

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Monday, February 5, 2001

9:00 A.M. Worksession

AGENDA

1. Citizen Comment—Ralph McKinney

Mr. Ralph McKinney has requested time on the agenda to make comments to the Commissioners.

2. Lincoln Community Health Center—Presentation on Impact of Recent Trends on LCHC

Lincoln Community Health Center will provide a brief presentation regarding the status of LCHC, specific trends and changes LCHC is experiencing, and how the trends and changes are affecting LCHC.

Resource Person(s): Dr. Evelyn Schmidt, Executive Director, Lincoln Community Health Center

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners receive the presentation, ask questions, and provide any feedback to LCHC as it may deem appropriate.

3. Durham Health Partners Inc.—Presentation on Durham County Health Needs Assessment

Durham Health Partners Inc. will introduce its organization to the Board of County Commissioners and include a brief history of Durham Health Partners along with its mission and rationale for conducting a study of Durham County's health needs. Results of the needs assessment will be presented, as well as an outline of the steps planned to address the top five issue areas.

Resource Person(s): Ruth Mary Meyer, Chair, Board of Directors; James Russell, Executive Director; and Janna Harton, Director of Planning, Durham Health Partners

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners receive the presentation and provide feedback on the approach outlined to address Durham County's health needs.

4. Treatment Plant Project Update and Discussion of Environmental Building Design

This item will be an update to the Board on the status of the Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant (TWWTP) Improvement Project. The Board will also be requested to provide direction regarding the use of sustainable building design for the new office and laboratory building.

The upgrade and expansion of the Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant will reduce the potential for flooding by replacing outdated facilities, improve the treatment by providing for nitrogen removal, and increase available capacity for additional customers and future economic development. Phase I of the project includes replacement of the influent pump station and construction of an effluent pump station, including post aeration and ultraviolet disinfection facilities. Phase II of the project includes the five stage biological treatment process, clarifiers, filters, sludge handling and an office, laboratory, and maintenance building.

Three of the major issues to be discussed with the Board are summarized below:

The Board previously requested that staff evaluate the feasibility of pumping some or all of the flow at the Triangle Plant to the City's south Durham facility. A report was completed and presented to the BOCC, which demonstrated that the upgrade and expansion of the TWWTP was the most economical alternative. Subsequently, the Board requested that Triangle J COG facilitate discussions to determine if the City is amenable to negotiating the costs associated with pumping flow to the City's plant.

The forces requiring the completion of this project are the pending nutrient removal requirements and the need for additional capacity to continue to serve the Research Triangle Park and surrounding areas. House Bill 515 adopted in 1997 includes nitrogen limits that are expected to impact the County on March 1, 2001, when the current discharge permit is renewed. In addition, flow to the plant is expected to reach the current permitted capacity of 6 MGD in 2003. Based on the current project schedule, the construction is expected to be completed in 2003.

Durham County is co-sponsoring the "Triangle J Region Guideline for Sustainable Public Facility Design and Development" project which is nearing completion. These guidelines are expected to be similar to the U. S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System. This program promotes the use of sustainable building design and construction practices. The major benefits of this approach are energy efficiency, improved indoor environment, pollution prevention and recycling, and improved operations. Staff is requesting direction from the Board regarding the use of this approach in the design of the new office and laboratory building. Additional design costs for this approach are estimated to be \$25,000. This includes additional architectural and engineering costs and third party certification required for a rating by the Green Building Council.

Resource Person(s): Wendell Davis, Deputy County Manager; Glen Whisler, County Engineer; Chuck Hill, Utility Division Manager; and Tim Baldwin and Bryan Blake, McKim and Creed

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager's recommendation is that the Board receive the project update and provide direction as appropriate regarding the LEED program.

5. Triangle Transit Authority (TTA)—Motor Vehicle Registration Tax

The Triangle Transit Authority (TTA) will make a presentation regarding the existing Motor Vehicle Registration Tax and TTA's plan to seek legislation to increase the tax in the 2001 Legislative Session. Increased tax revenues would go towards funding an expansion of TTA's current bus service and planned regional rail project in year 2007.

Resource Person(s): William V. Bell, TTA Board Member, and James Ritchie, TTA Executive Director

County Manager's Recommendation: The Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners receive the presentation and provide TTA representatives with feedback regarding their plan to move forward to increase the tax in the General Assembly.

6. Discussion of Proposed Board of County Commissioner Goals

On January 16, 2001, the Durham Board of County Commissioners and senior management staff held a planning retreat. At that time, the Board reviewed the County's mission statement, suggested some changes to its previous vision statement, and formulated four proposed goals.

Resource Person(s): Chairman MaryAnn E. Black

County Manager's Recommendation: Discuss the details of the four proposed goals and direct staff.

7. Discussion of Proposed Items for the 2001 Durham County Legislative Agenda

At the January worksession, staff presented the first draft of proposed legislative items. After an extensive discussion period, staff was directed to make some modifications to the proposed items, bring forward some additional items, and bring the item back for a second round of discussions. The overall objective is to produce a final succinct package that can be aggressively pursued in the long session of the General Assembly.

Staff has attempted to further categorize the proposed items using a priority system similar to one that has been utilized by the Board in the past. In addition, several items approved as part of the North Carolina Association's Legislative Goals package have been included.

Resource Person(s): Deborah Craig-Ray and Chuck Kitchen

County Manager's Recommendation: Discuss the items and direct staff to place the adoption of the 2001 Legislative Agenda on the Board's February 12, 2001 agenda.

8. North Carolina Small Cities Community Development Block Grant

The Board is requested to consider development of an application for funding of water and/or sewer improvements in the Ellison Heights community through the North Carolina Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Infrastructure Category program.

During discussion of land use issues in the Kentington Heights area, several citizens requested that consideration be given to installation of water and/or sewer lines in the Ellison Heights area and suggested that the County apply for CDBG funding. The North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Assistance, has indicated that

funding for these types of projects is competitive due to the number of water and sewer needs across the State.

In considering this request, the Board is reminded that the CIP includes several water and sewer projects in other areas that have been identified as having significant problems. Ellison Heights has not been included as a project area.

Should the Board wish to pursue CDBG funding for water and sewer projects, it is recommended that a consultant familiar with the CDBG application process assist the County in requesting funding. It is also recommended that the other projects currently identified in the CIP be considered for CDBG funding along with Ellison Heights.

Resource Person(s): Wendell Davis, Deputy County Manager, Glen Whisler, County Engineer, Marcia Margotta, Policy Analyst

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board provide direction to staff regarding development of a request for CDBG funding and hiring a consultant to assist with the process.