



### **Agenda Action Form Overview**

The Durham County Board of Commissioners is requested to recognize relief funds received from the State Board of Elections to the Durham County Board of Elections. This includes \$277,268 of Coronavirus Relief Funds as a direct subgrant to support eligible expenses incurred for the 2020 General Election as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Additionally, the Durham County Board of Elections is requested to recognize the Durham County Board of Elections eligibility to receive a minimum of \$10,000, not to exceed \$250,000, of reimbursements against HAVA funds through the State Board of Elections for eligible expenses incurred to improve the administration of federal elections.

### **Background/Justification**

The Board of County Commissioners is requested to approve recognition of the direct transfer of \$277,268 of Coronavirus Relief Funds received from the North Carolina State Board of Elections, as a direct subgrant to support eligible expenses related to the 2020 General Election, to the Durham County Board of Elections in accordance with the CARES Act and NC House Bill 1169. These funds will cover additional costs related to the execution of the forthcoming election incurred in response to the coronavirus pandemic. All expenses incurred against the subgrant will be tracked consistent with federal, state, and county guidelines. Funding allocated by this subgrant must be expended by December 31, 2020.

Additionally, The Board of Commissioners is requested to recognize the Durham County Board of Elections eligibility to receive a minimum of \$10,000, not to exceed \$250,000, of reimbursements against HAVA funds through the State Board of Elections consistent with the provisions of House Bill 1169. Expenses eligible for reimbursement from this funding are those incurred to improve the administration of federal elections, as authorized under HAVA Title I, Section 101. All expenses requested for reimbursement will be tracked consistent with federal, state, and county guidelines. Reimbursement requests against this subgrant may be made until June 30, 2021.

Additional resources are attached to this supplemental document from the North Carolina State Board of Elections providing specific details as to eligible expenses that can be applied to both fund sources.

### **Policy Impact**

This request is consistent with past practice of the Durham County Board of Commissioners to recognize subgrants prior to release to the receiving entity. Accepting this funding is consistent with Goal 5 of the strategic plan, established to ensure efficient, effective, and visionary government.

### **Procurement Background**

N/A



**Fiscal Impact**

The grant funds recognized by the Durham County Board of Commissioners will support new costs associated with the execution of the 2020 General Election as result of the coronavirus pandemic. Overall, acceptance of the direct transfer and reimbursement thresholds will assist in offsetting unplanned/unbudgeted costs to ensure Durham County remains in compliance with the Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

**Recommendation**

The County Manager recommends that the Board approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BC000008 recognizing \$277,268.00 of Coronavirus Relief Funds received from the State Board of Elections for COVID-19 related response and mitigation costs and a minimum of \$10,000, not to exceed \$250,000, in possible HAVA fund reimbursements to the Durham County Board of Elections.