

## *County Commissioners*

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Board of Commissioners, a seven-member elected group, is the governing and policy-making body of Wake County. The County Commissioners are elected by the registered voters of Wake County in partisan elections held in November of even-numbered years. They hold office for four years and maintain staggered terms, with four commissioners' races held in one general election and the other three seats elections being held two years later.

The Commissioners establish goals for county government, provide policy direction on specific issues to the County Manager, and ensure accountability to the citizens. Each year the Board approves an annual financial plan and sets property tax rates for the County and for special taxing districts. Specific actions include adopting appropriate ordinances, rules, and regulations as methods for executing the policies. Further, the Board of Commissioners appoints members of other boards established by State legislation and members of boards and commissioners established by the Commissioners themselves. By law, the Board of Commissioners also directly appoints three principal officials: County Manager, County Attorney, and Clerk to the Board, all of who serve at the pleasure of the board.

### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

- Prompt preparation of Commissioners' minutes.
- Prompt indexing of Commissioners' documents and actions.
- Prompt correspondence of board appointments.
- Prompt codification of adopted ordinances.

### **DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY2001-2002**

- Development of Growth Management strategies.
- Adoption of Environmental Stewardship agenda.
- Adoption of watershed protection strategies, including a countywide watershed protection plan and regulations for the Neuse River Basin and Cape Fear River Basin.
- Open space preservation land acquisition.
- Transportation planning.
- Adoption of Stormwater Control Management and Watercourse Buffer Regulations for Wake County.
- Adoption of \$638.06 million budget for FY2003 without raising taxes.
- Financial stability, maintaining AAA bond rating.

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- Establishment of a 16-member Citizens Advisory Committee to examine the school system's operational needs and determine appropriate levels of local funding for the school system.
  - Facilities: Eastern Regional Center groundbreaking, IMAX Theater opening, South Wilmington Street Center opening, Fuquay-Varina Early Learning Center opening, Willow Spring Fire Station groundbreaking, Capital Area Soccer Park opening.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR FY2002-2003**

- Continue emphasis on being a catalyst for major issues that have countywide implications by leading the efforts of collaboration and regionalism.
- Advancement of the County's leadership role in environmental stewardship, particularly open space land acquisition, watershed management, groundwater sustain ability, and the Little River Reservoir project.
- Transportation planning.
- Unified Development Ordinance.
- Focus on Wake County Public School System's operational costs with review and analysis of the recommendations of the Citizens Advisory Committee.
- Planning for bond referenda for next phase of school building program and other projects.
- Long-term plans for parks and public libraries.
- Solid waste disposal options, including extending the life of the current land-fill.
- Continued examination of revenue sources while addressing uncertainties caused by the State's budget difficulties.
- Strategic planning for mental health reform and other Human Services issues.

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General Administration

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*Budget Summary*

<b>County Commissioners</b>	<b>FY 2000-2001 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2001-2002 Current Budget</b>	<b>FY2002-2003 Recommended</b>	<b>FY2002-2003 Adopted</b>
Personal Services	\$285,444	\$299,449	\$308,299	\$308,299
Operating Expenses	\$83,381	\$119,500	\$119,500	\$119,500
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$368,825</b>	<b>\$418,949</b>	<b>\$427,799</b>	<b>\$427,799</b>
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fees & Other Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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*Position Count*

	<b>FY2001 Actual</b>	<b>FY2002 Actual</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>FY2003 Adopted</b>
Number of FTE's	3.0	3.0	0.0	3.0

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