

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

Monday, June 9, 2025

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Chair Nida Allam, Vice Chair Dr. Mike Lee and Commissioners Michelle Burton, Wendy Jacobs and Stephen Valentine

Presider: Chair Nida Allam

Zoom Hybrid
Participants: 3

Regular Session – 7:00 PM

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Adjustments

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Vice Chair Lee to approve the agenda

The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

1. **Juneteenth Holiday** – Most Durham County Government offices will be closed on Thursday, June 19th for the Juneteenth Holiday. All offices will open with normal business hours on Friday, June 20. For impacts to certain services, go to www.dconc.gov.
2. **Celebrate 25 Years of Progress in Firearm Injury Prevention on June 18** – Join Durham County Government as we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Durham County Firearm Injury Prevention Partnership on Wednesday, June 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Human Services Building, 414 E. Main Street! This milestone event honors a quarter-century of dedicated collaboration, community engagement, and life-saving impact in the effort to reduce firearm injuries and promote safety across Durham. Register: <https://forms.office.com/g/40LqxkzGTM>.
3. **Free NC Voter Photo ID Outreach Event on June 21** – The Board of Elections will host free NC Voter Photo Identification Card outreach events for registered Durham County voters

throughout 2025! Each month, staff will be at one of the Durham County libraries to distribute free IDs, assist with voter registration, and answer any questions. Join us at South Regional Library, 4505 S. Alston Avenue, on Saturday, June 21, from 2 to 5 p.m. For information on NC Voter Photo IDs visit www.dcovotes.dconc.gov/voters/voter-id.

4. **Check Out Additional Drafts of the Proposed New UDO!** – Durham is work on creating a new Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), which sets the rules for development, as a part of implementing the new Comprehensive Plan. You can view recordings on the proposed content, read engagement materials, submit an online survey, or add comments on the proposed zoning map. Go to <https://engagedurham.com/NewUDO> to learn more and provide your feedback!

Commissioner Jacobs stated the Opioid Settlement Annual Community Meeting was held on June 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the BOCC Chambers and thanked staff for hosting the event for residents in Durham.

Commissioner Jacobs stated Durham's Fourth Annual World Hunger Day Event was held on June 8th at Durham Central Park at 3 p.m. to raise awareness and honor organizations working to eliminate hunger in Durham and thanked Raina Bunnag for coordinating the event.

Minutes

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to approve the May 27, 2025 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ceremonial Items – Acknowledgment Only

25-0318 Presentation for FY 2025-25 Durham County Budget Book Art Contest Winner

Shannon Wright, Budget Analyst stated Durham County Youth were asked to submit their original artwork describing what they love best about Durham and submissions were reviewed by a committee consisting of staff. She announced Zora Williams, a student athlete, Alto saxophone player and member of the National Junior Honor Society at Roger-Herr Middle School was the Budget Book Contest Winner.

Keith Lane, Budget Director stated the artwork was a permanent part of Durham County Budget documents and thanked Ms. Wright for creating the Budget Book Art Contest.

The Board thanked Ms. Williams for being an outstanding artist and student. They also thanked the Budget Team for creating an awesome contest which included the involvement of Durham youth.

25-0239 Resolution – Women Veterans Day 2025

WOMEN VETERANS DAY 2025

WHEREAS, women in North Carolina have been involved in military-related activities since the Revolutionary War; since June 12, 1948, women have been officially allowed to serve in

the U.S. Military and now serve as regular and permanent members of the armed forces in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force; and

WHEREAS, women began serving with the Army Nurse Corps in 1901 and the Navy Nurse Corps in 1908; during World War I, women left their domestic duties to serve in Europe from 1917-1918; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, the role of women in the military expanded to include women serving in additional jobs including stenographers, clerks, cooks, telephone operators, mechanics, draftsmen, interpreters, and weather observers; and

WHEREAS, more than 50 members of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS), the first women to fly American military aircraft, trained in North Carolina, transporting every type of military aircraft and cargo; they logged over 60 million miles in the air and lost 38 members during the way; and

WHEREAS, women during the Vietnam War served on the front lines as doctors and nurses, and a total of eight female members of the military and 59 civilian women lost their lives during the conflict; and

WHEREAS, during the Gulf War, women served in multiple positions that has previously been reserved for men, flying helicopters, driving, manning missile placements and leading convoys; and

WHEREAS, for many years, women in our military were largely invisible and underappreciated; we owe deep gratitude to our current and past servicewomen who have selflessly served to protect our nation and our way of life.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the Durham County Board of Commissioners, resolve that June 12, 2025, is

“WOMEN VETERANS DAY”

in Durham County and commend its observance to all citizens. This the 2nd day of June, 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair

Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair

Michelle Burton, Commissioner

Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

Stephen Valentine, Commissioner

Linzie Atkins, Interim Veteran Services Director thanked the Board for the resolution and introduced Jonathan Crooms, Veteran Services Officer. Mr. Crooms stated the resolution recognized women veterans and the challenges they have faced while serving as members of the armed forces. Hellen Juarez-Ruiz, Veteran Services Officer invited the community to the Women Veterans Recognition Day Celebration at 11 a.m. on June 12th at Administration Building II in Room 466.

The Board thanked the Veteran Services Department for honoring women veterans for their courage, service and sacrifices.

25-0284 Proclamation – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY | 2025

WHEREAS, Durham County, North Carolina is an aging community with 22% of Durham County population is the Baby Boomer generation; and

WHEREAS, Baby Boomers and the start of Generation X will reach retirement age in the next ten years. The North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management estimates that the Durham County community will have more residents over the age of 65 than children under 18 within the next decade; and

WHEREAS, Elder abuse is under-reported, overlooked and often ignored; and each resident has a legal responsibility to report any suspicion of abuse, neglect or exploitation without fear of reprisal to Durham County Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, increase the capacity of the community to recognize and report abuse, neglect and exploitation and promote the health, safety and well-being of older adults as well as their care partner; and

WHEREAS, we will continue to collaborate with community partners to address elder abuse and offer viable solutions to older adults impacted by abuse necessary resources to end the abuse; and

WHEREAS, Durham County, North Carolina joins the world in recognizing June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day by taking a stand and making it known that it is unacceptable for any older adult to live in fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2025, as

“WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY”

in Durham County, North Carolina. This 9th day of June 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Maggie Clapp, Department of Social Services (DSS) Director thanked the Board for the proclamation and for their continued support. Travis Williams, Aging and Adult Services Assistant Director stated the community was legally responsible for reporting any suspicion of abuse, neglect or exploitation without fear of reprisal to the DSS Department.

The Board thanked Ms. Clapp and the DSS Department for providing protection, services and programs to the Durham aging community.

25-0332 Proclamation – Celebrating Juneteenth 2025

JUNETEENTH | 2025

- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth commemorates the events of June 19, 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger led Union soldiers into Galveston, Texas, bringing news that the Civil War had ended and that the Emancipation Proclamation had declared all enslaved people free nearly two and a half years earlier; and
- WHEREAS,** the Emancipation Proclamation changed the legal status under federal law of nearly 3.5 million enslaved Black and African Americans and the subsequent 13th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America abolished slavery and involuntary servitude; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth acknowledges the considerable lapse over a two-year period, from 1863 to 1865, when enslaved Blacks and African Americans remained in bondage and unaware of the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln that recognized and maintained the freedom of slaves in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the celebration of Juneteenth is believed to be the oldest Black and African American holiday observance in our nation, and takes place annually throughout Durham, North Carolina and the Nation—often consisting of readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, prayer and worship services, family gatherings, cultural performances, educational activities, community service events, ceremonial observances and more; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1997, during the 105th United States Congress, House Joint Resolution 56 and Senate Joint Resolution 11 were passed, officially recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day; on August 23, 2007, Juneteenth National Freedom Day was recognized by the State of North Carolina; and Juneteenth has been celebrated in Durham, North Carolina since 1933; and
- WHEREAS,** as July 4, 1776, represents the birth of the United States of America and commemorates the United States' independence from British rule, it did not offer independence and freedom to enslaved people; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is a stark reminder of the promises of liberation for Black and African Americans in the 21st century; currently our nation and indeed our Durham community is experiencing racial injustices and inequities at a record pace, demonstrating that despite great successes and achievements, Black and African Americans continue to bear the pain and burden of systemic racism and disparate treatment at every turn; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is also known as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Cel-Liberation, and Juneteenth Independence Day and Juneteenth augments the nation's promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth commemorates the strength and resolve of Black and African Americans throughout our history and serves as an opportunity to celebrate the rich and numerous contributions of Black and African Americans to the Durham community, and the United States, and Juneteenth teaches our youth the importance of honoring Black and African American history and the impact of the institution of Chattel Slavery; and
- WHEREAS,** an official Juneteenth holiday signals that Durham County is committed to doing the work to identify and improve policies and processes that will improve access to

opportunities for all employees and work to eliminate any vestiges of unequal treatment that exist in this organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth in Durham County, NC

This 9th day of June 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Dr. Brent Lewis, Equitable Well-being Director thanked the Board for the proclamation. He stated the Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony was held on June 2nd at 11:30 a.m. at the Durham County Courthouse. Dr. Lewis shared a brief overview of Juneteenth events throughout Durham County and surrounding areas.

The Board thanked Dr. Lewis for the proclamation and providing information for residents to engage in and learn more about the history of Juneteenth.

25-0333 Proclamation – Pride Month 2025

PRIDE MONTH | 2025

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Riots, a period of protests and violent clashes with law enforcement in June 1969, is commonly viewed as the origin of the modern gay rights movement in this country; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA+ movement in Durham is rooted in an April 17, 1981 protest in response to the hate motivated assault of four men at the Little River on April 12, 1981 and resulting death of Ronald, “Sonny” Antonvevitch: Durham’s first NC Pride March in 1986 was organized by the Triangle Lesbian and Gay Alliance (TLGA) and Mayor Wib Gulley’s proclamation of Durham’s first anti- discrimination week in 1986 resulted in him being challenged by an unsuccessful recall campaign, and

WHEREAS, celebrating Pride Month raises awareness and provides support and advocacy for the LGBTQIA+ community, and is an opportunity to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances, and build understanding; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ people in the United States continue to face discrimination simply for being who they are, and the County of Durham stands with this community in the struggle to ensure equal treatment for all; and

WHEREAS, while much progress has been advanced, we know that there is still work to be done to ensure that everyone enjoys the full promise of dignity, protection, safety, equity, and freedom; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of anti-LGBTQIA+ bills have been introduced in state legislatures all across the United States since the start of the year, and progressive officials and citizens must speak up to protect LGBTQIA+ rights; and

WHEREAS, Durham County Government continuously advocates for protections for all LGBTQIA+ individuals in order to make it clear that there is no place in this progressive community, state or nation for denial of human rights regardless of anyone’s sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; and

WHEREAS, Durham County’s Non-Discrimination Ordinance, approved in 2022 by the Board of County Commissioners, provides freedom from discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, pregnancy, marital or familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin or ancestry, marital or familial status, pregnancy, military status, religious belief or non-belief, age, or disability in employment and access to all places of public accommodation.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 2025 as

“PRIDE MONTH”

in Durham County. We call upon Durham County residents to recognize the achievements of the members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and to celebrate and support a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance during this month and every month.

This the 9th day of June 2025

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Dr. Brent Lewis thanked the Board for recognizing the proclamation and for continued support. He invited all employees to celebrate at the Pride Fair co-hosted by The Office of Equitable Well-being and the RADIANCE Employee Resource Group at the Health and Human Services Building in the conference rooms and courtyard at 3p.m. on June 18th.

The Board thanked Dr. Lewis and the Equitable Well-being Department for the proclamation and the Pride Fair.

25-0340 Proclamation – Durham Refugee Day

DURHAM REFUGEE DAY | 2025

WHEREAS, Durham Refugee Day was launched in 2017 in Durham to honor the courage, strength, and resilience of millions of refugees in Durham and around the world who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, persecution, human rights violation, natural disasters, and violence; and

WHEREAS, more than 122.6 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide by the end of June 2024 according to the UNHCR, the United States and Durham have a proud humanitarian tradition of welcoming refugees and immigrants of all nationalities and religions; and this is what makes the United States and Durham exceptional; and

WHEREAS, refugees and immigrants have provided the United States and Durham County with unique social and cultural influence, fundamentally enriching the extraordinary character of our county and nation; and

WHEREAS, refugees and immigrants continue to grow businesses, innovate, strengthen our economy and create American jobs in Durham County; and

WHEREAS, we affirm our commitment to welcome and supporting refugees, offering them safety, opportunity, and a sense of belonging as they rebuilt their lives in peace and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Durham Refugee Day is an opportunity for all of us to stand in solidarity with the displaced people, raise awareness of their plight, and renew our shared commitment to justice, compassion, and humanity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 21, 2025, as

“DURHAM REFUGEE DAY”

in Durham County, North Carolina. This 9th day of June 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Kokou Nayo, Durham City-County Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Coordinator thanked the Board for the proclamation. He invited the community to celebrate Durham’s Refugee Day at 3 p.m. on June 21st at Durham Central Park.

The Board thanked Mr. Nayo for celebrating Durham’s refugee and immigrant community and for providing services and programs to refugees and immigrants.

Ceremonial Items – To Be Read

25-0263 Resolution – Honoring the Life and Legacy of Dr. John Harding Lucas, Sr

Commissioner Valentine and Commissioner Burton read the following resolution:

DR. JOHN HARDING LUCAS, SR.

WHEREAS, Dr. John Harding Lucas, Sr., was born in Rocky Mount, NC, in 1920, and made his transition on March 31, 2025, at the incredible age of 104; and

WHEREAS, nurtured by loving parents Rev. John William Lucas and Rebecca Bowles Lucas, he pursued academic success by attending Shaw University, New York University and North Carolina Central University receiving BS and master’s degrees as he advanced his teaching and educational administration career in various communities and

WHEREAS, he served in the United States Army in the Pacific Theatre during World War II between 1944-and 1947 achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, his marriage to the love of his life, Blondola Powell Lucas, produced two amazing children, Cheryl and John Jr., and lovingly endured 67 years until her transition in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lucas served in his community, state and nation with memberships in a broad array of organizations including Durham City School Board, Omega Psi Phi fraternity, North Carolina Association of Educators, Shaw University Board of Trustees, White Rock Baptist Church chair of Deacons, Weaver-McLean American Legion #175; and

WHEREAS, during his legendary career, many awards and recognitions were received including lifetime member of the NEA and NCAE Boards, the NC Award-the highest NC civilian Award, National School Boards' Lifetime Achievement Award, NEA Trenholm Civil Rights Award, Doctor of Humane Letters from Shaw University and many more, and

WHEREAS, we pause to honor the life and legacy of Dr. John Harding Lucas Sr., who dedicated his talents to serving residents of the Durham community, the State of North Carolina and the nation as a gifted teacher, principal, educational administrator, mentor, pioneering leader in the era of school desegregation, Interim President of Shaw University, civic leader and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to pay tribute to Dr. John Harding Lucas, Sr. A great man who lived a life filled with service, compassion, excellence and success. We call upon all citizens of Durham County to remember his tenacity and educational acumen and how his lifetime of efforts improved the quality of life for generations to come. His legacy lives on in all who knew him.

This the 9th day of June 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair

Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair

Michelle Burton, Commissioner

Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

Stephen Valentine, Commissioner

Cheryl Lucas, daughter of Dr. Lucas, thanked the Board for honoring her dad on behalf of the Lucas family.

The Board thanked Ms. Lucas for sharing her dad with the Durham community. The Board gave a brief overview of Dr. Lucas' education, career, memberships and recognitions.

25-0262 Resolution – Honoring Dr. Karrie G Dixon, 13th Chancellor, North Carolina Central
Commissioner Valentine and Commissioner Burton read the following resolution:

DR. KARRIE G. DIXON

WHEREAS, Dr. Karrie G. Dixon was named the 13th chancellor of North Carolina Central University on June 6, 2024. and began her appointment on July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining NCCU, Dr. Dixon served as the 7th chancellor of Elizabeth City State University and further holds the distinction of being the first woman to serve as Chancellor at two UNC System institutions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon earned a bachelor's degree from North Carolina State University, a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a doctorate from North Carolina State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon is a highly engaged and respected leader in the higher education community and regarded for her strong portfolio of academic achievements; and

WHEREAS, she maintains memberships in an impressive list of prestigious academic organizations including: the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Board of Trustees, the Black Women Collegiate Presidents and Chancellors where she is a charter member, the North Carolina Campus Engagement Executive Board, and the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), to name a few; and

WHEREAS, her accolades and awards across her career are the envy of many including: the Old North State Award, "The Ten Most Dominant HBCU Leaders of 2020", the prestigious William C. Friday Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments (UNC ASG), and the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for her leadership in higher education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to recognize Dr. Karrie G. Dixon as she continues her tenure as North Carolina Central University's 13th Chancellor, we extend to her best wishes for a promising future filled with many years of significant and visionary leadership, empowering generations of successful students to make their mark in various disciplines across the globe.

This the 9th day of June 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair

Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair

Michelle Burton, Commissioner

Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

Stephen Valentine, Commissioner

Alyn Goodson, Executive Vice Chancellor thanked the Board for recognizing Chancellor Dr. Dixon. He added the resolution served as a bond between North Carolina Central University and the Durham community.

The Board thanked Mr. Goodson for accepting the resolution on behalf of Chancellor Dr. Dixon.

Consent Agenda

Chair Allam asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Jacobs requested to ask a question about Item 25-0315.

- Item 25-0315 – Commissioner Jacobs asked how the plan would include the five Durham Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes identified by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). Curtis Scarpignatio, Transportation Planner responded the Freeway, Arterial, Street and Tactical Transit Vision (FAST) Study looked at multiple routes across the Triangle while including Durham County and the plan would incorporate the NCDOT routes. He added the plan would include high levels of public engagement and compare findings to other BRT routes not included in the FAST Study.

Hearing no additional comments, Chair Allam entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Lee to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

25-0209 Approval to Enter into Contracts for Purchase of Books and Cataloging/Processing Services for a total not to exceed \$760,000.00

*25-0232 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC0090 for the Department of Social Services to recognize Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC - 2025 “Share the Light” (STL) funds in the amount of \$35,000.00 for Residents in Crisis Energy Situations

25-0233 Approval of Contract with Wall Recycling, LLC for Solid Waste Hauling Services and Equipment Maintenance at Durham County Convenience Sites for an amount not to exceed \$128,000

*25-0242 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.25CPA042 Recognizing \$637,195.00 in Community Project Grant Funding (CFP) for the Emergency Operations Center & Backup 911 Capital Project (47302635DC158)

*25-0268 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC091 Appropriating \$10,000 of New Hope Fire Tax District Fund Balance and Increasing the Distribution to New Hope Fire Department for the Purchase of Computer Equipment

*25-0278 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC092 Appropriating Durham County Fire and Rescue (DCFR) Fund Fund Balance of \$1,109,661, for the Purpose of Paying the City of Durham for the Completion of Fire Station 18, as Agreed Under the June 25, 2018 Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Durham

25-0279 Approval to increase a Service Contract with Adecco for Temporary Services in the amount of \$254,450.84, for a new total of \$716,902.21

25-0280 Approval to Enter into a Contract with Elections Systems and Software for Hardware, Firmware, Maintenance and Support of Voting Equipment in the Amount of \$76,726.80

25-0281 Approval to increase a Service Contract with Elections Systems and Software for Ballot Layout and Voting Equipment Programming in the Amount of \$19,262.30 for a new total of \$47,437.00

25-0283 Recognition of the Establishment of an Advisory Committee for Opioid Settlement Funding

25-0296 Approve Acquisition of Conservation Easement (19.37 acres, REID 188371 at 505 Mason Road) as Permanently Protected Open Space for \$245,500

*25-0302 Approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No.25BCC093 Appropriating \$64,564 of General Fund Fund Balance for Matching Grant Recipient Contracts in the County's Matching Grant Program

25-0307 Authorize the County Manager to execute a contract with Perkins & Will, for Architectural Services for Conceptual Design and Analysis of the Shoppes of Hope Valley in the amount not-to- exceed \$140,000.00

25-0309 Approval to Change the Name of the Current Ellis Road Fleet Maintenance Facility Capital Project (4730DC164) to the Fleet Maintenance Facility Capital Project; as well as Authorize the County Manager to Execute Contracts for Architectural Design Services with HH Architecture and Preconstruction Services with Samet Corporation for the Fleet Maintenance Facility Capital Project

25-0312 Approve Contract with Waste Industries LLC dba GFL Environmental for Solid Waste Collection and Hauling Services for Durham County Facilities for an amount not to exceed \$80,000

25-0313 Amend the Contract with GFL Environmental to provide Curbside Recycling Services to Households in Unincorporated Durham County in an amount not to exceed \$503,798.40

25-0315 Approval to Enter into a Contract with Kimley-Horn & Associates in the Amount of \$889,178 for the Development of the Durham Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Vision Plan

25-0316 Approval of Contract Amendment for FourSquare Integrated Transportation Planning, for the Durham Transit Tracker in the Amount of \$24,887 Bringing the Total Amount to \$85,242

*25-0345 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC094 Appropriating \$2,826,700 of General Fund Fund Balance to Support Increasing Benefits Fund Expense Capacity and Additional General Fund Expenditure Capacity and Transferring General Fund Available Unspent Funds Among Functional Areas for End-of-Year Reconciliations

Consent Agenda Item #25-0232

**Durham County, North Carolina
2024-2025 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 25BCC090**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$122,606,143.55	\$35,000.00	\$122,641,143.55
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$80,028,015.00	\$35,000.00	\$80,063,015.00

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Consent Agenda Item #25-0242

**Durham County, North Carolina
FY 2024-2025 Capital Project
Amendment Number 25CPA-42**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:
That the FY 2024-25 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
47302635DC158	Emergency Operations Center (EOC) & Backup 911/DSO Call Center Project	\$5,600,000.00	\$637,195.00	\$6,237,195.00

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Consent Agenda Item #24-0268

**Durham County, North Carolina
2024-2025 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 25BCC091**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$10,842,694.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,852,694.00
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$394,390.00	\$10,000.00	\$404,390.00

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Consent Agenda Item #24-0278

**Durham County, North Carolina
2024-2025 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 25BCC092**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			

Public Safety	\$10,842,694.00	\$1,109,661.00	\$11,952,355.00
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$394,390.00	\$1,109,661.00	\$1,504,051.00

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Consent Agenda Item #24-0302

**Durham County, North Carolina
2024-2025 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 25BCC093**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Economic And Physical Development	\$11,152,647.57	\$64,564.00	\$11,217,211.57
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$56,412,355.15	\$64,564.00	\$56,476,919.15

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Consent Agenda Item #25-0345

**Durham County, North Carolina
2024-2025 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 25BCC094**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2024-2025 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$196,394,411.19	\$2,000,000.00	\$198,394,411.19
Public Safety	\$92,556,168.73	\$326,700.00	\$92,882,868.73
Transportation	\$5,996,185.26	\$30,000.00	\$6,026,185.26
Human Services	\$122,641,143.55	\$470,000.00	\$123,111,143.55
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$56,476,919.15	\$2,826,700.00	\$59,303,619.15
<u>BENEFITS PLAN FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$44,384,637.69	\$2,000,000.00	\$46,384,637.69
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$37,887,722.69	\$2,000,000.00	\$39,887,722.69

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved June 9, 2025

Other Business

24-0337 Adoption of the FY 2025-26 Budget Ordinance

Chair Allam stated citizens were signed up to make comments about the FY 2025-26 Budget.

The following citizens requested full support of the Durham Public Schools funding request: *Sonja Thallaeimer, Mika Twietmeyer, Millie Rosen, Christy Patterson, J.B. Hallan, Christie Clem and Tammie William.*

The following citizens approved the FY 2025-26 Budget: *Kathleen Osinski and Herman Sperling.*

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to approve the FY2025-26 Budget Ordinance.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Burton read the following statement:

“This is my sixth month as a Durham County Commissioner. When one is running for an elected office and eventually elected, you are elected as an individual. But to truly be good at this role, you have to work collaboratively with fellow commissioners and with the staff who carry out this work. I want to say thank you to my fellow commissioners for being able to work collaboratively on this budget. And I really what to say a big thank you to the following Durham County staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes, who have helped me with learning Durham County Government as a new commissioner. I am so grateful for the leadership of Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners and our Deputy Clerk Macio Carlton as well as the dynamic trio of Tania De Los Santos, Shaunecie Wardrick and Georgina “Nicole” Moreno. It is reassuring to know that we have such a great team of people who help us commissioners make the load a little bit lighter as we go out into the broader Durham community to serve. Thank you to the Assistant County Mangers who work with the departments under their leadership: ACM Dwane Brinson, Joanne Pierce, Tammie Hall and Julio Delgado. Thank you for answering my questions about county departments as I learn about all the myriads of ways that Durham County Government serve our residents. Thank you to the Chief of Staff Shannon Trapp, who also makes sure I have what I need to do this work effectively as well as Deborah Craig-Ray, Randy Jones and Dawn Dudley in the Public Information Office. I want to really acknowledge the work of the Budget Management Services team under the leadership of Director Keith Lane and Assistant Director David Ades as well as the Interim Chief Financial Officer Crystally Wright and her team. The behind the scenes work that your two departments do to ensure that Durham County is on solid financial grounds is remarkable and greatly appreciated. Thank you to Deputy County Manger Maurice Jones. I really appreciate the fact that you took the time to sit with me to explain all the things happening in Research Triangle Park and how business incentives are done. Finally, to our County Manager, Claudia Hager, for meeting with me and answering my calls at all hours when I had questions about the budget and how we could creatively find resources.

Tonight, I will vote for this budget. Even though I wanted more for Durham Public Schools, I recognized that with the reappraisal of property in Durham County, in some areas of our county with property values increasing by 162%, the loss of federal ARPA funds and the uncertainty of what is happening at the Federal level with the potential loss of Medicaid Funding and SNAP, it was important that we continue to make sure core County services were funded. In order to keep core government services for our people, County Manger Hager recommended the property tax be increase by 3.5 cents from the revenue neutral rate. My main priority was with Durham Public Schools, making sure that DPS employees received raises, in the form of increasing the certified teacher supplement, Master's Pay, and monthly supplement for DPS bus drivers to make sure there was enough funding for EC students. We are giving DPS and additional \$2.57 million above what the County Manger recommended to make those things happen. Also in this budget, we are giving DPS an additional, one-time funding of \$10million for any capital improvement needs they may have this year, for a total of \$15million for capital improvement for the 25-26 fiscal year. I am staying optimistic that we can get another bond on the ballot next year to fix aging buildings in DPS, with the average age being 59 years old, because students need and deserve to go to school in up to date, 21st century facilities.

This budget also continues to invest in pre-k, the Hayti Reborn-Justice Movement, a program to help justice involved individuals reacclimate to society, expand Project BUILD to help children from ages 10-13 keep away from gangs, and funding twelve new positions for EMS and five ambulances to serve a rapidly growing county. The commissioners worked collaboratively and found money in our existing budget to keep the Manager's recommended tax increase at 3.5 cents.

In closing, I, we, need your help. The legislators in Raleigh are underfunding our public schools and many of you here already know that. As a county, we have stepped up repeatedly to make sure our public schools, our students have what they need, not waiting for the folks on Jones Street to do the right thing. But this being my first budget, I realized due to charters and vouchers and the loss of Federal ESSR and ARPA funding and other uncertainties at the Federal level, the next few years are going to be challenging. 2026 is an election year. If you have the opportunity to go to other counties, particularly counties where the seats are flippable, and you can door knock, or phone bank, please, do it. It is becoming harder and more challenging for Durham County to carry the cost of funding our public schools on our own.

Thank you."

Vice Chair Dr. Lee read the following statement:

"This is my first time on this side of the dais during a budget cycle. I enjoyed this process because I entered this in a way of a learning process for me. That was to learn all the different functions and pieces of Durham County's government that the County Commissioners have to fund. It's easy to think about your area and how you need to fund your area, that is your job. There is a quote that I recently started living by "It is not your job to tell yourself no, it is your job to ask what you believe you need." It is our job to figure out how much we can fund.

I appreciated the budget process. I appreciate the staff and their patience in answering the same questions in different ways. That can be difficult to answer the same question repeatedly. There are three of us on the Board that are new, and it just takes time. That is why I felt this was an important year

to learn about the budget. I am also a property owner, and we did see our valuation go very sky high, so I understand the challenges around that. But I have always advocated for schools. I have always advocated for what the schools need and how we can fund that. And I deeply appreciate the work that the staff and the County Manager did. The gymnastics that was able to be done to add \$2.5 million to the initial recommendation - I initially thought their initial recommendation would be smaller and so we were able to, I think, fund in a way that as best we could.

I appreciate my fellow Commissioners for taking my calls and answering my questions. I feel very happy about where we landed with the ability to raise taxes more than the 3.5 cents as recommended. I think we did as good as we could with what we dealt with the financial headwinds and the economic headwinds that are heading our way. I look forward to going through this process again in a more informed way because I was learning this year and really measuring how we perform as an organization as far as individual parts and how do we make the budget work. But for this budget, again, I appreciate all the help. I appreciate all the knowledge that was shared, the institutional knowledge from my more seasoned colleagues. I look forward to seeing this budget work for us.

Thank you."

Commissioner Valentine read the following statement:

"Thank you to the County Manager and your team across government. Commissioner Burton has already called every person by name so I will not do that again. Thank you.

Budgets are valuable documents and this year I believe we all valued the need to be smart with how we spend public dollars. I acknowledge that every department across government including the Sheriff's Office, and DPS have legitimate requests for additional funding for personnel and capital needs.

Tonight's budget represents a reset from an environment where there was an abundance of federal funds available to one that reflects the current political and economic environment uncertainty that we are facing. We were able to provide additional funds for Durham Public Schools, continue our commitment to pre-K, and to adequately fund local government without any additional burden on the taxpayers than what was recommended by the County Manager.

This has been a hard budget, and I look forward to the way forward in serving Durham County."

Commissioner Jacobs read the following statement:

"I believe voting on the budget each year is the most important and challenging responsibility I have as a representative of the people of Durham. This is my 13th budget as a County Commissioner and probably the most difficult I have experienced due to many legitimate needs and so many fiscal restraints. This budget is a reflection of many tough decisions made by staff at all levels- from department heads, Durham County leadership, budget and finance staff, our County Manager to key partners like Durham Public Schools and Durham Tech -and ultimately, our board.

In the face of the realities of decreasing sales tax revenues, increased cost of services, personnel, and infrastructure that come along with growth, decreasing state support for our schools and economic uncertainty at the federal level for funding of basic public health and social service needs at the county level, our board had to juggle many factors in this year's budget process.

Where we landed tonight is a budget I can support. I want to thank Durham County Manager Claudia Hager and Budget Director Keith Lane and their teams for helping us develop a budget to keep Durham County on solid financial ground while ensuring we meet the most vital needs of our community and keep Durham County moving forward with a budget that reflects our Board's policy priorities.

What you see here tonight is a budget document that keeps the proposed tax rate increase at 3.5 cents per \$100 valuation on top of the new revenue neutral tax rate of 51.92 cents. Our board recognizes an increase in property tax values and accompanying an increase in property taxes will be a challenge for many low- and fixed-income residents and we made it a priority not to raise taxes further.

Our single largest priority continues to be support for Education. We have found a way to increase Durham Public Schools' funding by \$2.75 m in addition to the manager's proposed \$10.4 m, for a total of \$13.15 million in new funding. This will cover the projected \$6.35 million in continuation budget needs of DPS and also provide \$6.8 million for salary supplements, master's pay, exceptional children and bus drivers-priorities our board intends to support. This will bring the increased local funding for DPS to \$224 million plus \$77 million in indirect funding for things like SRO's, public health nurses and debt service.

This budget reflects resident concerns and key investments our board will continue to make in the people of Durham. We step up to meet the growing demand for EMS with 12 new positions and 5 new ambulances. We keep investing in the future of our children, maintaining more than \$8.7 million for our transformational Durham PreK. We ensure residents have a pipeline for good jobs in Durham with our \$12.6 million investment in Durham Tech, \$500K for the Back to Work and BULLS program, and \$2.075 million Durham Scholarship program for all high school students. We are investing more than \$4 million in a better transit system. And we are providing a safety net for our most vulnerable residents, supporting our LIHR, Eviction Diversion, Food Insecurity and expanding Project Build, our youth gang reduction program.

We face much uncertainty in the year ahead but what I am certain about is that this Durham County budget will put us in a strong position to weather the storms that may come our way. And I am certain that Durham stakeholders will pull together and do our best to take care of each other in the days ahead.

Thank you to our community for your input and engagement in this budget process. Thank you, Manager Hager and Durham County staff, for the guidance, expertise and information you provide for us as elected officials to help us make the most informed decisions possible. Thank you to the members of our board for the opportunity for me to listen and learn from each of you, for the spirit of respect, advocacy and also compromise. I believe our final budget document is what good Governance looks like, and I am proud to join with all of you to vote for this budget tonight."

Chair Allam read the following statement:

“I want to take a huge moment to extend not just thanks, but congratulations to County Manager Hager. This is her first budget as our permanent County Manager, not just as interim or acting. She truly, as you have heard, led us through this process with so much strength, care and clarity. Thank you so much, Manager Hager. And if you know Manager Hager, you know there is this grace about her that she brings to her work. It especially shows during such difficult conversations of the budget.

I want to thank our brilliant budget staff. Thank you so much for putting in the long hours, the detailed analysis and the balancing acts of spreadsheets. Also to get us to a position where we are able to make the hard decisions that we have to and make sure that every dollar that our residents entrust us with gets put to good use and value to our communities. Thank you to every county staff member and department for also helping us come to this budget cycle a little more fluidly. We asked our Budget staff and Manager Hager to come to us with a little bit of a tight end budget already and that was difficult for them to do because they do provide vital and important services. Presenting those tightened budgets to the Board does not mean that we do not value the work that you do and share with us and our residents, but it means that we're all in this tight, difficult position.

We can't ignore what is happening at the federal level right now. That we are seeing real threats to cuts of vital services and programs that support housing, food assistance, Medicaid, education, public health, literally everything that our Durham County residents rely on. And those cuts, if they go through many of them, which they already have, will not just stay in Washington. They are going to land right here in Durham on the shoulders of our residents and on the budgets of the County, the State and the City. When the federal government steps back, local governments are expected to step in, and often without the resources. That is the reality. There were so many programs that all of us wanted to be able to fund and support. And I really want to give some kudos to our new colleagues on this Board because this is my fifth budget on the board. But I remember my first budget, I came in bright eyed and bushy tailed. I wanted to fund this program, and I want to do so much. I hope you had the opportunity to be able to have a first budget like that as well.

I just want to again emphasize the increase of \$15.927 million dollars for DPS. That is going to raise our per pupil spending to \$5,561.00 and direct funding from the County and the supplementary assistance for DPS will draw from the remaining ARPA resources including \$723,000.00 earmarked for pre-K programming at the newly constructed Murray Massenburg and the \$3 million ARPA funding that the County is providing to offset infrastructure. This means more resources in our classrooms, more support for educators and more stability for our students and their families.

And as Commissioner Valentine said, these budgets are a moral document. We are all made grounded in love, love for Durham and for the people that make this community what it is. So again, I want to thank everyone so much for engaging in the budget process and working with us through this difficult year and I encourage you to join in with the actions that Commissioner Burton has shared with us. Please go to your Legislators at the State level and the Federal level. And we're going to keep doing the work here in Durham to keep fighting for our residents and our neighbors. I appreciate all the ways that the community has held us accountable and trusted us with this great responsibility.

Thank you.”

Claudia Hager, County Manager thanked the Board for their commitment and Keith Lane, Budget Director, the Budget Department staff, Keyar Doyle, Tax Administrator and the Tax Department, County staff and community partners for their assistance with the budget.

Keith Lane, Budget and Management Services Director thanked County Manager Hager for her budget knowledge. He also thanked the Budget and Management Services Department for their dedication to the budget.

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Vice Chair Lee to approve the FY2025-26 Fee Schedule.

The motion carried unanimously.

25-0314 Adoption of the FY 2025-26 Annual Opioid Settlement Fund Ordinance and Related Spending Resolutions

Motion 1:

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to adopt the FY26 Resolution for Opioid Spending Authorization.

The motion carried.

Motion 2:

Vice Chair Lee moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to adopt the FY26 Annual Budget Ordinance for Opioid Settlement Funds.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

The Board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session for the following:

- To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract; pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5).

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Vice Chair Lee to adjourn into the Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

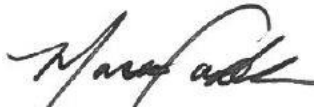
Chair Allam announced the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

Adjournment

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 9:04 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton
Deputy Clerk to the Board