

**Meeting Minutes  
May 22, 2023**

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Budget/Public Policy Session in the Auditorium of the Valerie C. Woodard Center located at 3205 Freedom Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chair George Dunlap, Vice Chair Elaine Powell,  
and Commissioners Leigh Altman, Patricia “Pat” Cotham,  
Arthur Griffin, Mark Jerrell, Vilma D. Leake, and Laura J Meier  
County Manager Dena R. Diorio  
County Attorney Tyrone C. Wade  
Clerk to the Board Kristine M. Smith  
Deputy Clerk to the Board Arlissa Eason

**Absent:** Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunlap, followed by introductions and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**23-0341 FY2023 THIRD QUARTER (Q3) BOARD BUDGET PRIORITIES UPDATE**

The Board received as information a status update on the Board’s FY2023 Budget Priorities. Adrian Cox, Budget Director made the presentation.

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*Background: Staff will provide the Board with the third quarter update on the status of the approved FY2023 budget items associated with each of the Board's FY2023 Budget Priorities.*

*BOCC FY2023 Budget Priorities:*

- *Affordable Housing*
- *Educational Attainment*
- *Environmental Leadership*
- *Meck Pre-K*
- *Workforce Development*
- *Racial Disparities*



## FY2023 BOARD PRIORITIES



**Affordable Housing:** Evaluate new housing opportunities that are affordable to residents in need.



**Education Attainment Gaps:** Link existing allocations to strategies and targets to improve college and career readiness outcomes for all students.



**Environmental Leadership:** Implement the Environmental Leadership Action Plan.



**Meck Pre-K:** Continue implementation of voluntary, universal public pre-k for all eligible 4-year-old children.



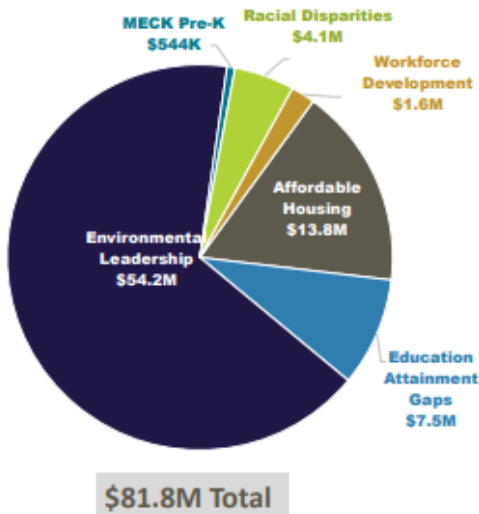
**Workforce Development:** Provide leadership and align communication with jobseekers and employers.



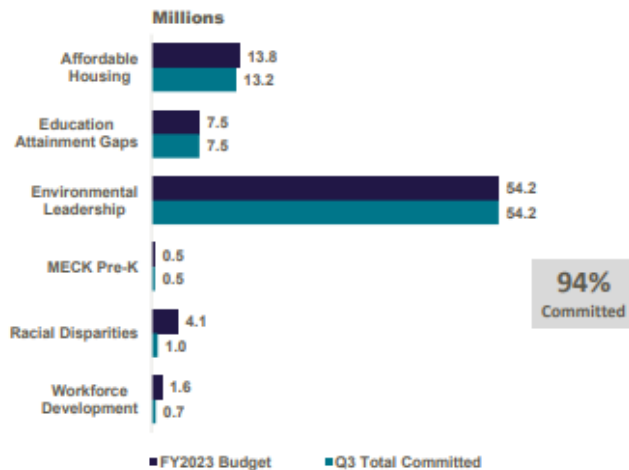
**Racial Disparities:** Ensure that investments by the County focus on closing racial and ethnic gaps so that race does not predict one's success, while also improving outcomes for all. Race will be interwoven into the Board Priorities through policies, practices, and procedures that seek to analyze and eliminate the root causes of racial disparities with the hope that all people in Mecklenburg County will have an equitable opportunity to thrive in the community.

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## FY2023 BUDGET PRIORITIES



FY2023 Budget and Committed Funding by Priority



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## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### Affordable Housing Fund

- Programs are being implemented with the \$8.2M of additional funding added in FY2023 to implement NOAH projects, development projects, Critical Home Repair, and Rental Subsidies (See appendix for a table of programs and spending)

### Corporate Homeownership

- The County is working with the Lee Institute to solicit community feedback on the issue of corporate homeownership by leading engagement opportunities for neighborhoods, individuals, non-profit organizations, & the private sector. The community survey and community listening sessions will end in mid-May.
- The Lee Institute is expected to provide a report to the Board with recommendations in Q1 of FY2024.

### Anti-displacement Funds (Peppertree Apartments)

- Terms of a 20-year loan are under negotiation to establish an affordable deed restriction to help preserve 44 units of housing

### A Home for All Framework

- Contract with United Way has been signed and executed to develop and implement a community strategic plan
- The technical committee is holding meetings and will launch the implementation plan in June 2023

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## EDUCATION ATTAINMENT GAPS

### PACE Global Academy

- Scheduled to open in fall 2023, the academy will be located at E.E. Waddell High School and welcome students learning English, new to the community, and new to public education in America
- The Principal for the School has been hired
- \$1M in County funding has been spent for furniture, technology, and supplies

### Carolinas Aviation Museum

- Aviation Museum has broken ground and is expected to open this calendar year
- \$860,243 has been spent by Q3 & remaining funds are committed to support the museum's construction

### Out Teach

- 1,737 individuals participated in two events to help design the learning labs at Greenway Park Elem, Oakhurst STEAM Academy, and Montclair Elementary
- The final designs will be selected among the top student designs at each school

### GenOne

- 193 1-on-1 advising sessions were given to students in the first half of FY23 and 15 high school seniors in the program have submitted 118 applications to 4-year colleges

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## ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

### Land Acquisition

- \$33.1M of the \$50M has been used to purchase 255 acres
- The remainder of the funding is committed for pending acquisitions

### Facility Upgrades and Project Manager

- A Project Manager was hired in November 2022
- The Master Plan for Deep Energy Retrofit is in development
- Bette Rae Rec. Center & Judge Johnson Courthouse have been selected as the first facilities to undergo retrofit and are anticipated to be in the design phase by the end of FY2023. Upgrades are expected to include high-efficiency heat pump units and improved roofing insulation. Construction will commence following final design.
- The Master Plan for On-Site Solar is in development, with Medic HQ planned as the first facility for installation.

### Invasive Species Control

- 300 total acres have been treated for invasive species this year

### Storm Water Fee Adjustments

- The fee adjustment was adopted and will be used on current and future capital projects

### Idle Reduction Technology

- All units have been ordered. 14 previously ordered units are being installed. Installation of final units is anticipated to be completed by the end of the FY2023

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## MECK PRE-K

### MECK Pre-K Program Expansion

- Program is serving 1,750 children, a 185-child increase over this point in FY2022
- Over 93% of the available seats are filled
- 95% of teaching positions are currently filled



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## RACIAL DISPARITIES

### Generational Wealth Investments

- The Equity Investment Ad Hoc Committee has been working to determine the best approach to investing in generational wealth, including Childhood Development Accounts and Guaranteed Income Programs
- The Office of Equity & Inclusion will begin work to develop and provide program parameters in Q4

### StarMed & Blessing Foundation Clinic Upfits

- The South Blvd. location is in the permitting and development phase
- The contract with StarMed and the Blessing Foundation is nearly complete & the foundation will soon begin purchasing furniture, equipment, and supplies
- \$317K (67%) will be used for South Blvd site and \$153K (33%) for the mobile clinic

### Food Security Expansion

- The Charlotte Mecklenburg Food Policy Council has completed training on the Farmers Market Manager system that will be utilized to monitor and evaluate the SNAP Double Bucks program
- The number of Healthy Corner Stores has increased to 22, 6 of which participate in the refrigeration program

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## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Unified Workforce Development Federal Funding

- Vendors for this training have been identified and funds have been encumbered
- The County started accepting program applications in March
- Funds will be spent over two years to serve 100 clients.

### Road to Hire positions (3)

- One (1) Application Developer I position has been filled by a Road to Hire graduate
- The remaining two (2) positions are expected to graduate in Q4 to fill the final positions

### CPCC Partnership for EMT Training

- 14 program participants will be graduating in Q4. The March class had 23 participants enrolled and lasts 16 weeks. Graduates are provided with employment opportunities with MEDIC

### Business LaunchPad Program

- The 4th cohort began in January and graduated 20 participants on May 17, 2023

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## OTHER PROJECTS

### Charlotte Rescue Mission Capital

- Capital investment of a new facility to increase capacity from 138 to 168 beds
- The contract has been finalized and the funds were issued to Rebound in February, with construction expected to be complete by May 2024.

### Additional Park Security

- At the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, 54% of security budget had been obligated

### Children's Theater Partnership

- The contract with The Children's Theater has been finalized and the funds have been encumbered
- The play is expected to begin in the Fall

### National Organization of Black County Officials Convention

- The organization announced that the 38th Annual Conference will be held in Mecklenburg County in the spring of 2024
- Staff are working with the organization to develop a contract to provide the funds

### Gun Buy-Back Program



- The Sheriff's Office and Public Health are partnering to use these funds to purchase gun safety locks to be distributed in the community. The final distribution strategy is in development.

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## FISCAL YEAR 2023 BOARD PRIORITY UPDATE

3rd Quarter

Appendix Slides


APPENDIX		
	Budgeted Amount	Committed To-Date
 <b>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b>		
<b>CJS Housing Vendor Expansion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>28 beds are currently being provided by 4 contracted housing vendors.</li> <li>Contracts with 4 other housing vendors are under review and will supply an additional 24 beds.</li> </ul>	301K	233K
 <b>EDUCATION ATTAINMENT GAPS</b>		
<b>Early College High School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMS will use funding for student fees, supplies, &amp; materials for the new early college high school at CPCC Central Campus, scheduled to open Fall of 2023</li> </ul>	400K	400K
<b>English Learner Teachers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All 32 positions were not added due to State Budget allocations that were different from the original estimates, but 16 will be added with State funds</li> </ul>	2.7M	2.7M

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APPENDIX		
	Budgeted Amount	Committed To-Date
 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP</b>		
<b>LUESA Storm Water Positions (2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each position has been filled as of Q2 and will assist with enhanced storm water services.</li> </ul>	209K	209K
<b>Parks Maintenance &amp; Operations Supervisor (1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This position has been filled and supports maintenance of land acquired as part of the ELAP.</li> </ul>	162K	162K
<b>AFM Sr. Real Estate Coordinator (1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This position is currently in recruitment and hiring is expected in Q2. This position will assist with land acquisition from ELAP</li> </ul>	161K	-


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## APPENDIX

	Budgeted Amount	Committed To-Date
 <b>REDUCING RACIAL DISPARITIES</b>		
<b>Maternal Child Health (2)</b>	100K	50K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One (1) Health Educator has been hired. The second position is currently posted and continues to be recruited.</li> </ul>		
<b>Library Bilingual Pay Premium</b>	84K	84K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 employees are receiving bilingual premium pay with 5 languages (Spanish, French, Arabic, Vietnamese, and Russian) represented across 11 locations.</li> </ul>		
<b>Equity &amp; Inclusion Program Investments</b>	95K	95K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The next phase of the Advancing Racial Equity training series has begun, with more than 40 sessions having been conducted with County employees.</li> <li>The division is now fully staffed, with both the Sr. Equity &amp; Inclusion Consultant and the Equity &amp; Inclusion Consultant being hired.</li> </ul>		

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## APPENDIX

	Budgeted Amount	Committed To-Date
 <b>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<b>Food and Nutrition Services Employment Training</b>	100K	57K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSS is using funds to provide job-driven, skills-based training to FNS recipients</li> </ul>		
<b>Solid Waste Technicians (2)</b>	66K	33K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Autism After 18 program participant has been hired with a second position in progress</li> </ul>		

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND				
Program	FY2020 - FY2022 Expenses	FY2023 YTD Expenses	FY2023 Remaining Commitment	Total Expenses + FY2023 Comm.
A Way Home	\$377,844	\$112,754	\$125,410	\$616,008
Billingsley Development	-	-	3,122,915	3,122,915
Critical Home Repair	3,000,000	1,115,705	1,384,295	5,500,000
Eastway Park Apartments	1,500,000	-	-	1,500,000
For the Struggle	104,264	10,103	-	114,367
Housing for Good	227,349	65,755	135,048	428,152
Keeping Families Together	1,290,356	685,090	314,905	2,290,351
Lake Arbor	259,312	-	-	259,312
Link Housing	876,604	339,400	152,698	1,368,702
MeckHome	2,855,828	662,612	1,500,628	5,019,068
Misc. Ongoing NOAH & Other Projects*	53,922	21,229	472,536	547,687
Peppertree Apartments	-	4,000,000	-	4,000,000
Pottstown Support	-	7,350	92,650	100,000
SocialServe Housing Collaborative	525,674	179,827	143,203	848,704
Supportive Housing for Aged-Out Youth	-	-	323,030	323,030
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,071,153</b>	<b>\$7,199,825</b>	<b>\$7,715,598</b>	<b>\$26,038,296</b>

\* FY2020 & FY2021 expenses were in the General Fund  
\*\*Includes Archdale, Wendover, McAlway, Shamrock, Grier Heights, Hoke, Gwynne Hill, Peppertree, and Bellhaven.

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ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP SPENDING			
ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM	Budget	Total Obligations	% Obligated
<b>Facility Upgrades</b>	<b>\$13,325,975</b>	<b>\$2,059,081</b>	<b>15.6%</b>
Deep Energy Retrofit	6,400,000	-	0.0%
ELAP Project Manager	163,975	-	0.0%
Green Source Advantage Application	2,000	-	0.0%
On-Site Solar (Includes Solar For Fleet)	5,000,000	1,215,743	24.3%
Pre-Planning & Design Services – Deep Energy Retrofit	1,340,000	707,336	57.0%
Pre-Planning & Design Services – On-Site Solar	420,000	136,002	32.4%
<b>Fleet Transitions</b>	<b>\$5,213,000</b>	<b>1,927,776</b>	<b>37.0%</b>
Charging Stations for Electric Vehicles	2,728,000	1,075,102	39.4%
MEDIC Idle Reduction Technology	625,000	625,000	0.0%
Purchase of Electric Vehicles	1,860,000	852,674	45.8%
<b>Open-Space Protection</b>	<b>\$71,686,500</b>	<b>75,467,125</b>	<b>105.3%</b>
Invasive Species Control	1,486,000	1,427,125	96.0%
Land Acquisition	69,940,000	74,040,000	105.9%
Real Estate Coordinator (2)	260,500	-	0.0%
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>150,568</b>	<b>60.2%</b>
ELAP Miscellaneous	5,000	5,568	111.4%
Environmental Justice Study	145,000	145,000	59.2%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$90,374,475</b>	<b>\$79,604,550</b>	<b>88.1%</b>

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## EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN PARKS

PARKS	COST	TOTAL COMMITTED YEAR-TO-DATE	% SPENT
Albemarle Road Park	\$850,000	\$136,200	16.0%
Amay James Recreation Center	850,000	842,019	99.1%
Devonshire Park	250,000	231,589	92.6%
Enderly Park	700,000	576,805	82.4%
Fred Alexander Park	350,000	148,975	42.6%
Grayson Park	750,000	22,500	3.0%
Harrisburg Road Park	850,000	0	0.0%
LC Coleman Park	900,000	54,909	6.1%
Pressley Road Park	250,000	44,744	17.9%
Tryon Hills Park	400,000	82,770	20.7%
Viewmont Park	850,000	54,805	6.4%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,195,316</b>	<b>31.4%</b>

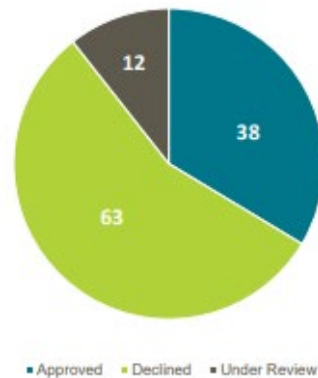
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## SMALL BUSINESS REVOLVING LOAN FUND

### Small Business Revolving Loan Fund - Ongoing

- \$3.25M invested in FY2020 to utilize over a 5-year period
- Program guidelines were revised in April 2021, and rebranded marketing was implemented in August 2021 to encourage additional applicants. Since these changes were implemented, 19 loans have been approved.
- As of April 2023, 38 loan applications have been approved, totaling \$2.2M, including:
  - Minority-owned: 27 (71%)
  - Women-owned: 19 (50%)

Carolina Small Business Development  
Fund Applications



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#### Comments

Commissioner Griffin asked concerning the FY23 Board priorities and the reduction of racial disparities. He asked if anything was showing that was where they started, and where they were in the programs, in terms of results of reduction. *County Manager Diorio said they didn't baseline where they were when they started reducing racial disparities. She said they could put together information on the impact on specific programs. She said they looked at things from a micro level, instead of at a macro level. She said the macro level was influenced by so many factors it would be difficult to recognize the impact made.*

Commissioner Griffin asked how they evaluated their economic responses on a micro level. *County Manager Diorio said they tracked their results by program. She said they would know if they had an impact on each program that they funded.*

Commissioner Griffin provided an example using Meck Pre-K. He said that public school teachers would often tell the media that kids came to them unprepared for kindergarten. He acknowledged other factors that resulted in this unpreparedness, other than Meck Pre-K. He said with investment in Meck Pre-K, they implied that they hoped kids would come to public schools in kindergarten.

County Manager Diorio said they did assess where kids were once they were done with Meck Pre-K and made sure they were where they needed to be for kindergarten. She said they hired a company to do a longitudinal study to track those kids until the fifth grade. She said with that they would be able to tell if the kids that went through Meck Pre-K continued with those gains or not and compare them to the rest of the kids.

Chair Dunlap reiterated other factors impacted the children and that they didn't have any control over.

Commissioner Griffin continued the conversation of Meck Pre-K and tracking. *Dr. Raynard Washington and County Manager Diorio responded to Commissioner Griffin's comments.*

Vice Chair Powell asked if they were helping to provide transportation. *Dr. Washington said yes, and that they also did promotions, had a farmer's market locator, and other positive efforts.*

Commissioner Griffin said they weren't parents to 141,000 children so they certainly couldn't demand more.

Commissioner Leake said her concern was with the education attainment cap. She asked what

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they had to show it would take place. She spoke briefly on racial disparities and food deserts being in the same locations. She said poverty levels were still the same as it was 20 years ago. She mentioned how custodians on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor were making minimal. She mentioned them ensuring subcontractors were living up to greater standards once the contractors received the money from the County. *County Manager Diorio said they contracted with a private company and couldn't mandate how much they paid to their employees. She said the only way to remedy this would be by bringing the services in-house.*

Commissioner Leake asked concerning the school board, where the plans they were promised two/four years ago were. *County Manager Diorio said the superintendent did provide results. She said they had done what they had asked them to do.*

Commissioner Leake said concerning principals and assistant principals, the state provided increases in salary for them. She asked if this was the case, and why was the County providing more money to them and not the teachers. *County Manager Diorio said that after doing a market study, it was determined that principals are not adequately paid regardless of what the state did and did not do.*

Commissioner Meier asked if they were following the Bright Beginnings and the NC Pre-k program. *County Manager Diorio said they were only following children for their program (Meck Pre-K). She said they didn't want to disparage other programs but wanted to show that their program had a lasting value.*

Commissioner Meier asked if the state followed the programs.

County Manager Diorio said the state evaluated NC Pre-K periodically, while Bright Beginnings did not go through extensive reviews.

Commissioner Jerrell asked if they could incorporate the family as well with Meck Pre-K. He said wraparound services (housing support, workforce development, etc) were part of the initiative. He asked if essentially there was a way to track and measure, economic mobility, or what was happening with the entire family. *County Manager Diorio said they didn't provide wraparound services to the entire family and only had the ability to track the child and provide them with services if needed.*

Commissioner Jerrell asked what program they used to track families. *County Manager Diorio said it was Meck Success.*

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**23-0342**

**BUDGET OVERVIEW: COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FY  
2023-2024**

The Board received a detailed overview of the County Manager's Recommended Budget for FY 2023-2024.

Adrian Cox, Budget Director made the presentation.

*Background: The Board will receive a detailed overview of the County Manager's Recommended FY2023-2024 Budget in preparation for the straw voting session scheduled for June 1, 2023.*



# Overview

Summary

Major Funding By Agency

Community Service Grants

CMS & Central Piedmont

Law Enforcement & Fire Protection Service Districts

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# Summary

RECOMMENDED BUDGET



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## Total Revenues & Expenses

Revenue	Description	Amount	%
<b>County</b>	Property tax, Sales tax, & other discretionary revenues	\$1,698,595,617	73%
<b>Fund Balance</b>	Unassigned funds available for one-time expenses	92,116,248	4%
<b>Federal</b>	Federal funding	103,094,897	4%
<b>State</b>	State funding	197,268,460	9%
<b>Other</b>	Service charges, permits, fees, etc.	227,625,327	10%
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$2,318,700,549</b>	<b>100%</b>

Expenses	Description	Amount	%
<b>General Fund</b>	Primary annual operating expense fund for County departments & funding to CMS & other partners	\$1,604,530,733	69%
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>	Debt & pay-as-you-go capital funding for county facilities, libraries, parks & schools	476,307,221	21%
<b>Enterprise &amp; Special Revenue Funds</b>	Services with dedicated revenue sources, including Solid Waste, Code Enforcement, Storm Water, Transit Pass-through, Law Enforcement & Fire Protection	237,862,595	10%
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$2,318,700,549</b>	<b>100%</b>

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## General Fund County Dollars

General Fund	FY2023 Adopted	FY2024 Projected	\$ Change	% Change
Property Tax	\$979,187,186	\$1,018,083,872	\$38,896,686	4%
Sales Tax	257,579,646	299,654,465	42,074,819	16%
Charges for Services <sup>1</sup>	35,820,352	26,168,387	(9,651,965)	(27%)
Other <sup>2</sup>	18,940,593	20,403,911	1,463,318	8%
Interest on Investments <sup>3</sup>	7,198,298	13,500,000	6,301,702	88%
ABC Profits	4,831,806	6,760,722	1,928,916	40%
<b>County Dollar Revenue (Revenue Neutral)</b>	<b>\$1,303,557,881</b>	<b>\$1,384,571,357</b>	<b>\$81,013,476</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Tax Rate Increase 0.60¢ For General Fund</b>			<b>\$16,762,970</b>	
<b>Total Recommended County Dollar Revenue</b>		<b>\$1,401,334,327</b>	<b>\$97,776,446</b>	<b>8%</b>

1: Charges for Service include revenues collected by the Register of Deeds for deed stamps and recording fees

2: Other revenue includes transient, vehicle, rental & heavy equipment tax, sell of marriage licenses, & license to sell beer & wine

3: Interest on investments fluctuates based on portfolio management and interest rates

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## Debt Service Fund - County Dollars

Debt Service Fund	FY2023 Adopted	FY2024 Projected	\$ Change	% Change
Property Tax	\$257,443,364	\$267,416,137	\$9,927,773	4%
ABC Profits	1,251,314	1,906,870	655,556	52%
County Dollar Revenue (Revenue Neutral)	\$258,694,678	\$269,323,007	\$10,628,329	4%
Tax Rate Increase 1.00¢ For Debt Service Fund			\$27,938,283	
Total Recommended County Dollar Revenue		\$297,261,290	\$38,566,612	15%

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## Major Funding By Agency

RECOMMENDED BUDGET



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## Major Funding By Agency

### Assets & Facility Management (AFM)

Item	Amount	Description
Security Rate Increase	\$2,014,504	Funding for anticipated increased costs for contracted security at County facilities.
Maintenance & Utility Increase	1,432,295	Funding for increases to facility maintenance contracts & increased utility costs for new & existing County facilities.
Additional Security Guards for Parks, Libraries, & Public Health Facilities	1,835,800	Investments for additional security coverage & weapons screening at the Scarborough CRC, Parks, Libraries, & Public Health sites.
• One (1) Energy Control Specialist	103,527	Funding for one (1) Energy Control Specialist to monitor energy usage at facilities & implement strategies to reduce consumption.
• Contract Compliance Specialist	74,205	Funding for one (1) Contract Compliance Specialist to assist with monitoring & compliance for the critical home repair program.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,460,331</b>	

### Attorney's Office (ATY)

Item	Amount	Description
Legal Fees Increase	\$151,000	Increase to support legal services and contracted support.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 151,000</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Child, Family, & Adult Services (CFA)

Item	Amount	Description
Leased office space for new CFA & DCR staff	\$810,000	Funding to cover the cost of leased office space for 236 staff.
• Food Budget Increase for Congregate & Home Delivered Meals for Seniors	508,000	Funding to cover cost increases, as well as funding to serve 100 additional seniors home delivered meals, and 50 congregate.
• One(1) FT Driver and Mobile Food Market for Inlivan Senior Apartments*	393,062	Funding to purchase a new Mobile Market van to provide fresh produce at Inlivan Senior apartments, and (1) FT Driver.
• Behavioral Health Strategic Planning Support*	350,000	To fund the completion of the Behavioral Health Strategic Plan & implementation consultant.
• Prenatal -Three Study & Implementation*	200,000	One-time contracted consulting for planning & implementation
• Project Manager - Prenatal to Three*	153,587	One (1) position to assist with community outreach & coordination with maternal & child health initiatives.
• Mental Health Services in the Scarborough Community Resource Center (CRC)	273,560	Contracted position to offer short-term behavioral health counseling at the new CRC, as well as a bi-lingual family partner.
• YFS Emergency Placement Support	200,000	Funding to provide therapeutic and behavioral health support for children in YFS custody
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,888,209</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Community Resources (DCR)

Item	Amount	090Description
• HOMES Program Expansion*	\$13,842,857	Expansion of current program to include \$8.5M in one-time funding for County grants, \$4.2M in revenue from the City, & program administration.
Medicaid Expansion Eligibility Specialist	5,851,208	Funding for seventy-five (75) new Federally funded FT positions support increased workload as a result of Medicaid Expansion.
Public Health Emergency Waiver Demand Eligibility Specialist*	4,389,939	One hundred & eleven (111) Eligibility Specialist based on demand following the end of benefits redetermination waivers.
Public Assistance Call Center Staffing*	1,561,984	Funding to support the call center based on expected increase in call volume due to Medicaid Expansion & the end of benefits redetermination waivers.
• MeckSuccess Program Expansion Pilot*	1,320,000	Expansion of MeckSuccess Program for benefits & services to families, including education, job training, child care, & other support. The revised program will serve a total of fifty (50) families.
• CRC Career Advisor	65,000	To support a contracted Charlotte Works career advisor for the new CRC.
• Community Culinary School	60,000	Expansion of the existing successful workforce development program to accommodate seven (7) more students, a 15%.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,090,988</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Community Support Services (CSS)

Item	Amount	Description
Supervised Visitation Safe Exchange Center Expansion	\$321,075	Continue providing service utilizing county funding due to an expiring grant, as well as expand the program to serve Youth & Family Service involved families. The expansion will allow the program to provide an additional 2,500 visitations annually, doubling the current program.
• Veterans Services Division Expansion*	242,420	Funding for one (1) Veterans Services Supervisor, one (1) Veterans Services Officer, & one (1) Case Coordinator to address increased service requests due to the Federal Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.
• A Home for All Contract Increase	221,902	Funding increase with the United Way for a dedicated Prospect Manager & a fundraising consultant to raise money for the initiative.
• Legal Aid Increase	200,000	Provide support to add staff to provide an additional 100 residents with legal advice & representation in eviction proceedings.
• Management Analyst	88,423	One (1) Management Analyst to provide support & performance monitoring of contracts in the CSS operating budget & the Affordable Housing Fund.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,073,820</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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Major Funding By Agency		
County Assessor's Office (CAO)		
Item	Amount	Description
Revaluation Reserve*	\$1,000,000	Funding to prepare for next revaluation in FY2027.
Business Audit Expansion	270,625	Funding to perform desk audits to ensure accuracy of business & personal property tax billing.
Web Portal Enhancements	120,000	Improve the web capabilities of software utilized by both county employees & taxpayers.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,390,625</b>	
Criminal Justice Services (CJS)		
Item	Amount	Description
Investment in the Courts (AOC)	\$500,000	Funding to provide Court Officials flexibility to fill & retain their County-funded employees, including the Trial Court Administrator, District Attorney, Public Defender, & Clerk of Court.
File Conversion Project*	154,886	Funding to support scanning of paper files & secure storage.
• Sweat Patches for Drug Testing	40,000	Funding to support the use of drug testing sweat patches for probation and parolees with jobs, accommodating work schedules.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$694,886</b>	
• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity • Workforce Development • Racial Disparities * Includes one-time fund balance allocation		12

Major Funding By Agency		
Elections Office (ELE)		
Item	Amount	Description
Elections Funding*	\$2,625,000	1x funding to support planned elections in FY2024.
(3) Elections Specialists	187,385	Three (3) new FT positions to support ongoing elections operations & improve the ratio of Elections staff to registered voters.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,812,385</b>	
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)		
Item	Amount	Description
• Medic Compression, & COLA & Merit	\$3,644,728	Annualize salary adjustments to address compression (\$2.1M) & to cover & average 5% salary increase for Medic staff (\$1.5M)
• EMS Equipment*	6,721,878	Auto-loading stretchers (\$4.6M), various technology replacements (\$857K), & vehicle replacements (\$1.3M).
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,366,606</b>	
• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity • Workforce Development • Racial Disparities * Includes one-time fund balance allocation		13

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Financial Services (FIN)

Item	Amount	Description
Financial Reporting	\$206,386	To support various reclassifications of the Financial Reporting Team to accommodate increase workload & improve processes, includes software and contractual enhancements to improve financial reporting.
Travel Solution Software	50,000	To support the purchase of software to streamline & automate the employee travel for training process.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$256,386</b>	

### Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC)

Item	Amount	Description
Historic Landmark Program Specialist	\$87,309	Funding for one (1) Program Specialist to support program.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$87,309</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Human Resources (HRS)

Item	Amount	Description
Recruitment and Retention	\$381,290	To fund various employee recognition incentives & service awards, & recruitment promotion
Sterling Background Screening Enhancement*	159,000	To fund background screening based on increased hiring.
One (1) HR Business Partner Position	96,285	To improve HR services to County departments.
One (1) Policy & Compliance Consultant Position	88,573	To help the County maintain compliance HR laws and policies.
• Internship Program	34,883	County internship program for minority students through Gardhouse
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$759,981</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Information Services & Technology (IST)

Item	Amount	Description
Firewall Contracts*	\$3,100,000	A 3-year agreement for enterprise firewall services to be paid from the Tech Reserve
Tech. Support for Growth	1,010,577	Tech support, maintenance, and storage costs associated with new locations and licenses for new employees
System security & backup contracts	918,184	Required testing and security to ensure that sensitive county and customer data is secure. Contractual increases for multiple systems that run all backup/restore functions for the County and provide protection and alerts.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,028,761</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Land Use & Environmental Services (LUE)

Item	Amount	Description
• Solid Waste Fee Increases	\$5,056,346	Funding to support operations and capital plans for solid waste. Funded with Residential Availability fee increase from \$39.50 to \$44.50 annually.
• Four (4) Storm Water Positions & Fee Increase	3,602,296	Four (4) additional staff to create a fourth field operations team supported through the storm water impervious surface fee.
• Air Quality Fee Increase	453,662	Monitoring, permitting and programming primarily supported with Air Quality Fee Increases.
One (1) GIS System Administrator & Address Verification Fee	274,924	One (1) new GIS System Administrator position & enterprise ESRI licenses supported with \$2 per address verification fee.
• (2) Land Development Staff & Equipment	220,000	One (1) Environmental Specialist III & (1) Construction Project Manager I to manage increases in construction plan review. Positions supported by revenue from land development fees.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,607,728</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Medical Examiner (MED)

Item	Amount	Description
Position Reclassifications	\$219,868	Convert three (3) LPT positions to (1) FT Forensic Autopsy Technician & (1) FT Admin Support Assistant to address demand for services.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$219,868</b>	

### Manager's Office (MGR)

Item	Amount	Description
• Pre-K Child Development Accounts	\$3,000,000	Funding to support Child Development Accounts of \$1K for 4 year old Pre-K students in Mecklenburg County.
Sr. Strategy & Planning Analyst	105,206	One (1) Sr. Strategy & Planning Analyst to enhance services provided by the Strategic Planning & Evaluation team.
• Farmland Preservation Coordinator	86,348	One (1) Sustainability Coordinator position to serve as the Farmland Preservation Coordinator & implement the Farmland Preservation Plan.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,191,554</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Non-Departmental Initiatives (NDP) – excludes enterprise reserves

Item	Amount	Description
• Environmental Leadership Fund Land Acquisition*	\$30,000,000	Funding to support the purchase of undeveloped land for open space protection.
• Affordable Housing Fund Investments*	10,288,045	Additional \$2.9M for ongoing supportive housing programs, \$3.6M for Critical Home Repair, \$2.1M for Home for All initiatives, & \$1.7M for the Billingsley Mixed Income Housing development.
• West Blvd. Food Co-Op Capital Campaign*	3,000,000	Funding the support the new co-op's capital campaign.
311 Increase	244,400	County's share of increased 311 expenses.
Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance	139,000	Funding to support the projected increase in this expense for retired sworn law enforcement officers.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,671,445</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Office of Economic Development (OED)

Item	Amount	Description
Arts & Science Council increase	\$1,392,500	Increase of \$500K for Culture Blocks, \$750K to support organization operations, \$113K for administration of the 1% for the Arts program, & \$30K for Artist Support Grants.
• Business LaunchPad	240,000	County funding for the Business Launchpad program, which provides support to minority & woman-owned businesses.
• Economic Development Specialist	83,084	Funding for one (1) Economic Development Specialist to support demand for small business concierge program.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,715,584</b>	

### Office of the Tax Collector (TAX)

Item	Amount	Description
Sr. Data Validation Analyst	\$94,596	To hire one (1) Sr. Data Validation Analyst to perform quality control & training with department staff.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$94,596</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Major Funding By Agency

### Park & Recreation (PRK)

Item	Amount	Description
Limited Part-Time positions	\$1,075,078	Funding for fifty-three (53) limited part-time lifeguards to support growing demand.
Additional Positions at Northern & Eastway Regional Recreation Centers	296,514	Funding for two (2) Recreation Specialist, one (1) Sr Admin Assistant, & two (2) Lifeguards at the Northern & Eastway Regional Recreation Centers due to higher than expected utilization of the facilities.
• Maintenance of park sites, facilities, amenities, and open space	623,961	Funding for maintenance costs at park sites, including amenities added in FY2023, annualization of partial year funding approved in FY2023, and open space acquired via ELAP
Contract increases	400,000	Annual contract increase for dumpster & mowing services.
• Latta Place Reopening	128,076	Funding for the next steps in the Latta Place masterplan, including one (1) Sr. Recreation Facility Manager.
Expanded Wi-Fi Operational Costs	90,000	Funding for operational expenses for expanded Wi-fi at park facilities.
• (1) Program Coordinator in Adult Programs	67,205	Funding to support one (1) Program Coordinator to expand adult programs into underserved parts of the County.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,680,834</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
• Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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Meeting Minutes  
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Major Funding By Agency		
Public Health (HLT)		
Item	Amount	Description
• Nurse Pay Increases	\$1,000,000	Funding to increase pay for public health nurses.
• Cabarrus Rowan Community Health North Mecklenburg Clinic (CRCHC)*	1,000,000	Funding to support a new clinic in North Mecklenburg expected to serve 750 new patients annually.
• Cabarrus Rowan Community Health (CRCHC) Shelter Mobile Clinic	350,000	Funding will be used to expand mobile health services to 3 days a week at the Salvation Army Center of Hope
• LabCorp Contract Increase	526,160	Contractual increase to provide staffing & testing services at the Scarborough CRC.
• Five (5) WIC & one (1) CDSA positions	552,734	Five (5) FT positions to support WIC services, and one (1) FT position to provide support in the Child Developmental Services Agency.
Environmental Health Positions	176,333	One (1) Environmental Health Supervisor & one (1) Environmental Health Specialist to address the increased number of inspections.
• Advanced Practice Provider	144,161	One (1) Advanced Practice Provider is being added to provide STI & PrEP services at the Scarborough CRC.
One (1) Grants Manager	99,909	One (1) FT Grants Manager position to support administrative requirements for the numerous grants received by Public Health.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,849,297</b>	
• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity • Workforce Development • Racial Disparities * Includes one-time fund balance allocation		

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Major Funding By Agency		
Public Library (LIB)		
Item	Amount	Description
• Library Collections*	\$1,700,000	One-time additional funding to provide additional books & materials for patrons, bringing the FY2024 total to \$6.1M
• Branch Rent Increases	213,059	Rental increases for Pineville, South Boulevard, & Plaza Midwood & the addition of a common area cost at Pineville.
• Library Programming Enhancements	199,000	Increase in Library programming for inflation (\$54K), an increase to \$670 average per branch budget (\$54K), active reading & early literacy among Pre-K students (\$50K), & outreach & workforce development (\$40K)
• (1) Chief Equity & Inclusion Officer	132,101	One (1) Chief Equity & Inclusion Officer to develop & implement the Library's diversity, equity, & inclusion initiatives & strategies.
• (1) Library Business Analyst	76,328	One (1) Library Business Analyst position to perform business, financial, & performance analysis to increase efficiency & improve Library operations & performance.
• (1) HR Coordinator	69,515	Supports the Library HR Director in providing day-to-day services to employees.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,390,003</b>	
• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity • Workforce Development • Racial Disparities * Includes one-time fund balance allocation		

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Meeting Minutes  
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Major Funding By Agency		
Sheriff's Office (SHF)		
Item	Amount	Description
Juvenile Housing Increase	\$773,750	Out of county juvenile housing cost increase.
Sign-on Bonus Increase*	556,875	One-time funding to continue offering sign-on bonuses, & increase the amount for eligible staff from \$3,000 to \$7,500.
Security Camera & Technology upgrades*	500,293	One-time funding to purchase security cameras, fingerprint machines & annual laptops.
Equipment Replacement & Document Scanning*	229,577	One-time funding to replace old dental & food service equipment at Jail Central; funding also supports the agency's transition to document management system.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,060,495</b>	

• Early Childhood Development • Educational Attainment • Environmental Stewardship • Health Access • Housing Insecurity  
 • Workforce Development • Racial Disparities \* Includes one-time fund balance allocation

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## Meeting Minutes May 22, 2023

### Community Service Grants

Oct.	• Outreach & Promotion
Nov. 1	• Information Session For interested Applicants
Nov. 1 - Dec. 5	• Application Submission Period
Dec. - Apr.	• Application Review
May 18	• Recommended Budget
Jun. 6	• Adopted Budget
Jul.	• Orientation For New Grantees



78 individuals attended the FY2024 Information Session held on November 1, 2022.

**76 total**  
Applications  
Received for FY2024

- An Information Session was held prior to the application period that provides guidance for applicants & allows for Q&A
- Applications are reviewed by panel of experts
- Program focuses on buying results
- Services must align to the County's strategic business plans

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### Recommended Vendors

- Programs that are awarded funding for (3) three consecutive fiscal years are considered sunset from the CSG program unless selected as a vendor.
- The following organizations are recommended to receive FY2024 vendor funding:

Organization - Program	Amount	Description
Mental Health America of the Central Carolinas - Emotional Toolbox for Building Resilient Communities	\$180,000	Provides mental health support for underserved & high-risk communities.
Prospera - Hispanic Business Support	75,000	Provides Hispanic-owned small businesses training, & access to the capital.
Time Out Youth - Youth Safety Net Housing	30,000	Supports LGBTQ homeless youth with mental health & emergency services.
YBLA - YLeader	150,000	A multigenerational, economic mobility system that focuses on helping students achieve long-term success & college & career readiness.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$420,000</b>	

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## Recommended Community Service Grants

Organization - Program	Amount	Description
<b>NEW</b> Carolina Youth Coalition - Torch Fellows	\$100,000	An out-of-school program aimed at eliminating the academic, financial, and social barriers to college entry and completion for first-generation and low-income college-goers
Charlotte Rescue Mission - Addiction Recovery	75,000	120-day program that builds a foundation for sobriety
GenOne - College Access and Persistence Services	55,000	Provides academic and college advising to first generation college students in East Charlotte
Hope Haven Inc. - Hope Haven Families in Recovery	68,000	Provides evidence-based Trauma-Informed Care through a long-term residential recovery program to families impacted by substance use disorder, including on-site services for children
Jewish Family Services - Senior Engagement Services	57,180	Ensures the basic needs of seniors are being addressed by connecting them to community resources
Lake Norman Community Health - OurSmiles Dental	100,000	Operates a dental bus serving low-income patients at multiple sites around the County
<b>NEW</b> MeckEd - Career Pathways	50,000	Work one-on-one with low-income youth who face obstacles to college and career opportunities
<b>NEW</b> Memory & Movement Charlotte - Service Expansion to Address Growing Need	100,000	Care for patients and families living with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and related conditions by combining clinical treatment with education and emotional support
<b>NEW</b> Metrolina Association for the Blind - Vision Rehabilitation Services	340,000	Helps individuals with vision loss or blindness become or remain self-sufficient through visual rehab therapy, orientation and mobility, low vision training, door-to-door transportation, and case management
<b>NEW</b> Mind Body Baby NC - Doula Grants Program	34,150	Connects pregnant women to trained doulas to navigate their needs before & after pregnancy
Out Teach - REAL School Gardens	300,000	Builds outdoor learning spaces (Learning Labs) in Title I Mecklenburg County schools
<b>NEW</b> Present Age Ministries - For the One	35,000	Combats the sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking of teen girls and equips communities to identify at-risk teen girls through prevention, awareness, and education
<b>NEW</b> RAO Community Health - Doula Impact	241,924	Provides doula training in certification requirements and extended educational sessions
<b>NEW</b> Teen Health Connection - Community-Based Prevention	100,000	Teen-led education for teens about substance abuse while providing mental health programming
<b>NEW</b> The Echo Foundation - Education is the Answer	25,000	Enables students in Title 1 schools in Mecklenburg County to develop student-led curriculum to engage with global issues by providing training, materials, and support to teachers and students
Youth Advocate Programs - Mecklenburg YAP	472,000	Provides wraparound services for justice & child welfare-involved youth.
<b>Total \$2,153,254</b>		

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## CMS & CPCC

RECOMMENDED BUDGET



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## Central Piedmont Community College

	FY2023	FY2024 Requested	FY2024 Recommended	FY2023 to FY2024 Change	% Change
CPCC Operating	\$43,160,906	\$46,078,941	\$45,245,941	\$2,085,035	4.8%
Preventative Maintenance	3,752,000	3,923,000	3,752,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,912,906</b>	<b>\$50,001,941</b>	<b>\$48,997,941</b>	<b>\$2,085,035</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

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## Central Piedmont Community College

	Request	FY2024 Recommended	Description
Maintenance Salary and Benefits	\$ 964,899	\$964,899	Salary & benefit increases to match state funded positions & funding for additional security staff.
Capital Purchases, Facility Maintenance & Security	1,323,231	490,231	Increases based on anticipated rate for utilities, insurance, and maintenance. Excludes one-time expenses that can be acquired through preventative maintenance allocation.
Facility Support Costs	203,500	203,500	Recommended to cover increases in facility, and cyber insurance.
Supplemental Wage and Benefit Allocation	426,405	426,405	County supplemental funding based on anticipated State salary increases.
	<b>\$ 2,918,035</b>	<b>\$ 2,085,035</b>	

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## Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools

	FY2023	FY2024 Requested	FY2024 Recommended	FY2023 to FY2024 Change	% Change
CMS Operating	\$557,956,214	\$596,915,849	\$596,915,849	\$38,959,635	7%
Preventative Maintenance	32,960,000	27,960,000	22,960,000	(10,000,000)	(36%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$590,916,214</b>	<b>\$624,875,849</b>	<b>\$619,875,849</b>	<b>\$28,959,635</b>	<b>5%</b>

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## Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools

Request	FY2024 Requested	FY2024 Recommended	
Salary increases for Teachers & other certified staff estimated average of 6.3%	4,865,320	4,865,320	Recommended to support recruitment and retention of Teachers & match State increases
Salary increases for Assistant Principals estimated average of 5.5%	830,314	830,314	Recommended to support recruitment and retention of Assistant Principals & match State increases
Salary increases for Principals estimated average of 4.25%	272,271	272,271	Recommended to support recruitment and retention of Principals & match State increases
Salary increases for non-certified staff estimated average of 4.25%	5,255,943	5,255,943	Recommended to support recruitment and retention of non-certified positions & match State increases
Market and equity pay adjustments for principals and non-certified staff in high need roles	10,125,971	11,938,061	Recommended salary adjustments to better recruit and retain principals and non-certified staff in high need roles
Local supplement increase	5,970,664	5,970,664	Recommended to increase local supplement to support recruitment and retention of teachers
Health insurance increase	1,458,988	1,458,988	Recommended to cover state health insurance increase for local funded positions

*Continued...*

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## Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools

Request	FY2024 Requested	FY2024 Recommended	
Maintenance & operating costs for new schools	1,191,344	1,191,344	Recommended to support 8 custodians and maintenance cost for two new schools
Staff for two new elementary schools	362,266	362,266	Recommended to add 2 media coordinators, 2 facilitators, and 1 psychologist to support two new schools
Charter school growth	6,814,464	6,814,464	Recommended to support estimated 1,815 new students
Enhanced cyber defense	839,677		Realigned to increase salaries
School Resource Officers - contract rate and fuel increases	757,610		Realigned to increase salaries
Office of Compliance & Ethics	214,803		Realigned to increase salaries
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38,959,635</b>	<b>\$38,959,635</b>	

Additional Preventative Maintenance	\$5,000,000		Funding for preventative maintenance provided at the current level of \$22,960,000
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## LESD & FPSD

RECOMMENDED BUDGET



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## Law Enforcement Service Districts

LES D	FY2023	FY2023 Revenue	Revenue Neutral	FY2024 Rec.	Difference from Revenue Neutral	Total Revenue
Charlotte	17.81	\$15,009,906	12.16	11.70	(0.46)	\$15,201,670
Davidson	14.32	467,776	10.58	11.70	1.12	532,522
Mint Hill	15.58	861,727	10.27	11.70	1.43	1,016,763
Huntersville <sup>1</sup>	15.84	3,378,087	14.06	11.70	(2.36)	2,874,132
Pineville	16.37	702,687	10.55	11.85	1.30	804,408
Cornelius <sup>2</sup>	22.90	109,426	16.95	27.23	10.28	197,355

1- Huntersville ETJ includes McGuire Nuclear Plant which is served by CMPD

2- Cornelius LESD tax for the ETJ does not include lake patrol, which is funded through a General Fund allocation

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## Law Enforcement Service Agreements

ETJ Service Agreement	Recommended
Charlotte (Charlotte, Mint Hill, Davidson, McGuire Nuclear)	\$18,225,087
Cornelius (Including Lake Patrol)	657,293
Huntersville (excluding McGuire Nuclear)	1,400,000
Pineville	848,142
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,130,522</b>

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## Fire Protection Service Districts

LES D	FY2023	FY2023 Revenue	Revenue Neutral	FY2024 Rec.	Difference from Revenue Neutral	Total Revenue
Charlotte <sup>1</sup>	10.15	\$8,985,761	6.94	8.76	1.82	\$11,932,229
Davidson	8.90	290,727	6.57	7.08	0.51	324,972
Mint Hill	7.50	414,824	4.94	6.00	1.06	521,418
Huntersville	6.63	1,413,934	5.88	6.53	0.65	1,602,908
Cornelius	6.12	32,009	4.53	4.53	-	32,832

1- The district includes the ETJ of Pineville

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## Fire Protection Service Districts

Volunteer Station	FY2023 Contract	FY2024 Contract	Change
Carolina VFD	\$956,960	\$1,150,840	\$193,880
CLT Rural & Huntersville	1,000,000	1,100,000	\$100,000
Cook's VFD	956,960	1,150,840	\$193,880
Long Creek VFD	956,960	1,150,840	\$193,880
Robinson VFD	956,960	1,150,840	\$193,880
Steele Creek 1 & 2 VFD	2,813,920	4,438,532	\$1,624,612
West Mecklenburg VFD	1,363,920	1,700,000	\$336,080
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,005,680</b>	<b>\$11,841,892</b>	<b>\$2,836,212</b>

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#### Comments

Commissioner Jerrell thanked Mr. Cox. He asked concerning expanded Wi-Fi in parks, which parks.

Deputy County Manager Leslie Johnson said ARPA dollars supported 6 neighborhood parks.

Commissioner Jerrell asked about land acquisitions if they totaled 40 million dollars. *Mr. Cox responded with 30 million dollars.*

Commissioner Jerrell asked why the recommendation was less than what they had done previously at 50 million dollars.

Chair Dunlap said they'd done that one time. County Manager Diorio clarified they'd never recommended 50 million dollars before.

Commissioner Jerrell asked if essentially, they'd used all the available fund balance, stating there were 92 million dollars available, and if was he recommending using all of that amount to get to the 35% threshold. *Mr. Cox said over the not over 35%, but over the 28% threshold. He said they had 192 million that they were projecting to be over the 28% threshold. He said the*

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*Manager is recommending 92 million dollars, which would leave 100 million left.*

Chair Dunlap said they had to be careful, if the bond didn't pass or if there were other issues with the CIP, they had to use those funds.

Commissioner Jerrell asked what they were recommending to do for the Sheriff's Office. *Mr. Cox said they were recommending one-time funding to increase the amount for hiring new staff, and additional bonuses, moving from \$3,000 to \$7,000.*

Commissioner Jerrell asked how many vacancies they had and asked if they were seeing a maintenance level of staff, and not depleting. *County Manager Diorio said they still had a significant number of vacancies but had been able to recruit more effectively.*

Commissioner Jerrell asked from a retention standpoint, did it seem like they were retaining staff. *Deputy Budget Director, Lyden Williams said the Sheriff's Office had 127 full-time vacancies, and their vacancy rate had been fairly stable the last 6 months. County Manager Diorio added that the number of federal inmates in the jail had been lower than what they budgeted, so they had to take a significant cut in federal revenue.*

Chair Dunlap said unlike the other departments such as CMS and CPCC, when they had lapse salaries they retained them. He asked if the Sheriff's Office requested to use 2.5 million dollars for retention bonuses, couldn't keep it, and had to give it back. *Mr. Cox said that all County agencies, don't retain those revenues. He said they try to forecast what the lapse will be and offset some of the budget cuts so they don't continue to generate fund balance. County Manager Diorio added that the Sheriff wanted to provide bonuses to his employees, and they said no since they couldn't do that for all County employees.*

Chair Dunlap said CMS got to keep their lapse salaries and they could use those funds for other purposes. He said that was part of the issue, some agencies get to use additional funds for salary increases and the Sheriff is not able to do that. *County Manager Diorio said the sheriff was not able to do that since it was a County department but couldn't control what happens with CMS or CPCC funds. She said it was not all one size fits all.*

Commissioner Leake asked if the Sheriff was able to keep the funds that came through concession and phone fees. *County Manager Diorio said yes, but they were in special revenue funds and dedicated to specific purposes. She said when they generated enough the Board had to approve the spending.*

Commissioner Altman asked, of the 476 million dollars in debt service, which portion was

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interest versus principal. *Mr. Boyd said the total debt service for FY24 was 227.6 million dollars, with 153 million being principal and 74.6 in interest.*

Commissioner Altman asked if the out-of-county juvenile housing expense was greater or less than when they were having it within the County. County Manager Diorio said it was less, and that the cost was increasing to about 150 a day. Commissioner Altman asked was it because the State was fitting the bill. County Manager Diorio said no, because they were paying for the kids that were going to other counties, so the cost of doing that was going up.

Commissioner Altman asked if Dr. Johnson or someone else could address equity considerations around the priority list for parks, such as Smithfield. She said she wanted to know why it didn't make the list, what would have been the impact if it jumped the list to become a priority, and what may have been the conversations had with Cornelius. *County Manager Diorio said it was ranked #56 on the list by the department so when they had to draw the line, they didn't get to it. She said there are other projects just as important which creates a slippery slope and problems when jumping the list. She said in terms of Cornelius she wasn't aware of the project until the Town Manager reached out to her by way of Vice Chair Powell.*

Commissioner Altman asked if it was looked at with a racial equity lens and how it fit into their planning of closing gaps. She asked who created the list and who vetted it. *Mr. Jones said they began with projects in Tier 1,2,3 of Meck Playbook. He said they did a lot of community engagement with a variety of different groups. He said they shared the information with their advisory council, the Park and Recreation Commission. He said the list to be prioritized was based on needs and priority areas and also on situations in which they could have had a partnership opportunity. He said they were approached by Cornelius to complete this project but it didn't rank high and because they hadn't formalized the partnership agreement.*

Commissioner Altman said she wanted to make sure their prioritization list was fair to all. She said she was guiding her vote by the rankings.

Vice Chair Powell said if the partnership had been known about, she believed it would have been a much higher priority. She asked why there weren't any remaining land acquisitions in the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan), and why was it taken out. *Mr. Cox said the only reason was for them to be able to put it into one allocation, and that it didn't make sense to put it in two places.*

Vice Chair Powell said she was concerned with relying on fund balance, when it may not always be there in the future. She asked if funding for security guards at composting facilities(recreation centers) was included.

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Mr. Cox said they did have security for the new recreation centers and deferred to Lee Jones and Mark Hahn. *Mr. Jones said they were working with AFM (Asset and Facility Management) and based on needs, determining how they could deploy security at the recreation centers. Mr. Hahn said they were adding security incrementally. He said the goal was to add five guards a year.*

Vice Chair Powell asked about slide 23 and library collections, and why they were calling it collections if they were going to buy books with it. *Mr. Cox said it was a term the library uses. He said it included physical books and digital material.*

Vice Chair Powell said it would be helpful if there was a pie chart that showed how much spending in each priority area came from fees or permits. She said it would also be helpful for the number of years they had relationships with those they award funding to.

Chair Dunlap said a previous Board decided that after 3 years of funding, organizations would need to reapply as some thought they were entitled to funding. He said if it was an organization the County had to provide funding for, the Manager had the authority to make it ongoing funding. He said until an organization got to that status after three years, they sunset.

Vice Chair Powell said she still had concerns about groups that go beyond three years.

Commissioner Griffin said he liked the mobile food market for seniors and Meck Success. Concerning Homes for All, he said he would like to know more about it. He asked when the last time CMS did a market study for principals. *County Manager Diorio said she hadn't seen it but could check.*

Commissioner Griffin said they were key players and they needed to be functional or nonfunctional. He said he hoped they kept up with diversity, equity, and inclusion when it came to agency partners.

Commissioner Leake asked how they were going to work to fill the open positions. Human Resources Director Keisha Young said they were currently working on a plan, to get ahead of it.

Commissioner Leake asked what the West Boulevard Food Co-op Capital Campaign was. *County Manager Diorio said it was the first round of funding to help start the capital campaign. She said they had reconstituted their board and drew down on the \$750,000 received from Congresswoman Adams. She said with the last funding of ARPA dollars they approved hiring a market manager. She said there had been a tremendous amount of progress made on the*

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*project and she was hopeful that the \$3 million would encourage others to come forward and fund the grocery store project they were trying to get off the ground.*

Commissioner Leake asked about staffing and recruitment in the school system. She asked what the enrollment count was because if the state sent money and it had decreased, they would come and collect their money. She said if there was an increase in enrollment in the last five years, they needed to know. *County Manager Diorio said she would follow up with CMS.*

Commissioner Cotham thanked Mr. Cox and the County Manager. She asked if any money was left over from the previous year. She said the people deserved to know. She said she didn't remember them previously giving new non-profits such high amounts, such as the \$340,000 that was given to the blind. She asked if it had been done before. *County Manager Diorio said they had done it in the past and provided the example of providing YAPP with \$600,000. She said it was all depending on what was asked for. She said after an organization is vetted, they receive either the full or partial amount.*

Commissioner Cotham asked if the only bonds they put on the ballot were school bonds. *County Manager Diorio said yes.*

Commissioner Meier asked in reference to the Board of Elections, if the money received would help in Mecklenburg County. *Michael Dickerson, Board of Elections Director, said it would help tremendously. He said they were anticipating they wouldn't give as much.*

Commissioner Meier asked if pickleball courts and dog parks jumped higher on the list than Smithfield, Irwin Creek, and other projects that could be considered more important. *Mr. Jones said they did a needs assessment of what citizens want. He said that everything they did was based on information received from Meck Playbook and driven by community input.*

Chair Dunlap asked when they evaluated Meck Playbook if there was a request for a dirt bike racetrack. *Mr. Jones said it might have been in there, but it didn't rank high. However, there was one already.*

Chair Dunlap asked about Eastland Yards. Has there been any conversation with the City about an amateur sportsplex? *Mr. Jones said there had been conversations at the planning level, but most conversations have been with the developer. However, it all had been just discussions at the time.*

Chair Dunlap asked if the County was interested with partnering with the City, what would need to take place for that to go forward, given it was not in the CIP nor Meck Playbook. *Mr. Lee said*

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*he would defer this to Deputy County Manager Dr. Johnson.*

Chair Dunlap asked if the staffing needs mentioned the previous year in the County Attorney's Office were filled. *Attorney Wade said yes.*

Chair Dunlap asked if the recommended increase was 3% for everyone, with an additional 2%. *County Manager Diorio said there was a range of performance, with an average of 2.5%, but could range from 0 to 5%.*

Chair Dunlap asked how that would work for Commissioners. *County Manager Diorio said they would get the 3% but would have to discuss further.*

Chair Dunlap said he attended the Community Relations Awards and requested that they contribute \$10,000 to assist with police sponsorship and the program. He said he was also requesting an economic development opportunity to contribute to the Indian Pow wow being held in 2024.

Commissioner Jerrell said that CDAs (Charlotte Development Academy) were fantastic and asked if they could look at what they believed at the average rate of return and what they were expecting year over year. Concerning the Homes Program, he asked if they were looking at increasing the grant amount. Concerning the tax rate, he said he thought it landed great. He asked if there was a way to tier it so they could understand how many were impacted over \$100 and break it up into buckets to get a sense of the cap or the max someone was going to be hit monthly. *Mr. Cox said there was an increase of \$15 per month, but he would break it down a few more scales and provide a response. LaShaun Carter, Equity and Inclusion Director, added that when doing the research for the child development investments, they saw that, on average, with no additional investment or sort of match program, the average performance was at around 4.2% annually. Yulonda Griffin, Director of Community Resources, added that for the Homes Program, they did put in a recommendation to increase the allotment, and that was based on home values going up.*

Commissioner Altman asked if, with the expected increase for allotment per home, did they expect to increase the number of people that have access to the program. County Manager Diorio said the increase was significant, from 250,000 to 14 million.

Commissioner Altman said she appreciated the increase in Legal Aid. She asked if the \$200,000 was in addition to or if it was the final amount and how did it compare to previous years. Commissioner Altman also asked what areas of legal help the County rendered. *County Manager Diorio said it was primarily for eviction prevention. Stacy Lowry, Director of Community Support Services, added that the County provided \$809,000 for addiction*

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*prevention, with the increase of the additional \$200,000. She said she believed the City of Charlotte would also give \$200,000 to pair County and City dollars together to expand eviction prevention.*

Commissioner Altman asked what some of the significant requests from the court system were that they weren't able to fund. *County Manager Diorio said except for the courtroom, they funded everything. She said they had enough money in their contract to do what they wanted to do in terms of providing competitive salaries. She said in the past, they wouldn't fully fund them since they didn't use it. She said that they had given them the flexibility, and they had given them back \$500,000.*

Vice Chair Powell asked for 3.245 million to partner with Cornelius for Smithfield Park. She said it was a top priority for equity and the environment. She said she wanted to celebrate funding for MEDIC, EMS, CMS, and funding for the new federal clinic in North Mecklenburg, as she believed they were valuable investments. She asked for a breakdown of items that included personnel and how they were not reoccurring. *Mr. Cox provided clarification to the Vice Chair's question. County Manager Diorio said it was a partially funded portion of the fund balance, and the personnel portion was part of the operation budget. Mr. Boyd clarified the percentage of what the fund balance should be.*

Commissioner Griffin asked if they could double funding for Meck Success and add an additional 50 people, totaling \$1.3 million in funding. He said there was a huge gap in opportunity and wealth to the extent they could provide additional support.

Commissioner Leake said the budget recommended community service grants talked about women and asked that they change the services that talk about young girls to include males. She said they were excluding black males within the issues of the community. She said they must support staff when they talk about the budget and asked that they readdress salaries. *County Manager Diorio clarified that there were laws that dictated salaries, and switching someone from hourly to salaried was something they were unable to do.*

Commissioner Cotham asked for clarification about the \$15 monthly increase. *Mr. Cox provided an explanation.*

Commissioner Cotham asked, in reference to Park and Recreation, if when deciding which greenways to fund, they take into consideration greenways that have other funding, for example, from grants from the State. *Mr. Jones said when they look into prioritizing greenways, they look to see if they already have land, how much had been built, was there a partnership, and that drives where it will be ranked.*

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Commissioner Meier asked if the \$10 million given to CMS for maintenance was used or given back; she also asked for clarification in relation to the realignment to salaries. *Mr. Cox said they were using the one-time funding for capital maintenance. County Manager Diorio stated they were bringing it back to the baseline, to what it usually was.*

Chair Dunlap mentioned the security at a particular park; he said he didn't want them spending money to say they had security. He asked about Legal Aid versus the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy (CCLA); he thought they were giving money to those entities for those situations. He asked if there were specific requirements. *Ms. Lowry said they did. She said they funded them in three different areas: visas for battered immigrants, veteran services, and disability for seniors. She said Legal Aid was just for evictions.*

Chair Dunlap asked if the CCLA helped with citizenship. *Ms. Lowry said other than it being a battered individual, they did not fund them for that.*

Chair Dunlap: at the end of the fiscal year, that is when they can relay what was left (Quarter 4 report)....park issues – hopes everyone looks for a fair process instead of pick and choose. All have projects they would like to see in their districts.

### ***Chair Dunlap opened the floor for the Board to provide their budget requests.***

Commissioner Meier asked for \$2 million for the Charlotte Rescue Mission and \$200,000 for Freedom Farm.

Commissioner Cotham did not have any requests.

Commissioner Leake said she wanted to ensure that areas neglected: black males, programs funded by the community, the food desert, and repairs on senior citizens' homes were taken care of. She said she hoped they were forgetting the ones that were less fortunate than they were.

Commissioner Griffin asked for an increase in the number of families in Meck Success by doubling funding to \$2.6 million to be intentional and strategic to help people with upward mobility. He said he also hoped they would capture metrics differently.

Vice Chair Powell said the Smithfield Greenway was a top priority to her. She requested a little over \$4 million.

Commissioner Altman asked that they get to \$50 million again for land acquisition through fund

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balance.

Commissioner Jerrell said he supported additional funding for land acquisition. Concerning the tax rate – he didn't see a scenario where he could support going above the tax rate set by the County Manager.

Chair Dunlap asked for clarification on the \$30 million for land acquisition. He asked if the funding for greenways could come from that number and if it would work. County Manager Diorio said it was not just for the acquisition but also for the construction. She said it wouldn't align.

**23-0019**

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioners shared information of their choosing within the guidelines as established by the Board which included but not limited to, past and/or upcoming events.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Dunlap declared the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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Arlissa Eason, Deputy Clerk to the Board

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George Dunlap, Chairman