

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Thursday, March 29, 2001

8:30 A.M. Worksession

AGENDA

1. Citizen Comments

Ms. Felicia McNeil and Mr. Ralph McKinney have requested time on the agenda to make comments to the Commissioners.

2. Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board Presentation of Revised Community Corrections Plan

Pursuant to NCGS Section 143B-273, et seq. the Criminal Justice Partnership (CJPP) Advisory Board is charged with devising a county Community Based Corrections Plan. The current plan, approved by the Board of County Commissioners in 1995, is being revised to reflect more accurately current issues facing our local criminal justice system.

The statute requires that CJPP board members participate in a planning process which includes examining the local criminal justice system, identifying problem areas, improving coordination, devising necessary programming, and proposing strategies for improving the local criminal justice system. The Honorable Craig B. Brown, District Court Judge, Chair of the CJPP Advisory Board, has led the board through an intensive process to consider revisions to its 1995 plan. Board members worked with many service providers, court personnel, and members of local law enforcement to obtain input in the process. The revised Community Corrections Plan represents the culmination of the CJPP board members' collective efforts addressing various issues facing the local criminal justice system.

Resource Person(s): The Honorable Craig B. Brown, District Court Judge, CJPP Board Chair, and Gudrun Parmer, Director, Criminal Justice Resource Center

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board receive the revised Community Corrections Plan from the Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board and recognize the board members for their dedication and commitment to improve the delivery of services to citizens involved in the criminal justice system.

3. Update on the New Hope Trail Construction Project and Authorization for Funding Project Completion

In April 1999, the Board approved initial funding for the 2.2-mile-long nature trail along the New Hope Creek in southwestern Durham County just south of 15-501. Volunteers have completed the groundwork for the project and the remaining construction is needed for completion of the first nature trail in the New Hope Creek Corridor and the first on county-owned property acquired with the 1986 bonds.

The initial funding was approved from estimated costs prior to hiring the design firm. Much of the property in the New Hope Corridor is in the sensitive floodplain area, and care has been taken to avoid impacts upon these resources. To allow for year-round use by the public, the second phase of the project includes bridges, boardwalk sections, culverts, and other design features to accommodate the frequent flooding and wet conditions, which is a natural occurrence in the Corridor.

Original funds budgeted for the project will not cover the entire costs of constructing approximately 1,100 ft. of boardwalks, bridges, and associated water flow devices. Additional bond funds in the amount of \$48,160 will be needed to complete the project. Sufficient bond funds remain to cover the additional expenses. The County's share of the costs are supplemented by a \$30,000 trails grant previously awarded from the National Recreation Trails Fund Grant and an \$8,500 donation from the New Hope Audubon Society. Staff is requesting that the Board receive the report and approve additional funding for the trail boardwalk construction.

Resource Person(s): Norman R. Standerfer, Planning Director, and Mike Giles, Open Space Land Manager

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager's recommendation is that the Board receive the project update and allocate additional bond funds towards the completion of the trail.

4. **Discuss Request From Durham County Hospital Corporation**

Chairman Black received a letter dated February 28, 2001 from Chair Charles Blackmon and Vice-Chair Caroline Dixon of the Durham County Hospital Corporation (DCHC) Board of Directors requesting additional meeting(s) to discuss several issues such as:

- • Assistance for uninsured and underinsured;
- • Impact of federal and state legislative issues related to health care;
- • Explore and examine opportunities for DCHC to assist with unmet health-related needs in the community;
- • Explore and examine opportunities for Commissioners to assist DCHC in carrying out its assigned responsibilities; and
- • Explore and discuss ways to keep health issues a priority.

Resource Person(s): Michael M. Ruffin, County Manager; Chuck Kitchen, County Attorney

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board discuss the request and direct staff as to whether any additional information or action may be required.

5. **Durham Public Schools North Carolina Public School Facility Needs Survey**

The State of North Carolina requires all public school systems to provide a Facility Needs Survey every five years. The survey covers all K-12 facilities and excludes central services. The information included follows the data found in the Long-Range Facilities Plan approved by the Board of Education in June 2000. The data has been transformed into the format required by the state. The Board of Education approved this survey on March 8, 2000. Approval by the Board of County Commissioners is required prior to submittal to the state.

Resource Person(s): Mr. Hugh Osteen, Executive Director for Facilities Services, will be present to discuss the request as needed.

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board review the report and discuss the findings with Durham Public Schools officials and take action.

6. (Agenda item removed)

7. **Joint Meeting with City Council and Board of Education on Capital Improvement Programs**

At a joint meeting with the City Council and Board of Education in December 2000, the Board of County Commissioners agreed to hold a special session whereby the three bodies would share their respective capital improvement programs for the purposes of information and coordination. Mayor

Nick Tennyson has suggested the joint meeting be held on Monday, April 30, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Commissioners is requested to consider this date and discuss plans for the meeting.

Resource Person(s): MaryAnn E. Black, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board consider the date and discuss plans for the meeting.

8. **Appointment of 2001 Board of Equalization and Review**

North Carolina General Statute 105-322 requires the Board of Commissioners to adopt a resolution to appoint the Board of Equalization and Review. A Resolution was adopted on February 26, 2001. Each member of the Board of Commissioners should appoint one member to serve on the Board of Equalization and Review for 2001.

Commissioner Cousin will submit a name to represent him on the E & R Board, which will finalize all Commissioner appointments to the board.

(The Commissioners have appointed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The compensation rate has been established.)

Resource Person(s): W. Steven Crysel, Tax Administrator

County Manager's Recommendation: Appoint one Equalization and Review Board member.

9. **Board and Commission Appointment**

Garry E. Umstead, Clerk to the Board, will distribute ballots to make an appointment to the Multi-Jurisdictional Transportation Demand Management Committee.

The Board of County Commissioners, at its meeting on March 26, 2001, made three appointments to the Multi-Jurisdictional Transportation Demand Management Committee. A tie vote occurred between Wendi Brooks (City resident) and Edward Harrison (County resident) for the fourth slot. Mr. Harrison is not eligible for appointment by the City since he is a county resident.

The Committee of the Whole will consider the four applications on Thursday, March 29, 2001 and City Council will consider the applications on Monday, April 9, 2001.

Resource Person(s): Garry E. Umstead, CMC, Clerk to the Board