



## **JOINT CITY-COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025  
Hosted by the City of Durham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Committee Room  
9:30 a.m.**

### **Agenda**

#### **Presiding – Mayor Pro Tempore Mark-Anthony Middleton**

Present: Board of County Commissioners Committee Members – Commissioners Michelle Burton, Wendy Jacobs, Mike Lee and Stephen J. Valentine

City Council Members: Mayor Pro Tempore Mark-Anthony Middleton, and Council Members Javiera Caballero and Carl Rist

Others – County: County Manager Claudia Hager; County Attorney Larissa Williamson; Deputy County Manager Maurice Jones; Assistant County Managers – Dwane Brinson, Joanne Pierce, and Tammie Hall; Chief of Staff Shannon Trapp; Tax Administrator Keyar Doyle; Clerk to the Board Monica Wallace

Others – City: City Manager Bo Ferguson; Deputy City Attorney Sofia Hernandez; Deputy City Managers – Bertha Winbush and Keith Chadwell; Chief of Staff Karmisha Wallace; Deputy City Clerk Paola Roland

#### **SUBJECT: CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Mayor Pro Tempore Middleton called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance to the Tuesday, June 10, 2025, Joint City-County Meeting.

#### **SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Commissioner Jacobs requested a revision to page two, paragraph six of the February 11, 2025 minutes, requesting the verbiage be updated to reflect "Gang Youth Report" instead of "Youth Report".

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to approve the February 11, 2025, minutes with the requested revision.

The motion carried unanimously.

**SUBJECT: DURHAM CITY-COUNTY FAMILIAR FACES INITIATIVE – PRESENTATION – WENDY JACOBS, DURHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONER, ROSHANNA PARKER, DURHAM COUNTY JUSTICE SERVICES DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, RUSSELL PIERCE, HOUSING FOR NEW HOPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NICOLE L. SCHRAMM-SAPTYA, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THE PRACTICE, CO-DIRECTOR OF BASS CONNECTIONS BRAIN AND SOCIETY THEME, DUKE INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN SCIENCES, RYAN SMITH, CITY OF DURHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY DIRECTOR**

Commissioner Jacobs introduced the item and speakers and summarized the presentation., "*Familiar Faces*".

The presentation identified individuals who frequently interacted with emergency, justice, and housing systems. The goal was to increase system-wide support and reduce cyclical system dependency. Elements included:

- Renovation of Carver Creek Campus for 45–50 units of supportive housing
- Historical and clinical data about high ED users
- Gaps in support for individuals with co-occurring SMI and SUD
- Recommendations for data sharing, increased housing support, and long-term evaluation

Commissioner Jacobs supported multi-agency coordination and highlighted the long-term data needs and necessity for system support across departments; emphasized urgency in sharing data, closing service gaps, and supporting stabilization efforts.

Commissioner Burton expressed concern over the visible rise in homelessness; asked pointed questions about barriers to medication adherence; and emphasized the role of public schools in awareness and support.

Council Member Rist asked for actionable next steps to address mental health services and public safety interactions; expressed concern over the inefficiencies caused by fragmented service delivery; and stressed the need for better infrastructure and quicker responses.

Council Member Caballero inquired about existing funding mechanisms and stressed the importance of maximizing current data; and questioned how previously conducted studies on permanent supportive housing could be updated to reflect today's needs. She also encouraged flexible funding in the short term and a more strategic analysis of service delivery at facilities such as Carver Creek.

Director Smith acknowledged that the last analysis on supportive housing dates to 2019 and discussed system limitations. He stressed the need for strategic evaluation moving

forward.

Executive Director Pierce elaborated on the design of supportive housing; explained shifts in HUD funding expectations; emphasized the need for immediate solutions; and noted that traditional housing models were no longer adequate.

City Manager Ferguson emphasized the importance of expediency in implementing the strategic plan and highlighted the role of elected officials in advocacy.

Dr. Schramm-Sapyta spoke about the side effects and stigma surrounding psychiatric medications; and pointed out how these factors often lead individuals to avoid treatment which further complicated stabilization.

**SUBJECT: COALITION END HIV EPIDEMIC – PRESENTATION – HAYLEY CUNNINGHAM, DUKE UNIVERSITY INFECTIOUS DISEASES FELLOW, CO-CHAIR OF THE COALITION TO END THE HIV EPIDEMIC IN DURHAM, DR. JONATHAN LIVINGSTON, BENJAMIN S. RUFFIN, PROFESSOR OF CIVIC EDUCATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AND NCCU INTERIM CHAIR & PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY**

Dr. Cunningham introduced the Coalition's \$2.5M proposal to transform Durham's HIV system over a 3-year period. Components included integrated health and housing services, real-time data dashboards, and decentralized access points. Durham's high rates of HIV among Black and Latino communities were emphasized.

Commissioner Jacobs reminded the committee of Durham's earlier commitments under the Parish Declaration and highlighted past investments, including the hiring of an HIV Navigator and the City's role in administering HOPWA funds. She called for transparency and strategic alignment.

Council Member Rist inquired about leadership responsibilities and requested clarity on specific funding requests from the City versus the County; and advocated for designated point persons to ensure accountability.

Council Member Caballero stressed the importance of embedding the HIV strategy into broader public health and homelessness planning; and urged that the plan be part of a cohesive, community-wide strategic framework.

Commissioner Burton echoed earlier points about housing insecurity among individuals living with HIV and emphasized integration with the homelessness strategic plan.

Dr. Cunningham highlighted the difficulties in acquiring localized data and asked for help accessing cross-agency information.

Ms. Foster raised concerns about the current centralized DSS intake process and recommended considering a decentralized model to better meet the needs of high-need populations; and emphasized how the current structure excluded high-need populations and lacked alignment with national best practices.

Commissioner Jacobs clarified that federal requirements supported a "no wrong door" approach and noted that designated funding was already in place for HIV-related housing.

Ms. Foster added that her agency, soon to be formalized as a 501(c)(3), sought broader capacity building and emphasized the danger of single-agency dependency.

**SUBJECT: MOTION TO APPROVE EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR MAYOR  
LEONARDO WILLIAMS AND COMMISSIONER CHAIR NIDA ALLAM**

Mayor Pro Tempore Middleton noted that Mayor Leonardo Williams and Commissioner Chair Nida Allam requested excused absences for today's meeting.

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Council Member Caballero, to grant Mayor Leonardo Williams and Commissioner Chair Nida Allam excused absences for the June 10, 2025 Joint City-County Committee meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

**SUBJECT: MUSEUM OF DURHAM HISTORY(MoDH) – PRESENTATION – PATRICK  
MUCKLOW, MUSEUM OF DURHAM HISTORY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Patrick Mucklow introduced himself and summarized his presentation.

Mr. Mucklow detailed the Museum's reach and economic impact and requested a total of \$93,105, split between due diligence and operating support. He outlined benefits including increased educational outreach and support for staff at the Durham livable wage level.

Commissioner Burton inquired about cost breakdowns and expressed curiosity about the feasibility study timeline.

Council Member Rist requested historical budget context and clarification on lead agency responsibilities.

Commissioner Jacobs confirmed that the Museum was a joint city-county project and strongly supported the funding; and emphasized MoDH's vision within Downtown redevelopment efforts and encouraged swift action.

Council Member Caballero expressed caution, noting the city and county should not serve as unlimited funding sources for non-profits; emphasized sustainability; and encouraged use of the carryover process if the budget could not accommodate the request in the current cycle.

Mayor Pro Tempore Middleton acknowledged that the request amount was below Council approval thresholds and encouraged dialogue with the City Manager to explore funding avenues.

County Manager Hager confirmed willingness to collaborate with City Manager Ferguson to facilitate an expedited solution.

**SUBJECT: DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL AFTER-CARE DISCUSSION – DURHAM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS JAVIERA CABALLERO AND CARL RIST**

Council Member Rist introduced the item; and requested clarification on the structure of current after-school care in City, County, and DPS facilities.

Council Member Caballero noted previous involvement by DPS; suggested revisiting the issue in August when DPS could participate; and emphasized the need to examine cross-agency roles.

Commissioner Burton stressed the importance of affordable care and employee shortages in the childcare sector; and supported further exploration of regulatory barriers.

Commissioner Jacobs proposed reviewing Early Years assessments and spoke to capacity issues.

Commissioner Valentine shared that constituents had raised the issue repeatedly and pledged his support.

County Manager Hager committed to flagging the issue with DPS ahead of the August meeting.

**SUBJECT: AGENDA SETTING FOR MEETINGS STARTING IN NEW FISCAL YEAR – DURHAM CITY COUNCIL MEMBER JAVIERA CABALLERO**

Council Member Caballero suggested aligning future meetings with Durham School Board priorities and highlighted transit and strategic planning as key focus areas.

Commissioner Jacobs referenced a request by Matthew Palmer to establish a Joint Infrastructure Group at the staff level and recommended using that group to develop long-term agendas.

Council Member Rist emphasized economic development and proposed identifying 10–12 long-term priorities in collaboration with DPS.

Mayor Pro Tempore Middleton invited other topic suggestions. Commissioner Jacobs added safe walk-to-school zones and family responsibility zones as potential items.

Hearing no additional comments, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Paola Roland  
Deputy City Clerk

Diana Schreiber  
City Clerk

**Next Meeting Date: August 12, 2025 – 9:30 am, Hosted by Durham Board of County Commissioners – Board of the Durham County Commissioners' Chamber, 200 East Main Street, Second Floor Durham**