

FY27



ADOPTED ANNUAL BUDGET



CABARRUS COUNTY
America Thrives Here

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INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Board of Commissioners



Left to Right: Wortman, Patrick, Lindsey, Jones, Pittman

LAURA BLACKWELL LINDSEY (CHAIR)

IAN PATRICK (VICE CHAIR)

LARRY PITTMAN

JEFF JONES

KENNETH WORTMAN

INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished
Budget Presentation
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**Cabarrus County
North Carolina**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

July 01, 2025

Christopher P. Morrill

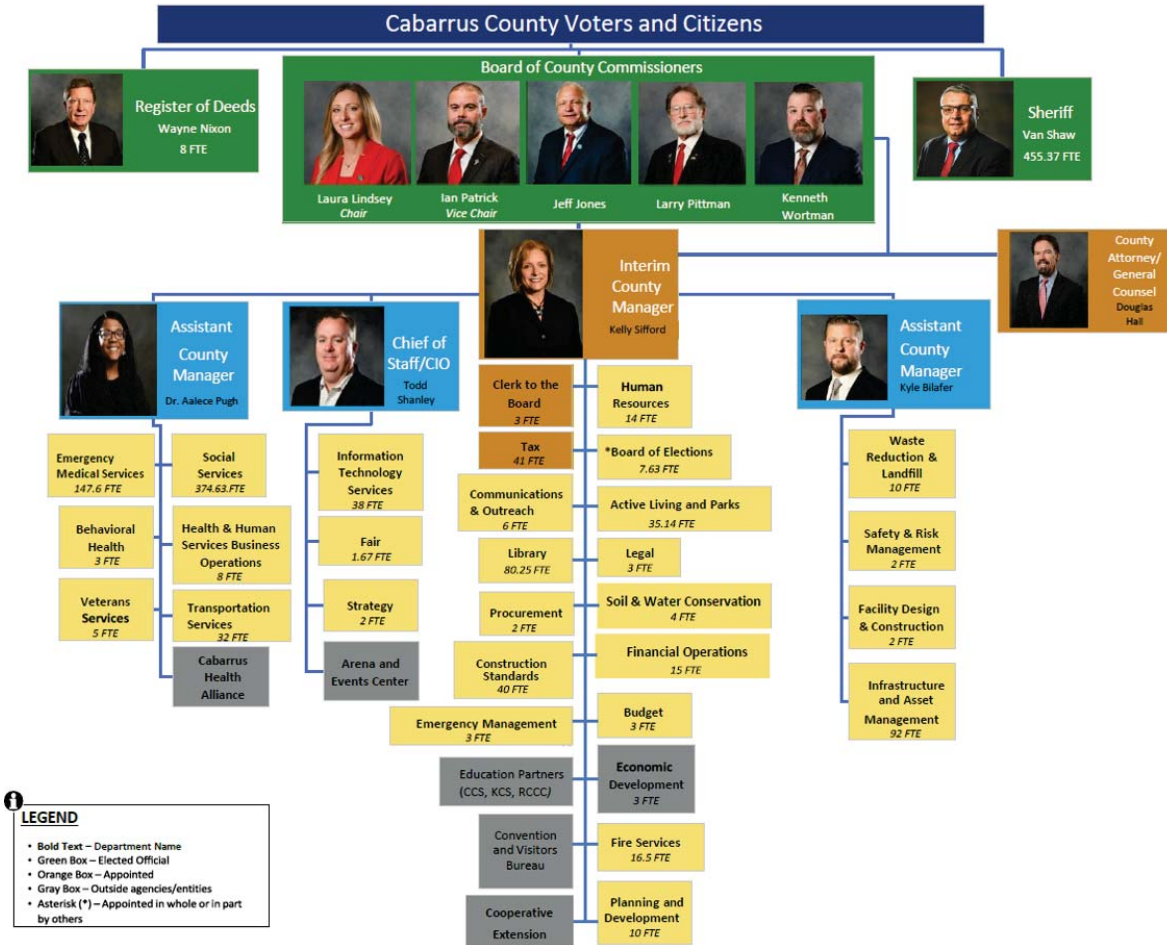
Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Cabarrus County, North Carolina for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan and as a communications device. The award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Cabarrus County Organization Chart



INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Readers Guide

The information contained in this document is intended to accomplish the following:

- Explain how tax dollars are used
- Enhance accountability
- Promote transparency
- Describe departments and programs
- Inform the Board of Commissioners

The Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Budget goes from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

The following sections are included in the document:

Introduction

This section provides a Reader's Guide, County Profile and details of the strategic planning process.

Budget Message

This section provides the County Manager's overview of the FY27 Budget. The budget message explains funding priorities for the year focusing on new funding.

Financial Structure, Policy & Process

This section provides the fund structure, fund relationships, financial policies and budget process.

Budget Summary

This section provides a summary of revenues and expenditures.

Fund Summaries

This section provides a summary of the county's funds including:

- General Fund
- Community Investment Fund
- Landfill Fund
- 911 Emergency Telephone Fund
- Cabarrus Arena and Events Fund
- Fire Districts Fund
- Social Services Fund
- Intergovernmental Fund
- Workers Compensation and Liability Fund
- Health and Dental Insurance Fund
- Opioid Settlement Fund

Position Summary

This section provides position information by department. In addition, this section includes new positions funded.

Five Year Financial Plan

This section provides a forecast of revenues and expenditures over a five-year period for the general fund.

Capital Improvement Plan

This section provides the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for a five-year period. The CIP funds large construction and repair projects for the county. Projects for Cabarrus County Schools, Kannapolis City Schools and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) are also included.

Education

This section provides information on funding for Cabarrus County Schools, Kannapolis City Schools and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.

Debt Service

This section provides the county's current and future debt obligations. It also includes the county's legal debt margin.

Supplemental Information

This section provides the supplemental information such as a glossary.

INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Profile of Cabarrus County

The County, incorporated in 1792, is in the Piedmont section of the State of North Carolina and is bordered on the north by Rowan and Iredell counties, on the east by Stanly County, on the south by Union County and on the west by Mecklenburg County; it comprises approximately 230,400 acres. There are six municipalities in the County, the largest of which is the City of Concord, also the County seat. Concord is approximately 124 miles from the City of Raleigh, North Carolina and 18 miles northeast of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina. The second largest municipality is the City of Kannapolis. The Towns of Mount Pleasant, Harrisburg, Midland and Locust are smaller municipalities in the County. The United States Census Bureau estimated a county population of 249,725 as of July 2025, making the County the 9th largest in North Carolina. The County is empowered to levy a property tax on both real and personal property located within its boundaries.

The County has operated under the Board of Commissioners-County Manager form of government since 1976. Policy-making and legislative authority are vested in a governing board consisting of five commissioners. The governing board is responsible for, among other things, passing ordinances, adopting the budget, appointing committees and hiring the county manager, clerk to the board, tax administrator and county attorney. The County Manager serves as the chief executive and is responsible for carrying out the policies and ordinances of the governing board, for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the government and for appointing the heads of the various departments. Board members are elected on a partisan basis serving four-year staggered terms, with new members (two or three) elected every two years.

The annual budget is the foundation for the County's financial planning and control. All agencies of the County are required to submit requests for appropriation to the County Manager on or before the end of March each year. The County Manager uses these requests as the starting point for developing a recommended budget. The Board of Commissioners must adopt a final budget no later than June 30, the close of the County's fiscal year.

LOCAL ECONOMY

The County is one of 10 counties located in the Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NCSC Metropolitan Statistical Area (the "Charlotte MSA"), which consists of Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan and Union counties in North Carolina and Chester, Lancaster and York counties in South Carolina. The Charlotte MSA, anchored by the City of Charlotte, was the 22nd largest metropolitan statistical area in the United States as of the 2020 census.

The County's rapid growth, largely attributable to the County's position in the Charlotte metropolitan region, strong labor force and favorable environmental conditions have continued during this period of uneven national economic indicators. The County has worked with the municipalities to address short-range and long-range planning to provide the necessary infrastructure to accommodate current and anticipated growth and economic development efforts.



The Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation

The Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation (the “CEDC”), which operates with a full-time staff, serves as the County’s primary recruiting and marketing entity for new business. The Cabarrus EDC makes a measurable impact on individuals and families through program partnerships for **local start-ups**, support of **existing businesses** and recruitment of **new industry**. This includes supporting incubators for entrepreneurs, facilitating growth of existing business and keeping an inventory of available sites for business recruitment. All of these efforts position the County for continued strong economic development.

Historically, the County’s economy was primarily dependent on agriculture and the textile industry, but the County’s proximity to Charlotte and access to major interstate highways have helped diversify the County’s economy through investments in biotechnology, healthcare, manufacturing, industrial and business parks, warehousing and distribution, entertainment and hospitality, retail and aviation.

Healthcare

Atrium, which is now known as Advocate Health, is a nationally recognized leader in shaping health outcomes through innovative research, education, and compassionate patient care. Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, Atrium Health is an integrated, nonprofit health system with more than 55,000 employees serving patients at 36 hospitals as well as 44 urgent care locations. Atrium Health Cabarrus, located in Concord, is the largest employer in the County.

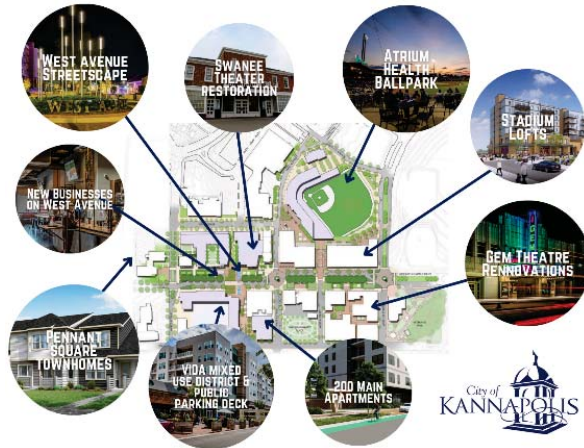


The 457-bed medical center serves a five-county region with more than 4,200 employees serving in more than 30 facilities throughout the region. Atrium Health Cabarrus (Advocate Health) is the fourth largest hospital facility in the Advocate Health (formerly Atrium Health) network of healthcare facilities, which is the largest healthcare system in North Carolina and South Carolina. Additionally, it is third largest public, multi-hospital system in the United States. Atrium Health Cabarrus provides a full range of tertiary and surgical services for residents of the County and surrounding counties. It has a Level III Trauma Center, The Jeff Gordon Children’s Hospital, The Mariam Cannon Hayes Women’s Center, The Bette Cancer Center, and other specialized services and facilities. In August 2018, the hospital opened a new state-of-the-art heart and vascular tower costing \$115 million to house The Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute. Atrium Health Cabarrus has also built satellite facilities in Kannapolis and Harrisburg.

Cabarrus Health Alliance (CHA) is the public health entity serving Cabarrus County. Created by the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners effective July 1, 1997, CHA operates as a public hospital authority pursuant to North Carolina Session Law 1997-502, Section 12, for the purpose of providing local public health services to Cabarrus County residents. As a public hospital authority, CHA functions as a governmental entity with a degree of operational and financial independence from Cabarrus County. The organization has authority to manage its own budget and financial affairs, including borrowing funds, entering into contracts, and hiring employees and legal counsel. Governance oversight is provided through a Board of Commissioners-appointed governing board, with the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners retaining authority to appoint and remove board members. Through its public health programs, clinical services, prevention initiatives, and community partnerships, CHA works to protect and improve the health and well-being of Cabarrus County residents.

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND DOWNTOWN KANNAPOLIS REVITALIZATION

The North Carolina Research Campus situated on 350-acres in downtown Kannapolis, the Research Campus houses seven major North Carolina universities focusing on biotechnology and nutrition research. At the center of the Research Campus is the 311,000 square foot David H. Murdock Core Laboratory, which houses the David H. Murdock Research Institute, Dole Food Company, NC Food Innovation Lab, and Endev Laboratories. Other facilities include the Cabarrus Health Alliance, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Biotechnology Training Center, Greenhouse Facility and the Kannapolis City Hall and Police Headquarters.



Kannapolis Downtown Revitalization Project

Kannapolis started a Downtown Revitalization project in 2016. Atrium Health Ballpark, home to minor league baseball's Kannapolis Cannon Ballers, is the centerpiece of the transformation along with the revamped West Avenue streetscape. The VIDA district includes 284 apartments, as well as commercial/retail space and a public parking deck. More than 30 businesses are now open on West Avenue including restaurants, boutiques, and a brewery. A mixed-use district located adjacent to the ballpark consisting of baseball operations offices, a restaurant, apartments is under construction.

DOWNTOWN CONCORD REVITALIZATION

Concord started a Downtown Revitalization project in 2020. Lansing Melbourne Group's Novi mixed-use projects represent an estimated \$70 million of private investment and added nearly 300 new market-rate and workforce apartments, commercial retail space, and a rooftop restaurant space to the heart of downtown. The city's recent streetscape project has replaced aging utility infrastructure and improve pedestrian walkability, recreation, and outdoor dining opportunities. In early 2023, the County's new courthouse and public plaza opened with a newly renovated 1975 courthouse that serve as a prominent feature in the downtown landscape.





Manufacturing

The principal products manufactured in the County include optical fiber, plastic extrusion, food processing, concrete products, lumber and wood, specialized coloring, fabricated metal and machinery products, corrugated packaging, pharmaceuticals, automobile parts and racing electronics. One of the largest of these manufacturers is Corning. Corning, Inc.'s fiber optics facility is in the southeastern part of the County and is the world's largest producer of fiber optic wire. Corning is continuing to increase its manufacturing numbers.

One of the largest industrial/manufacturing properties in the state, which encompasses over 2,100 acres, lies in the City of Concord. The manufacturing site has land on both sides of U.S. 29 and much of the property is still available for new development and is being marketed as The Grounds at Concord. Since 2019, the Cabarrus EDC has announced over \$2 billion dollars of new investment and over 1,800 new jobs at the site, including manufacturing facilities for Eli Lilly and Red Bull. Eli Lilly has produced more investment than initially expected and are currently manufacturing pharmaceuticals.

The Red Bull facility has broken ground and is officially under construction. The property is adjacent to George Liles Parkway, which has been extended/improved and provides a four-lane connector to U.S. 29, I-85, N.C. 73 and N.C. 3. In the future, the four-lane thoroughfare is planned to extend to NC 49.

INDUSTRY AND DISTRIBUTION

The County has strong industrial and distribution sectors. This strength is due, in large part, to geographic location within the larger MSA and the combination of road and rail service. In addition, the aviation sector is strong and growing (this is discussed in a separate section). The best way to summarize Industry and Distribution is by area including potential areas for growth in those sectors. The primary areas that are occupied and growing lie along the interstate corridor but there are also concentrations near Harrisburg and in the southern part of the County. In addition, there are areas with infrastructure in place, or being improved, that are available for continued growth.



The International Business Park (IBP) is located near an interchange on I-85. The owners of the IBP actively pursue private investment from around the world. IBP includes a mix of over 30 companies, the majority of which are global corporations. IBP has had constant activity over the last 25 plus years including recent lease up of speculative buildings, construction and occupancy of major distributions centers, the addition of manufacturing uses and has additional speculative buildings available for upfit. The County has strong industrial and distribution sectors. This strength is due, in large part, to geographic location within the larger MSA and the combination of road and rail service. In addition, the aviation sector is strong and growing (this is discussed in a separate section). The best way to summarize Industry and Distribution is by area including potential areas for growth in those sectors. The primary areas that are occupied and growing lie along the interstate corridor but there are also concentrations near Harrisburg and in the southern part of the County. In addition, there are areas with infrastructure in place, or being improved, that are available for continued growth.

There are additional concentrations of industry and distribution along the interstate corridor at Afton Ridge and the Derita Road area. Afton Ridge includes retail, residential and distribution center for S.P. Richards (200,000 square feet) and Gordon Foods (300,000 square feet) as well as an Amazon distribution facility. Along Derita Road in Concord, there is over 3 million square feet of industrial space occupied by various distribution and manufacturing operations. The West Winds Industrial Park is located on Derita Road directly across from the airport entrance. Tenants in West Winds Industrial Park include Westrock Coffee (formerly S & D Coffee and Tea) and NASCAR Research & Development as well as the NASCAR Productions Building.

The Kannapolis Gateway Business Park is an 85-acre park located one mile from an interchange on I-85 and features approximately 753,000 square feet of industrial space and a 12-acre retail center. A million square feet of distribution was recently constructed which houses an Amazon distribution center. The facility is a combined investment in real and personal property of over \$85 million and has a total of 600 plus full-time employees now that it is in full operation.

At Interstate 85 at exit 63, a 750,000 square foot industrial spec building, Metro 63, was recently completed and has obtained a tenant.

The Midland Business Park and Intermodal Facility is a future business park to be built near NC Highway 24/27 and Highway 601. Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway is working to continue development at the intermodal facility and surrounding parcels that could support future industrial (rail served) development. The Intertape Polymer Group's manufacturing plant in Midland is an example of additional growth in the southern part of the County. That plant has a value of approximately \$40 million and they employ more than 50 people in the first phase.

RETAIL

The retail mix in Cabarrus County includes sites that serve the region/state and the local economy. The regional magnet is Concord Mills, which is the state's largest tourism draw with over 17 million visitors each year and continues to spur retail and non-retail development.

Additional retail centers have been constructed throughout the County to serve the population growth that has occurred. Larger retail centers are concentrated along Interstate 85 and in Harrisburg. Smaller, grocery anchored centers have been developed and are developing in several locations within Kannapolis, Concord and Harrisburg.

AVIATION

Since opening in 1994, the City of Concord has developed and operated Concord-Padgett Regional Airport on approximately 750 acres surrounded by I-85, Concord Mills Boulevard, Derita Road and Poplar Tent Road. The City's Aviation Department manages the public use commercial service airport as a self-sustaining enterprise fund. The airport has 7,400 feet of runway that can accommodate aircraft up to the size of a Boeing 737 or Airbus 320.

Concord-Padgett facilities include a general aviation terminal, 32,000 square-foot commercial service terminal and 700-space two-level parking facility. The airport also includes a variety of support facilities, hangars and over twenty-five acres of ramp space for aircraft parking.

According to a 2024 NCDOT Division of Aviation economic impact analysis, Concord-Padgett contributed over \$1,110,350,000 into the local economy and supported 5,310 jobs in the region. There are currently 160 aircraft based at the airport with a combined taxable value of \$268 million. Bringing additional revenues, locally based aircraft and new services for the community ensures the airport's role as a critical regional economic generator and community asset.

The airport is home to many private sector businesses providing aircraft maintenance and detailing, flight schools, aircraft charter services, air ambulance providers and more. The airport is also home to many NASCAR corporate aviation flight departments including Hendrick Motorsports, Stewart-Haas and Joe Gibbs Racing.

Allegiant Air began commercial service in December 2013. Commercial service is offered to four destinations including Orlando Sanford International Airport and other Florida locations. Avelo Airlines has nonstop flights four times a week to New Haven, Connecticut and twice a week to San Juan, P.R. from Concord Regional Airport.



TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Cabarrus County continues to be one of the most thriving tourism economies in the state of North Carolina. In 2023 the economic impact from tourism was \$679.41million. This was an 8.7% increase over 2022. This impact ranks Cabarrus County 11th out of North Carolina's 100 counties.

The Bureau rebranded in 2022 from Visit Cabarrus to Explore Cabarrus and utilizes the tag line There's More To Us. Motorsports will always be a part of the destination's DNA; however, each community has added to their tourism products which inspires visitors to explore all that Cabarrus County has to offer. There is still a large concentration of motorsports attractions, including Charlotte Motor Speedway, as well as NASCAR based teams such as Hendrick Motorsports, Roush Fenway Keselowski Racing, Trackhouse Racing. Each team has race shop facilities that are open year around and they provide race fans and visitors the opportunity to watch the top racing teams in action. Charlotte Motor Speedway ("CMS") is a major sports and recreational facility which regularly hosts activities that draws over 3,000,000 visitors per year. Each year, CMS hosts major motorsports events, including two major NASCAR racing events. Facilities at CMS include a conference center topped by a restaurant and private club.

The zMAX Dragway, also located on CMS property, hosts several events including two NHRA-sanctioned events. The Dirt Track at Charlotte Motor Speedway hosts annual dirt racing events including the World of Outlaws World Finals and motocross races. The Speedway has continually diversified its events portfolio by hosting major car shows and concerts.

Additional very large-scale attractions in Cabarrus County include Concord Mills Mall which sees 17 million visitors annually and Great Wolf Lodge which has the largest indoor water park in the Carolinas. For conventions and meetings the Embassy Suites and Concord Convention Center is a perfect destination. This newly renovated full-service convention center is 45,000 sq ft and hosts corporate and association meetings from around the region. Cabarrus County operates an Arena & Events Center which is home to the annual Cabarrus County Fair, concerts, trade shows, sports/entertainment groups and a variety of other events throughout the year. Kannapolis has a new minor league baseball park for the Kannapolis Cannon Ballers downtown. The ballpark is open year-round for sporting events and meetings and recreation.

The Cabarrus County Tourism Authority (CCTA) markets Cabarrus County utilizing the 6% Occupancy Tax levied on Hotels. The proposed FY2027 budget for the CCTA is \$7,563,100. The CCTA Mission is to "Drive visitation to Cabarrus County to generate the maximum impact through hotel stays and visitor spending." The CCTA currently promotes Cabarrus County by spending 57.7% of its budget directly on Sales and Marketing. This outperforms other Tourism Authorities where only 50% is spent on Sales and Marketing. In FY2026 the CCTA will continue to expand its reach for potential visitors through targeted marketing efforts as well as create more opportunities for conventions and meetings. The CCTA has partnered with Cabarrus County Schools to enhance sports facilities at several area high schools to benefit sports tourism. This includes the recent installation of a Mondo track which hosts track events on a state and regional level.

INTRODUCTION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Cabarrus County’s strategic plan comprises enduring principles. It provides a focused framework that aligns organizational direction, guides decision-making, and supports long-term planning. CabCo’s strategic plan delineates what we do (means), how we do it (ways), and what we’re trying to achieve (ends).

Since the county’s inception, there have been four updates to the strategic plan. The latest occurred in late 2023. Developed through a comprehensive process involving Board guidance, staff participation, and community input, the plan clarifies priorities and establishes a practical structure for evaluating performance, aligning resources, and adapting to changing needs.

Aligning the budget with strategic priorities ensures the County is positioned to hit its targets and make measurable progress. This leadership-driven approach supports organizational alignment, strengthens departmental decision-making, and ensures that budgeting, planning, and service delivery all reflect shared goals.

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Vision – Empower our People, Act Intentionally and Decisively, Focus on the Future.
Mission – Through meaningful partnerships and engagement, we serve and support all on their journey to thrive.
Values – Teamwork, Respect, Communication, Integrity, Accountability

Strategy -- leveraging ways and means to achieve our ends.

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Priorities –

- Healthy and safe community
- Culture and recreation
- Sustainable growth and development
- A thriving economy
- Transparent and accountable government

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Goals –

- Workplace Culture** – deliver exceptional service thru shared actions and values.
- Engagement** – strengthen community ties to increase understanding, participation, and trust.
- Innovation** – modernize to meet community needs, improve efficiency, and raise accountability.
- Advancement** – create upward economic mobility pathways to support a prosperous and sustainable future.
- Stewardship** – responsibly manage resources and care for community assets.



BUDGET MESSAGE

FY 2027 Annual Budget

May 18, 2026

Honorable Chairwoman and members of the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners:

I am pleased to present the Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY27) and the FY27 Community Investment Fund (CIF) capital investments for Cabarrus County.

The budget, as recommended, would maintain a tax rate of **57.6 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation**.

The recommended General Fund budget totals \$412,174,074. Across all funds, the FY27 budget totals \$ 559,576,464. The recommended General Fund budget reflects a 3.17% or \$12,662,827 increase over FY26.

County staff worked diligently and creatively to overcome the challenges presented this year. Initial FY27 projections showed a deficit of \$13,725,429. This resulted from the adoption of the FY25 tax rate of 57.6 cents, which was 2.4 cents below the recommended rate at the time.

Throughout the budget process, staff worked to ensure resources were used in the most effective and efficient ways possible. Funds were reallocated based on board priorities to minimize increases in the FY27 General Fund.

To further maintain balance, partner funding growth was limited to the amounts projected in the FY27 outlook.

Staff also managed rising costs in utilities and fuel that exceeded the 2.4% inflation rate projected by the Consumer Price Index. In addition, the County addressed mandated service needs, including the addition of 21 positions in the Sheriff's Office to support detention center and facility operations.

The FY27 Recommended Budget represents a strong focus on maximizing taxpayer investments. Our departments are already delivering on that promise. Here are some results from the first two quarters of FY26:

- Emergency Medical Services Community Paramedics served 2,188 patients, an increase of 69.9% from the prior year. These services keep patients from being readmitted to the hospital and provide a less expensive approach to medical care for medically frail individuals.
- The Sheriff's Office seized narcotics with a street value of \$5,080,672
- Veterans Services brought \$11,432,564 in benefits to veterans in our community, an increase of 47.9% over the previous year
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) staff collected 75,000 pounds of HHW and 32 tons of used TVs, computers and other electronics, keeping these items out of our landfills and extending the life of that critical infrastructure

Impacts of population growth

Cabarrus County is experiencing rapid growth and significant demographic change. Between 2020 and 2024, the population increased by 9.2% (nearly 21,000 residents). That number is projected to grow by approximately 10.2% more by 2030. At the same time, the community is becoming both older and more diverse. These trends are placing increased demand on mandated and non-mandated County services, a pressure expected to persist into the foreseeable future. Like many

counties across North Carolina, Cabarrus faces the ongoing challenge of meeting these expanding service needs while maintaining, or potentially reducing, property tax rates for residents.

Economic outlook

County unemployment remains low and continues to perform favorably compared to national levels. Over the past year, job growth in the Charlotte–Concord–Gastonia Metropolitan Statistical Area has been focused in education, health services, construction and professional/business services (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). As of December 2025, the unemployment rate stood at 3.20% (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis). Unemployment is a key metric because increases typically result in higher demand for County services.

A stable labor market has helped drive the county's average private sector wage up to \$54,013, according to the North Carolina Department of Commerce. Labor market conditions and ongoing competition for talent have led to substantial wage and benefit increases in the County's budget in recent years.

Impacts of unfunded mandates

Cabarrus County continues to face increasing pressure from unfunded state and federal mandates. The County is absorbing rising costs within its budget for school operations, inmate care and housing, and reductions in Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) administrative reimbursements. Despite these challenges, Cabarrus has remained committed to supporting local school districts through locally funded staffing, teacher supplements, school nurses, resource officers and facility needs.

Potential constraints on traditional revenue sources may further strain future budgets. Additional risks include rising utility costs and volatility in fuel prices. Staff have budgeted conservatively in these areas, so continued instability may require contingency funds.

Projected needs

Cabarrus County Schools (CCS), Kannapolis City Schools (KCS) and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) face significant facility needs driven by population growth and deferred maintenance. CCS and KCS collectively maintain more than 7 million square feet of building space and roughly 2,500 acres of school grounds. Addressing deferred maintenance remains an ongoing priority for all three systems, each of which conducts continuous evaluation and assessment to identify and respond to facility needs.

As Cabarrus growth continues, service demands are evolving across departments. Several departments identified expanded service needs driven by increased demand.

This Recommended Budget prioritizes public safety above all other requests, adding 21 new positions in the Sheriff's Office while maintaining the current tax rate. Rising jail populations require the opening of a new housing pod, which will need 16 additional Detention Officers to support 24-hour operations.

The opening of the new behavioral health center, coupled with the increasing complexity of mental and behavioral health cases involving children in Department of Social Services (DSS) custody, has created a need for continuous security at the Progress Place campus. To address this, additional deputy positions are included in the Sheriff's Office Government Unit. To help offset costs, these positions will be partially funded through state Social Services and behavioral health sources.

Staff also prioritized the purchase of four replacement ambulances and an EMS administrative vehicle, all of which were at the end of their service period. All emergency response vehicles are closely monitored for usage and maintenance. The County follows a structured replacement schedule to ensure the fleet remains reliable and in good condition, saving significant funds over time.

Also, cost recovery for critical services such as EMS was evaluated and implemented. EMS conducted a comprehensive review of its fee structure and recommended updates to better align with the true cost of service.

Meeting capital needs

The following chart outlines proposed capital projects that can be funded with available cash on hand from prior-year fund balances. These proposed projects are based on the needs presented by Cabarrus County and local school systems.

FY27 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO)

LEGEND
Cabarrus County
Cabarrus County Schools
Kannapolis City Schools
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College

Project Name	FY27
ADA Transition Plan	\$150,000
Animal Shelter Design and Engineering	\$1,100,000
School Systems - Reserve for Teacher Raises	\$6,000,000
Frank Liske Park Second Entrance	\$2,000,000
IAM Grounds Maintenance Building Replacement	\$3,100,000
Jail Housing Roof Replacement	\$415,000
Playground Replacements/Renovations	\$180,000
Central Cabarrus High Parking and Drive Replacement	\$864,000
Charles Boger School Roof Replacement	\$1,800,000
Concord High Parking and Drive Replacement	\$1,248,600
Cox Mill High School Roof Replacement	\$2,567,500
Deferred Maintenance	\$1,197,460
Parking and Drive Replacement at NW Middle	\$1,000,000
School Bus Cameras	\$850,000
WR Odell Primary Roof Replacement	\$1,800,000
Activity Bus	\$71,000
AL Brown ADA Accessibility Baseball/Band Room/Chorus Room	\$1,500,000
Deferred Maintenance	\$1,044,000
Forest Park Elementary Repaving	\$750,000
GW Carver/Career Center Repaving	\$750,000
KPAC Roof Replacement or ALB Roof Replacement	\$4,000,000
McKnight Sewer Replacements/Kitchen Upgrade	\$575,000
System Capital for Energy Savings	\$197,000
Building S203 Roof Replacement	\$480,000
Deferred Maintenance	\$867,500
Information Systems Technology Replacements	\$480,000
S202 Renovation Completion	\$256,200
Security Systems Emergent Improvements and Expansion	\$205,200
South Campus Hardscape Emergent Repair	\$43,200
TOTAL PAYGO	\$35,491,660
Soil and Water - Prime Farmland Soil & Water Conservation Easement*	\$170,000

*Funded from Deferred Tax Fund

Efforts to limit growth in the budget

Throughout the FY27 planning process, staff continually re-evaluated current budget projections and the five-year financial plan. Revenue projections were refined to reflect historical collection rates, and FY27 expenditure budgets were adjusted to more closely match actual historical spending patterns.

Additional complications continue to affect forecasts, including the volatility of fuel prices. This not only impacts the County's fuel cost projections but may also affect the cost of essential goods and services, including food supplies for the

Detention Center.

Taking all this into consideration, minor adjustments were made to revenue forecasts, projected personnel growth and partner growth projections.

All partner agencies and school systems included in the County's budget were reminded to align their budget requests with established projections and avoid exceeding those parameters.

Staff utilized several strategies to balance the budget with no increases to the property tax rate or other taxes.

To help curb rising personnel costs, vacant positions were carefully evaluated. This resulted in the elimination of six positions in the proposed FY27 budget, offsetting some of the increases for the additional public safety positions.

In addition, several roles were reclassified or reassigned over the past two years to meet evolving needs without creating new positions. While last year's annual market study was deferred, a targeted review of "hot jobs" is proposed for Board consideration. This analysis will focus on high-turnover areas, such as Child Welfare, where vacancies remain a persistent challenge.

Contributions to other funds, such as the Landfill and Arena, were reduced, with those operations relying on existing fund balances in their enterprise and special revenue accounts to achieve a balanced budget.

The proposed budget maintains current insurance coverage for County employees while limiting cost increases through a change in providers. Retiree benefits established at the time of hire are also preserved. The budget also continues to fund merit increases, cost-of-living adjustments and longevity pay. Together, these measures aim to reduce turnover and mitigate the ongoing costs associated with recruitment, onboarding and training. County staff also worked collaboratively with the school systems to plan for potential teacher salary increases contingent upon adoption of the state budget. To address this uncertainty, a joint plan was developed that uses fund balance for the first year.

The proposed budget continues to support the school systems and Cabarrus Health Alliance (CHA) while allowing for measured, sustainable growth. It maintains substantial operational funding for the school systems and provides resources to address critical deferred maintenance needs.

CHA identified expansion needs driven by ongoing population growth, including increased demand from new food and lodging establishments and the need for additional Environmental Health staff to support septic system approvals and inspections. While these needs are recognized, expansion requests from CHA and the school systems (including additional positions and increases in teacher supplements) are not included in this Recommended Budget.

Considering current projections, the Recommended Budget is balanced while maintaining AAA credit ratings from three major rating agencies. A funding proposal is on the table at the Local Government Commission to obtain funding for two new construction school projects while preserving the current tax rate. However, any future large-scale construction projects and/or deferred maintenance will require a new debt package and a corresponding tax increase to address those needs.

Staff have worked closely with the local school systems and school boards to initiate the process for General Obligation bonds, which would be included for consideration on the November ballot.

Five-Year Outlook

Achieving a balanced budget this year without increasing the property tax rate represents a significant accomplishment. However, based on current projections, this may be the final year the County can maintain existing service levels across all areas without seeking increases in revenues.

Under assumptions of 2% annual growth in property tax revenue, sales tax and other revenue sources, the County is projected to face a \$9.7 million shortfall in FY28. Expenditure assumptions include 4.5% growth for education partners, 5% for County personnel, 4% for CHA and 3% for operating expenses. Under these assumptions, projected deficits increase to \$19.6 million in FY29, \$30.3 million in FY30, and \$41.8 million in FY31.

While FY29 includes a property revaluation year, potential state-level legislation may impact local tax levy options, adding further uncertainty to long-term revenue planning. Addressing these projected gaps will require thoughtful prioritization by the Board of Commissioners, along with continued collaboration with partner agencies.

Long-term planning will depend on several developing factors, including clarification of future revenue options, emerging service demands and the outcome of the potential General Obligation bond referendum. Without significant adjustments to revenues or expenditures, the current trajectory is not sustainable at the existing tax rate.

Acknowledgements

I would like to recognize several staff members who worked tirelessly and creatively to address the projected deficit and develop a sound FY27 budget. I am especially grateful to Rosh Khatri, Yesenia Pineda and Sophia Politis for their thorough and collaborative approach in responding to numerous requests for information throughout this lengthy process. I also extend appreciation to Todd Shanley, Kyle Bilafer, Dr. Aalece Pugh and Jim Howden for their strong teamwork and support.

In addition, I would like to thank Mitzi Odell, Ashley Dobbins Lingafelt, Tom Nunn, Suzanne Moose and all the department heads and supervisors who worked diligently alongside the management team to develop this budget.

I especially extend thanks to the Board of Commissioners for its service to the community. As you consider this budget, you will receive significant public input both directly and indirectly. Budget decisions affect the entire community and require collaboration, thoughtful deliberation and a shared commitment to long-term stability. I appreciate the seriousness and responsibility of those decisions.

It is with a strong sense of accomplishment that I submit this Recommended Budget to the Board. Staff faced a challenging budget season and responded with creativity and diligence, identifying innovative solutions that result in a balanced budget that meets the essential needs of the community.

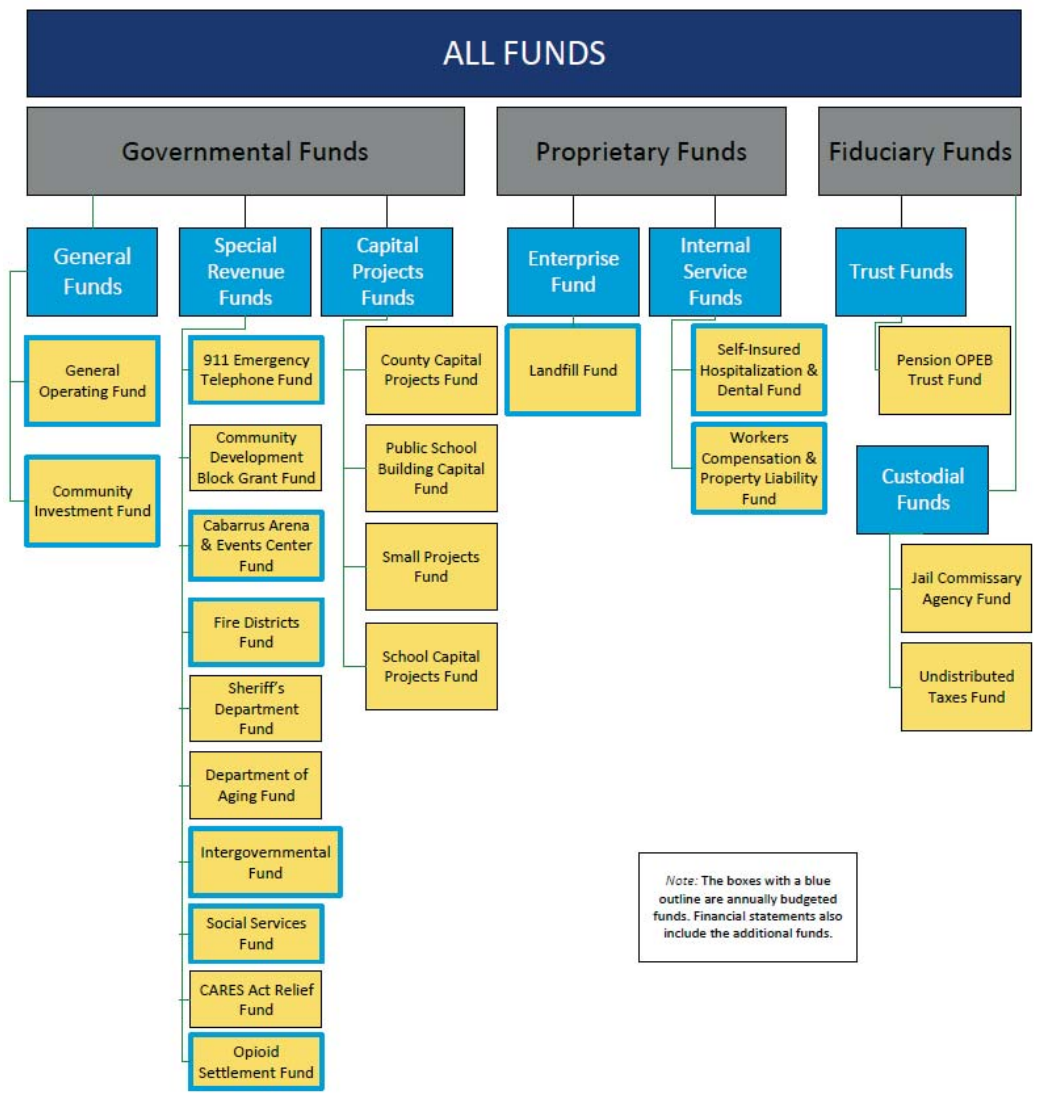
We look forward to the Board's thoughtful consideration of this Recommended Budget, as well as continued input from residents and businesses, ahead of adoption on June 15, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly Sifford, AICP
Interim County Manager

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Fund Structure



FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Fund Relationships

Cabarrus County organizes and operates accounts by fund. A fund is an independent set of accounts where the county records financial transactions. The county maintains the minimum number of funds required by law. In addition, the County maintains additional sub-funds for specific management needs. The County has the following funds and sub-funds:

GENERAL FUNDS

- 001 - General Operating Fund
- 100 - Community Investment Fund

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

- 401 - 911 Emergency Telephone System Fund
- 410 - Community Development Block Grant Fund
- 420 - Cabarrus Arena & Events Center Fund
- 430 - Fire Districts Fund
- 440 - CARES Relief Fund
- 442 - Opioid Settlement Fund
- 461 - Sheriff's Department Fund
- 532 - Department of Aging Fund
- 560 - Social Services Fund
- 571 - Intergovernmental Fund

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS

- 320 - Public School Capital Fund
- 340 - County Capital Projects Fund
- 390 - School Capital Projects Fund
- 460 - Small Projects Fund

ENTERPRISE FUND

- 270 - Landfill Fund

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

- 600 - Workers Compensation & Property Liability Fund
- 610 - Self-Insured Hospitalization & Dental Fund

TRUST FUNDS

- 550 - Pension OPEB Trust Fund

CUSTODIAL FUNDS

- 540 - Jail Commissary Agency Fund
- 570 - Undistributed Taxes Fund

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

FUND DESCRIPTIONS

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

GENERAL FUNDS

- **General Operating Fund** – This fund is the primary operating fund for the County.
- **Community Investment Fund** – Sub-fund to account for sales tax/lottery revenue dedicated to school capital and property tax revenues for debt/capital projects. This sub-fund accounts for debt service expenditures and transfers to Capital Projects Funds.

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS – These funds account for revenues legally restricted to specific expenditures.

- **911 Emergency Telephone System Fund** – Sub-fund to account for revenues received from subscriber fees specifically restricted for the operation and maintenance of a countywide Emergency 911 network.
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fund** – Sub-fund to account for revenues received under the Community Development Block Grant Program specifically restricted to the revitalization of select areas of the County.
- **Cabarrus Arena and Events Center Fund** – Sub-fund to account for revenues received from rental, user fees and fund balance support specifically restricted to the operation of the facility.
- **Fire Districts Fund** – Sub-fund to account for property taxes collected and disbursed on behalf of the Fire Departments that protect the unincorporated areas of the County.
- **Sheriff's Department Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the collection and appropriation of federal and state funds received for the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office.
- **Department of Aging Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the activities associated with contributions for senior citizen activities and projects.
- **Social Services Fund** – Sub-fund to account for moneys held by the Department of Human Services as agent for various individuals who are incapable of managing their own financial affairs.
- **Intergovernmental Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the accumulation of fines and forfeitures before they are distributed to the local School Boards.
- **CARES Act Relief Fund** – Sub-fund accounts for funding received from the federal government to cover COVID-19 expenditures for public health emergency.
- **Opioid Settlement Fund** - Sub-fund account for funding received from settlement proceeds from the national settlement agreement of the state and national litigation related to the opioid industry, including the manufacturing, marketing, promotion, distribution, and dispensing of opioids.

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS – These funds account for the financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities other than those financed by proprietary and trust funds.

- **County Capital Projects Fund** – constructs, renovates, and equips capital projects for the County through the use of debt and non-debt sources.
- **Public School Building Capital Fund** – Sub-fund collects state public school funds and lottery proceeds and disbursing the funds for smaller non-debt school capital projects.
- **Small Projects Fund** – Sub-fund collects and appropriates general fund revenues and federal and state grant funds received specifically for use by the appropriate Cabarrus County Department who has received the funds.
- **School Capital Projects Fund** – This sub-fund accounts for planning, design, construction and/or renovation of schools using debt and non-debt sources.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

- **Enterprise Fund** – This fund accounts for operations financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprise. The intent of the county is to recover the cost of the service(s) through fees charged to users.
- **Landfill Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the operations of the solid waste landfill. Cabarrus County accepts demolition and recycled materials at the landfill. Most funds reserved in this fund are for post-closure expenditures related to future closure of the landfill.
- **Internal Service Fund** – This fund accounts for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to another or to other government units on a cost reimbursement basis.
- **Self-Insured Hospitalization and Dental Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the administration and operation of the County's healthcare and dental insurance.
- **Workers Compensation and Property Liability Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the administration and operation of the County's self-funded workers compensation and property liability transactions.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

- **Custodial Fund** – This fund is used to report assets held in a trustee or agency capacity for others and, therefore, cannot be used to support the government's own programs. The fiduciary fund category includes pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds.
- **Jail Commissary Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the collection and disbursement of jail inmate's personal money.
- **Undistributed Taxes Fund** – Sub-fund to account for the collection of property taxes and the disbursement of the taxes to the county and to the municipalities located in the county.

TRUST FUNDS

- **Pension OPEB Trust Fund** - Sub-fund to account for health care benefits of a single employer defined benefit Health Care Plan which provides postemployment health care benefits to eligible retirees of the county who participate in North Carolina Local Government Employees' Retirement System.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

BASIS OF BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds (governmental, proprietary and fiduciary) of the County are budgeted and accounted for on a modified accrual basis. Under this basis,

1. The county recognizes Revenues in the accounting period they become measurable and available. Property tax revenue recognized in the fiscal year when taxes levied. Grant, entitlement and donation revenue recognized in the fiscal year when eligibility requirements were satisfied.
2. The county recognizes Expenditures in the period incurred. One exception is principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are expenditures in the year payments are due.
3. The county financial statements for governmental funds use the current financial resources measurement focus.
4. The county financial statements for proprietary and fiduciary funds use the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, except for the Agency Funds which have no measurement focus.

The county uses formal budgetary accounting as a management control for all funds. Each fiscal year, the Board of Commissioners adopts an annual budget ordinance. In addition, the Board of Commissioners adopts project budgets that cover more than one fiscal year for specific revenue and capital project funds. Examples include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and school construction.

Each department exercises budgetary control, at the line item level, with the adoption of the budget by the Board of Commissioners. The county's fiscal year covers July 1 through June 30 of the budget year. Throughout the year, the Finance Department and the County Manager's office monitor expenditures and revenues. The Board of Commissioners, County Manager and Budget Director have authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year consistent with the adopted budget ordinance.

The County Manager's Office and Finance Department ensure compliance with all purchasing and payment policies and procedures. The Finance Department also pre-audits all transactions to ensure compliance with the law.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Financial and Budgetary Policies

Objectives

1. To maintain the County's stable financial position.
2. To ensure implementation of adopted policies in an efficient and effective manner.
3. To secure the highest possible credit and bond ratings by meeting or exceeding the requirements of bond rating agencies through sound, conservative financial decision making.
4. To comply with all legal requirements.

Operating Budget Summary

The County's Annual Budget Ordinance is balanced in accordance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (N.C.G.S. 159-8 (a)). A balanced budget means that revenues or appropriated fund balance is equal to expenditures. The County's Annual Budget Ordinance is adopted by July 1 (N.C.G.S. 159-13 (a)).

The County reviews financial policies annually in the following areas:

Revenue Policy

The County seeks to have diverse revenues to provide stability for consistent service levels and to protect against economic downturns. Revenue management is an ongoing process for reviewing and analyzing revenues to ensure proceeds are at an optimum level. The county estimates revenues conservatively based on trends and the economy. To meet these objectives the County observes the following guidelines:

Ad Valorem (Property) Tax

As provided by the North Carolina Local Budget and Fiscal Control Act, estimated revenue from the Ad Valorem Tax levy is budgeted as follows:

- The county estimates assessed valuation conservatively based on historical trends and growth patterns.
- In accordance with state law, the estimated tax collection rate will not exceed the rate from the preceding fiscal year.

The tax rate will be set each year based on the cost of providing general governmental services and paying debt service.

User Fees

When the county can individually identify a service and its costs, the County maximizes user fees rather than property taxes. This objective is in keeping with the Commissioners' goal that growth should pay for itself and not place a burden on residents who do not use the service. Emphasis on user fees over property taxes results in the following benefits:

- All users, even those that do not pay property taxes, pay user fees.
- User fees prevent the county from subsidizing services not provided to the public.
- User fees are a means to ration the provision of certain services.
- User fees are equitable and efficient.
- User fees connect an amount paid to a service received.

Grant Funding

The county will pursue opportunities for grant funding when aligned to Board of Commissioner priorities.

Other Revenue

The county appropriates all other revenue through the annual budget process to meet County Commissioner priorities.

Expenditure Policy

The county proactively monitors expenditures to maintain compliance with all requirements. Staff monitor expenditures throughout the year to ensure expenditures do not exceed revenues. The annual budget ordinance defines staff authorized to make budget adjustments during the fiscal year.

The county may only use debt proceeds for the issued purpose or payment of debt principal and interest. Similarly, the county can only spend donations for the stated purpose.

For continuing contracts, the county appropriates funds in the annual budget ordinance to meet current year obligations, in accordance with G.S. 160A-17.

Payroll is in accordance with the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Overtime and benefit payments are made in accordance with the County's Personnel Ordinance.

Fund Balance Policy

The County will maintain sufficient fund balance to address unanticipated revenue declines, avoid short-term borrowing and cover unbudgeted expenditures resulting from emergencies, natural disasters or unexpected opportunities. The County will not appropriate fund balance for ongoing operating expenditures except in extreme emergencies. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this policy, the County may appropriate fund balance for any use in the general fund to overcome revenue shortfalls related to significant downturns in the economy.

The Local Government Commission (LGC) requires the county to maintain a minimum unassigned fund balance of 8% of general fund expenditures; however, it is the policy of the County to maintain unassigned fund balance equal to 15% of general fund expenditures.

A replenishment period commences if unassigned fund balance falls below 15%. Funds will be budgeted beginning with the subsequent fiscal year's adopted budget with a replenishment period not to exceed three consecutive fiscal years.

Following the completion of the annual financial audit, any unassigned fund balance above 15% transfers to the Community Investment Fund (CIF) or Capital Reserve Fund to reduce reliance on debt; and/or to the Self-Funded Hospitalization and Dental Fund, Workers Compensation and/or Liability Fund to maintain fund integrity.

Community Investment Fund Policy

The County maintains the Community Investment Fund (CIF) within the general fund to account separately for capital projects and debt. As a means to manage fund balance during both strong economic conditions and downturns, the county will maintain a minimum fund balance within the CIF of 25-35 percent. A replenishment period will commence if CIF fund balance falls below 25 percent. Funds will be budgeted beginning with the subsequent fiscal year's adopted budget with a replenishment period not to exceed three consecutive fiscal years.

Funding within the CIF will go toward the county's five-year capital improvement plan (CIP) which projects capital needs and expenditures and details the estimated cost, description and anticipated funding sources for capital projects. The first year of the CIP will be the basis of formal appropriations during the annual budget process. If new project needs arise during the year, a budget amendment will identify the funding sources and project appropriations to provide formal budgetary authority for the project. The CIP generally addresses capital projects with a value of more than \$100,000 and a useful life of over five (5) years.

The County will emphasize preventive maintenance as a cost-effective approach to infrastructure maintenance. The County maximizes the use of pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) funding for capital projects to reduce the need for debt financing.

Debt Management

Debt for capital projects will not exceed the expected useful life of the project.

The County will maximize the use of pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) funding for capital projects to reduce the need for debt. The general obligation debt of the County will not exceed eight percent of the assessed valuation of taxable property. General fund debt service will not exceed limits imposed and recommended by the Local Government Commission (LGC). The county closely monitors the formulas established by the LGC and rating agencies to make sure they are appropriately applied.

The County seeks the best financing type based on the following considerations: flexibility to meet the project needs, timing, payer equity and lowest interest cost.

The County strives for the highest possible bond rating to minimize the County's interest expenditures.

The County's debt policy is comprehensive and the County will not knowingly enter into any contracts creating significant unfunded liabilities.

Accounting/Financial Reporting Policy

The County will maintain an accounting system to monitor revenues and expenditures as required by the North Carolina Local Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

All records and reporting will be in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The basis of accounting within governmental funds is modified accrual. Under this method of accounting, the county records revenue when measurable and available. Enterprise Funds follow the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method of accounting, the county recognizes revenue when earned and expenditures when incurred.

The County will maintain an accounting system that provides strong internal controls designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding the safeguarding of assets against loss and the reliability of financial records for preparing financial statements and reports. These reports will be the basis for the budget and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

An independent public accounting firm will perform an annual audit. Each year the firm will issue an opinion on the county's annual financial statements, with a management letter detailing areas needing improvement, if required. The county provides full disclosure in all regulatory reports, financial statements and bond representations.

The County maintains an inventory of capital assets. The county maintains reports on inventories and depreciation in accordance with governmental accounting standards.

The ACFR is prepared according to the standards necessary to obtain the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The county submits the ACFR to the GFOA annually with the goal of receiving the designation.

Cash Management Policy

The purpose of the County's Cash Management Policy is to provide guidelines to maximize the use of public funds in the best interest of the public.

Receipts

The county collects cash as quickly as possible to provide secure handling of incoming cash and to move funds into interest earning accounts and investments. Staff deposits funds as required by law and does so in a manner to receive credit for that day's interest. The county maintains cash flow projections to allow investment of funds for longer periods at higher rates of return.

Cash Disbursements

The county seeks to retain money for investment for the longest appropriate period. Staff process disbursements in advance of or on the agreed-upon contractual date of payment, unless earlier payment provides an economic benefit to the County.

The county maintains inventories and supplies at the minimum appropriate level for operations to increase cash availability for investment.

For County checks, dual signatures are required. Facsimile signatures are safely stored and used as appropriate.

Investment Policy

It is the policy of the County to preserve capital and invest public funds to provide the highest investment return with maximum security, while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the County. All county investments conform to all state and local statutes governing the investment of public funds. This investment policy applies to all financial assets in the County's investment portfolio except debt proceeds. The county accounts for and invests debt proceeds separately from other funds. The County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) accounts for these funds.

Staff use the "prudent person" rule for investments. The "prudent person" concept discourages speculative transactions. It attaches primary significance to the preservation of capital and secondary importance to the generation of income and capital gains. Authorized staff, if acting in accordance with written procedures and state statutes and exercising due diligence, shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided that these deviations are reported immediately and action is taken to control adverse developments.

The primary investment objectives, in priority order, are safety, liquidity and yield.

First, safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments seek to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. To attain this objective, diversification is required so potential individual losses cannot exceed income generated from remaining investments. Second, the County's investment portfolio will maintain sufficient liquidity to enable the County to meet all operating requirements by using structured maturities and marketable securities. Finally, the County's investment portfolio will attain a market rate of return.

North Carolina General Statute 159-25(a) 6 delegates management responsibility for the investment program to the Finance Director. The Finance Director will establish and maintain written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this policy. Such procedures will include explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and the procedures established by the Finance Director. The Finance Director will be responsible for all transactions undertaken and will establish a system of controls to regulate the activities of subordinates.

Officers and employees involved in the investment process will refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Employees and investment officials will disclose to the County Manager any material financial interests in financial institutions that conduct business within this jurisdiction and they will further disclose any large personal financial/investment positions related to the performance of the County's portfolio. Employees and officers will subordinate their personal investment transactions to those of the County, particularly with regard to the time of purchase and sales.

The Finance Director will maintain a list of financial institutions authorized to provide investment services. The county selects authorized financial institutions based on credit worthiness. Financial institutions must also maintain a physical office in the State of North Carolina. These may include "primary" dealers or regional dealers that qualify under Securities & Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1 (uniform net capital rule). The county deposits funds to a qualified public depository as required by state law.

All financial institutions and broker/dealers who desire to become qualified bidders for investment transactions must supply the Finance Director with the following: audited financial statements, proof of National Association of Security Dealers Certifications, proof of state registrations and certification of having read the County's investment policy. Staff will conduct a review of the financial condition and registrations of qualified bidders. The Finance Director may remove from the list financial institutions, brokers and/or dealers that fail to supply requested information.

The County is empowered by North Carolina G.S. 159-30(c) to invest in the following types of securities:

- Obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States.
- Obligations of the Federal Financing Bank, the Federal Farm Credit Bank, the Bank for Cooperatives, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Federal Land Banks, the Federal Home Loan Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Government National Mortgage Association, the Federal Housing Administration, the Farmers Home Administration, the United States Postal Service.
- Obligations of the State of North Carolina Bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority.

- Fully collateralized certificates of deposit issued by any bank or savings and loan organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina.
- Prime quality commercial paper bearing the highest rating of at least one nationally recognized rating service and not bearing a rating below the highest by any nationally recognized rating service that rates the particular obligation.
- Bankers acceptances of a commercial bank or its holding company provided that the bank or its holding company is either:
 - Incorporated in the State of North Carolina; or
 - Has outstanding publicly held obligations bearing the highest rating of at least one nationally recognized rating service and not bearing a rating below the highest by any nationally recognized rating service that rates the particular obligations.
- Participating shares in a mutual fund for local government investment provided the investments of the fund are limited to those qualifying for investment under this subsection and the Local Government Commission certifies the fund.
- Evidences of ownership of, or fractional undivided interest in, future interest and principal payments on either direct obligations of the United States government or obligations the principal of and the interest on which are guaranteed by the United States, which obligations are held by a bank or trust company organized and existing under the laws of the United States or any state in the capacity of custodian.
- Repurchase agreements with respect to either obligations of the United States or obligations the principle of and the interest on are guaranteed by the United States. This applies if entered into with a broker or dealer, as defined by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which is a dealer recognized as a primary dealer by a Federal Reserve Bank, or any commercial bank, trust company or national banking association, the deposits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any successor thereof.

The county conducts all transactions, including collateral for repurchase agreements, on a delivery-versus-payment basis. A contracted third party custodian designated by the Finance Director holds securities as evidenced by safekeeping receipts.

The County will diversify its investments by institution. With the exception of U.S. Treasury securities and agencies and authorized pools, no more than 35% of the County's total investment portfolio will be invested with a single security type or with a single financial institution.

It is desirable to diversify by security type; however, if the yield is higher, more than 35% of the County's total investment portfolio may be invested in the same security type.

To the extent possible, the County will attempt to match its investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. Beyond identified cash flow needs, investments will be purchased so that maturities are staggered to avoid undue concentration of assets in a single maturity range, however, the County will not directly invest in securities maturing more than five (5) years from the date of purchase. The County may collateralize its repurchase agreements using longer-dated investments not to exceed ten (10) years to maturity.

It is the County's full intent, at the time of purchase, to hold all investments until maturity to ensure the return of all invested principal dollars. However, economic or market conditions may change, making it in the County's best interest to sell or trade a security prior to maturity.

All moneys earned and collected from investments other than bond proceed earnings will be allocated quarterly to various fund amounts based on the quarter's average cash balance in each fund as a percentage of the entire pooled portfolio. Earnings on bond proceeds will be directly allocated to the same proceeds.

The Finance Director is responsible for preparing a monthly investment inventory report, which includes investment types, cost, market value, maturity date and yield.

Contract Administration Policy

It is the policy of the County to maintain an efficient and uniform process for the administration of contracts. The contract process aligns with the County's Procurement Policy. It is also the intent of the County to consolidate contracts where appropriate to reduce paper flow and administrative costs.

There are several general rules for contract administration:

- The Department Head, County Manager or Chairman of the Board of Commissioners must sign contracts according to the authority prescribed in the Procurement Policy.
- If a contract is in writing, staff must keep an original in the contract file (in the Contract Administrator's Office).
- The Finance Director (or designee) must pre-audit and encumber all contracts requiring spending. G.S. 159-28 (a) states that if an obligation is evidenced by a contract or agreement requiring payment of money, the contract or agreement shall include on its face a certificate stating that the instrument has been pre-audited. The certificate, which shall be signed by the finance officer or any deputy finance officer approved for this purpose by the governing board, shall take substantially the following form: "This instrument has been pre-audited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act."

G.S. 159-28 (a) also states that an obligation incurred in violation of this subsection is invalid and may not be enforced and the finance officer shall establish procedures to assure compliance with this subsection.

Although not all contracts obligate the County to make a payment of money, it is nevertheless important to have a system that organizes and catalogs all contracts involving the County. The administrative procedures and guidelines of this policy are not herein included, due to space limitations.

Personnel Management Policy

Cabarrus County Commissioners have supported the recruitment and retention of county staff through the following compensation and benefit initiatives:

- Cost of Living Allowance: Effective at the first full pay period of each fiscal year, a 1% cost of living allowance will be applied to employee salaries.
- Market Comparison of Salaries: Market compensation and/or classification studies have typically been conducted annually with each department on a two-year review cycle. This year, a "hot jobs" study will be done on positions with high turnover. Studies will be performed by an outside consultant to maintain a pay scale consistent with like jobs in the local market including similar governmental entities. Recommendations will be presented to the Board of Commissioners upon completion of each project and funding will be approved in line with the County budget.
- 401K Plan: A five percent 401K contribution for non-law enforcement employees will be granted, thus providing them the same benefit as mandated by the State for law enforcement employees.
- Longevity: The County re-implemented a longevity pay plan in 2023 to recognize employee service to the County. Longevity award is offered one time per year for those employed at the time of payment with a graduated payment tier structure.
- Merit Pay: The County funds merit pay for employees based on performance (per merit pay scale and performance scores). Current maximum of 4%.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Budget Process

The County's annual budget process seeks to align Board and community priorities with the funding needed to achieve them. The budget process typically occurs during the eight-month period from November to June. The North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (G.S. 159, Article 3) requires local governments to adopt an annual budget by June 30, based on the state mandated fiscal year that runs from July 1 to June 30.

Staff start the budget season with a retreat for the Board of Commissioners to discuss community needs for the following year. The retreat also provides an opportunity for department leadership and outside entities to present current needs and concerns. All agencies of the County submit funding requests to the County Manager by the end of February each year. The County Manager uses these requests as the starting point for developing a recommended budget.

Budget staff manage the process using the following levels:

- **Level 1 - Base:** This level starts with the prior year's adopted budget amounts but removes any one-time costs or projects. *Departments do not do anything in this level.*
- **Level 2 - Department Continuation:** Departments update their budget detail in this level. Prior year detail serves as the starting point, but departments still need to assess and update all prior year detail and amounts while adding new detail if necessary. Continuation budgets provide the same level of service in the coming year that the department is providing in the current year. Such budgets typically include items that repeat year after year. It is ok to have increases in this column due to an increase in the cost of doing business year over year (i.e. inflation costs in operations, supplies, fuel, utilities, contractual increases, etc.). Departments should enter revenues the same as in the past. *Departments key in this level.*
- **Level 3 - Manager Continuation Budget Recommendation:** This level starts with the Departmental continuation budgets keyed in level 2. Management will review all continuation requests prior to opening up any Departmental expansion budget keying. Management will review requests and make any necessary updates and/or modifications. This review includes analysis of current year and previous years spending. The Budget team will communicate any changes made. *Departments do not do anything in this level.*
- **Level 4 - Department Expansion or Reduction Budget:** This level will only be for new budget requests that the Department is seeking if the capacity for expansion exists. The following classify as an expansion request: new personnel, new software, new technology for new personnel, new projects, new upgrades, new programs, new services, new vehicles for new personnel or adding to the fleet outside of the normal replacement cycle. Expansion requests should be well justified. The following revenues are classified as expansion: those tied to a new grant, new reimbursement due to a new position or a new fee structure. *Departments key expansion or reductions in this level.*
- **Level 5 - Manager Expansion or Reduction Budget Recommendation:** Budget staff will move to this level prior to departmental budget conferences in March. The goal is to have budget conferences primarily focus on expansion

requests that the Department is seeking since Management will review continuation requests ahead of time. Increases or decreases that may take place at the budget conferences will be reflected in this level. ***Departments do not do anything in this level.***

- **Level 6 - Board:** This level will combine Manager recommended continuation and expansion or reduction budget levels (Levels 3 and 5). Budget staff will move to this level after the budget conferences and all adjustments are made in the Manager's level. Budget staff will balance the budget in this level. Any adjustments that take place at the budget workshops in June will be reflected in this level and ultimately the budget will be adopted in this level. ***Departments do not do anything in this level.***

Any changes made after the Board approves the budget go through the Budget Amendment process (see section on Amendments to the Budget Ordinance).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The public has several opportunities for engagement in the budget process. These opportunities include:

- **Budget Blueprint** – This is an event that provides the public and opportunity to learn about the process of building the county's budget. It provides a fast, informative look at the inner workings of the county budget.
- **Gov 101** – This is an annual event that provides the public an opportunity to become part of the conversation as the County's budget office breaks down the details and highlights of the upcoming fiscal year spending plan. This course gives the opportunity to meet with department heads, leadership and elected leaders and provide valuable input BEFORE the Board of Commissioners takes public comment and votes on the budget.
- **Budget Work Sessions** – These are work sessions on the Budget held by the Board of Commissioners to explore the fiscal year budget being developed in in greater detail. Input at these work sessions are provided by county leadership and staff. These work sessions also provide the Board of Commissioners and the public an opportunity to hear from our community partners. These work sessions are open to the public.
- **Budget Public Hearing** – The public hearing provides the opportunity for the public to provide their input on the proposed budget to Board of Commissioners prior to the vote to adopt the budget.
- **Board of Commissioners Meetings** – The public also has an opportunity during the regular monthly meetings to provide their input on any topic of concern including the budget.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Budget Adoption

The annual budget serves as the foundation for the County's financial planning and control. Chapter 159 of the North Carolina General Statutes prescribes a uniform system of budget adoption, administration and fiscal control.

Not later than July 1, the Board of Commissioners is required to adopt a budget ordinance making appropriations and levying taxes for the budget year in such sums as the Board may consider sufficient and proper, whether greater or less than the sums recommended in the adopted budget. The budget ordinance authorizes all financial transactions of the County except:

- Those authorized by a project ordinance;
- Those accounted for in an intra-governmental service fund for which a financial plan is prepared and approved; and
- Those accounted for in a trust or agency fund established to account for moneys held by the local government or public authority as an agent or common-law trustee or to account for a retirement, pension, or similar employee benefit system. Those funds listed above that are not budgeted annually are included in the audited financial statements of the County.

Therefore, budgets are adopted for the General Fund, Community Investment Fund, Landfill Fund, Arena and Events Center Fund, 911 Emergency Telephone Fund, Social Services Fund, Intergovernmental Fund, Opioid Settlement Fund, Workers Compensation & Property Liability Fund and Self Insurance Health & Dental Fund.



FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Amendments to the Budget Ordinance

Except as otherwise restricted by law, the Board may amend the budget ordinance at any time after the ordinance's adoption in any manner, so long as the ordinance, as amended, continues to satisfy the statutory requirements. However, except as otherwise provided in this section, no amendment may increase or reduce a property tax levy or in any manner alter a property taxpayer's liability, unless a court of competent jurisdiction or State agency having the power to compel the levy of taxes orders the board to do so.

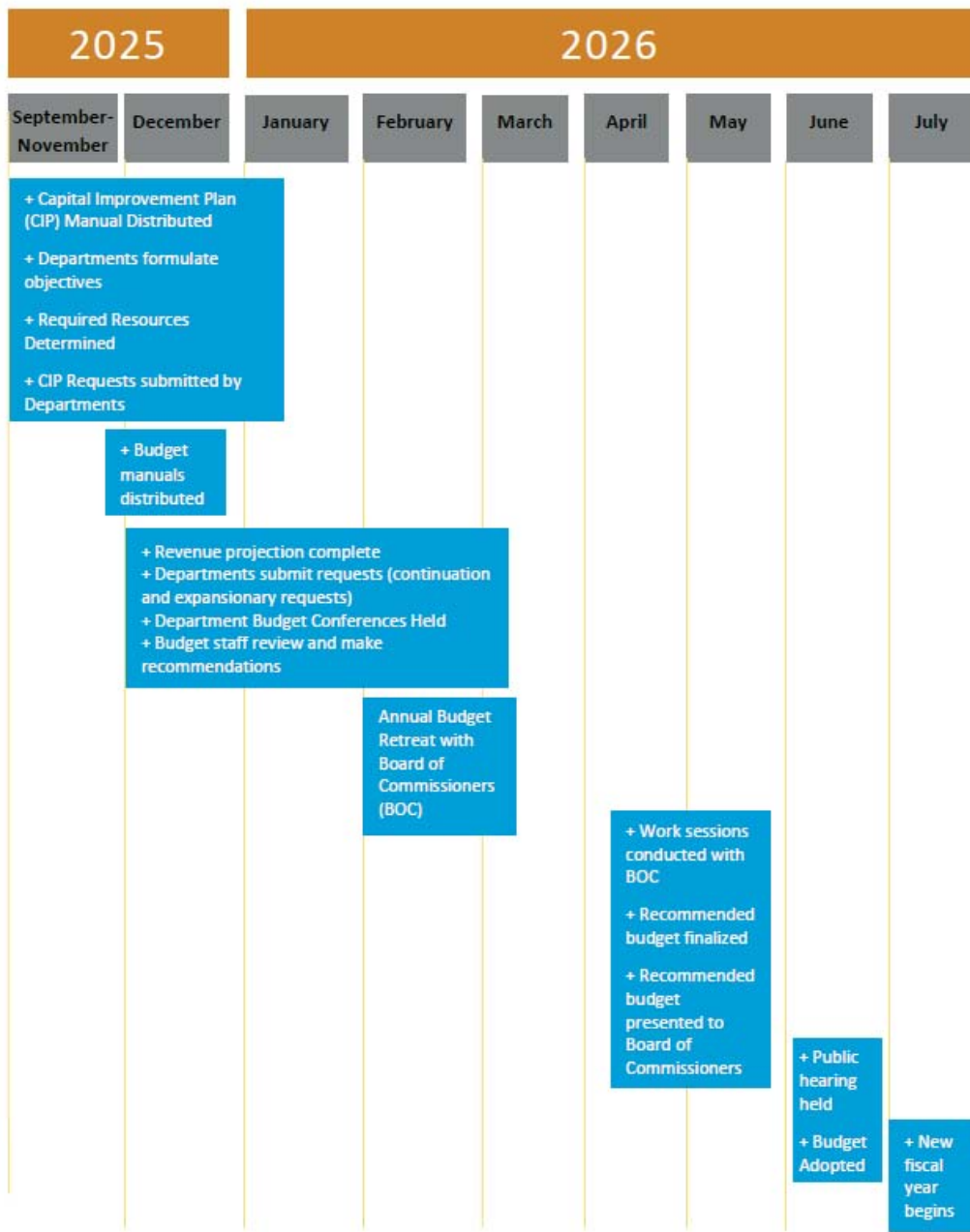
If after July 1, the County receives revenues that are substantially more or less than the amount anticipated, the Board may, before January 1 following adoption of the budget, amend the budget ordinance to reduce or increase the property tax levy to account for the unanticipated increase or reduction in revenues.

As allowed by statute, the Board has authorized the County Manager and/or Budget Director, or designee to transfer moneys from one appropriation to another or within the same fund, or modify revenue and expenditure projections, subject to such limitations and procedures as it may prescribe. The budget ordinance includes these limitations and procedures.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE, POLICY AND PROCESS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Budget Calendar



BUDGET SUMMARY

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Changes to the Recommended Budget

The Annual Budget for FY 2027, adopted by the Board of Commissioners on June 15, 2026, was the Recommended Budget adjusted for technical adjustments to the financial plan. The following tables show the changes between the Recommended Budget and the Annual Adopted Budget:

Summary of Differences by Fund - Recommended Budget vs Adopted Budget				
Fund	Fund Name	FY 2027 Recommended	FY2027 Proposed Adopted	Difference Recommended vs Adopted
001	General Fund	\$ 412,174,074	\$ 413,572,821	\$ 1,398,747
100	Community Investment Fund	89,804,172	89,804,172	-
270	Landfill Fund	3,185,283	3,185,283	-
401	Emergency Telephone (911)	475,793	475,793	-
420	Arena & Fair	2,808,786	2,808,786	-
430	Fire Districts	10,612,014	10,570,152	(41,862.00)
442	Opioid Settlement Special Rev	3,719,426	3,719,426	-
560	Social Services	500,000	500,000	-
571	Intergovernmental	1,800,000	1,800,000	-
600	Worker Comp/Property Liability	7,387,000	7,387,000	-
610	Health & Dental	27,109,916	27,109,916	-
Total		\$ 559,576,464	\$ 560,933,349	\$ 1,356,885

The technical adjustments made to each fund are summarized below:

	Revenues	Expenditures
General Fund (001) Recommended Budget	412,174,074	412,174,074
Technical Adjustments:		
1. Sheriff's Office Security 24/7 Progress Place - Adj Reimbursement from State Social Services	(18,109)	
2. Behavioral Health Center (BHC) Operator - Reimbursements for Security provided by Sheriffs Office (2 Officers)	220,000	
3. New Detention Center Pod Positions Uniforms & Equipment		19,713
4. New Progress Place / BHC Security Positions Uniforms & Equipment		69,945
5. Milestone Building Utilities Reimbursement by Social Services	27,356	-
6. Other Adjustments (Net) (Less than or equal to (+) or (-) \$10,000)	1,822	(4,088)
7. School Funding Adjustments to Address State Proposed Teacher/Staff Raises and Bonuses (Local Impact) & Placing the 4.5% in Correct Funding Categories for CCS		2,311,784
8. Appropriate Fund Balance	1,167,678	
9. Restricted Reserve		(968,699)
10. County /Fire District Sales Tax Allocation Adjustment (Net)	-	(29,908)
Subtotal Adjustments	1,398,747	1,398,747
General Fund Proposed Adopted Budget	413,572,821	413,572,821

	Revenues	Expenditures
Fire Districts Fund (430) Recommended Budget	10,612,014	10,612,014
Technical Adjustments:		
1. Fire District Property Tax - Mt. Pleasant Fire District Tax Rate Adjustment (Increase changed from 2 cent to 1.5 cent)	(41,862.00)	(41,862.00)
Fire District Fund Proposed Adopted Budget	10,570,152	10,570,152

Total Technical Adjustments - All Funds	1,356,885	1,356,885
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BUDGET SUMMARY: REVENUES

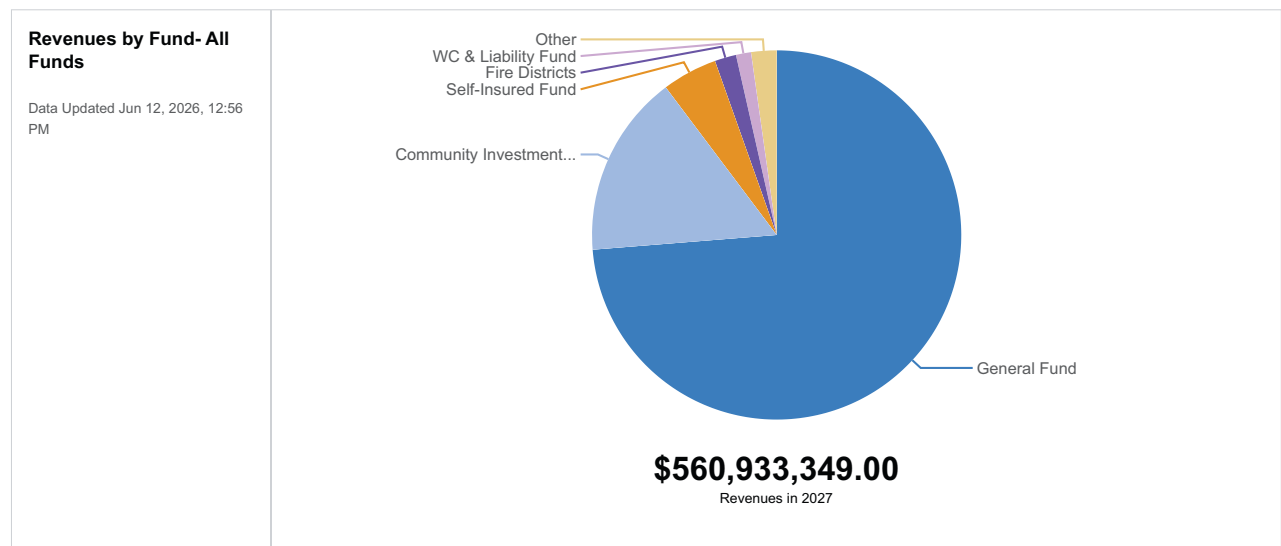
FY 2027 Annual Budget

Revenues

The County is committed to a strategic, conservative approach to budgeting revenues and expenditures. To estimate revenue for the coming year, the County Manager’s Office and Finance Department consulted with the Tax Administrator, department heads, state agencies and economists. Staff reviewed revenue collection trends, anticipated growth and any known external factors prior to finalizing revenue projections.

The County receives revenue from many sources. The budget consists of the following revenue categories:

- Property Tax
- Sales/Other Taxes
- Other Financial Sources
- Sales & Services
- Intergovernmental – Grants/Other
- Permits & Fees
- Miscellaneous
- Investment Earnings



Revenues by Source

REVENUE SOURCE	REVENUE DESCRIPTION
Property Taxes	Revenue derived from property tax
Sales/Other Taxes	Tax revenues distributed to the County that are collected for sales taxes, cable franchise fees, etc.
Other Financial Sources	Includes interfund transfers and fund balance appropriations
Sales & Services	Fees collected by various departments for goods or services rendered to the public, other departments, or other governments
Intergovernmental - Grants/Other	State and federal grant moneys received in support of County programs, and revenues collected from other governmental units that are not grant related
Permits & Fees	Fees collected for various services or privileges performed or approved by the governmental unit
Miscellaneous	Revenues collected for various activities of the County that are not specific in nature
Investment Earnings	Revenue earned on idle monies held by the County for investment

Revenue by Source - All Funds

Revenues - All Funds

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Property Taxes	\$278,830,878	\$289,716,746	\$297,210,967
Sales/Other Taxes	\$77,015,000	\$77,825,000	\$79,515,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$20,555,532	\$21,789,947	\$21,249,663
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$4,136,346	\$3,501,095	\$3,197,410
Intergovernmental - Other	\$6,618,650	\$6,616,650	\$6,600,650
Permits & Fees	\$9,047,350	\$9,832,880	\$9,708,270
Sales & Services	\$43,885,415	\$53,563,584	\$58,283,580
Investments	\$4,640,000	\$6,695,000	\$11,151,182
Miscellaneous	\$1,805,966	\$2,507,700	\$3,023,113
Other Financing Sources	\$50,457,415	\$75,596,874	\$70,993,514
TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349

Revenues and Expenditures by Source and Category

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$278,830,878	\$289,716,746	\$297,210,967
Sales/Other Taxes	\$77,015,000	\$77,825,000	\$79,515,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$20,555,532	\$21,789,947	\$21,249,663
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$4,136,346	\$3,501,095	\$3,197,410
Intergovernmental - Other	\$6,618,650	\$6,616,650	\$6,600,650
Permits & Fees	\$9,047,350	\$9,832,880	\$9,708,270
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Miscellaneous	\$1,805,966	\$2,507,700	\$3,023,113
Other Financing Sources	\$50,457,415	\$75,596,874	\$70,993,514
REVENUES TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349
Expenses			

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$105,741,653	\$108,808,513	\$112,733,901
Employee Benefits	\$45,383,334	\$52,162,911	\$56,288,139
Supplies	\$12,331,651	\$13,239,916	\$12,803,435
Other Operation Cost	\$34,260,967	\$30,332,277	\$32,305,185
Maintenance & Repair	\$3,279,492	\$3,394,069	\$3,492,422
Other Services & Charges	\$30,855,203	\$37,399,985	\$37,600,783
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$200,533,278	\$211,552,736	\$219,656,294
Capital Outlay	\$7,314,574	\$6,135,660	\$6,300,200
Debt Service	\$57,292,400	\$84,619,409	\$79,752,990
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES BY SOURCE AND CATEGORY

Property Tax

The County's largest source of operating revenue is property tax. Real property, automobiles, boats, trailers and income-producing personal property are subject to property tax unless specifically exempted by law. The County establishes real property values every four years. The total assessed valuation is \$50,002,251,000, a \$1,148,921,928 (2.35%) increase from the prior year. This includes an estimated total valuation of Real, Personal and Public Service property of \$46,409,395,000 and vehicle of \$3,592,856,000.

The county uses the total assessed valuation and collection rate to determine the amount of revenue generated. **The recommended tax rate is \$0.576 per \$100 of assessed valuation** – no change from the prior year. The collection rate used for the budget cannot exceed the prior year collection rate per state law. The county budgeted property tax revenue based on a conservative real property collection rate of 98.75% percent and a vehicle rate of 99.50%. Property tax revenue is also generated for the Fire Districts at their approved tax rates for each district.

Based on a 98.75% percent collection rate for real property, 99.50% rate for vehicles and an adopted tax rate of 57.6 cents, the property tax is projected to generate approximately \$284,568,015 in the General Fund. Delinquent taxes and interest are estimated to generate an additional \$2,072,800. The Fire Districts are estimated to generate \$10,570,152 in property taxes based on their adopted rates. In total the property tax revenue for FY27 is \$297,210,967, an increase of \$7,494,221 (2.6%) from the prior year.

Sales/Other Taxes

The State collects sales taxes, deducts a collection fee, refunds to non-profits and returns the remaining amount to the County. Sales tax is the County's second largest source of operating revenue. Sales tax revenue totals \$76,037,515. That is an increase of \$1,440,223 (2%) from the prior year. Other revenue in this category includes the Cable Franchise Fee (\$400,000), Gross Receipts (\$595,000), Bottle Tax (\$150,000) and Fire District Sales Tax (\$2,257,485).

Other Financing Sources

Other Financing Sources revenues include inter-fund transfers, debt and fund balance appropriations. Other examples include a transfer of lottery proceeds from the Capital Outlay Fund for the retirement of school debt service, and occupancy taxes from the Tourism Authority. Some highlights include the following: The General Operating Fund (GF) includes one time transfer of \$2,500,000 from the Internal Service Fund. GF also includes \$1,960,000 of fund balance for Economic Incentive Grants. GF additionally includes \$1,167,678 from Fund Balance to fund the local impact to schools funding as a result of the State proposed teacher and staff raises/bonuses. The Community Investment Fund (CIF) includes a \$40,325,000 transfer from the General Fund. The CIF fund also includes the use of \$10,264,990 of fund balance. Other Financing Sources revenues total \$70,993,514.

Sales & Services

Charging users for specific services is a method of providing services without resorting to general tax dollars, which allows customers who receive the benefits to pay for the service. Examples include ambulance transport, landfill use and program

participation fees (including the County Fair). Self Insurance/Internal Service Fund premium revenues are also included here for the Health Insurance and the Workers Comp Liability Insurance Funds. Sales & Services revenues total \$58,283,580, a \$4,719,996 (8.8%) increase from the prior year.

Intergovernmental – Grants/Other

Intergovernmental revenues are primarily state and federal funding and grants. Intergovernmental revenues total \$31,047,723 a (\$859,969) (2.7%) decrease from the prior year.

Permits and Fees

Permits and fees revenues consist primarily of Register of Deeds and Building Inspection fees. Total Permits and Fees revenues total \$9,708,270, a (\$124,610) (1.27%) decrease from the prior year. The Building Inspection Fees revenues total \$5,400,000. Register of Deeds Fee revenues total \$3,792,000. Register of Deeds Fees are largely related to the recording of documents, like the sale of property or the refinancing of a mortgage.

To learn more about the Fee Changes - check out the Fee Change section in the Supplemental Section of this book.

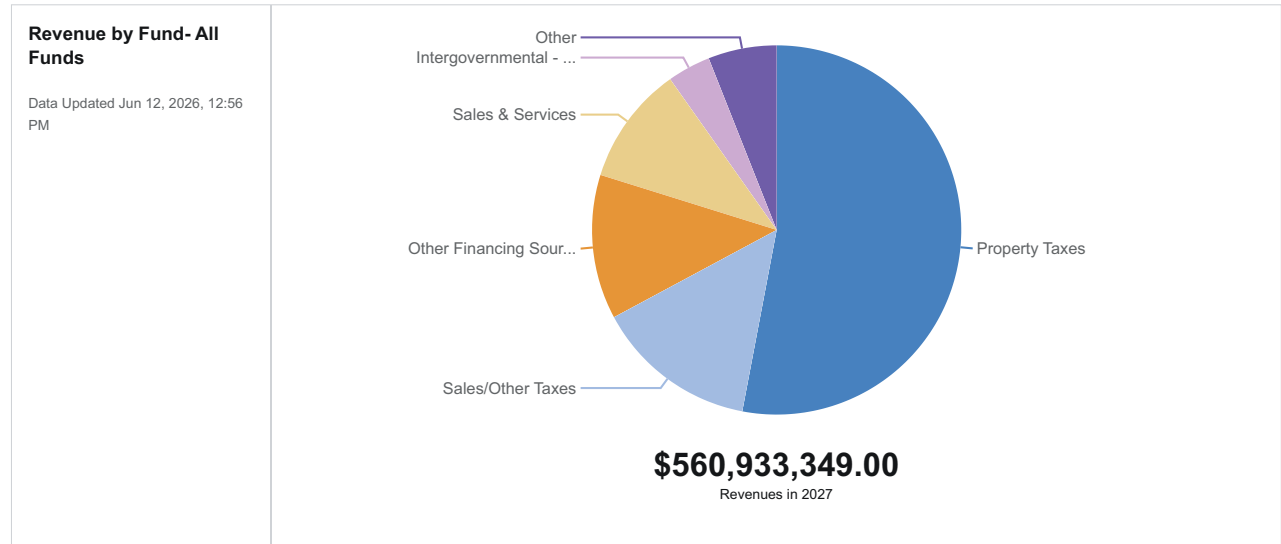
Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous revenues are those collected for activities of the County that may or may not be specific in nature or do not easily fit into another category. Included in this category are donations, grants from non-governmental entities, proceeds from the sale of fixed assets, and the Opioid Settlement Funds. Insurance Rebates for Health Self Insurance Fund are also included here. Miscellaneous revenues total \$3,023,113, a \$515,413 (20.55%) increase from the prior year.

Investment Earnings

Investment Earnings are revenues earned on funds invested by the county. Investment earning revenues total \$11,151,182, a \$4,456,182 (66.56%) increase from the prior year. This is the result of higher interest rate environment.

Revenues by Fund



Revenue by Fund- All Funds

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Property Taxes	\$278,830,878	\$289,716,746	\$297,210,967
Sales/Other Taxes	\$77,015,000	\$77,825,000	\$79,515,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$20,555,532	\$21,789,947	\$21,249,663
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$4,136,346	\$3,501,095	\$3,197,410
Intergovernmental - Other	\$6,618,650	\$6,616,650	\$6,600,650
Permits & Fees	\$9,047,350	\$9,832,880	\$9,708,270
Sales & Services	\$43,885,415	\$53,563,584	\$58,283,580
Investments	\$4,640,000	\$6,695,000	\$11,151,182
Miscellaneous	\$1,805,966	\$2,507,700	\$3,023,113
Other Financing Sources	\$50,457,415	\$75,596,874	\$70,993,514
TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349

The County allocates revenues to the following funds:

- General
- Community Investment Fund (CIF)
- Self-Insured/Dental
- Fire District
- Workers' Compensation and Liability
- Landfill
- Intergovernmental Fund
- Arena and Events Center
- 911 Emergency Telephone System
- Social Services
- Opioid Fund

Proposed Revenue by Fund- All Funds

	2026 - 27 Budget	2026 - 27 General Fund	2026 - 27 Community Investment Fund	2026 - 27 Self-Insured Fund	2026 - 27 Fire Districts Fund	2026 - 27 Workers Comp/Liability Fund	2026 - 27 Opioid Settlement Fund
Property Taxes	\$297,210,967	\$286,640,815	\$0	\$0	\$10,570,152	\$0	\$0
Sales/Other Taxes	\$79,515,000	\$50,156,000	\$29,284,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$21,249,663	\$21,249,663	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$3,197,410	\$2,788,410	\$404,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Other	\$6,600,650	\$6,546,650	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Permits & Fees	\$9,708,270	\$9,498,270	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sales & Services	\$58,283,580	\$22,929,229	\$0	\$25,729,766	\$0	\$4,077,992	\$0
Investments	\$11,151,182	\$7,000,000	\$3,876,182	\$100,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$3,023,113	\$750,375	\$0	\$1,164,738	\$0	\$0	\$1,100,000
Other Financing Sources	\$70,993,514	\$6,013,409	\$56,239,990	\$115,412	\$0	\$3,234,008	\$2,619,426
TOTAL	\$560,933,349	\$413,572,821	\$89,804,172	\$27,109,916	\$10,570,152	\$7,387,000	\$3,719,426

	2026 - 27 Landfill Fund	2026 - 27 Arena/Fair Fund	2026 - 27 Intergovernmental Fund	2026 - 27 Social Services Fund	2026 - 27 911 Fund
Property Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sales/Other Taxes	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental - Other	\$54,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Permits & Fees	\$210,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sales & Services	\$2,088,500	\$692,300	\$1,800,000	\$500,000	\$465,793
Investments	\$0	\$90,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources	\$752,783	\$2,018,486	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$3,185,283	\$2,808,786	\$1,800,000	\$500,000	\$475,793

BUDGET SUMMARY: EXPENDITURES

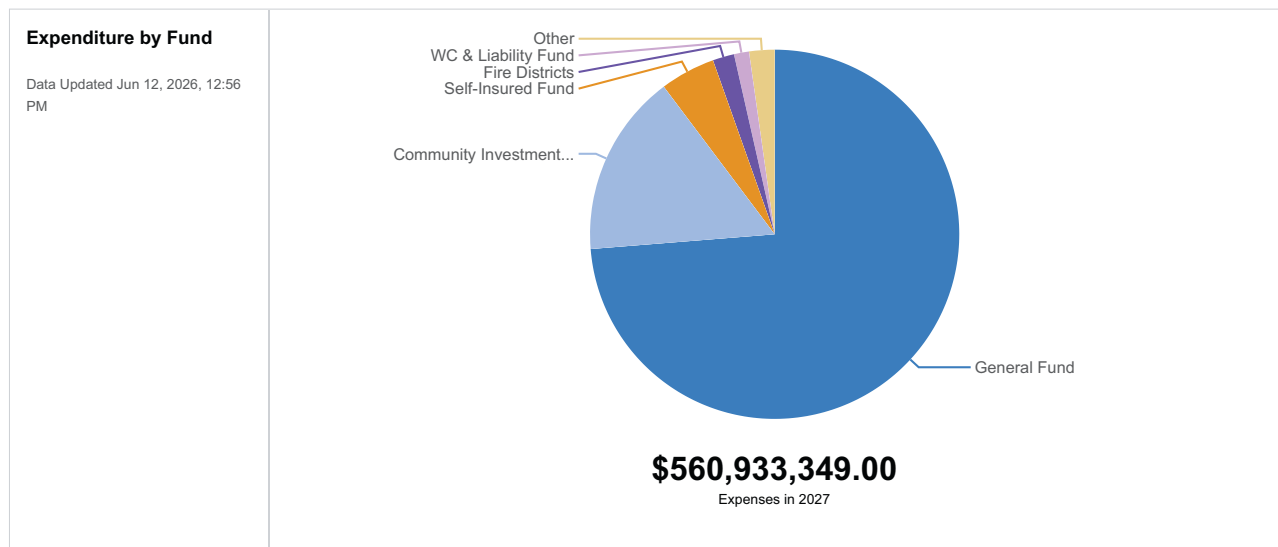
FY 2027 Annual Budget

Expenditures

The following three sections present expenditures by fund, category, function and department.

Expenditures by Fund

The budget across all funds totals \$560,933,349, a \$13,287,873 (2.43%) increase from prior year. For further details of these funds, see the "Fund Summaries" section.



Expenditure by Category

Personnel Services

Personnel Services include all expenditures associated with employment including salaries and benefits. The Cabarrus County Personnel Management Policy calls for annual cost-of-living salary adjustments (COLA) and merit pay raises based on performance. The budget provides a one percent COLA and merit pay raises of up to four percent.

Personnel Services expenditures total \$169,022,040, a \$8,050,616 (5%) increase from the prior year. The increase includes the addition of 16 new Detention Center positions for a new pod, 5 new Sheriff Office positions and a reclassification of one position for 24/7 security coverage at the new Behavioral Health Center and Progress Place. Details of the new positions and reclassification are shown in the Position Summary section of the budget book.

Employee Benefits

Healthcare – the budget includes an additional \$2,065,719, a 10.61% increase from the prior year.

Retirement – the budget includes an additional \$1,465,898, a 9.65% increase from the prior year. The county is required to make a contribution based on a percentage of each employee's salary to the North Carolina Local Government Employees' Retirement System. For FY27, the annual contribution for law enforcement officers is 17.10% and the rate for general employees is 15.13%.

Operations

Operations include all expenses, outside of personnel, required to provide service. Examples include office supplies, technology, equipment, uniforms, fuel and utilities. Operations expenditures total \$305,858,119, a \$9,939,136 (3.36%) increase from the prior year. Significant increases include:

Education Funding – the budget includes an additional \$6,483,995 for Cabarrus County Schools (CCS) to fund rising costs of locally paid staff, and operational cost including facility & grounds maintenance. Kannapolis City Schools (KCS) received an additional \$902,027 to also fund the rising costs of locally paid staff, technology and other operational expenses. The CCS and KCS Charter Schools also receive equivalent funding based on their student Average Daily Membership (ADM) increasing their funding by \$448,826. The school totals includes non-recurring funds for the local impact of State proposed teacher and staff bonuses (CCS \$871,034; KCS \$100,895; CCS & KCS Charter Schools \$82,262). Rowan Cabarrus Community College will receive an increase of \$220,658. In total, Education will receive just over \$136.1 million for operations - an increase of \$8.07 million (6.3%).

Cabarrus Health Alliance (CHA) – the budget includes an additional \$505,994 (4%) increase from the prior year. The budget funds a major portion of the inflationary and merit increases for CHA staff, nurses for the school nurse program and the behavioral health program for the Cabarrus County Detention Center.

Capital Outlay

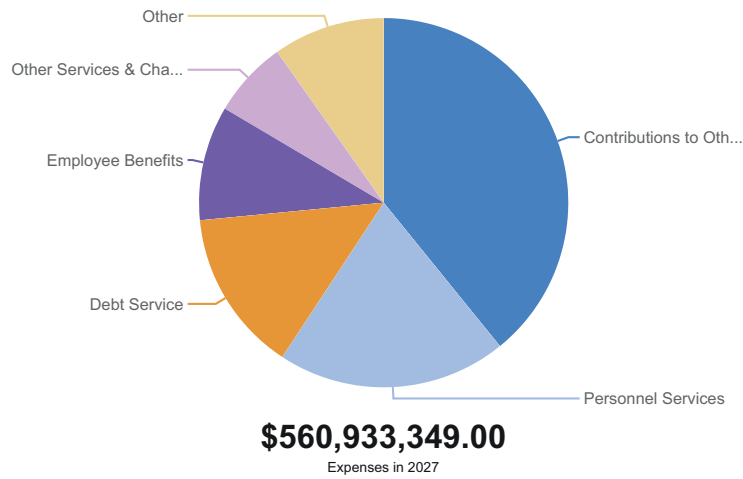
Capital Outlay includes capital purchases between \$5,000 and \$99,999. Examples include equipment, vehicles, and furniture. Capital Outlay expenditures total \$6,300,200, a \$164,540 (2.68%) increase from the prior year.

Expenditures by Category- All Funds

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$105,741,653	\$108,808,513	\$112,733,901
Employee Benefits	\$45,383,334	\$52,162,911	\$56,288,139
Supplies	\$12,331,651	\$13,239,916	\$12,803,435
Other Operation Cost	\$34,260,967	\$30,332,277	\$32,305,185
Maintenance & Repair	\$3,279,492	\$3,394,069	\$3,492,422
Other Services & Charges	\$30,855,203	\$37,399,985	\$37,600,783
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$200,533,278	\$211,552,736	\$219,656,294
Capital Outlay	\$7,314,574	\$6,135,660	\$6,300,200
Debt Service	\$57,292,400	\$84,619,409	\$79,752,990
TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349

Expenditures by Category- All Funds

Data Updated Jun 12, 2026, 12:56 PM



Expenditures by Function

Expenditures are budgeted across nine functions:

Expenditures by Function - All Funds

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Education	\$116,461,918	\$130,656,530	\$139,209,055
Public Safety	\$101,868,201	\$107,853,950	\$114,577,210
Debt Service	\$64,271,982	\$87,819,409	\$84,979,172
General Government	\$71,825,896	\$78,546,896	\$79,755,532
Human Services	\$66,211,409	\$70,279,176	\$71,764,057
Contributions	\$53,435,084	\$47,304,823	\$45,495,082
Culture & Recreation	\$13,258,506	\$14,185,312	\$14,818,257
Economic & Physical Development	\$7,212,078	\$8,093,106	\$7,149,701
Environmental Protection	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283
TOTAL	\$496,992,552	\$547,645,476	\$560,933,349

Expenditure by Function

Education/School Debt

The total budget for Education including debt services \$184,077,045. As noted earlier \$136,143,899 of the Education funding is for operations. Education related debt service totaling \$44,867,990 for Cabarrus County Schools (CCS), Kannapolis City Schools (KCS), Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) contributions funds the acquisition and construction of capital assets. The Capital Outlay funding for CCS, KCS and RCCC is \$1,220,000. Technology support provided by the County for CCS and KCS of \$45,156. The total also includes \$1,800,000 of pass through funds for Fines and Forfeitures that are collected by the County, but paid to Cabarrus County Schools, Kannapolis City Schools and associated legal fees.

Public Safety

The budget for Public Safety is \$114,577,210 an increase of \$6,723,260 (6.23%) from the prior year. Public Safety expenditures provide safety and security for the public. This section includes the Sheriff’s Department, which includes services such as the Jail, Animal Control and Animal Shelter. Other departments included in this category are Courts, Construction Standards, Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services and the 911 Emergency Telephone System Fund. Beginning with the FY24 budget the Sheriff’s Office budget added separate divisions (departments) to account for deputies provided to Towns of Harrisburg, Midland and Mount Pleasant. In addition, a separate division has also been

created to account for staff provided as School Resource Officers to Cabarrus County Schools. For FY27 an additional division (department) for Communications was created for the Sheriff's Office. Included in this increase are funds for the opening of a new pod for the Detention Center (16 new positions), as well as 24/7 security coverage for the Behavioral Health Center (BHC) and Progress Place (5 new positions and one reclassification) for the Sheriff's Office. The cost of the security positions will be partially offset by reimbursement from BHC Operator and state Social Services grant funding.

General Government

The budget for General Government is \$79,755,532, a \$1,208,636 (1.54%) increase from the prior year. The General Government Service area accounts for county services for the benefit of the public and the governmental body as a whole. This service area includes: Board of Commissioners, County Manager's Office, Budget, Strategy, Procurement, Safety & Risk and Facility Design & Construction, Communications and Outreach, Human Resources, Tax Collection and Administration, Board of Elections, Register of Deeds, Finance, Information Services, Infrastructure and Asset Management, Health and Dental Insurance and Non-departmental, which includes programs that relate to the General Fund and not a particular department. For FY2027 Longevity Pay and Lapse Salary previously budgeted in the General Government has been allocated to the respective functional areas based on prior use data.

Contributions

The budget for Contribution to Other Funds is \$45,495,082, a \$1,809,741 (-3.83%) decrease from the prior year. Contributions include expenditures to other funds such as the Community Investment Fund, Capital Project, Landfill, and Arena.

Human Services

The budget for Human Services is \$71,764,057, a \$1,484,881 (2.11%) increase from the prior year. Human Services expenditures are those that promote general health and well-being of the individuals within the community. This area includes Veterans Services, Medicaid and Senior Transportation, Cooperative Extension, Economic Social Services, Aging Services, Child Welfare, Child Support, Behavioral Health and the Cabarrus Health Alliance.

Non-Education Debt Service

The budget for Non-Education Debt Services is \$40,111,182 a \$817,239 (2.08%) increase from the prior year. Other debt service accounts for principal and interest payments on debt, other than school debt.

Culture and Recreation

The budget for Culture and Recreation is \$14,818,257, a \$632,945 (4.46%) increase from the prior year. Culture and Recreation expenditures provide residents with opportunities and facilities for cultural, recreational and educational programs. These opportunities include programming at the senior center, county parks, Cabarrus Arena and Events Center, Fair and Libraries.

Economic and Physical Development

The budget for Economic and Physical Development is \$7,149,701, a \$943,405 (-11.66%) decrease from the prior year. The Economic and Physical Development service area provides for the orderly planning of growth and development, along with incentives to drive economic growth in the County. This area includes Planning and Development, Community Development, Soil and Water Conservation, Zoning Administration, Economic Development Incentives and Economic Development Corporation (EDC). The decrease is a result of timing of the Economic Incentive Grants, a reduction of County's contribution to the EDC, and a reduction of some Community Development Grants.

Environmental Protection

The budget for Environmental Protection is \$3,185,283, a \$279,009 (9.6%) increase from the prior year. Environmental Protection services provide environmental safety and quality. These services include the Landfill and Waste Reduction/Recycling departments.

Expenditures by Function and Department- Contributions

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
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	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Contributions	\$8,556,242	\$4,870,848	\$3,605,000
Self Insured Dental	\$613,000	\$800,000	\$860,008
Cont to Other Funds	\$44,265,842	\$41,633,975	\$40,581,252
Other Human Services	\$0	\$0	\$448,822
TOTAL	\$53,435,084	\$47,304,823	\$45,495,082

Expenditures by Function and Department- General Government

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Board of Commissioners	\$603,336	\$644,168	\$633,851
Legal Department	\$879,896	\$999,780	\$755,197
County Manager	\$1,166,010	\$1,414,043	\$1,738,392
Budget	\$417,020	\$491,624	\$519,881
Strategy	\$460,544	\$461,078	\$324,735
Procurement	\$230,194	\$268,847	\$281,701
Communications & Outreach	\$940,292	\$1,022,356	\$1,009,862
Risk Mgmt	\$252,168	\$306,065	\$316,565
Human Resources	\$1,690,999	\$1,806,198	\$1,907,662
Tax Collector	\$1,447,946	\$1,312,320	\$1,346,137
Tax Administration	\$3,191,497	\$3,480,407	\$3,672,549
Board of Elections	\$1,461,429	\$1,768,456	\$1,496,335
Register of Deeds	\$856,214	\$885,667	\$918,865
Finance	\$1,937,901	\$2,153,182	\$2,234,887
Information Technology Svcs	\$9,799,232	\$10,047,588	\$9,957,663
Non-departmental	\$6,228,160	\$3,613,785	\$5,072,347
Self-Insured Workers' Comp	\$2,363,223	\$4,861,018	\$4,680,000
Self-Insured Hospitalization	\$18,928,162	\$23,865,172	\$26,249,908
Self-Insured Liability Insuran	\$2,498,250	\$2,702,000	\$2,707,000
Facility Design & Construction	\$310,648	\$358,832	\$379,964
Grounds Maintenance	\$2,695,451	\$2,695,327	\$2,745,185
IAM Administration	\$3,606,879	\$3,737,145	\$1,195,506
Sign Maintenance	\$246,427	\$305,205	\$304,574
Building Maintenance	\$4,285,541	\$4,473,308	\$4,041,217
Facility Services	\$3,401,690	\$3,836,259	\$4,019,558
Fleet Maintenance	\$1,926,787	\$1,037,066	\$1,245,991
TOTAL	\$71,825,896	\$78,546,896	\$79,755,532

Expenditures by Function and Department- Public Safety

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
County Sheriff	\$29,528,912	\$30,477,051	\$27,890,020
Harrisburg	\$3,280,103	\$4,334,536	\$3,996,777
Midland	\$440,191	\$535,107	\$516,881
Mt. Pleasant	\$504,826	\$482,827	\$494,888
School Resource Officers	\$3,279,230	\$3,630,896	\$3,802,701
Sheriff Communications	\$0	\$0	\$4,429,687
Detention Center	\$19,927,718	\$21,554,220	\$23,604,860
Animal Control	\$1,455,427	\$1,426,330	\$1,468,763
Animal Shelter	\$957,495	\$1,012,556	\$1,040,040
Courts	\$1,430,451	\$1,267,713	\$1,252,755
Construction Standards	\$6,046,335	\$6,126,981	\$6,143,699
Emergency Management	\$10,005,091	\$10,134,693	\$11,074,505
Fire Services	\$2,189,710	\$2,343,577	\$2,463,066
Fire Districts	\$1,703,079	\$2,162,708	\$2,257,485
Emergency Medical Services	\$18,766,025	\$20,110,669	\$21,749,298
Emergency Telephone	\$574,175	\$583,185	\$563,293
Other Public Safety	\$1,581,717	\$1,670,901	\$1,828,492
Other Human Services	\$197,716	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$101,868,201	\$107,853,950	\$114,577,210

Expenditures by Function and Department- Economic & Phys Dev

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Planning & Development Serv	\$663,672	\$733,516	\$770,172
Community Development	\$837,997	\$1,008,271	\$322,723
Soil & Water Conservation	\$412,850	\$442,761	\$458,790
Zoning Administration	\$303,723	\$314,507	\$320,313
Economic Development Corp	\$867,723	\$841,726	\$789,035
Economic Development Incentive	\$1,900,000	\$2,430,000	\$1,960,000
Other Econ & Phys Devel	\$2,226,113	\$2,322,325	\$2,528,668
TOTAL	\$7,212,078	\$8,093,106	\$7,149,701

Expenditures by Function and Department- Environmental Pr...

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Landfill Operations	\$1,666,000	\$2,066,000	\$2,316,500
Waste Reduction/Recycling	\$781,478	\$840,274	\$868,783
TOTAL	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283

Expenditures by Function and Department- Human Services

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Veterans Services	\$522,954	\$586,770	\$570,611
Transportation	\$4,068,984	\$3,690,068	\$3,223,891
Business Operations - HHS	\$0	\$860,943	\$941,089
DHS- Administration Operations	\$8,081,928	\$8,030,780	\$8,209,811
DHS-Economic Family Support Sv	\$4,790,345	\$2,489,303	\$2,559,370
DHS - Food & Nutrition Service	\$0	\$2,979,175	\$3,132,747
DHS - Child Welfare	\$14,214,361	\$14,869,149	\$15,350,130
DHS - Child Support Services	\$2,427,509	\$2,616,824	\$2,733,915
DHS - Medicaid	\$10,607,375	\$11,263,201	\$11,591,580
DHS-Adult and Family Services	\$3,231,584	\$3,417,117	\$3,553,164
DHS- Behavioral Health	\$298,708	\$348,349	\$366,644
Cooperative Extension	\$515,862	\$476,226	\$497,146
Aging - Nutrition Title III	\$1,051,618	\$910,742	\$863,670
Aging - Senior Services	\$920,878	\$955,454	\$981,153
Cabarrus Health Alliance	\$12,040,642	\$12,649,861	\$13,155,855
Other Human Services	\$3,438,661	\$4,135,214	\$4,033,281
TOTAL	\$66,211,409	\$70,279,176	\$71,764,057

Expenditures by Function and Department- Education

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$99,265,847	\$111,835,994	\$119,028,693
Kannapolis City Schools	\$11,212,010	\$12,503,346	\$13,631,673
Current Expense- RCCC	\$4,584,500	\$4,903,500	\$5,124,158
Capital Outlay Cab Cty Schools	\$1,056,324	\$1,056,324	\$1,056,324
Capital Outlay Kann City Sch	\$108,832	\$108,832	\$108,832
Capital Outlay- RCCC	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Other Schools	\$134,405	\$148,534	\$159,375
TOTAL	\$116,461,918	\$130,656,530	\$139,209,055

Expenditures by Function and Department- Culture & Recrea...

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
ALPS Administration	\$1,597,573	\$1,701,287	\$1,685,206
Camp Spencer	\$304,223	\$326,218	\$327,604
Frank Liske Park	\$439,357	\$443,789	\$448,573
Rob Wallace Park	\$290,199	\$322,647	\$339,016
Vietnam Veterans Park	\$5,950	\$7,000	\$7,000
St. Stephens Park	\$4,000	\$0	\$0
Afton Ridge Active Living Center	\$436,496	\$0	\$0
Concord Active Living Center	\$609,522	\$0	\$0

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Mt. Pleasant Active Living Center	\$343,440	\$0	\$0
Active Living Ctr-Afton Ridge	\$0	\$270,878	\$286,302
Active Liv& Pks-Senior Center	\$0	\$781,686	\$792,877
Active Living Ctr-MtPleasant	\$0	\$175,872	\$182,646
Library Administration	\$2,122,476	\$2,073,243	\$2,219,608
Mt. Pleasant Library	\$627,551	\$665,767	\$685,522
Harrisburg Library	\$671,933	\$706,561	\$749,465
Concord Library	\$1,337,410	\$1,699,873	\$1,577,086
Kannapolis Library	\$786,546	\$768,390	\$1,003,300
Midland Library	\$371,021	\$413,318	\$471,709
Afton Ridge Library	\$1,048,292	\$1,098,575	\$1,218,168
Arena & Events Center	\$1,236,104	\$1,393,133	\$1,621,455
County Fair	\$989,413	\$1,300,075	\$1,177,331
Visitor Related Events	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Other - Cult & Rec	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$15,389
TOTAL	\$13,258,506	\$14,185,312	\$14,818,257

Expenditures by Function and Department- Debt Service/ Ca...

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Debt Services: Education	\$34,880,775	\$48,525,466	\$44,867,990
Debt Service: Other	\$29,391,207	\$39,293,943	\$40,111,182
TOTAL	\$64,271,982	\$87,819,409	\$84,979,172

Exp- by Fund and Function

	2026 - 27 Budget	2026 - 27 General Fund	2026 - 27 Community Investment Fund	2026 - 27 Self-Insured Fund	2026 - 27 Fire Districts Fund	2026 - 27 Workers Comp/Liability Fund	2026 - 27 Opioid Settlement Fund
Education	\$139,209,055	\$136,189,055	\$1,220,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety	\$114,577,210	\$103,531,265	\$0	\$0	\$10,570,152	\$0	\$0
Debt Service	\$84,979,172	\$0	\$84,979,172	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government	\$79,755,532	\$46,118,624	\$0	\$26,249,908	\$0	\$7,387,000	\$0
Human Services	\$71,764,057	\$67,993,453	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,270,604
Contributions	\$45,495,082	\$40,581,252	\$3,605,000	\$860,008	\$0	\$0	\$448,822
Culture & Recreation	\$14,818,257	\$12,009,471	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Economic & Physical Development	\$7,149,701	\$7,149,701	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Environmental Protection	\$3,185,283	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$560,933,349	\$413,572,821	\$89,804,172	\$27,109,916	\$10,570,152	\$7,387,000	\$3,719,426

	2026 - 27 Landfill Fund	2026 - 27 Arena/Fair Fund	2026 - 27 Intergovernmental Fund	2026 - 27 Social Services Fund	2026 - 27 911 Fund
Education	\$0	\$0	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0
Public Safety	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$475,793
Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Human Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$0
Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Culture & Recreation	\$0	\$2,808,786	\$0	\$0	\$0
Economic & Physical Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Environmental Protection	\$3,185,283	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$3,185,283	\$2,808,786	\$1,800,000	\$500,000	\$475,793

GENERAL FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

General Fund Summary

The General Fund overall budget totals \$503,376,993 an increase of \$9,955,489 (2.02%) from the prior year. The General Fund is made up of the General Fund (Operating) and the Community Investment Fund.

General Fund (Operating) Summary

The General Fund (Operating) budget totals \$413,572,821, an increase of \$14,061,574 (3.52%) from the prior year. The fund accounts for county services for the benefit of the public and the governmental body as a whole. This fund includes funding for Education, Public Safety, Human Services, General Government, Debt Service, Culture and Recreation, Economic and Physical Development functions of the County.

General Fund Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Property Taxes	\$269,281,057	\$280,066,034	\$286,640,815
Sales/Other Taxes	\$48,589,000	\$49,039,740	\$50,156,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Human Services	\$20,555,532	\$21,789,947	\$21,249,663
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$3,726,346	\$3,092,095	\$2,788,410
Intergovernmental - Other	\$6,568,650	\$6,568,650	\$6,546,650
Permits & Fees	\$8,897,350	\$9,652,880	\$9,498,270
Sales & Services	\$17,202,857	\$19,219,193	\$22,929,229
Investments	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$7,000,000
Miscellaneous	\$430,100	\$377,700	\$750,375
Other Financing Sources	\$363,344	\$5,205,008	\$6,013,409
TOTAL	\$380,114,236	\$399,511,247	\$413,572,821

General Fund Expenses

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$104,814,425	\$107,759,641	\$111,584,322
Employee Benefits	\$44,945,332	\$51,643,030	\$55,719,504
Supplies	\$11,427,846	\$10,966,761	\$11,362,773
Other Operation Cost	\$24,790,346	\$23,859,430	\$23,578,732
Maintenance & Repair	\$2,229,992	\$2,165,435	\$2,161,400
Other Services & Charges	\$8,047,238	\$10,158,007	\$7,697,494
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$178,459,065	\$189,651,283	\$198,101,396
Capital Outlay	\$5,399,992	\$3,307,660	\$3,367,200
TOTAL	\$380,114,236	\$399,511,247	\$413,572,821

General Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$380,114,236	\$399,511,247	\$413,572,821
Expenses	\$380,114,236	\$399,511,247	\$413,572,821
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

GENERAL FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Community Investment Fund Summary

Also a General Fund is the Community Investment Fund (CIF) that maintains separate restricted revenues, expenses, and fund balance. The CIF provides dedicated and sustainable funding for capital projects for the county, school systems and community college. The CIF budget totals \$89,804,172, a decrease of \$4,106,085 (-4.37%) from the prior year.

Community Investment Fund Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales/Other Taxes	\$28,426,000	\$28,710,260	\$29,284,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$404,000	\$404,000	\$404,000
Investments	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$3,876,182
Other Financing Sources	\$45,218,224	\$62,795,997	\$56,239,990
TOTAL	\$74,048,224	\$93,910,257	\$89,804,172

Community Investment Fund Expenses

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Other Operation Cost	\$4,250,000	\$450,000	\$2,326,182
Other Services & Charges	\$1,000,000	\$100,000	\$250,000
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$9,776,242	\$6,090,848	\$4,825,000
Capital Outlay	\$1,729,582	\$2,650,000	\$2,650,000
Debt Service	\$57,292,400	\$84,619,409	\$79,752,990
TOTAL	\$74,048,224	\$93,910,257	\$89,804,172

Community Investment Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$74,048,224	\$93,910,257	\$89,804,172
Expenses	\$74,048,224	\$93,910,257	\$89,804,172
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Landfill Fund Summary

The Landfill Fund budget totals \$3,185,283, a increase of \$279,009 (9.60%) from the prior year. Tipping fee revenue totals \$1,440,000, based on a charge of \$64 per ton multiplied by 22,500 tons of incoming commercial and demolition waste. Republic Services as part of the franchise agreement collects curbside residential waste and recyclables from unincorporated Cabarrus residents.

Landfill Fund Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales/Other Taxes	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000
Intergovernmental - Grants - Other	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Intergovernmental - Other	\$50,000	\$48,000	\$54,000
Permits & Fees	\$150,000	\$180,000	\$210,000
Sales & Services	\$1,501,000	\$1,874,000	\$2,088,500
Other Financing Sources	\$740,478	\$724,274	\$752,783
TOTAL	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283

Landfill Fund Expenses

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$645,557	\$676,342	\$696,797
Employee Benefits	\$313,569	\$356,654	\$381,146
Supplies	\$597,180	\$633,180	\$650,760
Other Operation Cost	\$499,025	\$587,575	\$668,025
Maintenance & Repair	\$159,500	\$244,500	\$269,500
Other Services & Charges	\$207,647	\$378,023	\$359,055
Capital Outlay	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$160,000
TOTAL	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283

Landfill Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283
Expenses	\$2,447,478	\$2,906,274	\$3,185,283
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

911 Emergency Telephone System Fund Summary

The 911 Fund budget totals \$475,793, an increase of \$9,908 (2.13%) from the prior year. The primary source of revenue is the 911 surcharge on telephones—both wireless and landlines. The State 911 Board collects and remits fund to the county. Expenditures in this fund are for authorized 911 uses only including equipment, computer hardware and software.

911 Emergency Fund Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales & Services	\$262,342	\$442,764	\$465,793
Investments	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Other Financing Sources	\$201,433	\$13,121	\$0
TOTAL	\$473,775	\$465,885	\$475,793

911 Emergency Fund Expenditures

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Supplies	\$21,000	\$14,345	\$24,793
Other Operation Cost	\$367,775	\$272,540	\$308,000
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$31,000	\$20,000
Capital Outlay	\$85,000	\$148,000	\$123,000
TOTAL	\$473,775	\$465,885	\$475,793

911 Emergency Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$473,775	\$465,885	\$475,793
Expenses	\$473,775	\$465,885	\$475,793
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Arena & Events Center Fund Summary

The Arena and Events Center Fund budget totals \$2,808,786, a \$105,578 (3.91%) increase from the prior year. This fund accounts for revenues and expenditures of the Arena and Events Center, the County Fair and other visitor-related events. Fund revenue includes gate passes, carnival rides and sponsor sales. In addition, the fund receives \$366,500 from the Tourism Authority from occupancy taxes. The County contracts with Legends, a management company, to oversee and manage the Arena and Events Center (not including the County Fair).

Arena & Events Center Fund Summary Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales & Services	\$749,831	\$632,000	\$692,300
Investments	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$90,000
Miscellaneous	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$8,000
Other Financing Sources	\$1,420,686	\$2,006,208	\$2,018,486
TOTAL	\$2,235,517	\$2,703,208	\$2,808,786

Arena & Events Center Fund Summary Expenditures

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$149,723	\$131,063	\$132,328
Employee Benefits	\$58,665	\$45,572	\$63,403
Supplies	\$64,125	\$64,125	\$64,125
Other Operation Cost	\$669,475	\$1,009,514	\$846,850
Maintenance & Repair	\$391,500	\$429,000	\$480,150
Other Services & Charges	\$892,029	\$1,013,934	\$1,151,930
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$70,000
TOTAL	\$2,235,517	\$2,703,208	\$2,808,786

Arena and Event Center Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$2,235,517	\$2,703,208	\$2,808,786
Expenses	\$2,235,517	\$2,703,208	\$2,808,786
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Fire District Fund Summary

NCGS 153A-233 authorizes counties to organize and maintain fire departments, enter contracts with municipal or volunteer fire departments and appropriate funds to engage in these activities. Fire protection services are provided to county citizens through contracts with multiple non-profit incorporated volunteer fire departments and municipal departments within Cabarrus County. Departments are funded through established fire tax districts at various tax rates, grants and a portion of sales tax.

Funding is for distribution of sales taxes to the appropriate local Fire Tax Districts. The proper accounting for these funds is to record them as a revenue upon receipt and an expenditure upon disbursement to the local fire district.

Fire Districts Fund Summary Revenue

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Property Taxes	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152

Fire Districts Fund Summary- Expense Expanded

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities			
Operations			
Concord Rural	\$42,801	\$40,881	\$40,626
Rimer Volunteer Fire Departmen	\$398,919	\$407,855	\$427,899
Mt Mitchell Fire District	\$198,230	\$200,052	\$203,347
Gold Hill Volunteer Fire Dept	\$71,455	\$71,359	\$73,543
Mt Pleasant Volunteer Fire Dep	\$881,491	\$902,103	\$1,046,540
Kannapolis Rural (Winecoff)	\$366,212	\$373,494	\$392,968
Georgeville Fire District	\$449,500	\$461,467	\$478,857
Flowes Store Fire District	\$432,111	\$438,995	\$532,301
Odell Volunteer Fire Departmen	\$1,122,121	\$1,141,433	\$1,562,656
Richfield Volunteer Fire Dept	\$17,939	\$18,864	\$19,754
Jackson Park Fire District	\$303,913	\$312,488	\$314,142
Cold Water Fire District	\$491,351	\$499,159	\$509,640
Allen Volunteer Fire Departmen	\$1,074,181	\$1,088,914	\$1,107,451
Midland Fire District	\$1,430,528	\$1,393,033	\$1,540,198
Northeast Volunteer Fire Dept	\$295,019	\$304,286	\$318,766
Harrisburg Volunteer Fire Dept	\$1,974,050	\$1,996,329	\$2,001,464
OPERATIONS TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER FUNDS OR ACTIVITIES TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152

Fire Districts Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
REVENUES TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
Expenses			
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$9,549,821	\$9,650,712	\$10,570,152
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Social Services Fund Summary

Social Services Fund is set up to account for moneys held by the Department of Human Services as agent for various individuals who are incapable of managing their own financial affairs. Prior to FY22 these funds were accounted for as agency funds. Based on new guidance from the GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) GASB Statement No. 84 these funds are now accounted for as Special Revenue Funds.

Social Services Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues			
Sales & Services	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$500,000
REVENUES TOTAL	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$500,000
Expenses			
Other Operation Cost	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$500,000
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$500,000
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Intergovernmental Fund Summary

Intergovernmental Fund is set up to account for the accumulation of fines and forfeitures before they are distributed to the local School Boards. Prior to FY22 these funds were accounted for as agency funds. Based on new guidance from the GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) GASB Statement No. 84 these funds are now accounted for as Special Revenue Funds.

Intergovernmental Fund Summary Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales & Services	\$2,600,000	\$2,605,000	\$1,800,000
TOTAL	\$2,600,000	\$2,605,000	\$1,800,000

Intergovernmental Fund Summary Expenditures

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Other Services & Charges	\$125,000	\$130,000	\$150,000
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$2,475,000	\$2,475,000	\$1,650,000
TOTAL	\$2,600,000	\$2,605,000	\$1,800,000

Intergovernmental Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$2,600,000	\$2,605,000	\$1,800,000
Expenses	\$2,600,000	\$2,605,000	\$1,800,000
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Workers' Compensation & Liability Fund Summary

The Workers' Compensation and Liability Fund totals \$7,387,000, a \$176,018 (-2.33%) decrease from the prior year. The county funds both the workers' compensation and liability insurance plans from premiums generated by a percentage of the salaries of each county employee covered by the plans. Expenditures from the fund are payment of excess coverage, claims and administrative support.

Workers' Compensation & Liability Fund Summary Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales & Services	\$2,363,223	\$4,450,455	\$4,077,992
Investments	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$75,000
Other Financing Sources	\$2,478,250	\$3,062,563	\$3,234,008
TOTAL	\$4,861,473	\$7,563,018	\$7,387,000

Workers' Compensation & Liability Fund Summary Expenditures

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Other Operation Cost	\$11,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Other Services & Charges	\$4,775,473	\$5,102,000	\$4,857,000
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$0	\$2,431,018	\$2,500,000
Capital Outlay	\$75,000	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$4,861,473	\$7,563,018	\$7,387,000

Workers' Compensation and Liability Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$4,861,473	\$7,563,018	\$7,387,000
Expenses	\$4,861,473	\$7,563,018	\$7,387,000
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Self-Insured Health & Dental Fund Summary

The Self-Insured Fund budget totals \$27,109,916, a \$2,444,744 (9.91%) increase from the prior year. Expenditures in the Self-Insured Fund are associated with the operation of the Employee Health Center and payment of claims and insurance settlements. The County offers two plans for employees: the Open Access Plan and the Consumer Driven Plan. The plans are self-insured by the County, which has purchased stop/loss insurance for claims over \$250,000 per member per year.

The Employee Health Center (EHC) has proven to be a major factor in managing health care costs and an asset to employee retention and recruitment. The EHC offers basic health care services, including a focus on prevention and healthy lifestyles, to all full-time Cabarrus County employees, retirees, spouses and dependents enrolled in the County's health care plan. The County offers EHC services to employees of the Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County.

The County also offers a self-insured, employee-paid dental coverage plan. The primary source of revenue for this fund is insurance premiums paid by the County on behalf of eligible full-time employees and retirees, dental premiums paid by employees who select the coverage and dependents of employees via payroll deduction who participate in the plan.

Self-Insured Health & Dental Fund Summary Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Sales & Services	\$18,756,162	\$23,865,172	\$25,729,766
Investments	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
Miscellaneous	\$700,000	\$725,000	\$1,164,738
Other Financing Sources	\$35,000	\$0	\$115,412
TOTAL	\$19,541,162	\$24,665,172	\$27,109,916

Self-Insured Health & Dental Fund Summary Expenditures

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Supplies	\$221,500	\$282,005	\$194,500
Other Operation Cost	\$3,223,346	\$3,647,618	\$3,696,022
Maintenance & Repair	\$498,500	\$555,134	\$581,372
Other Services & Charges	\$15,597,816	\$20,180,415	\$22,638,022
TOTAL	\$19,541,162	\$24,665,172	\$27,109,916

Self-Insured Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$19,541,162	\$24,665,172	\$27,109,916
Expenses	\$19,541,162	\$24,665,172	\$27,109,916
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

OTHER FUND SUMMARIES

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Opioid Settlement Fund Summary

In April 2022, drug manufacturer Johnson & Johnson, and three drug distributors, McKesson, AmerisourceBergen, and Cardinal Health, finalized a \$26 billion dollar nationwide settlement related to multiple opioid lawsuits. These funds will be disbursed to each participating state over an 18 year period according to an allocation agreement reached with all participating states. The majority of these funds are intended for opioid abatement and the distribution of the funds will be front loaded.

North Carolina's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the state and local governments for the settlement funds allocates the funds as follows:

- 15% directly to the state ("State Abatement Fund")
- 80% to abatement funds established by Local Governments ("Local Abatement Funds")
- 5% to a County Incentive Fund

As of June 30, 2025, the County has received \$5,704,570.96 as part of this settlement. Per the terms of the MOA, the County created a special revenue fund, the Opioid Settlement Fund, to account for these funds. All funds are to be used for opioid abatement and remediation activities. Funds are restricted until expended. The County expended \$933,632.41 as of June 30, 2025. Cabarrus County is expected to receive a total of \$22,715,252.94 through 2039. Opioid settlement funds were earned when the County entered into a settlement agreement. Since some companies may cease making Opioid settlement payments at some point in the future for various reasons, the County considered a level of offset and recorded an allowance for payments that may not be received.

Cabarrus County is currently funding a comprehensive set of opioid settlement strategies—developed in part through community input gathered during the FY24 Collaborative Strategic Planning process—including strategic planning and program management support; recovery support services delivered by Cabarrus Health Alliance, Southeastern Recovery Center, Adult and Teen Challenge of Sandhills, and Bridge to Recovery; evidence-based addiction treatment through Cabarrus Health Alliance; early intervention initiatives in collaboration with Cabarrus County Schools; and addiction treatment services for incarcerated individuals provided in partnership with the local Detention Center and Southern Health Partners. In addition, the County is supporting re-entry programs (with partners to be determined); efforts to connect individuals to needed services through the Stephen M. Morris Behavioral Health Center (anticipated to go live in July 2026 with funding through June 2028); targeted services for pregnant or parenting women through the Sun Clinic in partnership with Cabarrus Health Alliance; recovery housing support through Southeastern Recovery Center; prevention initiatives aimed at reducing opioid misuse through a countywide marketing campaign; and supports for first responders, including therapy dog training for EMS personnel.

Opioid Settlement Fund Revenues

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Miscellaneous			
Claim Settlements	\$670,866	\$1,400,000	\$1,100,000
MISCELLANEOUS TOTAL	\$670,866	\$1,400,000	\$1,100,000
Other Financing Sources	\$0	\$1,789,703	\$2,619,426
TOTAL	\$670,866	\$3,189,703	\$3,719,426

Opioid Settlement Fund Expenses

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Personnel Services	\$131,948	\$241,467	\$320,454
Employee Benefits	\$65,768	\$117,655	\$124,086
Supplies	\$0	\$1,279,500	\$506,484
Other Operation Cost	\$0	\$600	\$351,374
Other Services & Charges	\$210,000	\$306,606	\$477,282
Contributions to Other Funds or Activities	\$263,150	\$1,243,875	\$1,939,746
TOTAL	\$670,866	\$3,189,703	\$3,719,426

Opioid Settlement Fund Summary

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$670,866	\$3,189,703	\$3,719,426
Expenses	\$670,866	\$3,189,703	\$3,719,426
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0

POSITION SUMMARY

FY 2027 Annual Budget

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
GENERAL GOVERNMENT										
Board of Commissioners	8.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	-	-
Legal Department	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
County Manager	6.00	5.40	5.00	4.40	5.00	4.40	5.00	4.40	-	-
Budget	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Strategy	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	(1.00)	(1.00)
Procurement	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Safety & Risk Management	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Communications & Outreach	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	-	-
Human Resources	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	-	-
Tax Administration	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	-	-
Tax Collections	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	-	-
Board of Elections	13.00	8.43	13.00	8.43	13.00	8.43	11.00	7.63	(2.00)	(0.80)
Register of Deeds	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	-	-
Finance	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	-	-
Information Technology Services	39.00	39.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	-	-
Facility Design & Construction	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Infrastructure & Asset Management										
Administration	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	(1.00)	(1.00)
Grounds Maintenance	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	-	-
Sign Maintenance	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Building Maintenance	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	-	-
Facility Services	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	-	-
Fleet Maintenance	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	-	-
TOTAL	257.00	247.83	255.00	245.83	256.00	246.83	252.00	244.03	(4.00)	(2.80)

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
PUBLIC SAFETY										
Sheriff										
Administration & Operations	199.00	198.75	200.00	199.75	172.00	171.75	177.00	176.75	5.00	5.00
Detention Center	158.00	154.62	158.00	154.62	158.00	154.62	174.00	170.62	16.00	16.00
Harrisburg Sheriff	25.00	25.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	-	-
Midland Sheriff	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	-	-
Mt. Pleasant Sheriff	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	-	-
School Resource Officers	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	-	-
Sheriff Communications*	-	-	-	-	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	-	-
Animal Control	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	-	-
Animal Shelter	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	-	-
Construction Standards	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	-	-
Emergency Management	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Fire Services	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	16.50	17.00	16.50	-	-
Emergency Medical Services	179.00	148.20	179.00	148.20	179.00	147.60	179.00	147.60	-	-
TOTAL	673.00	638.57	678.00	643.57	677.00	641.47	698.00	662.47	21.00	21.00

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT										
Planning & Development										
Planning	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	-	-
Community Development	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	(2.00)	(2.00)
Soil & Water Conservation	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	-	-
Zoning Administration	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Economic Development Corporation	4.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
TOTAL	20.00	20.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	17.00	17.00	(2.00)	(2.00)

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION										
Landfill	6.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	-	-
Waste Reduction	4.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
TOTAL	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	-	-

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
HUMAN SERVICES										
HHS Business Operations**	-	-	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	-	-
Veterans Services	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	-	-
Social Services										
Administration	44.00	44.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	-	-
Transportation	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	-	-
Food & Nutrition Services***	-	-	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	-	-
Child Welfare	103.00	102.63	100.00	99.63	101.00	100.63	101.00	100.63	-	-
Child Support Enforcement	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	-	-
Medicaid	119.00	119.00	117.00	117.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	-	-
Economic Family Support Services	51.00	51.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	-	-
Adult & Family Services	32.00	31.10	32.00	31.10	32.00	31.10	32.00	31.10	-	-
Nutrition	11.00	8.60	10.00	7.60	9.00	6.90	9.00	6.90	-	-
Senior Services	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	-	-
Behavioral Health	2.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
TOTAL	427.00	423.33	427.00	423.33	426.00	422.63	426.00	422.63	-	-

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
CULTURE & RECREATION										
Active Living & Parks										
Parks Administration	15.00	11.74	19.00	13.14	19.00	13.14	19.00	13.14	-	-
Camp Spencer Park	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Frank Liske Park	5.00	3.67	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Rob Wallace Park	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Active Living Centers										
Active Living Center at Afton	8.00	6.20	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	-
Active Living Center at Concord	9.00	6.65	15.00	9.00	15.00	9.00	15.00	9.00	-	-
Active Living Center at Mt. Pleasant	8.00	4.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-
Library (Administration)	14.00	13.75	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	-	-
Mt. Pleasant Library	10.00	8.25	10.00	8.25	10.00	8.25	10.00	8.25	-	-
Harrisburg Library	11.00	9.00	11.00	9.00	11.00	9.00	11.00	9.00	-	-
Concord Library	23.00	18.80	26.00	21.50	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	-	-
Kannapolis Library	15.00	12.00	14.00	11.50	15.00	12.50	15.00	12.50	-	-
Midland Library	7.00	5.00	6.00	4.50	7.00	5.00	7.00	5.00	-	-
Afton Ridge Library	17.00	14.50	17.00	14.50	18.00	15.50	18.00	15.50	-	-
Fair	2.00	1.67	2.00	1.67	2.00	1.67	2.00	1.67	-	-
TOTAL	149.00	121.13	143.00	116.06	144.00	117.06	144.00	117.06	-	-

	FY 2025 ADOPTED		FY 2026 ADOPTED		FY 2026 REVISED		FY 2027 ADOPTED		ADOPTED CHANGE	
	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S	POSITIONS	FTE'S
ALL FUNCTIONS AND DEPARTMENTS										
GRAND TOTAL	1,536.00	1,460.84	1,532.00	1,457.79	1,532.00	1,456.99	1,547.00	1,473.19	15.00	16.20
*split from Sheriff Administration and Operations during FY26										
**split from Social Services Administration during FY25										
***split from Economic Family Support Services during FY25										

POSITION SUMMARY

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Adopted New Positions

FY 2027 ADOPTED NEW POSITIONS

DEPARTMENT	POSITION REQUESTED	GRADE	POSITION	
			COUNT	FTE'S
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Sheriff's Office	Deputy Sheriff - Governmental Unit	21	5	5
Dentention Center	Detention Officer	20	16	16
GRAND TOTAL			21	21

Department	From Current	To New	Adopted	
			Position Count	FTE Change
RECLASSIFICATION				
Sheriff	Senior Deputy Sheriff	Lieutenant	1.00	0.00

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Introduction

The Five-Year Financial Plan is a forecast of revenues and expenditures beginning with the current year budget (FY26) and continuing for four additional years. Using a five-year planning window helps ensure the county can meet commitments, obligations and anticipated needs in a strategic, fiscally sound manner. The plan includes both operating and capital budgets for the General Fund. The plan assumes the Board of Commissioners will maintain current service levels. Staff also factor economic trends and conditions into assumptions used in developing projected revenues and expenditures.

Revenue Assumption

Property Tax

Property tax is the largest revenue source for the General Fund. Assumptions include:

- Property valuations increase of:
 - FY27 - 2.35%
 - FY28 - 2.0%
 - FY29 - 2.0%
 - FY30 - 2.0%
 - FY31 - 2.0%
- Tax collection rate of 98.75% for Real Property and 99.5% for Vehicles (DMV) during the five-year period.
- Sustained tax rate of \$0.576 per \$100 of assessed value.
- No sustained recession.

Sales Tax

Sales tax is the second largest revenue source for the General Fund. Assumptions include:

- Two (2) percent growth for FY27.
- Two (2) percent growth for remaining years.
- No contraction or expansion of the tax base.
- No change to sales tax distribution.
- No sustained recession.

Other Revenues

Assumptions include:

- Intergovernmental Revenue/Grants – zero (0) growth annually.
- Permits & Fees – two (2) percent growth annually.
- Sales & Services – two (2) percent growth annually.
- Investment earnings – zero (0) growth annually.
- Miscellaneous – zero (0) growth annually.

Expenditure Assumption

Major expenditure assumptions include:

- Five (5) percent increase to salaries and wages annually.
- Four and half (4.5) percent increase for education expenditures.
- Four (4) percent increase for Cabarrus Health Alliance
- Three (3) percent for all other expenditures.

Conclusion

It is important to note revenue projections assume an improving economy. In the absence of such improvement, adjustments will be required to meet community needs.

Five Year Financial Plan General Fund

Tax Rate: \$0.5760

	FY 2026 Adopted	FY 2027 Proposed	FY 2028	FY 2029 Revaluation	FY 2030	FY 2031
REVENUES						
Property Tax	280,066,034	286,640,815	291,888,823	297,237,357	302,688,385	308,243,910
Sales Tax & Other Taxes	49,039,740	50,156,000	51,159,120	52,182,302	53,225,948	54,290,467
Intergovernmental Revenue/Grants	31,450,692	30,584,723	30,584,723	30,584,723	30,584,723	30,584,723
Permits & Fees	9,652,880	9,498,270	9,688,235	9,882,000	10,079,640	10,281,233
Sales & Services	19,219,193	22,929,229	23,387,814	23,855,570	24,332,681	24,819,335
Investment Earnings	4,500,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000
Miscellaneous	377,700	750,375	750,375	750,375	750,375	750,375
Other Financial Sources	5,205,008	6,013,409	4,123,731	9,744,731	12,904,731	13,570,731
Grand Total Revenue	399,511,247	413,572,821	418,582,821	431,237,059	441,566,484	449,540,774
EXPENSES						
General Government						
Personnel Expenses	159,402,671	167,303,826	175,669,017	184,452,468	193,675,092	203,358,846
Operating Expenses	49,044,677	47,976,202	49,415,488	50,897,952	52,424,891	53,997,637
Contributions to Other Funds						
Contribution to Community Investment Fund	39,795,568	40,325,000	40,325,000	40,325,000	40,325,000	40,325,000
Contribution to Landfill Fund	724,274	256,252	263,940	271,858	280,013	288,414
Contribution to Internal Service Fund	500,000	-	-	-	-	-
Education						
Cabarrus County Schools	101,640,552	108,124,507	112,079,879	117,123,474	122,394,030	127,901,761
Kannapolis City Schools	11,622,380	12,524,407	12,982,570	13,566,786	14,177,291	14,815,269
Charter Schools	9,762,626	10,211,452	10,585,004	11,061,329	11,559,089	12,079,248
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	4,903,500	5,124,158	5,354,745	5,595,708	5,847,515	6,110,653
Special Olympics	98,534	109,375	109,375	109,375	109,375	109,375
School Park Maintenance	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Outside Agencies						
Cabarrus Arena & Events Center	614,133	-	-	-	-	-
Cabarrus Arts Council	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000
Cabarrus Health Alliance	12,649,861	13,155,855	13,682,089	14,229,373	14,798,548	15,390,490
City of Concord	-	-	-	-	-	-
City of Concord (MSD)	400,000	421,000	421,000	421,000	421,000	421,000
City of Kannapolis (Debt)	1,322,325	1,320,865	-	-	-	-
City of Kannapolis (MSD)	600,000	790,000	790,000	790,000	790,000	790,000
Economic Development Corporation	425,000	325,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Economic Development Incentive Grants	2,430,000	1,960,000	3,738,000	9,359,000	12,519,000	13,185,000
Fire District Sales Tax Contributions	2,162,708	2,257,485	2,302,635	2,348,687	2,395,661	2,443,574
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)	459,927	459,927	459,927	459,927	459,927	459,927
Mental Health Bottle Tax	175,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Mental Health Maintenance of Effort	435,511	435,511	435,511	435,511	435,511	435,511
Rowan-Cabarrus YMCA	250,000	250,000	250,000	-	-	-
Spay Program	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Restricted Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expense	399,511,247	413,572,821	429,406,179	451,989,448	473,153,942	492,653,706
Estimated Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	(10,823,358)	(20,752,389)	(31,587,459)	(43,112,932)

CAPITAL BUDGET AND FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP)

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Background

The Capital Budget consists of projects where funding is appropriated by the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for the fiscal year. The 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes the projects contained in the Capital Budget, as well as future year (FY26-30) projects where funds have not been appropriated by the BOC. Both the Capital Budget and 5-Year CIP are reviewed and adopted annually by the BOC based on needs identified during the budget process.

The remainder of this section provides:

- The process for submitting, evaluating, and funding capital projects
- An overview of the Capital Budget, including funded projects and funding sources
- An overview of the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Details on each capital project contained in the Capital Budget, including a project description, budget, operating impacts, among others.

Submitting Projects

Departments submit projects annually during the County's budget process. In general, a capital project has the following characteristics:

1. Has a value of \$100,000 or more,
2. Has a useful life of five years or more, and
3. Covers more than one fiscal year from project planning to completed construction or acquisition.

The annual operating budget must have sufficient funding to meet any staffing and operating costs related to capital projects. Any identified costs associated with capital projects are reflected in the corresponding fiscal year(s) in the County's 5-Year Financial Plan.

Evaluating Projects

Generally, successful projects result from a needs assessment, align to strategic priorities, and have sufficient funding. A team of county staff review projects based on the following criteria:

1. **Mandate** – is the project required to meet Federal, State, contractual; or compliance mandates/requirements; or safety risks?
2. **Quality of Life Impact** – does the project improve community quality of life (QOL)?
3. **Urgency** – does the project require funding in the next year?
4. **Operating Budget Impact** – does the project increase/decrease the operating budget?
5. **Service Delivery Impact** – does the project improve or increase service delivery?
6. **Strategic Alignment** – does the project align to one or more of the Board's strategic priorities?

Funding Projects

The County funds capital projects in two primary ways:

1. **Pay-as-you-go (PAYGO)** – the County maximizes the use of PAYGO funding for capital projects to reduce the need for debt financing. PAYGO funds come from two primary sources:

a. General Fund Excess Available Fund Balance – Board policy maintains an unassigned fund balance equal to 15% of general fund expenditures. Following the completion of the annual financial audit, any unassigned fund balance above 15% is typically transferred to the Capital Projects Fund for capital projects. The amount available varies from year-to-year.

b. Community Investment Fund (CIF) Pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) – in FY20, the Board established the Community Investment Fund (CIF) as a sub-fund of the General Fund. The CIF provides a dedicated and sustainable source of funding for debt and generates capacity for future capital projects. The CIF contains restricted revenues, expenses, and fund balance.

2. **Debt Financing** – while the County would prefer to fund all projects with cash, significant and growing capital needs require responsible debt financing.

Overview of the Capital Budget

As part of the FY27 budget, Cabarrus County is looking to fund the following projects with PAYGO funding to address the general government needs as well as the needs of our education partners. These projects address maintenance needs, renovations, safety, facility design work, and other large-scale needs. Cabarrus County is pursuing \$200 million in LOBs for school projects: Cabarrus County Schools' Northwest High School and Northwest Elementary School.

CabCo PAYGO Projects

Project	Amount
ADA Transition Plan	\$150,000
Animal Shelter Design and Engineering	\$1,100,000
Frank Liske Park Second Entrance	\$2,000,000
IAM Grounds Maintenance Building Replacement	\$3,100,000
Jail Housing Roof Replacement	\$415,000
Playground Replacements/Renovations	\$180,000
Prime Farmland Soil & Water Conservation Easement	\$170,000
	\$7,115,000

Cabarrus County Schools PAYGO Projects

Project	Amount
Central Cabarrus High Parking and Drive Replacement	\$864,000
Charles Boger School Roof Replacement	\$1,800,000
Concord High Parking and Drive Replacement	\$1,248,600
Cox Mill High School Roof Replacement	\$2,567,500
Deferred Maintenance	\$1,197,460
Parking and Drive Replacement at NW Middle	\$1,000,000
School Bus Cameras	\$850,000
WR Odell Primary Roof Replacement	\$1,800,000
	\$11,327,560

Kannapolis City Schools PAYGO Projects

Project	Amount
Activity Bus	\$71,000
AL Brown ADA Accessibility Baseball/Band Room/Chorus Room	\$1,500,000
Deferred Maintenance	\$1,044,000
Forest Park Elementary Repaving	\$750,000
GW Carver/Career Center Repaving	\$750,000
KPAC Roof Replacement or ALB Roof Replacement	\$4,000,000
McKnight Sewer Replacements/Kitchen Upgrade	\$575,000
System Capital for Energy Savings	\$197,000
	\$8,887,000

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College PAYGO Projects

Project	Amount
Building S203 Roof Replacement	\$480,000
Deferred Maintenance	\$867,500
Information Systems Technology Replacements	\$480,000
S202 Renovation Completion	\$256,200
Security Systems Emergent Improvements and Expansion	\$205,200
South Campus Hardscape Emergent Repair	\$43,200
	\$2,332,100

Grand Total PAYGO Projects

Project	Amount
Total General Government PAYGO	\$7,115,000
Total Cabarrus County Schools PAYGO	\$11,327,560
Total Kannapolis City Schools PAYGO	\$8,887,000
Total Rowan-Cabarrus Community College PAYGO	\$2,332,100
	\$29,661,660

Total General Government PAYGO includes Prime Farmland Soil & Water project which is funded from the Deferred Tax Fund.

Overview of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

A table of PAYGO projects is provided below illustrating the County's current funding plans for the projects listed. A list of future debt projects is also listed to illustrate large capital needs on the horizon for not only the County, but our education partners as well. Funding for PAYGO projects is subject to change based on external factors and debt project funding totals are subject to change as well.

FY26-FY31 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO)

LEGEND
General Government
Cabarrus County Schools
Kannapolis City Schools
Rowan Cabarrus Community College

Project Name	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	Future Years
ADA Transition Plan	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000		
Animal Shelter Design and Engineering		\$1,100,000					
Frank Liske Park Second Entrance	\$7,375,000	\$2,000,000					
IAM Grounds Maintenance Building Replacement		\$3,100,000					
Jail Housing Roof Replacement		\$415,000		\$200,000			
Playground Replacements/Renovations		\$180,000			\$210,000		
Central Cabarrus High Parking and Drive Replacement		\$864,000					
Charles Boger School Roof Replacement		\$1,800,000					
Concord High Parking and Drive Replacement		\$1,248,600					
Cox Mill High School Roof Replacement		\$2,567,500					
Deferred Maintenance	\$10,117,624	\$1,197,460					
Parking and Drive Replacement at NW Middle		\$1,000,000					
School Bus Cameras		\$850,000					
WR Odell Primary Roof Replacement		\$1,800,000					
Activity Bus	\$100,000	\$71,000					
AL Brown ADA Accessibility Baseball/Band Room/Chorus Room		\$1,500,000					
Deferred Maintenance	\$1,945,000	\$1,044,000					
Forest Park Elementary Repaving		\$750,000					
GW Carver/Career Center Repaving		\$750,000					
KPAC Roof Replacement or ALB Roof Replacement		\$4,000,000					
McKnight Sewer Replacements/Kitchen Upgrade		\$575,000					
System Capital for Energy Savings	\$196,891	\$197,000					
Building S203 Roof Replacement		\$480,000					
Deferred Maintenance	\$400,000	\$867,500					
Information Systems Technology Replacements		\$480,000					
S202 Renovation Completion		\$256,200					
Security Systems Emergent Improvements and Expansion		\$205,200					
South Campus Hardscape Emergent Repair		\$43,200					
TOTAL PAYGO	\$20,284,515	\$29,491,660	\$150,000	\$350,000	\$360,000		
Prime Farmland Soil & Water Conservation Easement	\$170,000	\$170,000			\$25,000		
TOTAL - OTHER FUNDING	\$170,000	\$170,000			\$25,000		

Funding amounts and yearly allocations for projects in future fiscal years are subject to change based on the landscape of needs and resources available

Debt

Cabarrus County plans on funding two Cabarrus County Schools projects using Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) due to the timing and the need. These projects include Northwest High School and Northwest Elementary School. The rest of the identified projects will be funded with currently undetermined amount of General Obligation Bonds (GO), Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBs) and PAYGO funding.

FY27 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

LEGEND	
General Government	
Cabarrus County Schools	
Kannapolis City Schools	
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	

Project Name	FY27	FY28	Future Years
Cabarrus County Animal Shelter			\$17,500,000
Camp TN Spencer Multiple Building Consolidation			\$5,000,000
Chester Park			\$4,500,000
Concord Library Interior and Exterior Renovations		\$4,750,000	
Cooperative Extension Building Addition			\$5,150,000
EMS Headquarters Hwy 801 access			\$3,500,000
Frank Liske Parking Lot and other renovations			\$2,750,000
Frank Liske Turf for soccer fields			\$21,200,000
Governmental Center Generator replacements			\$1,500,000
Household Hazardous Waste Facility			\$7,000,000
Jail and Annex Roof Replacement			\$200,000
Library replacement/Expansion			\$4,500,000
Milestone HVAC Replacement		\$2,000,000	
Rob Wallace Dam Repairs			\$350,000
Rob Wallace Park Phase III & IV			\$28,000,000
Playground updates/replacements			\$210,000
St Stephens Park Phase I			\$4,350,000
Multi Building Envelope Repair		\$500,000	\$350,000
Phase B C & D Landfill Expansion			\$2,000,000
Deferred Maintenance			\$7,891,000
Land Acquisition			\$2,000,000
Sheriff Firing Range Repairs/Renovations			\$1,100,000
Sheriff's Office Generator Replacement			\$3,200,000
Carolina Threadtrail		\$2,800,000	\$28,000,000
Fire Services Replacement Vehicle		\$850,000	
Public Safety Training Facility			\$73,500,000
ADA transition/deferred maintenance/Landfill compactor/small projects		\$1,850,000	\$8,755,000
NW High School	\$133,837,282		
NW Elementary School	\$82,532,000		
Central Cabarrus Replacement		\$140,000,000	
New SW Elementary		\$85,000,000	
Deferred Maintenance		\$45,000,000	\$90,000,000
Renovations to NCHS Campus for new NCMS			\$55,000,000
Renovations to former R Brown McAllister for new PreK facility			\$15,000,000
Wolf Meadow Replacement on site			\$85,000,000
MS Auditoriums HaRMS, JNFMS, CCGMS			\$30,000,000
Southern High School			\$180,000,000
A.L. Brown Addition		\$24,255,000	
Jackson Park Elementary Addition - Design		\$13,515,000	
Deferred Maintenance		\$52,794,555	\$36,900,000
A.L. Brown Renovation			\$85,000,000
Forest Park Addition			\$20,000,000
Shady Brook Elementary			\$20,000,000
North Kannapolis Elementary Addition			\$40,000,000
A.L. Brown Athletic Complex Upgrade			\$5,500,000
S201 Renovations - Construction		\$7,500,000	
Workforce Innovations Center		\$49,300,000	
Land Acquisition			\$850,000
Public Safety Training Facility			\$37,500,000
S203 Building			\$7,500,000
NCRC Building Renovation			\$17,250,000
Construction/Technical Trades Building			\$77,200,000
New Southwest Cabarrus Campus			\$130,000,000
South Campus General Purpose Building			\$71,000,000
TOTAL DEBT	\$196,169,282	\$409,914,555	\$1,174,798,000
Funding amounts and yearly allocations for projects in future fiscal years are subject to change based on the landscape of needs and resources available			



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

FY 2027 Capital Budget

ADA Transition Plan

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires Cabarrus County to evaluate accessibility of buildings and premises owned by the County along with operational policies and procedures and to create a transition plan to address areas that do not meet ADA requirements. The county has made a number of ADA improvements over the years and is currently working on evaluation and remediation of remaining areas through the formation of a transition plan. This is needed to ensure the county is properly accommodating the public and setting up our facilities/services for appropriate access for all individuals visiting or using our services. Funds are needed to evaluate facilities, policies and grievance procedures, communication plans, and our services/activities/programs that may need modification to appropriately accommodate and serve all visitors.



ADA Transition Plan

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0

IAM Grounds Maintenance Building Replacement

The current Grounds Maintenance facility is located at Frank Liske Park and is original to the park. It has been added onto several times over the years but is now approaching the end of its useful life due to age and growth of the division. The plan is to build a new facility and demolish the majority of the existing facility once moved into the new building. A portion of the existing facility will remain for storage. This budget will cover construction, furniture, fixtures & equipment. The current Cabarrus County IAM Grounds Maintenance building is located at the Frank Liske Park complex, the earliest portions of the complex were built between 1976-1983 and have been added onto several times through the years. The facility is significantly undersized for the staff it houses, at 3,300 square feet, and does not provide the adequate and secure storage required for both equipment, tools, and materials storage. The new facility will be approximately 8,000 square feet. It will also be located at Frank Liske Park, just South of the existing facility. There will be shop space for equipment storage and maintenance as well as attached office space for the staff. The office area will include a “bullpen” area for Grounds Maintenance Workers and offices for the Supervisor and Crew Chief. There will also be a small conference room and a breakroom. Restroom facilities will include showers and locker rooms for both male and female staff.



IAM Grounds Maintenance Building Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$3,100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$3,100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Prime Farmland Soil & Water Conservation Easement

Protect prime and statewide important farmland soils with donated and/or purchased permanent conservation easements on private working lands. Farmland preservation and voluntary land use planning using conservation easements are priorities in the Cabarrus Soil and Water Conservation District Strategic Plan. Funding is provided from the Ned Hudson Fund (deferred tax fund) for conservation easements and farmland preservation.



Prime Farmland Soil & Water Conservation Easement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$170,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$170,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0

PUBLIC SAFETY

FY 2027 Capital Budget

Animal Shelter Design & Engineering

The current facility was constructed in 1998 and since then our population in the County has more than doubled, which results in a significant increase in household pets. Additionally, there are currently much higher standards and increased expectations of the operation of animal shelters. A larger shelter with more housing flexibility would not only allow us to better meet the needs and expectations of our community with found and surrender animal intakes, it would also allow Animal Control to be able to pursue more cruelty situations with the space available to house larger quantities of animals for the extended periods of time required for court proceedings, as well as the ability to separate animals into different spaces in case of illness outbreaks or specific needs, allowing for a higher level of medical care in house and reducing euthanasia due to treatable illnesses. This is for design of the facility with construction in future years.

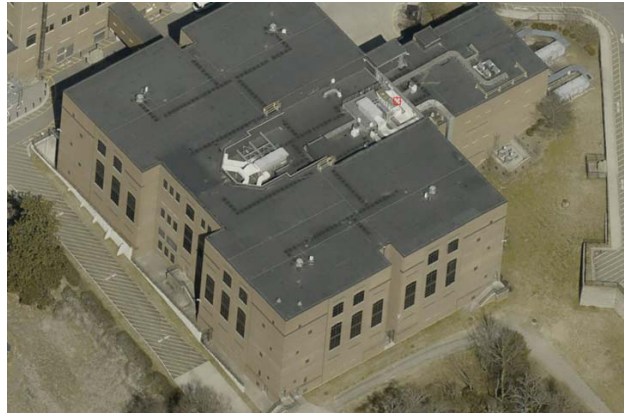


Animal Shelter Design & Engineering

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Jail Housing Roof Replacement

The roof located at the Jail Housing is coming up on its manufacturer warranty but leaks over the past several years are not manufacturer warrantied due to the nature of the causes being installation and workmanship. The Annex Roof is out of warranty in 2027 and has signs of degradation.



Jail Housing Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$415,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$415,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

CULTURE & RECREATION

FY 2027 Capital Budget

Frank Liske Park Second Entrance

The need for a second entrance is driven by two primary factors. First, traffic congestion within the park on busy days has created safety concerns for both visitors and staff. Second, with the construction of the Red Bull, Rausch, Ball facility on the former Philip Morris property, the rail line that intersects the park's main entrance is expected to become active again for freight movement. This will introduce additional challenges related to both safety and traffic flow at the existing entrance. The proposed site for the new entrance is located on the former Stonewall Jackson Training School property, which was conveyed to the County. The new roadway would begin in the central area of the park, near the Park Office and soccer fields, and connect to Jackson Terrace near the Rocky Ridge Church cemetery. In addition to the new entrance road, the proposal also includes plans to add parking capacity and address existing stormwater management needs within the park. Public safety is the largest impact if not funded. Additionally, the Red Bull facility is planning to start production in 2028. If the new entrance is not in place prior to that there could be significant challenges with the reactivation of the rail spur. This project was partially funded in prior years.



Frank Liske Park Second Entrance

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Playground Replacements/Renovations

The County has twelve (12) plus playground like amenities including playgrounds, fit stations, splash pads, etc. These amenities suffer condition issues as each year passes, and this CIP is intended to provide a financial mechanism for replacing and renovating. Safety is the largest concern with these amenities as they are utilized by the public on a daily basis. Additionally, there is an issue of the amenities not being able to perform operationally if they are not replaced/renovated.



Playground Replacements/Renovations

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$180,000	\$0	\$0	\$210,000	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$180,000	\$0	\$0	\$210,000	\$0	\$0

EDUCATION: CABARRUS COUNTY SCHOOLS

FY 2027 Capital Budget

Deferred Maintenance

Various projects identified by district administration and staff addressing a wide variety of needs at many schools and facilities.



CCS - Deferred Maintenance

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,197,460	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,197,460	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Central Cabarrus High Parking & Drive Replacement

The parking lots and roadways are failing, require constant maintenance and have reached a point where repaving is necessary. Complete degradation of the asphalt will occur more rapidly because of the width of the cracks and effects of freezing and thawing precipitation.

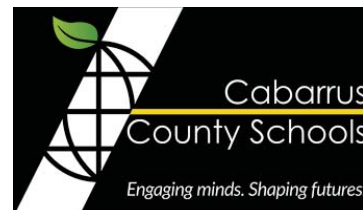


Central Cabarrus High Parking & Drive Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$864,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$864,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Charles Boger School Roof Replacement

Roof has exceeded its life cycle (19 years old) affecting other internal systems because of water intrusion. Cabarrus County Schools currently has 46 facilities. If we average 3 roof replacements per year, we will be able to eliminate the damages caused by water intrusion.



Charles Boger School Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Concord High Parking & Drive Replacement

The parking lots and roadways are failing, require constant maintenance and have reached a point where repaving is necessary. Complete degradation of the asphalt will occur more rapidly because of the width of the cracks and effects of freezing and thawing precipitation.

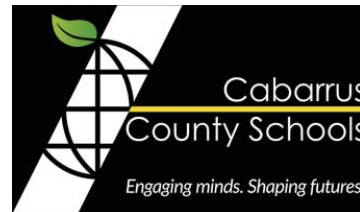


Concord High Parking and Drive Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,248,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,248,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Cox Mill High School Roof Replacement

Roof has exceeded its life cycle (17 years old) affecting other internal systems because of water intrusion. Cabarrus County Schools currently has 46 facilities. If we average 3 roof replacements per year, we will be able to eliminate the damages caused by water intrusion.

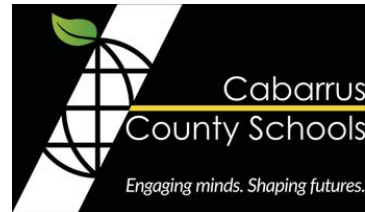


Cox Mill High School Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$2,567,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$2,567,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Parking & Drive Replacement at NW Middle

The parking lots and roadways are failing, require constant maintenance and have reached a point where repaving is necessary. Complete degradation of the asphalt will occur more rapidly because of the width of the cracks and effects of freezing and thawing precipitation.

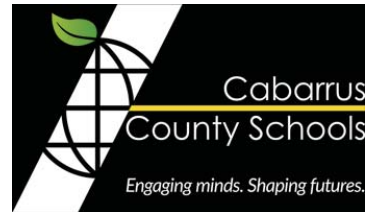


Parking & Drive Replacement at NW Middle

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

School Bus Cameras

Bus camera system upgrade of 288 systems for live video feed and complete replacement of 42 older systems. This will allow for our fleet of 330 cameras to have live viewing abilities and for remote download. Total cost for system upgrade, replacement systems, first year of cell service and cloud service \$850,000.

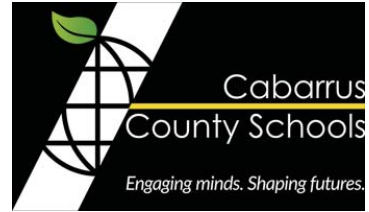


School Bus Cameras

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$850,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$850,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

WR Odell Primary Roof Replacement

Roof has exceeded its life cycle (19 years old) affecting other internal systems because of water intrusion. Cabarrus County Schools currently has 46 facilities. If we average 3 roof replacements per year, we will be able to eliminate the damages caused by water intrusion.



WR Odell Primary Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EDUCATION: KANNAPOLIS CITY SCHOOLS

FY 2027 Capital Budget

Deferred Maintenance

Ongoing deferred maintenance needs across multiple campuses, including aging mechanical systems, exterior building components, and facility infrastructure. These projects address systems that have exceeded their expected lifespan and are crucial to maintaining safe, functional learning environments. Projects include...

- Boiler Replacement at Jackson Park and Kannapolis Middle 7/8
- Canopies, Stucco & Gutter Repairs at Kannapolis Middle 6



KCS - Deferred Maintenance

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,044,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,044,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

System Capital for Energy Savings

This project supports upgrades on LED lights, plumbing, chillers, boilers, and HVAC systems. This has been coming out of operating expenses for a few years but should be included in capital expenses.



System Capital for Energy Savings

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$197,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$197,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Activity Bus

Replacement and expansion of the district’s activity bus fleet. The current fleet has not been updated in several years, impacting reliability and the district’s ability to support extracurricular and academic travel.



Activity Bus

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$71,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$71,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

AL Brown ADA Accessibility Baseball/Band Room/Chorus Room

Improvements to ensure compliance with ADA accessibility standards across key student activity spaces. The Band and Chorus rooms currently feature tiered concrete risers without accessible pathways to upper levels. The baseball stadium has limited accessible areas, and existing restroom facilities are not wheelchair accessible. This project will provide equitable access and improve inclusivity for all students and visitors.



AL Brown ADA Accessibility Baseball/Band Room/Chorus Room

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Forest Park Elementary Repaving

Repaving and restriping of the school parking lot to address significant surface deterioration. Current conditions include cracking, uneven surfaces, and drainage concerns that impact safety and traffic flow for staff, students, and visitors.



Forest Park Elementary Repaving

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

GW Carver/Career Center Repaving

Repaving and restriping of parking areas serving G.W. Carver Elementary and the Career Center. The existing lot has deteriorated significantly, creating safety concerns and negatively impacting daily operations.



GW Carver/Career Center Repaving

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

KPAC Roof Replacement or ALB Roof Replacement

Replacement of aging roof systems at the Kannapolis Performing Arts Center (KPAC) and Arts Building, which are both on the AL Brown (ALB) campus. Both roofs have exceeded their useful life, increasing the risk of leaks, water damage, and disruption to instructional and performance spaces. This budget allows KCS to address the most pressing need.



KPAC Roof Replacement or ALB Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

McKnight Sewer Replacements/Kitchen Upgrade

Replacement of deteriorating sewer lines beneath the building slab and upgrades to kitchen infrastructure. Aging pipes are contributing to ongoing maintenance issues and sanitation concerns. Addressing these systems will improve reliability, safety, and overall facility conditions.



McKnight Sewer Replacements/Kitchen Upgrade

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$575,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$575,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EDUCATION: ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FY 2027 Capital Budget

Deferred Maintenance

This supports an increase to the College's recurring annual capital allocation from \$100,000 to \$500,000 to address emerging maintenance, repair, and minor renovation needs across campus facilities. The additional funding will allow Rowan-Cabarrus to respond more effectively to aging infrastructure, reduce deferred maintenance backlog, and maintain safe, functional, and efficient learning environments.



RCCC - Deferred Maintenance

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$867,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$867,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Building S203 Roof Replacement

The existing roof on Building S203 has exceeded its warranty period and requires ongoing maintenance to prevent water intrusion. This project will replace the roof system, improve energy efficiency through the addition of 2 to 4 inches of insulation and install a fall protection system to support safe maintenance and repair activities.



Building S203 Roof Replacement

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$480,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$480,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Information Systems Technology Replacements

This project supports the replacement of critical technology infrastructure, including data switches, servers and classroom technology. These upgrades are necessary to maintain reliable network performance, support instructional delivery and ensure secure and efficient operations across all campuses.

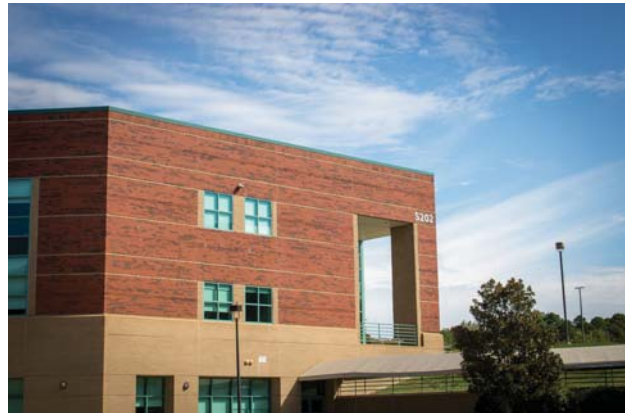


Information Systems Technology Replacements

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$480,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$480,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

S202 Renovation Completion

This project will complete the remaining elements of the S202 renovation that were originally included in the project scope but removed due to budget constraints at bid. Work includes ceiling grid and tile replacement and upgrades to HVAC pneumatic controls, ensuring the facility operates as intended and meets current standards for functionality and comfort.



S202 Renovation Completion

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$256,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$256,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Security Systems Emergent Improvements and Expansion

Following a comprehensive review of campus safety systems, this project addresses identified gaps in video surveillance and emergency and mass communication systems. Enhancements will strengthen the College's ability to monitor facilities, communicate during emergencies, and support the safety and well-being of students, employees, and visitors.



Security Systems Emergent Improvements and Expansion

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$205,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$205,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

South Campus Hardscape Emergent Repair

Shifting and settling of sidewalks and hardscape at South Campus have created safety concerns that have been temporarily addressed through surface grinding. This project will replace damaged and deteriorating sections to eliminate hazards, improve accessibility and provide a long-term solution for pedestrian safety.



South Campus Hardscape Emergent Repair

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Future Years
Amount						
Amount	\$43,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
AMOUNT	\$43,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EDUCATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION

Cabarrus County, along with the State of North Carolina and school boards, strive to provide a free, equal and quality education for every child in the state. According to the North Carolina state constitution, the County must maintain facility requirements for the public education system. Local revenues are also used to supplement the state's contribution for public school operations. Lottery proceeds and sales tax dedicated for school capital fund a portion of school capital needs.

Cabarrus County provides funding to the following Education Partners:

- Public Schools
 - Cabarrus County Schools (CCS)
 - Kannapolis City Schools (KCS)
 - Charter Schools
 - Other related agencies
- Rowan Cabarrus Community College

Although Cabarrus County is only responsible for distributing funds, the County works to have a positive working relationship with each school system. While the school boards decide how to spend county funding, the school districts and the County work together to make sure needs are met. For example, each year our Education Partners are invited to provide an update of school operations and progress along with a preview of the upcoming fiscal year at the County's Annual Board Retreat. The Educational Partners' Leadership teams and key staff meet with the County's Leadership teams and key staff to discuss and prioritize requests for the upcoming year. The Educational Partners also annually present their budget request at the County's Budget Workshops.

The remainder of this section covers the current expense, highlights and/or significant modifications, capital outlay, debt service and county server space for public schools and provides an overview of funding for RCCC.



Public Schools: Current Expense

Students in Cabarrus County are served by two school districts – Cabarrus County Schools (CCS) and Kannapolis City Schools (KCS) and several charter schools. Current expense funding assists each school system with paying salaries and benefits for locally funded positions, utilities, building and grounds maintenance, and other operating expenses. Expansion funding, if provided, allows each school system to improve public education above current funding levels. Requests for continuation funding are the top priority as this funding allows the schools to continue operations of all current facilities and funds new facilities opening during the fiscal year.

Current School Expenses- Regular Instruction

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$71,593,893	\$79,182,495	\$84,855,607
Kannapolis City Schools	\$8,318,055	\$9,386,345	\$10,288,372
TOTAL	\$79,911,948	\$88,568,840	\$95,143,979

Current School Expenses- Building Maintenance

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$12,390,674	\$15,198,894	\$16,205,394
Kannapolis City Schools	\$1,260,567	\$1,260,567	\$1,260,567
TOTAL	\$13,651,241	\$16,459,461	\$17,465,961

Current School Expenses- Grounds Maintenance

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Kannapolis City Schools	\$113,783	\$141,600	\$141,600
TOTAL	\$113,783	\$141,600	\$141,600

Current School Expenses- Technology

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$6,209,679	\$7,259,163	\$7,063,506
Kannapolis City Schools	\$775,691	\$833,868	\$833,868
TOTAL	\$6,985,370	\$8,093,031	\$7,897,374

Current School Expenses - School System Total

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$90,194,246	\$101,640,552	\$108,124,507
Kannapolis City Schools	\$10,468,096	\$11,622,380	\$12,524,407
TOTAL	\$100,662,342	\$113,262,932	\$120,648,914

Current School Expenses- Charter Schools*

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$6,471,601	\$7,590,442	\$9,104,186
Kannapolis City Schools	\$743,914	\$880,966	\$1,107,266
TOTAL	\$7,215,515	\$8,471,408	\$10,211,452

*Money is passed through each district to the charter schools.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS: AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP (ADM)

Current expense funding for schools is based on the prior year second month Average Daily Membership (ADM), which reflects the average number of students in classes. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction uses the higher of the first two months' prior year ADM. This information was obtained from the local school districts. The ADM estimate used was 39,226, an increase of 35 students from the prior year. The ADM estimate used for charter schools was 3,320 a decrease of 58 students from the prior year. The County is required by law to allocate an equal share to each school system based on their share of the ADM.

For FY27, Cabarrus County Schools' ADM is 35,154; Kannapolis City Schools' is 4,072; CCS Charters' is 2,960 and KCS Charters' is 360. Payment for charter school students is a pass through from each school district to charter schools based on ADM per pupil.

FY 2027 BUDGET				
	DOLLARS	ADM	PERCENT	PER PUPIL
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM				
Cabarrus County Schools	\$ 108,124,507	35,154	89.62%	\$ 3,075.74
Kannapolis City Schools	12,524,407	4,072	10.38%	3,075.74
TOTAL	\$ 120,648,914	39,226	100%	
CHARTER SCHOOLS				
Cabarrus County Schools	\$ 9,104,186	2,960	89.16%	\$ 3,075.74
Kannapolis City Schools	1,107,266	360	10.84%	3,075.74
TOTAL	\$ 10,211,452	3,320	100%	

Three-Year Public Schools Funding Comparison

Three Year Public School Funding Comparison

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$96,665,847	\$109,230,994	\$117,228,693
Kannapolis City Schools	\$11,212,010	\$12,503,346	\$13,631,673
TOTAL	\$107,877,857	\$121,734,340	\$130,860,366

EDUCATION: PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY 2027 Annual Budget

HIGHLIGHTS AND/OR SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS

Cabarrus County Schools (CCS)

The budget includes a direct current expense increase of \$6,483,955 to cover the rising costs of locally paid staff, facilities and grounds maintenance, technology and other operational expenses. This amount also includes \$871,034 of non-recurring funds to cover the local impact of State proposed teacher and staff bonuses.

Kannapolis City Schools (KCS)

The budget includes a direct current expense increase of \$902,027 to also fund the rising costs of locally paid staff, technology, grounds maintenance and other operational expenses. This amount also includes \$100,895 of non-recurring funds to cover the local impact of State proposed teacher and staff bonuses.

Charter Schools (CCS & KCS)

The budget includes equivalent funding for Charter Schools on a per ADM (Average Daily Membership) basis of \$10,211,452. This amount also includes \$82,262 of non-recurring funds to cover the local impact of State proposed teacher and staff bonuses.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Capital outlay funding is provided to address the minor capital needs of each district. Capital outlay items include buses or other vehicles, technology equipment, building improvements, and acquisition or replacement of furnishings and equipment.

Capital Outlay for Public School Systems

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Cabarrus County Schools	\$1,020,000	\$1,020,000	\$1,020,000
Kannapolis City Schools	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$1,120,000	\$1,120,000	\$1,120,000

Debt

The County issues various types of debt in support of school construction. General Obligation Bonds (GO bonds), Certificates of Participation (COPS) and Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBS) have all been used to finance the acquisition and construction of school capital facilities. Complete details of these long-term obligations can be found in the Debt Service section of this document.

Public School Debt Service

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
GO Bonds Principal - Schools	\$6,042,000	\$3,168,360	\$2,695,690

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
GO Bonds Interest - Schools	\$293,000	\$82,097	\$38,850
COPS Principal - Schools	\$18,175,275	\$28,683,031	\$25,643,250
COPS Interest - Schools	\$8,930,000	\$14,459,208	\$14,462,560
TOTAL	\$33,440,275	\$46,392,696	\$42,840,350

For more information about County funded capital projects for Cabarrus County Schools and Kannapolis City Schools, please visit the CIP section of this publication.

COUNTY SERVER SPACE

Cabarrus County Government is engaged in a strategic partnership with the Cabarrus County and Kannapolis City School districts for collaborative technology services. An Inter-local agreement between each Local Education Agency (LEA) and Cabarrus County Government was executed in October of 2011. As part of Cabarrus County's ITS Strategic Plan, Cabarrus County Government invested in two qualified data centers with the flexibility, scalability, support and capacity to offer a managed co-location to the school districts. Kannapolis City Schools continues to contract with the County for technology services.

Server Space

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Education	\$45,156	\$45,156	\$45,156
TOTAL	\$45,156	\$45,156	\$45,156

Public Schools - Per Pupil Breakdown

PUBLIC SCHOOLS - PER PUPIL BREAKDOWN					
	FY 2025 ADOPTED	FY 2026 ADOPTED	FY 2027 ADOPTED	ADOPTED CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS APPROPRIATION					
Current Expense	\$ 100,662,342	\$ 113,262,932	\$ 120,648,914	\$ 7,385,982	6.52%
Charter Schools	\$ 8,471,408	\$ 9,762,626	\$ 10,211,452	\$ 448,826	4.60%
Capital Outlay	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	-	0.00%
Educational Debt Service	\$ 33,440,275	\$ 46,392,696	\$ 42,840,350	\$ (3,552,346)	-7.66%
County Server Space	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	-	0.00%
School Nurses	\$ 5,264,982	\$ 5,501,213	\$ 5,721,262	\$ 220,049	4.00%
School Resource Officers	\$ 3,279,230	\$ 3,630,896	\$ 3,802,701	\$ 171,805	4.73%
TOTAL	\$ 152,283,393	\$ 179,715,519	\$ 184,389,835	\$ 4,674,316	2.60%
ADM ENROLLMENT					
CCS Estimates	35,731	35,169	35,154	(15)	-0.04%
KCS Estimates	4,147	4,021.50	4,072	50.5	1.26%
CCS Estimates of Charter	3,007	3,023	2,960	(63)	-2.08%
KCS Estimates of Charter	349	355	360	5	1.41%
TOTAL ESTIMATED ENROLLMENT	43,234	42,569	42,546	(23)	-0.05%
PER PUPIL FUNDING					
Current Expense	\$ 2,524.26	\$ 2,890.06	\$ 3,075.74	\$ 185.68	6.42%
Capital Outlay	\$ 25.91	\$ 26.31	\$ 26.32	\$ 0.01	0.05%
Educational Debt Service	\$ 773.47	\$ 1,089.84	\$ 1,006.92	\$ (82.92)	-7.61%
County Server Space	\$ 1.04	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.06	\$ 0.00	0.05%
School Nurses	\$ 121.78	\$ 129.23	\$ 134.47	\$ 5.24	4.06%
School Resource Officers	\$ 75.85	\$ 85.30	\$ 89.38	\$ 4.08	4.79%
TOTAL	\$ 3,522.31	\$ 4,221.80	\$ 4,333.89	\$ 112.10	2.66%

Public School Funding by Source and Category

PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING BY SOURCE AND CATEGORY					
	FY 2025 ADOPTED	FY 2026 ADOPTED	FY 2027 ADOPTED	ADOPTED CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
REVENUE SOURCE					
1/2 cent Sales Tax Article 40 30%	\$ 4,978,000	\$ 5,027,780	\$ 5,128,000	\$ 100,220	1.99%
1/2 cent Sales Tax Article 42 60%	\$ 10,624,000	\$ 10,730,240	\$ 10,945,000	\$ 214,760	2.00%
1/4 cent Sales Tax Article 46 100%	\$ 12,824,000	\$ 12,952,240	\$ 13,211,000	\$ 258,760	2.00%
Lottery used for School Debt Service	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	0.00%
QSCB Subsidy	\$ 404,000	\$ 404,000	\$ 404,000	\$ -	0.00%
School Resource Officer Reimbursement	\$ 1,763,460	\$ 1,793,420	\$ 1,793,420	\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ 32,893,460	\$ 33,907,680	\$ 34,481,420	\$ 573,740	
EXPENDITURE CATEGORY					
Current Expense	\$ 100,662,342	\$ 113,262,932	\$ 120,648,914	\$ 7,385,982	6.52%
Charter Schools	\$ 8,471,408	\$ 9,762,626	\$ 10,211,452	\$ 448,826	4.60%
Capital Outlay	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ -	0.00%
Educational Debt Service	\$ 33,440,275	\$ 46,392,696	\$ 42,840,350	\$ (3,552,346)	-7.66%
County Server Space	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ -	0.00%
School Nurses	\$ 5,264,982	\$ 5,501,213	\$ 5,721,262	\$ 220,049	4.00%
School Resource Officers	\$ 3,279,230	\$ 3,630,896	\$ 3,802,701	\$ 171,805	4.73%
TOTAL	\$ 152,283,393	\$ 179,715,519	\$ 184,389,835	\$ 4,674,316	
NET COUNTY COST					
GRAND TOTAL	\$ (119,389,933)	\$ (145,807,839)	\$ (149,908,415)	\$ (4,100,576)	

The table above shows the non-property tax revenues supporting public schools and compares this to the total of county expenses for each school district. The sum of current expenses, capital outlay and debt service result in a County Cost of \$184,389,835 including \$5,721,262, which is given to Cabarrus Health Alliance for school nurses.

For additional years of Net County Cost for public schools, please consult the Public School Funding by Source chart in the Supplemental Information section, which includes data from Fiscal Year 2018 through Recommended Fiscal Year 2027.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

School Park Maintenance - Cabarrus County Schools

Maintenance for these school parks is funded by the Active Living and Parks Department and provided through collaboration with Cabarrus County Schools Maintenance staff.

Special Olympics – Cabarrus County Schools

In accordance with a Special Olympics Service Agreement with Cabarrus County Schools, this item provides funding for one full time equivalent position to carry out duties related to the Special Olympics program within the County.

Other School Expenses

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
School Park Maintenance	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Special Olympics	\$84,405	\$98,534	\$109,375

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
TOTAL	\$134,405	\$148,534	\$159,375

SAFETY

Safety is always at the forefront in Cabarrus County. The county is committed to providing students and staff with a safe learning and working environment. The Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department works closely with partners in law enforcement to investigate and assess threats to schools. This partnership also provides us with the ability to have school resource officers in our schools.

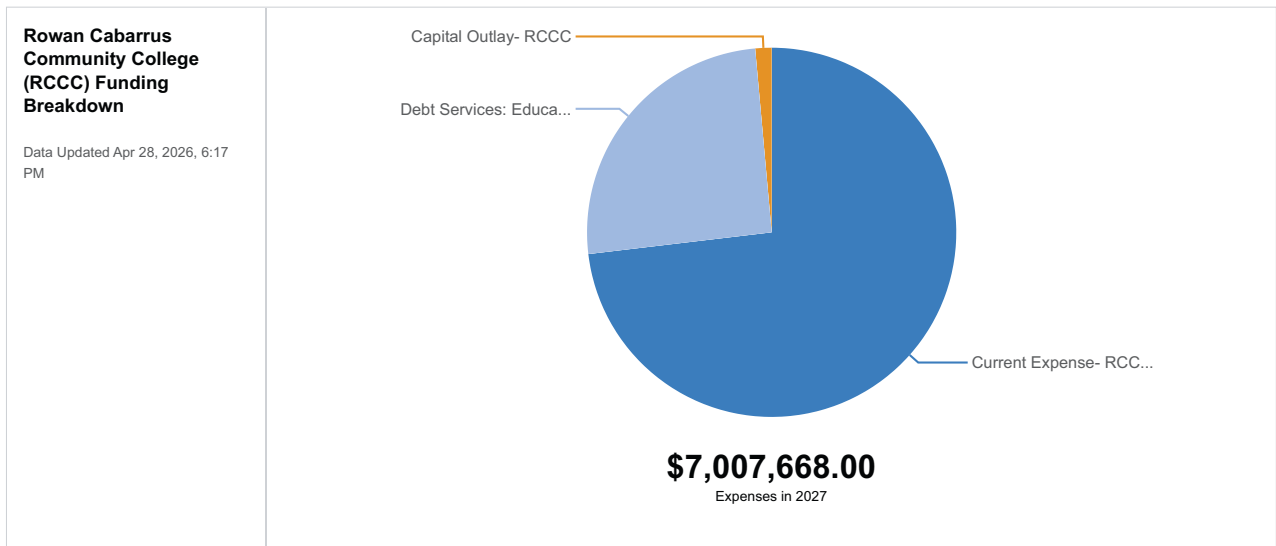
School Resource Officers

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Revenues	\$1,763,460	\$1,793,420	\$1,793,420
Expenses	\$3,279,230	\$3,630,896	\$3,802,701
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	-\$1,515,770	-\$1,837,476	-\$2,009,281

EDUCATION: RCCC

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Rowan Cabarrus Community College Funding Breakdown



Rowan Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) Funding Breakdown

	2024 - 25 Budget	2025 - 26 Budget	2026 - 27 Budget
Current Expense- RCCC	\$4,584,500	\$4,903,500	\$5,124,158
Capital Outlay- RCCC	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Debt Services: Education	\$1,440,500	\$1,862,395	\$1,783,510
TOTAL	\$6,125,000	\$6,865,895	\$7,007,668

The current expense budget for Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) totals \$5,124,158 a \$220,658 (4.5%) increase from the prior year. The increase contains funding for salary/benefit increases, critical technology, utilities and escalation of materials and contracted services. In addition the county continues to provide annually \$100,000 for various capital outlay needs. For FY27, Cabarrus County is also providing \$867,500 additional for deferred maintenance. Funding is also budgeted for debt service related to RCCC General Obligation Bonds (GO bonds), Certificates of Participation (COPS) and Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBS) which have all been used to finance the acquisition and construction of facilities. Complete details of these long-term obligations can be found in the Debt Service section of this document.

For more information about County funded capital projects for Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, please visit the CIP section of this publication.

DEBT SERVICE

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Debt Service Overview

Debt Service is mandated by G.S. 159-36, 159-25(a) (5). The Community Investment Fund (CIF) is maintained to track the annual principal and interest requirements of General Obligation Bonds (GO), Certificates of Participation (COPS)/Limited Obligation Bonds (LOBS) and Lease and Installment Financing Agreements.

The County has the following principal and interest debt outstanding as of June 30, 2026:

DEBT SERVICE			
DEBT CATEGORY	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL
GO Bonds:			
Schools	2,695,680.00	38,836.00	\$2,734,516
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	184,320	1,484	185,804
COPS/LOBS:			
Schools	286,056,285	101,323,232	387,379,517
Sheriff Administration Building	1,580,000	37,604	1,617,604
Jail Housing Unit	9,075,000	451,298	9,526,298
Parking Deck	5,775,000	1,350,563	7,125,563
Courthouse	101,618,408	45,932,781	147,551,189
Senior Center/Library	26,587,652	12,626,211	39,213,863
ACN Building	72,440,000	34,397,750	106,837,750
Other governmental Projects	48,974,245	23,259,350	72,233,595
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	11,763,410	2,358,158	14,121,568
Financing Agreements:			
Wallace Property-Installment	1,783,164	496,836	2,280,000
TOTAL	\$568,533,164	\$222,274,103	790,807,267

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS

GENERAL OBLIGATION (GO) BONDS, CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION (COPS)/LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS (LOBS),

NOTES PAYABLE AND CAPITAL LEASES/INSTALLMENT FINANCING

	ISSUE DATE	RATE	PRINCIPAL / INTEREST	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
GO Bonds - Schools								
GO 2020 Refunding - Schools	7-16-20	1.60	Principal	2,695,680	-	-	-	-
			Interest	38,836	-	-	-	-
GO Bonds - Schools Total			Principal	\$ 2,695,680	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			Interest	38,836	-	-	-	-
			Subtotal	\$ 2,734,516	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GO Bonds - Rowan Cabarrus Community College (RCCC)								
GO 2020 Refunding	7-16-20	1.60	Principal	184,320	-	-	-	-
			Interest	1,484	-	-	-	-
GO Bonds - RCCC Total			Principal	\$ 184,320	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			Interest	\$ 1,484	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GO Bonds - Grand Total			Principal	\$ 2,880,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			Interest	40,320	-	-	-	-
			Grand Total	\$ 2,920,320	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COPS/LOBS - Schools								
LOBS 2015B Refunding - Schools COPS 2008A issue	3-26-15	2.49	Principal	2,330,000	2,285,000	-	-	-
			Interest	114,914	56,897	-	-	-
LOBS 2015D Refunding - Schools COPS 2009 issue	3-26-15	2.52	Principal	4,860,000	4,760,000	4,655,000	-	-
			Interest	359,730	237,258	117,306	-	-
LOBS - Schools 2017 issue	10-26-17	3.00 - 5.00	Principal	2,855,000	2,855,000	2,855,000	2,850,000	2,850,000
			Interest	1,326,000	1,183,250	1,040,500	897,750	755,250
LOBS - Schools 2018 issue	5-16-18	3.050	Principal	2,410,000	2,410,000	1,460,000	1,460,000	1,460,000
			Interest	591,700	518,195	444,690	400,160	355,630
LOBS - Schools 2022 issue	6-1-22	5.00	Principal	1,935,000	1,930,000	1,930,000	1,930,000	1,930,000
			Interest	1,547,000	1,450,250	1,353,750	1,257,250	1,160,750
LOBS - Schools 2024A issue	10-29-24	5.00	Principal	2,829,793	2,829,793	2,829,793	2,829,793	2,829,793
			Interest	2,616,622	2,475,133	2,333,643	2,192,154	2,050,664
LOBS - Schools 2024B Issue CCS (BH,MFW,OS)	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	3,485,000	3,480,000	3,480,000	3,480,000	3,480,000
			Interest	3,219,125	3,045,000	2,871,000	2,697,000	2,523,000
LOBS - Schools 2024B Issue KCS	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	635,288	635,288	635,288	635,288	635,288
			Interest	587,485	555,721	523,956	492,192	460,428
LOBS - Schools 2024B Issue KCS (HVAC FP)	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	701,133	699,717	699,717	699,717	699,717
			Interest	297,415	262,394	227,408	192,422	157,436
LOBS - Schools 2024B Issue CCS (HVAC CHS, WH)	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	1,461,817	1,458,863	1,458,863	1,458,863	1,458,863
			Interest	620,091	547,074	474,131	401,188	328,245
LOBS - Schools 2026 Refunding of 2016 issue (CCS)	4-9-26	3.11	Principal	1,983,600	1,972,000	1,966,200	1,954,600	1,945,900
			Interest	966,641	889,430	790,830	692,520	594,790
LOBS - Schools 2026 Refunding of 2016 issue (KCS)	4-9-26	3.11	Principal	1,436,400	1,428,000	1,423,800	1,415,400	1,409,100
			Interest	699,981	644,070	572,670	501,480	430,710
			Principal	\$ 26,923,031	\$ 26,743,661	\$ 23,393,661	\$ 18,713,661	\$ 18,698,661
			Interest	\$ 12,946,704	\$ 11,864,672	\$ 10,749,884	\$ 9,724,116	\$ 8,816,903
			Subtotal	\$ 39,869,736	\$ 38,608,333	\$ 34,143,546	\$ 28,437,777	\$ 27,515,564
COPS/LOBS - Rowan Cabarrus Community College (RCCC)								
LOBS - Advanced Technology Center 2018 issue RCCC 2006	5-16-18	3.05	Principal	\$ 880,000	\$ 880,000	\$ 720,000	\$ 720,000	\$ 720,000
			Interest	273,280	246,440	219,600	197,640	175,680
LOBS - 2024B issue RCCC HVAC	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	312,050	311,420	311,420	311,420	311,420
			Interest	132,369	116,782	101,211	85,640	70,069
			Principal	\$ 1,192,050	\$ 1,191,420	\$ 1,031,420	\$ 1,031,420	\$ 1,031,420
			Interest	\$ 405,649	\$ 363,222	\$ 320,811	\$ 283,280	\$ 245,749
COPS/LOBS - RCCC Total			Subtotal	\$ 1,597,699	\$ 1,554,642	\$ 1,352,231	\$ 1,314,700	\$ 1,277,169

COPS/LOBS - Other										
LOBS 2015A Refunding - Sheriff Adm Bldg COPS 2007	3-26-15	2.38	Principal	1,580,000	-	-	-	-	-	
				Interest	37,604	-	-	-	-	-
LOBS 2015C Refunding - Jail Housing Unit COPS 2008C	3-26-15	2.51	Principal	3,110,000	3,025,000	2,940,000	-	-	-	
				Interest	227,783	149,722	73,794	-	-	-
LOBS - Parking Deck 2017 issue	10-26-17	3.00 - 5.00	Principal	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000	
				Interest	244,125	217,875	191,625	165,375	139,125	-
LOBS - 2022 - Courthouse	6-1-22	5.00	Principal	2,910,000	2,910,000	2,910,000	2,910,000	2,910,000	2,910,000	
				Interest	2,325,250	2,179,750	2,034,250	1,888,750	1,743,250	-
LOBS- 2024A issue - ACN Building	10-29-24	5.00	Principal	3,815,000	3,815,000	3,815,000	3,815,000	3,815,000	3,815,000	
				Interest	3,526,625	3,335,875	3,145,125	2,954,375	2,763,625	-
LOBS- 2024A issue - Courthouse	10-29-24	5.00	Principal	2,901,717	2,901,717	2,901,717	2,901,717	2,901,717	2,901,717	
				Interest	2,683,128	2,538,041	2,392,956	2,247,870	2,102,784	-
LOBS- 2024A issue - Other government projects	10-29-24	5.00	Principal	2,578,490	2,578,490	2,578,490	2,578,490	2,578,490	2,578,490	
				Interest	2,384,250	2,255,326	2,126,401	1,997,476	1,868,552	-
LOBS- 2024B issue - Senior Ctr/Public Library	11-27-24	5.00	Principal	1,399,712	1,399,712	1,399,712	1,399,712	1,399,712	1,399,712	
				Interest	1,294,390	1,224,404	1,154,419	1,084,433	1,014,447	-
COPS/LOBS - Other Total			Principal	18,819,919	17,154,919	17,069,919	14,129,919	14,129,919	14,129,919	
				Interest	12,723,154	11,900,993	11,118,570	10,338,279	9,631,783	-
				Subtotal	\$ 31,543,073	\$ 29,055,911	\$ 28,188,488	\$ 24,468,198	\$ 23,761,702	-
COPS/LOBS - Grand Total			Principal	\$ 46,935,000	\$ 45,090,000	\$ 41,495,000	\$ 33,875,000	\$ 33,860,000		
				Interest	26,075,508	24,128,887	22,189,265	20,345,675	18,694,435	
				Grand Total	\$ 73,010,508	\$ 69,218,887	\$ 63,684,265	\$ 54,220,675	\$ 52,554,435	

Capital Leases/Installment Financing									
Installment Financing - Land Wallace Property	12-18-08	4.00	Principal	\$ 118,673	\$ 123,420	\$ 128,357	\$ 133,491	\$ 138,831	
				Interest	71,327	66,580	61,643	56,509	51,169
Installment Financing - Grand Total			Principal	\$ 118,673	\$ 123,420	\$ 128,357	\$ 133,491	\$ 138,831	
				Interest	71,327	66,580	61,643	56,509	51,169
Annual Debt Service			Grand Total	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	
				Bank Service Charges	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Principal - Total				49,933,673	45,213,420	41,623,357	34,008,491	33,998,831	
Interest - Total				26,187,154	24,195,466	22,250,908	20,402,184	18,745,604	
TOTAL ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE				\$ 76,620,827	\$ 69,908,886	\$ 64,374,265	\$ 54,910,675	\$ 53,244,435	

Note: The COPS 2011A (Qualified School Construction Bonds) issue requires that annual principal payments be made to a sinking fund, held by a trustee, in the County's name. Annual budgeted payments of \$1,330,000 are required for fiscal years 2016-2025 and a budgeted payment of \$1,335,000 is required in fiscal year 2026. The trustee will make debt service payments of \$7,200,000 and \$7,435,000 from the sinking fund in fiscal years 2023 and 2026, respectively. At this time, the County will record debt service expenditures and reduce its long-term liabilities. The accumulation of annual sinking fund payments will be accounted for in restricted fund balance. Therefore, the County will appropriate restricted fund balance in fiscal years 2023 and 2026 to fund the debt service expenditures.

Legal Debt Margin

June 30, 2026

North Carolina General Statute 159-55 limits the County's outstanding debt to 8% of the appraised value of property subject to taxation. The following deductions are made from gross debt to arrive at net debt applicable to the limit: money held for payment of principal; debt incurred for water, sewer, gas, or electric power purposes; uncollected special assessments, funding and refunding bonds not yet issued; and revenue bonds. The legal debt margin is the difference between the debt limit and the County's net debt outstanding applicable to the limit and represents the County's legal borrowing authority.

Total assessed valuation at June 30, 2026 *unaudited		<u>\$49,420,000,000</u>
Legal debt margin:		
Debt limit 8% of total assessed value		\$3,953,600,000
Debt applicable to debt limitation:		
Total bonded debt	\$ 2,880,000	
Total certificates of participation/ limited obligation bonds	563,870,000	
Total installment financings	1,783,164	
Total leases	<u>2,959,325</u>	
Total debt applicable to limitations		<u>\$571,492,489</u>
Legal debt margin		<u>\$3,382,107,511</u>
Source: Cabarrus County Finance		

BUDGET ORDINANCE

FY 2027 Annual Budget

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Cabarrus County, North Carolina:

Section 1 – County Funds

The County hereby appropriates the following amounts, listed by fund, as the estimated revenues and expenditures for the operation and maintenance of various governmental activities, debt obligations and capital outlay purchases for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

I. General Fund

a. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund:

Ad Valorem Tax Levy	286,640,815
Sales Tax/Other	50,156,000
Intergovernmental	30,584,723
Permits & Fees	9,498,270
Sales & Services	22,929,229
Investment Earnings	7,000,000
Miscellaneous	750,375
Other Financing Sources	6,013,409
TOTAL REVENUES	413,572,821

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the General Fund:

General Government	46,118,624
Public Safety	103,531,265
Economic and Physical Development	7,149,701
Human Services	67,993,453
Cultural and Recreational	12,009,471
<u>Cabarrus County Schools</u>	
Instructional Services	84,855,607
Charter Schools	9,104,186
Technology Support Services	7,063,506
Building and Grounds Maintenance	16,205,394
Other Schools (School Parks, Special Olympics)	159,375
Schools Information Technology Services (ITS)	36,324
<u>Kannapolis City Schools</u>	
Instructional Services	10,288,372
Charter Schools	1,107,266
Technology Support Services	833,868
Building Maintenance	1,260,567
Grounds Maintenance	141,600
Schools Information Technology Services (ITS)	8,832
<u>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</u>	
Current Expense	5,124,158
<u>Other Programs</u>	
Contributions to Other Funds	40,581,252
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	413,572,821

II. Community Investment Fund (CIF)

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Community Investment Fund:

Sales Tax	29,284,000
Intergovernmental - Grants- Other	404,000
Investments Earnings	3,876,182
Lottery Proceeds	3,000,000
Other Financing Sources	53,239,990
TOTAL REVENUES	89,804,172

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Community Investment Fund:

Debt Service	
Public Schools	
Principal	28,338,940
Interest	14,501,410
Capital Outlay	1,120,000
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	
Principal	1,376,370
Interest	407,140
Capital Outlay	100,000
Other Debt Service	39,655,312
Contribution to Capital Project Fund	3,605,000
Legal Fees	250,000
Bank Service Charges	450,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	89,804,172

III. Cabarrus Arena and Events Center Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Cabarrus Arena and Events Center Fund:

Sales & Services	692,300
Investment Earnings	90,000
Miscellaneous	8,000
Other Financing Sources	2,018,486
TOTAL REVENUES	2,808,786

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Cabarrus Arena and Events Center Fund:

Personnel Services	195,731
Operations	2,613,055
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,808,786

IV. Opioid Settlement Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Opioid Settlement Fund:

Miscellaneous	1,100,000
Other Financing Sources	2,619,426
TOTAL REVENUES	3,719,426

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Opioid Settlement Fund:

Personnel Services	444,540
Operations	1,335,140
Contributions to Other Fund or Activities	1,939,746
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,719,426

V. Landfill Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Landfill Fund:

Sales Tax/Other	75,000
Intergovernmental	59,000
Permits & Fees	210,000
Sales & Services	2,088,500
Other Financing Sources	752,783
TOTAL REVENUES	3,185,283

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Landfill Fund:

Personnel Services	1,077,943
Operations	2,107,340
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,185,283

VI. 911 Emergency Telephone Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the 911 Emergency Telephone Fund:

Intergovernmental	465,793
Investment Earnings	10,000
TOTAL REVENUES	475,793

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the 911 Emergency Telephone Fund:

Operations	475,793
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	475,793

VII. Social Services Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Social Services Fund:

Sales & Services	500,000
TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>500,000</u></u>

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Social Services Fund:

Operations	500,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>500,000</u></u>

VIII. Intergovernmental Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Intergovernmental Fund:

Sales & Services	1,800,000
TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>1,800,000</u></u>

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Intergovernmental Fund:

Education	1,800,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>1,800,000</u></u>

IX. Health and Dental Insurance Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Health and Dental Insurance Fund:

Sales & Services	25,729,766
Investment Earnings	100,000
Miscellaneous	1,164,738
Fund Balance	115,412
TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>27,109,916</u></u>

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Health and Dental Insurance Fund:

Operations	27,109,916
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>27,109,916</u></u>

X. Workers Compensation and Liability Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Workers Compensation and Liability Fund:

Sales & Services	4,077,992
Investment Earnings	75,000
Fund Balance	3,234,008
TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>7,387,000</u></u>

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Workers Compensation and Liability Fund:

Operations	4,887,000
Contributions to Other Fund or Activities	2,500,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>7,387,000</u></u>

XI. Fire Tax Districts Fund

a. It is estimated the following revenues will be available in the Fire Tax Districts Fund:

Ad Valorem Tax Levy	10,570,152
TOTAL REVENUES	<u><u>10,570,152</u></u>

b. The following expenditures are budgeted in the Fire Tax Districts Fund:

Allen Fire Tax District	1,107,451
Cold Water Fire Tax District	509,640
Concord Rural Fire Tax District	40,626
Flowes Store Fire Tax District	532,301
Georgeville Fire Tax District	478,857
Gold Hill Fire Tax District	73,543
Harrisburg Rural Fire Tax District	2,001,464
Jackson Park (City of Concord) Fire Tax District	314,142
Kannapolis Rural Fire Tax District	392,968
Midland Fire Tax District	1,540,198
Mt. Mitchell Fire Tax District	203,347
Mt. Pleasant Rural Fire Tax District	1,046,540
Northeast Fire Tax District	318,766
Odell Fire Tax District	1,562,656
Richfield-Misenheimer Fire Tax District	19,754
Rimer Fire Tax District	427,899
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>10,570,152</u></u>

GRAND TOTAL --- ALL FUNDS -- REVENUES	<u><u>560,933,349</u></u>
GRAND TOTAL --- ALL FUNDS -- EXPENDITURES	<u><u>560,933,349</u></u>

Section 2 – County Tax Rate

There is hereby levied a tax rate of 57.6 ¢ per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation of taxable property for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, to finance expenditures in Section 1, excluding the Fire Tax Districts. Estimated revenues based on the estimated total valuation of taxable property as listed on January 1, 2026, of \$50,002,251,000, at an estimated collection rate of 98.75% on Real, Personal and Public Service property. A 99.5% collection rate on vehicles. An estimated total valuation of Real, Personal and Public Service property is \$46,409,395,000 and vehicle of \$3,592,856,000.

Section 3 – Fire Districts Tax Rates

There is also hereby levied the following tax rates on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation of taxable property in the Fire Tax Districts for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027:

Fire District	Based on Estimated Assessed Valuation of Taxable Property:	Tax Rate
Allen Fire Tax District	\$1,019,518,000	\$0.1100
Cold Water Fire Tax District	\$645,114,000	\$0.0800
Concord Rural Fire Tax District	\$32,912,000	\$0.1250
Flowes Store Fire Tax District	\$449,199,000	\$0.1200
Georgeville Fire Tax District	\$538,798,000	\$0.0900
Gold Hill Fire Tax District	\$82,749,000	\$0.0900
Harrisburg Fire Tax District	\$1,351,199,000	\$0.1500
Jackson Park Fire (City of Concord) Tax District	\$254,495,000	\$0.1250
Kannapolis Rural Fire Tax District	\$397,942,000	\$0.1000
Midland Fire Tax District	\$1,417,904,000	\$0.1100
Mt. Mitchell Fire Tax District	\$205,921,000	\$0.1000
Mt. Pleasant Rural Fire Tax District	\$847,830,000	\$0.1250
Northeast Fire Tax District	\$269,001,000	\$0.1200
Odell Fire Tax District	\$1,978,046,000	\$0.0800
Richfield-Misenheimer Fire Tax District	\$28,577,000	\$0.0700
Rimer Fire Tax District	\$433,315,000	\$0.1000

Section 4 – Authorized Positions

The Board authorizes 1,547 total positions equaling 1,473.19 full-time equivalents. This includes the following new positions authorized in FY27:

Department	Position	# FTE	Title	Grade
Sheriff's Office	5.00	5.00	Deputy Sheriff	21
Detention Center	16.00	16.00	Detention Officer	20
Total	21.00	21.00		

Section 5 – Authorizations

- a. The foregoing appropriations, schedules of expected revenues, and taxes levied, are based on the annual budget as hereby approved, and the terms of which budget are hereby specifically incorporated by reference.
- b. That there are hereby appropriated to the Fire Tax Districts the revenues from collection of the Fire Tax Districts Ad Valorem tax at the rates stated in Section 3 to cover the cost for servicing all districts.
- c. The County Manager may not distribute funds appropriated to a private entity until the County and the private entity enter into a written contract or agreement specifying the following:
 1. The purposes for which the private entity may use the funds, which shall comply with the requirements of G.S. 153A-449(a) and N.C. Const. Art. V, Sec. 2.
 2. Requirements for accounting for the management and expenditure of county funds.
 3. Any other fiscal or programmatic control deemed appropriate by the County Manager to ensure the lawful and appropriate spending and management of the county funds.
- d. The County Manager, or his designee, may transfer moneys from one appropriation to another within the same fund. The County Manager must report such transfers to the Board of Commissioners at its next regular meeting and record such notice in the minutes.
- e. The Board of Commissioners must approve the use of any contingency appropriation within any fund except for the County Manager may authorize expenditures from contingency appropriations to fund an increase in charter school student enrollment. Expenditures from contingency appropriations authorized by the County Manager must be reported to the board at its next regular meeting and recorded in the minutes.
- f. The County Manager, Budget Director, or designee may create debt-financing amendments from estimated projections upon approval by the Board of Commissioners of the debt financing and adjust as needed upon closing.
- g. The County Manager or designee may enter and execute change orders or amendments to construction contracts in amounts less than \$90,000 when the appropriate annual budget or capital project ordinance contains sufficient appropriated but unencumbered funds.
- h. The County Manager or designee may execute contracts not required to be bid or which G.S. 143-131 allows an informal bid so long as the annual budget or appropriate capital project ordinance contains sufficient appropriated but unencumbered funds for such purposes.
- i. The County Manager or designee may execute contracts with outside agencies to properly document budgeted appropriations to such agencies where G.S. 153A-248(b), 259, 449 and any similar statutes require such contracts.
- j. The County Manager or designee may reject formal bids when deemed appropriate and in the best interest of Cabarrus County pursuant to G.S. 143-129(a).
- k. The appropriations for Cabarrus County Schools and Kannapolis City Schools are allocated by category. Cabarrus County Schools and Kannapolis City Schools must obtain the approval of the Board of Commissioners for any amendment that would increase or decrease the amount of County appropriations allocated by category by more than ten percent.
- l. The Finance Officer or designee shall re-appropriate for expenditures in the current fiscal year the remaining encumbered appropriations on June 30th of the prior fiscal year.

m. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.320(a)(1)(iv), the applicable provisions of North Carolina law, and Resolution No. 2022-24, Cabarrus County hereby self-certifies the following micro-purchase thresholds, each of which is a "higher threshold consistent with State law" under 2 C.F.R. § 200.320(a)(1)(iv)(C):

- (a) \$30,000, for the purchase of "apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment"; and
- (b) \$30,000, for the purchase of "construction or repair work"; and
- (c) \$50,000, for the purchase of services not subject to competitive bidding under North Carolina law; and
- (d) \$50,000, for the purchase of services subject to the qualifications-based selection process in the Mini-Brooks Act, provided that such threshold shall apply to a contract only if the Unit has exercised an exemption to the Mini-Brooks Act, in writing, for a particular project pursuant to G.S. 143-64.32. If the exemption is not authorized, the micro-purchase threshold shall be \$0.00

Section 6

This ordinance and the budget documents shall be the basis for the financial plan for the County of Cabarrus for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The County Manager and the Finance Officer shall administer the budget. The Budget Director shall establish and maintain all records, which are in concurrence with this budget and budget ordinance and the appropriate statutes of the State of North Carolina.

Adopted this the 15th day of June 2026.

Chairman

Ariadne Olvera, Clerk to the Board

1792 SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Fee Change

Department Name	Type of Fee	Current Fee Amount	FY 27 Proposed Fee Amount
Landfill	Tipping Fee	\$54.00 / ton	\$64.00 / ton
Library	Interlibrary Loan Fee	\$3.00	\$5.00
Library	Out of County Card Fee	\$25.00	\$40.00

Justification

Tipping fee - The increased tipping fees are needed to cover increased operational/labor costs at the landfill.

Interlibrary Loan Fee - This fee helps offset the cost we pay in postage to return the item. This fee has not been raised in many years while postage costs have increased.

Out of County Card Fee - This is what we charge people who live outside of the county to get a library card. Cards are free for residents or anyone who pays property taxes in the county. This fee has also not changed in many years.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Community Information

Government

Date of Incorporation: 1792

Form of Government: Commission-Manager

Number of Employees (Recommended Full Time
Equivalents): 1,473.19

County Seat: Concord

Taxes

NC Sales Tax: 4.75%

Cabarrus County Local Sales Tax: 2.25%

Cabarrus County Property Tax Rate per \$100 Value: 0.576

Area Statistics

Population (July 1, 2025 estimate from US Census): 249,725

Area in square miles: 364

Transportation

Airports: 1 Regional; 1 International in Close Proximity

Interstate Highways

State and Federal Highways

Mainline Rail



PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Departments (non-city services):

- Stations: 12*
- Number of fire personnel and officers: 222
- Number of fire personnel volunteers: 236

**includes East Gold Hill and Richfield-Misenheimer*

Sheriff's Department:

- Stations: 1 main, 5 substations
- Number of sworn personnel: 259 full time
- Number of detention officers: 124 full time
- Number of civilians: 62 full time, 9 part time
- Number of patrol units: 256

MEDICAL

Hospitals: 1

Number of licensed beds: 457

ECONOMY

Construction Permits Issued (July 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026): 16,188

Zoning Permits Issued (July 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026): 389

Unemployment Rate (December 2025 - NCDOC): 3.2%

Median Household Income (2024 Estimates - US Census): \$89,005

Per Capita Personal Income (2024 Estimates): \$42,636

CULTURE AND RECREATION

County Facilities - Operated

	Frank Liske Park	Camp Spencer Park	Vietnam Veterans Park	Rob Wallace Park	Mt. Pleasant Active Living Center	Concord Active Living Center	Virginia Foil Park	Afton Ridge Active Living Center	Other	TOTAL
Parks	1	1	1	1			1			5
Undeveloped Parks (acres)*				160					736	896
Senior Centers					1	1		1		3
Picnic Shelters	12	2	4	3						21
Indoor Picnic/Rental Facilities	2	3								5
Walking Trails (miles)	4.21	1.82	2.8	5.95		0.75	1			16.53
Baseball Fields							3			3
Softball Fields	4									4
Soccer Fields	11									11
Tennis Courts	2									2
Pickleball Courts (part of tennis court)	12									12
Amphitheatre	1									1
Playgrounds	5	1	2	2			1			11
Nature Playgrounds	1	1	1	1						4
Horseshoe Pits	11	2	2							15
Sand Volleyball Courts	8	1	3							12
Exercise Stations	15	6	8				6			35
Shuffleboard			2			2		2		6
Bocce						4		2		6
Cabins		6								6
Tent Sites		7								7
Group Camping		1								1
Pool		1								1
18-hole Mini Golf	1									1
18-hole Disc Golf	1									1
9-hole Disc Golf			1	1						2
Fitness Centers					1	2		1		4
Bike Skills Area				2						2
Dog Run			1							1
Paddleboats	11									11
Archery Range		1								1

*615 acres at St. Stephen's Church Rd park and 121 acres at Chester Property

School Parks (utilized by ALPS)

3

EDUCATION

	Cabarrus County	Kannapolis City	TOTAL
Pre-kindergarten	1	1	2
Elementary Schools	19	6	25
Middle Schools	9	1	10
High Schools	11	1	12
Non-traditional	4	0	4
Number of Students	35,154	4,072 <i>*KCS children in Cabarrus County limits</i>	39,226

Community Colleges: 1 (Rowan-Cabarrus Community College)

Top Ten Principal Taxpayers & Employers

Top Ten Principal Taxpayers in Cabarrus County, NC				
Rank	Taxpayer	Type of Business	2024 Assessed Valuation *	Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation
1	Eli Lilly and Company	Pharmaceutical	\$653,002,707	1.49%
2	Corning Inc.	Manufacturing	\$419,148,432	0.95%
3	Hendrick Corporation	Automotive & Sports	\$359,186,213	0.82%
4	Charlotte Motor Speedway Inc.	Sports - Racing	\$272,759,701	0.62%
5	Mall at Concord Mills LP	Retail Center	\$266,049,328	0.61%
6	Duke Energy Corp	Public Service - Utilities	\$236,578,739	0.54%
7	Weinstein Properties	Real Estate - Residential	\$216,182,810	0.49%
8	Progress Residential	Real Estate - Residential	\$210,923,980	0.48%
9	Great Wolf Lodge of the Carolinas	Amusement/Entertainment	\$200,085,201	0.46%
10	FirstKey Homes LLP	Real Estate - Residential	\$190,294,880	0.43%
TOTAL			\$3,024,211,991	6.89%
Total 2024 Assessed Valuation, including Public Service**			\$43,910,068,939	
<p><i>Based on analysis and values of top 1,000 accounts. Related entities & accounts are grouped as identified. * All values are as of run date and subject to change due to appeals. Values for prior years, as previously reported. ** Excludes values of vehicles. Source: Department of Cabarrus County Assessor</i></p>				

Top Ten Principal Employers in Cabarrus County, NC				
Rank	Company Name	Industry	Class	Employees
1	Atrium Health Cabarrus	Health Care and Social Assistance	Public Sector	4500
2	Cabarrus County Schools	Educational Services	Public Sector	4300
3	Cabarrus County	Public Administration	Public Sector	1300
4	City Of Concord	Public Administration	Public Sector	1100
5	Amazon Services Inc	Transportation and Warehousing	Private Sector	1000
6	Corning Incorporated	Manufacturing	Private Sector	1000
7	Wal-Mart Associates Inc	Retail Trade	Private Sector	965
8	Eli Lilly And Company	Wholesale Trade	Private Sector	900
9	Shoe Show Inc	Management of Companies and Enterprises	Private Sector	800
10	Federal Express Corp	Transportation and Warehousing	Private Sector	-
<p><i>Source: Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation (April 2026)</i></p>				

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Statistical Information

County	2025 Population	FY2025-26 General Fund FTEs	FY2025-26 General Fund Budgeted Expenditures	FY2025-26 Budget Property Tax Revenue	FY2025-26 Property Tax Rates (per \$100)	Relation to Cabarrus County
Alamance	185,255	1,049.68	\$ 242,114,036.00	\$ 131,939,416.00	\$0.4940	S
Alexander	36,525	426.00	\$ 60,586,611.00	\$ 26,229,403.00	\$0.6500	S
Anson	21,453	229.00	\$ 42,411,984.00	\$ 18,148,706.00	\$0.7770	MSA
Buncombe	283,020	1,818.00	\$ 433,096,618.00	\$ 287,234,357.00	\$0.5466	S
Cabarrus	250,391	1,446.00	\$ 399,511,247.00	\$ 278,023,234.00	\$0.5760	
Catawba	169,918	1,197.00	\$ 264,101,115.00	\$ 126,384,000.00	\$0.3985	CSA
Cleveland	101,775	552.00	\$ 194,577,112.00	\$ 73,602,320.00	\$0.5450	CSA
Gaston	247,108	1,730.00	\$ 340,349,208.00	\$ 210,572,347.00	\$0.5990	MSA
Iredell	209,922	1,240.00	\$ 343,847,360.00	\$ 223,594,580.00	\$0.5000	N, CSA
Johnston	256,176	1,000.00	\$ 412,532,448.00	\$ 225,046,000.00	\$0.5200	S
Lincoln	99,351	859.00	\$ 168,755,896.00	\$ 100,365,020.00	\$0.4990	CSA
Mecklenburg	1,198,460	5,953.00	\$ 1,752,466,456.00	\$ 1,483,917,731.00	\$0.4927	N, MSA
New Hanover	246,073	1,765.00	\$ 468,912,088.00	\$ 249,899,955.00	\$0.3060	S
Pitt	176,095	1,141.00	\$ 248,313,928.00	\$ 135,200,668.00	\$0.5663	S
Randolph	148,749	1,021.00	\$ 202,339,523.00	\$ 99,685,862.00	\$0.5000	S
Rowan	154,322	1,007.00	\$ 216,350,623.00	\$ 121,714,000.00	\$0.5800	N, CSA
Stanly	65,587	498.00	\$ 98,696,889.00	\$ 48,735,063.00	\$0.5100	N, CSA
Union	273,432	1,330.00	\$ 444,068,969.00	\$ 289,459,853.00	\$0.4342	N, MSA

N = Neighboring County

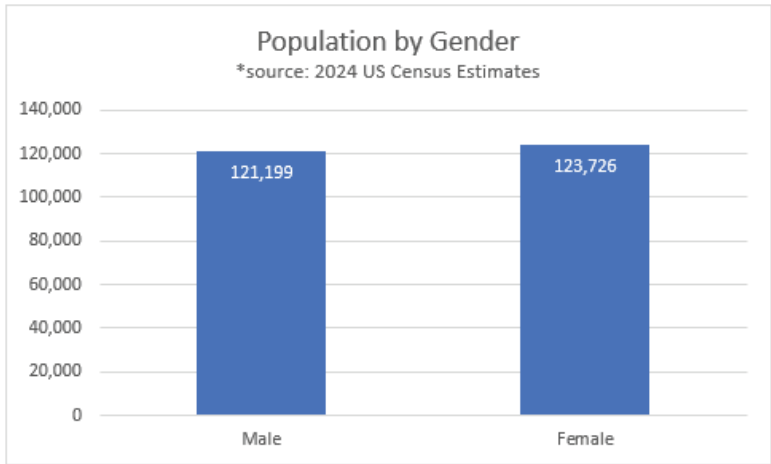
MSA = Charlotte Metropolitan Statistical Area County

CSA = Charlotte Consolidated Statistical Area County (an MSA is automatically considered part of the CSA)

S = State Benchmark County

**source: North Carolina Association of County Commissioners FY 2025-2026 Budget & Tax Survey*

Cabarrus County, NC Age Distribution		
*source: 2024 US Census Estimates		
Age group	Population	Percent distribution
Under 5 years	14,465	5.91%
5 to 9 years	18,923	7.73%
10 to 14 years	15,665	6.40%
15 to 19 years	17,079	6.97%
20 to 24 years	15,593	6.37%
25 to 34 years	31,448	12.84%
35 to 44 years	35,161	14.36%
45 to 54 years	33,597	13.72%
55 to 59 years	13,671	5.58%
60 to 64 years	15,737	6.43%
65 to 74 years	19,439	7.94%
75 to 84 years	11,357	4.64%
85 years and over	2,790	1.14%
TOTAL	244,925	100%



Cabarrus County, NC Racial and Ethnic Composition		
*source: 2024 US Census Estimates		
Racial Category	Number	Percentage
White	138,046	56.36%
Black or African American	51,152	20.88%
American Indian, Alaska Native	403	0.16%
Asian	20,302	8.29%
Other	17,920	7.32%
Two or More Races	17,102	6.98%
Total	244,925	100.00%
Ethnicity		
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Hispanic	32,862	13.42%
Non-Hispanic	212,063	86.58%
Total	244,925	100.00%

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION:
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING BY SOURCE**

	FY18 ACTUAL	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 ACTUAL	FY23 ACTUAL	FY24 ADOPTED	FY25 ADOPTED	FY26 ADOPTED	FY27 ADOPTED
REVENUE SOURCE										
1/2 cent Sales Tax Article 40 30%	\$ 2,941,555	\$ 3,187,727	\$ 3,354,134	\$ 3,962,435	\$ 3,962,435	\$ 5,269,739	\$ 4,890,000	\$ 4,978,000	\$ 5,027,780	\$ 5,128,000
1/2 cent Sales Tax Article 42 60%	\$ 6,682,593	\$ 7,237,897	\$ 7,398,798	\$ 8,744,524	\$ 8,744,524	\$ 10,976,493	\$ 10,440,000	\$ 10,624,000	\$ 10,730,240	\$ 10,945,000
1/4 cent Sales Tax Article 46 100%	\$ 8,163,747	\$ 8,845,020	\$ 8,863,295	\$ 10,413,436	\$ 10,413,436	\$ 13,201,607	\$ 12,600,000	\$ 12,824,000	\$ 12,952,240	\$ 13,211,000
Lottery used for School Debt Service	\$ 2,050,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,480,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000
OSCB Subsidy	\$ 718,883	\$ 721,581	\$ 724,279	\$ 730,239	\$ 730,239	\$ 729,988	\$ 404,000	\$ 404,000	\$ 404,000	\$ 404,000
Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 1,884,139	\$ 1,539,299	\$ 1,473,780	\$ 1,233,590	\$ 1,725,446	\$ 1,765,537	\$ 2,170,000	\$ 2,600,000	\$ 2,605,000	\$ 1,800,000
School Resource Officers							\$ 1,403,520	\$ 1,763,460	\$ 1,793,420	\$ 1,793,420
TOTAL	\$ 22,440,917	\$ 23,531,524	\$ 24,114,286	\$ 27,384,224	\$ 28,056,080	\$ 34,243,365	\$ 34,207,520	\$ 35,493,460	\$ 36,512,680	\$ 36,281,420
EXPENDITURE CATEGORY										
Current Expense	\$ 66,642,360	\$ 75,705,683	\$ 79,375,374	\$ 83,829,821	\$ 83,829,821	\$ 84,150,658	\$ 97,498,427	\$ 109,133,750	\$ 123,025,558	\$ 130,860,366
Capital Outlay General Fund	\$ 4,731,065	\$ 1,235,800	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,120,000
ITS Services	\$ 41,391	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,153	\$ 45,153	\$ 45,153	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,156
Debt Service	\$ 40,739,938	\$ 22,143,448	\$ 39,420,619	\$ 37,688,626	\$ 37,688,626	\$ 44,685,984	\$ 37,278,142	\$ 33,440,275	\$ 46,392,696	\$ 42,840,350
Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 1,884,139	\$ 1,539,299	\$ 1,473,780	\$ 1,233,590	\$ 1,725,446	\$ 1,765,537	\$ 2,170,000	\$ 2,600,000	\$ 2,605,000	\$ 1,800,000
School Nurses	\$ 2,754,723	\$ 2,884,387	\$ 3,053,426	\$ 3,560,361	\$ 3,560,361	\$ 4,326,220	\$ 4,761,440	\$ 5,264,982	\$ 5,501,213	\$ 5,721,262
School Resource Officers							\$ 2,571,815	\$ 3,279,230	\$ 3,630,896	\$ 3,802,701
TOTAL	\$ 116,793,616	\$ 103,553,773	\$ 124,488,352	\$ 127,477,551	\$ 127,969,407	\$ 136,093,555	\$ 145,444,980	\$ 154,883,393	\$ 182,320,519	\$ 186,189,835
NET COUNTY COST										
GRAND TOTAL	\$ (94,352,699)	\$ (80,022,249)	\$ (100,374,066)	\$ (100,093,327)	\$ (99,913,327)	\$ (101,850,190)	\$ (111,237,460)	\$ (119,389,933)	\$ (145,807,839)	\$ (149,908,415)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Glossary

Account Number - the accounting designation for revenue and expenditure line items. The account number consists of a three digit fund number, a four digit division and a four or five digit object code number.

Accrual Basis - a basis of accounting in which transactions are recognized at the time they are incurred, as opposed to when cash is received or spent.

Ad Valorem Taxes - taxes levied on real and personal property based on assessed value.

Allocate - to set apart budgeted funds for specific purposes (i.e., capital outlay).

Annual Budget - a budget covering a single fiscal year (e.g., July 1-June 30).

Appropriation - a specified dollar amount earmarked for a projected expense legally authorized by the Board of Commissioners.

Assessed Valuation - the value of real estate and personal property as determined by tax assessors. This value is used as the basis for levying taxes.

Assessment - the process of determining the value of real and personal property for taxation purposes.

Assessment Roll - an official list of real and personal property containing legal descriptions, ownership and assessed values.

Asset - a resource owned or held by a government which has monetary value.

Audit - a formal examination of the organization's accounts or financial situation.

Authority - a municipal or other public agency that performs a specific function. An authority is usually financed from fees or service charges imposed and collected by a governing body but may otherwise function independently.

Authorized Bonds - bonds that have been legally authorized, but that may or may not have been sold. Authorized bonds may be issued or sold at any time.

Authorized Positions - employee positions which are authorized in the adopted budget, to be filled during the year.

Balanced Budget - current operating revenues will be sufficient to support current operating expenditures.

Bond - a written promise to pay a specific amount of money, called principal or face value at a specified future date, called the maturity date, along with periodic interest paid at a specified percentage of the principal (interest rate). Bonds are typically used for long-term debt to pay for specific capital expenditures.

Bond Refinancing - the payoff and re-issuance of bonds, to obtain better interest rates and/or bond conditions.

Budget - a proposed plan for raising and spending money for specified programs, functions, activities or objectives during a fiscal year.

Budget Document - a formal document presented to the Board of Commissioners containing the County's financial plan for a fiscal year. The budget document is presented in two phases -- preliminary and final. The final budget document reflects the budget as adopted by the Board of Commissioners.

Budget Message - the County Manager's written overview of the proposed budget addressed to the Board of Commissioners. The budget message addresses the major budget issues against the background of financial experience in recent years, and presents recommendations made by the County Manager.

Budget Ordinance - an ordinance that levies taxes and appropriates revenues for specified purposes, functions, activities or objectives during a fiscal year.

Budgetary Basis - refers to the basis of accounting used to estimate financing sources and uses in the budget. This generally takes one of three forms - GAAP, cash, or modified accrual.

Capital Asset - tangible property of significant value that has a useful life of more than one year. Includes such items as land, buildings, improvements other than buildings, and equipment.

Capital Budget - a financial plan for projected capital projects containing expenditures and resources covering a fiscal year.

Capital Improvement Program - a long-range plan of proposed capital improvement projects, which includes estimated project costs and funding over a specified period of years. The capital improvement program is updated annually to reassess capital needs during the preparation of the capital budget.

Capital Outlay - expenditures budgeted to purchase or add to fixed assets costing \$5,000 or more.

Capital Project - major construction, acquisition or renovation activities which add value to a government's physical assets or significantly increase their useful life. (Also called capital improvements.)

Capital Reserve Fund - a fund established for the purpose of receiving transfers of monies from other funds in order to build fund balance for a future capital outlay or to set aside funds for future debt service payments.

Certificates of Participation - debt that is secured by the capital project itself and is issued without voter authorization.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) - a statistical description of price levels provided by the U.S. Department of Labor. The index is used as a measure of the increase in the cost of living (i.e., economic inflation).

Contingency - an appropriation to cover unanticipated events that may occur during the fiscal year. The Board of Commissioners must approve all contingency transfers.

Continuation - budget requests that indicate the spending level required to maintain service provision at its current level.

Cost-of-living Adjustment (COLA) - an increase in salaries to offset the adverse effect of inflation on employees' compensation.

County Appropriation - reflects discretionary general fund revenues used to meet an operating department's cost. Most revenues in the general fund are not program linked and can be used to fund all operations. Several examples are: Ad Valorem Taxes, Sales Taxes, Unrestricted Intergovernmental and Interest Earnings.

Debt Service - the sum of money required to pay installments of principal and interest on bonds, notes, and other evidences of debt accruing within a fiscal year.

Deficit - an excess of expenditures over revenue receipts.

Department - an organizational unit responsible for carrying out a major government function.

Depreciation - the expiration of service life of capital assets due to wear and tear, deterioration, inadequacy or obsolescence.

Disbursement - expenditure of monies from an account.

Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program - a voluntary, annual awards program administered by the Government Finance Officers Association to encourage governments to prepare effective budget documents.

Encumbrance - a financial commitment for services, contracts, or goods, which have not, as yet, been delivered or performed. Normally found in the form of a purchase order, contract, or formal agreement that is chargeable to an appropriation and for which a part of the appropriation is reserved.

Enterprise Fund - a fund established to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business. The intent is that the full cost of providing goods or services be financed through charges and fees, thus removing the expense from the tax rate. The Landfill fund is an example.

Expenditures - amount of money actually paid or obligated for payment from County funds.

Expense - charges incurred (whether paid immediately or unpaid) for operations, maintenance, interest, or other charges.

Fiduciary Fund - a fund established to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the County government. The Jail Commissary fund is an example.

Fiscal Year (FY) - an annual accounting period for the compilation of fiscal operations. As defined by North Carolina General Statutes G.S. 159-8, the fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.

Fixed Assets - assets of a long-term character that are intended to continue to be held or used, such as land, buildings, improvements other than buildings, machinery and equipment.

Forecast - an estimation of revenues and expenses for the current fiscal year to be used to determine the expected balances at the end of the year.

Full-time Equivalent Position (FTE) - the unit of accounting for employee positions where part-time positions are converted to the decimal equivalent of a full-time position based on 2,080 hours per year.

Fund - a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein, for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions or limitations.

Fund Balance - represents the excess of fund current assets over current liabilities. For accounting purposes, fund balance is calculated as of year-end and is based on the difference between actual revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year. If revenues exceed expenditures, fund balance is positive. Fund balance may be carried forward and appropriated to finance expenditures in the next fiscal year.

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) - uniform minimum standard of and guidelines for financial accounting and reporting. These standards govern the form and content of an entity's basic financial statements. GAAP encompasses the conventions, rules and procedures necessary to define acceptable accounting practices at a particular time.

General Fund - a fund which provides for the accounting of all financial resources except those designated for other funds. Most basic government services, such as public safety, tax administration, personnel and finance are accounted for in this fund.

General Obligation Bonds (GO) - bonds issued by a government that are backed by the full faith and credit of its taxing authority.

Goal - a statement of broad direction, purpose or intent based on the needs of the community.

Governmental Fund – funds generally used to account for tax supported activities. The county has a general operating fund, special revenue funds and capital projects funds.

Grants - a contribution or gift of cash or other assets, in most cases from another government, to be used for a specific purpose. For example, a grant from the State of North Carolina may be made to finance a public health program.

Interest and Penalties Receivable on Taxes - uncollected interest and penalties on property taxes.

Interfund Accounts - accounts that reflect transfers between funds.

Intergovernmental Revenues - revenues from other governments (state, federal, other local) that can be in the form of grants, shared revenues or entitlements.

Internal Service Fund - a fund established from the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies on a cost reimbursement basis.

Lease-Purchase Agreement - a contractual agreement by which capital assets are acquired over a period of time through lease payments.

Levy - the amount of tax, service charges and assessments imposed by a government.

Liability - debt or other obligations arising out of transactions in the past which must be liquidated, renewed, or refunded at some future date. The term does not include encumbrances.

Long-term Debt - debt with a maturity of more than one year after the date of issuance.

Mandate - any responsibility, action or procedure that is imposed by one government on another through constitutional, legislative, administrative, executive or judicial action as a direct order, or that is required as a condition of aid.

Modified Accrual Accounting Basis - basis of accounting whereby revenues are recorded when measurable and available, and expenditures, with few exceptions, are recorded when goods and services are received and the liabilities for them are created.

Municipal Bond - a bond issued by a state or local government.

Non-operating Revenues - income received by a government not directly attributable to providing a service. An example would be interest on investments.

Objective - a specific statement about what is to be accomplished or achieved for a particular program during a given time period.

Operating Budget - a plan of financial operation which encompasses an estimate of proposed expenditures for the fiscal year and the proposed means of financing them (revenues).

Ordinance - a legislative enactment by the governing body of the County. It has the full force of law within the County if it is not in conflict with any higher form of law.

Performance Indicators - specific quantitative and qualitative measures of work performed as an objective of specific departments or programs.

Performance Measure - data collected to determine how effective or efficient a program is in achieving its objectives.

Personnel Services - items of expenditures in the budget for salaries and wages paid for services by County employees, including fringe benefit costs associated with County employment.

Productivity - maximizing the use of resources (personnel and dollars) to achieve an effective result at the least possible cost.

Program - a service or services for which expenditures are made from several general ledger accounts which are combined into a single budgetary unit.

Program Changes - budget requests that reflect funding requirements for a change in programs or service levels.

Proprietary Funds - funds operated like a business and charging user fees. Enterprise and Internal Service Funds fall within this classification.

Revenue Neutral Tax Rate - the rate estimated to produce revenue for the next fiscal year equal to the revenue that would have been produced for the next fiscal year by the current tax rate if no reappraisal had occurred.

Referendum - presenting an issue to the voters of the County where a majority of voters decide on the issue.

Reserve - an account designated for a portion of the fund balance to be used for a specific purpose.

Resources - total dollars available for appropriations including estimated revenues, fund transfers and beginning fund balances.

Revenue - income received by the County from various sources used to finance its operations.

Revenue Bonds - when a government issues bonds which do not pledge the full faith and credit of the jurisdiction, it issues limited liability revenue bonds. Typically, pledges are made to dedicate one specific revenue source to repay these bonds. Revenue bonds do not require voter approval under state law.

Revenue Estimates - formal estimate of how much revenue will be earned from a specific revenue source from some future period.

Revenue Neutral Tax Rate - the rate estimated to produce revenue for the next fiscal year equal to the revenue that would have been produced for the next fiscal year by the current tax rate if no reappraisal had occurred.

Shared Revenues - revenues levied and collected by one government and shared with another on a pre-determined basis.

Service Area - a title for the grouping of departments according to common areas of service.

Special Assessment - a levy on certain properties to defray all or part of the costs associated with improvements or services that will benefit those properties.

Special Revenue Fund - a fund used to account for proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Statute - a written law enacted by a duly organized and constituted legislative body.

Tax Base - the total assessed valuation of real property within the County.

Tax Levy - the total amount of revenue to be raised from the property tax levied in the budget ordinance.

Tax Rate - the amount of tax levied per \$100 assessed valuation.

Taxes - compulsory charges levied by a government to finance services performed for the common benefit. This term does not include specific charges made against particular persons or property for current or permanent benefits such as special assessments. It does not include charges for services such as water and sewer service charges.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) – financing procedure used by many local governments for redevelopment and improvement projects on existing structures. The cost of the improvements is assessed to future tax revenues by each taxing unit that levies taxes against the property. The taxing unit at the local level is responsible for determining how much of the increase in property tax due to the improvement will be used to repay the construction costs. The property that is seeking to use tax increment financing must be located within the city's jurisdiction.

Trust and Agency Fund - a fund used to account for assets held by the County in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds.

Two-Thirds Bond - general obligation bonds that can be issued by local government without voter authorization under a formula set by the state allowing issuance of bonds equal to two-thirds of the previous year's net debt reduction.

Unencumbered Balance - the amount of an appropriation that is neither expended nor encumbered. It is basically the amount of money still available for future purposes.

Unreserved Fund Balance - the portion of a fund's balance that is not restricted for a specific purpose and is available for general appropriation.

User Charges - the payment of a fee for direct receipt of a public service by the person benefiting from the service, such as utility charges and emergency medical fees. Also known as user fees.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

FY 2027 Annual Budget

Acronyms

4-H Head, Heart, Health and Hands (Cooperative Extension)	ERG Emergency Response Group
ACFR Annual Comprehensive Financial Report	FCC Federal Communications Commission
ALS Advanced Life Support	FTE Full-time Equivalent
ARPA American Rescue Plan Act of 2021	FPY From Prior Year
ARRA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act	FY Fiscal Year
BDN Benefit Delivery Network	GASB Governmental Accounting Standards Board
BMP Best Management Practices	GFOA Government Finance Officers Association
BOC Board of Commissioners	GIS Geographic Information Systems
CAC Cabarrus Arts Council	GO General Obligation Bonds
CAN Cabarrus Aging Network	GRP Grassland Reserve Program
CARES Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services	GSA General Services Administration
CCS Cabarrus County Schools	HAARP Heat And Air Repair Program
CDBG Community Development Block Grant	HAZMAT Hazardous Materials
CHAMPVA Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs	HUD Housing and Urban Development
CIP Capital Improvement Program	HVAC Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning
CIF Capital Investment Fund	IPRB Installment Payment Revenue Bonds
COPS Certificates of Participation	KCS Kannapolis City Schools
COPS grant Community Oriented Policing Services grant	LGC Local Government Commission
CPI Consumer Price Index	LOB Limited Obligation Bond
CRP Conservation Reserve Program	NASA National Aeronautic and Space Agency
DARE Drug Abuse Resistance Education	NCACSP North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program
DENR Department of Environment and Natural Resources	NCDOT North Carolina Department of Transportation
DHHS Department of Health and Human Services	NCSU North Carolina State University
DMV Division of Motor Vehicles	NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Services
DOT Department of Transportation	OPEB Other Post-Employment Benefits
ECA Extension and Community Association	RCCC Rowan Cabarrus Community College
EFNEP Expanded Food and Nutrition Program	SHRT Special Hazard Response Team
EMS Emergency Medical Services	SOP Standard Operating Procedure
EOG End of Grade testing	SRO School Resource Officer
EPA Environmental Protection Agency	SWCD Soil & Water Conservation District
EQIP Environmental Quality Incentive Program	TIF Tax Increment Financing
	USDA United States Department of Agriculture
	VA Veterans Affairs
	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program