Durham County

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

Meeting Agenda

Board of County Commissioners

Monday, September 22, 2025 | **7:00 PM** | **Commissioners' Chambers**

Regular Session

“Public Charge”

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

"Land Acknowledgment"

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

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

7:00 pm Regular Session

1. Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance (5 min)

2. Agenda Adjustments (5 min)

3. Announcements (5 min)

25-0522 **Announcements (5min)**

Agenda Text: **1. DPS 2025 College Fair** - Thinking about college? Meet reps from national

colleges and universities, explore programs and scholarships, and take your next step at the Durham Public Schools 2025 College Fair on Saturday, September 30 at the Durham Convention Center (301 W. Morgan Street). This free event runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m. Registration is required at <https://app.strivescan.com/registration>.

2. **Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program** - Durham homeowners can now apply for Durham County's Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program, known as LIHR. This program is a joint effort from the Durham County Department of Social Services and the Durham County Tax Administration. This program exclusively serves homeowners who have lived in their homes at least 5 years, have no current state tax subsidies for their property, and have incomes less than or equal to 80 percent of Average Median Income (AMI). Find information and the application here: <https://dconc.gov/Social-Services/Aging-and-Adult-Services/Low-Income-Housing-Relief-LIHR>. Call 919-560-8000 for an appointment with an LIHR specialist if you need application assistance.

3. **2025 Municipal Primary Election** - Early Voting for the 2025 Municipal Primary Election voting is being held in person at one of five early voting sites continuing through 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 4. The 2025 Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., at your assigned polling place. More info at www.dconc.gov <http://www.dconc.gov> or by calling 919-560-0700.

4. **Inaugural Durham County Fall Native Plant Sale** - The Durham Cooperative Extension and Durham Soil and Water Conservation District have teamed up to host the inaugural Durham County Fall Native Plant Sale on Thursday, September 25, from 4-6 p.m. at 721 Foster Street. Come purchase native plants from local vendors Driver Street Nursery, Durham Flower Farm, Flowering Earth Natives, and Wolfberry Hawthorn Farm. Event is free to attend, but please RSVP so organizers can get an estimate of those attending, at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFw_JE-ucMvgJ5efSheDcEKagedfX5PYZp5705c_IfNPqIjQ/viewform>.

5. **DCo Open Space Matching Grant Program -** The Durham County Open Space Matching Grant Program is accepting applications for the 2025-2026 cycle. Grant applications are due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. The program is designed to assist organizations, non-profits, and residents in Durham County, both inside and outside the city limits, in preserving open space lands and promoting new or improved recreational opportunities for citizens of Durham County. Information and application

instructions are available at <https://dconc.gov/Engineering-and-Environmental-Services/Open-Space-and-Real-Estate/Open-Space-Matching-Grants-Program>. Contact Brendan Moore at brmoore@dconc.gov <mailto:brmoore@dconc.gov> for more information.

6. **Deer Management at Duke Forest** - The Office of the Duke Forest has announced that the 18th annual deer herd reduction program on the Duke Forest Teaching and Research Laboratory will begin on Monday, September 22 and end on Friday, December 12. During this time, the Durham, Korstian, and Blackwood Divisions will be CLOSED to public access and all recreation Monday through Friday (except Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday (Nov. 27-28). Saturdays and Sundays are OPEN normal hours of use, except for the seven-day-a-week New Hope Creek Restoration closure in the Korstian Division. Please note: Deer herd reduction will also take place in the Dailey Division of the Duke Forest from September 22 through January 1, 2026, and will remain closed seven days per week. For more information, visit <https://dukeforest.duke.edu/management/deer-management/>.

7. **Move-A-Bull City: An Open Streets Event** - Save the Date! On Sunday, October 5, from 12 to 4 p.m. a new collaboration will bring "Move-A-Bull City: An Open Streets Event" to a 1.2-mile stretch of Blackwell, Corcoran, and Foster Streets. This event will temporarily open these streets to people and closed to cars and trucks - transforming the area into a car-free public space where everyone can come enjoy walking, biking, rolling, playing, and community celebration. Partners Bike Durham, City of Durham Transportation Department, and the Partnership for Healthy Durham welcome everyone! Learn more at <https://moveabull.org>.

4. Minutes (5 min)

25-0523 **Minutes (5min)**

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the September 2, 2025, Work Session minutes and the September 8, 2025 Regular Session minutes.

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

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

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approves the September 2, 2025, Work Session minutes and the September 8, 2025, Regular Session minutes.

Attachments: Work Session - September 2, 2025

Regular Session - September 8, 2025

5. Ceremonial Items (15 min)

25-0492 Proclamation - Fire Prevention Week (5min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to proclaim October 5-11, 2025, as Fire Prevention Week in Durham County.

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

Resource Persons: Mark Lockhart, NRP, Director, Office of Emergency Services

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board proclaim October 5-11, 2025, as Fire Prevention Week in Durham County.

Attachments: Proclamation - Fire Prevention Week - September 2025

25-0519 Proclamation - National Clothing Insecurity Awareness Day (5min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to proclaim September 15, 2025, as National Clothing Insecurity Awareness Day.

Clothing insecurity is a lack of clothing that's properly fitted, seasonally appropriate, and in good condition. It's a hidden crisis that is affecting 2 out of every 5 children in America, because households with children living below the poverty line cannot afford their weekly expenses, which include clothing. Students who experience clothing insecurity usually live in poverty and qualify for free or reduced lunch. In Durham Public Schools, this includes over 17,000 students.

In an effort to bring awareness to clothing insecurity, our community's only nonprofit dedicated to solving it, Note in the Pocket, is hosting the inaugural National Clothing Insecurity Awareness Day on September 15th.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with strategic plan focus area: Healthy and Inclusive Community and Empowered Community.

Resource Persons: Dallas Bonavita, Executive Director for Note in the Pocket, Shannon Trapp, Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board proclaim September 15, 2025, as Clothing Insecurity Awareness Day.

Attachments: Proclamation - Clothing Insecurity Day - Sept 2025

25-0520 Proclamation - Rooted in Wellness Day (5min)

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to proclaim September 20, 2025, as Rooted in Wellness Day in Durham County.

The North Carolina Black Alliance addresses policy and economic issues to enhance Black Communities by developing and promoting systemic policy change as well as youth and leadership development. The impact of our annual Rooted in Wellness Day is to bring communities that are not reached by the traditional healthcare system closer to health promoting resources, access to healthcare screenings, and to connect with local leaders who will directly impact the progress of health equity in their communities through health policies and mutual aid.

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

Resource Persons: Karida Giddings, Access to Healthcare Program Coordinator

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board proclaim September 20, 2025, as Rooted in Wellness Day in Durham County.

Attachments: Proclamation - Rooted in Wellness Day - September 2025

6. Consent Agenda (15 min)

25-0497 **Approval of a Lease Agreement Between One Park Venture LLC, and the County of Durham for the Durham County Sheriff's Office Annex in Research Triangle Park (RTP)**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to approve a five-year Lease Agreement between One Park Venture LLC (Landlord), and the County of Durham (Tenant) at 4000 Sancar Way, Durham, NC 27713 for the Durham County Sheriff's Office Annex in Research Triangle Park.

The Sheriff's Office has partnered with the Research Triangle Foundation (RTF) in preparation for a massive transformation in Research Triangle Park (RTP) that is currently underway. RTP is building a series of residential units and hotels across the campus which is converting the 8-5 corporate park hours into a Live Work Play 24/7 campus. This evolution will increase emergency responses from all public safety departments with the Sheriff's Office as the primary law enforcement agency. The Sheriff's Office is predicting an increase to all calls for service such as traffic accidents, assaults, burglaries, civil process and animal services.

The Sheriff's Annex will be located at 4000 Sancar Way, an optimal location for providing community services and rapid responses to emergency calls. The landlord has agreed to pay for construction upfit costs up to $875,000, and the landlord will provide maintenance, structural repairs, and janitorial services. Additional terms are noted in the attached lease agreement.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Goal 3: Safe Community

Resource Persons: David LaBarre, Director of Planning and Development, Durham County Sheriff's Office; Scott Levitan, CEO and President of Research

Triangle Foundation, Clarence Birkhead, Durham County Sheriff; Maurice Jones, Deputy County Manager.

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve a Lease Agreement between One Park Venture LLC (Landlord), and the County of Durham (Tenant) at 4000 Sancar Way, Durham, NC 27713 for the Durham County Sheriff's Office Annex in Research Triangle Park. The agreement is a 5-year term for $1.00 annually

Attachments: Execution Version RTF 4000 Park (Durham Sheriff) Lease Agreement - 4908-3

25-0508 **Authorize the Chair to Sign Required Grant Application Documents in Support of Durham County's Engineering & Environmental Services - Utilities Funding Application for Chin Page Road Lift Station**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to review the Application for Funding for the Chin Page Road Lift Station, authorize the Chair to sign the Resolution for submission to North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), and authorize the County Manager to complete the Certification and sign the application. A copy of the application that includes the Resolution is attached.

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

- Strategic Plan Goal "Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment" by maintaining, protecting, and improving natural and built systems to support a sustainable community.
- Strategic Plan Goal "Financial Stewardship" by collecting, funding, and managing resources for high quality service delivery.

Resource Persons: Jay Gibson PE, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services; Vince Chirichella, Senior Project Manager**;** Taylor Dunning, Grant Administrator for Engineering and Environmental Services; Stephanie Brixey, Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board review the Application for Funding for the Chin Page Road Lift Station and sign the Resolution for submission to North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) and approve the County Manager to complete the Certification and sign the application.

Attachments: AAF Supplemental Document - Chin Page Application 2025

Durham County 2025 Fall Division Application

Durham County 2025 Fall Resolution

25-0511 **Approval of Capital Project Amendment No. 26CPA006 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC020 Appropriating $591,000 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to the PAYGO Fund to Support the New Lincoln Community Health**

Center Building Modernization Upgrades Capital Project (4730DC167)

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to approve Capital Project Amendment No. 26CPA006 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC020 appropriating $591,000 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance and transferring that funding to the PAYGO Fund to support the new Lincoln Community Health Center Building Modernization Upgrades Capital Project (4730DC167), which will fund urgent repairs at the Lincoln Community Health Center.

Project Name and Number	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
LCHC Building Modernization Upgrades Project (4730DC167)	$0.00	$591,000.00	$591,000.00
TOTAL	**$0.00**	**$591,000.00**	**$591,000.00**

The Lincoln Community Health Center (LCHC) is located at 1301 Fayetteville St., Durham serving the uninsured in the Durham community. The funds will be used to complete repairs and replacement of various systems within the facility in the amount of $591,000.00 including a 10% contingency**.** (See Attachment 1, Pages 1-37).

The facility was constructed in 1982 and many of the building systems require repairs and/or replacement to keep the facility operational serving the most vulnerable in the community. The repairs and replacements include replacing the existing generator, hot water coils associated with buildings chiller equipment, replacing (2) existing elevators and patching and striping of existing parking lots and associated activities.

Funding for these contracts will be provided by Durham County with the Lincoln Community Health Center administering the contracts to expedite the repairs. Lincoln has agreed to commit initial funding for the projects and receive reimbursement from the County, similar to what the County has done on previous Grant-funded projects performed at the facility. Completion of these repairs and improvements will provide a reliable working environment for staff and citizens seeking Public Health services at Lincoln Community Health Center.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This project aligns with Goal 5 by providing a reliable working environment for staff and citizens seeking Public Health services

Resource Persons: Peri Manns, ASLA, Deputy Director or Engineering & Environmental Services, Brenda Hayes-Bright, Assoc. AIA, CDT, MPM, Project Manager, Keith Lane, Director of Budget and Management Services, Claretta Foye, Chief Executive Officer, Lincoln Community Health Center.

County Manager's Recommendation: The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to approve Capital Project Amendment No. 26CPA006 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC020 appropriating $591,000 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance and transferring that funding to the PAYGO Fund to support the new Lincoln Community Health Center Building Modernization Upgrades

Capital Project (4730DC167), which will fund urgent repairs at the Lincoln Community Health Center.

Attachments:
AAF_Supplemental_Lincoln Building Modifications8222025
AAF Attachment 1 Quotes
AAF-20 LEGAL FORM Appropriating Debt Service FB to PAYGO for LCHC Cap
CPA-06 LEGAL FORM Appropriating Debt Service Fund FB to PAYGO for LCH

25-0517 **Authorize the County Manager to Execute a Purchase of Goods Contract with Blink Charging for the 500 E Main Street Parking Deck Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the amount of $75,684.65 plus contingency with a Not to Exceed amount of $80,684.65**

Agenda Text:
The Board is requesting approval of the Purchase of Goods and Services contract with Blink Charging for the purchase of 12 Dual Port Power Electric Vhicle Charging Stations includes Installation, Commissioning, 1 year warranty, 1-Year Network Service and, Consulting, remote system monitoring and reporting from Contract #042221-SEM Contract for the procurement of: Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment and Related Services for the 500 East Main Street Deck (located at 114 S. Elizabeth St.). for the 500 East Main Street Deck (located at 114 S. Elizabeth St.) Durham, NC in the amount of $75,684.65 plus owner's contingency at $5,000 to execute any other related EV items that may arise for proper installation, if necessary, not to exceed the total amount of $80,684.65. The funding for the Electric Vehicle Chargers and Installation is in the 500 E. Main St. Deck Capital Project account.

The original approval from August 25,2025 (25-0461), authorized the County to enter contract with Green Tech, LLC. At that time, it was understood that Blink Charging would serve as the equipment vendor to Green Tech, LLC, and the Board item was presented under that impression.

After further coordination with both the installer and the equipment vendor, staff determined that the purchasing contract should properly be executed with Blink Charging. Blink will then subcontract the installation services through its Sourcewell buying program to Green Tech, LLC. This structure ensures compliance with procurement requirements and accurately reflects the contractual relationship between the County, Blink Charging, and Green Tech, LLC.

As part of the County's Renewable Energy Initiatives and Goals, the County is pursuing an increased number of EV Charging stations to be included in this project. The purchase and installation of the stations are outside of the Developer's scope and are being purchased by Durham County, allowing us to take advantage of lower costs through the State Contract referenced above. At the conclusion of the installation, these charging stations allow us to have over 2.5% of the spaces within the deck to have EV charging capabilities and the electrical infrastructure has been upgraded to

allow us to expand to 10% in the future if necessary.

This deck development agreement was approved by the BOCC during the December 13, 2021, Regular Session meeting and the project has obtained a Certificate of Occupancy. The project team is currently addressing closeout/occupancy required items needed allow full functionality of the deck which opened to the Public on August 25, 2025. Because EV Charging technology is ever evolving, it makes sense to purchase these later in the construction process in attempt to have the latest technology possible.

North Carolina General Statute 143-129(e) (9) allows local governments to be exempted from competitive bidding requirements in lieu of purchasing furnishings/equipment through NC State Contract.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Sustainable Infrastructure & Environment. This strategic goal is being used to aid the County in reaching our Renewable Energy Goals while significantly reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Resource Persons: Haley Williamson, Renewable Energy Project Manager, Peri Manns, Deputy Director, Dan Nosbusch, Project Manager, and Tobin Fried, Sustainability Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager Recommends that the Board Authorize the execution of Purchase of Goods contract with Blink for the purchase of 12 Dual Port Power Electric Vehicle Charging Stations includes Installation, Commissioning, 1 year warranty, 1-Year Network Service and, Consulting, remote system monitoring and reporting from Contract #042221-SEM Contract for the procurement of: Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment and Related Services for the 500 East Main Street Deck project located at (114 S. Elizabeth St.), Durham NC in the amount of $75,684.65 plus owners contingency at $5,000 to execute any other related EV items that may arise for proper installation, if necessary, not to exceed the total amount of $80,684.65.

Attachments:

Attachment 1- AAF - Supplemental Form - 500 E. Main St. Deck Electric Vehicle

Attachment 2- Blink Durham County Parking Garage 12 dual Sourcewell Quote

Attachment 3- Sourcewell Contract 042221-SEM Pricing Sheet

Attachment 4 - Sourcwell CCGI 042221-Contract Extension

Attachment 5- Blink EV Charging Station for State & Local Government

25-0525 Approval of Property Tax Releases and Refunds for August 2025

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to approve the Releases & Refunds for August 2025, 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 monthly releases and refunds for August 2025.

This month's report includes releases and refunds for tax year 2025 totaling $ 612,131.50. Prior tax years' (2015-2024) releases and refunds are in the amount of $51,377.96. August 2025, releases and refunds total $ 663,509.46.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with Durham County Strategic Goal: Financial Stewardship. This request is to ensure the county complies with financial requirements 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 August 2025, as presented and authorize the Tax Assessor to adjust the tax records as outlined by the report.

Attachments:
Releases and Refunds Backup Detail-August 2025-Sept 22, 2025
Backup-Bill Release Report August 2025-Sept 22, 2025
Backup-Pending Refund Report_August 2025-Sept 22, 2025
NCVTS July Refunds

25-0531 National Association of Counties (NACo) FEMA Sign On Letter

Agenda Text:

The Board is requested to authorize the Chair to sign and submit a formal letter of support for the bipartisan Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act (H.R. 4669) to the County's federal legislative delegation.

The FEMA Act introduces critical reforms to the federal disaster recovery system, aimed at reducing administrative burdens and accelerating support to local governments and residents in the aftermath of disasters. These reforms directly address challenges experienced by counties, particularly related to reimbursement delays, application complexity, and lack of transparency in federal recovery processes.

Key provisions supported by the County include:

- Universal Disaster Application to streamline survivor access to multiple federal programs.
- Public Assistance Program Reform shifting from a reimbursement-based model to an upfront grant-based model.
- Public Assistance Dashboard for real-time tracking of project approvals and disbursements.
- Modernized Mitigation Programs to help counties proactively prepare for future disasters.

This legislative advocacy aligns with the County's broader goals of improving emergency response capacity, enhancing disaster resilience, and ensuring equitable access to federal recovery resources

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

Resource Persons: Dwane Brinson, Assistant County Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board authorize the Chair to sign and submit a formal letter of support for the bipartisan Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act (H.R. 4669) to the County's federal legislative delegation.

Attachments: FEMA Act_Form Support Letter

8. Board and Commission Appointments (10 min)

25-0512 **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:

- Audit Oversight Committee
- Discover Durham Tourism Development Authority
- Environmental Affairs Board
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Memorial Stadium Authority

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 focus area: High Performing Organization.

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 - 9.22.2025

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

10. Closed Session

25-0530 **Closed Session**

Agenda Text: The Board is requested to adjourn into Closed Session for the following:

- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations; pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

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

Resource Persons: Andy Miracle, Economic Development Director, Larissa Williamson, County Attorney

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

11. Adjournment