



State of the County

Presented by
Chair Brenda Howerton
April 11, 2022





Durham County Commissioners

2020 - present



Chairman

Brenda Howerton



Vice Chair

Wendy Jacobs



Commissioner

Heidi Carter



Commissioner

Nimasheena Burns



Commissioner

Nida Allam





Making History



County Manager Dr. Kimberly Sowell

- Hired March 2022
- Eighth county manager
- First female county manager

County Manager's 90 Day Plan

- Meet and greet employees
 - General Managers
 - County Manager staff
 - Department Directors
 - Entire staff
 - Employee small group meetings
- Individual meetings with Board of Commission members
- Walk and Talk with the Manager
- Department visits
- Meet with community partners





General Managers



Deborah Craig-Ray



Joanne Pierce



Gudrun Parmer



Jay Gibson



Peri Manns



Claudia Hager



A Special Message of Thanks



General Manager Claudia Hager

- Served as Interim County Manager from Spring 2021-Spring 2022



BOCC Appointees



Acting County Attorney

Willie Darby



Clerk to the Board

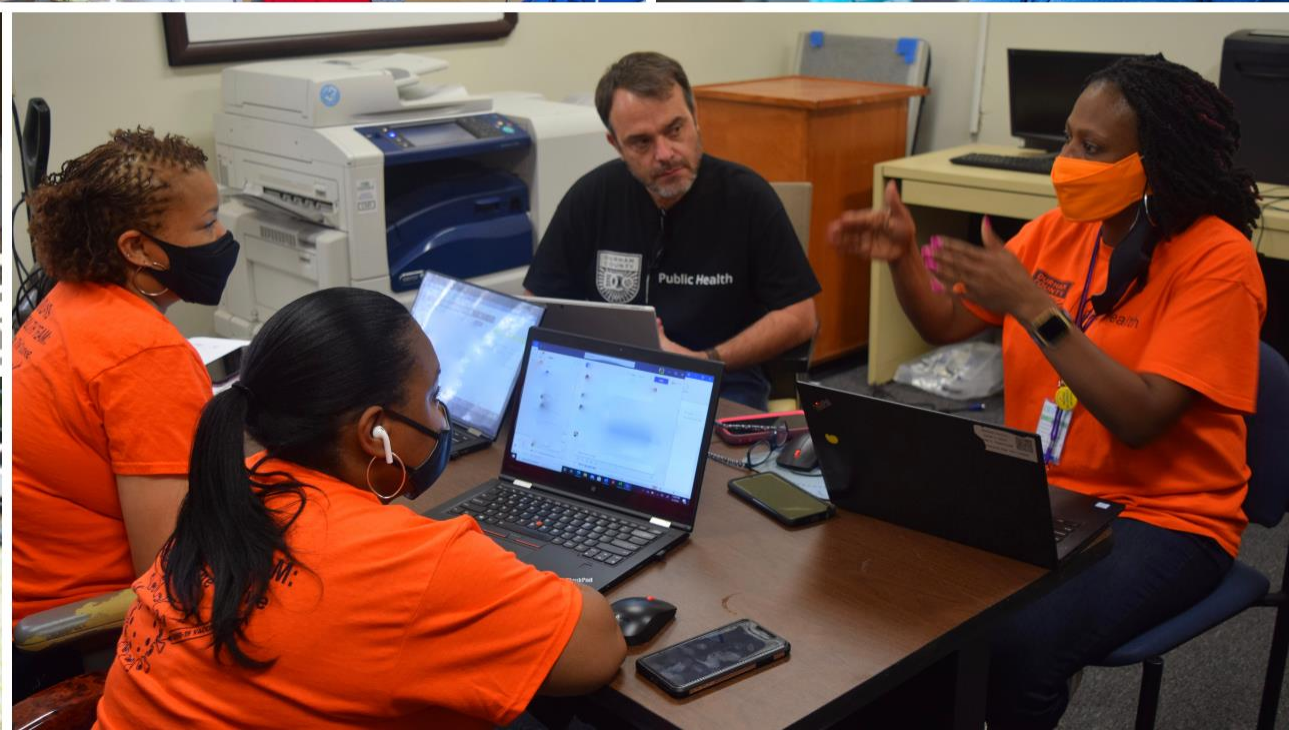
Monica Wallace



Tax Administrator

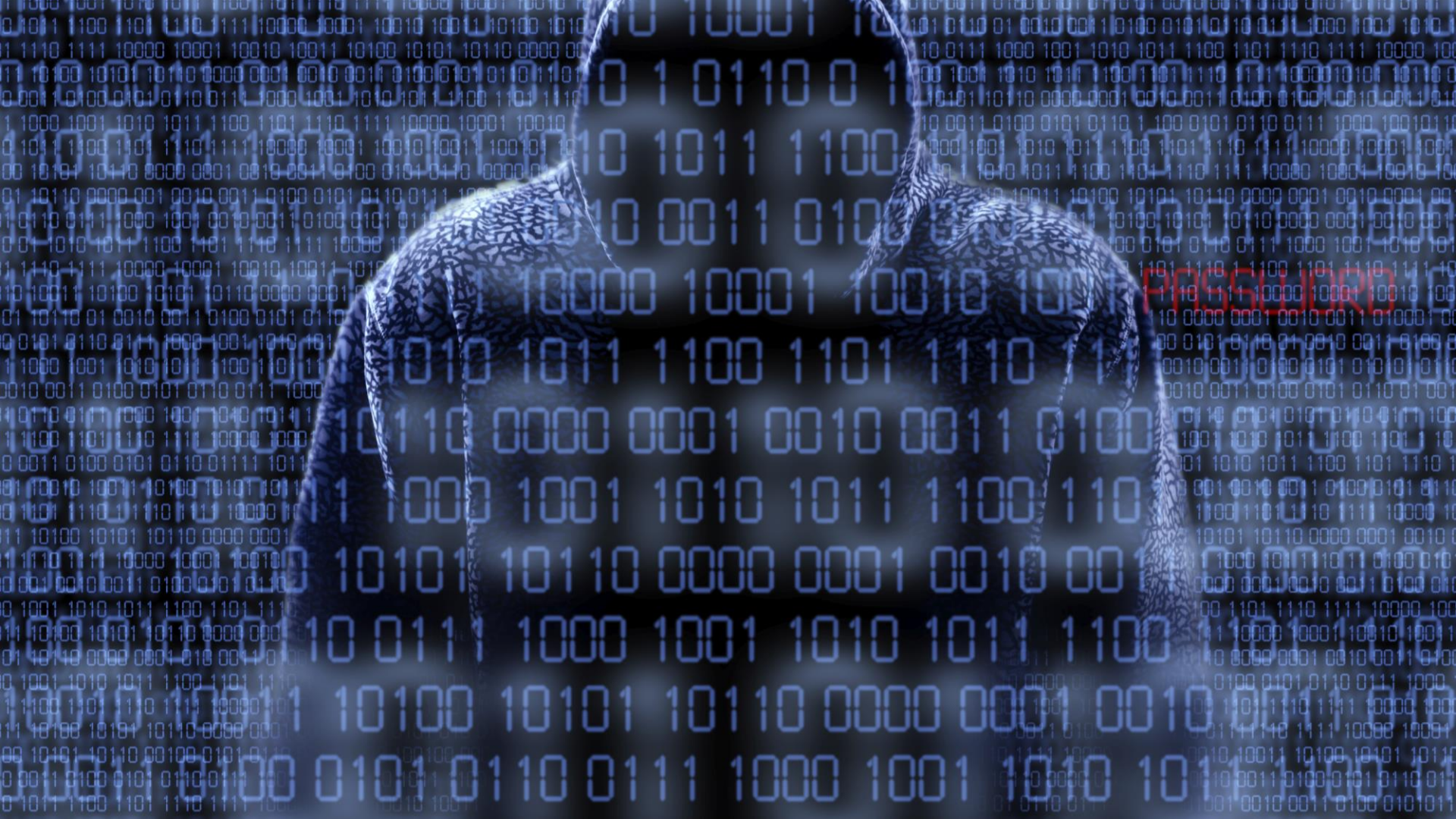
Dwane Brinson



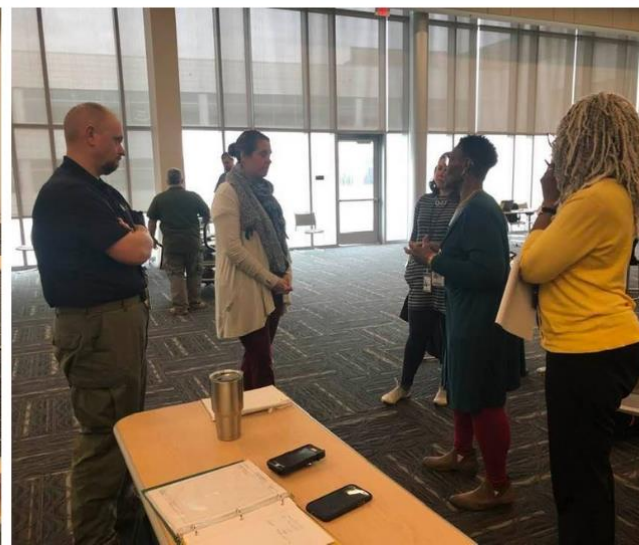
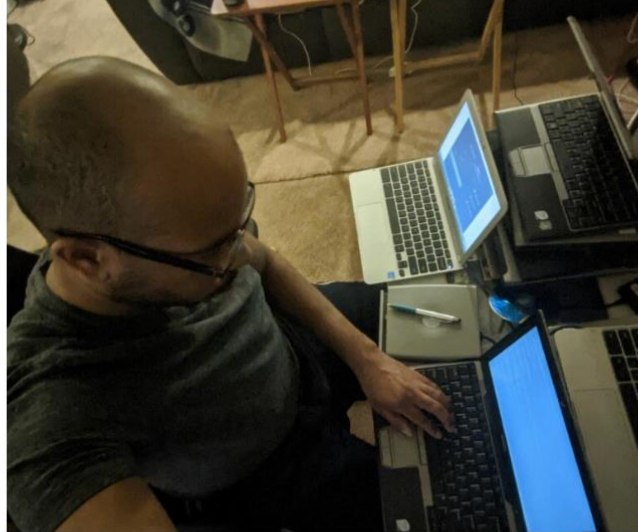








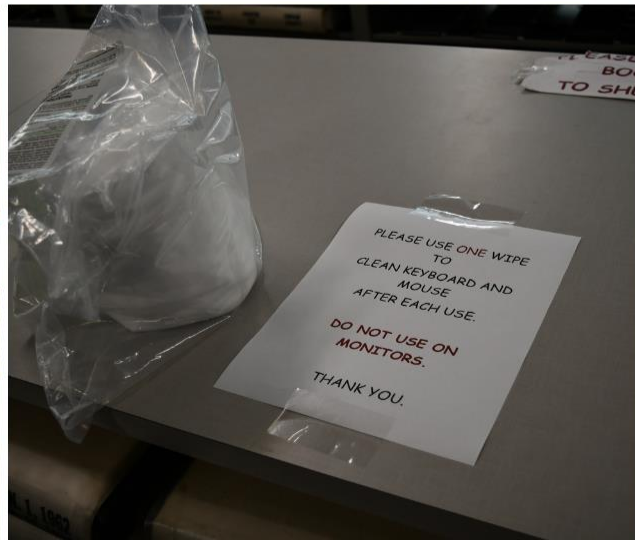
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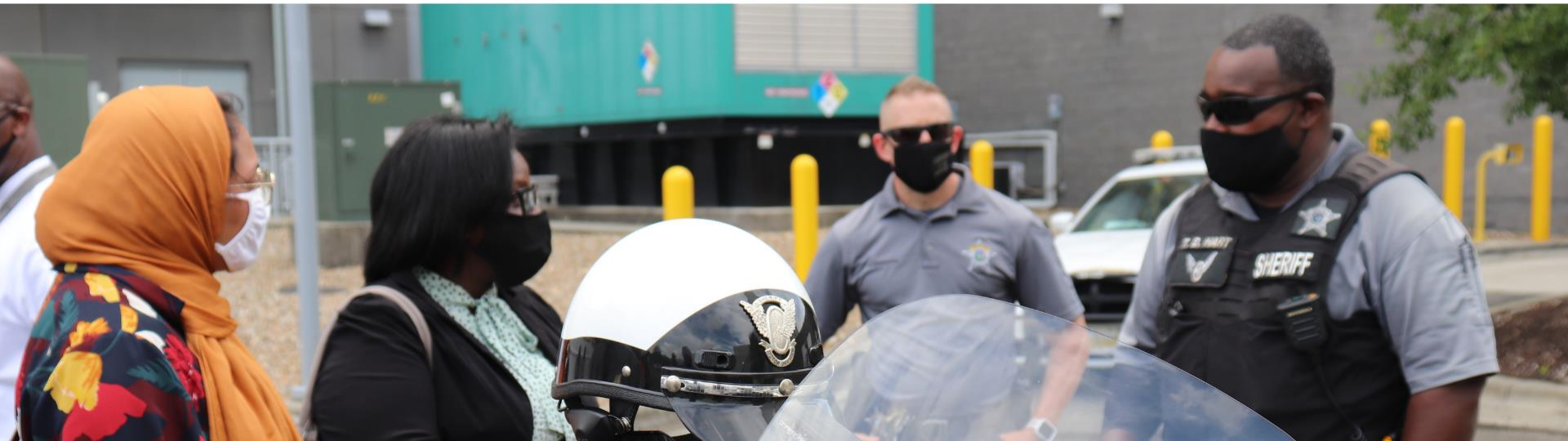
Collaborative Organization & Resilience



- In 2020, Durham County was presented with the challenges of a malware attack and a public health crisis.
- Emergency Management and Public Health worked together to assist and inform the community about the COVID-19 crisis.
- Critical response departments remained on the frontlines around the clock to provide support to the community.









Innovative Services at DCo Library

Durham County Library created Library Take-Out system to allow residents to safely access library services until **July 2021**.

Library Take-Out!
Expanded Hours

Now
Including
Main
Library!

Tuesday–Friday 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Reserve materials online or by calling your library location.



DURHAM COUNTY
Library





Transformation Main & Library Reopening



COVID-19 Messaging



Rod Jenkins

Director of Durham County Department of Public Health

Rod Jenkins and Public Health

- Released weekly videos on trends and critical information.
- Provided regular COVID-19 messaging in English and Spanish.

If you leave home, know your Ws!



WEAR
a cloth face
covering.



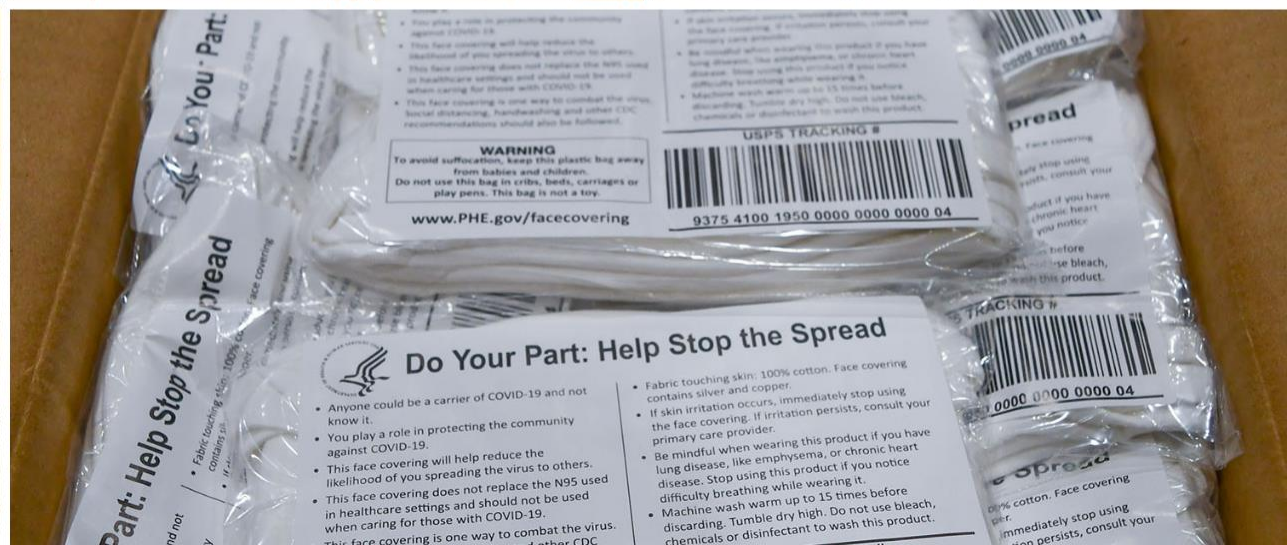
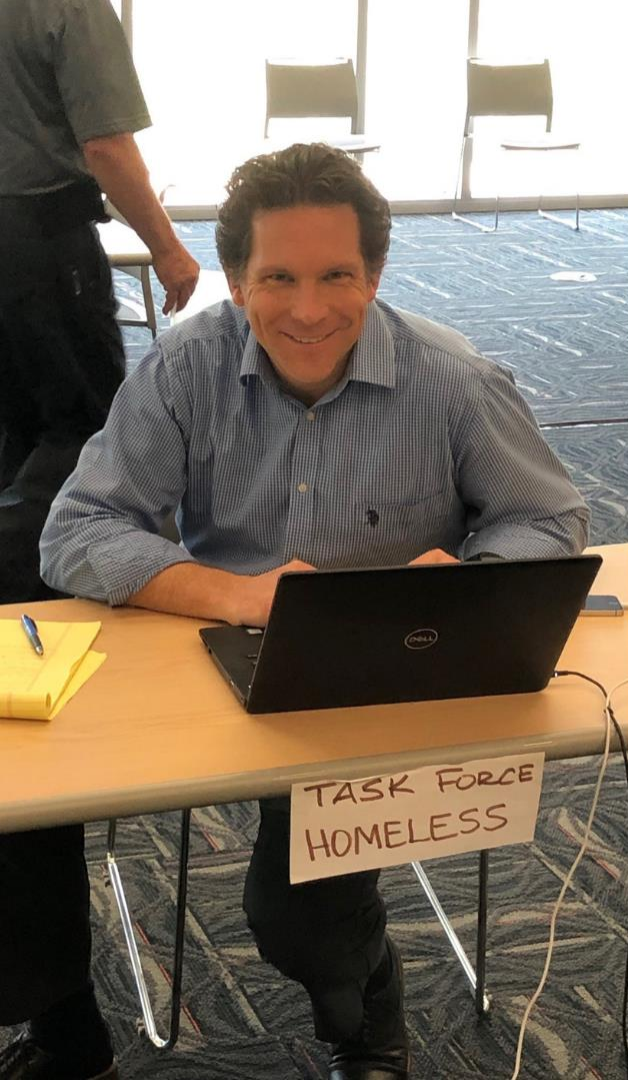
WAIT
6 feet apart. Avoid
close contact.



WASH
your hands often or
use hand sanitizer.

@NCDHHS

#StayStrongNC





Approval of COVID-19 Vaccine

United States approves COVID Vaccine.
Durham County Public Health began
**distributing Pfizer, Moderna
and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.**











Moving Forward

"As we enter **the next phase** of individual responsibility, preparedness and prosperity, it's time to chart a new course."

~ **NC Governor Roy Cooper**



- In February 2022, Governor Roy Cooper encourages **counties** to **manage health and safety** of their communities.



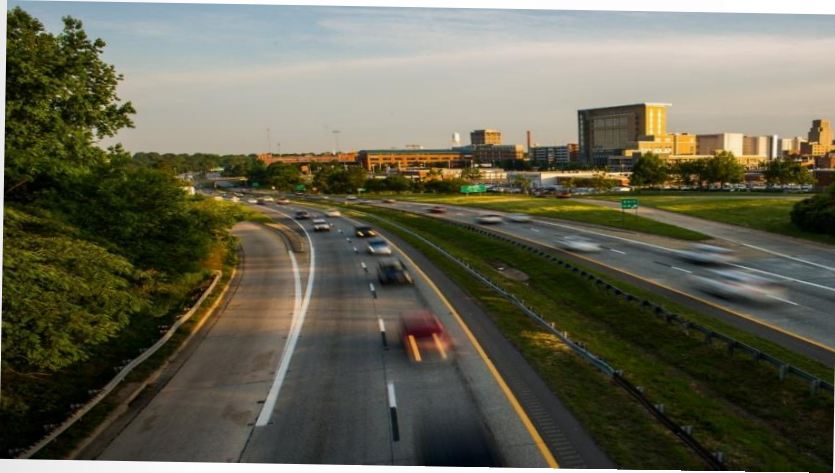
Durham Indoor Mask Requirement Ends March 7





Photo Credit: Discover Durham

Economic Development & Expansion



- **Smart Wires**, bringing its corporate headquarters and investing \$21.5 million dollars and creating 250 jobs
- **Beam Therapeutic**, which brought an \$83 million dollar deal
- **Eli Lilly and Company** which announced a \$474 Million dollar deal
- **Google Cloud Hub**, which will eventually bring 1,000 jobs to the area.

A photograph of the Research Triangle Park entrance sign. The sign is a long, low, light-colored concrete wall with the words "RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK" in large, dark, sans-serif capital letters. In front of the sign is a dense bed of green plants with long, narrow leaves and numerous bright yellow flowers. Behind the sign, a thick line of green bushes is visible, and in the background, a dense forest of tall, leafy green trees rises against a clear sky.

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK

Photo Credit: Discover Durham





Emergency Federal Funding

American Rescue Plan Act

Durham County :
\$62,445,275

City of Durham:
\$51,881,733

ARPA/CARES/ESSER

Durham Public Schools:

Emergency Federal Relief Fund	Date Passed	North Carolina K-12 Education Appropriations	DPS Appropriation
Coronavirus Aid Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES/ ESSER I)	Mar-20	\$390M	\$11.9M
Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSSA/ ESSER II)	Dec-20	\$1.6B	\$46.57M
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA /ESSER III)	Mar-21	\$3.6B	\$104.2M



Primary ways counties may invest ARPA Funds:

Support public health response:

COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral health care and certain county public health, public safety, human services and other related staff

Address negative economic impacts:

Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries and rehiring of public sector workers (including county staff)

Replace public sector revenue loss:

Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced during the pandemic – *this provision allows a much broader use of funds*

Premium pay for essential workers:

Offer additional compensation, up to \$13 per hour in additional wages, to those – both county employees and other workers in the community – who have faced and continue to face the greatest health risks due to their service.


Water and sewer infrastructure:

Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, invest in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure

Broadband infrastructure:



Provide investments to provide unserved or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access

- **March 31, 2022**, Durham County hosted Community Engagement Event on American Rescue Plan Act to hear from residents about gaps in broadband access.



JOIN US!

BROADBAND EXPANSION INFO SESSION



WHAT
Durham County Government plans to invest a portion of ARPA funds to support expanded broadband access. Come and hear about this exciting infrastructure investment and share your thoughts.

WHERE
Durham Technical College
Northern Durham Center, Building 1
2401 Snow Hill Rd.

WHEN
Thursday
MARCH 31ST
7:00-8:30 P.M.

WATCH
[YOUTUBE.COM/DCWEBMASTER](https://www.youtube.com/dcwebmaster)
OR
FACEBOOK:
[@DURHAMCOUNTYGov](https://www.facebook.com/DurhamCountyGov)

Summary

- Please complete the Broadband Survey
- Spread the word to friends, neighbors and businesses

www.kalamazoo-mi.gov







Key Dates

DECEMBER 31, 2024: Funds must be *incurred* and obligated

DECEMBER 31, 2026: Funds must be *expended* to cover obligations and all work must be completed

[Overview for America's Counties: U.S. Treasury Interim Final Rule & Guidance For State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \(naco.org\)](#)



Budget Approval by the BOCC

- **\$736 million** current budget
- **\$166 million** funding for Durham Public Schools providing **\$5.62 million** for Pre-K.





Long-Term Homeowner Grant Program



- **\$942,000** supporting residents at or below 30% of the area median income.



City-County Racial Equity Commission Created

- **Advocating for policies** to help eliminate the burden of systematic and institutional inequities and racism in Durham County.



Durham Community Safety & Wellness Task Force



- **Evaluating** institutional and community-based safety and wellness resources.





Refugee and Immigrant Affairs Strategist



- Position created to **build relationships and partnerships** with organizations that serve the immigrant community.

Durham Master Aging Plan Committee

- Lays the groundwork to improve support for Durham's **older adults**.
- Created to help Durham become **one of the healthiest counties** in the nation.



Photo by [Colin Rowley](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Durham Master Aging Plan
2020 - 2025





Nondiscrimination Ordinance

- Created to protect LGBTQIA+ residents from **discriminatory practices**.



ARPA Allocations to Date

Total Earmarked to Date: \$5.1 million

- Janitorial contracts for COVID-19 County building cleaning standards: **\$1.2 million***
- Increased security services due to COVID-19: **\$530,000***
- COVID Screening in high traffic areas to include HHS, Courthouse and Libraries: **\$515,000***
- Support for ongoing non-congregate housing needs: **\$936,000***
- Indirect revenue loss / increased expenses for Durham Convention Center: **\$408,000**
- Court Facility fees revenue loss from COVID-19: **\$260,000**
- Vaccine Equity – Community Health Workers: **\$650,000**
- School Health Nurses partial offset: **\$550,000**
- Minority Business Community Infrastructure Support: **\$50,000**

Special Tax Districts

District	FY 2016-17 Original Tax Rate	FY 2017-18 Requested Tax Rate	FY 2017-18 Recommended Tax Rate	Change from FY 2016-17
Lebanon	0.1056	0.1156	0.1156	0.01
Redwood	0.1344	0.1344	0.1344	-
New Hope*	0.0874	0.0874	0.0874	-
Eno*	0.0778	0.0778	0.0778	-
Bahama	0.0987	0.0987	0.0987	-
Durham County Fire & Rescue Service	0.1251	0.1251	0.1251	-
RTP Special District	.0629	.0679	.0679	0.005

*The New Hope and Eno fire tax district rates are established by neighboring Orange County through agreement.

BOCC Priority Areas

- Continue the **Tax Assistance Grant Program**
- Adopt the **Capital Improvement Plan**
- Expand funding to **support crime reduction and intervention** initiatives



BOCC Priority Areas



- Increase funding that supports **children and families**
- Increase funding to support **mental health and behavioral health services**
- Expand funding that supports **Black Maternal Health**

BOCC Priority Areas



- Expand transit **investments**
- **Implement Broadband** to our rural areas.
- **Expand universal** access to high quality **Pre-K**
- Allocate ARPA funds to support **transformative community investments**



Important Dates for FY '22-'23

- **May 9th** Recommended Budget Presentation
- **May 23rd** Public Hearing for Budget







Job Training for Durham's Youth



Youth ages 14-24 invited to participate in **Durham's YouthWorks Program**, a flexible workforce program preparing Durham's young adults for careers in top employment sectors in Durham.



Durham Technical Community College

Map

Legend

- Academic Building
- Administration Building
- Art Building
- Athletic Center
- Business Building
- Chemistry Building
- Computer Science Building
- Engineering Building
- Health Sciences Building
- Library
- Music Building
- Natural Sciences Building
- Physical Education Building
- Public Safety Building
- Student Center
- Technical Building
- Workshop Building

Map

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Community Innovation and Collaboration

- Local governments, institutional partners, and community organizations have **joined together to better connect residents** to career opportunities.

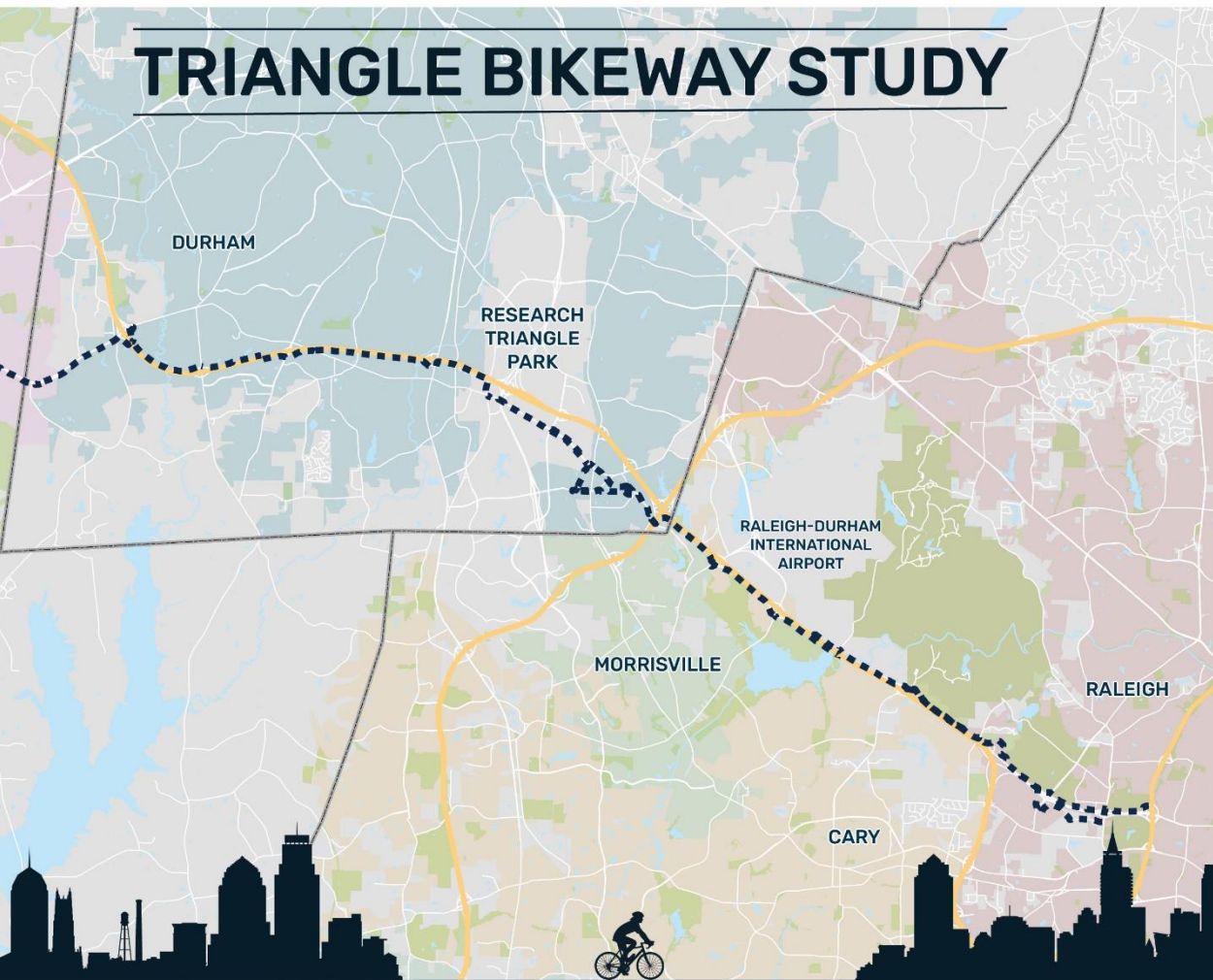


Building Local Labor Systems



Building Up Local Life Sciences (BULLS) initiative that provides success coaches, wrap-around support services, and life scholarships for students earning their certificate in biopharma manufacturing at Durham Tech.

TRIANGLE BIKEWAY STUDY







Reducing Violent Crime



A new Crime Cabinet formed to bring **people with a lived experience** who are closest to the pain of crime, to the table with decision makers.

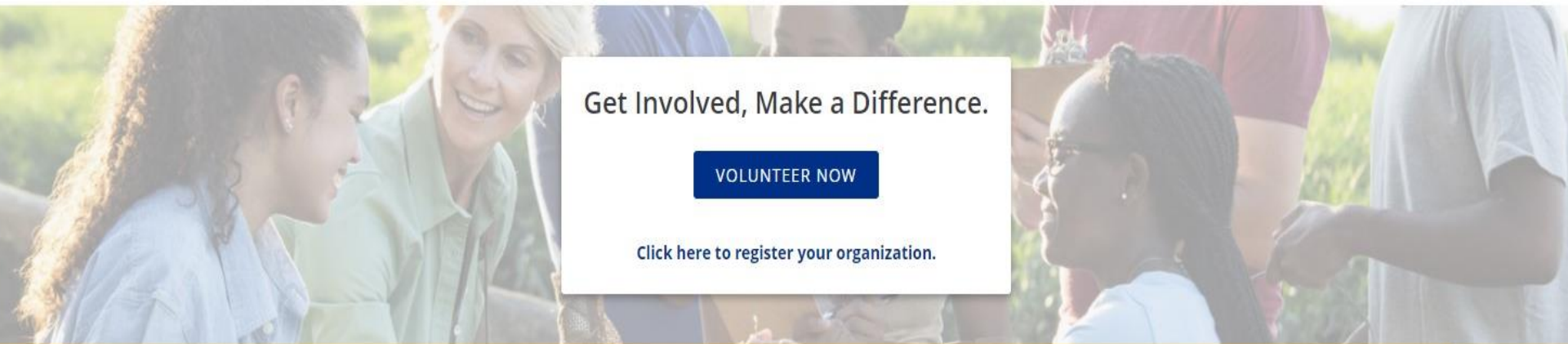


County Employees Give Back





HandsOn Triangle



Get Involved, Make a Difference.

[VOLUNTEER NOW](#)

[Click here to register your organization.](#)



COVID-19 Volunteers Needed

[SIGN UP](#)



Age 55+ Volunteers Needed!

[BROWSE
OPPORTUNITIES](#)



Become a Nonprofit Consultant

[SIGN UP](#)





Communitywide Accolades



- Durham is **#25 in the top 100 best places** to live in America by Livability
- Durham is **#29 among Most diverse cities** in America by Niche
- Durham is number **#66 of Best Cities for Young Professionals** by Niche







State of the County
Address 2022
Durham County Government



Thank You!



Live. Grow. *Thrive.*