

A low-angle photograph of the Durham County Court House, a grand neoclassical building with multiple stories, tall columns, and arched windows. The building is surrounded by green trees, and the sky is clear blue. The text "DURHAM COUNTY COURT HOUSE" is visible on the upper facade of the building.

# **DURHAM COUNTY RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

## **FY 2025-26**



# Durham County Concerns...



Medicaid

Transportation

Economic  
Development

RTP

Capital Projects

Aging

Education

Community  
Outreach

Open Space

Workforce  
Training

City/County

Tourism

Public Safety

Public Health

Bond  
Ratings

Planning

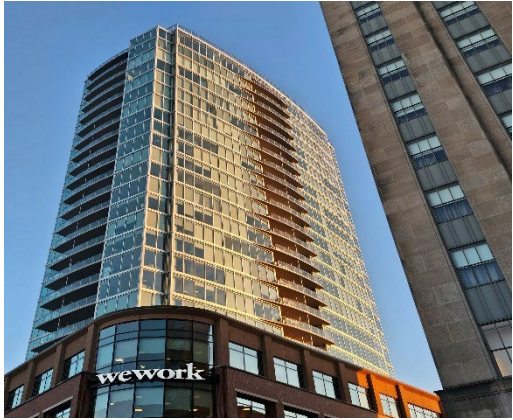
Taxation

Affordable Housing

Carbon Neutral

Environmental Protection





DCO FORWARD 2029

*Durham County Strategic Plan Update*







**Direction**



**Fiscal Stability**



**Community Safety**



**Growing Needs**





# FY 2025-26 Manager Budget Priorities

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- ❖ Maintain County's fiscal stability
  - ❖ Decrease use of Fund Balance to ensure sustainability into the future
  - ❖ Maximize existing revenue and recommend responsible tax rate
- ❖ Provide appropriate public safety services to a growing population
- ❖ Provide adequate funding for Durham Public Schools
- ❖ Support County employees
- ❖ Focus on reallocating existing positions to offset new position additions
- ❖ Provide services at current levels
- ❖ Provide adequate funding for planned capital projects

# FY 2025-26 Budget Outlook





# FY 2025-26 Budget Outlook



Photo Courtesy of Discover Durham



# FY 2025-26 Budget Outlook

Key “**natural growth**” revenues estimate **are lower than recent years** (*before a tax rate increase*)

## ➤ General Fund Budget Outlook

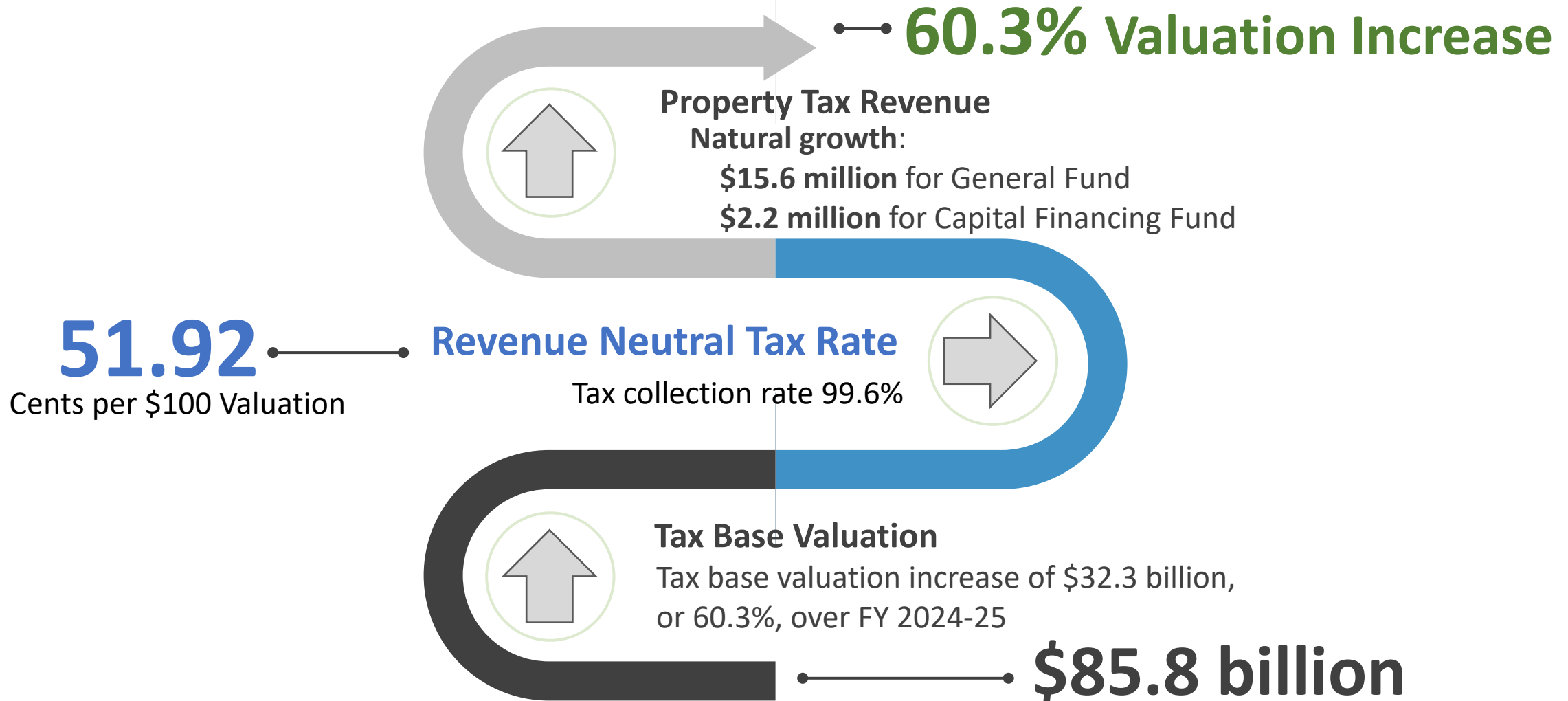
Property Tax:	\$15.6 million	Investment Income:	\$2.0 million
Sales Tax:	-\$629,009	Reg. of Deeds:	-\$100,000
Med. Hold Harmless:	\$1.0 million	Fund Balance:	-\$2.6 million

## ➤ Capital Financing Fund Budget Outlook

Property Tax:	\$2.2 million	Occupancy Tax:	-\$1.6 million
Sales Tax:	-\$597,923		



# FY 2025-26 Valuation and Revenue Neutral





# FY 2025-26 Property Tax

3.5 Cent Increase

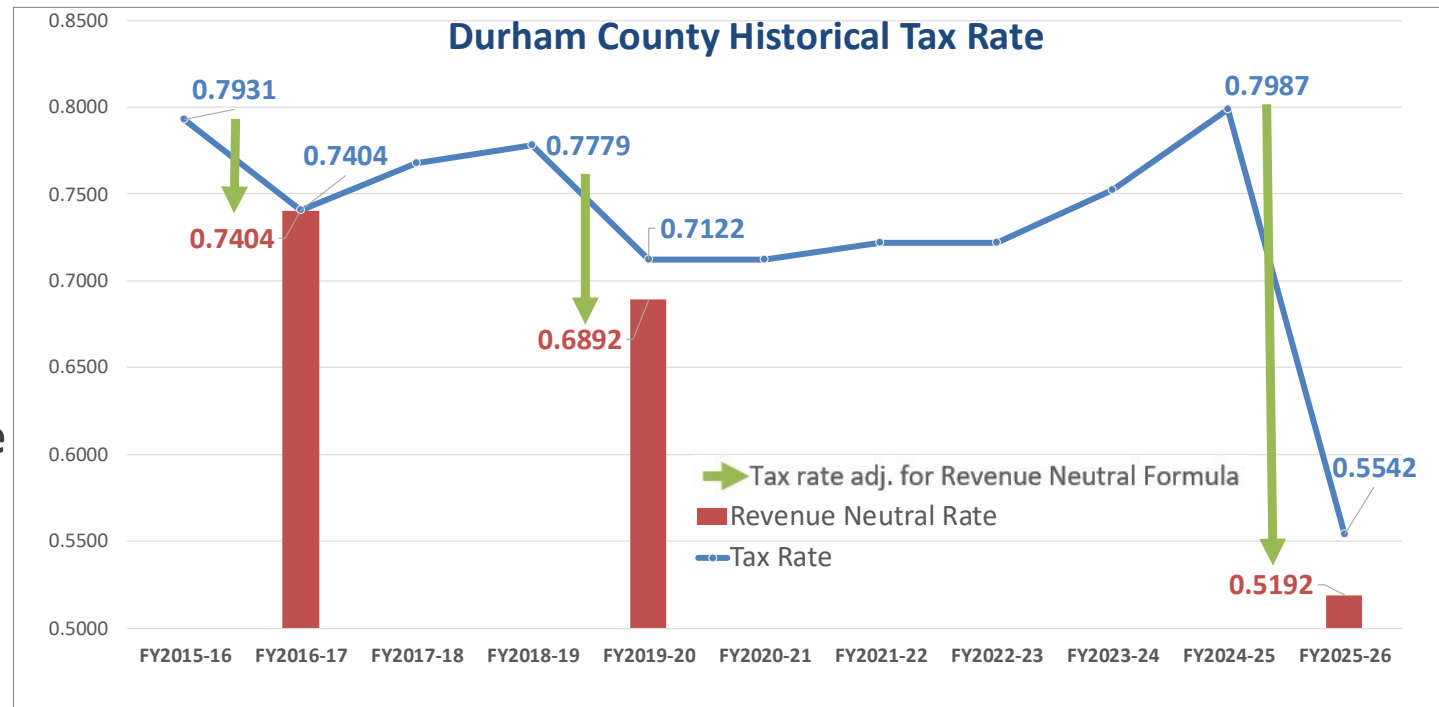


**Property Tax Rate 55.42 cents**  
General Fund (2.5 cents) & Capital Financing Fund (1.0)

**One Cent of Tax Rate Change**  
**\$8.54 million**



**Additional Property Tax Revenue**  
**\$21.31 Million General Fund**  
**\$8.54 Capital Finance Plan Fund**  
from tax rate change







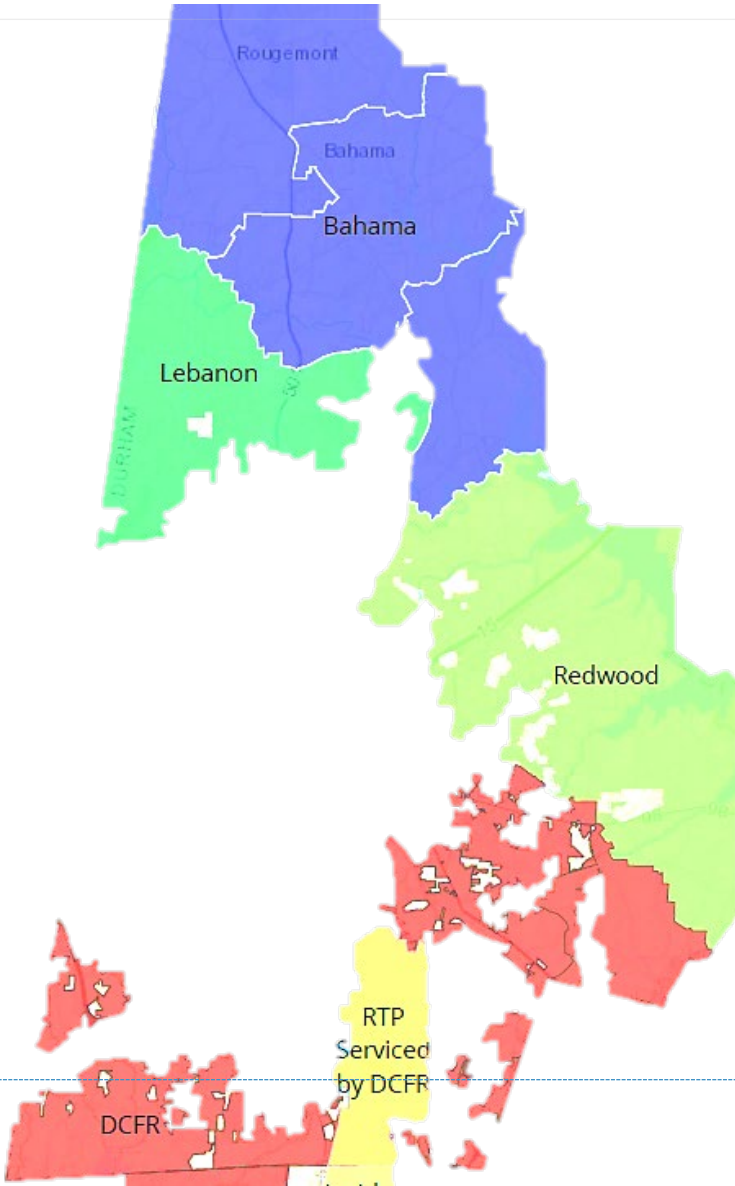
# FY 2025-26 Property Tax

PROPERTY TAX	FY 2024-25 Approved Tax Rate	FY2025-26 Revenue Neutral Tax Rate	FY 2025-26 Recommended Tax Rate	FY 2025-26 Projected Revenue
General Fund	69.76	43.35	47.85	\$409,197,931
Capital Financing Fund	10.11	6.57	7.57	\$64,657,123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79.87</b>	<b>51.92</b>	<b>55.42</b>	<b>\$473,855,054</b>

FY 2025-26 Total GF and CFP property tax revenue increase = **\$47.7 million**



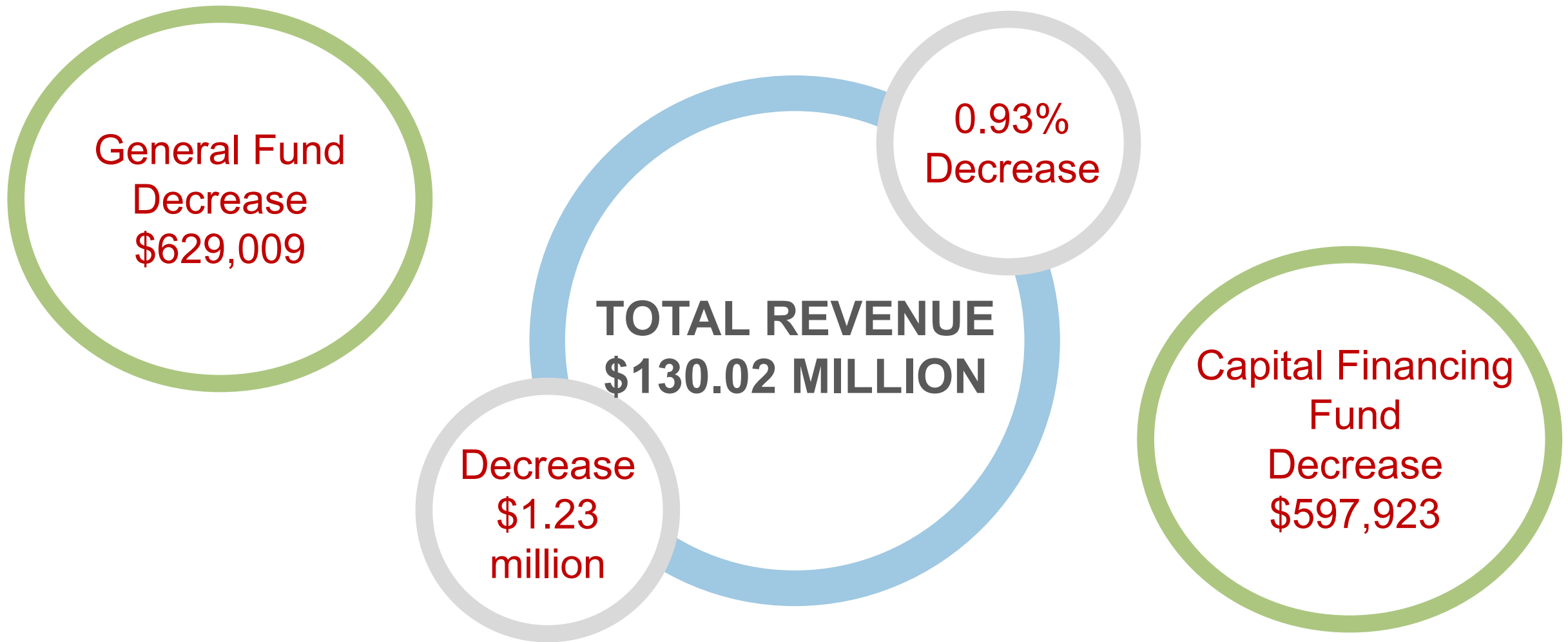
# Special Tax Districts



Tax Rate by District	FY 2025-26 Revenue Neutral	FY 2025-26 Recommended
Lebanon	7.69	9.19 (+1.5)
Redwood	8.33	9.07 (+0.74)
New Hope	4.91	6.41 (+1.50)
Eno	4.84	4.84
Bahama	7.78	8.83 (+1.05)
Durham County Fire & Rescue	8.79	8.29 (-0.5)
RTP Service Tax	6.31	7.8 (+1.49)
RTP Public Transportation Tax	1.79	2.5 (+0.71)



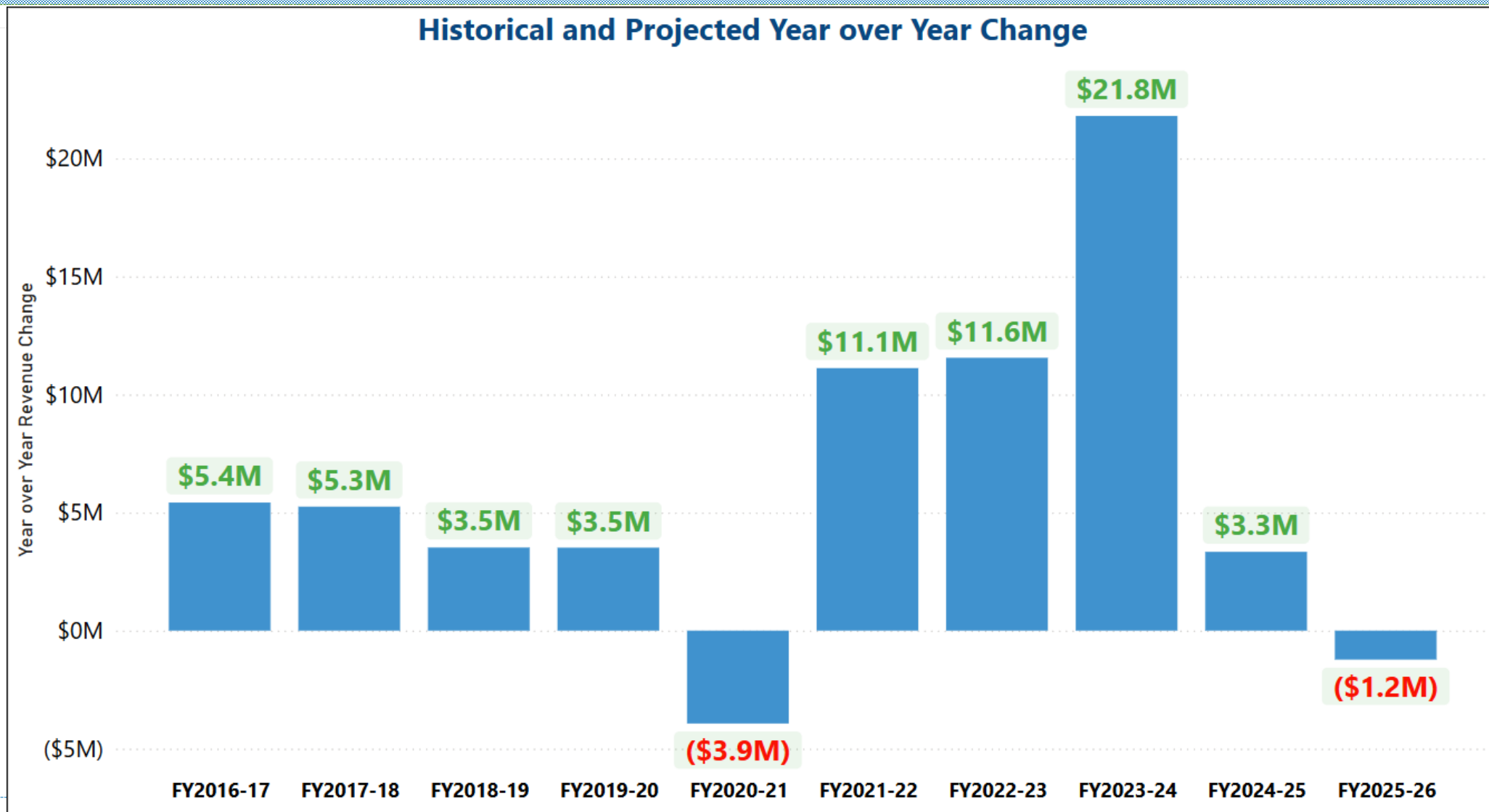
# FY 2025-26 Sales Tax



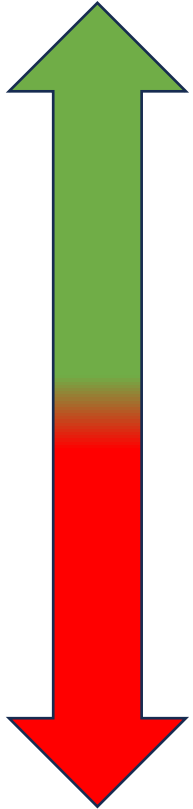




# FY 2025-26 Sales Tax



# FY 2025-26 Other Major Revenue Sources



## Investment Revenue

- Increase of **\$2 million**, total revenue budget of **\$7 million**

## State Hold Harmless

- Increase of **\$1 million**, total revenue budget of **\$10 million**

## EMS Patient Fees

- Decrease of **(\$1.8 million)**, total revenue budget of **\$16.06 million**

## Register of Deeds

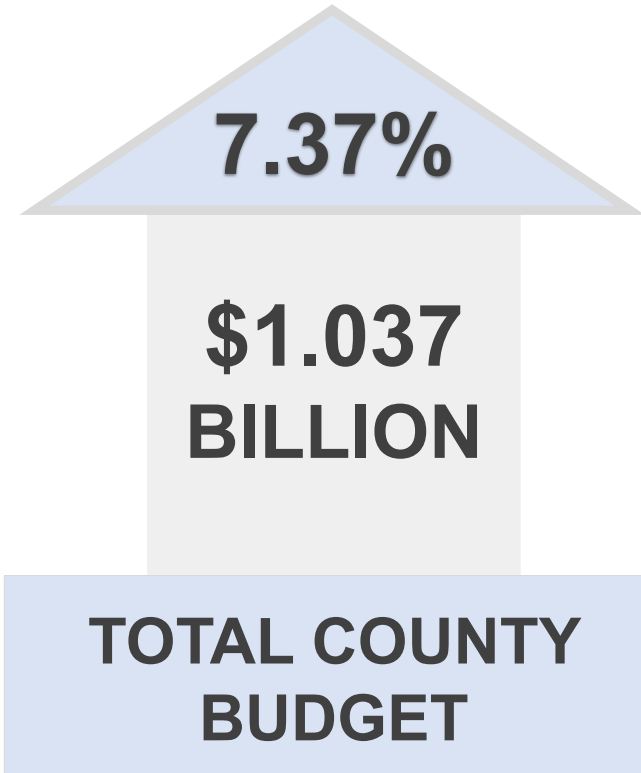
- Decrease of **(\$100,000)**, total revenue budget of **\$5.9 million**

## Lower Fund Balance Appropriation Included

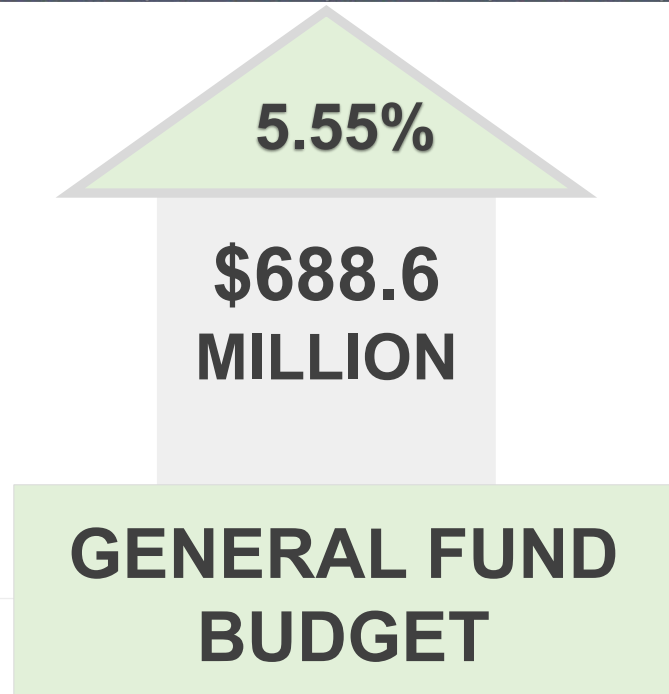
- Decrease of **(\$2.6 million)**, total revenue budget of **\$23.2 million**



# FY 2025-26 Expenditure Summary



Functional Area Name	FY 2023-24 Actuals	FY 2024-25 Original	FY 2024-25 Estimated	FY 2025-26 Requested	FY 2025-26 Recommend	\$ Change Rec. v. Orig.	% Change Rec. v. Orig.
General Government	\$173,003,287	\$181,607,958	\$190,585,265	\$198,267,347	\$193,462,411	\$11,854,453	6.53%
Public Safety	\$83,361,793	\$89,138,365	\$83,856,814	\$96,236,309	\$95,104,406	\$5,966,041	6.69%
Transportation	\$1,273,816	\$4,657,932	\$1,646,215	\$4,634,350	\$4,544,472	(\$113,460)	-2.44%
Environmental Protection	\$6,334,576	\$6,901,858	\$7,530,608	\$8,094,302	\$7,866,848	\$964,990	13.98%
Econom. & Physical Devlp.	\$8,388,699	\$9,804,532	\$9,601,673	\$11,077,837	\$10,419,457	\$614,925	6.27%
Human Services	\$117,715,897	\$113,243,104	\$105,126,282	\$118,646,688	\$114,815,668	\$1,572,564	1.39%
Education	\$208,634,771	\$230,521,600	\$230,577,903	\$254,164,354	\$245,125,951	\$14,604,351	6.34%
Cultural & Recreational	\$16,333,553	\$16,595,836	\$16,022,452	\$17,729,298	\$17,317,877	\$722,041	4.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$615,046,392</b>	<b>\$652,471,185</b>	<b>\$644,947,213</b>	<b>\$708,850,485</b>	<b>\$688,657,090</b>	<b>\$36,185,905</b>	<b>5.55%</b>



Fund SubCategory	FY 2023-24 Actuals	FY 2024-25 Original	FY 2024-25 Estimated	FY 2025-26 Requested	FY 2025-26 Recommend	\$ Change Rec. v. Orig.	% Change Rec. v. Orig.
General Funds	\$769,071,373	\$821,184,336	\$810,485,677	\$904,958,830	\$876,602,679	\$55,418,343	6.75%
Special Revenue Funds	\$15,160,797	\$15,454,565	\$14,002,363	\$18,458,783	\$18,369,774	\$2,915,209	18.86%
Debt Service Funds	\$130,144,113	\$108,841,636	\$108,013,174	\$116,589,842	\$116,589,842	\$7,748,206	7.12%
Enterprise Funds	\$17,663,646	\$20,694,580	\$22,033,212	\$25,859,286	\$25,859,286	\$5,164,706	24.96%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$932,039,929</b>	<b>\$966,175,117</b>	<b>\$954,534,425</b>	<b>\$1,065,866,741</b>	<b>\$1,037,421,581</b>	<b>\$71,246,464</b>	<b>7.37%</b>



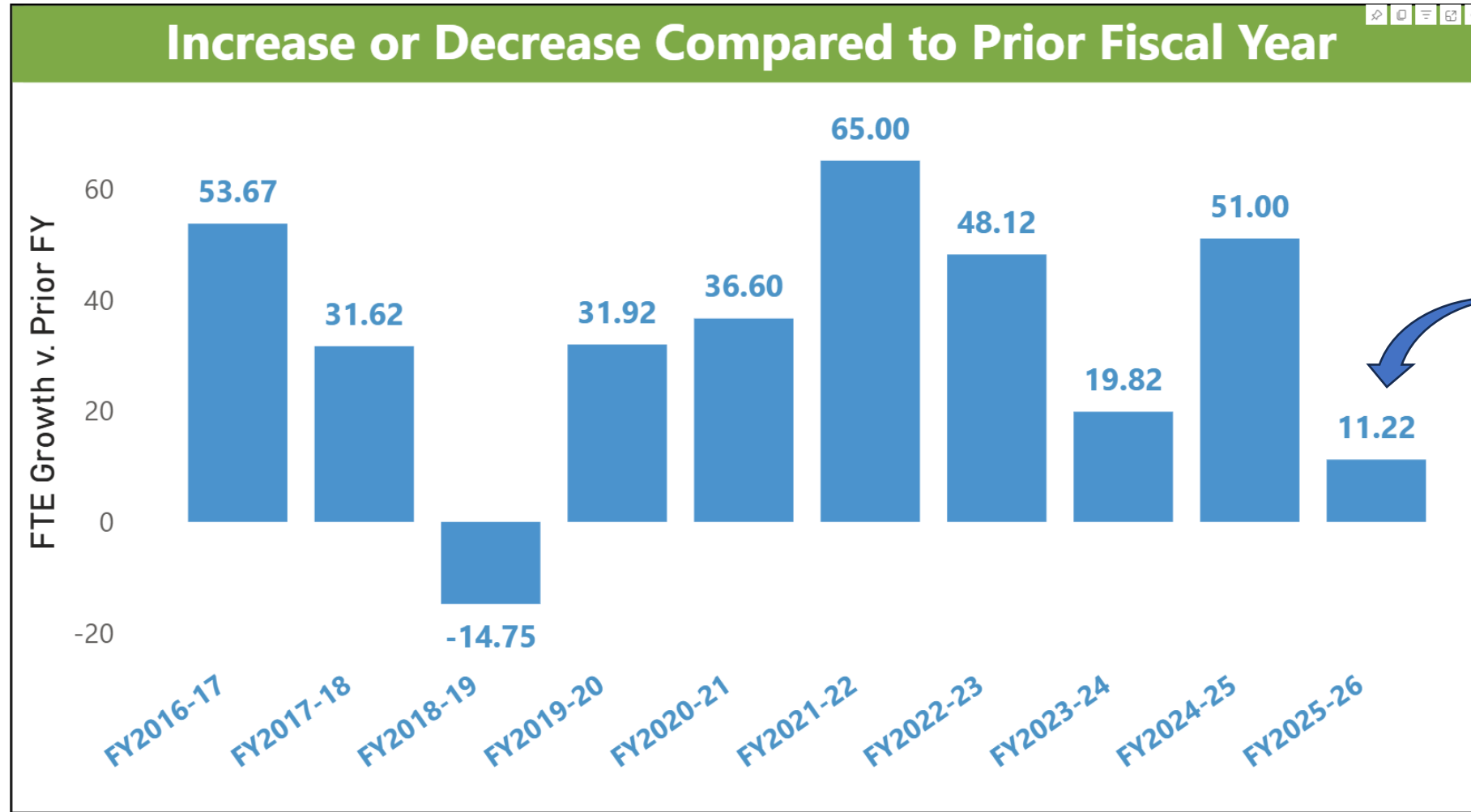
# FY 2025-26 Budget Outlook

## Priority Expenditures

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Additional funding support for DPS:                                    | <b>\$10.35 million</b> |
| 2. Employee Benefits (Insurance):   | <b>\$6.3 million</b>   |
| 3. Employee compensation increases:<br>Merit (Pay for Performance): 3%-4% | <b>\$5.3 million</b>   |
| 4. New Positions to address<br>increased service demands                  | <b>\$2.18 million</b>  |
| 5. Increased inflationary costs<br>(IT, Service Contracts)                | <b>\$986,531</b>       |



# New Position Growth



**20.5 New FTEs in  
FY 2025-26  
Budget**

*9.28 FTEs reduced  
during FY 2024-25*

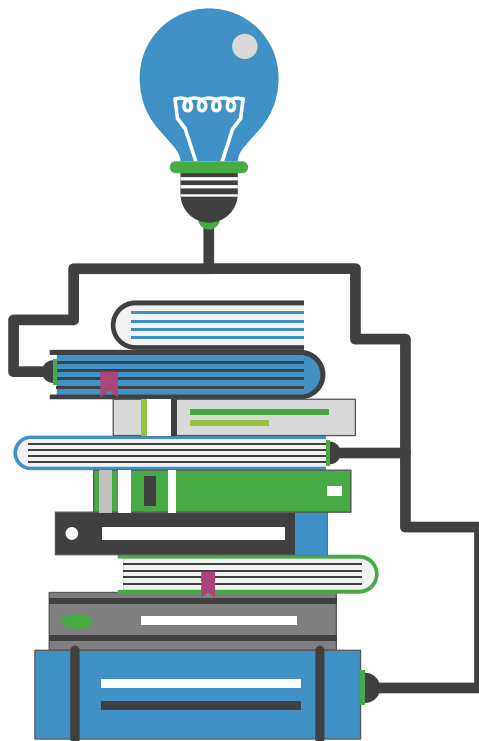
Durham County's population grew by 18% over the past decade. Additional staffing supported increased service demands. Some positions are offset by revenues.



# Durham Public Schools Funding

Per Pupil Funding  
increases \$128  
(2.4%) to \$5,496

\$6 million recurring Capital Funding



## Other DCo spending to support DPS

SROs \$2.6 million

Public Health \$3.8 million

Non-Profits \$177,050

DPS Debt Service \$61.8 million

Pre-K Support \$8.76 million

**Total = \$77.14 million**

\$10.35 million current expense increase

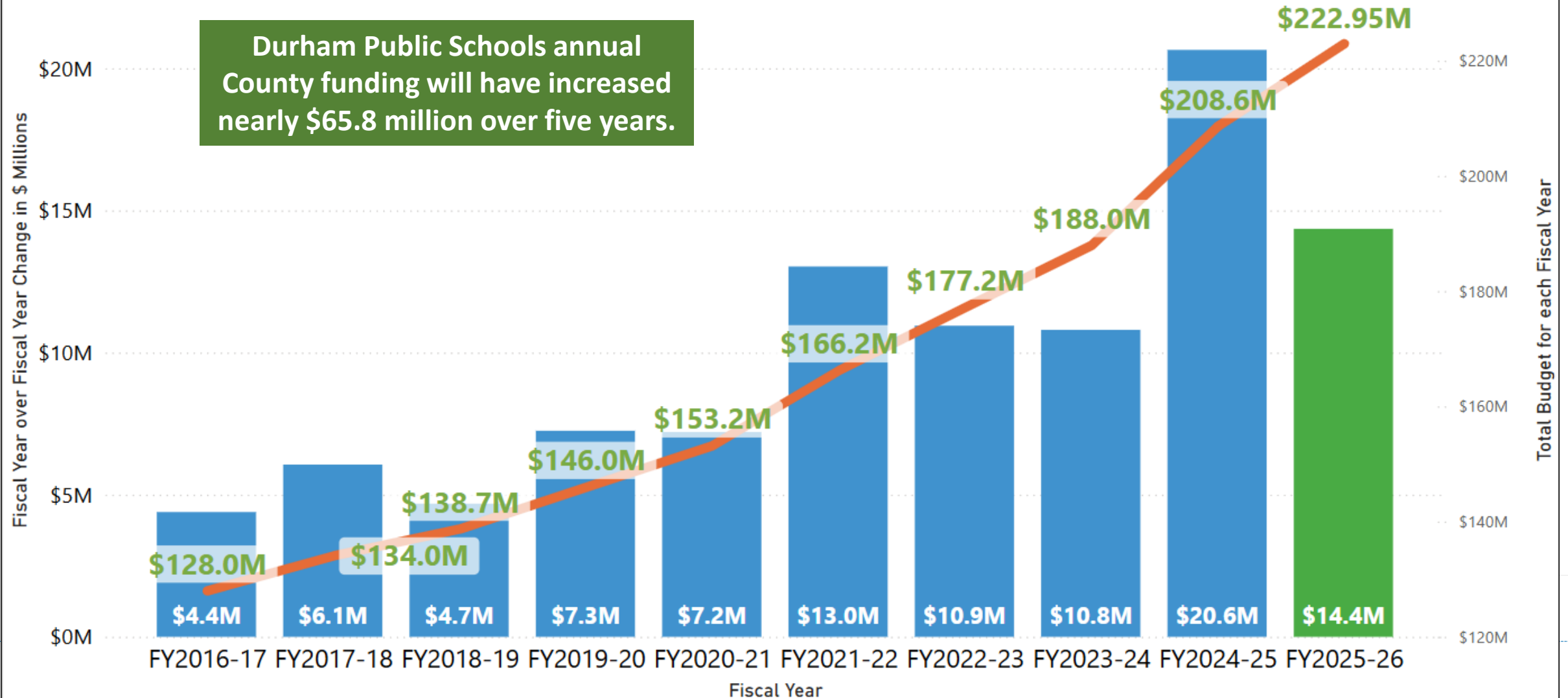
**Total Funding = \$223,678,258** 3.9% increase



# Durham Public Schools Allocations Historical Trends

Historical Fiscal Year over Fiscal Year Change in Expenditure

Durham Public Schools annual County funding will have increased nearly \$65.8 million over five years.



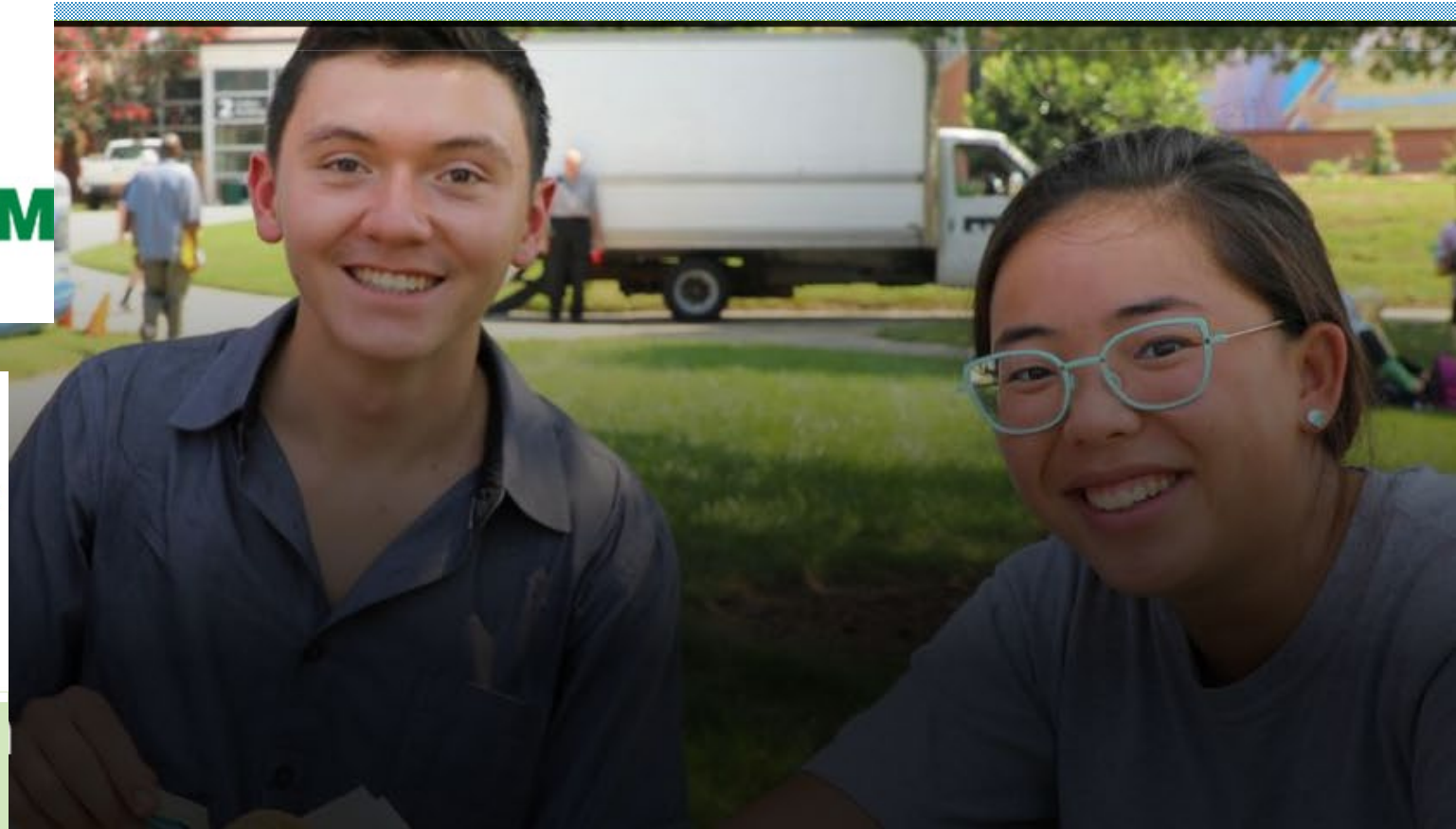
# Durham Public Schools, CIP Funding



- \$10 million allocated in one-time funds to address pressing capital needs not met through current bond funding, lottery funds, or the ARPA funding allocated in fiscal year 2025.
- Funds bridge time-sensitive infrastructure gaps while planning for future bonds or addressing repair and/or renovation projects.



# Other Education



Enjoy great career opportunities in Durham and improve the health of people around the world! Local employers include:



#### LOCAL TRAINING RESOURCES:

<b>HIGH SCHOOL:</b>  Durham Public Schools Career & Technical Education • Exploring Biotechnology • Biomedical Technology • Biomedical Science • Skilled Trades   Biogen Community Lab Summer Program  STEM Fests	<b>CERTIFICATES &amp; CONTINUING EDUCATION:</b>  Durham Tech • BioWork • BioPharma Laboratory Assistant • Advanced Manufacturing   NCI   BIO NETWORK • Biomanufacturing Bootcamp • Aseptic Processing • and more	<b>ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE PROGRAMS:</b>  Durham Tech • College transfer program • Industrial Systems Technology Advanced Manufacturing • Electrical Systems Technology • Electronics Engineering Technology   Alamance Community College Biotechnology   Wake Tech Biotechnology	<b>BACHELOR'S/MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS:</b>  NC Central University Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise (BRITE)   NC STATE UNIVERSITY Biomanufacturing Training & Education Center (BTEC)
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**BE A PART OF THE CURE!**  
To learn more visit  
[www.ncbiotech.org/biopharmacareers](http://www.ncbiotech.org/biopharmacareers)

**Total Funding = \$12,058,661**

**1.88% increase**

**\$2,075,192-student scholarship support**

**Work Pipeline Funding = \$500,000**

# Community Safety

## Sheriff's Office



5 New LEOs for RTP Coverage

Logistics Division Expansion

43 Vehicles:  
38 Replacement Units  
5 New Units for Additional LEOs





# Community Safety

## Office of Emergency Services



8 Replacement Vehicles, inc. 5 ambulances  
1 new vehicle for Asst. Fire Marshal  
Cost of one ambulance = \$475K



Six Paramedic positions  
Six EMT positions  
One Deputy Chief of EM  
One Senior Auto Mechanic



# Community Safety







# Additional & Reallocated Positions

## **IS&T – 7 FTEs**

5 positions for ERP System  
1 Digital Content Specialist  
1 IT Manager – ServiceNow



# Additional & Reallocated Positions

**Elections – 1 FTE**  
Ballot Processing Manager

**CISS – 3 FTEs**  
Project BUILD Outreach Workers

**General Services – 3 FTEs**  
Security Operations Supervisor  
Technical Security Specialist  
Solid Waste Crew Leader

**Sewer Utility – 1 FTE**  
Water & Distribution Technician

**Soil & Water – 1 FTE**  
Environmental Education &  
Outreach Coordinator

**Engineering – 1 FTE**  
Public Art Coordinator *(formerly contracted position)*





# Community Stewardship

## Stormwater & Erosion Control Fund

\$80 to \$96 per ERU

## Sewer Utility Fund

Fee increase – 12%



# Benefits Plan



**Insurance Cost Increase  
\$6.2 Million**







# FY 2025-26 Budget Timeline

- ★ May 20, May 22  
Budget Work Sessions
- ★ May 27  
Public Hearing for FY 2025-26 Budget
- ★ May 29, June 3 and 5 (if needed)  
Budget Work Sessions
- ★ June 9  
FY 2025-26 Budget Approval

## BUDGET WORKSESSIONS

### MAY 2025

**20** **WORKSESSION 9-3:30PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

**22** **WORKSESSION 1-5PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

**27** **PUBLIC HEARING 7PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

**29** **WORKSESSION 9-3:30PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

### JUNE 2025

**3** **WORKSESSION 9-3:30PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

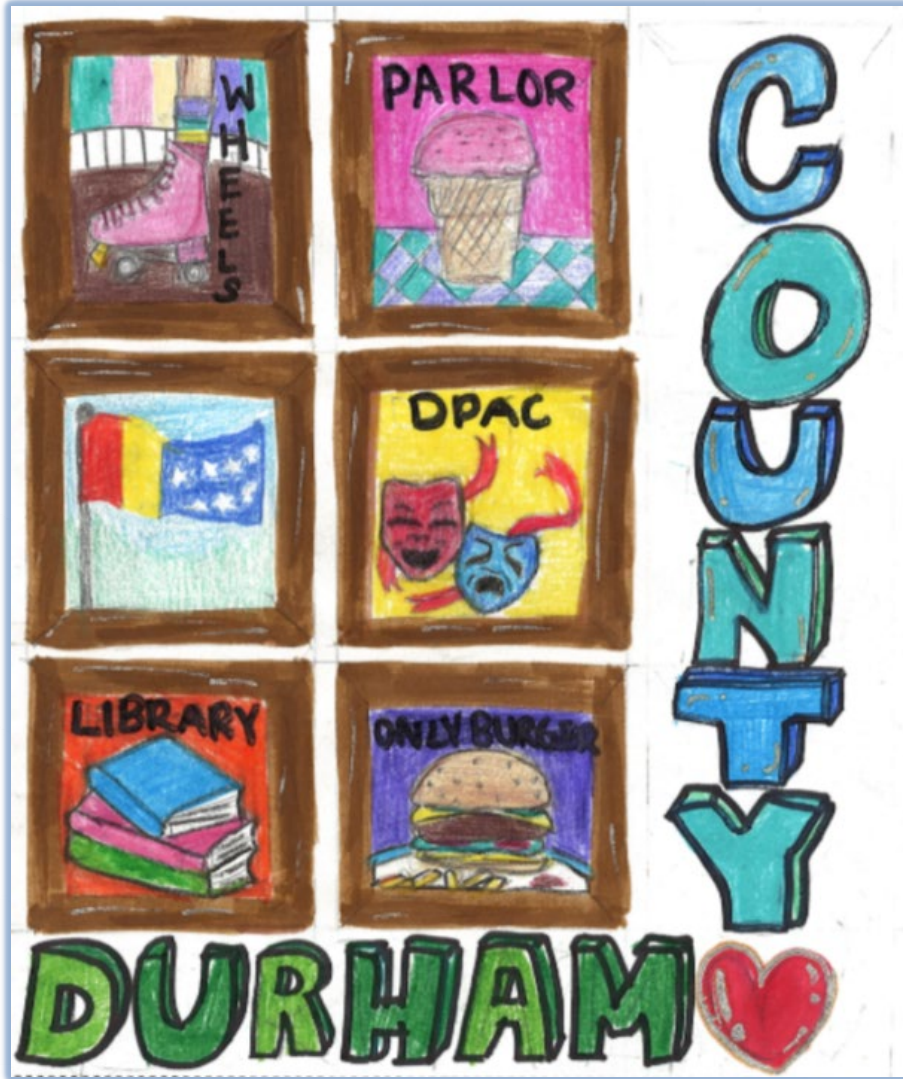
**5** **WORKSESSION 1-5PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

**9** **BUDGET ADOPTION 7PM**  
*Board of County Commissioners*

*Worksessions provide County Commissioners time to explore citizen feedback and speak with County Management, department leaders, and community partners in order to shape a comprehensive budget for the upcoming fiscal year*

*View Public Hearing/worksessions: <https://bit.ly/3nO4B9b>*

# Budget Book Cover Contest Winner



**Zora J.M. Williams**

**School: Rogers-Herr Middle School**

**Interests: Student athlete, Alto saxophone player, National Junior Honor Society Member**



# Budget Horizon



# Budget Document Locations

- ★ Durham County Website:  
[www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov)
- ★ Interactive Reports of FY 2025-26  
Recommended Budget:  
[www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov) [Budget Department Page](#)

