



Durham County

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

Meeting Agenda Board of County Commissioners

Monday, September 23, 2024

7:00 PM

Commissioners' Chambers

Regular Session

"Public Charge"

The Board of Commissioners asks its members and citizens to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous manner, both with the Board and fellow citizens. At any time, should any member of the Board or any citizen 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.

7:00 pm Regular Session

1. Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance (5 min)
2. Agenda Adjustments (5 min)
3. Announcements (5 min)

[24-0606](#)

Announcements (5min)

Agenda Text:

1. Register for Durham MED Week - Minority and women-owned business

owners are encouraged to register to participate in Durham's 2024 Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week. The City of Durham and Durham County governments, in partnership with multiple community, state, and local businesses, will observe "Solidifying Your Next - Durham MED Week 2024" - from October 14-17. Participants can attend a HUB Certification Day event, a Business Fair, and a Luncheon and Keynote Address at the Durham Convention Center with The Kars Group Chief Change Officer and President Keisha Rivers. Registration deadline is October 3. Register here:

[<<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/solidifying-your-next-durham-med-week-2024-tickets-965280629347?>>](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/solidifying-your-next-durham-med-week-2024-tickets-965280629347?>>)

- 2. Duke Forest Deer Herd Reduction Program Starts Sept. 23** - The Office of the Duke Forest announces that the 2024 Deer Herd Reduction Program begins on Monday, September 23 and ends on Friday, December 13. During this time, the Durham, Korstian, and Blackwood Divisions will be closed to the public and for all recreation Monday through Friday. Saturdays and Sundays are open for normal use. Learn more about this program, and read a frequently asked questions here -

[<<https://dukeforest.duke.edu/management/deer-management/?>>](https://dukeforest.duke.edu/management/deer-management/?>>).

- 3. Extension Master Food Volunteer** - Are you passionate about food, community service, and making a meaningful connection to other residents? The Durham County Cooperative Extension has a new and exciting opportunity for residents, the Extension Master Food Volunteer (EMFV) Program! To apply for the program, interested individuals are required to attend an information session to learn more about the program, meet Extension staff, and get their questions answered. The session will cover an overview of the program, volunteer expectations, and how to apply. A limited number of applicants will be accepted to the EMFV program, which will begin in January 2025. Zoom information session dates and registration information are: Friday, Sept. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Register here - [<<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-info-session-extension-master-food-volunteer-program-tickets-1010798083277?>>](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-info-session-extension-master-food-volunteer-program-tickets-1010798083277?>>); and Wednesday, Oct. 30, 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Register here - [<<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-info-session-extension-master-food-volunteer-program-tickets-1016566576997?>>](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-info-session-extension-master-food-volunteer-program-tickets-1016566576997?>>).

- 4. New UDO Engagement Opportunities for Residents** - EngageDurham invites residents to attend one of its five engagement events for the draft rules for the new Durham Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). Each session will include a presentation on proposed new zoning districts and zoning map, as well as time for discussion and input. Snacks, children's activities, and Spanish language materials and interpretation will be provided. Dates, times,

and locations are as follows: Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 5:30 p.m. at East Regional Library; Saturday, Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. at South Regional Library; Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. virtually - register at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SnipZmTvRzK9MpigNhBUWg#/registration <<https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SnipZmTvRzK9MpigNhBUWg>>; Saturday, Nov. 9 at 10:30 a.m. at North Regional Library; and Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Main Library. More information at <<<https://engagedurham.com/newudo>>>.

5. **Sock-Tember with Welcome Baby** - What's cuter than kids socks? Kids in socks! Welcome Baby is hosting a month-long drive collecting socks to share with families through our Giving Closet. New and gently used socks size NB-9 children's. Donation may be dropped off throughout the month. Feel free to ring the doorbell so we can snap a picture for our "SOCK-HOP" scrapbook. Donations accepted 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday at 721 Foster Street. Please call 919-560-7319 or email ckriley@dconc.gov <<<mailto:ckriley@dconc.gov>>> should you need to make alternate arrangements for your donations.
6. **DCo Board of Elections App** - The Durham County Board of Elections has launched a new mobile application - DCo Votes - designed to help residents stay informed and be prepared for upcoming elections, including the Statewide General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. This free, easy-to-use app offers instant access to important information, including election dates, sample ballots, personalized voter details, and more! The mobile app is available for download via the App Store for Apple Devices or in the Google Play Store for Android devices.
7. **PreventT2 Lifestyle Change Program** - The Durham County Department of Public Health will begin classes in October for the year-long PreventT2 Lifestyle Change Program. This is part of the CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program and aims to help you make lasting changes to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes that is facilitated by a trained lifestyle coach. For more information, call 919-560-7995 or email mrtores@dconc.gov <<<mailto:mrtores@dconc.gov>>>.
8. **National Night Out** - The Durham County Sheriff's Office invites the community and all neighborhoods to participate in "National Night Out". This year's annual law enforcement/community partnership event will take place on Tuesday, October 3rd. Event will be scheduled throughout Durham County and more information can be found at www.durhamsheriff.com <<<http://www.durhamsheriff.com>>>.

4. Minutes (5 min)**24-0607****Minutes (5min)****Agenda Text:**

The Board is requested to approve the September 3, 2024, Work Session minutes and the September 9, 2024, Regular Session minutes.

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

Resource Persons: Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the September 3, 2024, Work Session minutes and the September 9, 2024, Regular Session minutes.

Attachments:

[Work Session - September 3, 2024](#)

[Regular Session - September 9, 2024](#)

5. Ceremonial Items (30 min)**24-0591****Proclamation - Minority Enterprise Development Week (10min)****Agenda Text:**

The Board is requested to proclaim October 14 - 17, 2024 as Minority Enterprise Development Week in Durham County.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with the Durham County Strategic Goal: Empowered Community

Resource Persons: Shannon Trapp, Chief of Staff

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board proclaim October 14 - 17, 2024 a Minority Enterprise Development Week.

Attachments:

[Proclamation - MED Week Proclamation - 23Sept24](#)

24-0592**Proclamation - 3rd Annual North Carolina Black Alliance Rooted in Wellness Day (10min)****Agenda Text:**

The Board is requested to proclaim September 28th as Rooted in Wellness Day.

North Carolina Black Alliance believes every American should have access to healthcare in time of injury and illness. Rooted in Wellness Day is a statewide wellness event dedicated to providing local resources to support community well-being and agency to communities not reached by the traditional healthcare system. Rooted in Wellness Day reminds us that it is in our communities where so many of us find our roots of support and is the core of progress to lead healthier lives for our mind, body and soul.

Alignment With Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Strategic Goal: Empowered Community and Healthy and Inclusive Community.

Resource Persons: Karida Giddings, Access to Healthcare Coordinator, NC Black Alliance

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board proclaim September 28th as Rooted in Wellness Day.

Attachments: [Proclamation - Rooted in Wellness Day - Sept 2024](#)

24-0615

Resolution - Honoring the Service and Leadership of Governor Roy Cooper (10min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to approve a resolution honoring the service and leadership of Governor Roy Cooper. The resolution was presented to Governor Cooper at an event held on Friday, September 20, 2024.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with all of Durham County's Strategic Goals

Resource Persons: Board of County Commissioners

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve a resolution honoring the service and leadership of Governor Roy Cooper.

Attachments: [Resolution - Governor Roy Cooper - 20Sept24](#)

6. Consent Agenda (15 min)

24-0590

Renewal of Existing Lease Between Cato of North Carolina, LLC and Durham County at the Shoppes of Hope Valley, Suite 129 for an annual amount of \$51,480.00

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to approve and authorize execution of a Lease Renewal with Cato of North Carolina, LLC at the Shoppes at Hope Valley located at 3825 South Roxboro Street, Suite 129, for the period February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2027, in accordance with the terms and conditions as set forth in the Lease Agreement and Lease Renewal attached to this agenda item.

This renewal will continue Cato's tenancy under the terms of the original lease as previously executed by the County's predecessor-in-interest in the Shoppes at Hope Valley for a period of two years. This Tenant is seeking approval of this renewal early so that they may confidently purchase store inventory for the renewal period.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: The attached Lease Renewal supports Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment Plan for long-term use of County land, facilities, and equipment.

Resource Persons: Nancy Mitchell, Senior Real Estate Officer; Peri Manns,

Deputy Director Engineering and Environmental Services; Jay Gibson, Director, Engineering and Environmental Services.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve and authorize execution of a Lease Renewal with Cato of North Carolina, LLC at the Shoppes at Hope Valley located at 3825 South Roxboro Street, Suite 129, for the period February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2027.

Attachments: [#579 - Amendment PE 090524](#)

24-0595

Approval of Property Tax Releases and Refund for August 2024

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the Releases & Refunds for August 2024, which includes adjustments to the current year's levy as well as prior years' levies. Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings, and clerical errors, etc. the attached reports detail partial month releases and refunds for August 2024.

This month's report includes releases and refunds for tax year 2024 totaling \$ 196,915.54. Prior tax years' (2015-2023) releases and refunds are in the amount of \$ 69,404.03. August 2024, releases and refunds total \$ 266,319.57.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Financial Stewardship. This request is to ensure the county complies with financial requirement mandated by North Carolina General Statutes which ensures we are accountable to our citizens.

Resource Persons: Keyar Doyle, Tax Administrator

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the property tax release and refund report for July 31 through August 30, 2024, as presented and authorize the Tax Assessor to adjust the tax records as outlined by the report.

Attachments: [Releases and Refunds Backup Detail-Aug 2024-Sept 23, 2024](#)
[Backup-Bill Release Report Aug 2024-Sept 23, 2024](#)
[Backup-Pending Refund Report Aug 2024-Sept 9, 2024](#)
[NCVTS July Refunds](#)

24-0602

Appointment of Deputy County Manager Claudia Hager as Acting County Manager (5min)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to formally appoint Deputy County Manager Claudia Hager to serve as Acting County Manager until Dr. Sowell's return from leave.

Dr. Sowell commenced a period of leave on the evening of September 9, 2024, and the Board decided to appoint Deputy County Manager to serve as Acting County Manager that evening. This action needs to be confirmed in an open meeting.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: High Performing Organization

Resource Persons: Curtis Massey, Interim County Attorney

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board formally appoint Deputy County Manager Claudia Hager to serve as Acting County Manager until Dr. Sowell's return from leave.

24-0604

Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Durham to Use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to Support Efforts to Improve Digital Equity totaling \$750,000.

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Durham to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support the City's digital equity program. Under ARPA program requirements, Durham County is permitted to utilize ARPA funding to support programs that are aimed at responding to and mitigating the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including programs to provide internet access to qualifying households and individuals, and to promote digital literacy more broadly as part of a community's response to the economic impacts of the pandemic. Substantial evidence has shown that barriers to accessing and skillfully utilizing digital resources exacerbate economic challenges for affected individuals and households, creating obstacles for these groups to access employment opportunities, educational services, income supports, and health services that are available in their communities. Both the City and County have identified closing this digital divide within the County as a priority strategy to promote economic opportunities for historically underserved and vulnerable communities, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proposed Interlocal Agreement would subgrant \$750,000 of the County's total ARPA allocation to the City to support the City's Digital Inclusion Program. Funding will be utilized by the City to support the development and expansion of the City's Digital Inclusion team, provide outdoor high-speed internet access at Durham Parks and Recreation sites, develop a distribution program to connect eligible households to internet-enabled devices, improve digital literacy and resilience of seniors in communal living facilities, and to provide workforce exposure and training opportunities for youth in Durham County.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Goal 1, Regional Leadership - Objective 1 (Connect Durham residents to good jobs and economic opportunities); Goal 3, Empowered Community (Offer and encourage access to tools, services, support groups, and educational opportunities for diverse communities).

Resource Persons: Claudia Hager, Deputy County Manager; John Keefer, County Grants Administrator.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Durham, and to authorize the County Manager to develop and execute all documents required to

enter into the Interlocal Agreement and issue a subgrant to the City of Durham.

Attachments: [ILA with City of Durham and Durham County for Digital Equity.Final](#)

24-0605

Approval of Annual Settlement of 2023 Property Taxes and Charge of 2024 Property Taxes to the Tax Collector

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to approve the 2023 Tax Settlement and Charge the Tax Collector with the 2024 taxes.

As required by G.S. 105-373, the Tax Administrator is herewith submitting the settlement report of 2023 property taxes. The annual settlement provides in detail the collection for the County, all fire and special districts and the City of Durham, BID, City of Raleigh, Towns of Chapel Hill, Morrisville and Cary during Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

G.S. 105-373 (h) further authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to relieve the Tax Collector of the charges of taxes on classified motor vehicles that are one year or more past due.

Additionally, the General Statutes bar use of any remedies for collection enforcement that is not instituted within 10 years of said taxes becoming due.

Furthermore, pursuant to G.S. 105-321 (b), the Board of County Commissioners charges the Tax Collector with the 2024 Property Tax Receipts.

The Tax Administrator requests authorization to relieve charges of taxes that are beyond the statute of limitations of 10 years and those vehicles that are more than two (2) years past due.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Financial Stewardship. This request is to ensure the county complies with financial requirement mandated by North Carolina General Statutes which ensures we are accountable to our citizens.

Resource Persons: Keyar J. Doyle, Tax Administrator

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board receive and approve the 2023 Property Tax Settlement Report and authorize the Chair to sign the resolution accepting it as reported for entry into the minutes and to authorize the release of taxes that are more than 10 years past due and motor vehicles taxes that are more than 2 years past due. The County Manager further recommends the Board to issue the Order to Collect to the Tax Collector for Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 Resolution Approving Tax Collector's Settlement 2023-2024](#)
[Exhibit 2 Settlement for FY 23-24 Tax Accounts](#)
[Exhibit 3 Settlement of Unpaid Taxes FY23-24](#)
[Exhibit 4 Tax Collector's Report of Minimal Property Tax Bills\(23-24\)](#)
[Exhibit 5 Accounts Receivable \(23-24\)](#)
[Exhibit 6 FY 23-24 TR-401 Summary Net Collections Report \(All Rpt. Grp.\)](#)
[Exhibit 6 FY 23-24 Detail Tax Collector's Rpt\(Unpaid Tax Rpt\)](#)
[Exhibit 7 2024 Order of Collection \(Charge of Tax Collection\)](#)

7. Other Business (10 min)

24-0609 **Discussion and Approval of 2025 Federal Legislative Goals for NCACC (10min)**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to discuss and vote on any proposed Federal Legislative Goals and forward them to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for inclusion in its legislative process.

Every biennium, the NCACC solicits input and proposals from our counties concerning federal issues that impact North Carolina counties. To help ensure deliberation on federal goals, the process is designed to provide opportunities for input and discussion from counties on proposed federal goals.

Goal proposals should include contact information, goal language and background. Background information should address the need for the proposal and provide historical context if available or any other relevant information.

The NCACC Board of Directors will meet in October to review and approve a package of federal goals. The package of federal goals approved by the Board of Directors will go before the voting body at the Legislative Goals Conference in Raleigh to be held Nov. 14-15.

Typically, discussion items are presented at the Board's work session, but the deadline to submit goals is Oct 4 which falls before the next work session. Staff will receive from the Board any potential federal items that members want to submit and will forward approved items and any background information to NCACC by the deadline.

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

Resource Persons: Deborah Craig-Ray, Chief Communications Officer

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board discuss and vote on potential Federal Legislative Goals and instruct staff to

submit to NCACC by the October 4, 2024, deadline.

8. Board and Commission Appointments (10 min)

24-0586

Board and Commission Appointments (10min)

Agenda Text:

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board, will distribute ballots to the Board to make appointments to the following boards:

- Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee
- Audit Oversight Committee
- Durham County Women's Commission
- Durham Workforce Development Board
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Homeless Services Advisory Committee

The Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to have a representative sample of the citizens of Durham County serve on boards, commissions, committees, and authorities. No citizen may serve more than four consecutive terms for 2-year term boards; three consecutive terms for 3-year term boards; two consecutive terms for 4-year term boards; and one consecutive term for 5 and 6-year term boards in any one position, unless otherwise stated by statute; or there are no other applicants who meet the eligibility requirements. The Equalization and Review Board shall be exempt from these term limits.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Goal 5: Accountable, Efficient and Visionary Government.

Resource Persons: Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners vote to appoint members to the aforementioned Boards and Commissions.

Attachments:

[B&C Appt Memo - 9.23.2024](#)

9. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda (20 min)

10. Adjournment