

Guiding Legislative Principles

Support Greater Flexibility for Counties Support Equity and Inclusion Efforts Oppose Removal of Authority from Counties Support Funding to Counties Oppose Unfunded Mandates or Cost Shifts

2023 State and Federal Legislative Agenda Proposed 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agenda (As Approved in the 1/11/2024 IGR Committee Meeting)

Education

- 1. Support funding for education that is not based on the economic development tier system and that recognizes the needs of rural and urban counties.
- 2. Support fully funding the Leandro case court-ordered comprehensive remedial plan without supplanting or reducing existing funding measures.
- 3. Support raising the income eligibility thresholds and reimbursement rates for the NC Pre-K program to align with changes in wages, labor force demands and cost of living.

Health and Human Services

- 1. Support expansion of Medicaid and operational flexibility for public assistance programs.
- 2. Support funding and policies that address housing security such as access to affordable housing, examining the impact of investor-owned properties, increasing the Homestead Act threshold to and support for older adults aging in place.
- 3. Support immigration policies that address needs of immigrant families as well as strengthen our economy and workforce.
- 4. Support funding and policies addressing increased access to care including, primary and behavioral health, early childhood development, and federal qualified health centers (FQHCs).
- 5. Advocate for policies and additional resources that assist initiatives related to reducing community violence and increasing public safety.

Community

- 1. Support funding and policies addressing residential "orphan" roads in unincorporated areas.
- 2. Support policies and funding that advance digital inclusion and access to technology.
- 3. Support funding and policies that promote attracting and retaining a talented workforce and increase workforce development opportunities.
- 4. Support increase in funding to the Judicial Branch that will allow local jurisdictions to expand staffing capacity to align with caseload ratios as recommended by national court practice standards.

Environment

- 1. Support local control over stormwater mitigation and repeal of state laws restricting guidelines on redevelopment projects.
- 2. Support funding and policies tackling needs addressed in the Mecklenburg Environmental Leadership Action Plan such as,
 - pollution reduction
 - resource conservation
 - solid waste management
 - climate preparedness
 - equal protection and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations including using a racial equity lens when implementing actions and during environmental decision-making.
- 3. Support a regulatory definition of transportation that includes an active multi-modal transportation network such as shared use paths, greenways, trails, protected bike and pedestrian lanes, sidewalks, and public transit.