

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

Monday, May 26, 2026

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: Vice Chair Nida Allam and Commissioners Michelle Burton, Wendy Jacobs and Stephen Valentine

Virtual: Chair Dr. Mike Lee

Presider: Vice Chair Allam

Zoom Hybrid
Participants: 4

Closed Session – 5:30 PM

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

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, to discuss the matter of County of Durham v. Liberty Property Limited Partnership, Iodine Propco 2021, LLC, and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP, 25CV008602-310, which privilege is hereby acknowledged by G.S. 143 318.11(a)(3).
- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to adjourn into Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

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

Regular Session – 7:00 PM

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Adjustments

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to approve the agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

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

1. **PreK Family Information Session** – The Durham PreK 2026-2027 school year application is now open! Learn more about the Durham PreK application and enrollment process at a virtual information session, on Thursday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. Attendees can register for the session here: <https://www.durhamprek.org/events/family-information-session-may-28-2026/>.
2. **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event** – The Solid Waste Division will host a disposal event on Saturday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to noon, offering residents of unincorporated Durham County a safe opportunity to drop off hazardous household products at the Northern Durham Convenience Site, located at 11894 N. Roxboro Road. This event is open only to residents who have a current 2025–2026 solid waste decal issued by Durham County Government.
3. **Durham Hunger Day 2026** – Residents are invited to come together for Durham Hunger Day, a community celebration focused on nourishing our neighbors on Sunday, June 7, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Durham Central Park, 501 Foster Street. This year’s theme, “Nourishing Neighbors,” highlights the many ways food brings people together through culture, community, and care. The event is free and open to all, offering music, arts, family activities, food trucks, giveaways, free snacks, a bounce house, and more.
4. **Aging Gracefully Resource Fair** – The Aging and Adult Services Division of the Durham County Social Services Department wants you to have the tools and information to age gracefully in our community. Attend the event to learn from professionals in the areas of long-term care, Medicare, legal, guardianship, dementia/Alzheimer’s, financial, assisted living, social security, nutrition, and more. The event will take place on Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., at the Durham County Human Services Building, 414 E. Main Street. Learn more about the free event at 919-560-8588.
5. **Take the BRT Vision Plan Survey** – Durham County is developing a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Vision Plan to examine corridor improvements and service investments for a comprehensive network of high-capacity transit services across Durham County. The Vision Plan will seek to enhance mobility and connectivity for residents and visitors across Durham County over the next 30 years. Staff is seeking community input throughout the process to ensure the BRT Vision Plan reflects local priorities. Take the quick two-minute survey that builds on what we learned from our Fall 2025 survey: <https://durhambrtvision.com/spring-2026-survey>.

6. **Juneteenth Flag-Raising Ceremony on June 1** – Everyone is invited to attend the annual NC Official Juneteenth Flag-Raising ceremony at the Durham County Courthouse (510 S. Dillard Street) at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, June 1. This event serves as the kick-off of the Annual NC Juneteenth Celebration in Durham, scheduled for Saturday, June 20, hosted by Spectacular Magazine and the Triangle Cultural Awareness Foundation.

The Board highlighted the following announcements:

- Durham Mayor Leonardo Williams launched Invest America Durham on May 22, aiming to enroll every child age 10 and younger in 530A Accounts. Each of Murray-Massenburg Elementary students would get \$500 to open an account, with \$250 coming from Brad Gerstner, founder of the Invest America Foundation.
- The Durham County Veteran Service hosted its annual Memorial Day Remembrance Event on Monday, May 25, 2026, at 9 a.m. The program included a presentation honoring military service members who lost their lives, featuring their names, photographs, and background information.
- The Day of Arafah was the ninth day of Dhul Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar and occurred one day before Eid al-Adha and marked the spiritual peak of the Hajj pilgrimage.

Minutes

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to approve May 4, 2026 Work Session minutes and May 11, 2026 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jacobs stated the May 4, 2026 Work Session minutes referenced the requested \$8.217 million dollars from the City of Durham to fully fund transit services. She recommended the Board authorize Chair Dr. Lee to write a letter to the City of Durham about the requested funding for transit services.

Directive: Commissioner Jacobs recommended the Board authorize Chair Dr. Lee to write a letter to the City of Durham about the requested funding for transit services.

Ceremonial Items

26-0251 Proclamation - Maternal Mental Health Month and Black Maternal Health Day of Action

MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH MONTH AND BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH DAY OF ACTION | 2026

WHEREAS, mothers give life to our communities and continue to be a monumental force in human existence, advancement, and wellbeing, and we celebrate all who embody the role of motherhood; and

WHEREAS, one in five mothers experience mood and anxiety disorders during pregnancy or the postpartum period, impacting not only their own health but also the health and stability of their children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the month of May is nationally recognized as Maternal Mental Health Month, a time to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and advocate for comprehensive perinatal mental health services for all birthing people; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the intersection of maternal and mental health, and acknowledge health disparities that disproportionately affect Black mothers, Indigenous mothers, mothers of color, as well as transgender and gender-expansive parents, who face disproportionate barriers to quality care and wellness; and

WHEREAS, we uplift and affirm community-rooted responses that honor diverse cultural practices and expand access to holistic, respectful maternal care—such as doula and midwifery services, peer and mental wellness supports, and mutual aid efforts that strengthen families and improve outcomes; and

WHEREAS, women and birthing people deserve safe, empowered, and beautiful birth experiences, with equitable access to the information, support, and care of their choice; and

WHEREAS, a group dedicated individuals who work tirelessly to advance maternal and mental health equity will be visiting our state legislators on June 10th to urge they pass legislation to address and diminish maternal health disparities and improve Black Maternal Health; and

WHEREAS, we know that meaningful action and sustained investment are needed to improve maternal and mental health outcomes for all families in our community and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Dr. Mike Lee, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby recognize May 2026 as Maternal Mental Health Month and proclaim June 10, 2026, as

“BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH DAY OF ACTION”

in Durham County.

This 26th day of May 2026.

Dr. Mike Lee, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Joy Spencer, Executive Director of Equity Before Birth thanked the Board for their continued support. She highlighted the importance of positive mental health and racial disparity issues. Ms. Spencer invited the community to the Black Maternal Health Day of Action on June 10, 2026 at 9 a.m. at the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh.

The Board thanked Ms. Spencer for breaking down the stigmas that existed and advocating for fair and equitable care.

Consent Agenda

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

Hearing none, Chair Dr. Lee entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

26-0233 Approval to Change Vision Insurance Provider

26-0235 Approval to Continue Relationship with Health Plan Vendor

26-0237 Adoption of Bond Resolution for Not to Exceed \$100,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026A

26-0243 Human Resources SAP Success Factors Onboarding 2.0 Implementation

26-0262 Award Contract Amendment for Janitorial Services to Joy Cleaning Service LLC in the amount of \$35,512.50 for a total annual contract amount of \$271,312.50 for janitorial services at Administration 1, and William V. Bell Building, and Anjappar Durham Restaurant inside of the William V. Bell Building, with the option to amend on a monthly basis until a new RFP can be issued for Administration 1, and William V. Bell Building, and Anjappar Durham Restaurant inside of the William V. Bell Building. The Board also allows the County Manager to sign off on subsequent extensions, change orders, or amendments associated with this contract, as necessary, so long as funds are available within the General Services Budget

*26-0265 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.26CPA023 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.26BCC085 Reducing the Durham County Sheriff's Office Detention Center Food Doors Capital Project (4310DC094) by \$275,000, Transferring the Funding to General Fund, and Appropriating \$275,000 to the Durham County Sheriff's Office General Fund Operating Budget to Purchase Audio-Visual Equipment for the Sheriff's Office RTP Annex; as well as Approval of a Lease Agreement Amendment between One Park Venture LLC (Landlord), and the County of Durham (Tenant) at 4000 Sandcar Way, Durham NC 27713

26-0277 Approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Audit Contract with Mauldin & Jenkins, PLLC

26-0289 Removal of Citizen Board Member Due to Poor Attendance

Consent Agenda Item #26-0265

**Durham County, North Carolina
Capital Project
Amendment Number 26CPA-23**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:
That the FY 2025-26 capital project is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
43103600DC094	Detention Center Food Doors	\$1,308,125.00	(\$275,000.00)	\$1,033,125.00

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved May 26, 2026

Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC085

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:
 That the 2025-2026 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>
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$97,731,891.33	\$275,000.00	\$98,006,891.33
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$50,082,261.26	\$275,000.00	\$50,357,261.26

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

Approved May 26, 2026

Public Hearings

26-0259 Public Hearing and Consideration of Resolution Authorizing County Participation in the North Carolina Commercial - Property Assessed Capital Expenditure Program (C-PACE)

Tobin Freid, Sustainability Manger stated the Board was requested to hold a public hearing and consider adoption of the resolution authorizing the County to participate in the North Carolina Commercial - Property Assessed Capital Expenditure (C-PACE) Program.

Ms. Freid stated the program would allow commercial and non-profit entities to access financing for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and resilience projects on their properties. She added these types of projects often experienced longer payback periods that were difficult to justify on a building that might be sold before the return on investment was achieved. Ms. Freid stated because C-PACE financing was tied to a lien on the property, it could be passed along to the next owner, thus reducing the risk to the original owner who was making the investment. She added this financing could be an incentive for commercial, agricultural, industrial, and multifamily property owners to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, install renewable energy systems, and improve their property to increase resilience to disasters.

Vice Chair Allam opened the public hearing.

The Board inquired about C-PACE usage in other counties and states. Ms. Freid responded Raleigh's Gateway District was starting construction on an automated parking garage with C-PACE funding. She added the County was following models from other counties and states. Commissioner Valentine stated Mecklenburg County adopted the C-PACE Program.

The Board thanked Ms. Freid for her continued efforts for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Vice Chair Allam closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to adopt the resolution authorizing the County to participate in the North Carolina Commercial – Property Assessed Capital Expenditure (C-PACE) Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

26-0272 – Public Hearing on the FY 2026-27 County Manager’s Recommended Budget

Vice Chair Allam opened the public hearing.

The following citizens requested full support for the funding proposal submitted by Durham Public Schools: *Vanessa Barnett-Loro, Page McCullough, Rob Fields, Hunter Morgan, Carolyn Eubanks, Ryan Burch, Retha Daniel-Ruth, Maggie Radack, Sophia Dawkins, Mika Twietmeyer, Teresa Williams, Anna Bunfield, Asia Pope, Elizabeth Clifford, Susan Benfield, Elder James Webb, Samatha Boyd and Linda Clark,*

The following citizens requested to discontinue funding for Child Protective Services and requested allocating one percent of the budget to support families: *Pete Eisenmann, Ni-Quawna Daniels-Johnson, Razid Zaidi Muhammad, Sharrocka Pettiford, Amanda Wallace, Walidah Burns and Antoinette Hayes,*

Pablo Friedmann, citizen proposed lowering taxes for low-income residents and raising taxes for high-income residents.

Vice Chair Allam thanked the citizens for attending the meeting and sharing their comments on the budget.

Board and Commission Appointments

Larissa Williamson, County Attorney announced the voting results.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are identified with an (i). Individuals who are recommended by a Board are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed.

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Ashley Hillard (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Dangerous Dog Appeal Board

Georgina Moreno (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Durham County Hospital Corporation Board of Trustees

(i) Charles Cooperber, MD (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Ellen Reckhow (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Gracie Johnson-Lopez (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

(i) Mark Neely, MD (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Mark Branch, MD (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Laura Gunn, MD (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

(i) Ronald Williams, PharmD (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Durham Workforce Development Board

Antoinette Daye (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Glyndola Massenburg-Beasley (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Crystal Waters (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Antonio Luster (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Farmland Protection Advisory Board

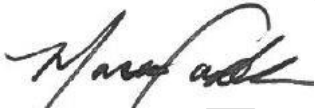
(i) John Cowan (Allam, Burton, Jacobs, Valentine)

Adjournment

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Commissioner Valentine to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 8:37 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton
Deputy Clerk to the Board