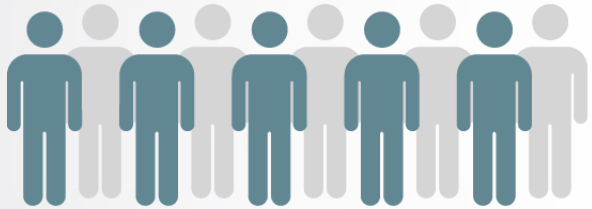
Wake County
Recommended Budget
May 6, 2019

David Ellis
County Manager

Three key drivers influence this budget



Population growth

New state regulations

Unfunded state mandates

Unfunded state mandates

- Must offer new services we haven't offered before
- Example: Voter photo IDs
- No funding for staff

Unfunded state mandates

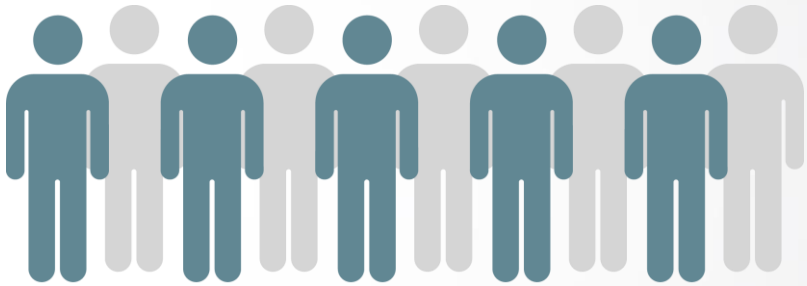
New state regulations

- Will affect our staffing and workflow
- Most impacted departments:
  - Environmental Services
  - Human Services

New state regulations

Population growth is the biggest factor driving demand for our services

1.1 million residents strong



Population growth

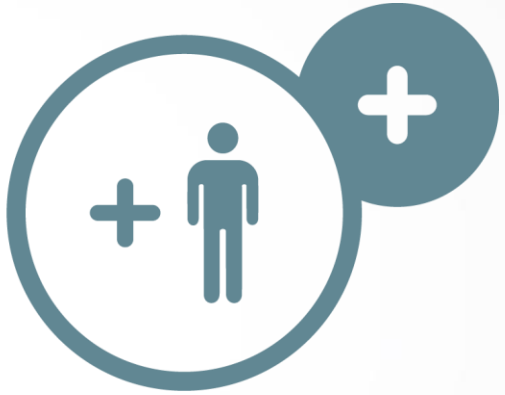
Population growth from 2008-2018

Wake County added more than **235,000 people**

More than the populations of Cary and Apex combined

Our growth isn’t stopping

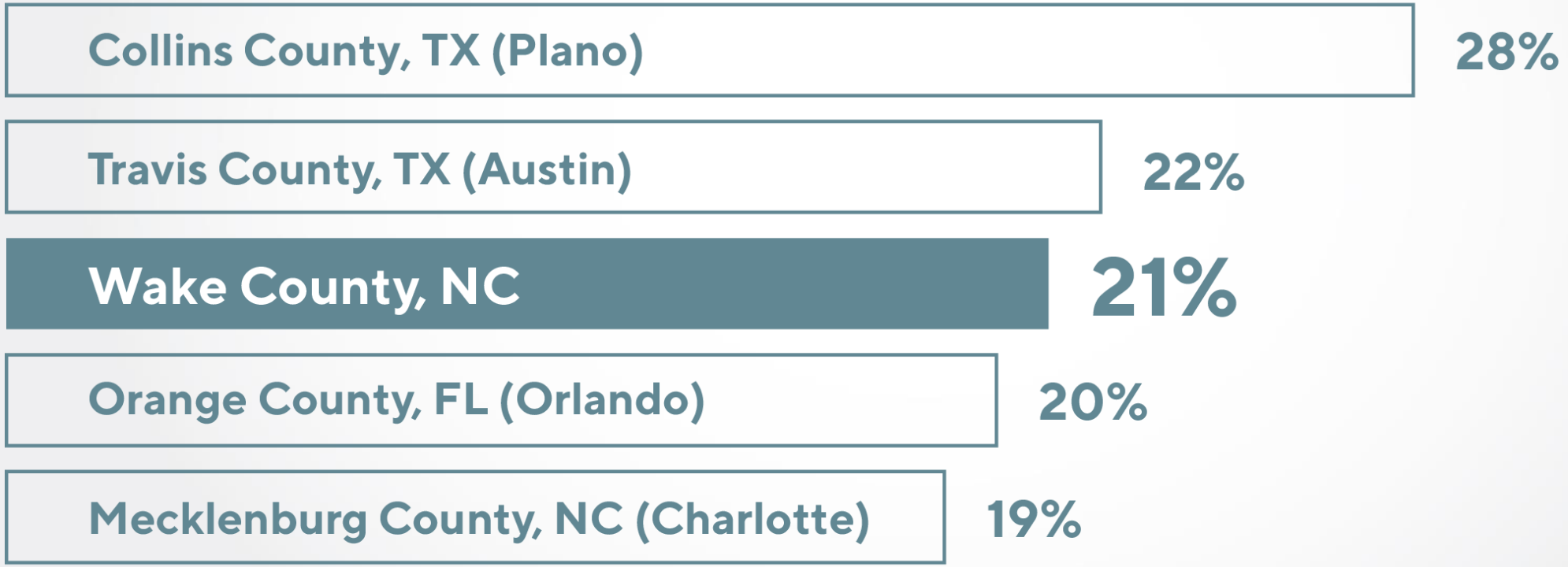
Our population increases by



56 PEOPLE A DAY

Our growth is getting national attention

5 Fastest Growing Counties with ≥ 1 million residents, July 1, 2018



County growth rate, 2010–2018

We must address the cumulative effects of growth

- Right resources needed
- Timely, responsible service delivery expected

FY20 budget recommendation reflects results of analysis

Investments

Rising service demand

Achieve outcomes

Board Goals

- Community Health
- Economic Strength
- Education
- Great Government
- Growth and Sustainability
- Public Safety
- Social and Economic Vitality

VULNERABLE
COLLABORATE
HOUSING
PARTNER
HEALTH
PLAN
SERVICE
WORK
ECONOMIC
STRATEGY
IMPROVE
PROGRAM
SUPPORT
OPPORTUNITIES
REDUCE
COMMISSIONER
IDENTIFY
PUBLIC
THROUGH
ENHANCE
USE
HEALTHY
ADDRESS
BOARD
GOAL
SAFETY
SOCIAL
RESOURCE
AFFORDABLE
IMPLEMENT
INITIATIVE
BUSINESS
RESIDENTS
SUSTAIN
CITIZEN
ASSIST
PROVIDE
EXPAND
CREATE
ACCESS
RELATED
DATA
EDUCATED
TRANSIT
INCREASE
PRESERVE
WORKFORCE
PARTNERSHIP
BEHAVIORAL
COMPREHENSIVE
GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENTS
ESTABLISH
INDIVIDUALS
NEEDS
GROWTH
PRACTICES
EFFORTS
SUBSTANCE
EFFECTS
BRING
TRAINING
RECOGNIZE
INCARCERATED
WCPSS
PROCESS
APPROACH
HIGH
LOCAL
BEST
MORE
RESPONSIBLE
MENTAL
EXPERIENCE
CURRENT
BOND
SHERIFF
AGED
STREAM
FUNDS
BUILD
INNOVATION
LIVE
AGENCIES
SUCCESS
THREE
THOSE
ILLNESS
MAINTAIN
ISSUES
UPDATE
PROMOTE
ACHIEVE
OPEN
YEAR
POLICY
CAPACITY
PRIORITIZE
ENCOURAGE
UTILIZE
OPERATING
ABUSE
SHARE
LIFE
LAND
WATER
LONG
WELLBEING
FOOD
TWO
UPON
SPEED
DIGNITY
EXPLORE
CULTURE
MOMS
POPULATION
PROTECT
EXISTING
INCLUDE
COLLEGE
MATERIALS
REVIEW
SYSTEM
QUALITY
RECORD
FEEDBACK
CUSTOMER
RESPECT
HUNGER
MULTI
TECH
OPTIONS
PARKS
EARLY
CRISIS
AREAS
NEAR
RISK
LEVERAGE
FOCUS
ENGAGE
TREATMENT
SCHOOL
TRUST
COUNTY'S
STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENT
MAKE
ENABLE
EVALUATE
BABIES
ALIGN
BASE
SERVED
CHILDHOOD
JOB
ONE
DETAINED
HAZARDS
WAKE
BUDGET
INTERNET
DIGITAL
USERS
CHILDREN
WOMEN
PRE
GAPS
CONTINUE
PLATFORM
ACTIVE
CAPITAL
STAKEHOLDERS
MEDICAL
TECHNOLOGY
CONNECTIVITY
ELIGIBILITY
CHALLENGES
ACCEPTABLE
CONSERVATION
STRENGTH
END
COMMON
EMERGENCY
ZONING
TREAT
BETWEEN
CRITERIA
WAKEBROOK
OFFICE
CAREER
NET
SEEK
JAILS
CARE
TASK
OUTCOMES
FREQUENT
MANAGEMENT
PERSONNEL
DISABILITIES
DRIVEN
FISCALLY
MOBILITY
METRICS
BOE
MUNICIPAL
WIDE
SPACE
EMPLOYEES
EMPLOYMENT
CREATION
RETURN
REACH
OWNED
LAKES
NEW
FIRE
AVAILABLE
OUTREACH
PREPARED
WELL
SOCIETAL
PRIVATE
FORCE
MUTUALLY
FAMILIES
EFFICIENT
RURAL
POST
FOSTER
WASTE
BENEFITS
POSSIBLE
FALLS
TARGETED
LIFESTYLES
INFANT
THRIVING
DEATH
PHYSICAL
RECYCLING
EQUITY
COMPLETE
RECIDIVISM
ATTRACT
CTE
AGREED
REPORT
QUALITATIVE
INTERVENTION
MINORITIES
ORDER
INTEGRATE
UNDER
TERM
PERMANENT
SET
EXTEND
BOUND
AAA
SUFFER
SKILLED
WITHIN
STABLE
FINANCING
RETAIN
SAFE
REGIONS
FRIENDLY
BROADBAND
MEDICAID
SOLID
REVISE
BARRIERS
FUTURE
RATING
REFLECT
SESSIONS
PERFORMANCE
STRONG
DIVERSIFY
REALISTIC
GUIDE
TOOLS
BUFFERS
GREENWAYS
RETENTION
DRUG
TECHNICAL
RESPOND
GREAT
PATIENTS
DELIVER
CITIZENRY
OVERALL
QUANTITY
BOTH
LITTER
INVESTMENTS
NUMBER
ROBUST
SOLVE
TALENT
BUILDOUT
COST
THROUGHOUT
LEVELS
RANGE
PREVENT
ADVERSE
FINANCIAL
COVERAGE
INFRASTRUCTURE
GUIDANCE
FACILITATE
WATERSHED
VENTURES
STREAMLINE
DESIGNED
REVISIT
JORDAN
TEAM
LANDFILL
MEASURES
CIT
PRIORITIES
REENTRY
UNSERVED
LEAVING
HIGHER
POSED
PRODUCE
EVIDENCE
HOMELESSNESS
ENSURING
DECISION
ARCHIVE
VITALITY
INCENTIVES
OVERSEE
AGREEMENT
EMPOWERS
POTENTIAL
RECRUITING
IMPACTS
SECURE
FARMLAND
SOLICITING
WHEREVER
CONTINUUM

Voters approved 3 bonds in November

Voters approved 3 bonds in November

Total more than $1 billion

Voters approved 3 bonds in November

Largest bond package in NC history

WCPSS bond = $548 million over 2 years

Will fund:

- New school construction
- Renovation of existing schools
- Equipment needed to operate them

Wake Tech bond = $349 million over 4 years

Will fund:

- Further expansion of RTP campus
- Training facilities for skilled trades and law enforcement
- Technology upgrades

Parks, greenways and open space bond = $120 million over 6 years

Will fund:

- More open space preservation
- New greenway connections
- New park and nature preserve construction
- Renovations to existing parks

Impact of the bonds

3.8 cent

property tax increase

required for voter-approved projects

How we developed this budget

Scrutinized budget requests

Made data-driven, outcome-based decisions

Looked closely at our revenues

Our revenue picture

3%

Sales tax and property tax revenues

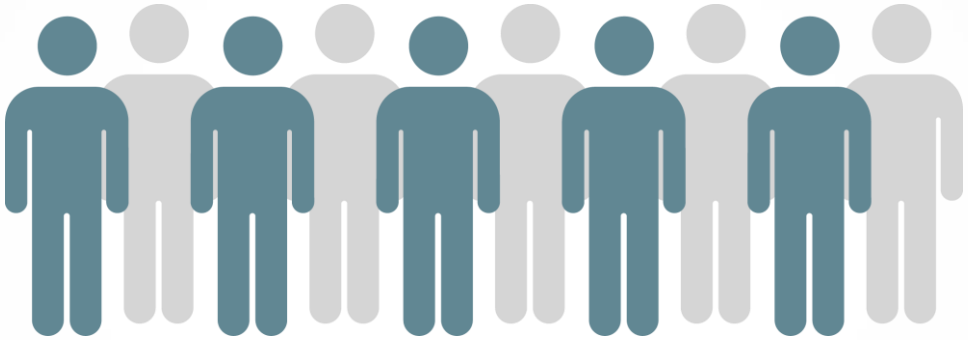
$31.1 million

New revenues

How we developed the budget

Budget requests = $83 million

Growth doesn’t pay for itself

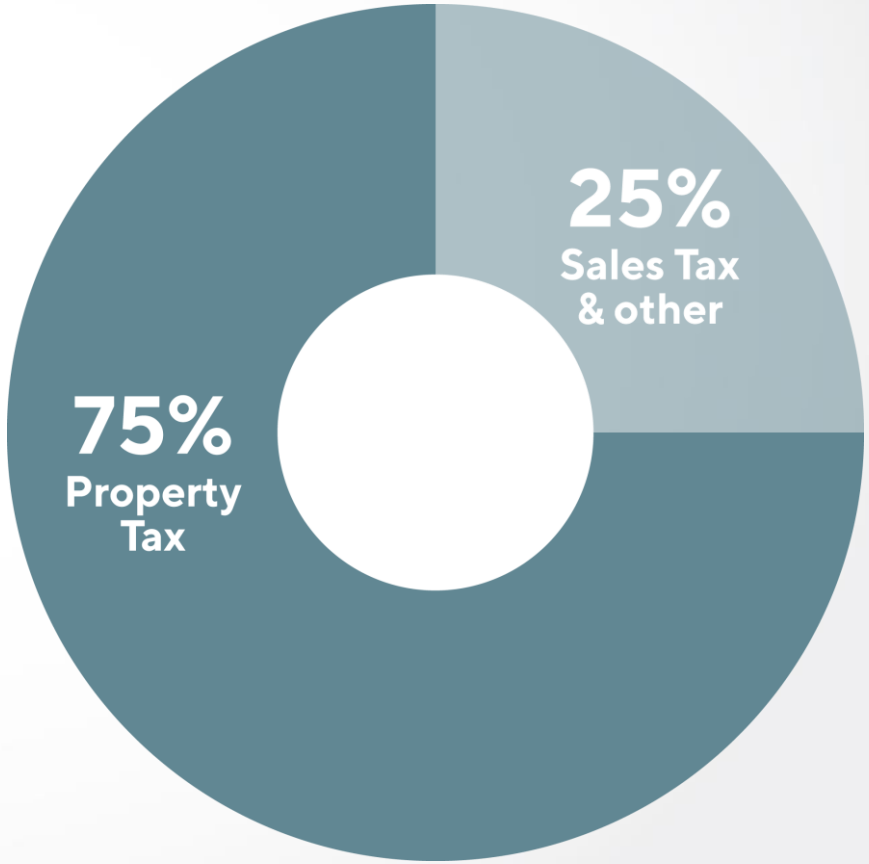


Doesn’t cover the needs of:

- WCPSS
- Wake Tech
- Wake County

Increasing the property tax can help bridge the funding gap

- Equals 75% of total budget
- Only revenue source within county's control



Budget recommendation is the result of an intense vetting process

Deliver **core county services**
Comply with **state regulations**

FY20 General Fund Operating Budget

$1,466,200,000

Includes a 6.36-cent property tax increase

Breaking down the proposed tax increase

	6.36 ¢	total tax increase
–	3.80 ¢	bond tax increase
	2.56 ¢	**operating tax increase**

Breaking down the proposed tax increase

2.56 cents

1.39-cent
increase for WCPSS operations

1.17-cent
increase for county operations

FY20 Recommended General Fund Budget

71.8 cents

Total property tax rate

Education

Funding recommendation for WCPSS

Invest an additional

$36.5 million

in the operating budget

First time our contribution to WCPSS operating expenses would exceed half a billion dollars

$507.5 million

Operating funding

Total investment in WCPSS

$789.5 million

Operating + capital funding

Wake Technical Community College

Funding recommendation for Wake Tech

Invest an additional
$1.7 million
in the community college operating budget

Investment in Wake Tech operating expenses

$24.6 million

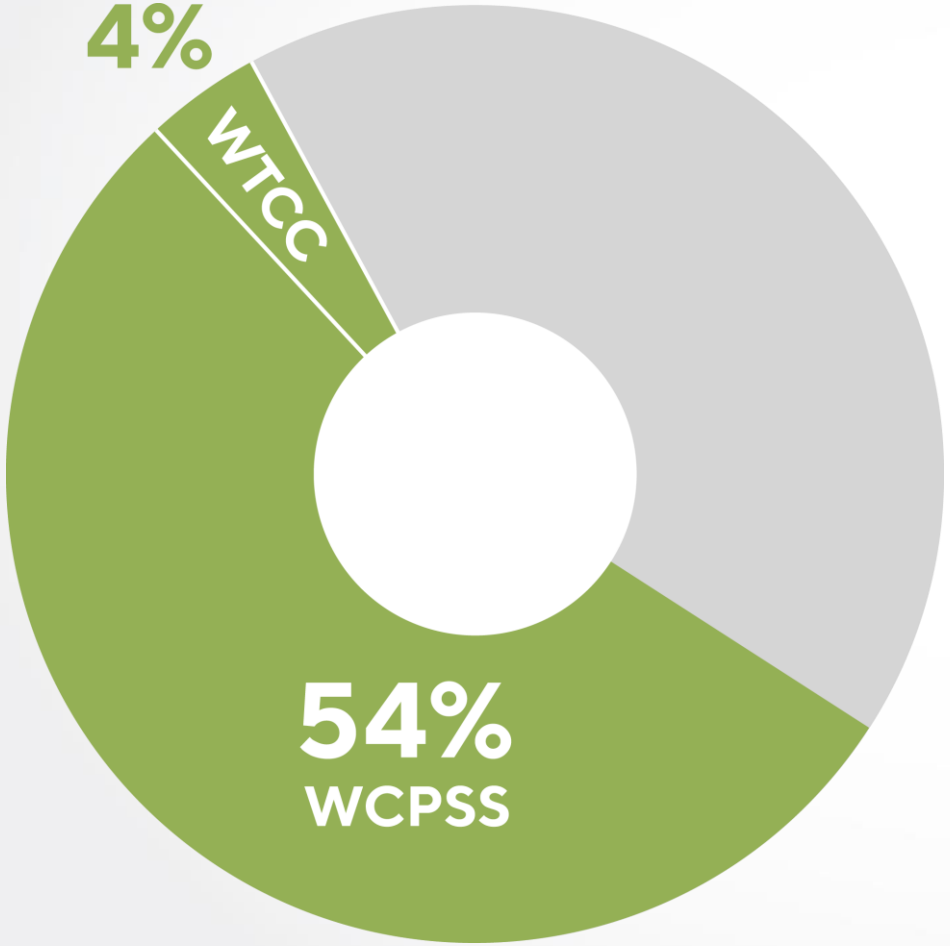
Operating funding

Total investment in Wake Tech

$64.4 million

Operating + capital funding

Total investment in education = $853.9 million



58% of total budget

$98.1 million increase over FY19

Public Health & Safety

Our top priority is public health and safety

Recommend expanding funding in 3 areas:

- Responding to crisis
- Protecting our most vulnerable residents and those in our care
- Ensuring safety through regulation

Responding to crisis

Responding to crisis: EMS

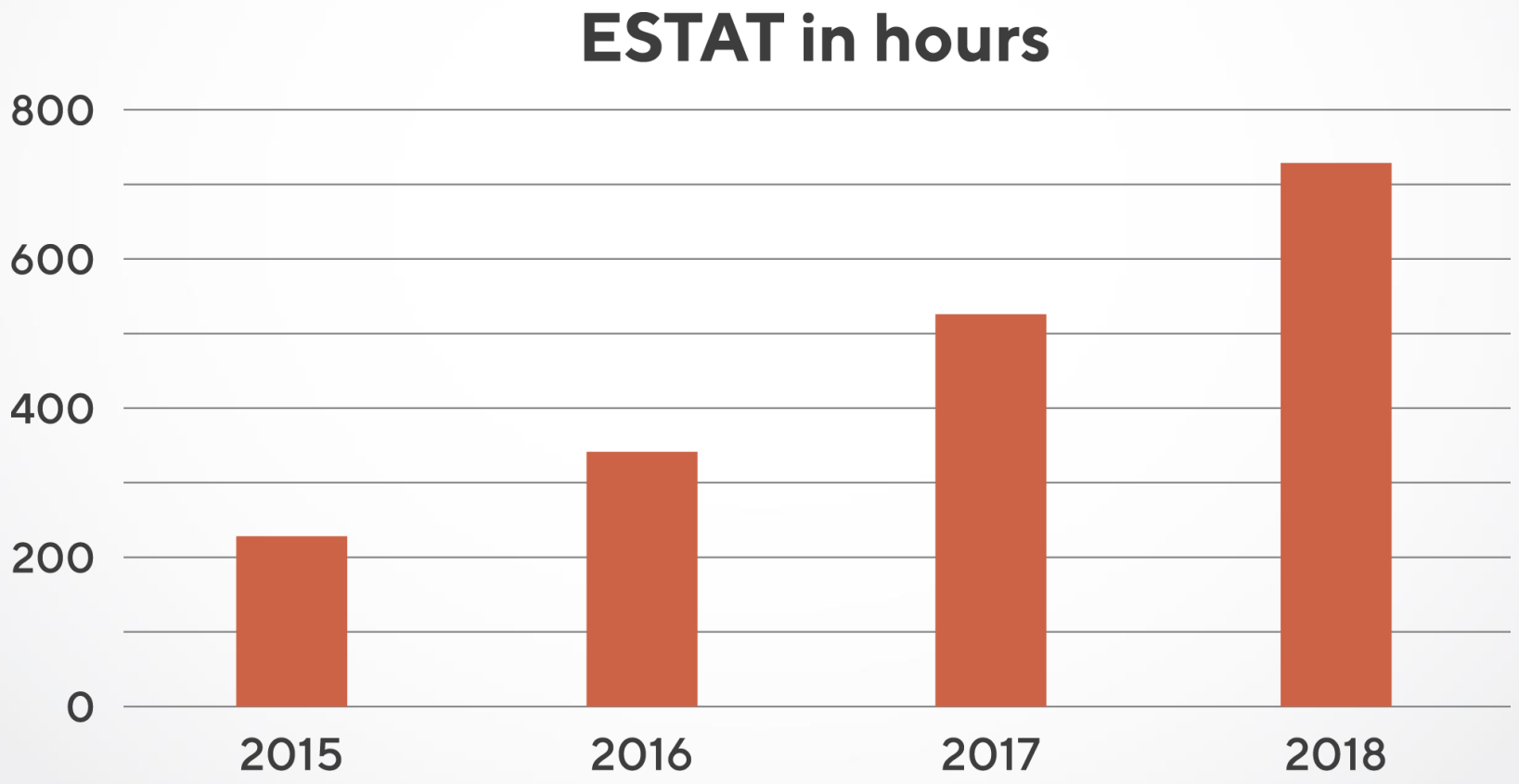
2014		2018
89,755 calls	→	106,282 calls

call volume

↑ 18.4%

Responding to crisis: EMS

Experienced a **220% increase** in ESTAT duration since 2015



Responding to crisis: EMS

Recommendation

- **Add 5 ambulance shifts**
- **Hire 20 staff**

Will reduce ESTAT and provide faster response rates

Responding to crisis: CCBI

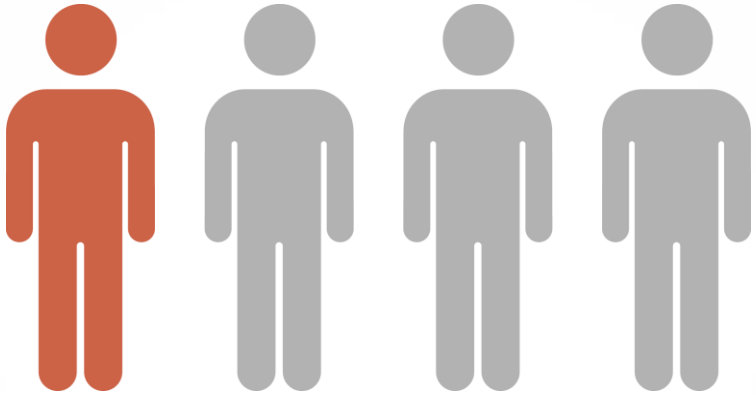
Responding to crisis: CCBI

Recommendation

Add 2 crime scene investigator positions

Will help CCBI achieve its 90% performance goal

Protecting our most vulnerable residents and those in our care



230,000 people
in Wake County are at or near the poverty line

Protecting our most vulnerable residents and those in our care

Economic Self Sufficiency

Child Welfare

Sheriff's Office

Protecting our most vulnerable residents: Economic Self Sufficiency

Thousands work but can't make ends meet

Food assistance and Medicaid give them protection

Protecting our most vulnerable residents: Economic Self Sufficiency

We currently serve:

- **170,000** Medicaid recipients
- **120,000** Food & Nutrition Services recipients

Protecting our most vulnerable residents: Economic Self Sufficiency

Recommendation

Add 6.5 positions:

- Food and Nutrition Services
- Family and Children Medicaid Program

Will help meet state requirements and make population more self sufficient

Protecting those in our care: Child Welfare

2018

- **10,000** reports of suspected child abuse or neglect
- **5,000** of those reports required follow-up
- **800** families remained together with our help
- **800** children placed in alternative care

Protecting those in our care: Child Welfare

Recommendation

Add 14 positions to Child Welfare

- Lower caseloads
- Protect children from harm
- Help children find permanent, loving homes

Protecting those in our care: Wake County Sheriff's Office

Protecting those in our care: Wake County Sheriff's Office

Recommendation

Add a sergeant position

- Conduct Crisis Intervention Training
- Train 700+ staff
- Teach response to behavioral health incidents

Protecting those in our care: Wake County Sheriff's Office

Recommendation

Add 4 nurses and 1 care technician to jail medical team

- Support staff in behavioral health and drug detox units
- Coordinate patient care
- Provide overnight clinic coverage

Protecting those in our care: Wake County Sheriff's Office

Recommendation

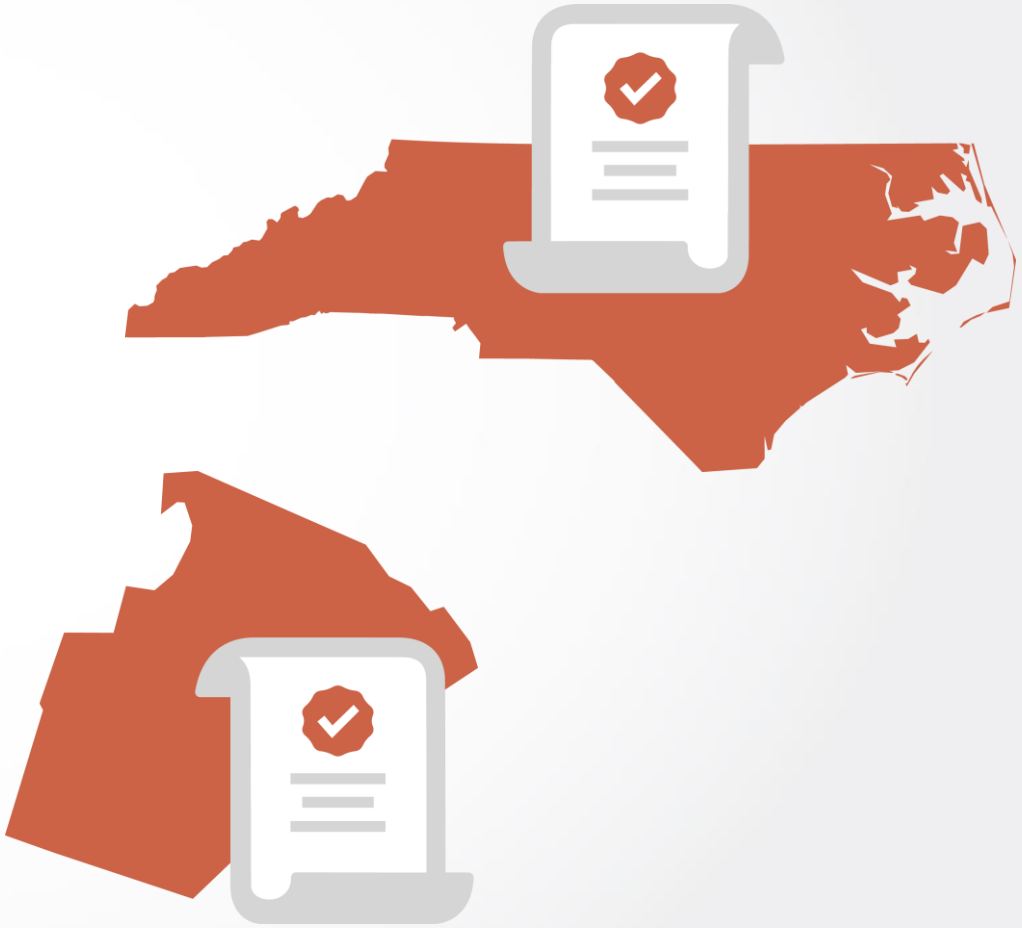
Fund the Detention Education and Workforce Initiative

- Continue 2-year pilot program
- Offer training and case management to 120 people
- Reduce recidivism

Ensuring safety through regulation

Our responsibility:

Uphold **state regulations** and **county codes** to ensure safety.



Ensuring safety through regulation: Inspections

In FY2018, our Planning, Development and Inspections staff:

conducted

60,000+ inspections

issued

9,000+ permits

Ensuring safety through regulation: Inspections

Recommendation

Add 2 inspectors

- Meet construction industry demands
- Ensure projects meet codes and are safe

Ensuring safety through regulation: Water

Recommendation

Add 4 positions to:

- Comply with changes to state regulations
- Meet increasing demand for well water testing

Total investment in public health and safety = $389.9 million

26% of total budget

$10.5 million increase over FY19

Board of Elections

Two-thirds of Wake County residents are registered voters

740,000

Registered Voters

and growing every day

Voter turnout is on the rise

440,000 voters

cast their ballots in the 2018 General Election.

34% increase from 2014

More people are requesting absentee ballots

2014 → 2018

Increased by nearly

50%

More people are getting involved in the democratic process

Board of Elections: March primary

for presidential primary election

Recommendation

Invest $3.3 million to:

- Hold the election
- Operate 11 early voting sites

Board of Elections: Unfunded state mandates

Voter IDs

Now required to:

- Issue voter photo ID cards
- Take additional steps to process absentee ballots
- Follow new early voting schedules

Board of Elections: Unfunded state mandates

Additional staff
to meet demand

Recommendation

Add 6 new positions

- Comply with unfunded state mandates
- Respond to historic demand for voter registration
- Prepare for unprecedented turnout at the polls

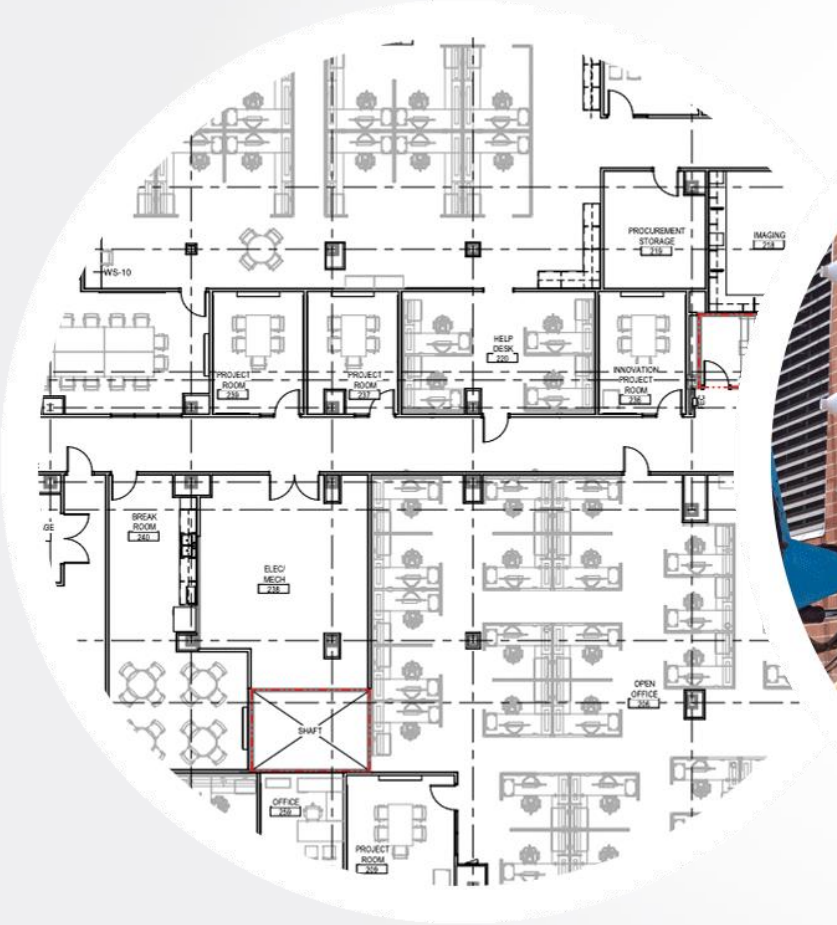
Total investment in Board of Elections = $8.3 million

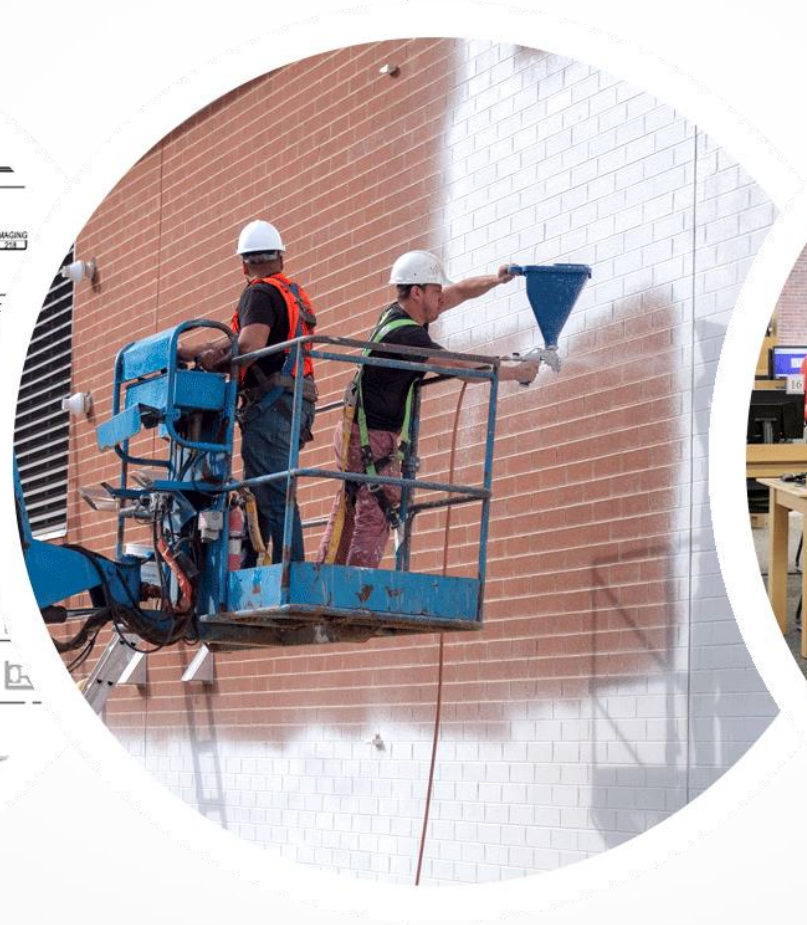
1% of total budget

$3.5 million increase over FY19

Facilities, Technology and Infrastructure

Facilities, technology and infrastructure





Facilities, technology and infrastructure

We build on this strong foundation every day.

Dependable IT networks
Effective project oversight
Well-maintained facilities

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: IT Security

10,000

connected devices

17,000

user accounts

terabytes

of data stored onsite

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: IT Security

August 6, 2018

Atlanta ransomware recovery cost now at $17 million, reports say

March 19, 2019

Hackers demand ransom from Orange County for 3rd time in 6 years

January 14, 2019

Ransomware attack sends City of Del Rio back to the days of pen and paper

March 25, 2019

Oregon Agency Reports Phishing Attack Affecting 350,000

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: IT Security

Recommendation

Invest an additional $1.7 million in:

- IT security
- Network improvements

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Project management

Recommendation

Add 2 project managers to oversee growing workload

10% increase
from FY18

Estimate:

- Manage 110 projects
- Conduct 300 real estate transactions

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Project management

$120 million
Parks, Recreation, Greenways and Open Space Bond

$106 million
Human Services Facilities Plan

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Maintenance

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Maintenance

5,000,000+

Square feet of county buildings

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Maintenance

Recommendation

Add 3 facility staff

- Maintain our buildings
- Respond to occupants' needs

Facilities, technology and infrastructure: Unfunded state mandates

Recommendation

Add 3 inspector positions

Comply with state-mandated inspections of stormwater management devices

Total investment in facilities, technology and infrastructure = $85.6 million

6% of total budget

$12.8 million increase over FY19

Organizational Support

Organizational support

Support a
4,200-person
workforce

Manage and maintain
1,000 vehicles

Processed
50,000
vendor payments

Organizational support: Our team

Board of Commissioners

Communications Office

County Manager's Office

County Attorney's Office

Budget and
Management Services

Finance Department

Human Resources
Department

Register of Deeds Office

Tax Administration Office

Quasi-Governmental

Non-departmental

Organizational support: Unfunded state mandate

DMV collects vehicle property taxes

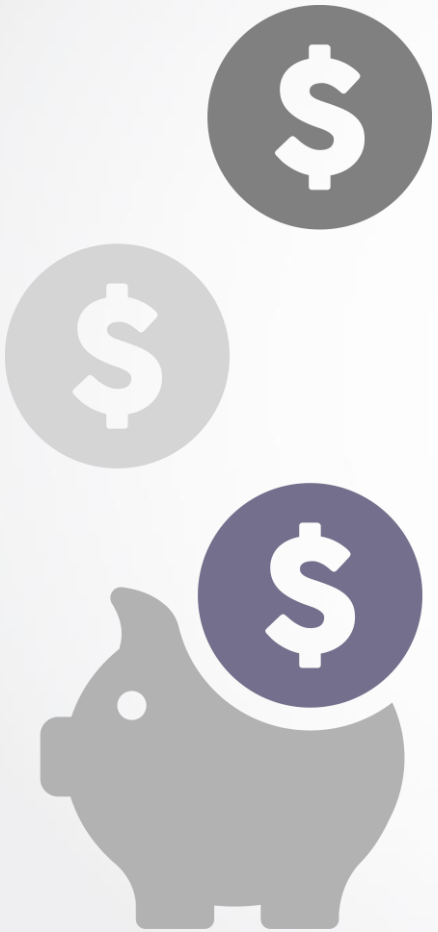
DMV requires us to reimburse the state for fees

Fees are increasing in FY20

Recommendation

Include an additional $450,000 to cover cost increase

Organizational support: LGERS



Local Government Employees Retirement System is raising our rate of contribution.

Recommendation

Include an additional $1.56 million to cover rate increase

Organizational support: Investing in our workforce

Organizational support: Investing in our workforce

We need skilled employees to deliver the services our residents expect.

Retaining top talent requires investment

Recommendation

3%
pay raise

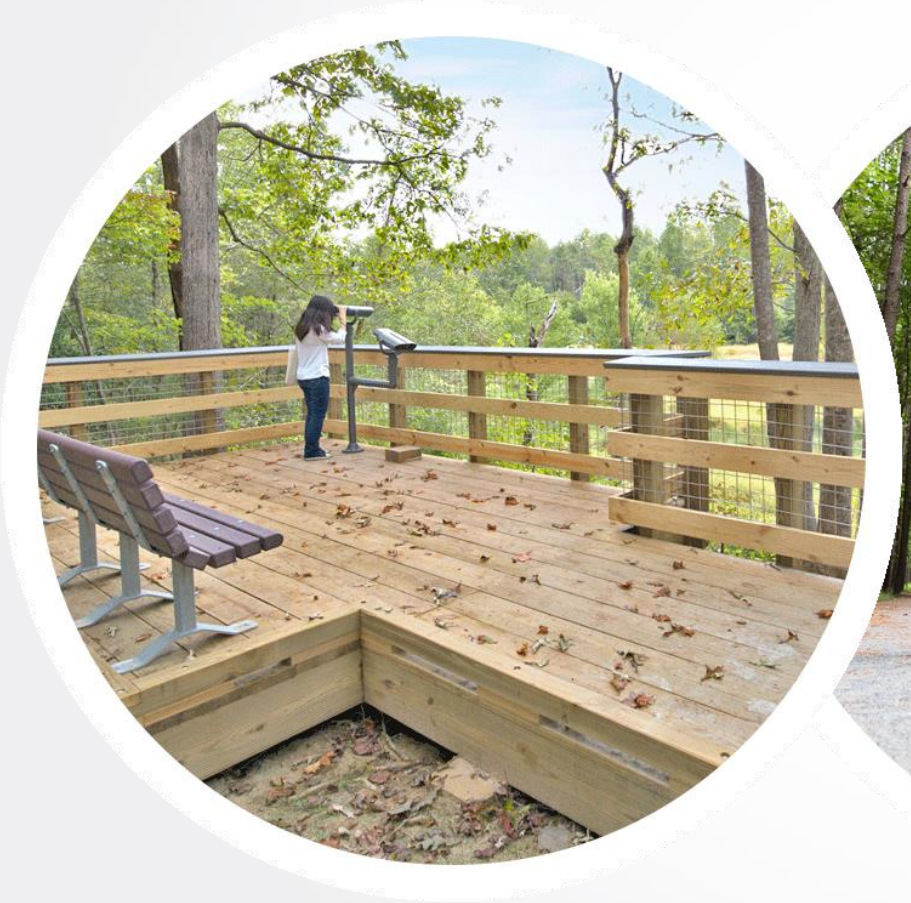
Total investment in organizational support = $57.6 million

4% of total budget

$3.9 million increase over FY19

Quality of Life

Quality of life



Quality of life: Housing

Board adopted in the FY19 budget a historic **$15 million investment** in affordable housing

Quality of life: Housing

$15 million
for affordable housing
in FY19

FY19 successes:

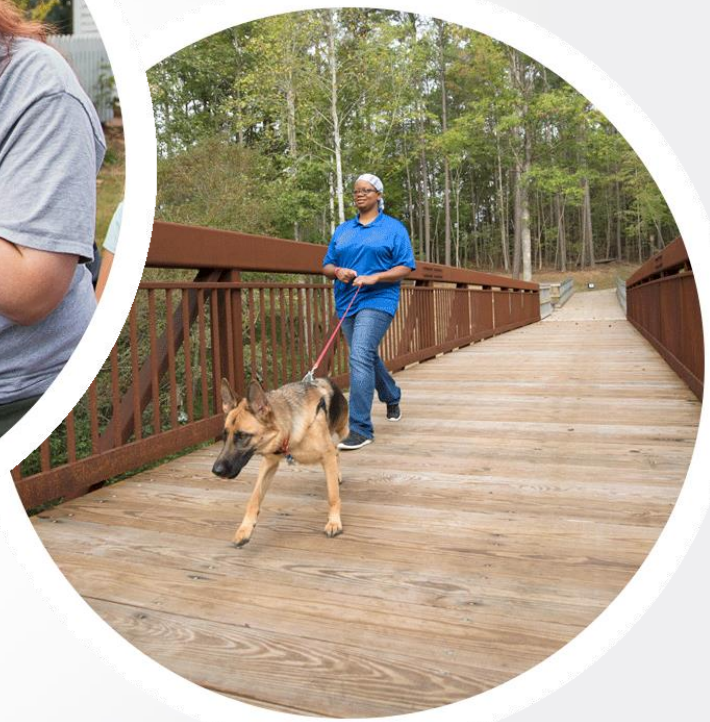
- **$12.6 million** in gap funding could bring 920 affordable housing units to county
- Contributed **$2.4 million** to first full-service shelter for single, homeless women
- Created **veterans preference** in dorm at men's shelter

Quality of life: Housing

Use FY20 funding to:

- Increase supply of affordable housing units
- Help people find transitional and permanent supportive housing
- Prevent homelessness

Quality of life: Parks, greenways and open space



Quality of life: Parks, greenways and open space

Recommendation

Add 2 open space staff

Protect our **7,600+ acres** of open space

Quality of life: Parks, greenways and open space

$120 million

over 6 years

Parks, Greenways, Recreation and Open Space Bond

- New parks
- New amenities at existing parks
- More greenway connections
- More open space preservation

Quality of life: Libraries

3.4 million
visits in 2018

1.5 million
books and online materials

10,000
programs
offered in 2018

Quality of life: Libraries

3 opening libraries

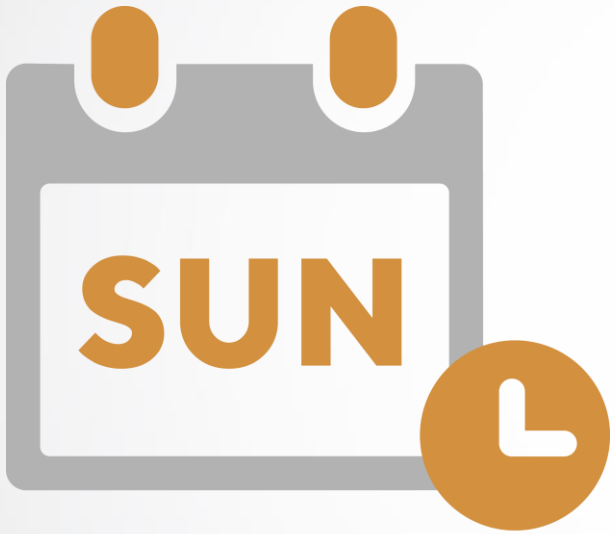
Quality of life: Libraries

Cary

Fuquay-Varina

Morrisville

Quality of life: Libraries



Sunday hours

- Expand Sunday hours to all 22 libraries in the system
- All will operate on the same schedule
- Increase access for residents

Quality of life: Libraries

Late fees

What it means:

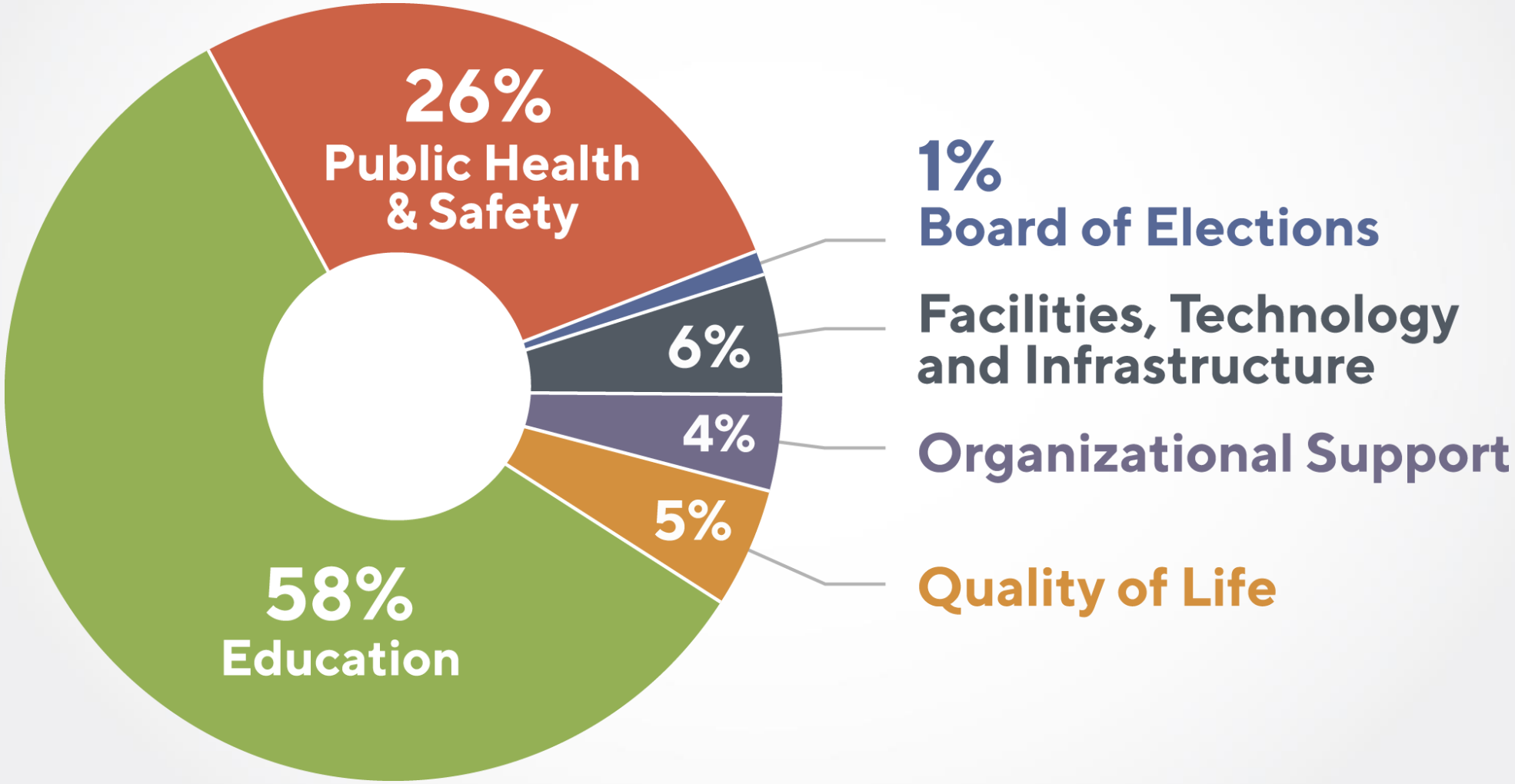
- No more late fees
- Remove barriers to library usage
- Increase library popularity and visitation

Total investment in quality of life = $70.9 million

5% of total budget

$6.3 million increase over FY19

FY20 Recommended General Fund Budget



FY20 Recommended General Fund Budget

$1,466,200,000

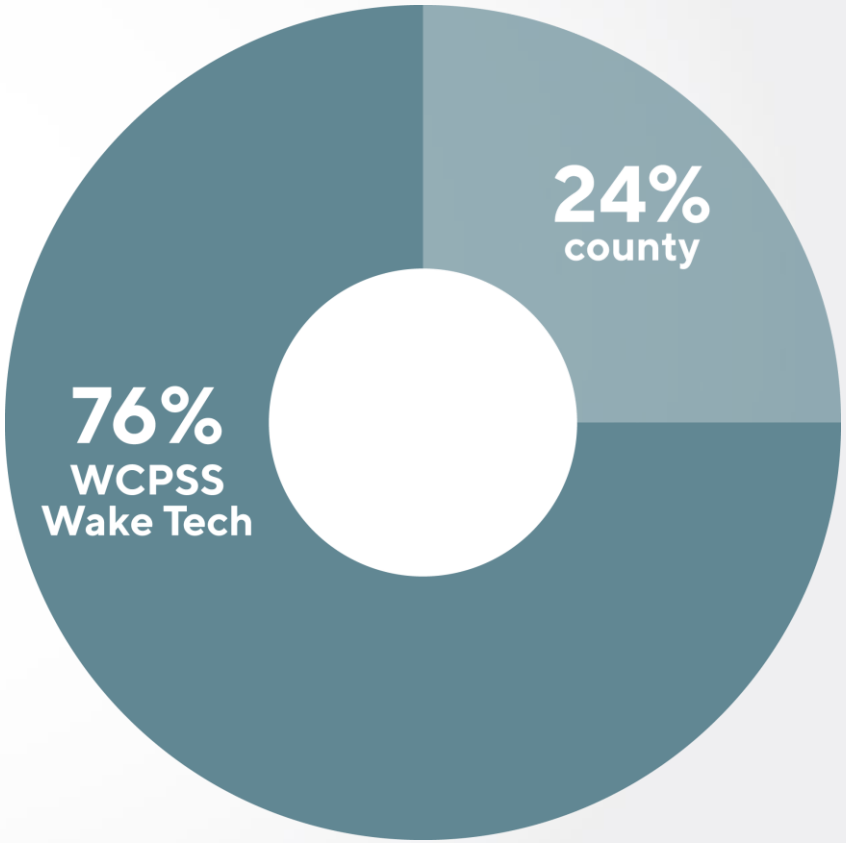
Includes a 6.36-cent property tax increase

10% increase ⬆
from FY19 adopted budget

76% of tax increase will fund education

3.80¢ bond tax increase
+ 2.56¢ county tax increase

6.36¢ total tax increase



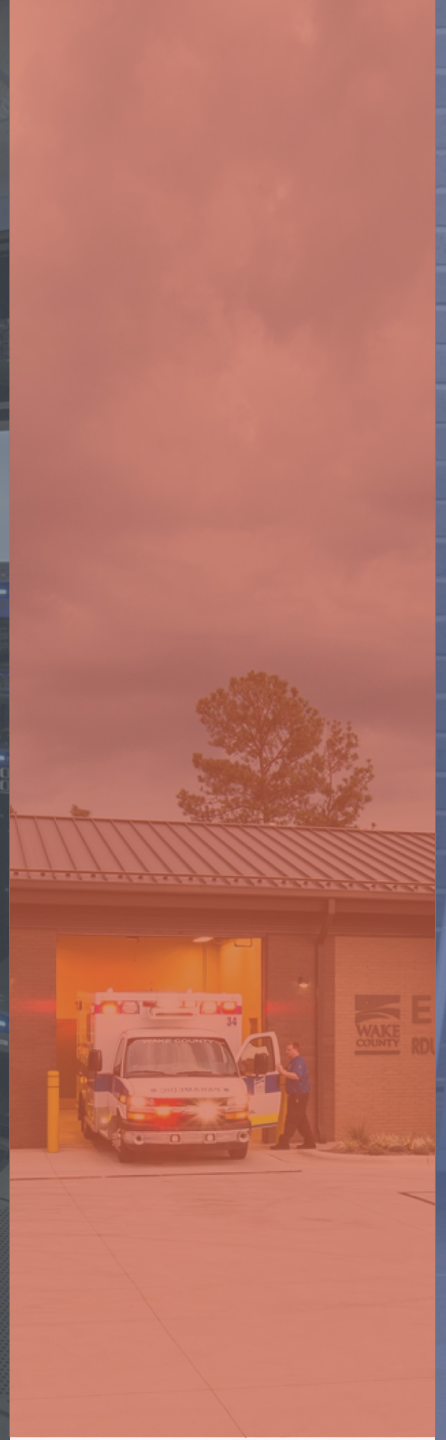
Effect on the average homeowner

The breakdown:

For every **$100,000** of assessed value, the property owner will pay an additional **$64** a year.

$300,000
home

additional
$16/month
in property tax


WAKE
COUNTY

Next steps

FY20 Recommended Budget Schedule

MAY 13

9 a.m.

Work session
Room 2800

MAY 20

2 p.m.

1st budget public hearing
Board Room

7 p.m.

2nd budget public hearing
Wake County Commons

MAY 29

2 p.m.

Work session
Room 2800

JUNE 3

5 p.m.

Vote on proposed budget
Board Room

Need more information?

All FY20 Recommended Budget materials are available at

wakegov.com