

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Monday, February 8, 2021

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Chair Brenda Howerton, Vice-Chair Wendy Jacobs and Commissioners Nida Allam, Nimasheena Burns and Heidi Carter

Presider: Chair Brenda Howerton

Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Adjustments

Chair Howerton announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

Announcements

Monica Toomer, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

1. **COVID-19 Vaccine Waitlist Information** – Due to the limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines from the State, the Durham County Department of Public Health has temporarily closed its vaccine scheduling process. Citizens are encouraged to sign-up for the waitlist if additional vaccine doses become available.

Please note – citizens will not be able to sign up unless your Group is being vaccinated. To find your group, please visit <https://findmygroup.nc.gov/>

To sign up in English visit: www.tinyurl.com/DcCoVaccineWaitlist and Spanish www.tinyurl.com/DcCoListaVacunas

2. **MBK Durham Network Call** – My Brother's Keeper Durham is hosting a network call on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6pm.

To participate, please call 515-604-9725; conference coda 441013

3. **MPO Plan Feedback** – Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization has released the draft Public Involvement Policy and Limited English Proficiency Plan for a public comment period.

The public comment period ends of Wednesday, February 10. To share comments, please visit www.dchcmo.org

4. **Transition to NC Medicaid Managed Care** – Enrollment opens on March 15, 2021 for NC Medicaid Managed Care. Clients will have the opportunity to choose from five (5) healthcare plans instead of the just one Medicaid program.

Interested citizens are asked to contact their County Social Services Case Worker for more details or visit www.ncgov.servicenownervices.com/sp_beneficiary

5. **Helping Durham County's Seniors** – We need your help with assisting seniors by volunteering through the Triangle Nonprofit & Volunteer Leadership Center. Organizations that need your help include: A Helping Hand, Durham Center for Senior Life and Meals on Wheels just to name a few.

Please visit www.handsontriangle.org to sign up.

6. **Your Feedback is Needed** – The City-County Planning Department is ready to present the initial results of input through its draft community objectives.

Please visit www.durham.mysocialpinpoint.com/comprehensiveplan now through February 19th to share your feedback on the draft community objectives. For additional information about the new Comprehensive Plan process, please contact City-County Planning Department Senior Planner Lisa Miller at 919-560-4137 ext 28270.

7. **Innovate Durham 2021** – A partnership between the City of Durham, Durham County and Durham Public Schools that allows entrepreneurs to use local government as a laboratory to test products and ideas is now accepting applications until February 15, 2021.

Please apply online by visiting www.tinyurl.com/InnovateDurham2021Application

8. **Need Help Paying your Heating Bill?** – Beginning January 2nd – March 31, 2021 the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) will open to all Durham County residents.

Residents are asked to visit www.epass.nc.gov to view eligible criteria and apply for the program.

9. **Summer 2021 Paid Internship Program** – Congressman David E. Price is now accepting applications for an undergraduate student who is interested in government or the legislative process for his Durham and Washington offices.

The application deadline for the Summer 2021 Internship Program is March 5, 2021. For questions regarding the summer internship, please email nc04.intern@mail.house.gov or call 202-225-1784

10. **Subscribe to Durham This Week Online Newsletter** - Did you know that each week the Durham County Manager's Office releases a newsletter – Durham This Week Online – that provides updates on County services, news items, video releases, job listings and much more? Plus, each week, County Manager Wendell Davis writes a note for the community on a variety of subjects from our community.

Subscribe today at <https://bit.ly/SubscribeDTWO>

11. **Honoring Black History Month** – Each February, Black History Month is observed to highlight and honor the significant achievements made by African Americans in our nation. The noted historian Carter G. Woodson is credited with establishing this celebration, which first started in 1926 as a week-long observance. Beginning in 1976 our Presidents designated February as Black History Month and included a specific theme. This year’s theme is: The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity. Let’s celebrate this important observance and support the various related programs taking place this month.

Nori McDuffie, Youth Project Assistant at the City of Durham Office on Youth read the “Praise Song for the Day” by Elizabeth Alexander to honor Black History Month. The Board thanked Mr. McDuffie for reading the poem and representing the youth of Durham.

Minutes

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to approve the January 25, 2021 and January 27, 2021 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ceremonial Items

21-0095 Durham County Proclamation to Establish A New County Holiday in Recognition of Juneteenth

Chair Howerton read the following proclamation:

ESTABLISH A NEW COUNTY HOLIDAY IN RECOGNITION OF JUNETEENTH | 2021

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2020, Commissioner Brenda Howerton recommended that Durham County Government recognize Juneteenth as an official holiday for County employees honoring the historical significance of the emancipation of the last remaining enslaved Black and African Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the events of June 19, 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger led Union soldiers into Galveston, Texas, bringing news that the Civil War had ended and that the Emancipation Proclamation had declared all enslaved people free nearly two and a half years earlier; and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation changed the legal status under federal law of nearly 3.5 million enslaved Black and African Americans and the subsequent 13th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America abolished slavery and involuntary servitude; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth acknowledges the considerable lapse over a two-year period, from 1863 to 1865, when enslaved Blacks and African Americans remained in bondage and unaware of the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln that recognized and maintained the freedom of slaves in the United States.

- WHEREAS,** the celebration of Juneteenth is believed to be the oldest Black and African American holiday observance in our nation, and takes place annually throughout Durham, North Carolina and the Nation—often consisting of readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, prayer and worship services, family gatherings, cultural performances, educational activities, community service events, ceremonial observances and more; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1997, during the 105th United States Congress, House Joint Resolution 56 and Senate Joint Resolution 11 were passed, officially recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day; on August 23, 2007, Juneteenth National Freedom Day was recognized by the State of North Carolina; and Juneteenth has been celebrated in Durham, North Carolina since 1933; and
- WHEREAS,** as July 4, 1776 represents the birth of the United States of America and commemorates the United States’ independence from British rule, it did not offer independence and freedom to enslaved people; and
- WHEREAS,** historically Juneteenth observances have not always received acknowledgement and recognition though Juneteenth is a critical component of American history as it marks a turning point in our nation and a step towards equality; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is a stark reminder of the promises of liberation for Black and African Americans in the 21st century; currently our nation and indeed our Durham community is experiencing racial injustices and inequities at a record pace, demonstrating that despite great successes and achievements, Black and African Americans continue to bear the pain and burden of systemic racism and disparate treatment at every turn; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is also known as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Cel-Liberation, and Juneteenth Independence Day and Juneteenth augments the nation’s promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and
- WHEREAS,** Juneteenth commemorates the strength and resolve of Black and African Americans throughout our history and serves as an opportunity to celebrate the rich and numerous contributions of Black and African Americans to the Durham community, and the United States, and Juneteenth teaches our youth the importance of honoring Black and African American history and the impact of the institution of Chattel Slavery; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County seeks to establish a paid holiday for county employees commencing June 19, 2021, and forward — calling them to observance; and
- WHEREAS,** this Board of County Commissioners believes establishing an annual observance would give employees and residents of Durham County an official holiday on which to reflect on the impact of slavery, while also providing a time to remember the contributions of the enslaved to the fabric of Durham County; and
- WHEREAS,** an official Juneteenth holiday would also signal that Durham County is committed to doing the work to identify and improve policies and processes that will improve

access to opportunities for all employees and work to eliminate any vestiges of unequal treatment that exist in this organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED I, Brenda Howerton, Chair of the Durham Board of County **Commissioners** and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Juneteenth to be an official Durham County Government paid holiday for employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the official observance of the Juneteenth will commence in the year 2021, which will mark the 156th commemoration of Juneteenth.

This 8th day of February 2021.

Brenda Howerton, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Rikii Stevenson, citizen explained the importance of Juneteenth being highlighted and recognized as a holiday in the Durham Community.

Gloria De Los Santos, Director at Action North Carolina and citizen stated she learned about Juneteenth in college and the passing of the proclamation showed the unity in Durham.

Chair Howerton thanked everyone who were involved in establishing the holiday and the proclamation. Commissioner Allam thanked Commissioner Burns for editing the proclamation and Commissioner Burns thanked the Board and the community. Commissioner Jacobs thanked staff for their support. Commissioner Carter thanked the Ms. Stevens and Ms. Santos for their comments and stated she learned about Juneteenth as an adult and hope the standards of history would be improved.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to approve the proclamation establishing a New County Holiday in Recognition of Juneteenth.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Chair Howerton asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, Chair Howerton entertained a motion for approval.

Vice-Chair Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

*21-0018 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000072 to Recognize \$8,540 from the NC DHHS Division of Public Health Local Technical Assistance and Training (LTAT) Branch

21-0028 Approval of Contract with WK Dickson for Nutrient Management Strategy Development and Implementation Support using funds allocated in the FY21 budget collected by the County Stormwater Utility Fee

*21-0029 Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000020 – Increasing the Leases Convenience Site

Upgrades (Northern Convenience Site) Project 4190DC079 by \$3,624,510 with Funding Source of 2021 Issuance of Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) and Approve the Execution of the Construction Contract to Harrod and Associates Constructors, Inc. for the Northern Durham Convenience Site Construction Project.

*21-0038 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000070 to Recognize Funds in the Amount of \$43,657.00 from the NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health, Women's and Children's Health Section/Immunization Branch

*21-0042 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000069 to Recognize \$150.00 from the NC DHHS Division of Public Health CDI/Cancer Prevention and Control Branch

*21-0044 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000068 to Recognize \$99,949 from the NC DHHS Division of Public Health Women's and Children's Health Section/Immunization Branch

*21-0047 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000067 for \$168,525 for Durham County's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) and to amend a contract with the City of Durham.

*21-0050 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000075 Appropriating \$150,000 of General Fund Fund Balance to Provide Additional Operating Funds for the Durham Convention Center

*21-0054 Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000065 Appropriating \$186,394.99 of General Fund Fund Balance for Padded Cells Project in the Durham County Detention Facility, and Contract Approval with Cornerstone Detention Products Inc. for the Project

21-0060 Approval of Contracts with E-Plus to conduct routine lifecycle replacement of telework technology thereby strengthening County telework capabilities

21-0061 Approval of contract with SHI International to purchase cybersecurity-specific licenses to strengthen security associated with Microsoft data.

21-0062 Approval to Amend Contract with Insight Global LLC for IS&T Technical Writer Contractor

*21-0064 Approve the Final Budget for the Trails End Road Open Space Acquisition and Approve Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000022 Decreasing the Open Space & Farmland Preservation Capital Project (4730DC083) by \$31,969 and Budget Amendment No. 21BCC000071 transferring \$31,969 from Pay-As-You-Go Capital Project Fund to the General Fund as well as recognizing \$40,000 in grant funds for a total of \$71,969 to Support the Purchase of the Trails End Open Space Acquisition

*21-0065 Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000021 – Increasing Capital Project No. 473DC150 – 300 Block Ease Main Redevelopment Using and Appropriation of \$44,950 of Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) Funding, and Budget Amendment 21BCC000066 Reducing a Transfer of 444,950 of Depts Service Fund Fund Balance to the General Fund for Lease Improvements to 410 W. Chapel Hill St. Related to this Project

21-0069 Execution of Design Consultant Contract with Obrien Atkins for the Detention Center Security Glass Replacement Project

*21-0072 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000073 – Appropriate General Fund Restricted Fund Balance totaling \$1,853,393.16 for the Sheriff, Public Health, CJRC and Social Services

21-0075 Amendments to the Durham County Women’s Commission Bylaws

21-0084 Advertisement of 2020 Tax Liens on Real Property

*21-0086 Approval of Budget Amendment Ordinance No. 21BCC000076 Transferring \$491-000 Across Functional Areas to Formalize the Funding Decision Made at the January 25, 2021 Meeting Authorizing Additional Funds for the Hope (Remote) Learning Centers

Consent Agenda Item #21-0018

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000072**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$103,789,732	\$8,540	\$103,798,272
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$72,627,184	\$8,540	\$72,635,724

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0029

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance
Amendment Number 21CPA000020**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project Name	Project #	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
Leased Convenience Site Upgrades (Northern Convenience Site) Project	4190DC079	\$791,380	\$3,624,510	\$4,415,890

Adopted this the 8th day of February 2021.

Consent Agenda Item #21-0038

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000070**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$103,939,870	\$43,657	\$103,983,527
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$72,777,322	\$43,657	\$72,820,979

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0042

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000069**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$103,939,720	\$150	\$103,939,870
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$72,777,172	\$150	\$72,777,322

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0044

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000068**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$103,839,771	\$99,949	\$103,939,720
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$72,677,223	\$99,949	\$72,777,172

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0047

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000067**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Human Services	\$103,477,451	\$168,525	\$103,645,976
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$72,314,903	\$168,525	\$72,483,428

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0050

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000075**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Cultural and Recreation	\$13,860,665	\$150,000	\$14,010,665
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$40,776,829	\$150,000	\$40,926,829

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0054

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000065**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$71,280,214	\$186,395	\$71,466,609
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$37,800,021	\$186,395	\$37,986,416

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0064

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000071**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Environmental Protection	\$5,995,028	\$71,969	\$6,066,997
<u>Revenue</u>			
Contributions and Donation	\$449,217	\$40,000	\$489,217
Other Financing Sources	\$37,941,466	\$31,969	\$37,973,435

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance
Amendment Number 21CPA000022**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project Name	Project #	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
Open Space & Farmland Preservation	4730DC083	\$5,626,774.03	(-\$31,969)	\$5,594,805

Adopted this the 8th day of February 2021.

Consent Agenda Item #21-0065

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance
Amendment Number 21CPA000021**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY:

That the 2020-21 capital project ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments for the following projects.

Project Name	Project #	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Updated Budget
300 Block East Main Redevelopment	47302635DC150	\$20,838,814	\$44,950	\$20,883,764

Adopted this the 8th day of February 2021.

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000066**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Environmental Protection	\$6,039,978	(\$44,950)	\$5,995,028
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$37,986,416	(\$44,950)	\$37,941,466
<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$71,659,686	(\$44,950)	\$71,614,736
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$70,851,270	(\$44,950)	\$70,806,320

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0072

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000073**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Public Safety	\$71,466,609	\$431,078	\$71,897,687
Human Services	\$103,798,272	\$1,329,104	\$105,127,375
Cultural and Recreation	\$13,767,454	\$93,211	\$13,860,665
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$37,973,435	\$1,853,393	\$39,826,829

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Consent Agenda Item #21-0086

**Durham County, North Carolina
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance
Amendment Number 21BCC000076**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF DURHAM COUNTY that the 2020-2021 budget ordinance is hereby amended to reflect budget adjustments.

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$126,922,986	(\$491,000)	\$126,431,986
Education	\$169,320,676	\$491,000	\$169,81,676

All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved February 8, 2021

Public Hearings

21-0088 Public Hearing to Consider Allocating Economic Development Funds to Taysha Gene Therapies

Andrew Miracle, Economic Development Officer stated the Board was requested to hold a public hearing to consider allocating a total of \$653,000 in Economic Development funds to Adverum and to

authorize the County Manager to enter into preliminary negotiations and execute an agreement with the Company. He added the Company specialized in Gene Therapy production and would create 202 jobs and invest \$82.8 million in Durham County.

Chair Howerton opened the public hearing.

Angela Thedinga, Chief Technology Officer of Adverum

Ms. Thedinga provided the Board with an overview of the company, partnerships, and clients.

Heikki Jouttijarvi, Manufacturing and Supply Chain Vice President of Adverum

Mr. Jouttijarvi explained the hiring process, contractors, and planned buildings.

Dena House, Human Resources Vice President of Adverum

Ms. House shared an overview of the education, transformation, and the involvement of the company in the community.

Bryan Fox, Vice President of Public Policy of the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Fox stated he supported partnerships which addressed global health issues and would benefit all of Durham residents directly and indirectly. He added he was honored for continued increase in access and equity with opportunities across the community.

The Board stated the briefing sheet showed all jobs required a master's degree and inquired about the skill set of education for the jobs at Adverum. Ms. House clarified that jobs at Adverum would have a skill set range from no degree to a master's degree. The Board emphasized the importance and the need for the jobs and opportunities to benefit the residents of Durham. They thanked the Company Officials for providing details about the company and for supporting the community.

Chair Howerton stated the public hearing would be open for 24 hours for receipt of comments.

Other Business

21-0025 Durham County Public Health Focused Update on the COVID-19 Crisis.

Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director thanked the Board and County Management for their support in the COVID response.

Mr. Jenkins provided the following updates for Durham County:

- 19970 total cases
- 137 seven-day moving average
- 37.9 percent were African American; 23.3 percent were Caucasian; 19.8 percent were LatinX
- 13.3 percent of cases were under age 18
- Greatest number of cases were among people who worked in nursing care facilities, hospitals, general medicine or surgical and technical.
- North Carolina infections had grown 5.9 percent and Durham infections had grown 4.9 percent.
- Vaccination availability would increase in the coming weeks and months.

The Board asked when the Walgreen's in Durham would start vaccinations. Mr. Jenkins replied February 12, 2021. The Board inquired about the logistics for a mass vaccination site and mobile testing in Durham. Mr. Jenkins stated the mass vaccination center would be sponsored and managed by the

State and the site in Durham was on hold until an adequate supply of vaccinations was available. He added he would research mobile testing sites and follow-up with the Board.

Commissioner Burns read the following resolution:

SHOTS FOR A SAFE RETURN: SUPPORTING VACCINATION OF SCHOOL WORKERS

WHEREAS, our public education system is among the most critical community infrastructure, providing academic instruction, social and emotional learning and support, vital childcare, nutrition, health services, and social connectedness for children and families; and

WHEREAS, it is a top priority for our Durham Community that we ensure safe spaces in which our students can learn and grow, and our school staff can work; and

WHEREAS, each school worker is essential to providing our students with safe, healthy learning environments; and

WHEREAS, there are safety protocols recognized by the CDC for reopening schools to minimize risk posed by in-person learning for our staff, our students, and their families; and

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper has consistently emphasized the importance of the three Ws in creating safe learning environments: wear a mask, wait six feet away, and wash hands; and

WHEREAS, newer, more contagious and more deadly strains of the virus have recently emerged, reinforcing the importance of the social distancing and masking requirements consistent with Governor Cooper’s “plan B” guidelines; and

WHEREAS, effective COVID-19 vaccines have now been developed, with more than one million doses having been distributed throughout North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, adding vaccination of educators to the three W’s would add another layer of protection from the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, we value the health and safety of our staff, and believe that ensuring vaccine access for educators and all school based personnel will improve the safety of in-person instruction, and improve health outcomes overall for our students, our families, and our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Durham County Board of Commissioners urges NC Secretary of Health and Human Services Mandy Cohen, along with Governor Roy Cooper, to shift school-based personnel to priority Category 2 so that they can be vaccinated in this current phase and in advance of the re-opening of schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Durham County Government stands ready to coordinate our local health department efforts with those of NC Public Health officials, Duke Health System and other community partners to facilitate making the vaccine available to each of our school workers with all due haste so that we can reopen our vital public education system with the greatest assuredness of safety.

This the 8th day of February 2021.

Brenda A. Howerton, Chair

Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

Nida Allam, Commissioner

Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

The Board thanked the Local Teachers Union and Durham County Public Health for working to get teachers and school staff vaccinated. The Board stated they would share the resolution with legislatures, the Governor, and local delegations.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns to adopt the Shots for a Safe Return: Supporting Vaccinations of School Workers Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously.

21-0063 RFP 21-003 Property Tax Software Solutions

Timothy Dwane Brinson, Tax Administrator shared the *Property Tax Software Solution* presentation which highlighted the following: Needs Analysis, Request for Proposal (RFP) Number 21-003, Proposal Evaluation, Scoring, Overview of Cost – Farragut and Farragut Overview.

The Board inquired about minority participation and Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE). Jeff McDonald, Local Government Solutions Vice President of Farragut Systems replied the Company was minority owned and 62 percent of the staff was minority. The Board asked about the anticipated yearly cost of the software, Mr. Brinson responded the anticipated cost was around \$300,000 per year and the actual cost would be based on the number of bills Durham County issued.

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Jacobs to authorize the Tax Administrator and County Attorney to enter into contract negotiations with Farragut.

The motion carried unanimously.

21-0078 Postpone the 2023 General Reappraisal

Timothy Dwane Brinson, Tax Administrator shared the *Postpone 2023 Reappraisal* presentation which highlighted the following: General Reappraisal Defined, Applicable State Laws, Background and Complications, Equity Measures and Request Action.

The Board inquired about vertical and horizontal equity and the abbreviation COD. Mr. Brinson responded vertical and horizontal equity was two equity measures and COD was the coefficient of dispersion. The Board asked if the reappraisal had to be postponed until 2027 or could it happen earlier. Mr. Brinson replied postponing until 2027 would allow two (2) years for the new tax software to be implemented and meet the state reappraisal standards to start the reappraisal process three (3) years

before the effective reappraisal date. County Manager Davis stated the economy and pandemic influenced the need to postpone the reappraisal. Mr. Brinson added conducting a reappraisal during a recession was regressive. The Board asked if postponing the reappraisal would allow for focus on low income and people of color. Mr. Brinson responded the Tax Department was trying to be creative as possible to find ways to assist residents of Durham.

The Board recommended adding the Tax Assistant Program discussion to the Budget Retreat or the February 22, 2021 Regular Session meeting and, also questioned the impact of waiting to postpone the reappraisal. Mr. Brinson replied the North Carolina Department of Revenue would require work to be done by the Tax Department until the Board approved the postponement of the appraisal. The Board recommended to postpone the reappraisal until 2026. Mr. Brinson agreed with postponement of the reappraisal until 2026.

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Jacobs for the Board to postpone the next general appraisal until January 1, 2026.

The motion carried unanimously.

Directive: Vice-Chair Jacobs recommended adding the Tax Assistant Program discussion to the Budget Retreat or the February 22, 2021 Regular Session meeting.

21-0102 FY 2020-21 Fiscal Update

Claudia Hager, General Manager shared the *Durham County Government Fiscal Update* which highlighted the following: Budget Management Reminders, Draft Projected Unbudgeted Year-end Operating Expenses as of February 8, 2021, Mid-year Salary Review, Employees Impacted by COVID-19, Hazardous/Differential Pay Options, Next Steps Fiscal Management.

The Board asked for the information requested as directives at the January 25, 2021 Regular Session meeting and community related expenses. Ms. Hager responded the information would be provided to the Board. The Board asked if the proposal for hazardous pay was for every employee or only frontline workers. County Manager Davis replied the pay was for all employees working in hazardous conditions; adding some employees resigned or took other jobs with less hazardous risk. The Board asked for a list of employees considered high risk, the percent of employees vaccinated and the cost of providing employees a cost of living adjustment. County Manager Davis replied the information would be provided to the Board. The Board recommended to continue the discussion at the Budget Retreat.

Directives:

- **Vice-Chair Jacobs asked for the community related expenses.**
- **Commissioner Carter asked for a list of employees considered high risk, percent of employees vaccinated and the cost of providing employees a cost of living adjustment.**
- **Chair Howerton recommended continuing the FY2020-21 Fiscal Update discussion at the Budget Retreat.**

21-0103 Proposal for Durham County partnerships with Kate's Korner and Durham Housing Authority (DHA)

Kezia Goodwin, Owner and Founder of Kate's Korner stated her employees were excited to provide a bridge to serve an additional 85 students who resided in Durham Housing Authority Communities at the cost of \$175 per student per week. She added the cost excluded overhead fees, as DHA would not charge Kate's Korner rent for the program space; adding they were working with Durham Technical Community College to provide program space as well.

The Board inquired about the Club Boulevard location change to Oxford Manor. Ms. Goodwin responded the Club Boulevard location was being used for COVID-19 testing and the program location was moved to Oxford Manor. The Board asked about transportation for students and the Cornwallis program location. Ms. Goodwin replied she was working on providing transportation as needed; with regard to the Cornwallis location, she stated there was concern with the internet bandwidth at the location and was waiting to hear back from DHA.

The Board suggested moving forward with the approval of the \$104,125 and consider approving additional funding after Ms. Goodwin spoke with the Durham Public Schools Foundation. Ms. Goodwin replied she was seeking full funding and would ask the Foundation to fund the fourth quarter. The County agreed to move forward with the \$104,125 request and asked that Ms. Goodwin come back with any additional request after her conversation with the DPS Foundation.

Vice-Chair Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Burns for Durham County Government to fund \$104,125 in a partnership with Kate's Korner and Durham Housing Authority to provide learning centers at three Durham Housing Authority communities.

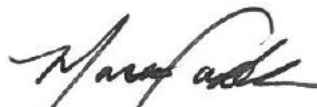
The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to recess the Regular Session meeting at 10:38 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton
Deputy Clerk to the Board