# THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Monday, November 12, 2024

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

## **MINUTES**

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative

Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Chair Nida Allam, Vice Chair Nimasheena Burns and Commissioners Heidi Carter and

Wendy Jacobs

Excused Absence: Commissioner Brenda Howerton

Presider: Chair Nida Allam

Zoom Hybrid Participants: 36

# **Regular Session – 7:00 PM**

# **Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Other Business**

# 24-0710 Swearing in of the New County Manager - Claudia O. Hager

Shameika Rhinehart, Superior Court Judge swore in Claudia O. Hager, Durham County Manager.

The Board congratulated County Manager Hager and stated she provided financial leadership, knowledge, compassion, commitment and dedication to the Board and employees and had over two decades of experience.

County Manager Hager thanked the Board for appointing her to the position. She looked forward to continuing to work with the Board and County employees. County Manager Hager thanked her parents for being role models and community leaders. She also thanked her family and friends for their support.

# **Agenda Adjustments**

Chair Allam announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

#### **Announcements**

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

- 1. **Open Space Match Grant Program Deadline is Wednesday!** If you have a great idea for an open space or recreation project in Durham County, this could be the perfect grant opportunity for you! But hurry, the deadline to apply for the Durham County Open Space Matching Grant Program is Wednesday, November 13 at 5 p.m. Information and application instructions are available at <a href="www.dconc.gov/matchinggrants">www.dconc.gov/matchinggrants</a>. For questions, you can email Open Space Coordinator Brendan Moore at bmoore@dconc.gov.
- 2. **Electronics Recycling Event at RTP on Nov. 14** It's that time of year again. Join the Research Triangle Park and Kramden by bringing your used or broken electronics for a meaningful cause at its annual RTP Electronics Recycling Day on Thursday, November 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location is 300 Park Offices Drive. For the donation form, which is required, visit

  https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMkKo7kP6aBiWMwoVAT6xsWcU8dThiNgawt
  - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMkKo7kP6qBjWMwoVAT6xsWcU8dThjNqawt z0pk1nTIcmWtg/viewform. Form also has what is being accepted.
- 3. MHC Community Walk on Nov. 16 The Men's Health Council (MHC) of the Durham County Department of Public Health will hold its monthly Community Walk at Merrick-Moore Park (632 N. Hoover Road) at 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 16. Each walk features conversation, a local health expert talk, exercise, and fun for all ages! This walk will be followed by a cooking demonstration and tasting with Jasmine Burroughs of Food That Fits You, Inc. For more information, contact Joyce Page at <a href="mailto:jpage@dconc.gov">jpage@dconc.gov</a> or 919-560-7109.
- 4. **2025 Reappraisal Awareness Session** The Durham County Department of Tax Administration will be conducting a Community Outreach 2025 Reappraisal Awareness session for residents to learn more about the reappraisal process and ask questions to staff on Monday, Nov. 18, from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. at Main Library, 300 N. Roxboro Street. For questions about the Reappraisal process, visit <a href="https://www.dconc.gov/tax">www.dconc.gov/tax</a> or call 919-560-0300.
- 5. Welcome Baby's Annual Winter Coat Drive Welcome Baby is kicking off its 12th annual Coat Drive, which will run from Monday, November 18, 2024, to Friday, January 10, 2025. Each year, as the air turns chilly, Welcome Baby collect coats sizes newborn to 8 and share with local families visiting the Giving Closet. They had a record year of collection and distribution last year, with over 1,000 coats! Donations can be left at Durham County library locations at Main Library and East, North, South, and Southwest Regional locations. You can also drop off at 721 Foster Street at the Welcome Baby office on Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Cindy at 919-560-7319 or ckriley@dconc.gov to host your own drop-off site!
- 6. **Sheriff's "Star Talk" Podcast** The Durham County Sheriff's Office has a new "Star Talk" podcast available for listening! In Episode 11, Durham County Sheriff's Office Public Relations and Communications Manager David Bowser and Senior Public Information Specialist AnnMarie Breen talk about the Public Information Office, upcoming fall events, and provide information on an uptick in recent phone scams impacting Durham residents. Listen here: <a href="https://dcsostartalk.podbean.com/e/episode-11-public-information-special-events/">https://dcsostartalk.podbean.com/e/episode-11-public-information-special-events/</a>.
- 7. **COVID-19 Vaccines Available at DCoDPH** Come to the Durham Count Department of Public Health vaccine clinic at 414 E. Main Street to get the latest COVID-19 vaccination. Walk-

ins and appointments are available for all people 6 months or older, with or without insurance. Call 919-560-7608 to schedule. Visit www.DCoPublicHealth.org/COVIDvaccines to learn more.

# **Minutes**

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve the October 28, 2024 Regular Session Minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Cater to grant Commissioner Howerton an excused absence for the November 12, 2024 Regular Session meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Ceremonial Items**

# 24-0642 Department of Public Health Receives the Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Department of the Year Award from North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA)

Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director thanked the Board for recognizing the Public Health Department for receiving the Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Department of the Year Award. He thanked the Public Health Department for being the best department in North Carolina.

Chair Allam presented Mr. Jenkins and the Public Health Department with the award.

The Board congratulated Mr. Jenkins and the Public Health Department for their dedication to the residents in Durham County.

# **24-0703** Recognize the Durham City-County Planning Department for the Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award for the Comprehensive Plan

Grace Smith, Assistant Planning Director shared an overview of the Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award. She thanked the Board for acknowledging the City-County Planning Department award.

Commissioner Allam presented Ms. Smith with the award.

The Board thanked Sara Young, City-County Planning Department Director, Ms. Smith and the City-County Planning Department for their hard work and achievement.

#### 24-0700 Proclamation – National Adoption Awareness Month

Commissioner Jacobs read the following proclamation:

#### NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH | 2024

- **WHEREAS,** the County of Durham recognizes the importance of giving permanent, safe and loving families in support of children through adoption; and
- **WHEREAS,** every child deserves the opportunity to grow up in a loving, stable home and adoption is one way to build a family; and
- **WHEREAS,** caring adults can make all the difference in the lives of young people, sibling groups, children with special needs, and teenagers; and
- **WHEREAS,** 201 children in Durham County are in foster care and of that total number 15 children are legally able to be adopted and waiting for permanent families; and
- **WHEREAS,** since November 2023 Durham County has successfully matched families for children waiting to result in a total of 51 finalized adoptions, including 8 sibling groups and 3 older youth; and
- **WHEREAS,** this effort along with similar celebrations in all 50 states around the country will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of November 2024 as

#### "NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH"

in Durham County. We commend this observance to our citizens and urge all citizens to join in raising awareness on behalf of the 15 children in Durham County who are waiting for a loving family. We further encourage communities, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations and families to "answer the call" and honor the special needs of Durham County's children in hopes of securing permanent family connections regardless of race, age, gender, healthy, emotional or behavioral condition and past distress.

This the 12th day of November 2024

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Maggie Clapp, Department of Social Services (DSS) Director thanked the Board for recognizing National Adoption Awareness Month. She stated the DSS goal was to keep families together as well as getting children into loving foster and adoptive homes. Susan Lee, DSS Program Director stated the department completed 51 adoptions over the last year and 23 were kinship adoptions.

The Board thanked Ms. Clapp and DSS for finding families for children in the Durham community and continuing to raise awareness of the need for foster and adoptive parents.

#### 24-0708 Proclamation – Native American Heritage Month 2024

Chair Allam, Vice Chair Burns and Commissioner Carter read the following proclamation:

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH | 2024

- WHEREAS, Native American Heritage Month honors and celebrates the important history and heritage of tribal communities across the state who have lived in the geographic area of North Carolina for more than 12,000 years; and
- **WHEREAS,** today, there are more than 130,000 North Carolinians who identify as Native American in North Caolina, according to the 2020 U.S. Census; and
- WHEREAS, Durham County, North Carolina acknowledges its presence on the ancestral lands of the Eno, Tuscarora, Lumbee, Occaneechi, Cheraw, Shakori, Saponi, and Catawba tribes, whose rich history and continued contributions have greatly shaped the cultural, historical, and environmental landscape of our community; and
- WHEREAS, the Native American people of the Eno, Tuscarora, Lumbee, Occaneechi, Cheraw, Shakori, Saponi, and Catawba tribes have inhabited this region for time immemorial, maintaining a profound connection with the land, waterways, life force, and environment that sustain our community; and
- **WHEREAS,** prior to colonization, Native Americans lived and flourished in what is known as the Americas for time immemorial; and
- **WHEREAS**, the European colonization of North America led to the suppression, forced assimilation, and genocide of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures; and
- **WHEREAS,** Native Americans of this region have experienced historical and present-day injustices and dispossession of their ancestral lands, leading to adverse social, cultural, economic, and health impacts on their communities; and
- WHEREAS, Durham County recognizes the vital role the Eno, Tuscarora, Lumbee, Occaneechi, Cheraw, Shakori, Saponi, and Catawba tribes play in promoting understanding, respect, and preservation of Indigenous heritage, language, traditions, and customs, which continue to enrich our community's diverse cultural fabric; and
- WHEREAS, the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, the North Carolina American Indian Heritage Commission, the North Carolina Museum of History, and North Carolina's Native American Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations collaborate to develop Native American Heritage Month celebrations each year, increasing awareness of Native American history and current issues; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Durham County Board of County Commissioners is committed to fostering inclusive and equitable policies and practices that respect and celebrate the heritage, culture, and contributions of Native Americans; and
- **WHEREAS,** the State of North Carolina and the Durham County Board of County Commissioners encourages all residents to learn more about the rich history of Native Americans in our state and commit to preserving Native American heritage and traditions for generations to come.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2024 as

#### "NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

in Durham County and call upon all citizens to observe, remember, honor, and respect the histories, experiences, and achievements of Native Americans.

This the 12th day of November 2024.

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Dr. Brent Lewis, Director of Equitable Well-being thanked the Board for recognizing Native American Heritage Month. He stated the Equitable Well-being department would provide information to staff and residents about activities planned in Durham County and the surrounding areas.

The Board thanked Dr. Lewis and the Equitable Well-being department for celebrating different cultures and backgrounds in the Durham community.

# **Consent Agenda**

Chair Allam stated Items 24-0637, 24-0645, 24-0649, 24-0654, 24-0655, 24-0656 and 24-0682 were requested to be pulled by citizens who signed up to speak on the items.

Chair Allam asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda. Hearing no additional comments, Chair Allam entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda except stated Items 24-0637, 24-0645, 24-0654, 24-0655, 24-0656 and 24-0682.

The motion carried unanimously.

24-0644 Approval to Enter into a Contract with NWN for \$313,288.87 to Renew Support for Cisco Network and Security Equipment

24-0652 Approve Renewal of the Hollow Rock Nature Park Interlocal Agreement and Management Plan

\*24-0657 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC037 Public Health to Recognize \$1,000 from the North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA) for winning the Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Large Health Department of the Year for 2024 Award

\*24-0661 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA017 to Support the Snow Hill Road Pump Station and Force Main Replacement Capital Project (47302635DC149), as well as Execution of the

Design-Builder "Guaranteed Maximum Price #4.3" Contract in the amount of \$6,659,581.

24-0668 Approval of Contract Award to Kimley-Horn Associates, Inc. for Engineering Design Services of Lift Station Flow Meters for the Utilities Division in the Amount of \$107,700.00 with a Not to Exceed Amount of \$124,000.00

24-0669 Approval of Contract Award to Rummel, Klepper, & Kahl, LLP (RK&K) for Engineering Services for Wexford Sewer Improvements for the Utilities Division in the Amount of \$188,786.00 with a Not to Exceed Amount of \$215,000.00

24-0683 Approval of the FY25 Durham Transit Work Program Q2 Amendment in the Amount of \$3,861,058

\*24-0687 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA019 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC043 Appropriating \$4,021,221.00 from the Sewer Utility Enterprise Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to the Page Park Lift Station Capital Project (SE065) for a New Total Project Budget of \$4,236,671.00; as well as Authorizing the County Manager to Execute a Design-Build Contract Amendment with Crowder Construction Company for the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) in the Amount of \$3,904,221.00 and Allowed Construction Contingency of 3% (\$117,000) to Execute Any Other Related Contracts, Including Change Orders, Not to Exceed the Available Budget of \$4,021,221.00 for the Design-Build GMP

\*24-0688 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No. 25CPA020 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.25BCC044 Appropriating \$12,349,654 of Sewer Utility Enterprise Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to the Slater Road Lift Station, Force Main, and Outfall

24-0691 Approval to Amend the Current Contract, FR# 25-091 with Envirotrol, LLC, in the Amount of \$20,000.00 to be Added to the Special Services Fund Line Number 11 for a New Contract Amount of \$167,580. Funding for this is Currently Available in HVAC FY 2024-25 Operational Budget

24-0692 Approve Request for Consent of Access to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to allow its Division of Waste Management and Contractors Access to the 721 Foster Street Site

\*24-0693 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA021 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.25BCC045 Appropriating \$1,000,000 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance, Transferring the Funding to the PAYGO Fund for the New Seaton Road Fleet Maintenance Facility Capital Project (4730DC164); as well as Execution of a Contract for Architectural Design Services with HH Architecture for the Seaton Road Maintenance Facility Project

24-0698 Request for approval of a Resolution authorizing and approving the levy of an additional two dollars (\$2.00) of the motor vehicle registration tax by the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (dba "GoTriangle") as authorized by North Carolina General Statute §105-561

24-0711 Request to Adopt 2025 General Reappraisal Schedule of Values

24-0712 Approval to Enter into a Contract with EKOS in the amount of \$70,482.40 to Upgrade County

Fueling Stations at General Services (Ramseur St), EMS1 (Memorial County Stadium), and Parkwood Fire Rescue #82 (Miami Blvd)

24-0717 Approve Use of ARPA Funds to Support Positions in Grants Administration and Finance Departments to Assist Management of ARPA Projects

24-0723 Legislative Items for 2025 Durham County Local Legislative Agenda

24-0735 Authorize the County Manager to Submit a Signed Letter Confirming the Board's Support of Lincoln Community Health Center's Application for Section 330 Federal Funding

## Consent Agenda Item #24-0657

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC037

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                  |                   |                  |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                  |                   |                  |
| Human Services     | \$119,119,368.30 | \$1,000.00        | \$119,120,368.30 |
| Revenue            |                  |                   |                  |
| Intergovernmental  | \$76,919,334.00  | \$1,000.00        | \$76,920,334.00  |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

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# Consent Agenda Item #24-0661

# Durham County, North Carolina FY 2024-2025 Capital Project Amendment Number 25CPA-17

#### BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the FY 2024-25 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Project #     | Project Name                | Current         | Increase /     | Updated         |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|               |                             | Budget          | Decrease       | Budget          |
| 47302635DC149 | Snow Hill Road Pump Station | \$30,295,000.00 | \$6,659,581.00 | \$36,954,581.00 |

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0687

# Durham County, North Carolina FY 2024-2025 Capital Project Amendment Number 25CPA-19

## BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the FY 2024-25 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Project #     | Project Name                  | Current      | Increase /     | Updated        |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|               |                               | Budget       | Decrease       | Budget         |
| 71006011SE065 | Page Park Lift Station, Force | \$215,450.00 | \$4,021,221.00 | \$4,236,671.00 |
|               | Main and Outfall Project      |              |                |                |

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC043

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name                | Current Budget | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| GENERAL FUND             |                |                   |                |
| <u>Expenditure</u>       |                |                   |                |
| General Government       | \$750,000.00   | \$4,021,221.00    | \$4,771,221.00 |
| Revenue                  |                |                   |                |
| Other Financing Services | \$83,036.29    | \$4,021,221.00    | \$4,104,257.29 |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

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# Consent Agenda Item #24-0688

Durham County, North Carolina FY 2024-2025 Capital Project Amendment Number 25CPA-20

## BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the FY 2024-25 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Project #     | Project Name                    | Current        | Increase /      | Updated         |
|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|               |                                 | Budget         | Decrease        | Budget          |
| 41301310DC011 | Slater Road Lift Station, Force | \$1,696,670.00 | \$8,303,330.00  | \$10,000,000.00 |
|               | Main, and Outfall Project       |                |                 |                 |
| 71006011SE066 | Slater Road Lift Station, Force | \$0.00         | \$12,349,654.00 | \$12,349,654.00 |
|               | Main, and Outfall Project       |                |                 |                 |

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

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# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC044

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name                | Current Budget | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget  |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| GENERAL FUND             | _              |                   | _               |
| <u>Expenditure</u>       |                |                   |                 |
| General Government       | \$4,771,221.00 | \$12,349,645.00   | \$17,120,875.00 |
| Revenue                  |                |                   |                 |
| Other Financing Services | \$4,104,257.29 | \$12,349,654.00   | \$16,453,911.29 |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0693

# Durham County, North Carolina FY 2024-2025 Capital Project Amendment Number 25CPA-21

# BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the FY 2024-25 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Project #     | Project Name                     | Current | Increase /     | Updated        |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
|               |                                  | Budget  | Decrease       | Budget         |
| 47302635DC164 | Seaton Road Maintenance Facility | \$0.00  | \$1,000,000.00 | \$1,000,000.00 |
|               | Project                          |         |                |                |

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC045

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name                | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND             |                  |                   | -                |
| <u>Expenditure</u>       |                  |                   |                  |
| General Government       | \$111,315,392.39 | \$1,000,000.00    | \$112,315,392.39 |
| Revenue                  |                  |                   |                  |
| Other Financing Services | \$109,924,569.39 | \$1,000,000.00    | \$110,924,569.39 |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

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# **Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda**

# 24-0637 BOCC Review of 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application

This item was pulled at the request of a citizen. Her comment is below.

#### Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated she did not support spending County funds on a trailer. Keischa Lovelace, Legal Advisor, Sheriff Department responded the funding for the trailer was provided by a grant and would not require the use of County funds.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve 24-0637 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

24-0645 Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA022 Appropriating \$16,555,735 of Limited Obligation Bond (LOBs) Funding to the Durham County Sheriff's Training Facility Capital Project (4310DC091); and Authorizing the Execution of the Construction Manager At-Risk Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with CT Wilson Construction for the Construction of the Sheriff's Training Facility at a Total Amount Not-To-Exceed \$15,929,463 (Base Bid, Alternates, Plus Owner Contingency)

This item was pulled at the request of the citizens listed below. Additional comments were received via email and those comments were also shared with the Board, Senior Leadership and the Office of the Sheriff Leadership Team.

The following citizens opposed the funding for the Durham County Sheriff's Training Facility: Carey Medlin, Virginia Werthman, Jackson Balling, FarinhPak Ayala Seron, Rafiq Zaidi Muhammad, Elizabeth Johnson, Rayna Rusenko, Briana Awant, Elizabeth Henry, Maya Ghanem, Tia Hunt, Parker Ussery, Samuel Scarborough, Makini Elai, D. Hunicutt, Sam Hoeffler, Doran Rodriquez, Lily Roth, Melissa Luna, Annie Doran, Daniel Summerlin, Luna Homsi, Quinng Sanchez Lopez and Anne Elliott.

The following citizens asked for the funding for the Durham County Sheriff's Training Facility to be used to save children and families: *Antoinette Hawes, Amanda Wallace and Elizabeth Avant*.

The following comments were received from citizens by email:

1. I'm writing to ask you to vote against Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA022 Appropriating \$16,555,735 of Limited Obligation Bond (LOBs) Funding to the Durham County Sheriff's Training Facility Capital Project (4310DC091) (file number 24-0645) which is part of tonight's consent agenda. Durham does not need to spend \$16million on a facility to train law enforcement that consistently fails to curb rising gun violence - instead we need to be investing in the lives of Durham County residents by funding things like housing security, mental health care, food security and safe parks and transportation. \$16million could be used in so many more creative ways to improve the lives of people in Durham. It could go into grants to support residents that are struggling with recently raised property taxes, it could pay for a year of

\$1300/month rent for over 1000 families. It could go into grants to support the food banks like Imanual Iglesia food bank that does amazing work to provide healthy food to over 600 families each week and allow them to provide even more nutritious items that are harder to get donated like milk, eggs and meat. It could provide support for more teachers and teachers and teachers' aides in Durham County schools. Please don't use our money to build facilities for training law enforcement.

Sincerely, Megan Kratz Northgate Park resident

2. I live in Southwest Durham County. I'm opposed to approving \$16 a training center for sheriffs.

Unfortunately, in our country, law enforcement is trained with some of the worst methods. We have some of the highest police violence in the developed world. It's appalling! We need our law enforcement to be trained to de-escalate! Instead, they are trained to pull a trigger at the slightest perceived threat while simultaneously being taught to see a myriad of benign circumstances as danger. I want our tax dollars to go towards peace - not police militarization! Nathania Johnson

#### 3. Dear County Commissioners,

I am urging you to part ways with the recommendation of the county manager, who has recommended approval of the capital project amendment No.25CPA022. Please disapprove this amendment and stop using additional or otherwise previously slated county funding to further militarize the Durham County Sheriff Department. The \$16.5m on the line could be reallocated to projects, programs, and infrastructure that truly make our communities safe. Last week, as the parent of a child who ride the bus to and from her Durham public school, I received a transportation update that included the possibility that my child's bus route may be discontinued as a result of a bus driver shortage. Even a small portion of \$16.5m could be reinvested in public school transportation to better pay our dedicated and overworked bus drivers and ensure that my child and thousands of others can keep riding the bus. Right now, at my child's school, there is a community fundraiser for school supplies with a school-wide goal of \$24,000. I have been more than happy to share my resources to ensure that kids in my public-school community have what they need to thrive. I will continue to do that. As a former public educator, I also know firsthand the weight of having to spend one's own money just to ensure everyone has what they need in the classroom. But imagine if even a portion of this \$16.5m of county funding could be redirected to our public schools. As the elected officials of a progressive center in in our state that is the proud home to a wide range of communities, the Durham County commissioners have the opportunity and responsibility to buck an unfortunate national trend post-Ferguson and post-summer 2020 uprisings (in the wake of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor's murder): the steep uptick in police and sheriff training facilities that blight our communities and green spaces. The rejection of yet another police militarization training facility — or at bare minimum the summary disapproval of further spending on it — would put the county in step with the city council that rejected police training partnerships between the Durham Police Department and the Israeli military. While these police training facilities have bipartisan support, they have grown substantially under Democrat led municipalities and counties. While the threat of fascism from the right cannot be understated, Democrats' strategy at multiple levels seems to be a rightward creep toward authoritarianism via increased police militarization and repression of speech and dissent — all shrouded in the language of community safety. We must collectively reject that premise! So, I'm urging this commission to take a truly progressive stance, lead our community, and keep Durham shining as an example of what is possible when democracy wins. Take us into a demilitarized future that is both necessary and inevitable.

Damon Williams

27713

#### Good afternoon,

It has come to my attention that the Durham County Commissioners is considering approving.

funding for a Sheriff's training facility for nearly \$16,000,000,000. As a Durham County resident, I am deeply concerned by this project and a focus on additional funding law enforcement during a time when there is a heightened need for housing, transportation access, food access and other things our community members, will need. Especially with the threats our communities face in 2025. Please reconsider this allocation of funding, remove it from the consent agenda and reject the facility.

Thank you,

Quisha Mallette

#### 5. Dear County Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to oppose the \$16 million Durham County Cop City, aka the proposed Sheriff Training Facility. Many Durham residents are just now hearing of this facility and urge you to pull it from the consent calendar to allow more people to weigh in. Cop cities are popping up in cities around the country at a time when the US is becoming more and more fascist. This is the last thing we need! Let's use our money to address housing, education, health care, childcare and other vital needs of our residents! Please vote no!

Thank you for your consideration,

Leslie St Dre Durham resident 27712

#### 6. To whom it may concern,

This email is to show my opposition for VALBRIDGE PROPERTY ADVISORS \$17 million dollar facility. These are my requests: no more citizen money for cops, no cop cities, no expanded training facilities in Durham. Furthermore, as a tax paying citizen, I demand to see the details of what will happen If this facility is built. This will directly impact Durham County citizens, since county sheriffs have jurisdiction within the city limits as well. I believe that residents deserve to know what Durham County will be doing with our tax dollars.

Thank you,

Allissa Halker

#### 7. Dear Commissioners,

I write to you with deep concern. I just learned that the Durham Board of County Commissioners plan to vote today on whether they will spend \$16 million to build a police training center. This is of serious concern. I urge you to vote no, for several reasons: (1) Much more detail needs to be made public before such a proposal can be approved. - How will the police training center be built? - Where would it be built? - What materials will be used? - How much community input will be given to the objectives of the training center? - Who specifically will be trained? - Who will be giving the training? - How will the training center be funded? - What would be the annual cost? - What responsibilities will the center have for the community/communities it is placed within, and seeks to serve? (2). I strongly urge that money be invested first and foremost to non-lethal community safety programs, and thus not the police. (3) I strongly urge that the public be more critically and openly consulted. Please vote no!

Thank you.

Rania Masri, PhD

Director of Organizing and Policy

Co-Director, NC Environmental Justice Network

#### 8. Hello,

I am writing express my opposition to approving 16 million dollars for a police training center in Durham. We have a severe bus driver shortage where principals and vice principal are helping pick up children so they can access an education. I thought officers needed higher wages, not a new facility. Does every county need its own training facility? If this vote was more publicized, you would see a majority of constituents against this. Please do not vote yes.

Respectfully,

Annie Oumarou

Durham resident since 2011

# 9. To whom it may concern,

This email is to show my opposition for VALBRIDGE PROPERTY ADVISORS \$17 million dollar facility. These are my requests: no more citizen money for cops, no cop cities, no expanded training facilities in Durham. Furthermore, as a tax paying citizen, I demand to see the details of what will happen If this facility is built. This will directly impact Durham County citizens, since county sheriffs have jurisdiction within the city limits as well. I believe that residents deserve to know what Durham County will be doing with our tax dollars.

Thank you,

Emerson Rhudy

(Lakewood resident, 9-year Durham resident)

#### 10. To whom it may concern,

This email is to show my opposition for VALBRIDGE PROPERTY ADVISORS \$17 million dollar facility. These are my requests: no additional citizen money for policing, no expanded police training facilities in Durham city/county, more taxpayer money directed towards the county library system and county health department. Furthermore, tax paying citizens have a right to be informed of what plans there are for this facility if it is indeed built. This will directly impact Durham County citizens since county sheriffs operate within the city limits as well. I believe that residents deserve to know what Durham County will be doing with our tax dollars.

Thank you, Jonah

#### 11. Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident of Durham (zip code 27713), and I am deeply concerned that the county board will vote to spend \$16 M on a police training center. I am unable to attend public comment tonight (11/12 at 7:00 pm). I urge the board to vote NO. I think the public needs more information about the proposal. There are many outstanding questions before allocation of funds. To name a few:

What will be the annual cost/cost breakdown of the project?

How will it be funded, and continue to be funded?

Who will be trained?

What are the objectives of the training?

Can the community have a say in the objectives?

I do value community safety programs and urge you to invest in other options than a police training center. I urge the board to give the public more visibility into this project and urge the board to vote NO to the \$16 M spend on Police Training Center.

Thank you!

Swarnali Sengupta, PhD

Strategic Account Director,

Precision AQ-Medical Communications

# 12. To whom it may concern,

This email is to show my opposition for VALBRIDGE PROPERTY ADVISORS \$17 million dollar facility. I request that you set back this vote or reject the proposal to build this facility that is intended for the purpose of training our increasingly militarized police force. Furthermore, as a tax paying citizen, I demand to see the details of what will happen If this facility is built. This will directly impact Durham County citizens, since county sheriffs have jurisdiction within the city limits as well. I believe that residents deserve to know what Durham County will be doing with our tax dollars.

Thank you,

Andrew Alberg

#### 13. Hello,

I have only become aware today of this vote to build a 10,000 square foot training center for the sheriff's department. After reading the proposal by Valbridge Property Advisors, I am aghast and disgusted that this proposal has flown under the radar until now. Durham policing has been taking a positive turn toward the HEART program, not funding further militarization of law enforcement. This training center would be a massive step in the wrong direction. Furthermore, the Valbridge proposal seems disingenuous at best. Their claims that the facility and its firing range will be properly soundproof are inadequately supported. In short, they are saying whatever they need to say to get this passed, without doing the due diligence to ensure that people will not have to live with gunshots as background noise. Impact to property values do not tell the full story. A new facility for sheriffs does not contribute to the safety or well-being of our county. As a citizen of Durham County, I stand in opposition to spending 17 million dollars to worsen the lives of my neighbors. As my commissioners, I hope that you will vote to represent the interests of the people, corporate interest like Valbridge. Yours truly,

Andre Rivero

#### 14. Dear Commissioners,

I write to you with deep concern. I just learned that the Durham Board of County Commissioners plan to vote today on whether they will spend \$16 million to build a police training center. This is of serious concern. I urge you to vote no, for several reasons: (1) Much more detail needs to be made public before such a proposal can be approved. - How will the police training center be built? - Where would it be built? - What materials will be used? - How much community input will be given to the objectives of the training center?- Who specifically will be trained? - Who will be giving the training? - How will the training center be funded?- What would be the annual cost? - What responsibilities will the center have for the community/communities it is placed within, and seeks to serve? (2). I strongly urge that money be invested first and foremost to non-lethal community safety programs, and thus not the police. (3) I strongly urge that the public be more critically and openly consulted. Please vote no!

Thank you

Kelly Holsopple

#### 15. Dear Commissioners,

I write to you with deep concern. I just learned that the Durham Board of County Commissioners plan to vote today on whether they will spend \$16 million to build a police training center. This is of serious concern. I urge you to vote no. Durham policing has been taking a positive turn toward the HEART program, not funding further militarization of law enforcement. This training center would be a massive step in the wrong direction. Furthermore, the proposal by Valbridge Property Advisors seems disingenuous at best. Their claims that the facility and its firing range will be properly soundproof are inadequately supported. In short, they are saying whatever they need to say to get this passed, without doing the due diligence to ensure that people will not have to live with gunshots as background noise. Impact to property values do not tell the full story. A new facility for sheriffs does not contribute to the safety or well-being of our county. As a citizen of the Triangle, I stand in opposition to spending \$16 million to worsen the lives of my neighbors. I hope that you will vote to represent the interests of the people, not corporate interest like Valbridge. Much more detail needs to be made public before such a proposal can be approved.- How will the police training center be built? - Where would it be built?- What materials will be used? - How much community input will be given to the objectives of the training center? - Who specifically will be trained? - Who will be giving the training? - How will the training center be funded? - What would be the annual cost? - What responsibilities will the center have for the community/communities it is placed within, and seeks to serve? I strongly urge that money be invested first and foremost to non-lethal community safety programs, and thus not the police. I strongly urge that the public be more critically and openly consulted. Please vote no!

Thank you, Daniel Nuttall

#### 16. Dear Commissioners,

I am alarmed to learn about the item on tonight's consent agenda to allocate almost \$17M to build a new sheriff training facility. As a county resident, I beseech you to remove this proposal / reject this project. For a hundred reasons, I am in opposition to this project. First and foremost, Durham is leading the nation with its alternative programs to support the well-being and safety of its residents, including the HEART program. I'm so proud to live in this county and just this month voted in support of this board believing that you are aligned in believing that increased militarization of our community will NOT keep us safe. If there were more time (if this had not been so quietly agreed upon), I would detail more reasons. Instead, I will see y'all at the meeting.

All the best,

Rachel Salzberg

#### 17. Dear Commissioners.

I write to you with deep concern. I just learned that the Durham Board of County Commissioners plan to vote today on whether they will spend \$16 million to build a police training center. This is of serious concern. I urge you to vote no. Durham policing has been taking a positive turn toward the HEART program, not funding further militarization of law enforcement. This training center would be a massive step in the wrong direction. Furthermore, the proposal by Valbridge Property Advisors seems disingenuous at best. Their claims that the facility and its firing range will be properly soundproof are inadequately supported. In short, they are saying whatever they need to say to get this passed, without doing the due diligence to ensure that people will not have to live with gunshots as background noise. Impact to property values do not tell the full story. A new facility for sheriffs does not contribute to the safety or well-being of our county. I stand in opposition to spending \$16 million to worsen the lives of my neighbors. I hope that you will vote to represent the interests of the people, not corporate interest like Valbridge. Much more detail needs to be made public

before such a proposal can be approved. - How will the police training center be built? - Where would it be built - What materials will be used? - How much community input will be given to the objectives of the training center? - Who specifically will be trained? - Who will be giving the training? - How will the training center be funded? - What would be the annual cost? - What responsibilities will the center have for the community/communities it is placed within, and seeks to serve? I strongly urge that money be invested first and foremost to non-lethal community safety programs, and thus not the police. I strongly urge that the public be more critically and openly consulted. Please vote no! Thank you,

#### 18. Hello,

I am a resident of Durham County, and I have recently learned of the proposal to construct a 10,000 square foot training center for the sheriff's department. I strongly urge that you vote no. This is an egregious, irresponsible use of funding. \$16 million for a police facility meanwhile most of the parks in Durham have lead in them!!! This is a slap in the face to our community and our wellbeing! Couldn't this money be invested first in literally anything else? I am sure that the HEART program could use more funding. Durham does not need lethal cop cities. We do not need more policing, we need less.

Jenna

#### 19. Hello,

I have only become aware today of the vote to build a 10,000 square foot training center for the sheriff's department. I am surprised that this proposal has flown under the radar until now. Durham policing has been taking a positive turn toward the HEART program, with mental health care and unarmed responders. They have a fantastic track record of successful intervention and are becoming a model on a national scale. This type of program could be implemented on a county scale to reduce the need for armed responses. I believe in evaluating the best use for every dollar spent and the needs are great for public education, affordable housing, transportation and more. I don't believe that compared to other uses this would contribute to the safety or well-being of our county. As a citizen of Durham County, I stand in opposition to spending 17 million dollars and I hope that you will vote to represent the interests of the people, instead of a corporate interest like Valbridge.

Thank you,

Casey Roe

**Durham County Resident** 

#### 20. Dear Durham County Commissioners,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal to allocate \$16 million for the construction of a new police training center in Durham. As a resident and homeowner in Durham County, I am concerned about how this project will impact our community and the implications it has for the use of public funds. At a time when so many crucial community resources need attention and funding, I question whether expanding police training facilities should be a priority. I urge you to consider the following: 1. No More Public Funds for Policing Expansion: Instead of increasing the police budget, I encourage you to invest in programs that directly support and uplift our community, such as mental health services, housing assistance, and educational initiatives. 2. Transparency and Accountability: As residents, we deserve to know the specific details of this proposed center—what activities and training would take place there, and how these will affect our community. Please ensure full transparency around this project.3. Broader Impact on Residents: It's important to remember that this facility would impact not only county residents but also those within Durham city limits, as county sheriffs have jurisdiction throughout. We all deserve a clear understanding of what this training center will mean for public safety and how it aligns with our community's priorities. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this proposal and listen to the voices of residents who are calling for a more thoughtful allocation of our tax dollars. Thank you for taking the time to consider these concerns, and I look forward to your response.

Benjamin Corvera

1 Weathergreen Ct, Durham, NC 27713

#### 21. Hello.

I just found out today about the vote to build a 10,000 square foot training center for the sheriff's department. After reading the proposal by Valbridge Property Advisors, I am disappointed and disgusted that this was my first-time hearing about the proposal. Durham should not be funding further militarization of law enforcement. This training center would be a massive step in the wrong direction. Instead, we should continue to provide resources for the community that

prevent crime from happening in the first place. Furthermore, the Valbridge proposal seems disingenuous at best. Their claims that the facility and its firing range will be properly soundproof are inadequately supported. In short, they are saying whatever they need to say to get this passed, without doing the due diligence to ensure that people will not have to live with gunshots as background noise. How is this police training center being built? Impact to property values do not tell the full story. A new facility for sheriffs does not contribute to the safety or well-being of our county. As a citizen of Durham County, I stand in opposition to spending 16 million dollars to worsen the lives of my neighbors. As my commissioners, I hope that you will vote to represent the interests of the people, instead of corporate interests like Valbridge. We need to do better to keep our community safe, and making Durham a military zone will not do that. Yours truly,

Ian Imperial

#### 22. Dear Commissioners.

I am writing to oppose dedicating funding to the police training center. There has been very little public information shared about it which is not a fair process to citizens and people who will be impacted. Also, this money should be spent for non-lethal community safety, like the Heart Program. We do not need to fund more police training but rather invest in other safety measures. Again, please vote no on this project to protect our residents. Carley

#### 23. Good evening,

Thanks for letting me know! If there is still time or availability, please see my comments below:

The city has consistently said that it doesn't have money to give better wages to city workers but suddenly it has the budget to for \$16 million to build a new cop city. We do not need a cop city. We need housing and food for all, childcare for all, and healthcare for all. These cop cities all across the country aren't fooling us. We know the country, NC, and Durham are steadily becoming militarized states which helps suppress American citizens. This is not what neither citizens in the US nor Durham want. No one wants this facility. I urge you to reconsider.

#### 24. Hello.

The lack of transparency around the 17-million-dollar facility proposed by Valbridge Property Advisors is concerning. It appears that property values were the only things taken into consideration when deciding to accept this proposal. The evidence presented about appropriate sound proofing is not enough of an assurance. Increased armed law enforcement presence does not increase the safety of the area. Is this going to be a part of those bonds that were voted for in this past election? If so, that is even more nefarious because this was not promoted as a part of what we were voting for. The way this has been handled lessens the security that Durham residents have in your all's ability to represent our interests with integrity.

Best regards,

Cydni

#### 25. Dear Commissioners,

My name is Lucie and I am a Durham County resident, writing to urge you to reject allocating funds for the proposed Sheriff's Training Facility. The 16 million dollars proposed for this project would better serve the people of Durham County by going towards funding public health services, making Durham County infrastructure more resilient to heat and extreme weather events, and expanding public safety alternatives to policing.

Thank you for your care and consideration.

Lucie Ciccone

#### 26. Hello,

I am writing as a Durham resident to voice my strong opposition to the allocation of \$16.5 million for a proposed police training center. I am here on Zoom, listening to one after another Durham resident resoundingly oppose this project. To echo what others have said, we need this money for our community: social services, paying teachers, building renewable energy infrastructure to fight climate change. An investment in policing will only endanger Durham residents; that same investment could support us. Additionally, I oppose the proposed Cisco contract renewal. Earlier this year, Durham City Council passed a ceasefire resolution in recognition of Israel's ongoing violent occupation of Gaza. Cisco is currently implicated in this conflict. Renewing a contract against the wishes and interests of Durham residents and the Council is wholly undemocratic.

Sincerely,

#### 27. Hello,

My name is Briana Avant. The original 2-minute time for public comment was reduced to 1 minute and I would like to share the remainder of my comments for the record. I am someone who has always been a law-abiding citizen. I have spent a lot of my life terrified of breaking even a small law such as jaywalking. My name is Briana Avant. In 2014, I was assaulted by 5 men while walking to the train station. I was assaulted directly across the street from a police station. The police did not come to help me. 2 men driving home from their construction job came to help me. 2 regular citizens. As a result of this crime against me, I developed PTSD. In 2018, I experienced suicidal ideation as a result and called the suicide helpline for support. They dispatched the police who pushed me against a cop car, hand cuffed me, and treated me like a criminal when I was nonviolent, unarmed, and asking for help. As a law abiding, cooperative white citizen, the police have used their power in ways that have harmed me and made me feel completely unsafe. I have seen how police in North Carolina treat people who do not look like me even worse. I am sharing this story to show how police often abuse the power they have over ordinary citizens regardless of their backgrounds or situations. A massive police training center will not make this city safer. Investing these funds into community infrastructure will reduce crime and support struggling community members. People turn to crime because their basic needs are not met. People experience mental health crisis, which are not a crime by the way, because their basic needs are not met. Let's invest this money into affordable housing, public transit, food access, and access to mental healthcare and education. I love this city and want to see the community grow and thrive. If we reallocate these funds into community systems that help citizens meet their current needs, we will most certainly see a reduction in crime and a happier, more productive, and safer society.

Thank you.

Briana Avant

28. Dear Commissioners, Allam, Burns, Carter, Howerton, and Jacobs,

I am writing to express my dismay that the Capital Project Amendment (Item 24-0645) was removed from the agenda for tonight's session, and to state my opposition to the project as a whole.

I am sympathetic to the idea that members of the community can and should become more informed about what is happening in the County. I am myself attempting to become more involved in the local community. But I believe one should not need to have a degree in public policy and attend every City and County administrative meeting to understand what is happening with our taxpayer dollars. To remove such an important item from the agenda when so many members of our community came out to voice their concern is both disrespectful of our time and antagonistic to the idea of open and transparent governance. I will be educating myself more on the Amendment, of course, but how many meetings and work sessions must we take time out of our lives to attend? Regarding the Amendment itself: Violence is cyclical, and no amount of money funneled into the Police and Sheriff's Departments will solve it because they themselves represent a continuation of the cycle. In the first hour of the meeting, I heard a lot of good news about our Public Health Department and other progress being made around the city. If Durham County wishes to spend \$16,555,735 on public safety, it would do much more good to put this money toward efforts proven to reduce violence in our community, such as public education, job creation, and the HEART program. Furthermore, we are two months away from a president taking office who has all but declared war on our most vulnerable community members. Law enforcement is the tip of the spear which will be used to further criminalize and subjugate our BIPOC, immigrant, and queer and trans communities, as well as any who voice dissent against this. I understand the members of the Board do important work and the job is not easy, especially in a community as large as our own. But the meeting tonight did nothing other than to remind me the ways in which local government can be obfuscating, if not outright malicious, to the communities it claims to serve.

Regards,

Myfanwy Nowell (she/her/hers) Durham Citizen and Taxpayer myfnowell@proton.me

29. My name is Virginia and I'm a Durham County resident who came to the 11/12 meeting to speak against the creation of a sheriff's training facility. My full comment is below as I was unable to complete it in the minute allotted. Yet before I relay my comment on the training facility, I must also include a request to NOT renew the county's contract with Cisco as it is currently complicit in Israel's genocide of Palestinians. It was recently added to the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions list and Durham has long been a leader in divesting from genocidal campaigns, so I hope you will continue to lead by example. Now back to the militarization that is happening in our backyard...We don't need more money to militarize our sheriff's department. This will increase the risk of police violence, permanently pollute the land with toxic

lead, and deprive other essential services of much-needed funding. With \$16 million, we could further increase pay for teaching and support staff to prevent the kind of funding deficit that has deprived dedicated educators of fair wages for far too long. We could expand mental health support for children and adults across the county, especially given the ongoing mental health crisis in our youth. Hurt people hurt other people, and we must disrupt these cycles of violence. We could increase our libraries' staffing and their wages, so they are not overworked and stretched to their limits. Maybe we could even have the libraries open later or on Sundays! We could start to build a county-wide HEART program that offers compassionate care to our most vulnerable people 24/7. We could expand essential public health services - to an award-winning department - like Narcan vending machines, dental care, nutrition support, free clinics, and medication giveaways. We could address the current public health crisis of lead in our parks (which yes, i know, is technically managed by the city, but doesn't this count as a public health emergency that should merit some City-County collaboration??). While we're talking about the lead in our parks, let's talk about the lead dust that accumulates to dangerous levels at firing ranges and live-fire training sites. We would be introducing yet more toxic pollution to the land if the Sheriff's training facility is approved. If perhaps, I am not up to date on all your workings, and somehow all of these alternatives I listed are already going to be perfectly well-funded, I urge you to still give more to these systems of care. None of the problems I listed are small or easily addressed, so this \$16 million could make an incredible difference if it is put towards care for our communities, not punitive militarization of our sheriff's department. What legacy will you choose to leave for our children?

Sincerely,

Virginia Wertman

#### 30. Hello.

My name is Dr. Robin Collin and I have been a resident of NC for the past 9 years now. I do not live in Durham, but I have grown to truly appreciate and love Durham as a vibrant city of diversity and inclusivity. Because of this I have been heartbroken to see the community struggles continue to grow, particularly the growing houseless persons population. I am writing to support all those who spoke tonight at the BOCC meeting in opposition to the development of a \$16 million dollar police training center. This money, as many have stated, needs to be funneled into community programs run by the people of Durham so as to directly improve the well-being of all Durham's citizens.

Dr. Robin D. Collin, DO

Founder of Lib Lune Creations

#### 31. Dear County Commissioners,

I was dismayed to hear that \$16 million of our tax dollars may well be spent on a new police training facility. I am very nervous about the increased militarization of our country, and the continued brutality of police, especially toward people of color. The public should have been informed more about the facility--who will be trained? What will they be trained to do? Without knowing the answers to these questions, I do not support the facility. I hope it is not too late to express these sentiments--I only heard the news about the impending vote today (as did many more politically active friends of mine)--that strikes me as a very bad sign--as if the deal is being sealed in a backdoor fashion, without proper scrutiny, to avoid controversy. Please do not let this happen to our community. We need community security that builds community, not security that instills fear and takes away real community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy S. Feldman

Durham, NC

\*\*\*\*\*

Chair Allam requested for the item to have additional discussion at a Work Session meeting. The Board agreed that this item be placed on the January 6, 2025 Work Session agenda.

\*24-0649 Budget Ordinance Amendment 25BCC033 to Recognize \$125,981 in Year 3 Funding to the Office of Emergency Services - Emergency Medical Services (OES\_EMS) from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (MHDDSAS), and to Authorize the County Manager or Appropriate Designee to Sign and Execute All Related Documents, Contracts,

# and Purchases for Authorized and Approved Uses Associated With the Grant Program Throughout the Grant's Period of Performance.

This item was pulled at the request of a citizen. Her comment is below.

# Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated she was at the Durham County Courthouse when a resident over-dosed and waited 15 minutes for the arrival of Emergency Medical Services to provide care. She added none of the Sheriffs in the Courthouse would help the resident.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve 24-0649 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0649

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC033

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget  | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget  |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                 |                   |                 |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                 |                   |                 |
| Public Safety      | \$90,070,930.00 | \$125,981.00      | \$90,196,911.00 |
| Revenue            |                 |                   |                 |
| Intergovernmental  | \$76,785,353.00 | \$125,981.00      | \$76,911,334.00 |
|                    |                 |                   |                 |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

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# \*24-0654 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC038 Public Health to Recognize \$230,000 from NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child and Family Well-Being for Evidence-Based Behavioral Health Interventions

This item was pulled at the request of a citizen. Her comment is below.

# Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated the funding appeared to be supplemental money for institution.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve 24-0654 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### Consent Agenda Item #24-0654

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC038

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                  |                   |                  |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                  |                   |                  |
| Human Services     | \$119,166,868.30 | \$230,000.00      | \$119,396,868.30 |
| Revenue            |                  |                   |                  |
| Intergovernmental  | \$76,983,334.00  | \$230,000.00      | \$77,213,334.00  |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

\*24-0655 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC039 Public Health to Recognize \$120,000 from the NC DHHS Division of Child and Family Wellbeing, Whole Child Health Section, School, Adolescent and Child Health Unit to Maintain a Strong and Inclusive School Health Team

This item was pulled at the request of a citizen. Her comment is below.

# Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated the funding should be used to benefit the citizens of Durham County, not used for the DHHS Division of Child and Family Wellbeing.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve 24-0655 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0655

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC039

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                  |                   |                  |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                  |                   |                  |
| Human Services     | \$119,396,868.30 | \$120,000.00      | \$119,516,868.30 |
| Revenue            |                  |                   |                  |
| Intergovernmental  | \$77,213,334.00  | \$120,000.00      | \$77,333,334.00  |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

# \*24-0656 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC036 Public Health to Recognize \$8,000 from North Carolina Public Health Association's Dr. Ann Wolfe Mini Grant Award

This item was pulled at the request of a citizen. Her comment is below.

## Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated the food was not reaching children and families in need of assistance in the community.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to approve 24-0656 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0656

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC036

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                  |                   |                  |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                  |                   |                  |
| Human Services     | \$119,111,368.30 | \$8,000.00        | \$119,119,368.30 |
| Revenue            |                  |                   |                  |
| Intergovernmental  | \$76,911,334.00  | \$8,000.00        | \$76,919,334.00  |
|                    |                  |                   |                  |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

\*24-0682 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC041 for the Department of Social Services to recognize Emergency Placement funding of \$75,919.00 for Children in Agency Custody

This item was pulled at the request of three citizens. Their comments are below.

#### Antionette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated the Department of Social Services was child policing and not using funding as needed in the community.

# Amanda Wallace, Citizen

Ms. Wallace stated she opposed the funding due to the funding being used for operational needs and not used for families in need.

# Rafiq Zaidi Muhammad

Mr. Muhammad stated there was no engagement discussions with residents in the community about the use of the funding.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to approve 24-0682 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

# Consent Agenda Item #24-0682

# Durham County, North Carolina 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 25BCC041

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

| Fund Name          | Current Budget   | Increase/Decrease | Revised Budget   |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND       |                  |                   |                  |
| <u>Expenditure</u> |                  |                   |                  |
| Human Services     | \$119,548,069.87 | \$75,919.00       | \$119,623,988.87 |
| Revenue            |                  |                   |                  |
| Intergovernmental  | \$77,333,334.00  | \$75,919.00       | \$77,409,253.00  |

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved November 12, 2024

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# Adjournment

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Burns to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 9:18 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton

Deputy Clerk to the Board