

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

Monday, April 12, 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. **National County Government Month** – Durham County Government will celebrate National County Government Month (NCGM) during the month of April to showcase how the county achieves healthy, safe and vibrant communities. The theme for this year's celebration of NCGM is "Counties Matter," demonstrating how counties help to improve people's lives every day, especially for local government workers on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic.

Durham County Government will host virtual events each Tuesday and Thursday during the National County Government Month. For more information, please visit [www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov)

2. **COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling List** – The Durham County Department of Public Health has begun contacting the second half of Group 4 to schedule their vaccine. They are now also scheduling everyone ages 16 and older. Citizens are encourage to sign up now by visiting [www.tinyurl.com/DCoSchedulingList](http://www.tinyurl.com/DCoSchedulingList)

3. **Southeast Durham Focus for Comprehensive Plan** – EngageDurham is interested in hearing about housing, transportation and environment concerns for the Sherron Rd, Highway 98, Carpenter Pond Rd and US Highway 70. Take a survey, add comments and engage with other residents at [www.durham.mysocialpoint.com/comprehensiveplan](http://www.durham.mysocialpoint.com/comprehensiveplan).
4. **Operation Medicine Drop** – Have unused or expired medications? Join the Sheriff's Department, Public Health Department and Insight Human Services for Operation Medicine Drop on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm at Walmart Supercenter located on 1525 Glenn School Rd.
5. **Be Prepared for Transition to NC Medicaid Managed Care** - Enrollment is open for NC Medicaid Managed Care through May 15, 2021. Clients will have five healthcare plans to choose from instead of just one Medicaid program. All recipients must go through the enrollment broker MAXIMUS.

In preparation for this, the Durham County Department of Social Services wants everyone to be informed on how to get the most out of your Medicaid benefits by contacting their DCoDSS Case Worker or by visiting [www.ncgov.servicenowservices.com/sp\\_beneficiary](http://www.ncgov.servicenowservices.com/sp_beneficiary)

6. **Durham YouthWorks Program: Develop Your Future Talent** – Interested in volunteering? Young adults have the opportunity to volunteer in any of the three 4-week career pathways sessions over the summer. Sessions are scheduled from June 7<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>; June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 23<sup>rd</sup>; and July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Registration is needed is April 15, 2021 by visiting [www.bit.ly/DurhamYouthWorks](http://www.bit.ly/DurhamYouthWorks). For additional information, please contact James Dickens at [james.dickens@durhamnc.gov](mailto:james.dickens@durhamnc.gov)

7. **Your Time to Weigh in on Durham and Orange FY22 Annual Work Programs** - Each year, a work group with representatives from Durham County, GoTriangle and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization puts together a work program for transit service and infrastructure improvements that will be funded in the next fiscal year (July-June). The draft FY22 Durham County Transit Work Program is now available for a 21-day public review and comment period through April 30.

To comment, please visit <https://goforwardnc.org/county/durham-county/get-involved/>. If you have additional questions, please contact 919-485-7433 or email [publicengagement@gotriangle.org](mailto:publicengagement@gotriangle.org)

Commissioner Allam announced the fastening period of Ramadan would begin on Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and shared additional information on events taken place during that time period. Commissioner Burns expressed interest in including staff retirements and acknowledging birthdays of resident who were 100 years old or in the announcements.

## Minutes

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Jacobs to approve the March 1, 2021 Work Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

## Ceremonial Items

### **21-0201 Resolution – Black Maternal Health Crisis and the Need to Allocate Resources to Address the Issues**

Commissioner Burns read the following proclamation:

#### **BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS AND THE NEED TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE**

- WHEREAS,** the Durham County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis on June 8, 2020 and racism is a root cause of factors influencing the disparities among Black maternal health including access to quality care; and
- WHEREAS,** Black women nationwide, regardless of income or education level, are three to four times more likely to die from preventable pregnancy-related complications; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the NC Department of Health and Human Services, in 2018 32.9% of all births in Durham County were to Black women; and
- WHEREAS,** only 65.5% of those Black women received prenatal care during their first trimester and 25.6% of those Black women first received prenatal care during their second trimester; and
- WHEREAS,** in Durham, Black infants die at a rate over three times that of white infants; and
- WHEREAS,** educational research demonstrates that the service of diverse birth workers, health advocates, community organizations and healthcare providers enhance Black maternal safety and health outcomes; and
- WHEREAS,** Black women deserve to have access to care of their choice through being empowered to make informed decisions based on their needs; and
- WHEREAS,** The Durham County Women’s Commission is calling for investment in increased access to prenatal visits, midwives, doulas, health insurance, postpartum care, childcare, food, safe housing and strong community support networks to augment the quality of Black Maternal healthcare and save lives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Durham Board of County Commissioners, will:

- Examine the healthcare budget to identify and implement ways to allocate funds that directly improve Black maternal health,
- Promote collaboration with community based solutions,
- Publically support local and federal legislation put forth to improve Black maternal health outcomes, and
- Support training efforts to increase the number of credentialed Black, Indigenous and other birth workers, community advocated and medical professionals of color.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, we will proclaim April 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> as Black Maternal Health Awareness Week in Durham County.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Brenda A. Howerton, Chair

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Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

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Nida Allam, Commissioner

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Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Vivian Slade, Chair of the Durham County Women’s Commission stated Black Maternal Health Awareness Week was recognized April 11 – 17, 2021 and the Women’s Commission asked the Board to help address and eliminate maternal health disparities in Durham County. Joy Spencer, Executive Director of Equity Before Birth and Member of the Durham County Women’s Commission explained the Commission received information and responses from local organization who were in need of additional funding and staff to assist with the health crisis.

The Board asked for an overview of County services offered, the system process and details on the partnership with Lincoln Community Health Center to address Black Maternal Health Crisis. Joanne Pierce, General Manger responded she would provide the Board with the requested information. The Board thanked the Durham Women’s Commission for highlighting the Black Maternal Health Crisis and Ms. Spencer for being a community advocator.

**Directive: Vice-Chair Jacobs asked for an overview of County services offered, the system process and details on the partnership with Lincoln Community Health Center to address the Black Maternal Health Crisis.**

**21-0208 Durham County Sheriff’s Office Receives A Full Accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA)**

Clarence Birkhead, Sheriff of Durham County stated Durham County was the third County in the State to receive the full accreditation. He added the auditors noted the Sheriff’s Office was in

100 percent compliance, which was rare for an agency to receive on the first attempt. Sheriff Birkhead provided a brief explanation of the ACA history and accreditation process. Heather Cusher, Sergeant ACA Accreditation for Detention, Durham County Sheriff's Office stated she became the Accreditation Manager and changed the policies, practices and processes to make the detention center safer for the detainees and the staff.

The Board thanked Sheriff Birkhead, Sergeant Cusher and the Sheriff's Office staff for receiving the accreditation and keeping the community safe.

**21-0221 Proclamation – Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Vice-Chair Jacobs read the following proclamation:

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH | 2021**

- WHEREAS,** children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets; and
- WHEREAS,** all children deserve to have the safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities they need to foster their healthy growth and development; and
- WHEREAS,** child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community; and
- WHEREAS,** communities that provide parents with the social support, knowledge of parenting and child development and concrete resources they need to cope with stress and nurture their children ensure all children grow to their full potential; and
- WHEREAS,** effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County received 2,920 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect during fiscal year July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020.
- WHEREAS,** child abuse remains a serious problem in our community affecting our most vulnerable population of children; and
- WHEREAS,** we must continue to make every effort to combat child abuse and neglect by promoting programs that enhance strong and thriving children; and
- WHEREAS,** prevention and awareness remain the best defense for our community in fighting the battle of child abuse and neglect.

**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 April 2021 as

**“CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina, and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

This 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Ben Rose, Director of the Department of Social Services announced Child Abuse Prevention Pinwheels were available to purchase virtually online for a nominal fee. He added Social Services would be making changes over the next couple of years to upstream services provided and help keep families together with strong partnerships and connections in the community. Jovetta Whitfield, Assistant Director of Child and Family Services introduced Elizabeth Ann Granby, Program Manager of Child Protective Services and announced Ms. Granby’s plans to retire. Ms. Granby explained she was proud of the staff and presence in the community at all times to make sure families and children were safe.

The Board thanked Mr. Rose and the Social Services staff for going above and beyond to provide services to families and making sure children are safe in Durham.

**21-0224 Proclamation – Breastfeeding Family Friendly Community**

Commissioner Carter read the following proclamation:

**BREASTFEEDING FAMILY FRIENDLY COMMUNITY | 2021**

- WHEREAS,** families are a priority in Durham County, and part of helping families to thrive is ensuring that they receive community support to develop and sustain healthy lifestyles; and
- WHEREAS,** The American Academy of Pediatrics “...affirms its recommendation of exclusive breastfeeding for about 6 months, followed by continued breastfeeding as complementary foods are introduced, with [the] continuation of breastfeeding for 1 year or longer as mutually desired by mother and infant”; and
- WHEREAS,** The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology states that “Obstetrician–gynecologists and other obstetric care providers should support women and encourage policies that enable women to integrate breastfeeding into their daily lives and in the workplace”; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the American Dietetic Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, and other leading health organizations, breastfeeding and human milk is the optimal way to feed infants; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is associated with lower rates of childhood illness, such as obesity, diabetes, and infectious diseases, as well as reduced risk of maternal

breast and ovarian cancers and faster recovery from childbirth as compared to formula feeding; and

**WHEREAS,** breastfeeding has been shown to promote social-emotional development, benefits the entire family, and is associated with lifelong health and development; and

**WHEREAS,** a parent's decision to feed human milk to infants directly or through expression should be supported by family members and the community; and

**WHEREAS,** promoting best practices in human milk feeding for healthcare providers and clinics to encourage families to start and continue to feed human milk; and

**WHEREAS,** creating a local Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care designation supports the parent's continued breastfeeding with expressing milk after returning to work or school; and

**WHEREAS,** encouraging our local education systems to include breastfeeding and human milk feeding curricula at all levels normalizes breastfeeding; and

**WHEREAS,** collaborating on community resources and building community awareness can positively impact breastfeeding success; and

**WHEREAS,** our community is proud to have attained broad support, and direct community actions including The Durham County Health Department, Chamber of Commerce, Community Health Workers, Lactation support providers, Community advocates; and

**WHEREAS,** by providing a supportive and welcoming environment, a breastfeeding friendly community encourages families of all races, ethnicities, family structures to initiate and continue optimal infant feeding/nursing.

**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 Durham County as a

**“BREASTFEEDING FRIENDLY FAMILY COMMUNITY”**

in Durham County, North Carolina.

This 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Love Anderson, Parent of the Breastfeeding Family Friendly Community, explained due to COVID-19 the year was difficult surrounding birthing and parenting for Durham residents. She added additional work on the program was needed to transform the community and address marginalization due to race, language and cultural issues. Ms. Anderson stated even with the current challenges, she honored to be part of the solution for a breastfeeding friendly family community.

The Board thanked Ms. Anderson for presenting the resolution and assisting with Duke policy changes on breastfeeding.

**21-0240 Memorial Resolution Honoring the Life and Legacy of Mr. Nathaniel B. White, Jr.**

Commissioner Burns read the following resolution:

**HONORING THE LEGACY NATHANIEL BRADSHAW WHITE, JR.**

- WHEREAS,** Nathaniel Bradshaw White, Jr., one of the first five Black undergraduates to attend Duke University in 1963, made his transition on March 19, 2021 in Atlanta, Georgia; and
- WHEREAS,** White was born and raised in Durham, NC and attended Durham Public Schools, graduating from Hillside High School in 1963; and
- WHEREAS,** he continued his formal education at Duke University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics in 1967 and pursued graduate work in mathematical statistics at UNC-Chapel Hill, also taking courses at UNC's School of Public Health; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1969, he was accepted as a commissioned officer in the Public Health Service and began working in epidemiology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and NICHD, now the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; and
- WHEREAS,** during his career, White worked as a consulting statistician participating in clinical trials, reviewing research grants, and serving as section chief for a computer division that supported activities in epidemiology; and
- WHEREAS,** for a time, he returned to his hometown to work on the revitalization of Durham's Hayti neighborhood, the Fayetteville Street Corridor and promoting economic development in Black neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1992, White was appointed director of the Public Health Services Institute and of the Office of Sponsored Research at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia; and
- WHEREAS,** this gifted, pioneering and passionate leader will long be remembered as an amazing life force who worked to open doors for others and helped improve every community in which he lived.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Brenda Howerton Chair of the Durham County Board of Commissioners; and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby resolve to honor the memory of

**NATHANIEL BRADSHAW WHITE, JR.**



We urge all Durham County residents to reflect on his extraordinary legacy of unselfishly mentoring new generations leaders, and his lifetime of work dedicated to making life better for others.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Brenda A. Howerton, Chair

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Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

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Nida Allam, Commissioner

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Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Natalie White, Daughter of Nathaniel Bradshaw White, Jr. accepted the resolution honoring her dad. She reflected on the life, legacy and professional achievements of her dad and his involvement in the community. Gloria Rentrope, President of the Hillside High School Class of 1963 explained Mr. White was a distinguished resident regarded for great work in the Durham and Atlanta communities.

The Board thanked Ms. White and Ms. Rentrope for honoring Mr. White, attending the meeting and offered condolences to the family and friends.

**21-0241 Proclamation – National County Government Month 2021**

Commissioner Allam read the following proclamation:

**NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH | 2021**

- WHEREAS,** the nation’s 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs serving more than 300 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe, and vibrant communities; and
- WHEREAS,** counties provide public health services, administer justice, keep communities safe, foster economic opportunities and much more; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County Government and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and
- WHEREAS,** under the leadership of National Association of Counties President Gary Moore, NACo is demonstrating how “Counties Matter,” especially in supporting residents and businesses during the coronavirus pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs, and services; and

**WHEREAS,** this year’s Durham County’s NCGM programs will celebrate the County’s programs and services through storytelling. Durham County Government will host virtual events each Tuesday and Thursday in April; and

**WHEREAS,** on Tuesdays during National County Government Month, employees will share how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted their personal lives and professional roles and responsibilities on the County’s Facebook page @DurhamCountyGov; and

**WHEREAS,** each Thursday video shorts featuring various County departments will cover how service delivery has changed in light of the coronavirus pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** on Thursday, April 29, the *Ask the Clerk* event will allow the public to connect with the DCo Clerk to the Board to ask questions related to services delivered by the Office to the public and provided to the Board of County Commissioners. The event will be held on Twitter @DurhamCounty.

**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 April 2021 as

**“NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina, and encourage all county officials, employees, schools, and residents to learn more about Durham County Government’s programs and services, as well as, participate in county government celebration activities this month and year-round.

This 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Deborah Craig-Ray, General Manager explained the annual County celebration of National County Government Month would normally be spent celebrating with multiple events and gatherings for employees, however due to COVID-19 the County was highlighting employees independently. She thanked Dawn Dudley and Randy Jones, Public Information Specialist for helping to assist with the County celebration.

The Board thanked Ms. Craig-Ray and staff for highlighting employees for National County Government Month and thanked employees for representing the County and saving lives in the community.

**21-0245 Resolution Supporting the Adoption of State and Federal Legislation to Prohibit Discrimination and Hate Crimes**

Chair Howerton read the following resolution:

**SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION AND HATE CRIMES**

- WHEREAS,** the Durham County Board of County Commissioners affirms that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, and should be able to build a life, raise a family, or start a business, in Durham County without fear of discrimination; and
- WHEREAS,** our residents and culture benefit from being an equitable, diverse, and inclusive community, Durham County encourages those community members, organizations, and businesses whose efforts support a community free from discrimination; and
- WHEREAS,** equity, diversity and inclusion also contribute to a strong local economy, commercial activities within Durham County should support, and incorporate, those values in their business practices; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County residents strongly support protecting all people from the indignity of discrimination; and
- WHEREAS,** LGBTQ people in North Carolina are still vulnerable to discrimination in many areas of life – including education, housing, healthcare, public spaces and the workplace because of a lack of statewide nondiscrimination protections; and
- WHEREAS,** many North Carolinians mistakenly believe that LGBTQ people do not experience discrimination in these areas, but according to a June 2020 study conducted by the Center for American Progress, 1 in 3 LGBTQ people – including 3 in 5 transgender people – have experienced discrimination in the past year; and
- WHEREAS,** on January 20, 2021, President Joseph Biden issued an Executive Order recognizing that the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Bostock v. Clayton County*, 590 U.S. \_\_\_\_ (2020), holding that Title VII’s prohibition on discrimination “because of . . . sex” covers discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation, applied to other Federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex and ordered all Federal agencies to take necessary implementing action; and
- WHEREAS,** there is currently pending Federal legislation, H.R.5, the Federal Equality Act, co-sponsored by Representative Price, which will amend several civil rights statutes to make explicit that the term sex includes sexual orientation and gender identity and extend those protections in areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. The bill also expands the definition of public accommodations to include places or establishments that provide (1) exhibitions, recreation, exercise, amusement, gatherings, or displays; (2) goods, services, or programs; and (3) transportation services; and
- WHEREAS,** racial and national origin discrimination can take many forms, including not permitting people to wear their hair in styles native to their history and national identity; and

**WHEREAS,** in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, H.R. 5309, the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair Act of 2020 (CROWN Act) was introduced and passed by the House of Representatives in order to prohibit discrimination based on the texture and style of hair; and

**WHEREAS,** the most recent report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation on hate crimes shows that they have increased to a 10 year high and that hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, comprise 20% of all reported hate crimes; and those based on race or ethnicity comprise almost 60% of all reported hate crimes; and

**WHEREAS,** there is currently pending State legislation, the Equality for All Act, H450/S396, sponsored in each chamber, respectively, by Rep. Morey, Rep. Alston, and Sen Woodard, which will amend several state statutes and enact others to provide uniform state-wide protection from discrimination to multiple classifications of people in multiple parts of their life, including employment, public accommodations, housing, provision of credit, and education; and

**WHEREAS,** there is currently pending State legislation, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, H354, sponsored by Rep. Morey which will amend existing statutes and enact new ones, expanding the definition of hate crimes to include those based on sexual orientation and gender identity, creating a new offense of felonious assault for hate crimes which result in serious bodily injury, creating a civil cause of action against the perpetrators of hate crimes, creating a statewide database for the collection of information regarding hate crimes and mandating training for law enforcement and District Attorneys on hate crimes; and

**WHEREAS,** the foregoing demonstrates the need for uniform standards to define and prohibit discriminatory practices, and effective processes to hold persons accountable for their actions.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Durham County, that:

1. All of the County's residents are called upon to treat all persons with respect and dignity and we call upon all businesses in our community to adopt non-discrimination policies and procedures for their employees and patrons.
2. The General Assembly is called upon to pass the Equality for All Act and thereby enact substantive and enforceable statewide non-discrimination protections in the areas of employment, public accommodations, housing, provision of credit, and education.
3. The General Assembly is called upon to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and thereby provide mechanisms to hold perpetrators of those offenses responsible for their conduct and provide training to others in the criminal justice system so that will properly understand the nature, impact, and importance of addressing these offenses.
4. Our State's Federal legislative delegation is called upon to support passage of the pending Federal Equality Act.

5. When it is re-introduced, our State’s Federal legislative delegation is called upon to support passage of the CROWN Act of 2021.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

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Brenda A. Howerton, Chair

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Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

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Nida Allam, Commissioner

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Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

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Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Allam to approve the resolution supporting the adoption of State and Federal Legislation to Prohibit Discrimination and Hate Crimes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Howerton read the following statement:

*Hatred and discrimination against people who are different, for whatever reason, has been an issue for centuries. And while progress has been made, there is still so much more to be done. Events over the past year have shown that all too clearly.*

*In Durham we know that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, and should be able to build a life, raise a family, or start a business, in Durham County without fear of discrimination.*

*In Durham we know that this is not only the right thing to do for people who may have traditionally suffered from discrimination, but that all of our residents, and the culture and economy of Durham benefit from being part of a community where equity, diversity and inclusion are part of the ethos.*

*At the same time, the situation in Durham is not present in all the State of North Carolina, or the rest of the United States, and action is needed to change that.*

*ABC11 stated:*

*Both federal and state civil rights protect against discrimination based on race, color, creed, religion, sex and national origin - but not sexual orientation or gender identity. The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed the Equality Act, which would add those terms, but the legislation faces an uncertain future in the more conservative senate.*

*The LGBTQ community has long campaigned for those changes to protect against claims of discrimination in education, access to credit, jury service, federal funding,*

*housing and public accommodations, among other things.*

*"Discrimination in my eyes is marginalizing any of people"*

*County staff, Attorney Massey: have been working on a non-discrimination ordinance and in their research identified legislative proposals at the State and Federal Level to amend the non-discrimination laws and extend the protections of multiple statutes in the areas of employment, public accommodations, housing, education, and health care both to include new groups, and further extend the activities where protection is provided.*

*Enacting those statutes will provide uniform standards across our State and Country, and hopefully the resources to change the culture of our State and Country.*

*And that is what is truly needed, more than individual islands of protection provided by individual Cities and Counties, are statewide, and nationwide, laws, properly resourced and implemented to create a common culture of respect for people individuality, their identity, their culture, quite simply, who they are, either by choice, or birth.*

*And so, we, the Board of County Commissioners, have adopted this resolution recognizing the initiatives undertaken by some elected representatives to achieve that goal, and calling upon the community, to support these initiatives. Understanding the attorneys are working on the process and it takes time.*

Commissioner Burns stated the Board created the resolution to cover as many people as possible and was the first step in the process. Commissioner Carter explained the resolution covered and protected all Durham residents; adding this would help people make Durham home, feel safe and welcomed in the community. Vice-Chair Jacobs stated the Board wanted to make the public aware of bills that were in Legislation and wanted to speak up for all of Durham. She added issues were being raised against transgender youth and voter's rights and action was being taken with seven (7) other government entities.

The Board thanked Curtis Massey, Senior Assistant County Attorney for his advice addressing legal matters and language in the resolution.

## **Consent Agenda**

Chair Howerton asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Jacobs requested to comment on the following:

- Item 21-0233 – Vice Chair Jacobs commended the City of Durham for committing \$935,488 annually to expand Bull City United with eighteen new positions.

Hearing no additional comments, Chair Howerton entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

21-0180 Intergovernmental Agreement with the United States Marshals Service and the Durham County Sheriff's Office

\*21-0191 Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA00029 Appropriating \$1,008,885 in Debt Services Fund Fund Balance and Transferring the Funding to PAYGO Fund to fund the first two years of the Durham County Sheriff's Office Body-Worn Camera Project Budget Amendment No. 21BCC0000101 Appropriating \$124,460 of General Fund Fund Balance in FY 2020-21 to Durham County Sheriff's Office IT fund center to offset Body-Worn Camera Project operating expenses and contractual cost incurred this fiscal year; and Approval of associated contract for the Body-Worn Camera Project

\*21-0206 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000102 Recognizing \$55,174.36 in Grant Funding from Alliance Health to the Durham County Sheriff's Office for Medication Assisted Treatment

\*21-0207 Capital Project No, 21CAP000028 transferring \$100,000 of 2016 General Obligation Bond Funding from DPS DSA Boiler Replacement Project (SH286) to DPS Security Vestibule Project (SH268) to complete the project

\*21-209 Capital Project Amendment No. 21CPA000030 Creating a Sheriff IT Life Cycle Replacement Capital Project (4310DC093) for the Durham County Sheriff's Office to Provide \$3,393,221 for Four Fiscal Years Utilizing Future Issuance of Bank Financing

21-0212 Contract Amendment – Recovery Innovations for Tele Mental Health Services at Detention Center

21-0214 Request Refund of Payment of Excise Tax Wyatt, Early, Harris, Wheeler

21-0217 Utilities Division Collection System Scheduled and Emergency Repair Contract Amendment with Carolina Civilworks, Inc.

21-0218 Request Refund of Payment of Excise Tax

21-0220 Award Contract for the Detention Center Cooler Freezer Restoration to Hobart Service

21-2223 Laboratory Services Contract Amendment with Meritech, Inc.

\*21-0225 Approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000100 Appropriating \$260,000 Risk Management Fund Fund Balance to cover unplanned COVID-19 and Workers Compensation related expenses

21-0231 Durham County Library: No Charge for Printing and Copying in the Remainder of FY 2020-21

21-0233 Approval of Interlocal Agreement with The City of Durham To Expand Bull City United

\*21-0234 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC000103 for Cooperative Extension to Appropriate \$16,250 of General Fund fund balance to Provide Operating Funding for the County-Wide Created Food Security Coordinated Positions

\*21-0235 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC0000104 to reduce Social Services The North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCDRR) Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) and Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) and for the Department of Social Services to reduce recognized funds in the amount of \$2,451,036 bringing the total NCORR funding to \$7,714,447

\*21-0236 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 21BCC0000105 for Public Health to Recognize \$2,574,826 from the NC DHHS Division of Public Health Epidemiology/Communicable Disease Branch for Covid-9 Related-Activities

21-0238 Adopt the Resolution related to Not to Exceed \$225,000,000 Limited Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A & 2021B

Consent Agenda Item #21-0191

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21CPA000029**

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	Current Budget	Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
4310DC092-Body Worn Camera Project	\$0	\$1,008,885	\$1,008,885

Adopted this the 12th day of April 2021.

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**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000101**

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	\$72,769,015	\$124,460	\$72,893,475
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Sources	\$41,837,267	\$124,460	\$41,961,727
<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$142,208,582	\$1,008,885	\$143,217,467
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$141,400,166	\$1,008,885	\$142,409,051

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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Consent Agenda Item #21-0206

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000102**

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	\$72,893,475	\$55,174	\$72,948,649
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$84,345,642	\$55,174	\$84,400,816

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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Consent Agenda Item #21-0207

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21CPA000028**

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.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase/ Decrease</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
16 GO Bond- Durham School of the Arts – Boiler Replacement (SH286)	\$721,645	(\$100,000)	\$621,645
16 GO Bond- Security Vestibule (SH268)	\$3,010,826	\$100,000	\$3,110,826
Totals	\$3,732,471	0.00	\$3,732,471

Adopted this the 12th day of April 2021.

Consent Agenda Item #21-0209

**DURHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
2020-21 Capital Project Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21CPA000030**

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.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase/ Decrease</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
4310DC093-Sheriff IT Life Cycle Replacement Project	\$0	\$3,393,221	\$3,393,221

Adopted this the 12th day of April 2021.

Consent Agenda Item #21-0225

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000100**

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>
<b><u>RISK MANAGEMENT FUND</u></b>			
<u>Expenditure</u>			
General Government	\$4,513,290	\$260,000	\$4,773,290
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$663,485	\$260,000	\$923,485

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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Consent Agenda Item #21-0234

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000103**

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>			
Economic and Physical Development	\$9,238,234	\$16,250	\$9,254,484
<u>Revenue</u>			
Other Financing Services	\$41,961,727	\$16,250	\$41,977,977

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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Consent Agenda Item #21-0235

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000104**

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	\$115,794,302	(\$2,451,036)	\$113,343,266
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$84,400,816	(\$2,451,036)	\$81,949,780

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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Consent Agenda Item #21-0236

**Durham County, North Carolina  
2020-2021 Budget Ordinance  
Amendment Number 21BCC000105**

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	\$113,940,968	\$2,574,826	\$116,515,794
<u>Revenue</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$81,949,780	\$2,574,826	\$84,524,606

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

Approved April 12, 2021

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**Other Business**

**21-0242 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 shared the *COVID-19/Vaccine Distribution Updates* which highlighted the following: COVID-19 Prevention Strategies, Current COVID-19 Statistics, Current Race and Ethnicity Trends, Percent Positive Labs Reported Electronically, CDC Vaccine updates for Durham County Residents, NCDHHS Vaccine Updates for Durham County Residents, Vaccine Dashboard Data for Durham County Residents and Vaccine Equity.

Commissioner Allam announced that it was ok for residents who were fasting to take the vaccination shot as the vaccination would not break the fast – asking that they be sure to drink plenty of water. She thanked Mr. Jenkins and religious leaders in the community for informing fasting residents about the vaccination.

The Board asked if more black and brown residents were getting vaccinated and inquired about the Johnson & Johnson vaccination statistics. Mr. Jenkins responded he was seeing more diversity in the residents coming to get vaccinated; adding that residents were now requesting certain vaccinations. With regards to the statistics, he stated the County administered about 800 Johnson & Johnson vaccinations through partners in the community, churches and other special event vaccination sites. The Board thanked Mr. Jenkins for the PowerPoint presentation and for working on vaccine equity.

**Closed Session**

Chair Howerton stated the board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session for the following:

- To establish or to instruct the public body’s staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and

other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract; pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5).

Commissioner Allam moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Jacobs to adjourn into the Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Reconvene to Open Session**

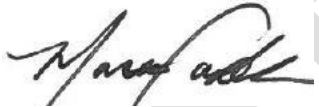
Chair Howerton announced the Board met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Burns moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Jacobs to recess the Regular Session meeting at 9:53 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton  
Deputy Clerk to the Board