



Credit: Research Triangle Foundation of NC



Credit: Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau

# Durham County Government Chairman's 2011 State of the County Address

Presented by Chairman Michael D. Page  
March 14, 2011

# Durham Board of County Commissioners



**Chairman  
Michael Page**



**Vice Chairman  
Ellen Reckhow**



**Commissioner  
Joe Bowser**



**Commissioner  
Becky Heron**



**Commissioner  
Brenda Howerton**

An aerial, black and white photograph of a city skyline. The foreground features a large, modern, multi-story office building with a grid-like facade. To its right is a large parking lot with several cars. In the background, a variety of other buildings, including a prominent cylindrical tower with a conical top, are visible against a backdrop of dense trees. The overall scene is a panoramic view of a city center.

**2011  
State of the  
County Overview**

**BUDGET**  
**PROGRAMS**  
**FUNDING**  
**CITIZENS**  
**ECONOMY**  
**2011**  
**CIP**  
**MANDATES**  
**SERVICES**  
**REDUCTIONS**  
**CRITICAL**

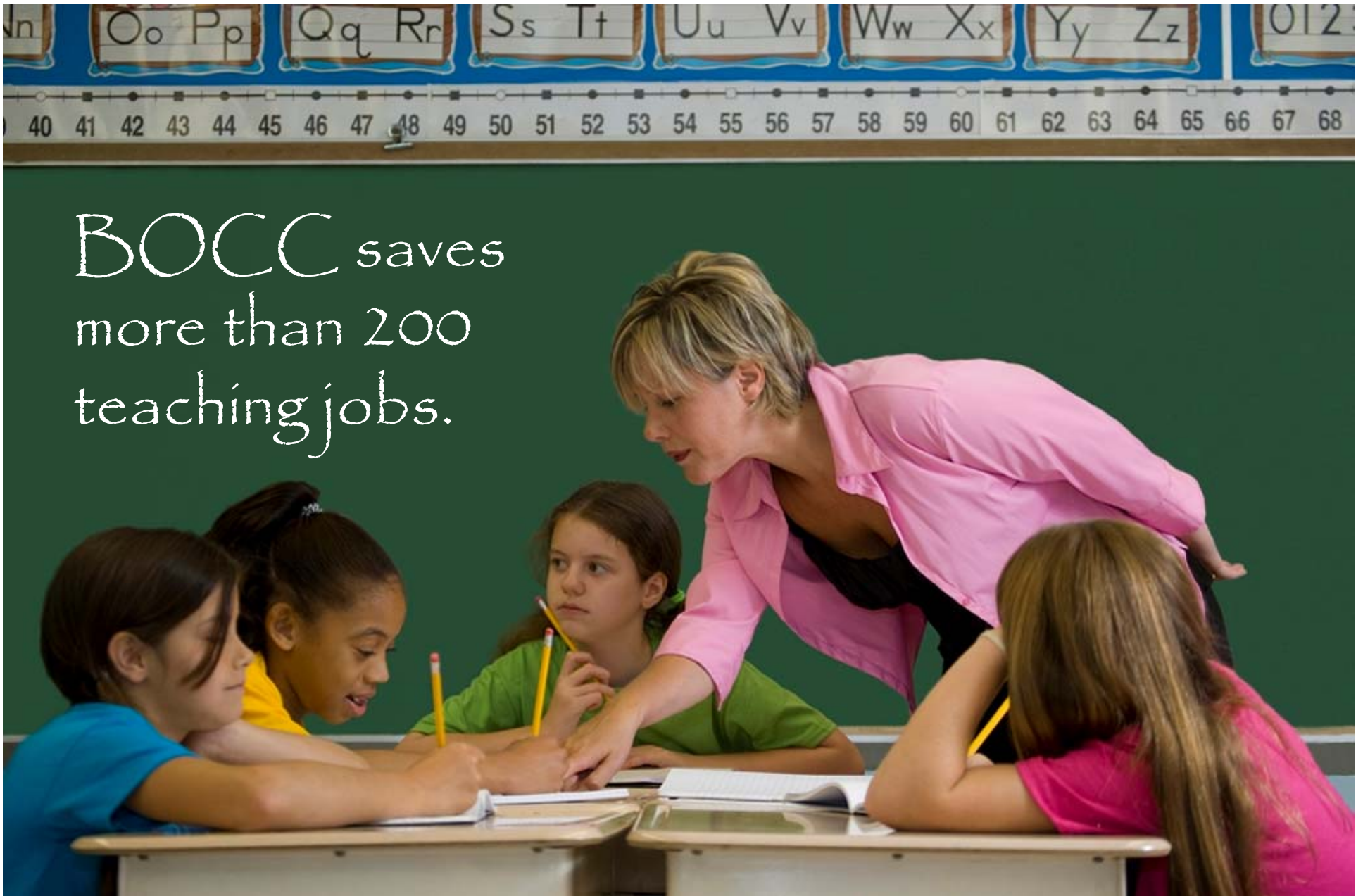
Reflections  
on  
2010 Budget



BOCC invites the community to weigh in their priorities regarding the 2010-2011 spending plan.



BOCC saves  
more than 200  
teaching jobs.





## Durham County Government

- Makes budget cuts with limited service reductions.
- Makes internal cuts.
- Freezes vacant positions.
- Reduces library hours.
- Increases various fees.
- Makes modest tax increase by 3.07 cents.



Durham County's  
budget situation was not unique in 2010.

Many counties across  
North Carolina faced budget challenges.



## According to NCACC

- 16 of 100 NC counties increased taxes.
- 49 NC counties cut budgets again from previous year.
- 44 counties cut positions; nearly 600 county workers lose their jobs.
- 7 counties implemented furloughs.
- 49 counties cut operations.
- 50 counties used their fund balance to make up for state cuts.



# NC Counties Use Various Strategies to Reduce Budget

- Reducing paid holidays.
- Eliminations of employee 401K plans.
- Salary decreases and reductions.
- Use of some, or all, lottery funds to pay school debt service.
- Reducing funding for schools systems.
- Putting off moving forward with planned capital projects.
- Delaying renovations and repairs.



# North Carolina's 2010 Budget



The State of NC approves a \$19 billion budget.

NC Governor Bev Perdue characterizes the 2010 budget as being structured with “big cuts and hard choices.”



Credit: Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau



## North Carolina's 2010 Budget

- No raises for state employees.
- Major cuts in funding to capital dollars, human services, education, and more.



# 2010 Election Divides Government



**General Assembly convened in January 2010 with a change in leadership.**

# State Change in Leadership

- For the first time since the late 1800's, the Republican Party controls both chambers of the General Assembly.
- North Carolina continues to experience competing political perspectives as the state grapples with a struggling economy.





## State Change in Leadership

There will be months before North Carolina counties know how deeply the changes in the House and Senate will impact the upcoming budget.



## State's Impact on Counties

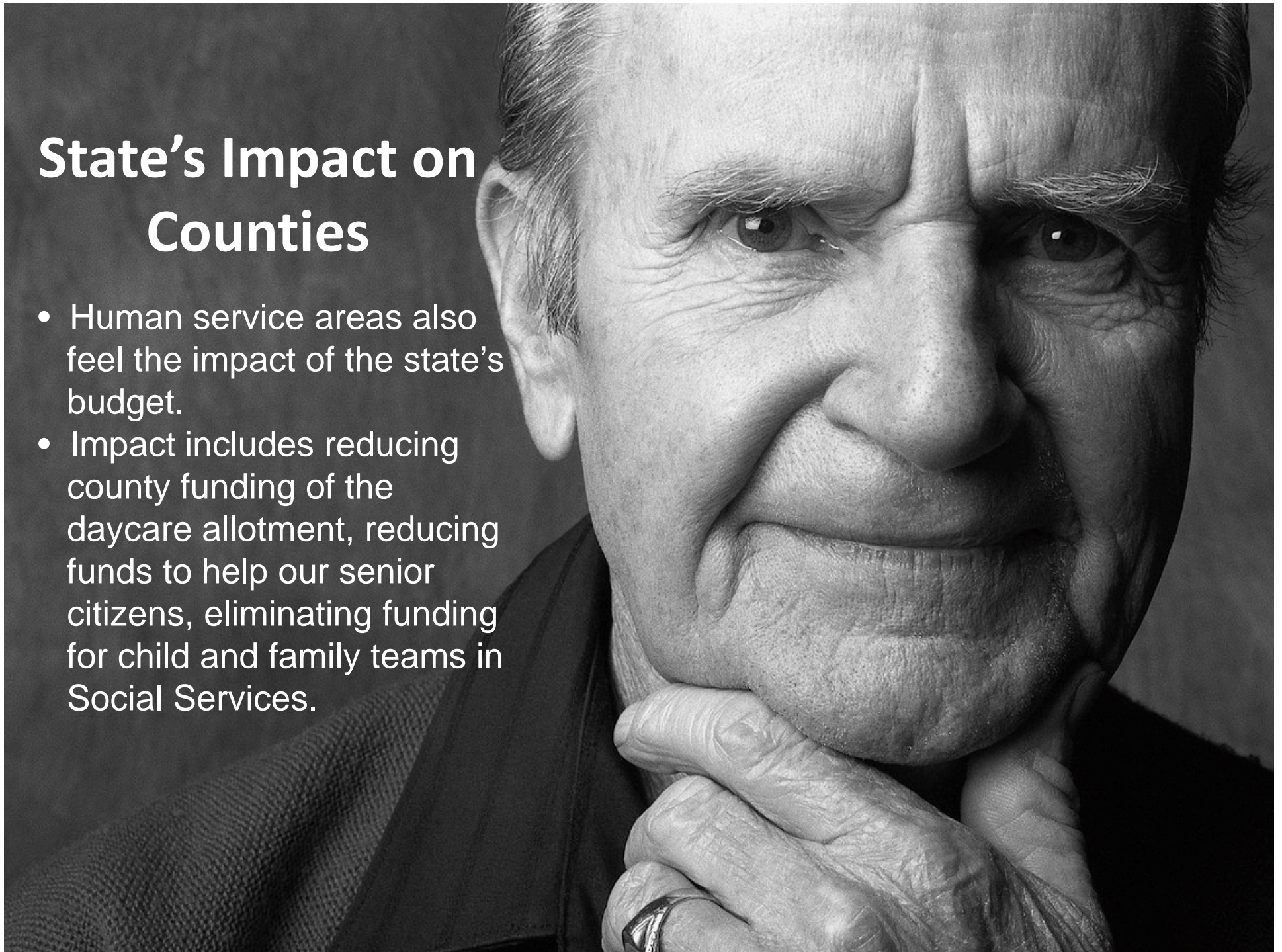
Some of the impacts to counties from the Governor's budget include:

- shifting school bus replacement funding to counties,
- shifting defense and claims payments for local school tort claims,
- transferring the cost of workers compensation costs...



# State's Impact on Counties

- Human service areas also feel the impact of the state's budget.
- Impact includes reducing county funding of the daycare allotment, reducing funds to help our senior citizens, eliminating funding for child and family teams in Social Services.



A black and white collage of US currency. The top left shows a close-up of a quarter coin with the word "LIBERTY" and the profile of George Washington. The top right shows a portion of a one-dollar bill with the number "100". The bottom left shows a close-up of a dime coin with the word "ONE" and the profile of Franklin D. Roosevelt. The bottom right shows a close-up of a dime coin with the words "THE FIRST STATE".

# Financial Vitality and Economic Development



## **Durham Fares Well in Comparison to Other Counties**

- **Durham County continues to be a financially well managed county.**
- **Despite the economic downturn, Durham County is 1 of 22 counties in this nation with a Triple A bond rating from S&P, Moody's and Fitch.**

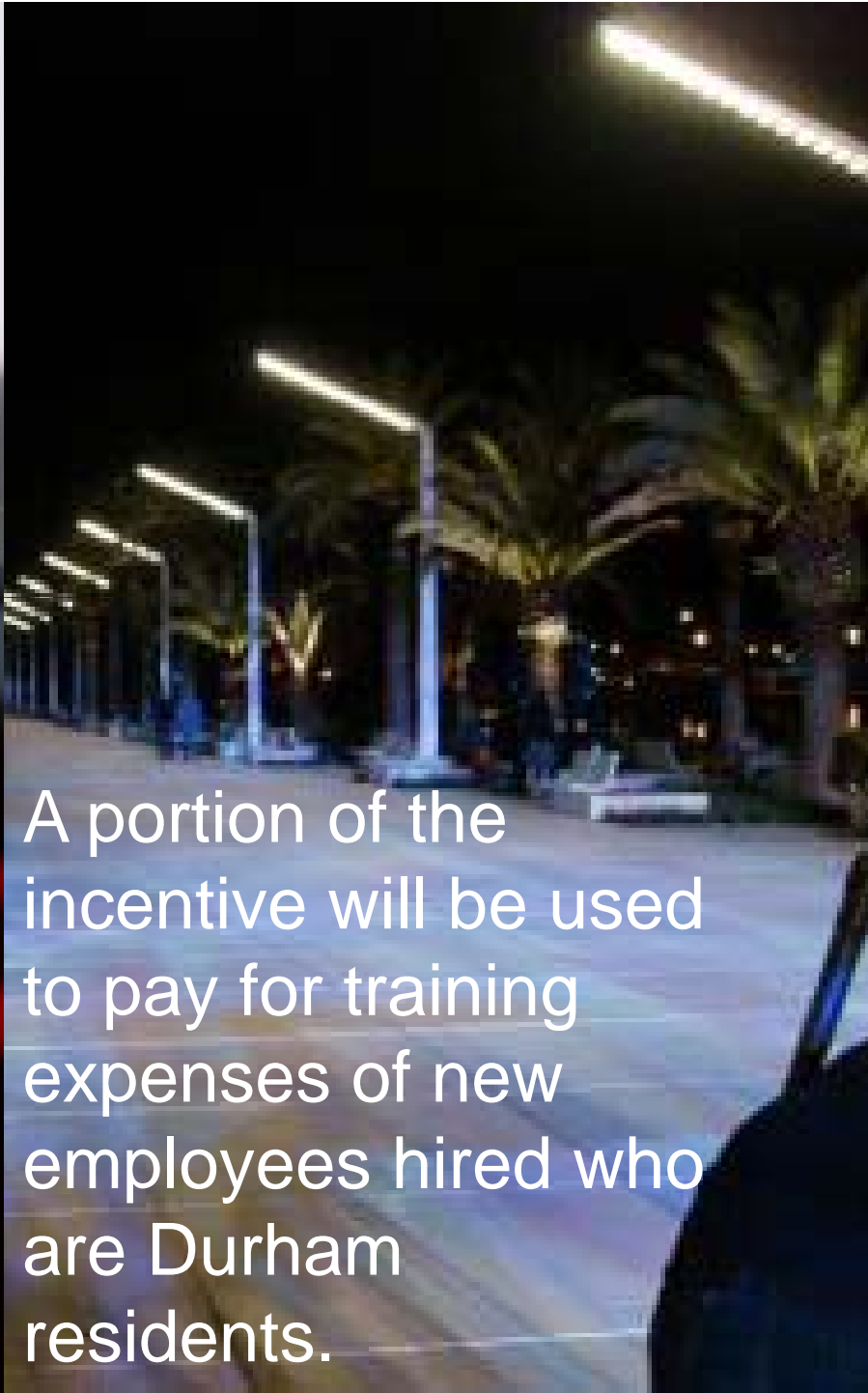


## **Durham Fares Well in Comparison to Other Counties**

- **Durham County achieves the highest ever percentage of tax collections.**
- **98.88% of taxes collected for this period.**



Durham Board of County Commissioners provides \$2 million economic incentive contract to CREE.



A portion of the incentive will be used to pay for training expenses of new employees hired who are Durham residents.

# Durham Receives Accolades



Keith Crisco

NC Secretary of Commerce

Secretary Crisco compliments Durham for being one of the **“drivers out of the recession...”**

# Capital Improvement Projects



# Durham County Courthouse



County saves \$25 million on the project from the original budget.

Groundbreaking took place in March 2010.



# Durham County Human Services Complex



First phase of the Human Services Complex nears completion.

# Durham County Libraries



Credit: Research Triangle Foundation of NC



Credit: Research Triangle Foundation of NC

County opens new South Regional Library and renovated Southwest Regional Library.



# Durham County Libraries



Southwest Regional Library expands to a full service 25,000 sqft. building.

# Durham County Memorial Stadium



County invests nearly \$8 million to upgrade the stadium's playing field, track, locker rooms, concessions, bleachers and press box.



# Durham Public Schools



Bonds approved in 2007 help to build the new City of Medicine Academy.

# Durham Public Schools



2007 Bonds also support DPS' newest elementary Sandy Ridge Elementary School set to open later this year.

A close-up photograph of several hands of different skin tones clasped together in a circle. The hands are wearing various colored sleeves: green, red, white, brown, and teal. The background is a plain, light color.

# Durham County Collaboratives



# Census 2010



- Durham City and County Governments came together to reach out to as many households as possible for a complete count of Durham's residents.
- Recent numbers reveal that Durham's current population is 267,587.



# NC Missions of Mercy



Durham County Health Department and General Services supported the NC Missions of Mercy free dental clinic for adults in March 2010.

Durham County collaborated with the NC Dental Society, the City of Durham, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation and others for the effort that served nearly 1,000 people during a two-day visit to Durham.





# Durham County Stand Down

- Durham County held its first-ever *Stand Down* for area veterans in the fall of 2010.
- The effort was a part of the fourth annual Project Homeless Connect.

AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE

# 100 BEST COMMUNITIES



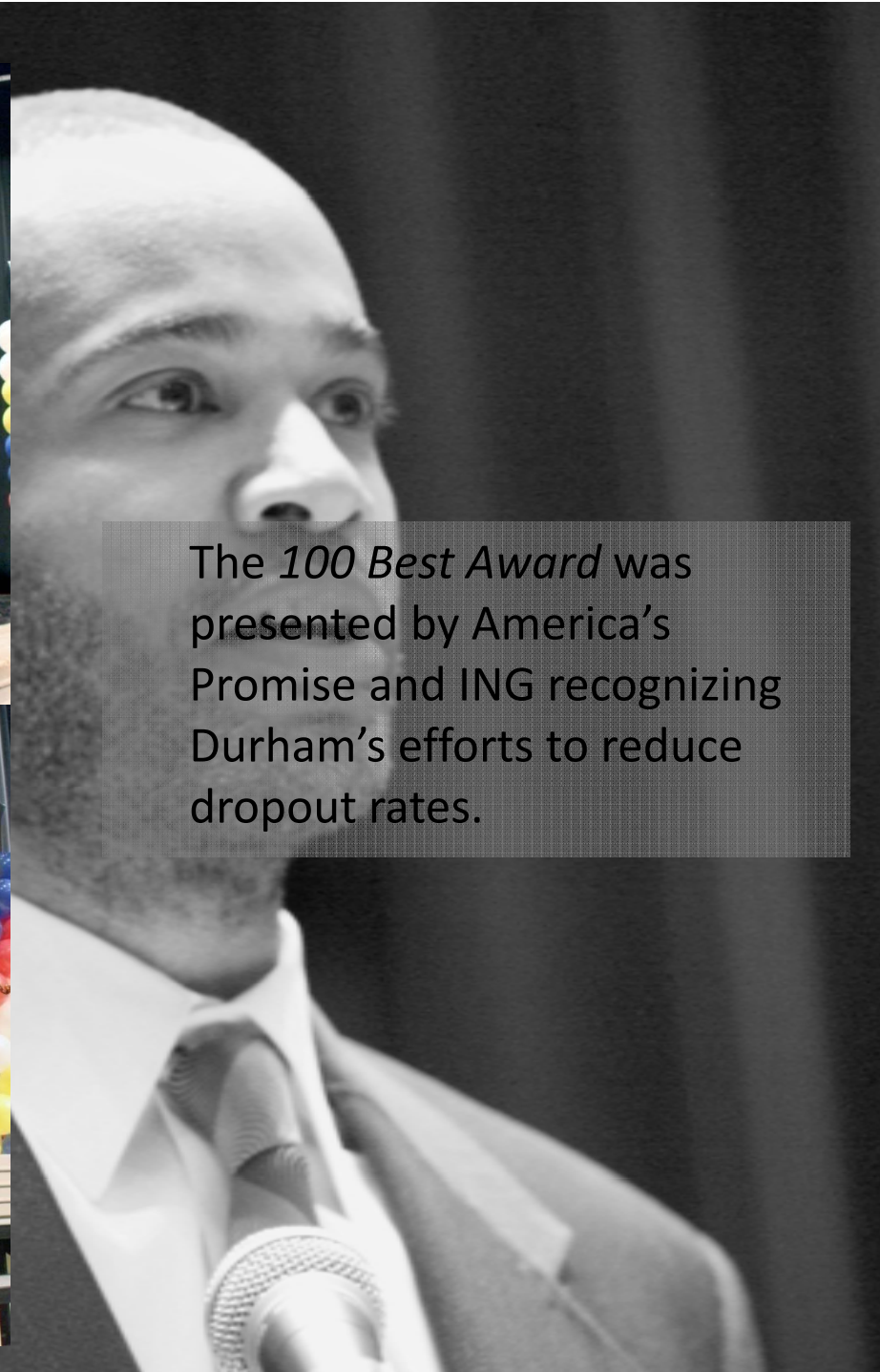
For Young People

**Durham Named one of the Nation's  
100 Best Communities for Young People**

PRESENTED BY

**ING** 





The *100 Best Award* was presented by America's Promise and ING recognizing Durham's efforts to reduce dropout rates.





# Accomplishments

# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Employees

NC Association of  
Registers of Deeds'  
Charles Moore  
Award Recipient

**Sharon Davis**

Deputy Register of  
Deeds



# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Employees

FBI National  
Academy Program  
graduate

**Lt. Will Oakley, III**

Durham County  
Sheriff's Office





# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Employees

Named Reading is  
Fundamental  
Ambassador for NC

**Karlene Fyffe**

Durham County  
Library



# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Employees

Romance Writers of  
America's Librarian  
of the Year Award

**Jennifer Lohmann**

Durham County  
Library



# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Departments

- **Durham County Tax Administration**
  - Joseph E. Hunt Distinguished Jurisdiction Award
- **Criminal Justice Resource Center and The Durham Center's Durham Assessment Team**
  - 2010 LGFCU Employee Productivity Award from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners



# Durham County Government's Award-Winning Departments

- **Durham Soil and Water Conservation District**
  - 2010 “District of the Year” for North Carolina
- **The Durham Center's**
  - Received \$6 million grant to help high-risk 16-21 year olds who experience serious mental, social and academic issues



# In the News



Durham County uses cable TV, websites and newly installed electronic kiosks to inform residents of the County's latest happenings.





**A Look Ahead**

An aerial photograph of Durham, North Carolina, showing a dense urban area with numerous buildings, streets, and green spaces. The image is in black and white. A large black rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text and a bulleted list. The text and list are centered within the box.

## Durham North Carolina is...

- Ranked the #1 Place to Retire
- The #4 Best City for College Graduates
- Named the 4<sup>th</sup> Most Affordable City in America.
- Ranked the #4 Brainiest Bastion in America.

# BOCC's Strategic Plan 2011-2012



Chairman Michael Page

BOCC will eventually involve the community in the goal setting process for the 2011-2012 Strategic Plan.



Vice Chairman Ellen Reckhow



Commissioner Joe Bowser



Commissioner Becky Heron



Commissioner Brenda Howerton



# BOCC's Strategic Plan 2011-2012

- **New Mission Statement**

- Durham County provides fiscally responsible, quality services necessary to promote a healthy, safe and vibrant community.

- **New Vision Statement**

- Durham County: A thriving, vibrant, diverse community with abundant opportunity for all residents to live, work, learn, play and grow.

A black and white photograph showing a hand placing a puzzle piece into a larger puzzle. The puzzle pieces are cut out from US dollar bills. The background shows parts of a \$100 bill with the portrait of Benjamin Franklin and the word 'HUNDRED'. The puzzle piece being placed shows a map of North Carolina. Other puzzle pieces show parts of a \$20 bill with the number '20' and the signature of John U. The text 'SERIES 2003' and 'B 58' are also visible on the puzzle pieces.

# Durham County Budget 2011-2012

## Budget 2011-2012

- Headlines that show budget battles spinning out of control in statehouses across the country.
- Employees across the country are being required to take furloughs to avoid layoffs.





## Budget 2011-2012

- More budget reductions forecast for Durham County Government.
- County to consider collaboration, consolidation and all opportunities for a balanced budget.



# Budget 2011-2012

- Governor's budget already details some fiscal cuts to counties.
- Durham County Government must be prepared to handle financial challenges as a result of state's budget.





## Budget 2011-2012

- Durham County's experienced board members and administrative team to meet this year's fiscal challenges head-on.
- Focus on providing Durham County residents with services they deserve.

# Chairman Wants to Hear from Citizens



Chairman Michael Page

- Beginning Wednesday, April 6 Chairman Page will maintain regular office hours to meet face-to-face with citizens to address questions, concerns and suggestions.
- **Wednesdays**  
**2:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.**
- To schedule a meeting with Chairman Page, call (919) 949-4022.



Credit: Research Triangle Foundation of NC



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Durham County Government  
[www.durhamcountync.gov](http://www.durhamcountync.gov)  
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