



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to conduct a public hearing as required by North Carolina General Statute §153A-302(c) regarding the creation of the Mangum Fire Protection Service District in Durham County as defined within the staff report “Report to the Board of County Commissioners Regarding the Proposal to Establish the Mangum Fire Protection Service District”.

The proposed service district has historically been served by the Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department based in Rougemont, NC without any fee or revenue provided by Durham County. Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue is no longer able to service this area without revenue to cover the expenses associated with emergency response into this area.

Background/Justification

Durham County is served by seven fire agencies: Bahama Volunteer Fire Department, City of Durham Fire Department, Eno Fire Department, Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department, Moriah Volunteer Fire and Rescue (MVFR), New Hope Volunteer Fire Department, and Redwood Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, the Durham County Fire and Rescue Service District was created after the Bethesda and Parkwood Volunteer Fire Departments dissolved in FY2014 and FY2016. Fire protection in that district is provided through an inter-local agreement with the City of Durham.

Bahama, Eno, Lebanon, New Hope, and Redwood operate within established fire service districts under North Carolina law. The City of Durham Fire Department covers the city limits and is funded through the City’s budget. MVFR currently serves 268 parcels in the Mangum insurance district in northeast Durham County. In 2024, these non-city departments responded to 3,682 calls for service.

Due to Durham County’s size, growth, and resource demands, providing countywide fire protection under current conditions is not feasible. A dedicated service district is needed to ensure continued fire and emergency services for the 268 parcels in the Mangum area. MVFR has provided service for decades without funding and can no longer sustain operations without financial support. Establishing the Mangum Fire Protection Service District is the first step toward providing that funding. A detailed report with background information was prepared in accordance with NCGS 153A-302(b) and is included in the agenda package. The report was filed with the Clerk of the Board on February 6, 2026 as required by NCGS 153A-302(b).

A Notice of Public Hearing and background document on creation of the service district was mailed to all property owners of record as of January 1, 2026 via first class mail on February 6, 2026 and the Notice of Public Hearing was published on Monday, February 23, 2026, both in accordance with NCGS 153-302(c).

Policy Impact

None



Procurement Background

None

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact will result after the district is created and a tax rate is determined as part of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget process. Work is currently underway on the budget request which will be used to determine the appropriate tax rate.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board conducts a public hearing and if appropriate based on the comments received during the public hearing, create the Mangum Fire Protection Service District as defined by the staff report “Report to the Board of County Commissioners Regarding the Proposal to Establish the Mangum Fire Protection Service District.”