

## Davidson County Board of Commissioners

Mrs. Karen Watford Chair  
 Mr. Todd Yates, Vice-Chairman  
 Mr. Chris Elliott  
 Mr. William Kester  
 Mr. Fred McClure  
 Mr. Matt Mizell  
 Mr. Steve Shell

The Board of Commissioners holds regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:00pm. In addition, informational meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 8:00am. The meetings are held on the 4th floor of the Governmental Center, which is located at 913 Greensboro Street in Lexington and all meetings are open to the public.

Commissioner's Telephone Number: 336-242-2200

### County Manager

Casey R. Smith 242-2200

### Departments

|                        |                    |          |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Cooperative Extension  | Troy Coggins       | 242-2081 |
| Ambulance              | Alton Hanes        | 242-2270 |
| Board of Elections     | Andrew Richards    | 242-2190 |
| Assist. County Manager | Vacant             | 242-2213 |
| Clerk of Court         | Sandie Chappell    | 242-2264 |
| 911 Communications     | Vacant             | 242-2132 |
| County Attorney        | Adam Jones         | 236-3084 |
| Economic Development   | Casey Smith        | 242-2200 |
| Finance                | Christy Stilwell   | 242-2027 |
| Fire Marshal           | Danny Ward         | 242-2281 |
| Health                 | Lillian Koontz     | 242-2349 |
| Human Resources        | Tony Dill          | 242-2919 |
| Inspections            | Beau Chollett      | 242-2807 |
| Landfill / Solid Waste | Charlie Brushwood  | 242-2200 |
| Library                | Sheila Killebrew   | 242-2064 |
| IT                     | Daniel Parrish     | 242-2032 |
| Museum                 | Caitlin Williams   | 242-2064 |
| Planning & Zoning      | Lee Crook          | 242-2224 |
| Support Services       | Dwayne Childress   | 242-2030 |
| Recreation             | Thomas Marshburn   | 242-2285 |
| Register of Deeds      | Michael Horne      | 242-2150 |
| Senior Services        | Thessia Everhart   | 242-2290 |
| Sheriff                | Richie Simmons     | 242-2100 |
| Social Services        | Patricia Baker     | 242-2562 |
| Soil & Water           | Gabriela Castaneda | 242-2075 |
| Tax Administration     | David Rickard      | 242-2160 |
| Transportation         | Richard Jones      | 242-2925 |
| Veterans Services      | Barry West         | 242-2037 |

# The Layman's Budget

## A Citizen's Guide to the Budget

### Fiscal Year

### Proposed 2026-2027

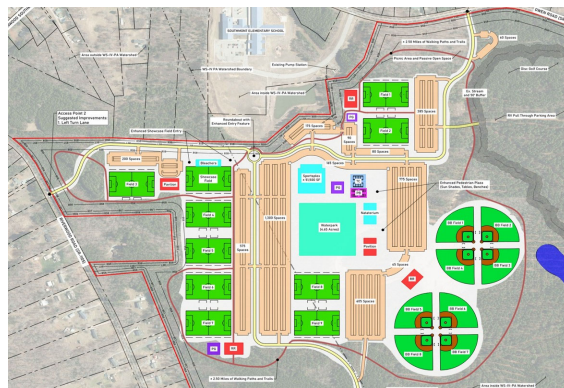
### Beginning July 1, 2026



### Statement of Philosophy and Guiding Principles of Davidson County Government

**Davidson County delivers services devoted to excellence, maintaining standards of professionalism and integrity while enhancing the well-being of our community.**

**Our philosophy is based on:**  
 Encouraging teamwork through collaboration and partnerships  
 Offering responsive services to obtain positive results  
 Delivering excellent services through committed employees who are sensitive to the needs of our citizens  
 Creating and maintaining a safe, professional work environment that promotes leadership and empowers employees  
 Providing fiscal accountability and environmental stewardship by effectively using human and natural resources



### REVENUES

- Proposed property tax rate is reduced to \$0.3668 per \$100 of assessed property valuation, the revenue-neutral calculated rate (or \$0.54 upon passage of NC SB 889, with prior year property values). Total tax base equals \$30.71 billion, with a 96.75% overall blended collection rate. The County expects to collect \$97,574,656 in property taxes for next fiscal year. This is an increase of \$6,574,656 or 7.2% over the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget total of \$91,000,000.
- Article 46 Sales Tax increases to (\$5.96 million) + (\$6.0) million for Article 44. Article 44 and 46 increase to largely fund education operating, major school capital, and build economic development reserves.
- Base sales tax revenue increase of (\$2,175,173) to a total of (\$36.6) million. This increase in base sales tax is reflective of a slight increase of consumer spending statewide.
- Increase of (\$871K) in Intergovernmental Revenue or 4.3% largely due to an "expected" increase in state foster care \$'s + increase to Transportation & SRO revenue, but a reduction (\$513K) for Food Assistance funding.
- The FY 2027 Proposed Budget uses \$5,242,077 from County reserves to balance the overall budget. This amount remains unchanged from FY 2026. Even with this recommended fund balance appropriation, the unrestricted fund balance remains well in excess of the 18% minimum requirement set forth in the County's Fund Balance Policy adopted in 2008.
- The FY 2027 Proposed Budget only uses \$1.3M interest revenue. This holds reliance on interest to the same level as the FY 2026 Adopted Budget.
- Other Funds (Changes) - Sewer — an increase of 6% as proposed by waste water treatment provider, the City / County Commission (Winston-Salem / Forsyth County). Rural Fire Districts — propose revenue-neutral tax rates districtwide given the revaluation growth per district (maintains current revenue + "natural growth") increases overall funding by (\$1.3M) or 8.7%. Transportation Fund— replaces one (1) high mileage service bus. Lastly, the insurance fund anticipates an increase of (\$2.5M) or 20%. This is due to several "High Cost Claimants HCCs" utilizing the plan.

### EXPENDITURES

- FY 2027 COLA for Employees (\$500 + 2.5%), with no employee insurance cost increases expected for the upcoming fiscal year. Does include an increase in state-mandated employee retirement contributions (5% Non-LEOs and LEOs).
- Debt obligations in FY 2027 (decrease = \$464K) over FY 2026 in anticipation of detention center borrowing in FY 2027.
- Increase Education funding by \$2.5M or 5.2% vs. FY 2026. The "per pupil" funding increases 6.99% over FY 2026 Adopted of \$1,451.97 going to \$1,553.47 in the FY 2027 Proposed budget. The increase is expected to be used to maintain or increase local teacher supplements for the upcoming fiscal year contingent upon state funding. The proposed budget increases the total funding for major capital by (500K) for all three school systems = \$5.3M. Lastly, the proposed budget increases funding to DDCC by \$197K or 5.0%.
- "Net" increase of 17.00 FTE versus FY 2026 Adopted.
  - ⇒ 1.00 - FY 2026 Approved - DSS Attorney
  - ⇒ (8.00) - FY 2026 Adopted - Paramedics for Silver Valley base; removed when project "paused"
  - ⇒ 7.00 - FY 2027 Proposed - EDC 1.00; P&R 2.00; Public Health 2.00; 2.00 Emergency Communications
  - ⇒ 12.00 - FY 2027 Proposed - Sheriff's Office (10.00 Detention phase-in + 2.00 Investigation support)
  - ⇒ 5.00 - FY 2027 Proposed - DSS (SNAP / FNS) processes

**Davidson County Proposed 2026-2027**

**General Fund Budget**

**General Government**

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| County Commissioners            | \$ 428,939          |
| County Manager                  | \$ 989,910          |
| County Attorney                 | \$ 754,729          |
| Human Resources                 | \$ 1,230,195        |
| Finance                         | \$ 1,427,912        |
| Purchasing                      | \$ 571,882          |
| Assessor & Collector            | \$ 3,663,582        |
| Board of Elections              | \$ 1,222,644        |
| Register of Deeds               | \$ 839,100          |
| State Agencies                  | \$ 197,371          |
| Public Buildings                | \$ 4,734,116        |
| Information Technology          | \$ 2,714,202        |
| Contingency                     | \$ 75,000           |
| Fines & Forfeitures             | \$ <u>750,000</u>   |
| <b>Total General Government</b> | <b>\$19,599,582</b> |

**Public Safety**

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sheriff                        | \$21,050,686        |
| Sheriff Resource Officers      | \$ 2,207,918        |
| Jail                           | \$ 8,858,217        |
| Emergency Communications       | \$ 4,489,531        |
| Inspections                    | \$ 1,817,147        |
| Medical Examiner               | \$ 205,000          |
| Emergency Management           | \$ 215,643          |
| Fire Marshal                   | \$ 787,379          |
| Ambulance                      | \$14,133,799        |
| Animal Shelter                 | \$ 885,430          |
| JCPC Operating Supplies        | \$ 2,500            |
| Contributions to Rescue Squads | \$ <u>72,000</u>    |
| <b>Total Public Safety</b>     | <b>\$54,725,250</b> |

**Transportation**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Financing Use-Transfer to Airport        | \$ 102,650        |
| Financing Use-Transfer to Transportation | \$ <u>156,978</u> |
| <b>Total Transportation</b>              | <b>\$ 259,628</b> |

**Environmental Protection**

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sanitation                            | \$ 1,565,855        |
| Soil & Water                          | \$ 296,620          |
| Financing Use-Transfer to Sewer Fund  | \$ <u>689,308</u>   |
| <b>Total Environmental Protection</b> | <b>\$ 2,551,783</b> |

**Economic And Physical Development**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Planning                                       | \$ 834,551          |
| GIS  | \$ 347,630          |
| Cooperative Extension                          | \$ 365,374          |
| Economic Development                           | \$ 149,158          |
| Contribution to Forester                       | \$ 143,051          |
| Contribution to Chambers of Commerce           | \$ 3,890            |
| Financing Use-Transfer to County Capital Plan  | \$ 16,667           |
| Financing Use-Transfer to Economic Dev. Res.   | \$ <u>1,169,000</u> |
| <b>Total Economic and Physical Development</b> | <b>\$ 3,029,321</b> |

**Human Services**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Health                                  | \$ 9,759,518         |
| Social Services                         | \$ 22,326,003        |
| Public Assistance                       | \$ 3,344,540         |
| Senior Services                         | \$ 3,496,069         |
| Veterans Services                       | \$ 293,218           |
| Financing Use-Transfer to Mental Health | \$ <u>760,400</u>    |
| <b>Total Human Services</b>             | <b>\$ 39,979,748</b> |

**Culture and Recreation**

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Recreation                          | \$ 1,532,955        |
| Sportsplex                          | \$ 602,356          |
| Library                             | \$ 4,667,990        |
| Museum                              | \$ 214,069          |
| Lake Thom-a-Lex                     | \$ 180,407          |
| Tourism                             | \$ <u>90,360</u>    |
| <b>Total Culture and Recreation</b> | <b>\$ 7,288,137</b> |

**Debt Service**

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Principal                 | \$ 8,882,112         |
| Interest                  | \$ <u>3,850,000</u>  |
| <b>Total Debt Service</b> | <b>\$ 12,732,112</b> |

**Education**

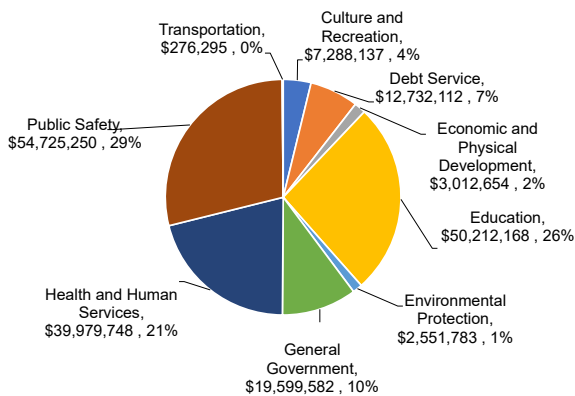
|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| School Current Expense              | \$ 36,919,778        |
| School Capital Outlay               | \$ 2,087,329         |
| Community College - Current Expense | \$ 4,046,670         |
| Community College - Capital Outlay  | \$ 442,723           |
| School Capital Outlay Fund          | \$ 5,302,334         |
| Other Education Contributions       | \$ <u>1,413,334</u>  |
| <b>Total Education</b>              | <b>\$ 50,212,168</b> |

**Total General Fund \$ 190,377,729**

**Other Funds Budget**

**Mental Health Fund \$ 786,844**  
Mental Health is funded by County dollars in the amount of \$760,400. The remainder comes from other sources.

**FY 2027 Proposed Budget Expenditures**  
General Fund Total \$190,377,729



**Special Revenue Funds Budget**

**Fire District Fund \$ 16,983,831**

This fund includes revenue collected through fire district taxes for operational cost and capital needs for the County's (25) volunteer fire districts.

**Transportation Fund \$ 1,618,903**

This fund is for the Davidson County Transportation System. The fund will receive \$107,000 from the General Fund. The remainder comes from charges for services, sale of Fixed Assets and Federal / State funds.

**Special School District Fund \$ 2,023,500**

This fund includes revenue collected for the Lexington City Schools through a special school district tax.

**Emergency Telephone Fund \$ 378,327**

This fund holds revenues from the monthly surcharge fee on telephone service. The fees are used to pay for maintenance and upgrades to the County's emergency communication system.

**Capital Improvement Project Plan \$ 16,667**

This fund is used for specific capital projects, with the \$16,667 being for the airport.

**School Capital Outlay Fund \$ 5,302,334**

This fund pays for construction of new buildings, additions to older facilities and purchase of land and equipment.

**Opioid Fund \$ 1,500,000**

This fund is to help address challenges stemming from opioid addiction. Annual installments will be made over the next several years.

**MAT Grant \$ 503,549**

This fund provides for the County's Medical Assistance Treatment program within the Detention Center (\$'s via the Opioid Fund).

**Total Special Revenue Funds \$ 28,327,111**

**Internal Service Fund Budget**

**Garage \$ 2,927,035**

This fund is used by the Garage for maintenance, gas and insurance of County owned vehicles. The cost is distributed to the various County Departments.

**Insurance Fund \$ 15,459,266**

This fund is used to charge the various departments health insurance cost. Davidson County is self insured. Health claims and administration cost are paid from this fund.

**Workers Compensation \$ 1,365,797**

Davidson County is self insured for workers compensation claims. All departments are charged based on the workers compensation rate for their job code. All claims and administration are paid from this account.

**Total Internal Service Funds \$ 19,752,098**

**Enterprise Funds Budget**

**Landfill \$ 5,320,538**

Revenues in this fund are raised through landfill tipping fees, tire disposal fees, and sale of recyclable materials are used for capital improvements and operations of the solid waste system of the County.

**Airport \$ 618,770**

This fund is used to operate the local airport. The County portion of this is \$119,317.

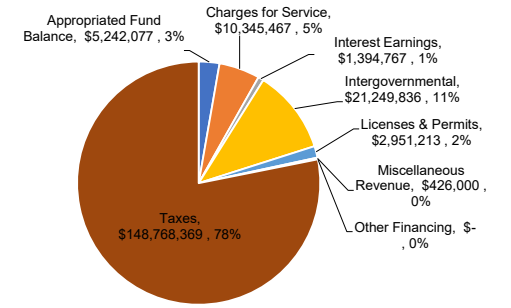
**Sewer \$ 1,890,059**

This fund is used to track the operating cost of the Davidson County sewer program.

**Total Enterprise Funds \$ 7,829,367**

**Total of All Fund Types \$247,073,149**

**FY 2027 Proposed Budget Revenues**  
Total \$190,377,729



**Property Tax Rate**

The FY 2026-2027 Proposed Budget tax rate of \$0.3668 is lower than the current property tax rate of \$0.54 per \$100 dollars of valuation due to the 2026 property revaluation. The proposed rate is equal to the calculated revenue-neutral tax rate. The County Budget is 51% funded by property tax revenue. The adopted tax rate will yield total revenue of \$97,574,656 on a collection rate of 96.75%. One penny of property tax equals \$2,965,424. The current tax base is 30.71 billion.

**Davidson County Profile**

Davidson County was formed in 1822 including an area of 567 square miles. It was named for General William Lee Davidson, who was killed in a battle with British forces during the Revolutionary War. With a mild climate free of extremes, citizens enjoy each of the distinct four seasons of the year. The average annual temperature is 60 degrees and the average rainfall is 45 inches. Lexington is the county seat of Davidson County and is located in the center of the North Carolina industrial piedmont. The County has six municipalities Lexington, Thomasville, Denton, Wallburg, Midway and High Point. The County population is approximately 178,391.

Yadkin Valley Park



Creating Jobs. Improving the Tax Base. Building the Local Economy.

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Lexington, NC 27292  
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Website: [www.co.davidson.nc.us](http://www.co.davidson.nc.us)  
The full contents of the Budget can be viewed at the website above