

May 18, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic and North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order 121, the Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for its Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. via an electronic meeting (Zoom) with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chair Shelley Dickerson, Mark Speed, Cedric K. Jones, Sr., David Bunn and Michael Schriver. Commissioner Harry L. Foy, Jr. joined the meeting after its start.

Please note that due to mass gathering restrictions as outlined in Executive Order 121, the public was not allowed to physically attend this meeting; however, the meeting was livestreamed on YouTube at <http://franklincounty.today>. Citizens were also able to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom.

Chairman Dunston called the meeting to order, called the roll and asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Bunn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Speed and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

The items approved are as follows.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. May 4, 2020 Minutes
- B. Releases, Adjustments, Refunds and Tax Collection Rate
- C. Adjournment of the 2020 Board of Equalization & Review
- D. Surplus of Glock 17 handgun (serial #VUS274) valued at approximately \$360 to sell to retiring officer Bruce Baker in the amount of \$1
- E. Budget Ordinance Amendment #6 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$58,946 to amend the General Fund to recognize Board action from previous meetings, and additional funding from DHHS for Duke Energy Progress – Energy Neighbor Fund.)
- F. Project Budget Ordinance for Airport Pavement Rehabilitation Design and Bid in the amount of \$570,000
- G. Audit Contract for FYE 2020/Engagement Letter
- H. Notice of Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Requirements and Restrictions on Property

Item 1-E

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #6			
BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Franklin, North Carolina, that pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.			
Section 1. To amend the General Fund to recognize Board action from previous meetings, and additional funding from DHHS for Duke Energy Progress- Energy Neighbor Fund.			
Expenditures	Account #		Amount of Increase
Transfer to Airport Fund (Project Match)	10-650-0590		\$ 57,000
DSS - Duke Energy Project Share	10-612-0420		\$ 1,946
	Total		\$ 58,946
=====			
Revenues	Account #		Amount of Increase
GF Fund Balance	10-399-0000		\$ 57,000
DSS Duke Energy Progress Energy	10-612-0420		\$ 1,946
	Total		\$ 58,946
=====			
Section 2. Copies of this amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners, the Budget Officer, and the Finance Officer for their direction.			
Adopted this 18th day of May 2020.			
Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners			
Clerk to the Board			

Item 1-F

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE
AIRPORT PAVEMENT REHABILITATION DESIGN AND BID**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 159-8 and 159-13.2, the following project ordinance is hereby adopted:

SECTION 1: The project authorized is to design and bid the rehabilitation of the Triangle North Executive Airport pavement to include runway, taxiways, and apron areas. Additionally, the geometry will be revised to meet current FAA standards.

SECTION 2: The following revenues are available to complete the project:

NC Department of Transportation Grant	\$ 513,000
County Funds	<u>57,000</u>
Total	\$ 570,000

SECTION 3: The following line item is created for this project and line item appropriation is hereby approved:

Project costs (36244.43.11.1)	\$ 570,000
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SECTION 4: The County's Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain sufficient detailed accounting records to provide the accounting for the recordation of revenues and expenses for this project.

SECTION 5: The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of the project and the total revenues received.

SECTION 6: Copies of this ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

This was the time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals to address the Board on issues concerning the county.

Members of the public who wished to make public comments were required to register by emailing publiccomments@franklincountync.us before 12:00 pm (noon) on Monday, May 18, 2020 and include their name, address, comment topic, phone number they would call from and email address. Individuals were recognized (by video or phone call using the instructions listed at the beginning of this agenda) for comments in the order registered.

The time limit for each speaker was five minutes with a total time limit set aside for informal public comments totaling 30 minutes.

Scott Strickland, 40 Shelia's Lane Louisburg, NC

- Mr. Strickland spoke regarding his concerns with the emergency radio system.

Jeremy Neal, 2859 White Level Road, Castalia NC

- Mr. Neal provided comments relative Emergency Radio Issues, Broadband LLC and National EMS Week.

Frank Winstead, 145 Victoria Ct., Youngsville, NC

- Mr. Winstead provided comments regarding County health concerns.

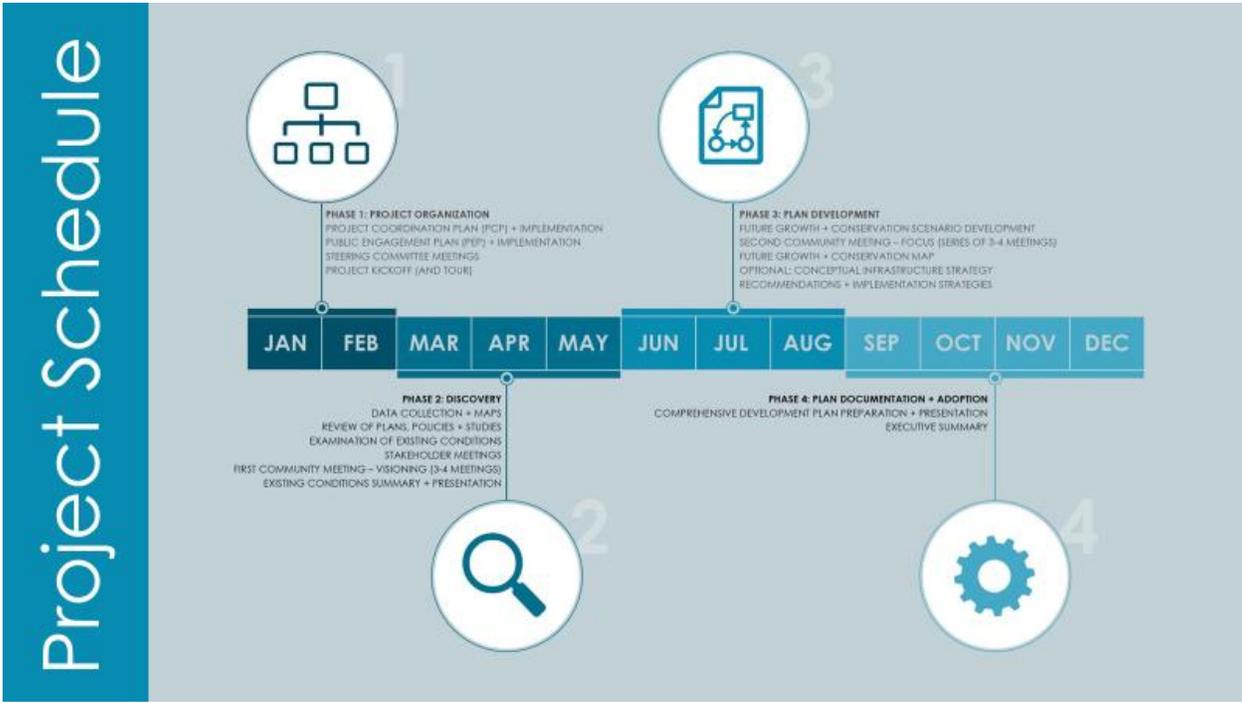
3. PUBLIC HEARING: COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Staff has been working with McGill & Associates for the past year in order to update the County's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). The purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to identify a desired vision for the County's future, identify community priorities, and articulate strategies to address community priorities. The entire CDP was posted for viewing at the following address: <https://www.franklincountync.us/services/planning-and-inspections/comprehensive-development-plan>.

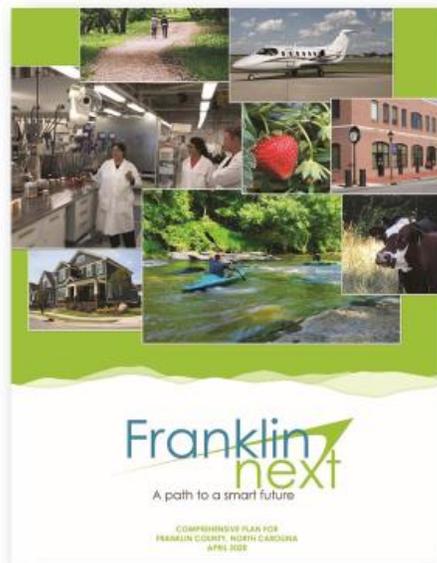
Members of the public who wished to participate in the public hearing could share their comments in one of two methods:

- Share comments during the meeting using Zoom via audio or video. If you wish to address the Board, you must register at publiccomments@franklincountync.us before 12:00 pm (noon) on Monday, May 18, 2020. Please include your name, address, public hearing topic, phone number you will be calling from and email address. You will be recognized by the Chairman for comments in the order that you registered.
- Email written comments to publiccomments@franklincountync.us before 12:00 pm (noon) on Monday, May 18, 2020. Please include your name, address and public hearing topic. Comments will be shared with the Board and made part of the official record. Written comments received within 24 hours after the hearing is closed will also be shared with the Board and made a part of the official record. No additional comments were received per the Clerk to the Board.

Planning and Inspections Director Scott Hammerbacher offered the following PowerPoint presentation.



— 593 Survey Responses
 — 298 Unique Webpage Visits
 — 250 New Facebook Followers
 — 217 Meeting Attendees
 — 65 on Farm Tour
 — 21 Stakeholder Interviews



- PDF for printing
- Website
 - Viewing
 - PDF for downloading
- Executive Summary

The Plan

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- Open Space and Natural Resources
- Agriculture
- Health and Well-Being

The Plan

Goals & Objectives

Long-term conservation of Franklin County's rural/agrarian heritage and sustainable agriculture.

Objectives:

- stable economy
- support for farmers
- community health and well being (access to fresh, nutritious food, youth education thru farm tours)
- economic development (tourism, agritourism)
- recognition of County's past and traditions
- balance between urbanization and rural conservation

Preservation of the environmental quality of the County and integrity of its natural resources, including water, air, animals (species), forests, prime farmland soils, and wetlands.

Objectives:

- water quality
- air quality
- stormwater management
- wildlife habitat support
- viable agriculture
- hazard mitigation (prevention)

Conservation of the community's natural and cultural features that contribute to the character, aesthetic quality, and social fabric of the County.

Objectives:

- historic preservation
- build community pride
- community health and well being (access to nature)
- maintain quality visual appearance
- passive recreation

A balanced tax base and tax revenue generation commensurate with growth.

Objectives:

- tax revenue generation sufficient to fund public infrastructure, services, and programs.

A multimodal transportation network that is safe, efficient, and connected.

Objectives:

- reduce or better manage congestion
- maximize mobility for those who live and work in—and visit—Franklin County
- promote the County's airport as a regional facility and alternative site for general aviation
- support future investments in public transportation
- public safety (police, fire, EMS)

Adequate and affordable infrastructure.

Objectives:

- support desired growth that the County will proactively attract
- creation and management of systems that the County and its partners can, with available resources, develop in a timely manner (with or ahead of development) and maintain over the long term

The best possible quality of life for Franklin County's citizens.

Objectives:

- community health and well being
- economic development (attraction and retention)
- education, workforce training – job security
- diverse recreation and amenities
- activities for all segments of the population, especially youth
- access to quality healthcare

Residential areas that offer a variety of housing options in terms of type, size, cost, and location.

Objectives:

- supply enough product to satisfy existing and future housing demands
- create a multi-generational community
- accommodate different preferences based on household size, lifestyle, income, and stage of life

Growth management that effectively directs development activity towards those areas that have existing or planned infrastructure capacity to adequately support the nature and intensity of anticipated and proposed land uses.

Objectives:

- create predictability and stability for investors
- achieve critical mass in key places to ensure the creation of vibrant, mixed-use, walkable areas
- support/strengthen towns as key population/activity centers
- full use of urban services
- utilization of existing infrastructure capacity
- minimize public costs associated with provision of infrastructure
- efficient use of land resources
- lessen impact of development on natural areas with high conservation value
- support for infill development and redevelopment

A stable economy that continues to flourish with job creation in growing industry sectors.

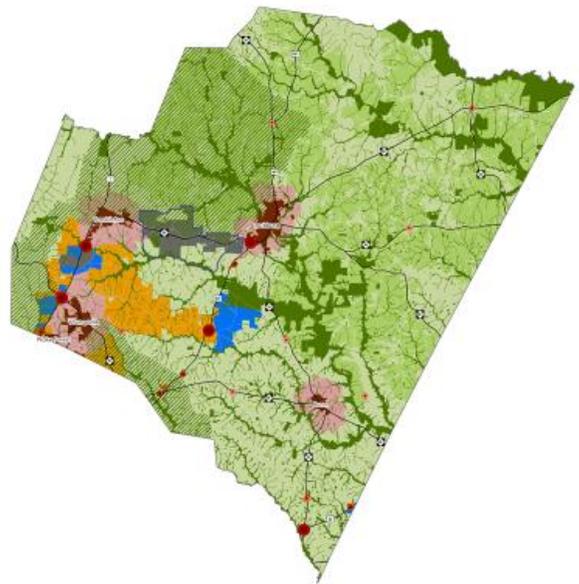
Objectives:

- increase employment opportunities for citizens
- reduce/reverse commuting
- improve health and well being (with reduction in commuting times and increased job security)
- increase median individual and household income levels

An expanded and connected recreation system that meets the needs of the existing and future populations.

Objectives:

- community health (mental health improvement and exercise to combat obesity)
- be part of a regional system
- economic development (amenities that enhance QoL, a factor that is critical for recruitment)
- support mobility and active transportation with greenway trails



Future Development + Conservation Map

Conservation 1

Conservation 2

Agriculture

Rural

Conservation Design

DRAFT

Suburban Residential

Commercial Center

Commercial Mixed Use Center

Neighborhood Center

Rural Mixed Use Center

Busi Center

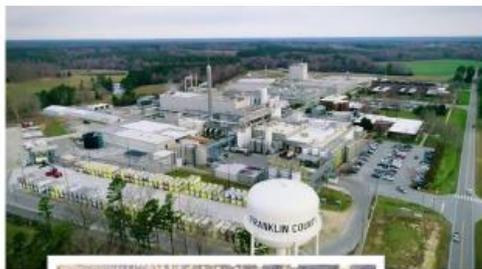
Industrial Innovation

Industrial

Municipal Center

Employment/Campus





LU 4 – Promote the area along NC 56 as a competitive industrial employment center.

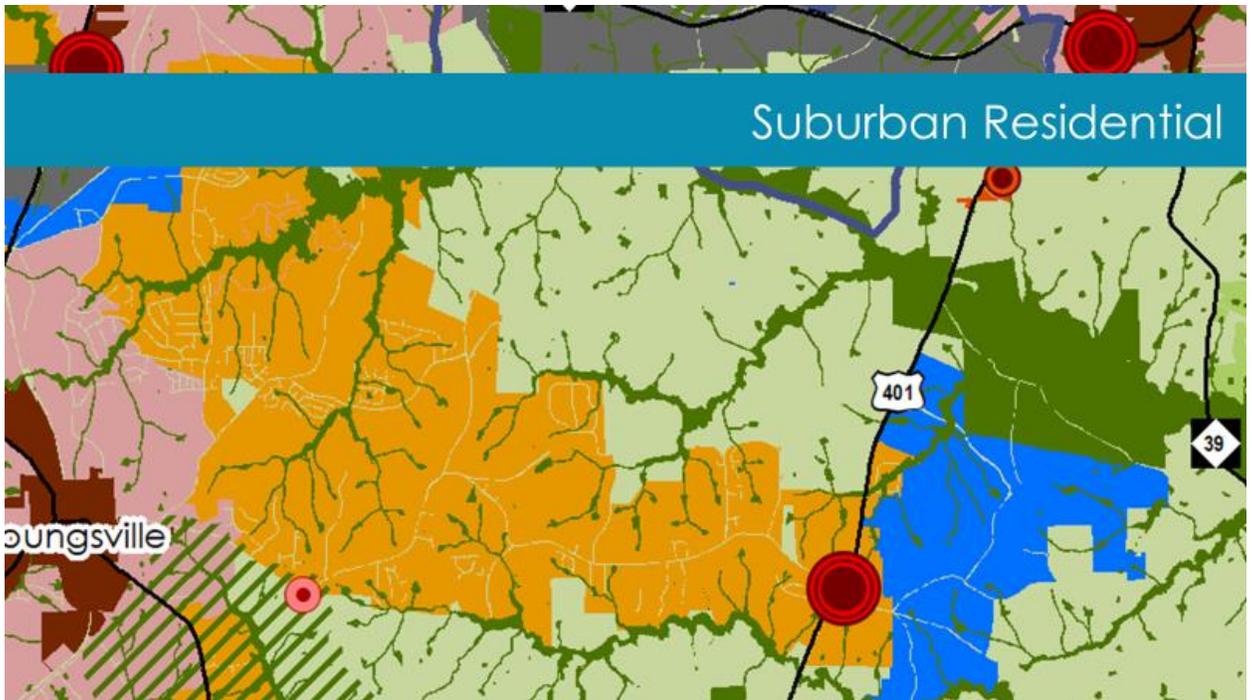
- Prepare an area plan that defines the appropriate manner for locating industrial, office, institutional, and residential uses the area designated as "Industrial Innovation District" along NC-56. Over the long term, the access to I-85, US-1, and US-64 that an Improved NC-56, in combination with NC-39 and NC-98, can provide makes this area an attractive location for job-generating uses. The area's location, situated near Louisburg, Franklinton and Youngville, adds to the attractiveness, as opportunities for future employees to live, shop, play etc. in these nearby towns. The area plan should:
 - Include a conceptual illustration depicting the potential arrangement of various uses;
 - Retain existing industry and allow for the expansion of such operations provided the less intense uses leave a buffer to adjacent development;
 - Locate opportunity sites for a business incubator and/or industrial accelerator;
 - Consider agriculture-related industry (i.e., manufacturing or technology businesses focused in the agricultural processes) to bolster existing agricultural operations;
 - Define the appropriate location and configuration of residential and commercial development to create an industrial "village" within the district; homes, services, and restaurants are located within a reasonable distance of jobs;
 - Delineate potential road and greenway linkages that create positive connections between uses and to adjacent towns of Louisburg and Franklinton; and
 - Consider the proximity of the VQCC, as the location of the institution offers easy access to workforce training programs, VQCC, which in an asset that could make the area more attractive to potential employees recruited to the part of Franklin County, should be physically and programmatically tied to the overall development pattern.
- Utilize the products of the area planning process to augment the recommendations of the CDP and market the area to potential employees and other future occupants targeted.



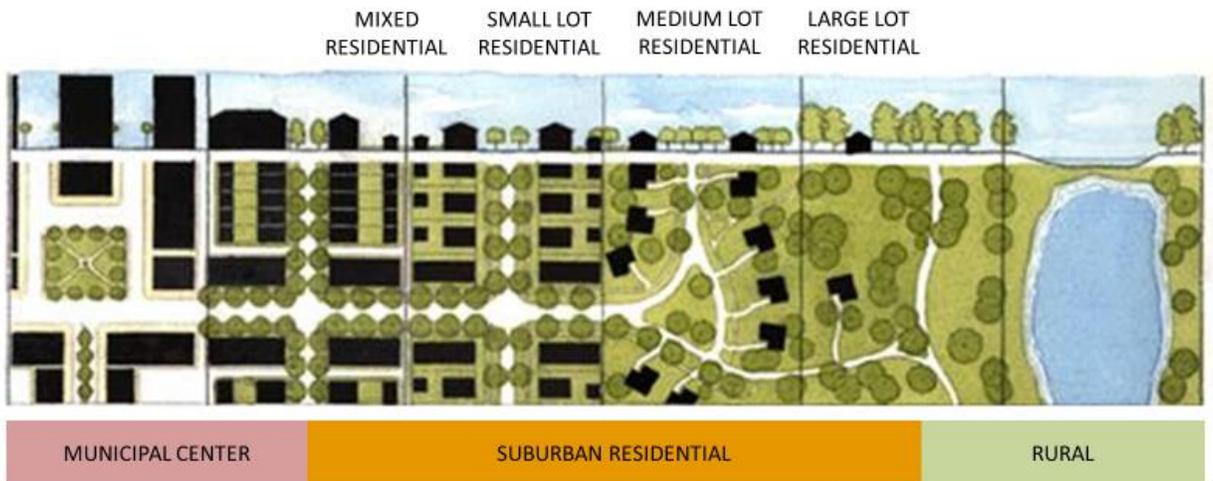
"Rural areas also have a slight advantage over their metro counterparts in the rate of substantive innovation by the most innovative firms (those that are patent-intensive). That's because innovation in rural areas tends to be a product of patent-intensive manufacturing industries like chemicals, mechanicals, and automotive or medical equipment, while urban areas have higher rates of innovation in services."

— CityLab

Source: "The Future of Innovation Corridors"



Suburban Residential



Housing (HS)

HS 1 – Diversify housing options.

- Develop housing strategies that include higher density building located along existing utility lines and transportation corridors to increase the viability of transit services and to minimize cost of service expansion.
- Review and update the zoning ordinance and map to effectively expand types of housing development and allow for seamless zoning transition.
- Advocate for “aging in place” strategies in new development that allows people to transition within as they age.
- Promote mixed-generational neighborhoods.
- Promote 2nd floor/loft housing in mixed use development in existing town centers
 - Research viable locations that could support mixed use development
- Update design and building standards to:
 - encourage senior-friendly housing products
 - maintain rural character



The duplex has the appearance of a single-family home. The two units on the front corner use the only features that avoid the usual number of units within the accessory unit above the garage (only two bedrooms).



This “granny flat” accessory dwelling unit or ADU is located behind the home (owner’s driveway).

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Franklinville | Comprehensive Development Plan

HS 2 – Stabilize neighborhoods by facilitating investment in underutilized properties.

- Promote infill development.
- Create development regulations to allow accessory dwellings.
- Clarify standards for multi-family lot sizes to accommodate a variety of acceptable configurations.



The mix of residential types supports a multi-generational neighborhood and supports aging in place.

HS 3 – Reduce competition for land for nonresidential development.

- Review/update zoning ordinance and map in order to more effectively direct and encourage desired residential housing development away from key commercial sites.

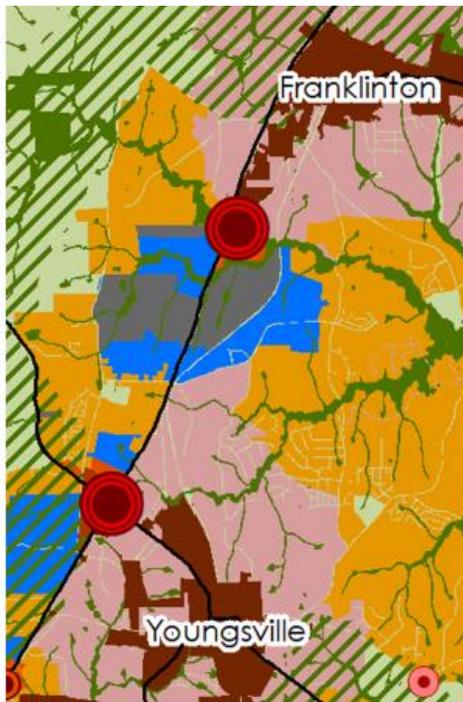
Minimum Lot Size

The current minimum lot size for multifamily dwellings and townhomes in the R-TL zoning district is as follows:

- 8,000 sf for the first 2 units
- 2,000 sf for each additional unit

This standard is based on the assumption that the units would be organized as row houses with the 2 end units located on 8,000-square-foot sites and the units in-between on 2,000-square-foot sites. Other configurations are not contemplated but may be appropriate.

Table 4: The Value of Infill in Context



LU 2 – Encourage growth within and near the municipalities in accordance with their respective adopted land use (or comprehensive) plans.

- Promote the towns as the centers of activity and, in doing so, support each town’s efforts to grow and diversify.
 - Recognize the towns as the appropriate centers of commerce, education, culture, recreation and entertainment, and encourage uses that serve as anchors and development catalysts to locate within the towns.
 - Reinforce these centers by investing in them. Maintain existing and locate new county facilities, such as government offices, schools, and libraries, within the towns.
- Restrict gross development density in the unincorporated areas. While the net density of development in key mixed-use nodes and employment centers may be high, to create synergy between complementary land uses and the necessary vibrancy for success, the overall intensity of development in the county should be generally lower. Relative to the towns, the allowable development density and availability of public utilities in the county should be low enough to make annexation into the towns more attractive.
- Align the County’s policies with those of the municipalities to ensure appropriate development activity gravitates to the towns. For example, amend and adopt utility policies that make annexation into the closest town for services the logical and feasible choice.



Franklinville | Building for Vitality

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LU 5 – Concentrate commercial development outside of the municipalities in key nodes. **LU 6 – Support the development and redevelopment of land to promote job growth.**

- Direct commercial development toward areas where the existing or planned infrastructure can support it. Most future commercial development in the County is intended to occur primarily in the key nodes designated as "Community Center," "Neighborhood Center," "Rural Center," and "Rural Crossroads" as well as "Municipal Center" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map.
- Amend the UDO to create a set of mixed-use districts that reflect the intended mix of uses, area (general coverage based on service area), and density described for the four place types. (Refer to the descriptions in Part 3.)
- In areas designated as "Industrial" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map, support the by-right use of industrially zoned land to accommodate new industrial development as well as the expansion of existing businesses.
- Support the creation of job-generating uses and support services in areas designated as "Employment Campus" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map. These areas may include office and institutional uses.

LU 7 – Enhance development quality along the major highway corridors.

- As corridor studies are being conducted to consider access management, particularly along US-1 and US-401, consider expanding the scope of such studies to include an assessment of the overall quality of the corridors. The quality of development along major highways, especially those that serve as the County's "front door," shape the impressions people form as they enter the county and can influence perceptions and, more importantly, investment decisions. By ensuring a high level of quality, the County can put its best foot forward and send the right message to prospective employees, future residents, and others considering a relocation to Franklin. In addition to mobility improvements, the corridor studies should examine the following:
 - Streetscape, particularly consistency of street trees (i.e., tree selection, placement/spacing pattern), visual relief provided through simplicity of landscape design and/or trees in hardscape with vegetation (reduces glare), visibility with strategic placement of plantings and lighting
 - Architecture – building scale, orientation, facade articulation, quality of materials, etc.
 - Accessibility – navigation to key anchors and destinations, which involves a thoughtful approach to circulation, reinforced by wayfinding, landscaping, and lighting
 - Signs and the visual impact of them
 - Location-based screening and parking
- Amend the UDO to address a higher level of design standards based on the recommendations of the corridor studies. The amendments could include the introduction of corridor overlay districts to clearly define the areas to which such standards would be limited.



Potential Economic Development Initiatives

The array of potential initiatives that could position Franklin County for desired growth are many. Focusing on the Triangle North Executive Airport, agriculture, and open space could help the county stand out among its competitors in the region.

Local farms are helping to build agritourism in the region.

Local County residents are taking advantage of the convenience of private jet experience in Franklin County.

Franklin County is developing open space at the North Fork Deep River to provide more quality recreation.

Agritourism is an important aspect of the county's future. Enhancing agritourism to boost the agricultural economy.

AIRPORT

Developing the full underlying amenities is also important for capturing the economic potential of the airport. This means the availability of land and buildings to accommodate new businesses. It also includes hangars, fueling, mechanical support and other necessary services. In addition, the services to support the arrival and departure of planes, some of which could have people with a high level of expectation for such things as transportation or food services immediately available upon arrival.

- Identify new sites for employment growth, particularly in the Triangle North Executive Airport area
- Promote compatible uses in areas adjacent to Triangle North Executive Airport
- Upgrade services and amenities at the airport:
 - Enter into an agreement with local car dealership or rental car agency to supply vehicles that meet the expectations of the private companies and individuals flying into TNEX. This arrangement should ensure the provision of up-to-date, high quality vehicles without the County being tied to ownership and maintenance responsibilities.
 - Consider the incorporation of concession space into an upgraded terminal building. This could help generate additional revenue for the County and provide opportunities for an enhanced arrival/ departure experience.
 - Accommodate a restaurant (or similar venue) with view of the airfield. Enthusiasts can congregate to enjoy the activities as spectacles.

AGRICULTURE

The agricultural base can lead to the development of agritourism. In order to develop this opportunity, the County will need to help develop the infrastructure to provide the attendant services to support the tourism. This includes the restaurant, housing and transportation services to accommodate tourists. It will also be important to help facilitate events and gatherings that will attract a critical mass of people to experience the unique aspects the agricultural base.

- Promote tourism through agritourism, historic assets
- Promote equestrian related activities, including the two annual horseback rides that attract over 300 participants, constructing coordinating greenways and capitalizing on the Tar River being located in the County.

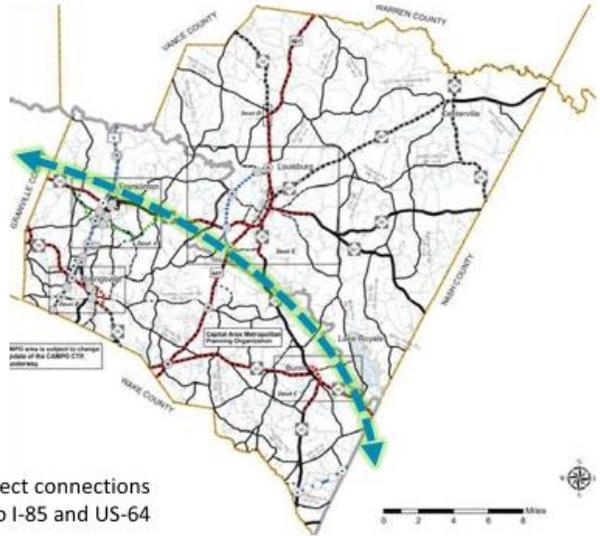
OPEN SPACE / RECREATION / AMENITIES

The marketing also needs to play on the important quality of life and natural features of the County. Business need to be able to attract workers and the County needs to be attractive to the leadership of businesses. Location decisions for company moves are at least heavily influenced by where the senior leadership would like to live. Enhancing the quality of life and the desirability of the community for relocation will enhance economic development opportunities.

Infrastructure | Mobility

Item 1 - Update the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

- Due to the high cost and regional nature of transportation systems, work with NCDOT, CAMPO and the Ken-Tar RPO to update and implement the adopted CTP.
- Study the alignments of NC-56 and Hwy-39 to more directly connect Interstate 85 to US-64 through Franklin County to serve as much needed east-west connector through the County. Ideally, this improved connection would provide access to current and future industry located on NC-56 as well as access to Triangle North Executive Airport.
 - As an early phase, improve the NC-56 corridor such that it can provide connectivity between Hwy 401 and Hwy 1, serving as an intercounty east-west connector as employment growth occurs in.
- Create a coordinated highway plan for US-401 in order to ensure connectivity while protecting the limited accessibility of this future four-lane superstreet.
- In support of an "industrial innovation district" along NC-56, promote improvements to NC-56 to create and protect the capacity of the roadway. Access to I-85, US-1, and US-64 that an improved NC-56 can provide makes this area an attractive location for job-generating uses. The area's location, situated near Lenoir, Franklin and Youngsville, adds to the attractiveness, as these towns offer opportunities for future employees to live, shop, play etc. in these nearby towns.
- Encourage a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation network that accommodates the demands from existing and proposed land uses.
- Seek opportunities to increase connectivity, particularly on the secondary roads adjacent to US-401 and US-1.



More direct connections to I-85 and US-64



Infrastructure | Broadband

Item 1 - Build on existing efforts to bring broadband to the County.

Nationwide, the main source of funding for the deployment of broadband is the Universal Service Fund (USF). The USF was created by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 1997 to ensure that consumers in all regions of the nation have access to quality telecommunications and information services at affordable rates. Within USF, there are four funds:

- Connect America Funds - supports services to areas that are currently unserved by broadband service or where support is needed to extend and support broadband networks.
- Lifeline Program - supports telecommunications companies that in turn offer discounts on telecommunications services to low-income families.
- Rural Health Care Program - supports eligible rural health care providers that qualify for reduced rates for telecommunications services and broadband access that is similar to urban centers.
- E-rate Program - supports eligible schools and libraries that qualify for reduced rates for telecommunications services and necessary internet connectivity.



Section 4: Six Faces of Franklin County 183



IFWS 2 - Revise the County's Allocation ordinance to ensure greater alignment between water and sewer allocations and existing land use categories, direct utility extensions to areas that support desired development patterns and targeted development/redevelopment initiatives.

- Consider a prioritized or tiered approach that would replace the first-come, first-served allocation in existing ordinance with incentives for promoting infrastructure investment to the following growth areas:

Tier 1: Primary growth areas (Municipal, commercial, industrial)
 Tier 2: Secondary growth areas (Suburban residential adjacent to primary area)
 Tier 3: Tertiary growth area (Area located beyond Tiers 1 & 2)

IFWS 1 - Create a Water and Sewer Utility Master Plan that will identify capital improvements including overall costs for constructing capacity-related capital assets required to support the county's comprehensive plan and support the water and sewer utility thorough full buildout.

- Develop hydraulic models for both water and sewer systems to accurately and reliably determine system capacities, forecast demand and support management of allocations. Maintain models for continued accuracy.
- Employ hydraulic models to identify system elements reaching capacity to help avoid overloading conditions and potential regulatory violations.
- Identify the most effective methods of serving the County with water and sewer facilities. A rate study component should be part of the Master Plan.

OSNR 4 - Encourage conservation to protect natural resources.

- Establish more effective open space requirements in land development regulations.
 - In the short term, modify open space requirements to differentiate usable space and provide it in addition to areas set aside for natural resource protection.
 - In the long term, amend UDO to
 - Increase open space requirements in private development, especially new residential neighborhoods.
 - Further promote conservation design subdivisions by establishing a reward system for maximizing high-value lands (i.e., density bonuses).
 - Require delineation of planned open space based on conservation value.
 - The valued types can be determined and vetted through a local public process, such as the one prescribed by the NC Wildlife Resource Commission that employs the Green Growth Toolbox.
 - Maintain GIS files indicating the locally determined conservation value for use in the preparation of development plans.

CONVENTIONAL SUBDIVISION DESIGN

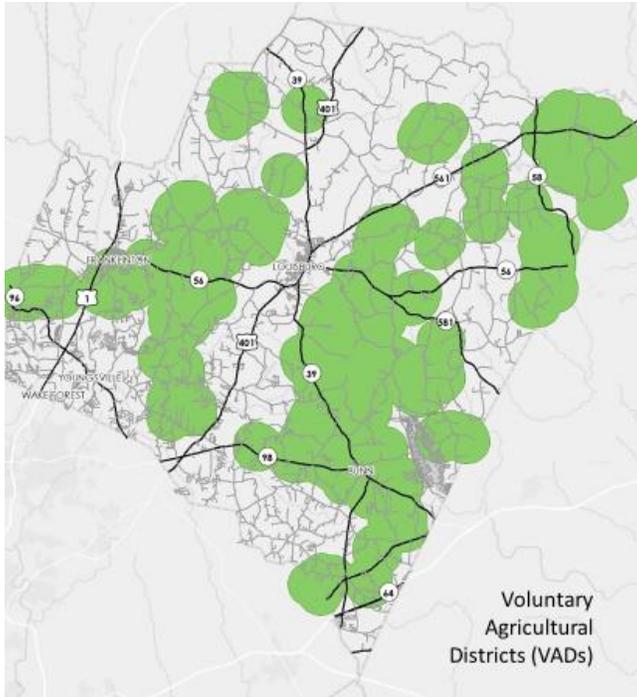


CONSERVATION SUBDIVISION DESIGN



Source: Randall Arendt





LU 9 – Protect the relatively undeveloped areas of the County and other assets from the impacts of urbanization.

- Limit development in areas designated as "Rural" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map, particularly north of the Tar River where attributes that contribute to the character of the County should remain intact.
 - Amend the LDCO to limit allowable densities to those described in Part 3.
 - Amend utility policies to limit water and sewer service in these areas. (Refer to Infrastructure – Utilities section.)
- Protect the agricultural areas that are currently viable, are participating in the Present Use Value Program, are part of the Voluntary Agriculture Districts, and/or have the potential to be used for agricultural purposes in the future. They are designated as "Agriculture" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map. (Refer to Agriculture section.)
 - Amend the LDCO to balance the needs of the agriculture community with the desire to minimize encroachment of incompatible development.
 - Limit uses and allowable densities to those described in Part 3.
 - Permit some uses that help farming operations remain viable, including the following:
 - Temporary uses;
 - Seasonal uses (i.e., Christmas tree sales)
 - Agriculture-support uses
 - Rural businesses, such as small engine repair, accounting services, hair styling, etc.
 - Establish performance standards to mitigate the potential impacts of various uses, such as noise, outdoor storage, truck traffic, etc.
 - Direct development away from environmentally sensitive areas which are encompassed by areas designated as "CConservation 1" and "CConservation 2" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map. (Refer to Open Space and Natural Resource section.)
 - Direct development away from historic and culturally significant sites. Such properties are included in the areas designated as "CConservation 1" on the Future Land Use and Conservation Map.
 - Using the County's inventory of historic sites as a starting point, map—and identify the range of—properties that should be buffered from future development if not sensitively integrated into development.
 - Establish development standards that prioritize conservation of these important assets in the delineation of permanent open space.



Section 6: The Future of Franklin County

Agriculture

Agriculture and forestry are valuable components of the County's history and economy. As the population increases and demographics change, growth resulting from incompatible development threatens this economy. Potential incompatible uses such as dense subdivisions, apartments, condos and commercial strips can be negatively affected by the byproducts of agricultural activities such as dust, odor, noise or slow-moving farm vehicles.

AG 1 – Promote the long-term sustainability of Franklin County's rich rural and agricultural heritage.

- Direct growth away from productive farming areas.
 - Through zoning and infrastructure investments, concentrate development in the urbanized portions of the County.
- Discourage development of areas with viable agricultural operations.
 - Promote Voluntary Ag Districts and Enhanced Voluntary Ag Districts
 - Minimize encroachment of new residential growth
 - Amend zoning standards to include buffer provisions for new development from existing farms.

AG 2 – Maintain and support agricultural production.

- Encourage use of available resources.
 - Support efforts of Cooperative Extension, Franklin County Soil & Water District and the NC Forest Service.
 - Support small and large agriculture operations in beef/hog crop, livestock, horticulture or alternative enterprises.
 - Seek grant funding through RAHUSA and NC AgVentures to help farms transition to become more economically feasible.



in support of a farm-to-table produce agriculture-focused conference in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, during a series of programs and activities that feature economic assets.

- Facilitate and promote local distribution of agriculture products.
 - Create a market for foods produced locally.
 - Promote locally-sourced ingredients in area restaurants for the farm-to-fork experience.
 - Encourage, promote and support county-wide farmers markets.
 - Encourage/support roadside produce stands.
 - Support localized efforts such as the "Corner Store", "Care & Share" and food bank programs.
 - Support local food programs offered by Cooperative Extension.
 - Support the development of a Regional Food Policy that advocates for regionally scaled infrastructure, sustains and strengthens local and regional food systems and improves access to affordable and nutritious food.
- Raise awareness and appreciation for agriculture.
 - Support agriculture education in the school system (4-H, FFA, school gardens)
 - Support nutrition and health education that connects the benefits of access to local produce.
- Grow agriculture.
 - Provide support in promoting Agritourism through a county-wide tourism initiative.
 - Promote farm tours, farm stays or support the existing Ken-Tar Region's Visit NC Farms App.
 - Continue to support Farm-City Week Events, a program that began internationally in 1955 and continued by the American Farm Bureau Federation to address the poor public image of agriculture, the strong urban influence on ag policies and a growing population with no direct tie to agriculture. According to the NC CES - Franklin County Center, "Across the entire country, Farm-City events are planned by Cooperative Extension, agri-business, farmers, youth groups, civic groups and other organizations to educate the public about the interdependence of agriculture and industry." In 2019, Franklin County celebrated Farm-City Week with a luncheon at Mitchell Farms in Burnsville.
 - Support and promote all festivals and events at the Franklin County Farmers Market.
 - Support efforts of Cooperative Extension's educational programs and outreach.

Section 6: The Future of Franklin County

Successful farming begins with a supportive environment. Cooperative Extension – Franklin County Center is striving to build more support for agriculture. By providing those already in or entering the industry with educational programs and linking them to various resources, the Franklin County Center is helping maintain agriculture as a viable component of the local economy. The Franklin County Center is also delivering programs that help raise awareness of local agriculture, reinforcing the economic, health and environmental benefits to the community.

NC Cooperative Extension

The following are programs offered currently by NC Cooperative Extension – Franklin County Center. Consider how each might be expanded to have a positive impact on improving the health of the Franklin County community.

Faithful Families Eating Smart and Moving More Program promoted healthy eating and physical activity in communities of faith.

Eat Smart, Move More, Take Control is a 4-session chronic disease prevention program.

Mad Instead of Mad: teaches participants how to eat healthier to cut back on medications.

Cooking for Crowds is geared toward non-profits cooking for groups of people.

Know It Control It helps participants self-monitor their blood pressure and make healthy lifestyle changes to control high blood pressure.

Prevent T2 Diabetes was developed specifically to prevent type 2 diabetes.

Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) has a mission to improve the health of limited resource youth and families with young children through practical lessons on basic nutrition and healthy lifestyles, resource management and food safety.

HW 4 - Promote healthy eating habits and better nutrition to address issues with obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

- Increase equitable access to healthy food.
 - Identify and address gaps by mapping “food deserts.”
 - Help expand range of outlets and types of vendors, including farmers markets, and retail/petrol produce stands.
 - Work with area vendors to expand inventory and reach.
 - Create incentives that reward retailers who participate in initiatives, such as a “corner store program,” and
 - Designate delivery/distribution points for mobile services.
- Support and promote participation in education/classes: healthy eating, healthy cooking, healthy gardening, etc.



Cooking classes can be a fun way to socialize while learning about healthy eating habits. **Source:** | Comprehensive Development Plan

HW 5 - Increase an overall sense of well-being.

- Increase access to nature. Access to open space has been shown to improve individuals’ overall sense of well-being. (Refer to Parks and Recreation and Open Space and Natural Resources sections.)
- Build sense of community. An individual’s sense of belonging stems from an attachment to the place, strengthened by connections to its history, culture, and people.
 - Create opportunities for residents to come together, socialize, and learn about and develop an appreciation for the history and heritage of the place in which they live. The results could include an increase in community pride, and willingness to invest themselves in the community in meaningful ways. Consider:
 - Programming - Events that bring people together, especially those that celebrate the County’s history and culture through food and music.
 - Public art, particularly permanent installations that are interactive, which can help activate and enhance the appearance of public spaces while telling the story—the history and culture—of the County.
- Create opportunities to get involved through leadership programs and volunteer organizations.
- Take steps, as needed, to improve public safety, particularly response times, to increase residents’ sense of security. (Refer to Community Facilities section.)
- Address socio-economic disparities. Education and employment opportunities are key to reducing a number of health issues, as recent studies show that many are highly correlated to socio-economic conditions. (Refer to Economic Development section.)
- Build an mapping (SocialEeds Index) and determine targeted solutions for sub-geographies of the county where health issues and economic issues overlap.



HW 2 - Improve access to care.

- Support the expansion of existing medical facilities and the location of new facilities close to population centers in the county.
- Improve the quality of life in Franklin County to attract more primary care providers, dentists, and mental health professionals to the county.



Four Principles Guiding the FaithHealthNC Movement

- right door** - Ensure equitable access to existing facilities throughout the county (make residents aware of the locations, access points/parking, hours of operation, etc. via the website, apps for smart phones, and printed materials).
- right time** - Provide facilities in highly populated areas by contributing to funding of municipal system in line of providing county parks where demand is highest met by municipal facility.
- ready to be treated** - Improve connections to existing facilities. Evaluate walking and biking routes in terms of connectivity and safety, and identify potential improvements to close gaps and increase safety through lighting, visibility, signs of crosswalks, wayfinding, etc.
- not alone** - Support efforts to encourage active transportation and safe routes to school. (Refer to Infrastructure/Mobility section.)

Improve safety of public facilities.

- Evaluate lighting and increase as needed.
- Identify the need emergency call boxes (number and locations).
- Provide cell boosters for improved cell phone service.

Provide additional recreation options in parks.

- Provide new facilities as outlined in the Park and Recreation Master Plan (currently or as updated in the future).
- Enter into joint use agreements with schools to utilize existing campus facilities outside of the hours of operation of the schools.

In Watauga County, health care services are being facilitated through a program called FaithHealthNC. It is a faith-based organization that, among other things, coordinates services to provide free transportation to all residents of Watauga County who access a need in substance, geriatric, reproductive, prenatal, and primary care. The program is being replicated in other counties and is now available in Ashe, Stokes, Forsyth, Randolph, and Wilkes Counties. <http://faithhealthnc.org/wataugacounty/>



In the absence of health care facilities in the county, patients with chronic health conditions can struggle to access it, even though mobile services exist in the nearby Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and Raleigh areas. The program is being replicated in other counties and is now available in Ashe, Stokes, Forsyth, Randolph, and Wilkes Counties. **Source:** | Comprehensive Development Plan

HW 3 - Increase opportunities for active living and physical exercise.

- Ensure equitable access to recreational facilities. Study the locations of parks and trails relative to the population and define gaps to be addressed at the creation of new facilities are considered. This can be accomplished with a GIS-based network analysis to delineate service areas and determine the percentage of the population served.
 - Facilitate access to existing facilities.
 - Work with municipalities to:
 - promote the full range of existing facilities throughout the county (make residents aware of the locations, access points/parking, hours of operation, etc. via the website, apps for smart phones, and printed materials);
 - provide facilities in highly populated areas by contributing to funding of municipal system in line of providing county parks where demand is highest met by municipal facility.
- Improve connections to existing facilities. Evaluate walking and biking routes in terms of connectivity and safety, and identify potential improvements to close gaps and increase safety through lighting, visibility, signs of crosswalks, wayfinding, etc.
- Support efforts to encourage active transportation and safe routes to school. (Refer to Infrastructure/Mobility section.)
- Improve safety of public facilities.
 - Evaluate lighting and increase as needed.
 - Identify the need emergency call boxes (number and locations).
 - Provide cell boosters for improved cell phone service.
- Provide additional recreation options in parks.
 - Provide new facilities as outlined in the Park and Recreation Master Plan (currently or as updated in the future).
 - Enter into joint use agreements with schools to utilize existing campus facilities outside of the hours of operation of the schools.
- Increase employment opportunities in the County. The travel time residents spend commuting to jobs outside of the county is increasing. With more jobs located in the county, residents may have more options for working closer to home, less time commuting could equate to more time for daily exercise.



There are equitable and access to facilities, whether at home or located at a nearby park. **Source:** | Comprehensive Development Plan



FIG 2 Establish a system of trails, both greenways and blueways.

- Prepare a master trails plan to be incorporated into the Park & Recreation Master Plan to establish a system that connects the towns, neighborhoods, employment centers, and existing parks with the County's natural and cultural resources.
 - An additional pedestrian/bicycle trail along HCR-16 would provide a non-vehicular transportation alternative for future employees of businesses located within the industrial corridor along the route.
 - Support efforts to create horse trails and amenities. Such additions to the system would further expand the market and would therefore be wise to include in any future trail system development.
- Link to regional trail systems, tying into existing regional and state-wide trail systems would allow the County to attract additional visitors while becoming part of the national trend of active, healthy living.
 - Consider creating opportunities to access existing destinations within the County via trails, including from origins outside the County.
 - Partner with Wake County and local municipalities to extend a trail from the southwest portion of the County to the nearby Mountains To Sea Trail in Wake County. From this regional connection, other local destinations (i.e., commercial centers, DeHart Botanical Gardens, etc.) could be added as future nodes via smaller connector trails and larger planned pedestrian/bicycle routes.
- Plan for and invest in water access locations.
 - Create a far river blueway connecting paddlers to existing amenities in Fattsboro and Rocky Mount and future amenities in Franklin County.
- Prepare a wayfinding plan. Create and install wayfinding signage in accordance with the plan.



The Planning Process

Starting Committee

over 80

Consistency Meetings

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Moving Forward

Following the presentation, Chairman Dunston opened and closed the public hearing with no public comments offered.

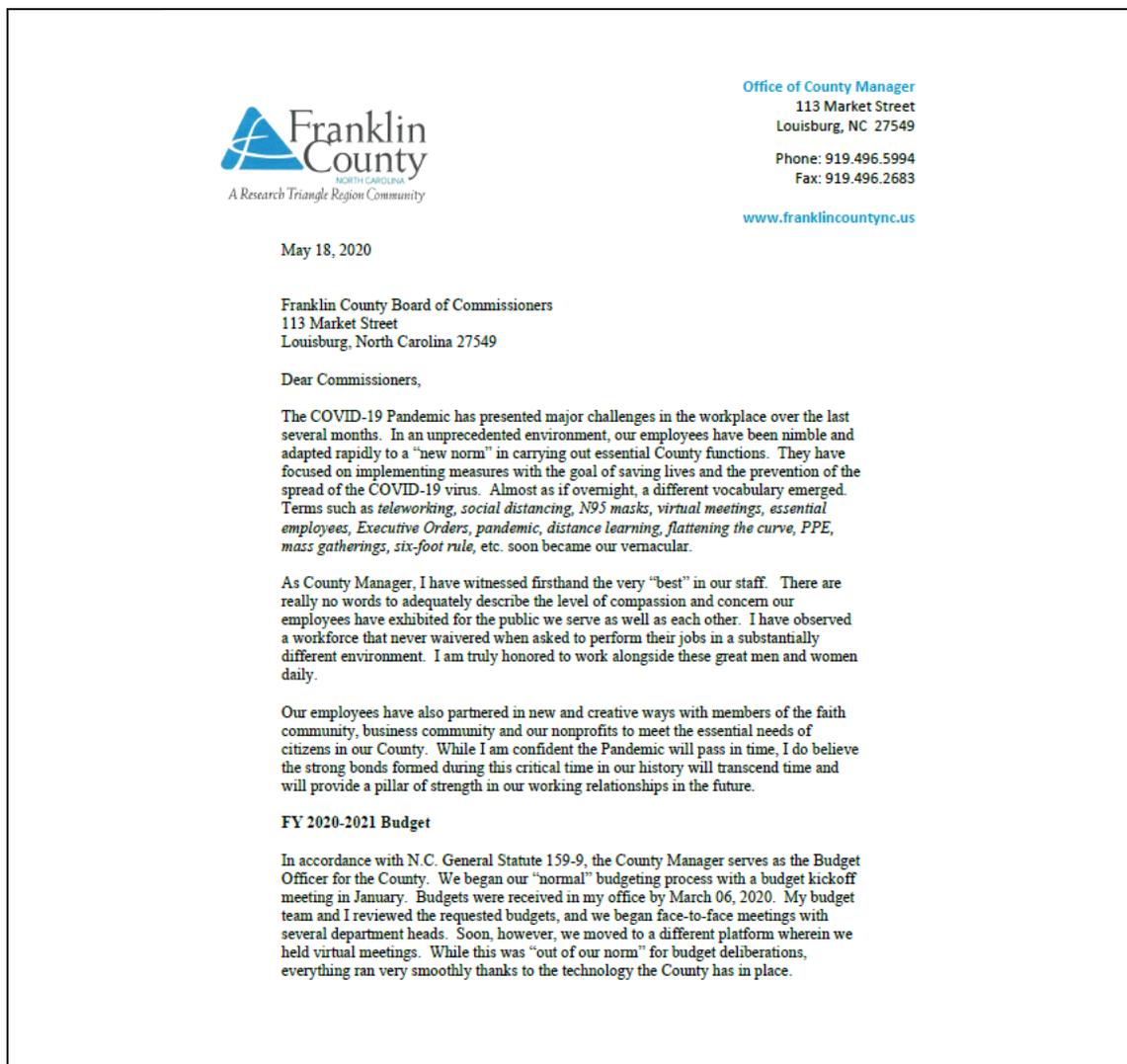
The Board will be asked to consider approval of the CDP at its meeting on June 1, 2020.

Commissioner Foy joined the meeting at the end of this discussion.

4. 2020-2021 BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Board received the budget proposal and asked to call for a public hearing on June 1, 2020 in order to receive public comment on the budget proposal.

County Manager Angela L. Harris provided excerpts from her budget message. The full document is shared below.



The development of an annual budget during the COVID-19 Pandemic has been a daunting feat especially in terms of forecasting revenues. It has been my practice to propose annual budgets with conservative revenue projections. The revenue projections for the upcoming fiscal year are recommended with minimal increases in most areas and in some cases significant reductions due to market volatility in the current fiscal climate. At the writing of this message unemployment data is available through March (March, data 4.3%). The April unemployment rate is anticipated to increase. Current housing data available on Redfin, Zillow and Metrosstudy continues to reflect market strength. We will continue to closely monitor the above.

While the strategies instituted during the "Great Recession" beginning back in the year 2008 are not exactly the *play book* for the current state of things, I will say we have employed similar cost saving measures during the COVID-19 Pandemic. For example, over the last three months, staff positions have been frozen unless essential to operations. Capital spending has also been suspended unless deemed essential. Travel and Training expenditures have been minimal during this timeframe. The above measures, while implemented during the last quarter of the fiscal year, will pave the way for the new fiscal year as we will continue to be extremely cautious with both spending and the monitoring of revenues.

At the writing of this message, our Finance Director, Jamie Holtzman is evaluating funding sources to assist the County as we continue to navigate the challenges, costs and impacts associated with the Pandemic. The Office of State Budget & Management has provided information on funding available through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). NCPRO (the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office) has been set up to assist counties as they develop plans for the use of the funds.

Fiscal Performance

The County has a history of positive revenue performance and often the appropriated fund balance is not fully utilized at year end. We are not projecting to use the full amount of the fund balance appropriated in the current fiscal year since revenues are outperforming the budgeted amounts by an estimated \$545,000 and expenditures are projected to come in under budget by over \$1.1 million.

During the current fiscal year, the County had an opportunity to save money on a Bond Refunding (estimated savings over \$1,000,000 during the next ten years). Fitch assigned an AA+ rating to the \$10.2 million general obligation (GO) refunding bonds, series. "In addition, Fitch affirmed the following ratings as AA+: Franklin County's Issuer Default Ratings (IDR); \$31.93 million outstanding GO bonds". Source: January 09, 2020 Fitch Ratings.

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Standard & Poor's (S & P) upgraded the County's rating to AA and Moody's affirmed the County's AA+ rating. Additionally, Franklin County has received the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting presented by the Government Finance Officers Association again this past year mark *twenty-one years consecutively* the County has been recognized.

FY 2020-2021 Budget Highlights

It is my duty and privilege to present the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. An electronic portal has been set up for the third consecutive year on the County's website (www.franklincountync.us) for public comment on the proposed budget for FY 2020-2021.

"Holding the Line" on Spending

The Board had a *"no tax increase"* goal again this year. My proposed General Fund budget does not propose a tax increase. In fact, my proposed budget is \$88,899,961 a decrease of \$746,192 compared to the 2019-2020 budget of \$89,646,153. Fund Balance in the amount of \$4,486,869 is appropriated to balance the proposed budget. This represents an increase of \$162,404 from fund balance when compared to the current fiscal year's appropriation. It is my recommendation to move away from a significant fund balance appropriation in future budgets. Future meetings should address how to accomplish this objective.

"Unassigned" fund balance is projected at 22.16 % effective June 30, 2020. The Board approved a Fund Balance Policy in November 2019 which established an 18% Fund Balance goal. Additionally, a Debt Management Policy was adopted. Both instruments serve as tools in the Board's financial decision making.

The ad valorem tax rate for FY 2020-2021 remains at 80.50 cents per \$100 valuation, as in the current fiscal year. A penny on the tax rate is equivalent to \$602,684.

What makes up the decrease in the proposed budget when compared to the current fiscal year? The following represents the major changes:

- Debt service payments – reduction of \$498,448.
- *No* Transfer from the General Fund to the Solid Waste Fund planned for FY 2020-2021 year. Approximately, \$412,364 budgeted in 2019-2020. Reductions in the budget coupled with a Solid Waste fee change will eliminate the General Fund contribution. The Solid Waste Fund, as an Enterprise Fund should be self-sustaining as recommended by the County's auditors. In addition, Solid Waste will likely have

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additional expenses soon in meeting the regulatory requirements for post-closure of a landfill.

- Substantial investments in Technology/Software were made to protect the County's data in the current year. They were one-time expenses and as such are not included in the proposal for FY 2020-2021. In addition, one-time expenses have been incurred in the current fiscal year for Finance software and Permitting software for the Inspections Department. Collectively, the above represents over \$350,000 in expenditures which are not included in my proposed budget for FY 2020-2021.
- No additional financing of Vehicles/Ambulances.
- No costs associated with the Fleming Forest Subdivision Rd. project in FY 2020-2021, representing a savings of \$229,215.

Property Taxes and Sales Tax are the two key sources of revenues in the budget exclusive of fees and charges. The Tax Administrator has established a fiscal year 2020-2021 assessed tax base at \$6,181,377,673 billion representing a 5.1% *increase* over the current fiscal year's budget. The proposed budget is based on an anticipated 97.5% collection rate which is a more conservative and lower rate than the 98.4% audited rate in the 2018-2019 fiscal year. In years past, we have used the audited tax collection rate when projecting ad valorem tax collections. We are being more conservative due to the current economic environment. Still, ad valorem tax revenue is projected to *increase* by \$1,785,022. Sales Tax is estimated at \$9,947,190, a \$458,873 *reduction* from the current fiscal year's budget; this projection represents a 5.6% reduction from the current year's projection of \$10,508,014.

Public Schools

Education remains one of the Board of Commissioner's top priorities. Our public schools have *no low performing schools* according to the State's accountability measures. The Cohort Graduation Rate (includes Early College High School) stood at 84.5% in 2019. The Board is requested to provide *full funding* for the *fourth* consecutive year to support the Board of Education's requests for Current Expense and Capital Expense in FY 2020-2021. My recommendation represents the *largest investment in Current Expense for Education on record*. In the fall of 2019, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners were once again recognized by the North Carolina Board of Education for its exemplary commitment to public Education. This is the second award received over the last three years. The award is given annually to a single Board of County Commissioners statewide.

It should be noted funding provided to charter schools has steadily increased over the last several years. The following is lifted directly from the Public School's budget request to the Board of Commissioners "*For the 2020-2021 school year, we anticipate that pass*

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through funding levels for charter from our local budget will increase by \$422,228 for a total pass-through of \$3,742,328 of local funds going directly to charter schools."

Additional educational opportunities will be made available for increased enrollment in the Early College High School program beginning in the fall. The Board is expected to enter into an agreement with Vance-Granville Community College to move the current Early College High School program out of the modular units adjacent to the College and onto the campus proper. In exchange, the College will temporarily occupy the modular unit as capital planning is undertaken for additional building space on Franklin County's satellite campus. This move will afford more students to enroll; currently only fifty percent of those desiring to enter in the ECHS program are considered due to space constraints.

2020-2021 Current Expense requested:	\$21,192,936
2020-2021 Current Expense recommended:	\$21,192,936

The recommended Current Expense amount is the largest investment on record, representing an *increase* of \$843,105 from the current year amount of \$20,349,831.

2020-2021 Capital Outlay requested	\$1,000,000
2020-2021 Capital Outlay recommended	\$1,000,000

The requested/recommended amount represents a decrease of \$1,000,000 compared to the current year Capital Outlay allocation of \$2,000,000

Vance-Granville Community College

VGCC has requested level funding in Operational Expenses for Capital in the upcoming fiscal year. The Manager's recommendation is to maintain level funding \$369,168 and \$20,000 respectively. As mentioned above, planning for new construction on our VGCC satellite campus will be a focus over the next five years. It is my recommendation for the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Trustees with Vance-Granville Community College to meet at least semi-annually to discuss both capital and program expansion opportunities.

Health & Human Services

Health Director, Scott LaVigne and Interim EMS Director, Jeff Bright joined forces to provide leadership for our Emergency Operations Center during the COVID-19 Pandemic. They have been joined by key leaders in the County and staff with additional responsibilities over and above their normal workloads. Gratitude is extended to those mentioned above during this extended public health crisis. I can't express how humbling

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it has been to witness these professionals at work, some working while dealing with the loss of someone near to them due to the corona virus.

Maria Parham Franklin, DLP opened the Emergency Department in October 2018 followed by the opening of the Geriatric Behavioral Health unit, a thirteen-bed facility. In February 2019, a multispecialty clinic opened adjacent to the hospital. During the current fiscal year, Maria Parham Franklin, DLP completed a new 20 bed behavioral health unit serving patients under fifty-five in age. Construction projects associated with Golden Leaf and Commerce grants were also completed. Golden Leaf and the Department of Commerce grant funding provided over \$1,000,000 in support for improvements made at Maria Parham Franklin over the last couple of years. The County has maintained its commitment to apply for grants to support medical care at the hospital.

The County's Community Paramedic Program continues to thrive and the one staff member in the program has served forty-one new clients, fielded two hundred eighty-nine calls and has had two hundred ten successful diversions (individuals did not need to go to the Emergency Department or hospitalization) this fiscal year.

The Stepping Up Initiative continues to prove successful and is recommended for continued County support. Stepping Up serves the mentally ill in our jail with the goal of jail diversion after services are rendered.

Personnel

The proposed budget does not fully reflect the staff needs as requested and justified by department heads. Department heads presented requests for staffing that could not be recommended due to funding. Of the thirteen new full-time positions requested in the General Fund at an estimated costs \$990,000 and one part-time moving to fulltime, only four positions are being recommended at a cost of approximately \$212,000. They are as follows:

- (1) School Resource Officer (SRO) – no longer covered by the Town of Youngsville; position is recommended to begin July 2020
- (1) Public Health Nurse, PHN-I in the Communicable Disease Clinic (and other clinics as needed) to begin in July 2020
- (1) Community Paramedic – recommended to begin in January 2021
- (1) Fire Marshal – recommended to begin in January 2021

During the current fiscal year, a *Compensation & Classification Study* was completed with options for implementation ranging from \$600,000 to \$1,300,000 – *this amount is without benefits*. Due to the current economic climate, it is my recommendation to delay implementation of any option in the Study until FY 2021-2022 if feasible. A two percent

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cost of living (COLA) for employees is proposed beginning in January 2021 at an estimated cost of approximately \$342,000 for staff funded through the General Fund and Enterprise Funds.

Additional funding to meet the *mandated increase* in the County's match in the Local Government Retirement System is included with a net impact of approximately \$323,213. This amount includes the additional positions recommended.

Teleworking has become necessary in county government since the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. My administrative team and I will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of this arrangement both in terms of cost and productivity and will adjust as we move in to the "new norm."

Capital

My budget proposal is extremely lean with respect to Capital acquisition. While the County has made progress in capital acquisition over the last several years, funding is insufficient to recommend additional capital in the upcoming year.

Capital requests: \$1,809,569 (vehicles, two ambulances, a tractor)

Capital recommended: \$44,193 for a QRV – Quick Response Vehicle

2020-2021 - Major Initiatives

- Complete the evaluation of existing facilities and develop architectural plans in support of moving forward with a new County Government Complex.
- A Water Study is being conducted by MBD Engineers; the Board is seeking reliable, long-term, options for an additional water supply
- Continue the development of the Master Layout Plan for Triangle North Executive Airport. The Master MLP will provide a blueprint or framework for the future development of the Airport and is necessary to receive additional funding. Completion of the Plan should be in 2021.

As a reminder, grant funding in the amount of approximately \$410,948 was made available in the FY 2018-2019 for the Master Layout Plan. During this same fiscal year, approximately \$1.5 million was awarded for an Airport Lighting Rehabilitation project and \$275,000 for an Airport Pavement Maintenance Project.

- Complete the Full Pavement Rehabilitation Design/Bid project utilizing a recently awarded \$513,000 grant.
- Update the Unified Development Ordinance to meet the statutory requirement. The estimated cost of the UDO update is \$125,000. The last full update was completed in

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2001; this work will be done coincidental with the County's *Comprehensive Development Plan* which is expected to be adopted prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

- Broadband – Funding is provided in the upcoming budget for the contract with Open Broadband, LLC to deploy services. Reminder: Franklin county is working with Vance and Granville Counties in a regional effort to develop strategic plans for broadband services.
- Implementation of a new Maintenance Work Order System
- PARTF Application (Parks & Recreation Trust Funds) for Phase II of Owens Park
- Reorganization of Emergency Services, to include the addition of a Fire Marshal.
- Countywide Bike/Pedestrian Plan
- Epsom Park Plan – funding is set aside for the initial planning of the Epsom Park design (\$20,000)

Note: major accomplishments/initiatives underway in the current fiscal year will be discussed with the Board during its budget meeting scheduled for May 21, 2020. I believe it is important to reflect on the above as it provides a meaningful transition to the discussions about future planning efforts as outlined in the proposed budget.

Fire Tax

A fire tax increase has been requested and is recommended for Central, Franklinton, Bunn, White Level and Epsom Fire Departments. Central's current rate is 8.50 and is recommended to increase to 8.75. Franklinton's rate is 6.25 and is recommended to increase to 7.00. Bunn's rate is 6.60 and is recommended to increase to 7.50. White Level's rate is currently 7.50 and is recommended to increase to 8.75. Epsom's rate is 8.25 and is recommended to increase to 9.40. All other departments remain the same as in the current year.

Enterprise Funds

Public Utilities

No Water & Sewer rate changes are being recommended. Once the COVID-19 restrictions associated with Executive Order 124 are set to expire, late fee changes are recommended to increase to \$10.00 (\$7.50 current) in the new fiscal year. Fees associated with FOG Program – Fats, Oils, Grease program are recommended to increase to \$12.00 (currently \$10.00). Four additional staff are recommended in this department – a heavy equipment operator, an industrial electrician and two utility maintenance workers.

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The key initiative as stated previously in the upcoming fiscal year is the *Water Supply Study*. It is currently underway to identify long-term, sustainable water supply options for the Board's consideration. The final report will serve as a valuable tool for decision making. A long-term, affordable source of water is critical for sustaining the growth pattern Franklin County has experienced in the past several years. It is even more critical if a more enhanced pattern of growth is desired.

Our Public Utilities Director, Chris Doherty reports his customer count increased by 591 accounts during the period July 2019 to the April billing cycle. Mr. Doherty has indicated with this trajectory in growth, he anticipates 709 new accounts by year end.

A detailed listing of successfully completed Public Utility projects, purchases and facility improvements will be provided to the Board during its budget meeting set for May 21, 2020.

Solid Waste

As recommended by the County's auditors, the Solid Waste Department should generate fees to cover costs and to eliminate the dependency on the General Fund. The Solid Waste Availability fee is recommended to increase from the current level of \$90.00 to \$100.00 per household. No other fee changes are recommended. Recycling costs continue to rise and are reflected in the proposal. It is my recommendation the Board and staff have additional conversation about recycling in the upcoming year. It is also suggested the Board focus on two specific areas in the upcoming fiscal year - the costs associated with the post-closure of the landfill to meet regulatory requirements and the need for updated facilities.

Note: As pointed out by the County's auditors, once the post-closure costs are calculated (known to the County) the County must reflect this liability on its books.

Summary

It is truly my honor to present my budget proposal for FY 2020-2021. I appreciate the effort each department head and staff put forth in preparing budgets outlining much needed personnel and capital. Due to the uncertainty of the fiscal climate we are currently in, funding is limited for expansion with regards to personnel and capital. However, if the economic picture improves and sustains in a positive manner, I would respectfully request an opportunity to revisit the topic of unmet personnel and capital needs with the Board.

I sincerely appreciate the assistance of my core budget team and support staff. A special "thank you" is extended to Ms. Kim Denton (Assistant County Manager), Ms. Jamie

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Holtzman (Finance Director), Ms. Mattie May (Deputy Finance Director), Ms. Kelly Faulkner (Human Resources Director), Mr. Coy Floyd (IT Director), Ms. Ada Pitt (Assistant to the County Manager) and Ms. Kristen G. King (Clerk to the Board). Despite the challenges associated with COVID-19, our team has maintained a "can do" demeanor throughout the budgetary process.

I would be remiss if I failed to note most of the individuals named above have spent countless hours joining me daily/weekly at the Emergency Operations Center or on conference calls with the EOC team, conference calls with Federal & State officials, the leadership of the North Carolina County Commissioners Association, UNC School of Government professionals, FEMA representatives, etc., while *also* keeping current with COVID-19 blogs, an inordinate number of COVID-19 emails and participating in numerous webinars. Lastly, they continued to perform their daily tasks and managed to take great care of each other. I sincerely enjoyed the many hours spent in financial planning and budget development with my team.

I will point out a note of trivia. The "big book" which includes the detailed departmental requests weighs in at 14.2 lbs. It represents substantial work performed by our department heads and their respective staff. A copy is available for the Board's review if requested. The summary document is provided for budget discussions.

Another note of interest - this is the thirteenth budget proposal I have presented. Under the guidance of the Board, ten of my proposals have had "no tax increase" recommended (see Budget Messages for fiscal years: 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, and 2020-2021). Two included a tax increase (See Budget Messages for FY 2015-2016 and FY 2019-2020) and one recommended a tax rate decrease from current year but was higher than revenue neutral (May 15, 2018 proposal.) We have managed during periods of unprecedented growth, the *Great Recession* and now a global Pandemic, COVID-19. My leadership team has demonstrated a high level of resiliency throughout the hard times, the good times and has worked tirelessly to achieve the Board of Commissioner's goals each fiscal year.

I look forward to further discussions with the Board on my proposed FY 2020-2021 Budget. I sincerely appreciate the Board's consideration of my proposal. Thank you.

With warm regards,



Angela L. Harris
County Manager

"Equal Opportunity Employer"



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Requested General Fund Budget Vs. Recommended General Fund Budget	
Requested Budget	\$93,551,712
Recommended Budget	\$88,899,961
Reduction	\$4,651,751



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

FY 19/20 Adopted General Fund Budget Vs. FY 20/21 General Fund Recommended Budget	
FY 2019-2020 Approved Budget	\$89,646,153
FY 2020-2021 Recommended Budget	\$88,899,961
Reduction	\$746,192



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

- ▶ **Current Ad Valorem Tax rate is 80.50 cents per \$100**
- ▶ **Proposed Ad Valorem Tax rate is 80.50 cents per \$100**

- ▶ **No recommended Tax increase for FY 2020-2021**



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

General Fund Proposed Category Funding Fiscal Year 20/21 Vs. Fiscal Year 19/20

Category	FY 2020-2021	FY 2019-2020
General Government	\$8,180,337	\$8,053,287
Public Safety	27,909,919	28,245,499
Economic and Physical Development	3,018,836	3,366,285
Human Services	18,922,878	18,606,137
Cultural and Leisure	1,825,005	1,741,706
Education*	29,042,986	29,633,239
Total	\$88,899,961	\$89,646,153

* Education decrease partially due to reduction in debt service of \$433,358



Franklin County
NORTH CAROLINA
A Research Triangle Region Community

FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

FY 20/21 Budgeted County Dollars Compared to FY 19/20

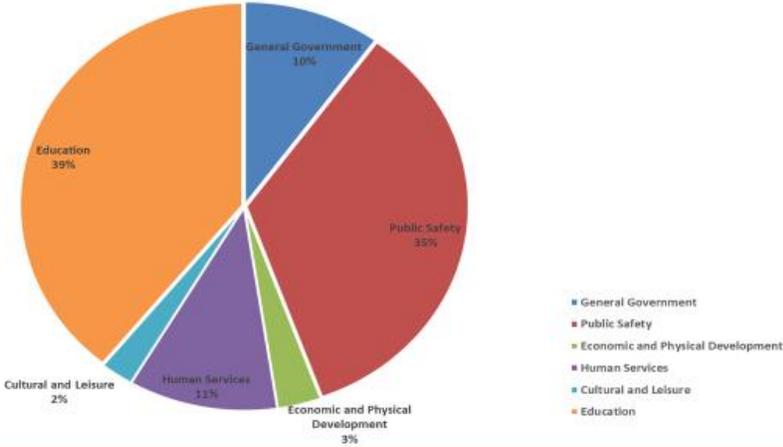
Category	FY 2020-2021	FY 2019-2020
General Government	\$6,556,234	\$6,681,920
Public Safety	22,661,918	22,407,199
Economic and Physical Development	2,067,401	2,379,550
Human Services	7,118,176	7,035,955
Cultural and Leisure	1,566,522	1,508,944
Education	25,742,986	25,647,193
Total	\$65,713,237	\$65,660,761



Franklin County
NORTH CAROLINA
A Research Triangle Region Community

FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

What Services Do Your County Tax Dollars Fund FY 2020-2021



Service Category	Percentage
Education	39%
Public Safety	35%
Human Services	13%
General Government	10%
Economic and Physical Development	3%
Cultural and Leisure	2%



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Key Revenue Comparison Fiscal Year 20/21 Vs. 19/20

Department	FY 2020-2021	FY 2019-2020	Difference
Property Tax	\$48,516,088	\$46,731,066	\$1,785,022
Sales and Use Tax	9,947,190	10,406,063	(458,873)
Register of Deeds	900,000	800,000	100,000
Inspection Fees	1,100,000	1,000,000	100,000
Lottery Funds	400,000	550,000	(150,000)
Capital Reserve- Sales Tax	2,900,000	3,500,000	(600,000)
Jail Fees	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Fund Balance	\$4,486,869	\$4,324,465	\$162,404



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Non-Profit/State Funding

Organization	Amount in FY 2020/2021
Boys and Girls Club of North Central North Carolina	\$25,000
Franklin Granville Vance Smart Start, Inc.	5,000
Franklin County Arts Council	5,000
Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunities	13,750
Safe Space Inc.	75,000
NC Wildlife Resources Commission Beaver Management Assistance Program	6,000
Tar River History and Culture Center	10,000
Total	\$139,750



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Retirement Rate Increase

The North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) rate increased in Fiscal Year 2020/2021 from 9.04% to 10.23% for Non Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) and from 9.70% to 10.84% for Law Enforcement Officers.

This is a \$ 323,213 total increase for FY 2020/2021.



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

New General Fund Positions Funded (Including Benefits)

Position	Amount (including benefits)
School Resource Officer	\$ 58,897
Public Health Nurse I	72,131
Community Paramedic (1/1 start)	36,791
County Fire Marshal (1/1 start)	43,918
Total	\$ 211,737



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Vehicle Purchases

Department	Description	Departmental Request	Manager's Recommended
Inspections	1 Vehicle	\$28,300	\$0
Maintenance	1 Vehicle	40,000	0
Sheriff	13 Vehicles	544,991	0
EMS	2 Ambulances, 4 Vehicles	800,000	44,193
Emergency Management	1 Vehicle	80,000	0
Social Services	1 Vehicle	20,840	0
Health Department	2 Vehicles	42,654	0
Communications	3 Vehicles	151,664	0
Information Technology	1 Vehicle	26,120	0
Airport	1 Tractor	75,000	0
	30 Vehicles	\$1,809,569	\$44,193



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Additional Items Funded in the Budget

▶ 2% COLA starting 1/1	\$ 311,985
▶ Broadband Funding	188,000
▶ UDO Development	125,000
▶ County Wide Bike & Pedestrian Plan	40,000
▶ Epsom Park Master Plan	20,000



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Board of Education Fully Funded

Fiscal Year	Current Expense	Capital Outlay	Total
2020/2021	\$ 21,192,936	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 22,192,936
2019/2020	20,349,831	2,000,000	22,349,831
Difference	\$ 843,105	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ (156,895)



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Estimated Fund Balance Projections for FYE 6/30/20

▶ Fund Balance at 6/30/2019	\$ 39,212,564
▶ (less) Est. Required Reserves by Statute	(7,405,970)
▶ (less) County Earmarked Reserves	(3,741,519)
▶ (less) FY 2021 Fund Balance Appropriation	(4,486,869)
▶ (less) Estimated Expenses for FY 2020	(89,719,791)
▶ (add) Estimated Revenues for FY 2020	<u>86,021,453</u>
▶ Projected Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 19,879,868
▶ Using 2020 Estimated Expenses of \$ 89,719,791 the Est. % of Unassigned Fund Balance is 22.16%	
▶ Estimated Total Fund Balance	\$ 35,514,226



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Update on Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget

	Budgeted (as of 4/1)	Estimates	Over/(under)
Revenues	\$ 85,476,519	\$ 86,021,453	\$ 544,934
Expenditures	91,035,338	<u>89,719,791</u>	(1,115,547)
Estimated Decrease to Fund Balance		\$ 3,698,338	

Fund Balance budgeted but not projected to spend \$ 1,860,481



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Comparison of Fund Balance Appropriated to Balance the Budget

Fiscal Year	Fund Balance Appropriated
2020-2021	\$ 4,486,869
2019-2020	\$ 4,324,465
2018-2019	\$ 2,753,961
2017-2018	\$ 2,689,085
2016-2017	\$ 146,000
2015-2016	\$ 1,285,000
2014-2015	\$ 3,457,658
2013-2014	\$ 3,225,854



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Solid Waste Recommended Budget

FY 19/20 Adopted Budget Vs. FY 20/21 Recommended Budget	
FY 2019-2020 Approved Budget	\$ 4,471,846
FY 2020-2021 Recommended Budget	\$ 4,534,525
Increase	\$ 62,679



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Key Items Included In Solid Waste Budget

- ▶ Ford F-150 Crew Cab Truck \$ 25,814
- ▶ (2) Trash Compactors 22,000
- ▶ (10) 30 yard Containers 38,000
- ▶ Solid Waste Study 30,000
- ▶ No Transfer From General Fund



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Proposed Solid Waste Fee Change

- ▶ Solid Waste Availability Fee increase from \$90.00 to \$100.00 per household



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Public Utilities Recommended Budget

Operational Expenses	\$ 9,626,470
Debt Service	<u>1,482,667</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 11,109,137



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Key Items Included In The Public Utilities Budget

New Positions (With Benefits)

▶ (2) Utilities Maintenance Workers (start January 1 st)	\$ 60,490
▶ Industrial Electrician (start January 1 st)	\$ 42,350
▶ Heavy Equipment Operator Lead (start January 1 st)	\$ 36,792



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Key Items Included In The Public Utilities Budget

Vehicle Request Recommended

▶ 4x4 Extended Cab Truck	\$ 47,500
▶ ½ Ton Reg. Cab 4x4 Truck	\$ 30,200
▶ Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV)	\$ 17,000
▶ 4x4 Reg. Cab Truck	\$ 30,200
▶ Extended Cab 4x4 Dump Truck	\$ 70,000
▶ Extended Cab 4x2 Truck	\$ 25,000



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Key Items Included In The Public Utilities Budget

Capital Outlay Request Recommended

▶ WIMS Program for WWTP Compliance	\$ 40,000
▶ Hydraulic Trash Pump	\$11,800
▶ Hydraulic Breaker	\$12,400
▶ Mini Excavator	\$43,000



FRANKLIN COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Loan From General Fund

Balance of Loan From General Fund 7/1/19	\$ 1,473,836
Less Payments in Fiscal Year 2019-2020	<u>736,918</u>
Balance due to General Fund	\$ 736,918

Loan will be paid in full in Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Commissioner Jones made a motion to call for a public hearing on the budget for June 1, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Speed and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

5. UPDATE: COVID-19

Health Director Scott LaVigne provided an update on the pandemic.

Mr. LaVigne stated there are now 124 positive cases in Franklin County, 21 more since the Board's last meeting/update. He said today and May 11, 2020 were the highest case number days with seven new cases reported. He stated 99 counties out of 100 in the State of North Carolina have positive COVID cases. Avery County is the only county that does not have reported cases.

Mr. LaVigne expects the Governor will issue new executive order guidance by mid-week and said the Phase 2 plan is expected to begin this Friday. At that time, the county's curfew is also set to sunset. He also noted the outbreak at Louisburg Nursing Center seems to be in the containment phase and said last week the Board of Health voted to approve a stringent Coronavirus testing program similar to that of Tennessee and New York for congregate care facilities.

No action was requested.

6. YOUNGSVILLE MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT - UTILITIES

The Town of Youngsville is planning to undertake a road work project on Main Street that is funded through federal funds and anticipating to bid out the project in June 2020. The county is working with the Town to complete the design for the utility rehabilitation and wishes to adopt a resolution allowing the County Manager to negotiate a contract with an engineering firm.

Public Utilities Director Chris Doherty offered the following PowerPoint presentation.



YOUNGSVILLE MAIN STREET UTILITIES REHABILITATION



County Commission Meeting
May 18, 2020



BACKGROUND

- ▶ **YOUNGSVILLE RECEIVED GRANT MONEY FOR MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS**
- ▶ **FCPU STAFF HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUNGSVILLE TO INQUIRE ABOUT DOING UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SAME TIME**
- ▶ **FCPU HAD MEETINGS WITH THE DESIGN ENGINEER TO INCORPORATE UTILITY WORK**
- ▶ **INITIAL UTILITY DESIGN (\$15,652.27) PURCHASE ORDER (20201001); PROBABLE CONSTRUCT COST BASED ON INITIAL DESIGN (\$162,900)**
- ▶ **FURTHER INSPECTION OF EXISTING UTILITIES INDICATED THE NEED TO REPLACE THE EXISTING 6" CAST IRON WATER LINE**
- ▶ **ADDITIONAL DESIGN FEE FOR LINE UPSIZING AND RELOCATING SERVICE CONNECTIONS (\$32,815.56)**
- ▶ **ADDITIONAL PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COST (\$703,990)**
 - ▶ **CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN FY 20/21 PUBLIC UTILITIES CIP**



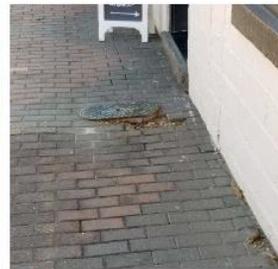
RECOMMENDATION



Relocating fire hydrants and install with break away flanges, and installing to proper height



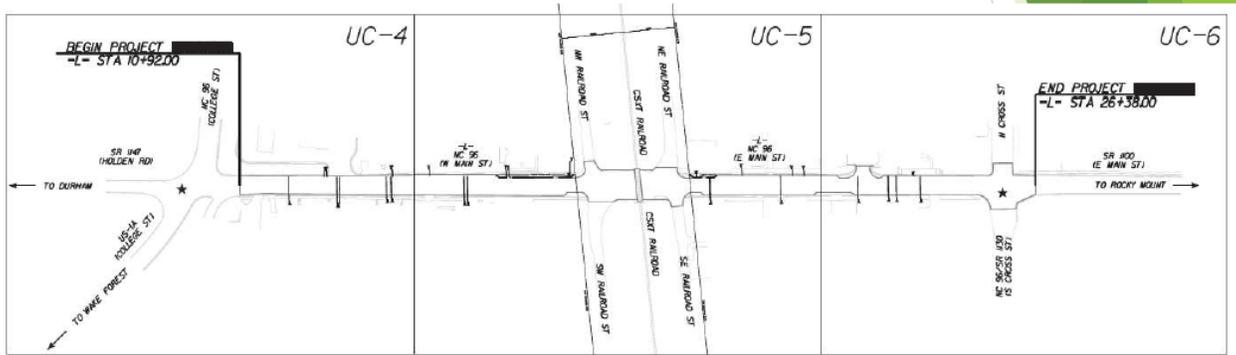
Adjusting manholes to grade



Adjusting and moving meters to R-O-W



LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION





RECOMMENDATION

- ▶ APPROVE RESOLUTION EXEMPTING THE COUNTY FROM GS 143-64.31 AND DESIGNATING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A DESIGN ENGINEER AT A DESIGN COST NOT TO EXCEED \$48,467.83
- ▶ APPROVE MOVING FORWARD WITH PROJECT AT AN ENGINEERS ESTIMATED COST OF \$866,890
 - ▶ IF APPROVED, FUNDING WILL BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE PUBLIC UTILITIES FUND BALANCE, THE FINANCE DIRECTOR WILL PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT ORDINANCE AT A FUTURE MEETING, AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AT A FUTURE DATE



Commissioner Schriver made a motion to approve the Resolution Exempting Franklin County from GS 143-64.31 for Youngsville Main Street Utility Improvements and to designate the County Manager to enter into an agreement with a design engineer at a design cost not to exceed \$48,467.83 and approve moving forward with the project at an engineer's estimated cost of \$866,890. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Speed and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Funding will be appropriated from the Public Utilities Fund Balance and the Finance Director will proceed with the project ordinance at a future board meeting and advertise for bids at a future date.

RESOLUTION EXEMPTING FRANKLIN COUNTY FROM GS 143-64.31 for the YOUNGVILLE MAIN STREET UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, G.S. 143-64.31 requires the initial solicitation and evaluation of firms to perform architectural, engineering, surveying, construction management-at-risk services, and design-build services (collectively "design services") to be based on qualifications and without regard to fee;

WHEREAS, the County proposes to enter into one or more contracts for design services for work on the Youngsville Main Street Utility Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 143-64.32 authorizes units of local government to exempt contracts for design services from the qualifications-based selection requirements of G.S. 143-64.31 if the estimated fee is less than \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, the estimated fee for design services for the above-described project is less than \$50,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners RESOLVES:

- Section 1. The above-described project is hereby made exempt from the provisions of G.S. 143-64.31.
- Section 2. The Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to determine the best firm and enter into a contract for design engineering for the Youngsville Main Street Utility Improvements Project. It is beneficial to use the same firm as the Town of Youngsville and will strengthen the project.
- Section 3. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

7. BROADBAND UPDATE

Assistant County Manager Kim Denton provided an update on Broadband activities in the County. The need for broadband services has been particularly highlighted as a result of the COVID-19 Crisis. She introduced Alan Fitzpatrick, CEO of Open Broadband LLC, who provided an update on progress related to the implementation of Open Broadband's fixed wireless services in Franklin County. Open Broadband LLC representatives Kent Winrich, Chief Technology Officer and Alan Helias, Area Manager were also be in attendance.

Mr. Fitzpatrick offered the following PowerPoint presentation.

Open Broadband, LLC

Better Internet for Franklin County

May 11, 2020

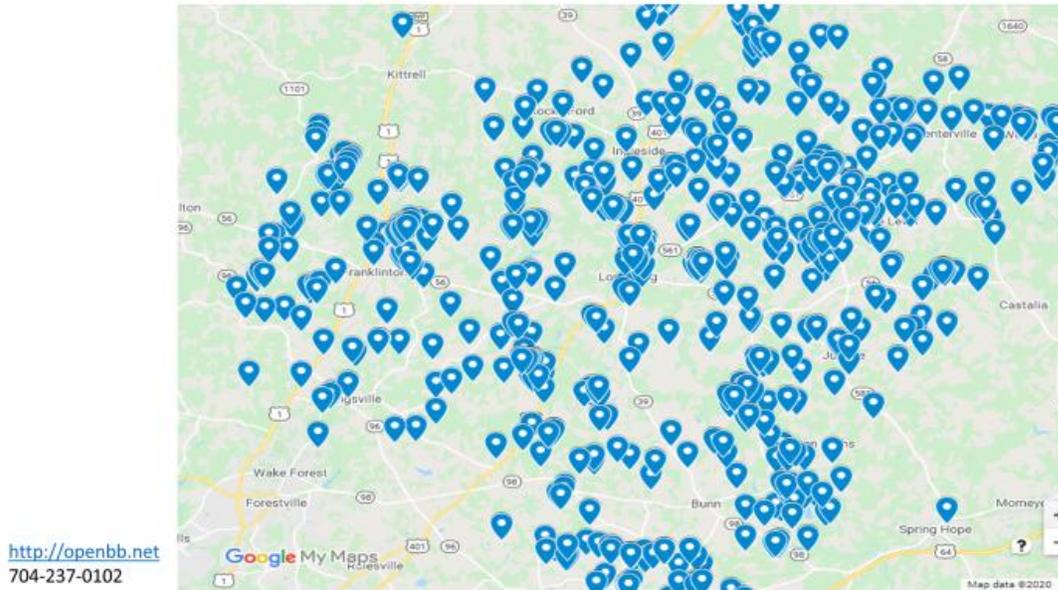
<http://openbb.net>
704-237-0102

open
broadband

Project Timeline

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Sector Deployments	2 sectors	2 additional	2 additional	All remaining	Entire County
Est. – Late Spring / Early Summer	Sector 1 deployment in first 120 days	Sector 3 deployment in first 120 days	Sector 5 deployment in first 120 days	All remaining sectors deployed in first 120 days	
	Sector 2 deployment in 180 days	Sector 4 deployment in 180 days	Sector 6 deployment in 180 days	Customer installs begin in all remaining sectors in 180 days	
	Customer installs begin in Sector 1 in 180 days	Customer installs begin in Sector 3 in 180 days	Customer installs begin in Sector 5 in 180 days		
	Customer Installs begin in Sector 2 in 210 days	Customer Installs begin in Sector 4 in 210 days	Customer Installs begin in Sector 6 in 210 days		

Website Signups: 875 as of May 8, 2020



Completed Action Items:

1. Tower agreements for Louisburg (T Kemp Rd), White Level and Cone Drive county locations
2. Tower Agreement for Bible Broadcasting Tower in Alert
3. Agreement reached to share fiber connection to start antenna testing until OBB fiber link is in place.
4. Wi-Fi Agreement signed – Owens Park Public Wi-Fi
5. Monthly meeting every 3rd Wednesday (next May 15– 2 PM)
6. Monthly Newsletter

Next Steps

May-June-July

- Activate fiber circuit at T Kemp Rd Tower
- Install equipment on 4 towers
- Install equipment at Owens Park
- Configure and test equipment and coverage area
- Configure OSS (support, billing, etc.)
- Turn up initial customers – Park will be first
- Launch Communications Plan
- Early Summer surveys and installations

<http://openbb.net>
704-237-0102



Reminder : Setting Expectations

- This will take a while...
- It is not first-in, first-out. Service activations will depend on network readiness for each area
- We won't be able to serve everyone
- Hub sites will be needed to fill in gaps
- Most service will be 25 Mbps
- We will need to hire additional installers

<http://openbb.net>
704-237-0102

Orange County October Newsletter

openbroadband

Customer Activations

We are continuing to progress with customer activations in Cedar Grove. We have activated multiple homes on Lees Chapel Rd and have also begun extending service to residents on Lees Chapel Rd. West of the Runlan Club has been a challenging area for us due to the density of the woods/trees behind the club. Fortunately we have found a path via the Eric River Coon Hunters Association to add a microPOP and extend service westward on Lees Chapel Rd. towards Oakley Rd. We are still reviewing other network enhancement options to reach further down Lees Chapel and also serve homes on Oakley Rd.

We were able to complete one activation on Birdsong Ln. However, the signal was not yet satisfactory to establish a hub home/microPOP. In the remainder of October, we will continue our efforts and network enhancements to serve more homes on Dawn Dr and Birdsong Ln.



Support

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broadband

Business Internet Home Internet Open Communities

Frequently Asked Questions

- 24x7x365 live support in NC
833-201-4807
- FAQs on website
- Email support@openbb.net
- Social Media
- Website Contact Form

<http://openbb.net>
704-237-0102

– New to Open Broadband? See our [Welcome Package for Important Info](#)

Thank you for becoming an Open Broadband customer! For important information on your new service see our up-to-date online document [here](#)

- + What is Open Broadband Fixed Wireless?
- + What speed does Open Broadband Fixed Wireless provide?
- + Is WiFi included with Open Broadband's Fixed Wireless Internet?
- + How can I find out if I qualify for Open Broadband Fixed Wireless service?
- + How far does Open Broadband Fixed Wireless WiFi signal reach?
- + Where does Open Broadband mount antennas?
- + Does Open Broadband Lease Land and put up Towers?
- + Does weather affect Open Broadband Fixed Wireless Internet?
- + What type of support is available for Open Broadband Fixed Wireless?
- + What service limitations apply to Open Broadband Fixed Wireless?

Open Broadband, LLC

Better Internet. Better North Carolina.

info@openbb.net
704-237-0102

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No action was requested.

8. APPOINTMENTS

Franklin County Community Advisory Council (CAC)

The Board was asked to consider appointing 7-15 voting members to the CAC. The suggested membership is as follows:

- Alma Rodriguez
- Cedric Jones
- Crishna Murray
- Deborah Fowler
- Heather Lewis
- Kathleen Flaherty
- Mary Jo Van Horne
- Rhonda Schuhler
- Tracy Dunston

Commissioner Schriver made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Dickerson. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Schriver requested an update on the water supply study timeline. He also stated he would like the Board to consider a water rate increase.

10. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK’S COMMENTS

This was the time set aside for the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, and the Clerk to the Board to report on various activities. The Board may also discuss other items of interest.

Clerk to the Board Kristen G. King – Ms. King asked to recess tonight’s meeting to May 21, 2020 at 3pm. A budget work session will be held at that time.

Commissioner Dunston – Commissioner Dunston thanked staff for their vigilance during the pandemic and jokingly thanked his German Shephard for her companionship during the quarantine.

Commissioner Dickerson – No comments were offered.

Commissioner Foy – Commissioner Foy inquired about details of the Governor’s phasing process. He was reminded the Governor would likely announce a new Executive Order within the week.

Commissioner Bunn – No comments were offered.

Commissioner Speed – Commissioner Speed stated he is still receiving complaints from emergency radio system users, most recently over the weekend. He said he recently participated in a ride along and experienced the VIPER system he felt was superior to the system the county currently uses for emergency communication.

Commissioner Jones – No comments were offered.

Commissioner Schriver – Commissioner Schriver recognized his appreciation for mother's in light of Mother's Day during the month of May. He thanked his own mother for assisting him with a haircut during quarantine.

County Manager Angela L. Harris – Mrs. Harris encouraged citizens to participate in the 2020 Census. Today, she said Franklin County had a participation rate of only 53.9%.

II. CLOSED SESSION

The Board was asked to conduct a closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (3) Attorney-Client Privileged Communication.

Commissioner Schriver made a motion to enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Speed. The motion was approved 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting in opposition.

At approximately 11:15pm following closed session, Commissioner Schriver made a motion to enter back into open session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

No action was taken.

Commissioner Bunn made a motion to recess until Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 3pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Sidney E. Dunston, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board

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