



May 19, 2008

Wake County Board of Commissioners:

Each spring, it is my responsibility and privilege to present the Board of Commissioners and the citizens of Wake County a balanced budget for the next fiscal year. As with every recommended budget, County staff and the Commissioners balance the community’s priorities with the resources available.

This year, the task of balancing the budget brings two challenges. First, while we are fortunate to have a stable local economy, particularly compared to the rest of the nation, our local economy has slowed. This is evident in our revenue growth, particularly development-related revenues and sales taxes. The slowing economy will also affect next year’s budget process, when today’s slower development will result in smaller increases in property tax revenues compared to this year and recent years.

Second, we have almost completed a property revaluation cycle. In Wake County this has not happened since FY 2001. Some County citizens experienced moderate increases in their property tax values, but others saw their values increase by well over 100 percent. We know this is tough on working families and it makes already difficult decisions, of whether or not to increase the tax rate to fund prior commitments and other priorities, even tougher.

As we consider these challenges, we have a three-fold duty to our citizens, Planning, Leading, and Achieving. Together in a careful balance, these duties help the County to prosper and lead the nation as a great place to live, work, learn, and play.

### A RETROSPECTIVE LOOK BACK

Before providing the details of the FY 2009 Recommended Budget, it is helpful to look back on our County’s tremendous growth and how the County’s budget has grown to address that growth and the community’s priorities.

	<b>FY02</b>	<b>FY08</b>
Population	678,426	854,592
School Enrollment	101,397	134,002
Tax Base (000s)	\$ 63,366,831	\$ 82,175,000
County Budget	\$ 613,197,279	\$ 920,031,000

It is important to look at where we have been, the decisions that we have made, and the determining factors for making these choices. The major factors driving the expansion of our budget have been adding infrastructure to keep up with growth, and maintaining services in our high priority areas of education, Human Services, and Public Safety.

Between fiscal year 2002 and fiscal year 2008, Wake County’s population grew by 26 percent from roughly 678,000 citizens to 855,000. Enrollment in the Wake County Public School System increased by 32 percent from 101,000 to over 134,000. Our budget has grown along with our population. The fiscal year 2002 Adopted Budget was \$613 million. Our current fiscal year 2008 budget is \$930.1 million. In that time span, our expenditures have increased 52%.

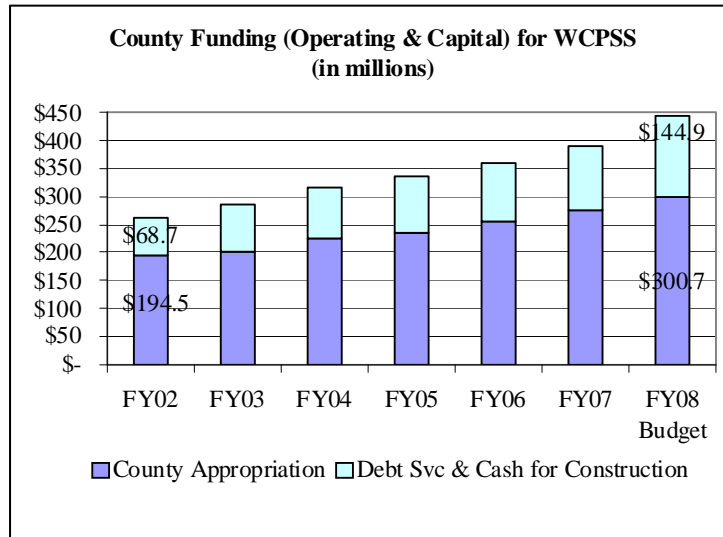
To provide the infrastructure necessary to keep up with growth and maintain services, voters have passed 11 bond referenda since 2000 totaling \$2.243 billion. As you can see on this chart, five of these referenda have been for our highest priority – Education – with the Wake County Public Schools getting nearly \$2 billion of the total. These referenda and all of our infrastructure investments have resulted not only in additional debt and capital spending, but also increases in operating costs.

Looking back, here is a look at major areas in which we have invested these resources.

Our largest financial obligation over the last seven years has been to our top priority—Wake County Public Schools. From FY 2002 to FY 2008, the

<b>Bond Referenda Since 2000</b>		
<b>2000</b>	WCPSS	500,000,000
	Public Safety	20,000,000
	Open Space	15,000,000
<b>2003</b>	Libraries	35,000,000
	WCPSS	450,000,000
<b>2004</b>	Wake Tech	40,000,000
	Open Space	26,000,000
<b>2006</b>	WCPSS	970,000,000
<b>2007</b>	Wake Tech	92,000,000
	Open Space	50,000,000
	Public Librari	45,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 2,243,000,000</b>

operating appropriation to the school system has increased from \$194.5 million to \$300.7 million. This is an increase of \$106.2 million, a cumulative total of 55 percent.



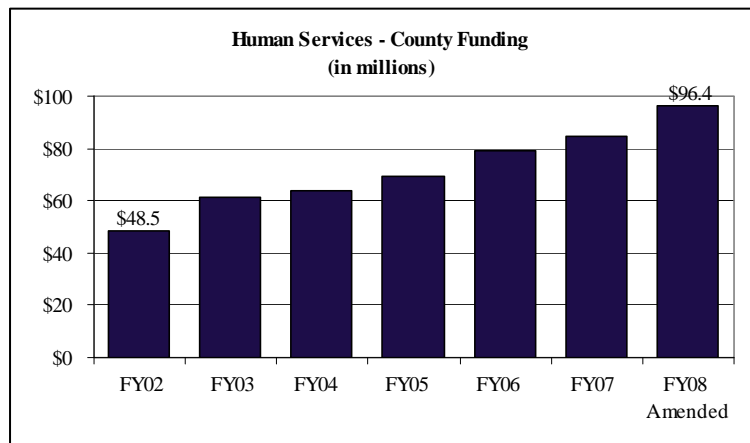
As previously mentioned, to fund the construction of new schools and renovate existing schools, citizens have passed three bond referenda since FY 2000, funding almost \$2 billion in school construction and renovations. Debt service for school construction has increased 88 percent, from \$68.7 million in FY02 to \$128.9 million in FY08.

Like our public school system, Wake Technical Community College has continued to grow. Operating support for Wake Tech has increased by 104 percent from \$8.6 million to \$17.5 million for operations from 2002 to 2008. We have also taken on capital projects to support Wake Tech, following the approval of bonds in 2004 and 2007, totaling \$154 million.

Public Libraries are one of our community’s highest priorities, and the public has supported the libraries by approving two bonds since FY 2002 totaling \$80 million. As we have opened or renovated six libraries, the operating budget for Libraries has grown by 46% from \$11.3 in FY02 to \$16.5 in FY08.

Another priority is preserving Open Space. Citizens have approved 3 bond referenda since FY 2000 totaling \$91 million. Using these funds, we have acquired nearly 4,300 acres of Open Space – just to give you a little perspective – this is about three-quarters the size of Umstead State Park.

To meet the economic and health needs of our community, County funding for Human Services has increased by 99 percent from \$48.5 million in FY 2002 to \$96.4 million in FY 2008. This increase includes opening and staffing two Regional Centers one in Zebulon and one in Wake Forest, and increases in funding in response to mental health reform and until last year, the ever-increasing costs in the County’s share of Medicaid. Through our Community Improvement Plan, we have invested \$20 million in the mental health continuum of care in the past three years alone.



The Sheriff’s Office works to keep all citizens safe. When the population grows, unfortunately, the criminal element grows with it. To keep up with increased demand on resources at the Sheriff’s Office, we have increased our spending by 70 percent from \$35 million to \$59 million from FY 2002 to FY 2008. A major factor in our CIP and operating budget was the opening of the Hammond Road One B detention facility in 2006, which provided much needed relief for overcrowded jail space.

Support for our Emergency Medical Services system has also grown from \$10 million to \$16.5 million over the last seven years, a cumulative increase of 65%. We have staffed several new ambulances and invested in new technology. Wake County’s 800 megahertz communications system allows all our emergency workers to



communicate on the same wave length and the Automatic Vehicle Locator, or AVL system allows dispatchers to see where every ambulance is in real time, allowing us to reduced response times and save lives.

In all other areas of County government, we have increased by 43.7% driven largely by technology and maintenance and utilities for the new facilities added over the last seven years.

As we look back, we can see the budget implications of providing adequate infrastructure for growth and maintaining services. Most of our resources have gone toward education—both infrastructure and operating expenses. We can also see, however, our balanced commitment to our other high priority areas of Human Services, Libraries and Public Safety.

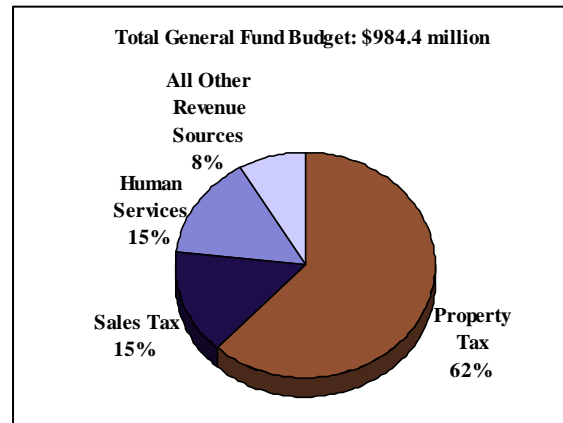
Every funding decision we make is conscious and measured. We can take pride in the fact that we have planned for this infrastructure through long-term strategies, financial planning, and open discussions with our community.

Wake County is fortunate to have always had strong leadership, exemplified by the Board of Commissioners, Commissioners who have tackled complex issues, established priorities, and made difficult decisions. And, we have always achieved results - maintaining service levels to meet growth and address our priorities. The fiscal year 2009 recommended budget continues our efforts of *Planning, Leading, and Achieving* for the benefit of each and every Wake County citizen.

**FY 2009 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION AND REVENUES**

The Fiscal Year 2009 Recommended Budget totals \$984.4 million, an increase of \$54.3 million, or 5.8%, over the FY 2008 Amended Budget. To fund our prior commitments and high priorities, the recommended budget calls for a tax increase of 2.5 cents. This will bring the tax rate from the revenue neutral rate of 50.9 cents to 53.4 cents. Specifically, the tax increase will fund:

- Bond approved projects for Wake Technical Community College, Open Space preservation, and Public Libraries,
- Operating increases for new schools coming online in the Wake County Public Schools System, and,
- High priority areas of public safety and maintaining service levels in other County services.

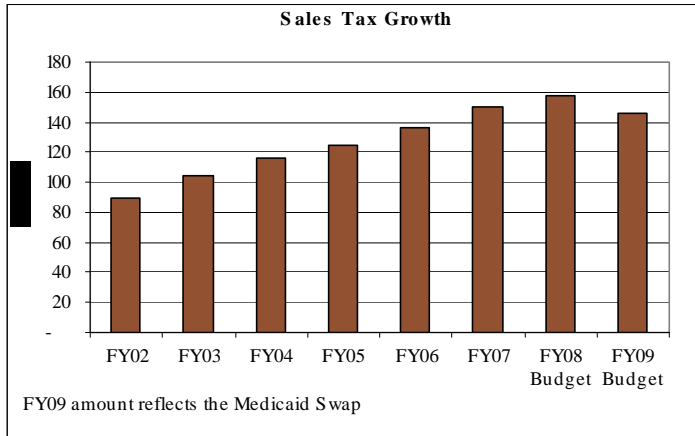


Tax Base Changes (billions)		
	FY08	FY09
Real Property	\$ 66.7	\$ 98.7
Personal Property	\$ 5.7	\$ 5.8
Public Service	\$ 2.9	\$ 3.4
Vehicles	\$ 7.9	\$ 8.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 83.3</b>	<b>115.8</b>

Following the revaluation of property, the tax base has increased by 41% to \$115.8 billion—the largest County tax base in the State of North Carolina. Most of this growth has been in real property, which has been revalued at \$98.7 billion, a 48% increase over FY 2008. For FY09, we project \$37.9 million in revenues from regular growth. While this is a healthy growth rate in property taxes, when combined with our other revenue sources, it is not sufficient to fund our prior commitments and high priorities of education and public safety.

We will see a decrease in our second largest revenue source, sales taxes. With the slowing economy, sales tax revenues will increase at a very low rate next year. The FY 2009 projection assumes 4.6% growth. This is down from the nearly 10% growth we experienced in both FY 2006 and FY2007.

A more significant factor with sales taxes is the State Medicaid “swap” legislation. Sales taxes will decline by a total of \$11.5 million, as the State assumes responsibility from the County for Medicaid funding. This revenue loss is offset by a \$6.9 million decrease in Medicaid expenditures and roughly \$4.7 million in State “hold harmless” funds.



Turning to other revenue sources, Human Services funding streams will increase by \$3.5 million over the FY 2008 Amended Budget, mostly from increases in State funding. All other County revenues, including development-related fees and real estate excise taxes, will decrease by \$8.8 million, partly reflecting the area’s economic slowdown.

**FY 2009 EXPENDITURES AND PRIOR COMMITMENTS**

Turning to expenditures, as you requested, we began with a revenue neutral tax rate. Regular growth in revenues will generate \$25.8 million to allocate to our priorities. When we start developing the budget recommendation, one of the first areas we consider is funding our debt service and community improvement program. We dedicate a certain amount of our tax rate to our capital program and fulfilling this policy requires just over \$10 million of our new revenue. Next, we turn to prior commitments we have made:

- One-Stop Voting Sites at a cost of almost \$1.3 million for the November election;
- Full year funding for the Sheriff’s Office Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) program;
- Staffing the new Leesville Community Library, which will open in Spring 2009; and
- A full year’s cost of the new Northern Regional Center in Wake Forest.

Meeting these commitments, providing the same per student funding for the school system as we anticipated last year, and meeting the minimal growth in county expenditures can be done within the amount of resources available. But, much would be left unfunded and unaddressed.

The recommended tax rate increase of 2.5 cents will generate \$28.5 million, allowing us to meet other commitments and fund our highest priorities.

Let’s walk through what is in the recommended budget.

With the additional revenue, we will fund the bond programs approved this past Fall. With the knowledge of a tax increase, the voters approved bond referenda for Wake Tech, Open Space preservation, and Public Libraries. The budget funds these projects with an additional \$15 million transfer to the capital and debt funds. This is equivalent to 1.35 cents of the tax rate increase.

**Wake County Public Schools**

Reflecting our commitment to our top priority, funding for Wake County Public Schools makes up 50% of the FY 2009 Recommended Budget.

The Board of Education requested an 18% increase in the County’s contribution to the School System’s operating

	Board of Education Request
FY 2008 County Appropriation	\$ 300,744,100
FY 2009 County Appropriation	\$ 355,484,906
Difference from FY 2008	\$ 54,740,806
Percent Difference	18.2%



budget—more than \$54.7 million above the FY 2008 County appropriation of \$300.7 million. (As you may recall, the County’s total revenue growth, including the 2.5 cents tax increase, provides \$54.3 million. The Board of Education’s request is more than the total amount of new revenue available for FY 2009.)

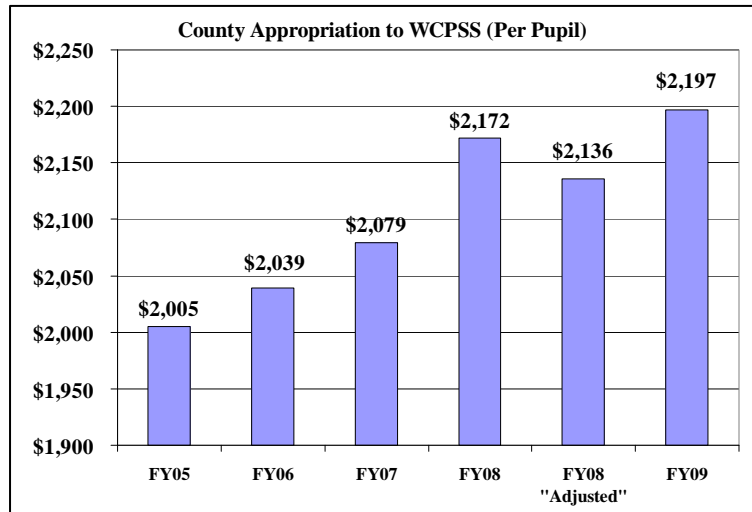
One part of our commitment to Public Schools is funding debt service on school bonds. The recommended budget includes \$156 million for debt service, which is a 21 percent increase over FY 2008. These funds, plus an 88% increase of cash funding, will pay for WCPSS school construction projects. When voters approved the 2006 School Bonds, we communicated that the capital and operating expenses would require a 4.7 cent increase in the property tax rate. A 3.6 cent tax rate increase accompanied the current year’s budget. That leaves 1.1 cents of future tax increases as the program is implemented. The recommended budget that we present to you today includes an additional 0.33 cents to fund the operating impacts associated with opening new schools.

The Wake County Public School System and Wake County have agreed on enrollment projections and we anticipate enrollment of 140,443 for the 2008-2009 school year (an increase of 6,441, or 4.8%), while charter school enrollment is anticipated at 4,825 (an increase of 337).

We considered several approaches to school funding: a per pupil basis and a tax equivalent basis. First, the FY 2009 base funding was adjusted as a result of student enrollment for this past school year being 2,290 students fewer than projected. Using the per pupil amount that was funded in the FY 2008 adopted budget, per pupil funding would have been \$295.9 million, or \$4.9 million less than what was appropriated in FY08. This yields a revised base for WCPSS of approximately \$295.9 million.

Our traditional approach, or what is reflected in our financial planning model, would tie funding to the same per pupil amount in the current year and then adjust for the opening of new schools. The recommended budget reflects an alternative approach which yields an additional \$5 million to the School System, and is based on providing the same proportional amount of the tax levy, prior to applying the .33 tax rate increase.

The County appropriation to the Wake County Public Schools is recommended at \$319.2 million, an increase of 6.1% over the current year appropriation, (or a 7.9% increase over the adjusted base number.)



Reflected in the terms of per pupil funding, the FY 2009 amount per pupil of \$2,197 is an increase of \$61 per student over the FY 2008 current year per pupil amount (restated) of \$2,136.

In addition to the direct appropriation, the County provides approximately \$8 million of additional funding for the school system that is not included in the direct appropriation to WCPSS. These dollars fund school nurses, school resources officers, and other services for students. Including these dollars, WCPSS receives an additional \$57 per student in indirect support from the County.

Since 2002, the County has invested significantly in Wake County public schools. The recommended budget includes additional resources for both operating and for the continued support of school construction.



**Wake Technical Community College**

As our students prepare to become the leaders of tomorrow, more and more of them are taking advantage of the exceptional classes offered at Wake Technical Community College.

The recommended budget provides the same level of funding as in FY 2008. It includes start-up funding for instruction and security staff at the Northern Campus and provides for maintenance and operations for the third classroom building at the Northern Campus.

In October 2007, Wake County voters approved \$115 million for the Wake Tech building program, financed in part with \$92 million in general obligation bonds. The Community Improvement Plan includes \$5.6 million in debt service for building projects. The full construction program is included in the County’s seven year Community Improvement Plan.

As new buildings are constructed and existing buildings are renovated on all of our Wake Tech campuses over the next several years, we will continue to fund these operating expenses.

**Human Services**

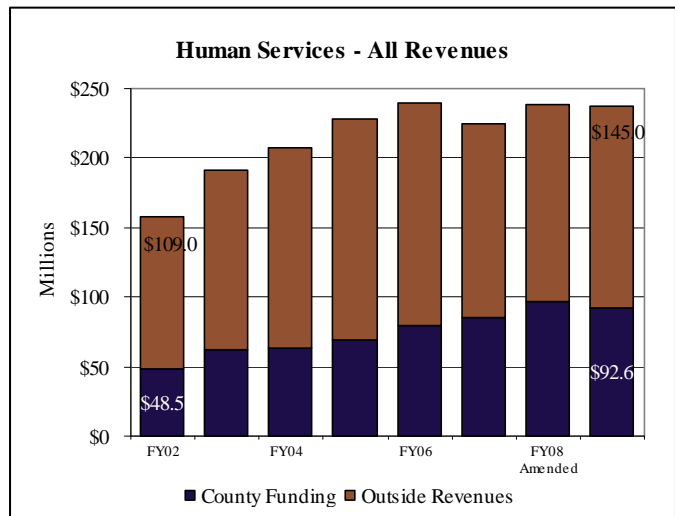
For Human Services, the total budget is \$237.6 million, roughly the same as the current FY 2008 budget, reflecting the decrease in Medicaid spending but also the increases in state support received during FY 2008.

Over the past seven years, County funding for Human Services has grown 48%, from \$48.5 million in FY02 to \$92.3 million in the FY09 budget, while outside funding has grown 33% during the same period.

In FY09, County funding decreases \$3.8 million, reflecting a \$6.9 million reduction in the County’s share of Medicaid expenditures. This change is consistent with the State’s transition of shifting Medicaid expenses from counties to the State. Despite this expenditure decrease, the net effect on the County’s budget is a revenue loss due to a drop in sales tax revenue that the County will experience as part of the Medicaid “swap” legislation.

The Recommended Budget adds \$1.1 million for a full-year of operations at the newly-opened Northern Regional Center in Wake Forest. It also includes new positions to support Human Services' work and the growth in demand for services, including three school nurses to maintain our nurse-to-student ratio, four Medicaid case managers, and one child support enforcement attorney.

The seven-year Community Improvement Plan also continues our support of the mental health system with an additional \$5 million for the mental health facilities to be built off of Sunnybrook Road.



**Environmental Services**

The Environmental Services Department works to keep our citizens safe, both two and four legged.

The Community Improvement Plan includes \$2.3 million to expand the Wake County Animal Care, Control, and Adoption Center. The expansion will allow us to improve the standard of care for the more than 10,000 animals that come to the shelter each year. The new facility will include more dog kennels, cat spaces, and other improvements. We will also add two animal shelter attendants to care for these animals.



Environmental Services is also responsible for restaurant inspections. As Wake County has grown, we have seen an increase in the number of food service establishments. From restaurants and bars to the hot dog carts out on Fayetteville Street, restaurant inspectors make sure that the food you buy is properly prepared and free of disease. This budget includes funding for three additional restaurant inspectors to improve our inspection schedule.

**Sheriff's Office**

In January, you named safe communities as one of your focus areas. The recommended budget provides an additional \$3.1 million for the Sheriff's Office, to continue to keep our community secure. The 5.3 percent increase will fully fund the Sheriff's Immigration and Customs Enforcement program, known as the ICE Unit, which the Board approved earlier this year.

This budget also funds:

- Two deputies for newly established courtrooms;
- Two detention transport deputies to handle additional inmate transports to and from our detention and mental health facilities;
- Two drug vice and narcotic investigators;
- One school resource officer to be assigned to East Wake High School; and,
- One position for sex offender registration and other recordkeeping duties.

**The City/County Bureau of Identification (CCBI)**

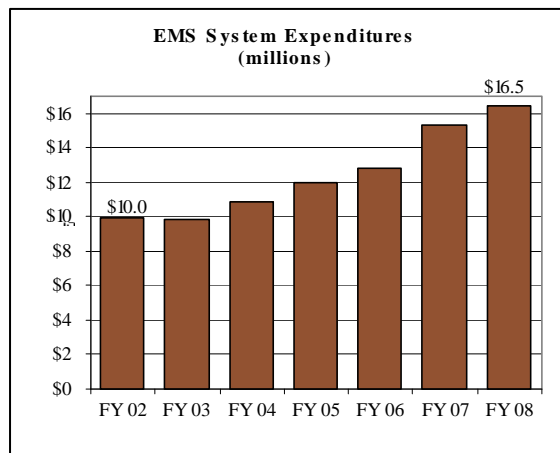
To further support our Sheriff and municipal police departments, the budget includes two new Latent Print Examiners. These staff members will address an increase in the workload at CCBI. These examiners are a crucial part of our crime fighting program. They take finger and palm prints and make positive identifications and provide officers and deputies all over the county with the information they need to arrest criminals more quickly.

CCBI is the only County forensics unit in the southern region of the United States to have the capabilities to examine latent prints. These are prints from hands and fingers, shoe tracks, tire tracks and gloves used to link criminals to their crimes.

**Emergency Medical Services**

In FY 2002, the Wake County Emergency Medical Services system included Wake EMS and nine contracted squads. At their own initiative, some contracted squads have merged to provide more effective and efficient service and we now have Wake EMS and five squads.

The County budget for EMS has increased an average of 11% each year to support additional units and cost increases for medical supplies and drugs.



The FY09 budget includes \$652,000 for three additional peak-load units to be stationed in Cary, the Six Forks area of North Raleigh, and Eastern Wake County. These units will operate for 12 hours during the day, when demand for EMS services is highest.

The FY 2009 Recommended Budget also includes just over \$1 million for a new program called Advanced Practice Paramedic (APP). This program is designed to send experienced paramedics to the most severe emergencies, which data shows leads to better outcomes. FY09 will be the first year of implementation for this program, and the EMS system will evaluate the program before requesting additional funds for Advanced Practice Paramedics.

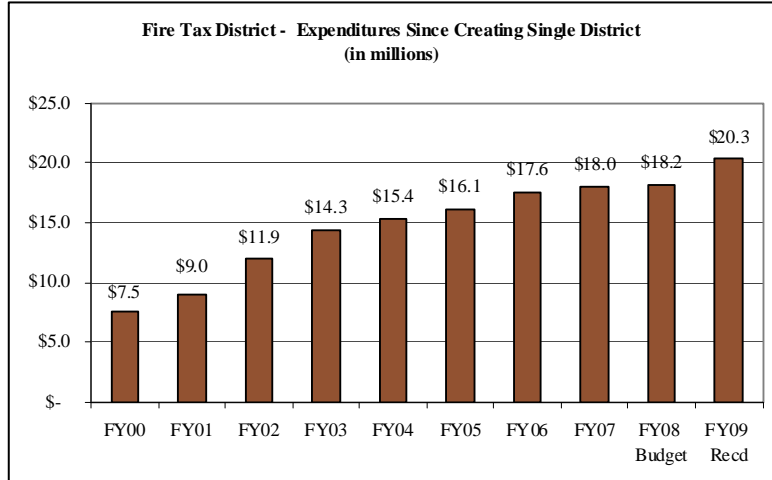


The Community Improvement Plan invests \$8.3 million in EMS facilities. We will use these funds to renovate or build EMS stations, including stations shared with fire departments around the County.

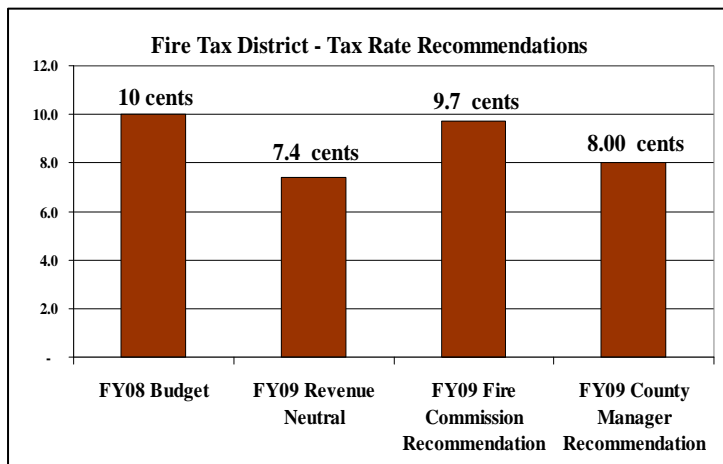
**Fire Tax District**

The County’s Fire Tax District supports fire suppression and prevention in our unincorporated areas and the Town of Wendell. The district has 19 fire departments, including five municipal departments, and 14 private nonprofit corporations. From its inception in FY 2000 to FY 2008, the district’s budget has increased an average of 12% each fiscal year from \$7.5 million to \$18.2 million, a 143% total increase.

With our municipal and rural growth, the district is changing. The square mileage in the unincorporated areas of the County has decreased in recent years, as our municipalities have annexed more area. Call volume in the unincorporated area has increased—this is due primarily to first responder service, which we implemented in 2000. And to address workload needs and the decline in volunteers, the nineteen departments have added over 130 fire fighters and staff since the single fire tax district was created.



The Wake County Fire Commission voted to request a tax increase of 2.3 cents over the revenue-neutral rate of 7.4 cents to fund the first year of a three-year staffing plan, benefit enhancements, and capital projects. This would bring the total tax rate to 9.7 cents. The Fire Commission’s request comes to \$24.7 million, a 36% increase over FY08. The second and third years of the Fire Commission’s plan would require additional tax increases.



The Manager’s Recommended Budget totals \$20.3 million, a 12% increase over FY08. It includes a tax rate increase of .6 cents, for a total of 8.0 cents, to fund up to 28 additional fire fighter positions, as well as other operating costs.

We recognize that additional staffing is necessary to compensate for the decline in volunteer firefighters and to keep up with increasing first responder calls. At the same time, we have an opportunity to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of fire services in the district through mergers and consolidations, and the closure of stations which have become surrounded by municipal

fire departments. The Fire Commission as the Advisory Board is the most familiar with their services and has a firm grasp on the changing fire service needs through out the County. We hope and expect that the Commission will analyze and identify consolidation opportunities before requesting future tax increases.

**Other County Departments**

In order to maintain service levels and satisfy our goal of strong financial stewardship, the budget provides 9.5 positions to all other areas of County government. These resources include additional staff for Finance, Register of



Deeds, Information Services, General Services and the County Attorney’s Office. The additional positions will help us continue with our stewardship of the taxpayers’ money, maintain our many automated systems, and improve building security.

**Memberships and Public Agencies**

The recommended budget provides \$3.7 million for government association memberships, public agencies and contractual services. The budget recommendations maintain our commitment to public agencies through out Wake County. Here is a list of major recipients including Marbles at \$1 million and our public agency funding process at \$600,000

**EMPLOYEE PAY AND BENEFITS**

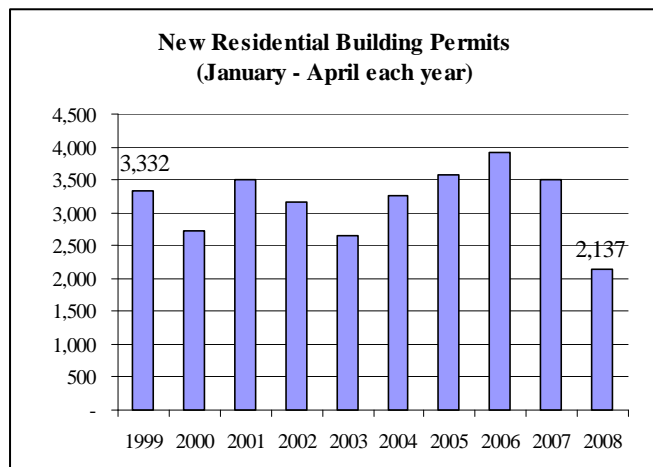
Wake County has over 3,700 employees. Each and every day these workers provide effective and efficient services to citizens. The County’s pay system awards salary increases within market-based pay ranges based strictly on performance. This allows us to remain competitive not only among government agencies, but among private industry as well. Being competitive means we get the best employees, who in turn provide the best services for our customers, the citizens of Wake County. This budget funds an average performance pay increase of 3.75%, and totals \$5.6 million in the recommended budget.

Effective this past January, the County implemented a new health care plan as a part of the long-term strategy for health care. More than 60% of the employees chose to participate in a new consumer-driven health plan, or CDHP.

With only a few months of experience under the new plan, it is difficult to forecast the plan’s impact of the new plan on health trends. Our experience during the last half of 2007 was positive and we believe we are well positioned to continue on these trends. At this time, we are projecting a budget impact of approximately 3% as the fiscal year budget crosses two plan years. While rates will not be established until this fall, we anticipate the rate increases will be under 5%. We will refine this as we collect data over a longer period of time.

**Reductions Due to Workload Decreases**

A regular part of the annual budget process is analyzing the workload of our departments. We consider many factors, including the current economy and areas where we may not need as many staff as we have in the past.



The slowing economy is having a tangible effect on our County. We have seen a decreased need for development-related services, including building inspections, well and septic inspections, planning efforts, and other areas. One indicator of this trend is the decline in building permits, which are lower than at any point in the last 10 years.

Wake County will realign our staffing levels to match the changing needs of our community. We have eliminated two vacant positions in planning and inspections and permits. We are evaluating all areas affected by the development slowdown. As positions become vacant in other development related services, we will eliminate or freeze these positions or transfer them to other priority areas.

**FY 2009 – 2015 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The FY 2009 to 2015 Community Improvement Plan totals \$1.34 billion. Fiscal Year 2009 accounts for \$492 million of those expenditures. The recommended Community Improvement Plan reflects the Board of Commissioners’ priorities, investing heavily in public schools, public safety and criminal justice.

The CIP will begin the three bond programs, approved by voters last Fall, for Wake Technical Community College, Public Libraries, and Open Space. The seven-year plan also funds infrastructure for mental health, law enforcement, and public safety.

The CIP continues our Criminal Justice Facilities Master Plan. Over the next seven years, we provide \$442 million for additional jail space, renovations to the existing courthouse, and construction of the new Wake County Justice Center, which will provide additional criminal and civil courtrooms, and related support facilities.

At the same time, continuing to fund our existing infrastructure to the highest possible standard. Over the next seven-years, the Community Improvement Plan lays the foundation for success for future generations of Wake County citizens.

We have a long history and proud legacy of planning for the long-term and providing outstanding facilities for our citizens.

Continuing this tradition of excellence, the FY 2009 to 2015 Community Improvement Plan has been developed with an eye to the future and will allow Wake County to maintain its position as a global leader in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The plan anticipates future infrastructure needs and supports responsible stewardship of public property and funds. It also supports many of the Board of Commissioners’ 2008 focus areas, including an educated citizenry, a safe community and environmental stewardship.

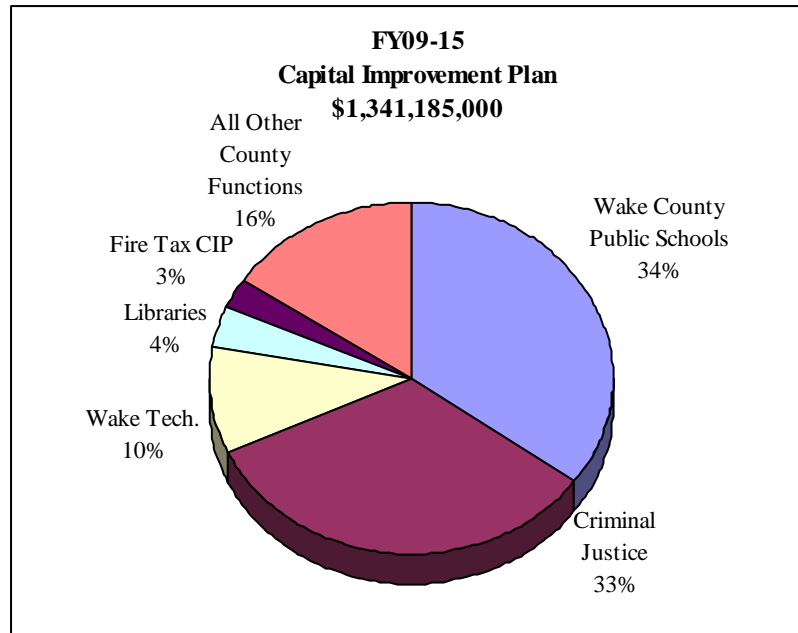
The Board of Commissioners will also receive two options for reducing the budget to arrive at a revenue neutral tax rate, if you should so choose. One approach would have us apply an across the board reduction of 3.4% to all departments and agencies. Another approach identifies specific strategies for reducing the capital and operating budgets. The two options are not mutually exclusive as several of the strategies included in the second option might be employed to meet the across the board reductions.

**PLANNING, LEADING, ACHIEVING**

We began this budget message with a review of past investments in our infrastructure and high priorities. The FY 2009 Recommended Budget continues this commitment by providing additional resources for the public schools, as well as for public safety, law enforcement, and Human Services. We have made careful and conscious decisions, and considered not only our immediate needs, but our long-term needs as well.

Together, we are *Planning, Leading, and Achieving* for the benefit of each and every Wake County citizen.

Today you receive the recommend budget. Our next steps will be for you to hold public hearings on June 2 at 2 p.m. in this room and at 7 p.m. at the Wake County Commons. As in past years, you will hold a special budget work session, scheduled for June 9. And, on Monday, June 16, at your regular meeting, you will be asked to adopt the FY 2009 Budget.





Between now and then, we encourage public feedback, and there are several ways for citizens to become involved. In just a few moments, the budget will be posted online at [www.wakegov.com](http://www.wakegov.com). Copies of the budget are also available at all County libraries.

Citizens can also email comments to [budget@co.wake.nc.us](mailto:budget@co.wake.nc.us) or leave a voicemail at 919-664-5559, or they can speak at one of the public hearings.

Thank you for your consideration of the Recommended Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Cooke".

David Cooke  
County Manager