

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

Monday, January 12, 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: Chair Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair Nida Allam and Commissioners Michelle Burton, Wendy Jacobs and Stephen Valentine

Presider: Chair Dr. Mike Lee

Zoom Hybrid

Participants: 4

Closed Session – 6:00 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, 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

Chair Dr. Lee 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

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

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

1. **Durham County to Observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** – Most Durham County Government offices will close in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day holiday on Monday, January 19. All offices reopen for normal business hours on Tuesday, January 20. Read about impacts on specific services at www.dconc.gov.
2. **Personal Property and Business Listing Forms** – The 2026 personal property listing period is January 1 through January 31, 2026. Those who operate a business are required to list their business personal property with the County by January 31, 2026. Visit the Tax Administration website at www.dconc.gov/tax and go to Personal Property or call 919-560-0300.
3. **Free NC Voter Photo ID Outreach Event on Jan. 24** – The Durham County Board of Elections will continue to host free NC Voter Photo Identification Card outreach events for registered Durham County voters throughout 2026! 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 Main Library, 300 N. Roxboro Street, on Saturday, January 24 from 12 to 3 p.m. More info: www.dcovotes.dconc.gov/voters/voter-id.
4. **21st Annual Durham City-County MLK Jr. Observance Program on Jan. 27** – All are welcome to the 21st Annual Durham City-County Martin Luther King, Jr. Employee Observance on Tuesday, January 27, at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 305 E. Main Street. North Carolina Central University Chancellor Dr. Karrie G. Dixon will be the keynote speaker. The program will also include musical selections and remarks from local leaders and elected officials. For more information, email publicinformationoffice@dconc.gov.
5. **Planning Drop-In Office Hours at DCo Libraries** – Durham Planning & Development Department staff will host Office Hours at the Durham County Main Library where you are invited to bring your questions and talk directly with staff. Regular hours are held on the first Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m. and third Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Planning staff will also hold hours at the following dates and locations: Tuesday, Jan. 27, 12:30-3 p.m., at North Regional Library, 221 Milton Rd.; Thursday, Jan. 29, 3-5:30 p.m., at South Regional Library, 4505 S. Alston Ave.; and Tuesday, Feb. 3, 3-5:30 p.m., East Regional Library, 211 Lick Creek Ln. More information can be found at <https://engagedurham.com/NewUDO>.

Minutes

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to approve the December 1, 2025 Work Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ceremonial Items

25-0630 Proclamation - Recognizing BULLS Academy Life Sciences Day

Chair Dr. Lee read the following proclamation:

BULLS LIFE SCIENCES ACADEMY DAY | 2026

WHEREAS, key leaders identified a gap in high-wage, high-growth careers for underserved populations in Durham County and a need among employers in the Life Sciences industry for a talent pipeline; and

WHEREAS, Made in Durham was founded as a public-private partnership with a mission to create accessible pathways for upward economic mobility and community prosperity for the existing education-to-career system; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Made in Durham, along with core partners, Durham County, Durham Technical Community College and NCBiotech, launched the BULLS Life Sciences Academy to fulfill this crucial mission; and

WHEREAS, through the support of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, students are eligible to receive a \$10,000 life stipend to cover living expenses while they complete the program, paving the pathway for residents to attain and build careers in the Life Sciences industry; and

WHEREAS, Made in Durham has established vital partnerships with dozens of community-based organizations to build organizational capacity, as well as to support community awareness of Life Sciences and the recruitment of BULLS Academy candidates; and

WHEREAS, the success of the program is reflected in the 20 companies, including global leaders such as Merck, Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk and Biogen, that have employed 70 BULLS Academy graduates, generating \$2.8 million in new wages, as the 13th cohort enters the program and the 14th is being recruited.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Mike Lee, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby recognize

“BULLS LIFE SCIENCES ACADEMY DAY”

in Durham County.

This 17th day of January 2026.

Dr. Mike Lee, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Director, thanked the Board for recognizing the proclamation. He thanked Durham Technical Community College (DTCC) and Made in Durham, academy graduates and program students, for attending the meeting. Mr. Miracle stated over 200 students graduated from the academy and 77 students were employed in the life-sciences field.

Casey Steinbecker, Made in Durham Executive Director gave a brief overview of the academy’s origins and history and stated the County provided yearly funds and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support and expand the academy.

Nikkta Mahan, BULLS Academy student stated she discovered the academy while attending DTCC and stated the program offered her more than a job with a career and opportunity. She added she worked at Eli Lilly as a Process Technician and was pursuing an Associate Degree in Biotechnology.

The Board highlighted the importance and success of the academy and the need for continued investment in the program. The Board thanked Made in Durham, and DTCC, for their continued partnership with the County and for investing in Durham youth.

Consent Agenda

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

Chair Dr. Lee stated a citizen requested to comment on Item 25-0030

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

Commissioner Burton moved, seconded by Vice Chair Allam to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda except Item 25-0030.

The motion carried unanimously.

*25-0592 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC042 Appropriating \$65,000 of Lebanon Fire Tax District Fund Balance and Increasing the Distribution to Lebanon Fire Department for the Purchase of a Response Vehicle

*25-0650 Approve Capital Project Amendment No.26CPA013 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.26BCC044 Appropriating \$276,244.80 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to the PAYGO Fund to Support the Lincoln Community Health Center Parking Lot Expansion Capital Project (4730DC159); as well as Authorize an Increase in the Owner's Contingency to the contract with WC Construction in the Amount of \$276,244.80 to Execute Any Necessary Change Orders for the LCHC Parking Lot Expansion for a Total Not-to-Exceed of \$1,333,344.80

26-0000 Authorize execution of the Public Art Agreement with Visual Original Customs, LLC (Derrick Monk) for the Design, Fabrication/installation at the Board of Elections Building located at 3825 S. Roxboro St#101, Durham NC for a total not-to-exceed \$110,000

*26-0001 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.26CPA014 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC045 Appropriating \$150,107.33 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to the PAYGO Fund to Support Increases to the New Lincoln Community Health Center Building Modernization Upgrades Capital Project (4730DC167)

26-0002 Standard Non-Reimbursable Utility Contracts for the Extension of the County Sanitary Sewer System

26-0003 Award Contract to Taplin Group, LLC. for Manhole and Sewer Line Inspection Services for the Durham County Utilities Division in the Amount of \$223,703

26-0009 Authorize the County Manager to Enter into a Contract with Brady Trane Services, Inc., DBA Icon Boiler, Inc in the Amount of \$503,423.37 for the Purposes of Replacing Two Steam Boilers at the Durham County Detention Center with Funding Being Provided and the Authority to Approve any Amendments and/or Change Orders to the Contract as long as Funding is Available in the CIP Programming for Ongoing HVAC Replacements and Upgrades (4190DC076)

26-0017 Approval of Amendment to Schneider Geospatial, LLC Service Agreement for Durham County Tax Administration

*26-0024 Approval of Capital Project Amendment No.26CPA012 and Budget Ordinance Amendment No.26BCC043 Appropriating \$1,688,697 of Debt Service Fund Fund Balance to the PAYGO Fund to Support the Redwood Convenience Site Capital Project (4190DC080), as well as Authorize the County Manager to Execute a Construction Contract with CT Wilson Construction Company, Inc., for \$4,781,705.00 and to Execute any Other Related Contracts Including Change Orders, if Necessary, Not to Exceed the Total Project Budget of \$5,246,196.00

*26-0026 Approval of Property Tax Releases and Refunds for December 2025

Consent Agenda Item #25-0592

**Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC042**

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>
<u>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$12,202,112.00	\$65,000.00	\$12,267,112.00
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$300,921.00	\$65,000.00	\$365,921.00

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

Approved January 12, 2026

Consent Agenda Item #25-0650

**Durham County, North Carolina
Capital Project
Amendment Number 26CPA-13**

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

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
47302635DC159	Lincoln Community Health Center Parking Lot Expansion	\$1,090,600.00	\$276,244.80	\$1,366,844.80

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved January 12, 2026

**Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC044**

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>
<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$121,892,372.87	\$276,244.80	\$122,168,617.67
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$119,794,930.87	\$276,244.80	\$120,071,175.67

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

Approved January 12, 2026

Consent Agenda Item #26-0001

**Durham County, North Carolina
Capital Project
Amendment Number 26CPA-14**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the capital project is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
47302635DC167	LCHC Building Modernization Upgrades Project	\$591,000.00	\$150,107.33	\$741,107.33

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved January 12, 2026

**Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC045**

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>
<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$122,168,617.67	\$150,107.33	\$122,318,725.00
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$120,071,175.67	\$150,107.33	\$120,221,283.00

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

Approved January 12, 2026

Consent Agenda Item #26-0024

**Durham County, North Carolina
Capital Project
Amendment Number 26CPA-12**

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

Project #	Project Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
41904200DC080	Redwood Convenience Site Upgrades	\$4,067,818.00	\$1,688,697.00	\$5,756,515.00

All capital projects in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved January 12, 2026

**Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC043**

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>
<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$120,203,675.87	\$1,688,697.00	\$121,892,372.87
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$118,106,233.87	\$1,688,697.00	\$119,794,930.87

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

Approved January 12, 2026

Consent Agenda Item #26-0026

Releases and Refunds – December 2025

Current Year 2025 Taxes	Releases	Refunds	
Real Property	\$ 5,305,397.81	\$ 1,520,543.12	
Personal Property	\$ 172,403.21	\$ 139,664.04	
Motor Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Solid Waste	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Stormwater Utility	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Public Service	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
VTS Refunds	\$ 0.00	\$ 17,924.18	
Gross Rec./Bev. Lic.	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
SUB – TOTAL	\$5,477,801.02	\$1,678,131.34	\$7,155,932.36
Prior Year 2015-2024	Releases	Refunds	
Real Property	\$ 392.61	\$ 0.00	
Personal Property	\$ 73,126.69	\$ 1,180.97	
GAP Vehicles	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Motor Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Solid Waste	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Stormwater Utility	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
VTS Refunds	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
SUB - TOTAL	\$ 73,519.30	\$ 1,180.97	\$ 74,700.27
GRAND TOTAL	\$5,551,320.32	\$1,679,312.31	\$7,230,632.63

Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

25-0030 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment 26BCC048 Appropriating \$212,138 of General Fund Fund Balance to Court Facilities to Support Courtroom Upgrades for Remote Proceedings

Tanawah Downing, Justice Without Limits

Mr. Downing informed the Board about unlawful acts by programs they fund, addressed issues with family court corruption and the trafficking of children through foster care.

Jessica Saxton, Justice Without Limits

Ms. Saxton served the Board with indictment affidavits of criminal conspiracy.

Antoinette Hawes, Citizen

Ms. Hawes stated the funds used for the court facilities upgrades could be used for other needed services in the Durham community.

Raziq Zaidi, Citizen

Mr. Zaidi stated the funds used for the court facilities upgrades could be used to keep young people out of the detention system and for unhoused residents in the community.

Consent Agenda Item #26-0030

**Durham County, North Carolina
2025-2026 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 26BCC048**

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>			
General Government	\$203,878,945.88	\$212,138.00	\$204,091,083.88
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$45,432,832.52	\$212,138.00	\$45,644,970.52

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

Approved January 12, 2026

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to approve item 26-0030 from the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

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

- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations; pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4).

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene to Open Session

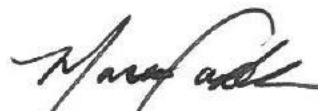
Chair Dr. Lee announced the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

Adjournment

Commissioner Valentine moved, seconded by Commissioner Burton to adjourn the Regular Session meeting at 8:12 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton
Deputy Clerk to the Board

DRAFT