 27BCC021 Appropriating \$25,000 of Eno Fire Tax District Fund Balance and Increasing the Distribution to Eno Fire and Emergency Services, Inc. for the Purchase of a new Multipurpose Response and Utility Vehicle

26-0457 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 27BCC024 Public Health to Recognize \$300,000 from Carolina Complete Health's Community Reinvestment funding for Durham County's Health Consortium: Project Access Durham County

26-0459 Capital Project Amendment No.27CPA014 Appropriating \$48,919,120 of Funding to Support the New Durham County Emergency Operations Center Capital Project (4730DC158); and Authorizing the Execution of the Construction Manager At-Risk Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Bordeaux Construction for the Construction of the Emergency Operations Center at a Total Amount Not-To-Exceed \$45,422,037 (Base Contingency)

26-0467 Approval of One Peer Support Specialist FTE for the Justice Services Department

26-0470 Sole Source Exemption Approval for Utilities Division Purchase of Lamps, Sleeves, Ballasts, and Seals from Trojan Technologies

Discussion Items

Review and Adopt the 2026 Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan

The Board received the 2026 Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan from the Farmland Protection Advisory Board.

Mark Waller Farmland Protection Advisory Board Chair, reviewed the revised plan that established the framework to enhance, promote, and preserve agriculture in Durham. Mr. Waller stated that Agriculture contributed significantly to Durham's green spaces and rural character and served as a foundation for natural resource conservation and food security.

Mr. Waller expressed with ongoing loss of farmland to development and increased public interest in local foods, the updated plan was both timely and essential. Originally adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on December 14, 2009, the Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Plan guided substantial progress over the past decade. The 2026 revision recognized accomplishments and provided clear, forward-looking recommendations that supported the future of agriculture in Durham County.

The Board asked how Durham County could take a more strategic approach to conservation and whether there were additional ordinances, policies, or other actions the Board should consider. Celeste Burns, Real Estate Manager Open Space stated that Durham County was opportunistic on the conservation easement and if the landowner was interested in permanently protecting their land Durham County did everything to make that happen. Sherry Scully, Development Coordinator Durham Soil and Water, stated that the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was working on updating their ordinances.

Directive

- The Board requested a food desert heat map.

Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways

The Board received a presentation from Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Director on Workforce Development Partnerships to Promote Career Pathways.

Mr. Miracle stated that Durham County, and the Triangle, were home to many excellent career pathways that offered opportunities for promotion, salary, and benefits. When combining Durham and Raleigh Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), there were over 1.14 million jobs within those 7 counties (Durham's MSA included Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Person. while Raleigh's MSA included Wake, Johnston, and Franklin). Many of those jobs were part of the Life Sciences, Tech, Healthcare, Financial, Public Sector, and Manufacturing industries that offered career pathways.

The presentation focused on Durham County's supported efforts with Made in Durham, Durham Public Schools, Durham Technical Community College and Novo Nordisk to promote career pathways in BioPharma Manufacturing, Skilled Trades, and Nursing (LPN/RN).

The Board inquired about some of the obstacles were preventing people from completing programs. Mr. Miracle stated that obstacles included housing, childcare, transportation and awareness.

The Board asked how we could get youth information shared in Middle School. Darian Harris, Director, Durham Public Schools Career and Technical Education stated that students received the information in the 8th grade; adding in the 10th grade there was focused conversation with students looking towards the future and how to start creating a career goal.

The Board asked how they could get other companies on board with the program. Nicole Niwa, Alliance Development and Social Responsibility Principal, Novo Nordisk stated more emphasis could be provided on continuing education as the industries evolved.

The Board asked for suggestions on how to get the City of Durham involved with the program. Mr. Miracle stated that he would continue to have conversations with the Director of Workforce Development at the City of Durham.

Directive

- The Board requested to bring home daycares into the conversation for childcare needs.
- The Board requested a bring your “parent to work/school day” to the program.

Violence Reduction Working Group Recommendations

The Board received a presentation from Krystal Harris, MSW, Community Intervention & Support Services Director on the recommendations from the Durham Violence Reduction Working Group and to adopt a resolution that endorsed and supported the recommendations of the Durham Violence Reduction Working Group.

Ms. Harris shared that the working group’s mission was to save lives in Durham by reducing homicides, nonfatal shootings, and hospitalizations resulting from shootings by 10% each year. She explained that the working group’s core values were to be community-engaged, partnership-based, trauma-informed, evidence-informed, and data-driven. The working group’s vision was to engage individuals whose lives were most at risk by helping to keep them alive, safe, and free, while investing in the places where lives were most likely to be lost.

Ms. Harris provided details on the five strategies unanimously agreed upon by the working group that focused on Support and Accountability, Strengthen Street Outreach, Pilot Neighborhood Partnerships, Embed Trauma-Informed Behavior Change, and Convene a Youth Summit.

The Board inquired about who established the environment and conditions that enabled this effort. Ms. Harris stated that the effort was established by a coalition of community stakeholders, including religious leaders, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, law enforcement, and community members.

The Board asked whether they were envisioning a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that everyone would sign to establish accountability. Ms. Harris stated that they envisioned everyone coming together, not only through the MOA, but also by meeting regularly and participating in joint trainings.

The Board questioned what would happen if parties did not comply. Ms. Harris stated that the focus on deterrence was very clear, as was the emphasis on accountability, which included prosecution where appropriate.

The Board asked what the next steps were and what was needed by the Board. Ms. Harris stated that the next step was for the Board to determine whether it wanted to move forward with the five recommended steps or make adjustments to the recommendations.

The Board agreed to review the document and provide additional questions to staff before final approval.

Update Presentation on the Cultural Roadmap Plan

The Board received the final report from the consulting team and staff on the Cultural Roadmap Plan.

Margaret McNab, Chair of the Durham Cultural Advisory Board, discussed key elements of the Durham Cultural Roadmap. Her presentation covered the roadmap's vision and purpose, community engagement, the current state of Durham's cultural sector and its challenges, and the economic and social impacts of arts and culture. She also highlighted structural gaps, strategic pillars, comparative analysis, the implementation timeline, and proposed investments, including recommended grant programs and budgets.

Margie Reese of MJR Partners discussed the ten core recommendations, implementation priorities, partner and governance structure, and the anticipated impact and rationale behind the recommendations.

The Board asked whether they viewed the Cultural Roadmap as a unified effort between the City and County. Ms. Reese stated that they did view it as a unified effort between the two bodies and emphasized that it was also intended to be a community conversation.

The Board expressed its support for the recommendations and enthusiasm about moving forward.

Approval of the FY27 Q1 Durham Transit Work Program Amendment

Item was moved to September 14th, 2026, Regular Session Meeting.

2025 Durham County Community Health Assessment County-wide Survey Results

Item was moved to September 14th, 2026, Regular Session Meeting.

Resolution Adopting the Durham Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness Rare and Brief by 2031

Ryan Smith, Director of Durham Community Safety, presented a proposed resolution to the Board adopting the Durham 5-Year Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness Rare and Brief by 2031. Developed through a collaborative, community-driven process, the Framework established a shared goal that, by June 30, 2031, homelessness in Durham would be rare and brief for all populations. The resolution authorized the County Manager and staff to work with community partners to implement evidence-based strategies, coordinate services and resources, and use measurable outcomes to evaluate progress toward the Framework's goals.

The Board asked whether other churches, in addition to Union Baptist, were involved in the plan. Mr. Smith stated that Asbury Church, Trinity, and others within the faith community were also involved.

The Board inquired about whether any affordable housing units owned by the City and County of Durham were being utilized as part of the plan. Mr. Smith stated that staff were working with specific departments to identify and establish units for inclusion in the plan.

The Board asked how the Durham County Homelessness Coordinator fit into the plan. Mr. Smith stated that the Durham County Homelessness Coordinator participated in the meetings would help identify early signals that lead to homelessness.

The Board asked whether the free bus tickets provided to individuals to travel and live with family members were verified. Mr. Smith stated that the arrangements were verified by speaking directly with the family member and documenting the family member's address.

Closed Session

Item was moved to September 14th, 2026, Regular Session Meeting at 5:30 PM.

Adjournment

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to adjourn the Work Session meeting at 4:37 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Georgina Nicole Moreno
Administrative Assistant