

COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, April 03, 2023
5:30 P.M. – Closed Session
6:30 P.M. – Regular Session

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and time at the Columbus County Commissioners Chamber, 127 West Webster Street, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, for the purpose of conducting a Regular Session.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ricky Bullard, **Chairman**
 Lavern Coleman, **Vice Chairman**
 Giles E. Byrd
 Scott Floyd
 Barbara Featherson
 Brent Watts
 Chris Smith

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Eddie Madden, Jr., **County Manager**
 Boyd Worley, **Board Attorney**
 Amanda B. Prince, **Staff Attorney/Deputy Clerk**
 Jana Nealey, **Clerk to the Board**

APPOINTEES ABSENT:

Agenda Item #1: MEETING CALLED to ORDER.

At 5:30 P.M., Chairman Ricky Bullard called the Tuesday, March 21, 2022 Columbus County Board of Commissioners Regular Session Meeting to order.

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into CLOSED SESSION in ACCORDANCE with N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (3) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (5) REAL ESTATE, and N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(A) (6) PERSONNEL.

Agenda Item #2: CLOSED SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.C.G.S §143-318.11(A)(3) ATTORNEY – CLIENT PRIVILEGE.

MOTION:

At 5:30 P.M., Commissioner Smith made a motion to recess Regular Session and enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(A)(3) Attorney-Client privilege, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The Motion unanimously passed.

RECESS CLOSED SESSION and enter into REGULAR SESSION.

MOTION:

At 5:30 P.M., Commissioner Watts made a motion to recess Closed Session and enter into Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The Motion unanimously passed.

GENERAL ACCOUNT:

Attorney Boyd Worley stated: The public body discussed 2 matters of real estate and 1 item of potential litigation.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the General Account, seconded by Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Items # 3 and #4: INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

The invocation was delivered by Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner Smith

Agenda Item #5: APPROVAL of the AGENDA:

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the agenda with the add-on of 9b, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item 6#: APPROVAL of the BOARD MINUTES.

- a. March 6, 2023

MOTION:

Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve the March 6, 2023 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #7: PUBLIC INPUT.

The Public Input is in reference to Item 12, therefore; they will speak prior to the motion is made on this agenda item.

Columbus County Board of Commissioners
(Public Address to the Board)

REQUEST #:	1	TIME REC'D:		P.M.	MEETING DATE:	
<small>(Leave this blank, Clerk will fill in)</small>						
NAME:	TERRY				MAWNA	
	<small>(First)</small>		<small>(Middle)</small>		<small>(Last)</small>	
ADDRESS:	203	ELM	ST		WHITEVILLE	
TELEPHONE:	910	641	-	1000		
TOPIC to be ADDRESSED:	SUPPORT FOR L.A.B.					
PERTINENT INFORMATION:						
<small>NOTE: Thank you for taking the time to address the Board with your information and concerns. Please give this card to the Clerk before the commencement of the meeting. This will aid in a smooth and harmonious meeting, and, in addition, give more people the opportunity to speak.</small>						
<small>Revised: 09-15-2008</small>						

Columbus County Board of Commissioners
(Public Address to the Board)

REQUEST #:	2	TIME REC'D:		P.M.	MEETING DATE:	
<small>(Leave this blank, Clerk will fill in)</small>						
NAME:	Jonathan		Rerd		Medford	
	<small>(First)</small>		<small>(Middle)</small>		<small>(Last)</small>	
ADDRESS:	1114	Rocking St.				
TELEPHONE:	910	431	-	3554		
TOPIC to be ADDRESSED:	The LAB					
PERTINENT INFORMATION:						
<small>NOTE: Thank you for taking the time to address the Board with your information and concerns. Please give this card to the Clerk before the commencement of the meeting. This will aid in a smooth and harmonious meeting, and, in addition, give more people the opportunity to speak.</small>						
<small>Revised: 09-15-2008</small>						

Agenda Item #8: PROCCLAMATIONS - RAMPS and RAILS.

Columbus County Commissioners wish to recognize the following Ramps and Rails groups:

- b. Beaverdam Baptist Men
- c. Boardman Pentecostal Holiness Church Men’s Ministry

The representatives for the above ramps and rails were not present and will be tabled until further notice.

Agenda Item #9: PROCCLAMATIONS - TELECOMMUNICATORS.
Columbus County Commissioners recognized National Telecommunicators’ Week.



Columbus County
Proclamation



National Telecommunicators Week
April 09-April 15, 2023

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Public Safety Communications Center, known as Columbus Central, plays a vital role in the protection of human life and property in our county; **and**

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; **and**

WHEREAS, while enduring long shifts and handling frequent life and death emergencies, Columbus Central Telecommunicators set high standards in performing their duties in a dedicated, diligent, and compassionate manner; **and**

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators serve as a vital link for our Law Enforcement Officers and Fire and EMS Personnel by constantly monitoring radio frequencies, and providing critical information to ensure their safety; **and**

WHEREAS, these dedicated professionals efficiently coordinate emergency services to ensure the health and safety of our residents, visitors and travelers in our cities, towns, county, and on our highways, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; **and**

WHEREAS, Columbus Central Telecommunicators are rarely visible to the public while performing an exceptional service that deserves praise and recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 09 – April 15, 2023 as

TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK IN COLUMBUS COUNTY we the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 09 - 15, 2023, as National Telecommunicators Week and commend the devotion, contributions, and services of the Columbus County Telecommunicators.

PROCLAIMED this, the 3rd day of April, 2023. **Columbus County Commissioners**

Chairman, Ricky Bullard

Brent Watts

Chris Smith

Scott Floyd

Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman

Giles E. Byrd

Barbara Featherson

Edwin H. Madden Jr., Manager

Boyd Worley, Board Attorney

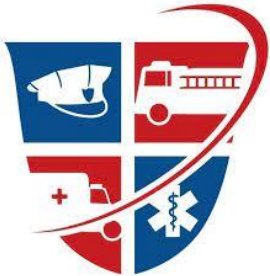
Amanda Prince, Staff Attorney

Jana Nealey, Clerk to the Board



Columbus County

PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION



Saving Lives - Whiteville Rescue

Whereas, On July 8, 2022, Landon Fowler was coming home from work and was involved in a serious head on car accident in Whiteville NC;

Whereas, Hannah Parrott - Paramedic, Julie Garcia- EMT, and Rocky McPherson- Medical Responder, were the First Responders on the scene; courageously and without hesitation they skillfully worked to save Landon’s life;

Whereas, Landon Fowler beat the odds and celebrated his life and recovery on March 24th, 2023 with these unsung heroes by his side;

Whereas, an unknown author quoted, “We don’t do it for the money, we don’t do it to get paid, we don’t do it for the glory, but for the life that might be saved”;

Now therefore; The Columbus County Commissioners humbly recognize, honor, and appreciate Hannah Parrott, Julie Garcia, and Rocky McPherson for their heroic efforts, as well as, all those who save lives daily.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 3rd day of April, 2023

Columbus County Commissioners

<div>Chairman, Ricky Bullard</div>	<div>Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman</div>	<div>Edwin H. Madden Jr., Manager</div>
<div>Brent Watts</div>	<div>Giles E. Byrd</div>	<div>Boyd Worley, Board Attorney</div>
<div>Chris Smith</div>	<div>Barbara Featherson</div>	<div>Amanda Prince, Staff Attorney</div>
<div>Scott Floyd</div>		<div>Jana Nealey, Clerk to the Board</div>

Agenda Item #10: EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT – KAREN WARD.
County Manager Eddie Madden recognized Human Resources Employee Karen Ward.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

“MOTIVATED, DISCIPLINED, COMPASSIONATE...”

awarded to

KAREN WARD

*in recognition of
your dedication, passion, and hard work /
for the people of Columbus County.*

Eddie Madden

April 03, 2023
Date

Agenda Item #11: ADMINISTRATION – EMPLOYEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

County Manager Eddie Madden would like to acknowledge Economic Development Department’s Existing Industry and Business Retention Specialist, Dylan Bowen, for achieving his certification as a Workforce Developer through NC State.

Agenda Item #12: ADMINISTRATION – ALTERNATE PROPOSAL for PROPERTY.


County Manager Eddie Madden will make a presentation of alternate proposals for County properties

FACILITIES
PLAN/ALTERNATE TO
ORIGINAL LAB
PROPOSAL

APRIL 3, 2023

308 South Madison Street

- ▶ Building acquired with SCIF funding-No local dollars
- ▶ Conceptual plan presented to commissioners on 3/22/23
- ▶ Architect's estimated budget is \$4.85 million
- ▶ To be used as "THE LAB" incubator and SCC Small Business Center



Original Proposal:

\$ 4.85 million LAB Renovations-308 Madison Street


Alternate Proposal:

\$2 million 308 Madison Street renovations

Net estimated savings to County: **\$2.85 million**

308 South Madison Street
(optional uses)

- ▶ 1st floor-Collections Center (Tax and Utilities)
- ▶ 2nd floor-Planning, Economic Development, and SCC Small Business office
- ▶ 3rd floor LAB offices
- ▶ Estimated renovation budget less than \$2 million based on architect's report



Public Input on Alternate Proposal:

Terry Mann, 203 Elm St., Whiteville, NC Stated:

All of you know I'm an old man and I didn't understand this concept until I went to Wilson with a group here, I guess it was two or three years ago, and learned quite a bit. Johnathan spent a lot of time and effort getting to where we are today and I saw the one in Wilmington, North Carolina and you know it is it's just a different concept in the way we work it's out of a room, but for the young people it's kind of what they're looking for. I understand believe me I understand the money situation. I just heard these figures a few minutes ago, but; if it's \$4 million and you're gonna get a \$1 million grant you are still spending \$2 million so that part I don't really understand. I just think that building there is conducive to what we call "The LAB" is supposed to look like. It's very disappointing, not as much to me because I haven't really spent that much time and effort, but there are some people in this community they have spent a lot of time with this, two and a half to three years on this thing and have been working hard and we thought, well they thought they were getting to a point where it might be a reality. Now you all have it cut down to a third of what we thought it was gonna be. If there's any way you can afford to do it. I sure would appreciate it and the city definitely would appreciate it. I think I would do it. It's a new phase of economic development, it's just hard for me to comprehend but it just the way of the future. I really would urge you to support it and they must work because I go to a lot of mayor's meetings and a lot of counties have them. They must be some benefit to it and they must be worth something. We would appreciate any support you can give this fellow who knows a whole lot more about it and he can give you a whole lot more information on what they're doing but this is just a gut feeling from just somebody looking from the outside.

Cynthia Ellis - address is 197 Fox St. Whiteville. I want to speak as an advocate for the entrepreneurial community, but I also sit on the committee on the advisory Council for The LAB and I can say that ever since I was appointed to be on that committee, my eyes were open to a vision. That was way beyond anything this county has definitely ever seen before. I've been a small business consultant and economic strategist since 2013. I started my own business and, like Johnathan, I started mine out of my house but I've been able to be a witness to what entrepreneurship can do not just to my home and what it does for my family, but for community as a whole. Since 2013, I've been able to build my business, but it was very difficult to do that on my own and If I would have had an incubator and the support and the camaraderie, Other entrepreneurs and sources like Southeastern small business, sooner my path we could've been accelerated by years, almost a decade, so where I am now, the LAB would give new entrepreneurs, the opportunity and the environment to achieve that within the first one to three years. So just some statistics for you, in America over 65% of businesses fail within the first five years but recent studies from Forbes magazine has proven that with the help of Support staff and consultants like myself that they're able to more than triple their chances of survival. Haven been in this a decade now and with the connections that I've made I can see that I'm able to give back to Columbus county which is where I grew up. In so many ways, I've been able to help over 300 businesses and thousands of entrepreneurs worldwide and I'm blessed to be able to stay here on my journey but having an incubator like this, will allow people like myself and those from Southeastern to import a lot of that knowledge into those who need it here, so as the county expands, my ask, would be that you definitely consider using this building as a space for entrepreneurs, who were like me who need to start in a place to begin their business journey becoming a lot for their families, but it can also mean a lot for yours. Also appreciate your time.

Johnathan Medford stated:

I apologize for how I am dressed, I had to come here straight from the print shop and my name is Johnathan Medford and I'm here speaking as the chairman of The LAB entrepreneurship committee for the Jobs foundation and so I also appreciate this board appointing me to sit on the advisory committee. As for starting The LAB up, the price tag the architect discussed last meeting was quite a shock. I'm sure when they gave our committee early numbers we figured we would likely only be able to renovate you know maybe the first couple floors and then maybe the third floor would have to be a later renovation project for us we can go out for additional thing. You know Gary has worked really hard securing us the Golden Leaf foundation grant of \$500,000 and you know we still have a significant

shortfall discussed tonight. Um I think the best news though is this EDA opportunity and I went for five years ago, I'm meeting with Gary to speak with a representative and this is exactly the kind of project that they fund as an incubator type project in an economically stressed area. It's still experiencing some growth there's opportunity for growth here and they recognize that and when we told them about the short fall, the response was, give me an application and we will pay for 50% of the short fall, so, before you take action on utilizing this building for other purposes, ask yourself if that EDA grant was to come through, does that change your mind? Look at spending \$2 million here if you don't do it with the original plan versus if we get the EDA form that's \$1.9 million so to me that makes a significant difference. I will also say this is just off the cuff, because after hearing this, like when we met with the Golden Leaf Foundation years ago, they brought up that there's a very successful project in Wilson, that we all toured there's also very unsuccessful Gordon Leaf Foundation project, where they took an old building, and then say this is the incubator you know, and it had no pizzazz to it. It was just a government building and that's not a place people want to come and work and it failed big time. The Golden Leaf Foundation was like, we wanted for you to see the good ones, but we want you to see the bad stuff too and that is what this looks like to me, this is bad stuff and so we need this project to happen. Right in the past year, 482 new entities have been formed here but years ago those numbers were like 250 a year, the next two were 357 the year prior to this past year was 517 so in the next years it could potentially go to 963. The need for entrepreneurship has grown tremendously but I'm telling you the need for this building to be a place where people want to be and work and grow the business is huge. I also want to say it doesn't take a lot of businesses to make a huge impact. I started my print shop out of my house in 2021, a little over a year and a half ago, six months later I moved into a 1200 square-foot office downtown, six months after that, I moved into a 2500 square-foot building, six months after that I moved into the 7500 ft., and the first floor of the old Scotty's building. I've invested over a quarter of \$1 million in startup, and my goal is not to do anything on the inside, I outsourced everything but just the volumes demanded that I grow, and invest in the company. Um, I've hired two employees the whole time that I moved here from out of the county so my little business is hoping to grow the tax base here, if you get like six or seven businesses, do that out of the lab and that shortfall means nothing. I want you guys to know the economic impact of entrepreneurs is real. This project that you guys have agreed to move forward with it at some point in some degree is innovative, it's forward thinking, it's proactive, and it's going to grow our future tax base. Just don't short change it and please don't throw away this opportunity, keep this building The LAB and give us an opportunity to go out for the EDA funds and see what happens. I would encourage you to table.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the alternate proposal, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The Motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #13: DUKE ENERGY – PRESENTATION.

Pam Hardy from Duke Energy will present Columbus County with a \$2,500 check for the Warming Stations set up and operated on Christmas Eve, December 2022

This item was tabled, Pam Hardy was not present

Agenda Item #14: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – APPROVAL of PUBLIC HEARING.

EDC& Planning Director Dr. Gary Lanier is requesting to establish a public hearing on April 17th @ 6:30 P.M., or as soon as can be heard, to receive public input and comments with regard to the proposed Carolina Bluff PUD Zoning District which would be established on Marlowe Road near the NC/SC line.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to establish the proposed public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #15: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – APPROVAL of PUBLIC HEARING.

EDC & Planning Director Dr. Gary Lanier is requesting to establish public hearing on April 17th @ 6:30 P.M., or as soon as can be heard, in regards to the proposed Antioch Court Subdivision on Antioch Church Road (Gary Lanier will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)

MOTION: Commissioner Byrd made a motion to establish the proposed public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #16: EMERGENCY SERVICES – VIPER RADIO RE-PROGRAMING CONTRACTS.

Assistant County Manager Nick West is requesting approval of the 3 following contracts and 1 budget amendment associated with the service contract:

- a. Motorola Solutions Reprograming
- b. Jack L. Thorpe Reprograming
- c. Motorola Solutions Service Contract and Budget Amendment

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the above a. Motorola Solutions Reprograming, b. Jack L. Thorpe Reprograming, c. Motorola Solutions Service Contract, and Budget Amendment, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.



Motorola Solutions, Inc.
8720 Red Oak Blvd, #410
Charlotte, NC 28217-3977
704.302.5412

DATE: January 26, 2023
SERVICE QUOTE

EXPIRATION IN 30 DAYS
FROM QUOTE DATE

TO Chase Lancaster — Columbus County
127 Webster St.
Whiteville, NC 28472
910.625.0011

Customer Number: 1011988675 Bill Tag: 0019

SALESPERSON	JOB	PAYMENT TERMS	DUE DATE
Joseph Knox	Console Reprogramming	Due on receipt	

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	LINE TOTAL
2	Columbus County – Console Talkgroup Updates Site: Main Dispatch Site Days 2.	\$2,153.00	\$4,306.00
2	Columbus County – Console Talkgroup Updates Site: Viper Master Site Days 2.	\$1,240.00	\$2,480.00
		SUBTOTAL	\$6,786.00
	APPLICABLE SALES TAX TO BE INCLUDED UNLESS CUSTOMER IS EXEMPT		\$TBD
	TOTAL		\$6,786.00

Quotation prepared by: Chad Benson – Customer Support Manager

To accept this quotation, sign here and return:



SERVICE AGREEMENT

500 W Monroe St
Chicago, IL 60661
(800) 247-2346

Contract Number: USC000464032
Contract Modifier: R03-MAY-22 08:22:54

Date: 10-FEB-2023

Company Name: Columbus County

Attn.: Nick West

Billing Address: 127 Webster St Brandie Hinson

City, State, Zip Code: Whiteville, NC 28472

Customer Contact: Nick West

Phone: 910-640-7547

P.O.#: N/A

Customer #: 1011988675

Bill to Tag#: 0019

Contract Start Date: 01-SEP-2022

Contract End Date: 31-AUG-2024

Payment Cycle: ANNUALLY

Currency: USD

QTY	MODEL/OPTION	SERVICES DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY EXT	EXTENDED AMT
		***** Recurring Services *****		
	LSV01S00836A	RSUS WITH REBOOT	\$0.00	\$2,411.87
	LSV01S01108A	ASTRO SYSTEM ADVANCED PACKAGE	\$0.00	\$95,747.91
	SVC02SVC0201A	ASTRO SUA II UO IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00
	SVC02SVC0343A	RELEASE IMPACT TRAINING	\$0.00	\$0.00
	SVC02SVC0344A	RELEASE IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING	\$0.00	\$0.00
	SVC02SVC0433A	ASTRO SUA II FIELD IMPLEMENTATN SVC	\$0.00	\$0.00
	SVC04SVC0169A	SYSTEM UPGRADE AGREEMENT II	\$0.00	\$0.00
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS - ATTACH STATEMENT OF WORK FOR PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTIONS			Sub Total	\$ \$98,159.78
			Taxes	\$ TBD
			Grand Total	\$ \$98,159.78
			THIS SERVICE AMOUNT IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND LOCAL TAXING JURISDICTIONS WHERE APPLICABLE, TO BE VERIFIED BY MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS	

INVOICE # NO. 3403
DATE: 1-13-2023
EXPIRATION DATE 2-13-2023

TO Columbus County Government
805 Washington St
Whiteville, NC 28472
Customer ID No. 37

[illegible]

Quotation prepared by: Jack Thorne

This is a quotation on the goods named, subject to the conditions noted below: Describe any conditions pertaining to these prices and any additional terms of the agreement. You may want to include contingencies that will affect the quotation.

To accept this quotation, sign here and return:

BUDGET AMENDMENT

FY 22/23

Name of Department: EMERGENCY SERVICES

Agency Head Signature _____

Date Prepare / Submitted to Admin	March 29, 2023	Date Received in Admin
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Budget Code			EXPENDITURES	Requested
Fund	Dept.	Category	Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
10	4330	519001	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$40,786
			Total Net Expense	\$40,786

Budget Code		REVENUES	Requested
Fund Dept. Category		Classification	Increase or (Decrease)
10 3991 499101		FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$40,786
		Total Net Revenue	\$40,786

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County Finance Office:

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County County Manager:

☐ This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on:

Signature _____

Date _____

Explanation of Increase or Decrease

INCREASE CONTRACTED SERVICES TO ALLOW FOR REPROGRAMMING THE CONSOLE (\$6,786) AND FOR REPROGRAMMING THE 1,300 VIPER RADIOS FOR ALL SHERIFF OFFICE, FIRE AND RESCUE UNITS (\$34,000). THIS WILL ALLOW US TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER OUTSIDES AGENCIES.

Version 1.0

Budget Amendment.xls

Created:12/15/04

Agenda Item #17: EMERGENCY SERVICES –BUDGET AMENDMENT for the QRV PROGRAM.

Assistant County Manager Nick West is requesting approval of a budget amendment for the QRV program.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

BUDGET AMENDMENT					FY 22/23
Name of Department:		EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Agency Head Signature:					
Budget Report / Submitted to Admin:		March 29, 2023			Date Received in Admin:
Budget Code Fund Dept Category	EXPENDITURES Classification			Requested Increase or (Decrease)	
10 4330 519001	CONTRACTED SERVICES			\$154,108	
Total Net Expense				\$154,108	
Fund Dept Category	REVENUES Classification			Requested Increase or (Decrease)	
10 3991 499101	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED			\$154,108	
Total Net Revenue				\$154,108	
<input type="checkbox"/>		This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County Finance Office:			
<input type="checkbox"/>		This budget revision has been approved by the Columbus County County Manager:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		This budget revision has been approved by the Board of Columbus County Commissioners on:			
Signature		Date			
Explanation of Increase or Decrease:					

Agenda Item #18: ADMINISTRATION – APPROVAL of USE of OFFICE SPACE for REBUILD NC.

Assistant County Manager Nick West is requesting the use of temporary office space for (2) NC Rebuild staff members in the Building Inspections Department to serve the citizens of Columbus County recovering from Hurricane Florence.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

Rebuild NC Space – Columbus County

The NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR), otherwise known as Rebuild NC, is continuing to serve the citizens of Columbus County recovering from Hurricane Florence. NCORR currently occupies donated space in the Columbus Co. Farm Services Agency (FSA) office. Our Case Managers assist citizens with their Rebuild application and processing paperwork.

Per our agreement with the FSA our time in their office will end on May 31, 2023. We are asking Columbus County for the following:

- Request to occupy office space in the Building Inspection Office for the duration of our program
- Space for two Case Managers – this would include two desks and two chairs
- Two chairs for applicants
- Access to a private space, such as a conference room, in the event private conversations need to occur with an applicant.
- Case Managers would be onsite Monday through Friday, typically from 8:00am until 5:00pm, excluding holidays
- Case Managers will rotate; there will rarely be more than two staff members onsite
- We will provide computers and a desktop printer but need access to Wi-Fi
- Case Managers will need access to restroom facilities
- Place signage on property indicating a Rebuild Center is onsite
- Applicants are generally seen by appointment, but we may have drop-ins
- Building Inspection staff will have direct contact with NCORR staff to address any questions or concerns

Agenda Item

Phil Edwards is requesting approval of the grant agreement and the associated budget ordinance between the Department of Transportation (DOT) and Columbus County for the amount of \$62,619 with no county match, for the design and bidding of a new terminal building.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the Airport Grant Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Featherson. The motion unanimously passed.

STATE AID TO AIRPORTS BLOCK GRANT
BETWEEN
THE N. C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
AN AGENCY OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
AND
COLUMBUS COUNTY

PROJECT NO: 36237.53.18.2

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Non-Primary Entitlement and CARES Match funds will be used for the following approved project:

NOW THEREFORE, the Sponsor and the Division of Aviation ("Division") do mutually hereby agree as follows:

4) The Sponsor agrees to adhere to the standards and procedures contained in the *North Carolina Airports Program Guidance Handbook* and the *Federal Assurances and Certifications*.

APPENDIX A6.4.1
TITLE VI CLAUSES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Title VI List of Pertinent Nondiscrimination Acts and Authorities, as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
2. **Nondiscrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The Contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Nondiscrimination Acts and Authorities, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21.
3. **Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment:** In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Nondiscrimination Acts and Authorities on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.
4. **Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the sponsor or the Federal Aviation Administration to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Nondiscrimination Acts and Authorities and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the Contractor will so certify to the sponsor or the Federal Aviation Administration, as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.
5. **Sanctions for Noncompliance:** In the event of a contractor's noncompliance with the Non discrimination provisions of this contract, the sponsor will impose such contract sanctions as it or the Federal Aviation Administration may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
 - b. Cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.
6. **Incorporation of Provisions:** The Contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs one through six in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor will take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or the FAA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

APPENDIX A6.4.2
TITLE VI CLAUSES FOR DEEDS TRANSFERRING UNITED STATES PROPERTY

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of the Airport Improvement Program grant assurances.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Federal Aviation Administration as authorized by law and upon the condition that the *North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)* will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with the *North Carolina General Assembly*, for the (Airport Improvement Program or other program for which land is transferred), and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Federal Aviation Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the *NCDOT* all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration in and to said lands described in (Exhibit A attached hereto or other exhibit describing the transferred property) and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto the *North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)* and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the *NCDOT*, its successors and assigns.

The *NCDOT*, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]* (2) that the *NCDOT* will use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended [, and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned nondiscrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX A6.4.3

TITLE VI CLAUSES FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED OR IMPROVED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY, OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the *North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)* pursuant to the provisions of the Airport Improvement Program grant assurances:

- A. The (grantee, lessee, permittee, etc. as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:

In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a Federal Aviation Administration activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Nondiscrimination Acts and Regulations listed in the Pertinent List of Nondiscrimination Authorities (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.

- B. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the *NCDOT* will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the (lease, license, permit, etc.) had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the *NCDOT* will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the *NCDOT* and its assigns.*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX A6.4.4

TITLE VI CLAUSES FOR CONSTRUCTION/USE/ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/agreements entered into by the *North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)* pursuant to the provisions of the Airport Improvement Program grant assurances.

- A. The (grantee, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add, "as a covenant running with the land") that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the List of Discrimination Acts and Authorities.
- B. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above nondiscrimination covenants, the *NCDOT* will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above nondiscrimination covenants, the *NCDOT* will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the *NCDOT* and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX A6.4.5
TITLE VI LIST OF PERTINENT NONDISCRIMINATION ACTS AND AUTHORITIES

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor") agrees to comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and authorities; including but not limited to:

Pertinent Nondiscrimination Authorities:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin);
- 49 CFR part 21 (Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation—Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964);
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures Nondiscrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of Limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq).

THE PARTIES BY LEGALLY BINDING SIGNATURE BELOW HEREBY EXECUTE THIS GRANT AGREEMENT THE DAY AND YEAR FIRST WRITTEN BELOW:

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

BY: _____
Deputy Secretary for Multi-Modal Transportation or Designee

DATE: _____

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE FOR SPONSOR
(Approving Authority Board Member or Local Governing Official):

SIGNED: _____

TITLE: _____

DATE: _____

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE FOR CO-SPONSOR (if required)
(Approving Authority Board Member or Local Governing Official):

SIGNED: _____

TITLE: _____

DATE: _____

SECTION A: SPONSOR'S ASSURANCES: GENERAL CONDITIONS

A-1. The Sponsor certifies that it holds fee simple title to the property on which this project is to be constructed. In the event any work is proposed on property which has an easement or lease in the Sponsor's name, the Sponsor agrees that it will comply with the Department's conditions and receive written approval from the Department prior to any construction on such lease or easements. This condition does not apply to planning projects.

A-2. The Sponsor agrees to operate the Airport for the use and benefit of the general public and shall not deny reasonable access to public facilities by the general public.

A-3. The Sponsor agrees to operate, maintain, and control the Airport in a safe and serviceable condition for a minimum of twenty (20) years following the date of this Agreement and shall immediately undertake, or cause to be undertaken, such action to correct safety deficiencies as may be brought to its attention by the Department.

A-4. The Sponsor agrees that any land purchased, facilities constructed, or equipment acquired under this Agreement shall not be sold, swapped, leased, or otherwise transferred from the control of the Sponsor without written approval of the Department.

A-5. The Sponsor agrees that the state share of any land purchased, facilities constructed, or equipment acquired under this Agreement shall be credited to the Department in a manner acceptable to the Department in the event such land, facilities, or equipment are subsequently disposed of through sale or lease.

A-6. Insofar as it is within its power and reasonable, the Sponsor shall, either by the acquisition and retention of property interest, in fee or easement, or by appropriate local zoning action, prevent the construction of any object which may constitute an obstruction to air navigation under the appropriate category of Federal Air Regulation Part 77, 14 CFR 77.

A-7. Insofar as it is within its power and reasonable, the Sponsor shall restrict the use of land adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the airport to activities and purposes compatible with normal airport operations, including landing and taking off of aircraft, and the noise produced by such operations by adoption of zoning laws, by acquisition and the retention of property interest, in fee or easement.

A-8. Terminal building spaces constructed under this Agreement shall be for the use of the general public. The Sponsor agrees that it will not use any space so constructed for private use, or charge fees for the use of such space, without the written approval of the Department.

A-9. The Sponsor is responsible for maintaining an active System for Award Management (SAM) Registration and Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and ensuring that all SAM/DUNS information is current throughout the lifecycle of this Agreement, in accordance with 2 CFR 25.200(a)(2). If SAM/DUNS information becomes inactive, expired, or incorrect, the Sponsor shall not be able to do any grant related business with the FAA, including the obligation and/or

payment of Federal grant funds, and FAA may take appropriate action to terminate this Agreement, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

A-10. The Sponsor is encouraged to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers including policies that bar text messaging while driving company-owned or company-rented vehicles, or government owned, leased, or rented vehicles, or privately-owned vehicles when on official government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government. See Executive Order 13513 "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009, as implemented by Financial Assistance Policy Letter (No. FAP-2010-01, February 2, 2010). This includes, but is not limited to, the Sponsor: (1) considering new rules and programs or re-evaluating existing programs to prohibit text messaging while driving; (2) conducting education, awareness, and other outreach for employees about the safety risks associated with texting while driving; and (3) encouraging voluntary compliance with the agency's text messaging policy while off duty. The Sponsor is encouraged to insert the substance of this clause in all contracts.

SECTION B: SPONSOR'S ASSURANCES: PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

B-1. The Sponsor shall submit draft plans and specifications, or approved alternate, for the project for review by the Division prior to advertising for bids on the Project. Should bids not be required on the project, the Sponsor shall submit a detailed scope of work and estimated costs prior to requesting "Grant Execution and Notice to Proceed" for undertaking the project. All plans (and alternate) shall be supported by the engineer's report. A list of deliverables from the Sponsor to the Division will be communicated with the Airport Project Manager.

B-2. Bids will be taken in accordance with G.S. § 143-129 and all applicable NCDOT policies. The Department will approve or reject the Sponsor's request to employ a specific contractor. Sponsor will be directly notified of approval. All contractor(s) who bid or submit proposals for contracts in connection with this project must submit a statement of non-collusion to the Sponsor.

B-3. Unless otherwise approved by the Division, the Sponsor shall not commence construction or award construction contracts on the project until a "Grant Execution and Notice to Proceed" is provided by the Division.

B-4. The Sponsor shall submit to the Division quarterly status reports (AV-502) according to the following schedule for periods ending: March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.

B-5. The Sponsor shall notify the Division of any significant issues, meetings, audits, or inspections concerning this project involving the Sponsor, contractor(s), consultant(s), and/or any interested parties.

SECTION C: SPONSOR'S ASSURANCES: PROJECT ACCOUNTING AND PAYMENT

C-1. The Sponsor shall record all funds received under this Agreement and shall keep the same in an identifiable project account. The Sponsor, and his contractor(s) and/or consultant(s), shall maintain adequate records and documentation to support all project costs incurred under this Agreement. All records and documentation in support of the project costs must be identifiable as relating to the project and must be allowable costs only. Allowable costs are defined as those costs which are allowable under "Federal Acquisition Regulations 1-31.6, 48 CFR, 2 CFR 200.333, and OMB Circular A-87 and also referenced in the *North Carolina Airports - Program Guidance Handbook* and the *Airport Improvement Program Handbook*.

C-2. In accordance with the Compliance Supplement based on the requirements of the 1996 Amendments and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F, which provide for the issuance of a compliance supplement to assist auditors in performing the required audits, the Sponsor shall arrange for an independent financial and compliance audit of its fiscal operations. The Sponsor shall furnish the Department with a copy of the independent audit report within thirty (30) days of completion, but not later than nine (9) months after the Sponsor's fiscal year ends.

C-3. Payment of the funds obligated under this Agreement shall be made in accordance with the following schedule, unless otherwise authorized by the Department:

- A. Payments from the Department to the Sponsor are made on an advance or a reimbursement basis.
- B. If an advance payment is received, the Sponsor must pay all contractors/vendors prior to or within 3 business days of receipt of the Department's advance payment and provide proof of payment (payment verification).

TRACKING NUMBER: <u>8-20230403-019</u>	COLUMBUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA	
	Ordinance making appropriations to the Columbus County	
	Airport – New Terminal Building AV Block Grant Capital	
	Project Fund	
	for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022	

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County, North Carolina as follows:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby made to the Columbus County Airport – New Terminal Building AV Block Grant Capital Project pursuant to G.S. 159 -13.2 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022.

Source of Revenue		
51-3461-432001	AV Block Grant	\$ 62,619
Total Estimated Revenues – Airport – New Terminal Building AV Block Grant		\$ 62,619
Project Appropriations		
51-4542-432001	Administrative Expenses	\$ 1,500
51-4542-548012	Preliminary Engineering Testing	\$ 500
51-4542-519034	Engineering Services Basic Fees	\$ 60,619
Total Project Appropriations – Airport – New Terminal Building AV Block Grant		\$ 60,619

Section 2: The project undertaken pursuant to this ordinance is in accordance with the Recommended Budget and any changes made during the County Commissioners' budget work sessions.

Section 3: The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy all applicable regulations. The terms of any financing agreement also shall be met.

Section 4: The County desires to expend its own funds for the purpose of paying certain costs of various projects, for which expenditures the County reasonably expects to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the County.

Section 5: All expenditures relating to obtaining any bond referendum and or installment purchase will be reimbursed from bond proceeds and installment purchase proceeds in accordance with the requirements of the United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150 -2.

Section 6: This declaration of official intent is made pursuant to Section 1.150-2 of the Treasury Regulations to expressly declare the official intent of the County to reimburse itself from the proceeds of debt to be hereinafter incurred by the County for certain expenditures paid by the County on or after the date which is sixty (60) days prior to the date hereof.

Agenda Item #21: TRANSPORTATION – APPROVAL of SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT APPLICATION.

Transportation Director Joy Jacobs is requesting approval of a supplemental grant application for building expansion. **(Joy Jacobs will be available for any questions the commissioners may have.)**

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion unanimously passed.

FY 2023 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program

ARTICLE IAPPLICANT AND PROPOSAL PROFILE TEMPLATE

Is this a resubmission due to an invalid/error message from FTA? Yes or No ☒

Is this application for: (If applying to both programs, please check both boxes)	Low-No (FTA-2023-002-TPM-LWNO)
	Buses and Bus Facilities (FTA-2022-003-TPM-BUS)

Section 1. Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name	North Carolina Department of Transportation
FTA Recipient ID	1005
Organization Chief Executive Officer (Name & Phone Number)	Ryan Brumfield, Director 919-707-2601
Applicant Eligibility CHECK ONE	Direct or Designated Recipient
	State
	C] Local Governmental Authority
	A Federally-Recognized Indian Tribe
Project Location (as of 2010 Census) CHECK ONE	[2 Large Urbanized Area (200,000 +)
	C] Small Urbanized Area (50,000 — 199,999)
	Rural (less than 50,000 people)

Description of services provided and areas served (1,603 of 4000 characters):

Columbus County Transportation operates in southeast region of NC. Columbus County is home to 55,659 residents (ACS 5-Year Estimates 2016-2020). Within the population, 19.5% of individuals have a disability, 22.1% fall below poverty level, 6.3% are zero-vehicle households, and 20% are over 65 years old. The statistics exceed the statewide average in the aforementioned demographic categories.

CCT operates demand response services, offering rural general public transportation, medical and out-ofcounty medical transportation, veterans transportation, childcare medical transportation, and Monarch Columbus Industries Transportation between 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekdays (Attachment01_Columbus County Service Area Location). The fleet is comprised of 17 revenue vehicles: 11 are lift-equipped (Attachment02_CCT Vehicle List). Fares fortrips differ based on destination: \$3 (per person per one-way trip) for Whiteville & Brunswick Townships and \$10 (per person per one -way trip) for anywhere else in Columbus County.

In addition to the rural general public transportation services, CCT's facility is a Greyhound connection point.

Additionally, CCT works with the Local Partnership for Children, DSS, the Veterans Program, and Cape Fear

Collective; provides Medicaid transportation for dia lysis patients; and transports students with disabilities to

and from schools. With a mission to provide low-cost, reliable public transportation for qualifying residents of Columbus County, CCT continues to strive to provide improved customer experiences and will be able to work towards that goal through this grant.

Congressional Districts (Project Location)
Drop Down Menu of Districts:
1. NC-District 7

Section 2. Project Information

Project Title (O of 200 Characters):
Columbus County Transportation Facility Expansion
Project Executive Summary (929 of 1000 Characters):
<p>This project will expand the transit facility approximately 789 square feet. In this expansion, CCT will add two offices, a breakroom, a storage room, an additional emergency exit, and a new bathroom. This will require moving some fencing and adding an additional sidewalk to connect the new exit. <u>CCT will also add a</u></p> <p><u>camera in the hallway for safety measures..</u> The CCT facility serves as an important connection to the Greyhound intercity bus service, but currently does not have a restroom that is public. In the expansion, one of the current restrooms will be converted into a gender neutral, public restroom and a new restroom for CCT staff will be added to the new section of the building. This project aligns with FTA's key priorities to modernize transit facilities as it will allow the staff to operate more efficiently, improve service delivery, and address important safety and privacy challenges.</p>
Propulsion Type (check type):
<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Battery electric*</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> C] CNG</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Diesel</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> C] Diesel-electric hybrid</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> C] Hydrogen fuel cell</div>
<div>C] Other (specify):_____</div> <div><small>*Battery electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, or facility projects for those types of vehicles are considered zero-emission projects; the applicant must address whether it is using 5% off funding for workforce development training in the Project Budget section and include a Zero Emission Transition Plan</small></div>

Project Type (check type):

Bus Replacement

Number of buses to be replaced_____

C] Bus Rehabilitation

Number of buses to be rehabilitated_____

[2 Bus Facility Replacement

[2 Bus Facility Rehabilitation

Bus Facility Expansion

Battery Electric Chargers

Number of chargers requested_____

[2 Bus Equipment

C] Other (specify):_____

Section 3: Evaluation Criteria

Demonstration of Need (2,111 of 4000 Characters):

The expansion of CCT's current facility will help the system modernize and transition to more efficient and effective services. CCT aims to provide mobility and access for residents in Columbus County and will soon work with residents of Columbus County through the Cape Fear Collective who receive Medicaid but need transportation to non-medical activities. This project will allow CCT to expand the county-owned facility by approximately 789 square feet, making it better equipped for staff to work efficiently, for drivers to train effectively, and for customers to wait comfortably. Local and regional plans, such as the Columbus County CTP and Cape Fear RPO's P6.O submittal, have identified the need to invest in this facility expansion for CCT (Attachment03_EOs and Plans). Since the facility is critical to operations for CCT's demand response services, which serves various disadvantaged communities, its rehabilitation will increase operational efficiencies. For example, CCT must currently use part of its garage for document storage due to a lack of space in its administrative offices.

Need for Facility Modernization

The existing facility does not have space to accommodate the storage of sensitive rider information. With the expansion, a storage room will be added to hold the private, confidential files that are currently stored in the two offices and garage. While the current storage is secured as the rooms and cabinets are locked,

the space that is taken up by secure files could be used for other storage. The CCT facility also serves as a Greyhound connection point; however, the stop currently does not have a public restroom for passengers. The renovations would convert the women's bathroom in the current facility into a public, gender neutral restroom for riders and a new women's restroom would be added into the new space for CCT staff.

The CCT service is vital for low-income residents that are transportation burdened. Modernizing the facility and increasing its capacity will allow staff to continue eliminating gaps in the current network, better connecting underserved communities.

<p>Demonstration of Benefits (O of 4000 Characters):</p> <p>Note if applying to more than one 2 Demonstration of Benefits Sections are required</p> <p>Is this application to the Low- No Program? Yes No</p>
<p>Low-No Demonstration of Benefits (O of 4000 Characters):</p> <div></div> <p>Please describe how the proposed project will support the statutory requirements of the Low-No Program (See 49 U.S. C 5339(c)(5)(A)):</p> <div></div> <p>N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Buses and Bus Facilities Demonstration of Benefits (3,446 of 4000 Characters): Is this an application to the Buses and Bus Facilities Program?</p> <p>E Yes [7 No Please describe the benefits of the proposed project:</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>There are two major safety concerns related to the current CCT facility. The emergency exits are directly across from each other at one end of the building. This means that staff must cross the building to reach the emergency exits. The facility expansion will add an emergency exit that is further away from the current two exits and is more accessible in case of an emergency (see Attachment05 Pictures of Office).</p> <p>Additionally, the staff handles sensitive, private rider information on a daily basis. In the current facility, files are stored in the two offices, and some are stored in the garage. The expansion will include a storage room for sensitive, confidential information to better safeguard sensitive and private data.</p> <p>System Condition</p> <p>The current CCT facility is insufficientforthe needs of staff, including training. By expandingthe facilities to add a breakroom and two offices the staff currently in the open area of the existing facility, which doubles as a lobby, will have quieter, enclosed spaces to work and take breaks. The existing conference room is also the breakroom, which impedes driver trainings. By creating a separate reliefespace for staff, including drivers,</p> <p>the utility of the conference room can be maximized. Furthermore, adding two offices will allow CCT to operate even more efficiently as staff will have fewer interruptions during their workday. Improved efficiencies often result in lowered overhead costs.</p>

Enhanced Access and Mobility

Columbus County spans 954 square miles and is home to 55,659 people. Of the total population, 22.1% live below the poverty level (Attachment08 CCT Maps). CCT's programs and services create mobility opportunities for disadvantaged populations. Disadvantaged populations and the community in general will directly benefit from improved amenities, safety, and security at the CCT facility. In addition, they will indirectly benefit from staff being able to better serve riders when their working environment is improved. Columbus County's social vulnerability score is 0.9523 (with 0 being the lowest vulnerability and 1 being the highest). This indicates a high level of vulnerability. The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) considers factors such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, housing cost burden, age, lack of insurance, limited English proficiency, minority, and disability status (Attachment 10 SVI Columbus). Improvements to CCT's operations will benefit the residents in Columbus County that have a high vulnerability score.

The CCT facility also serves as a Greyhound connection point. In the expansion process, one of the bathrooms currently reserved for staff in the existing facility will be converted into a public restroom for passengers waiting to take the Greyhound bus (Attachment07_GreyhoundSchedule).

Sustainably Modernize the Transit System

The project, as mentioned in the Demonstration of Needs section, will modernize the CCT facility. CCT aims to include sustainability improvements not currently available at the current facility — seeking to promote low-water use design and to reduce embedded carbon using low-carbon building materials in the bid for design and construction.

Improve Reliability and Serve the Community

The project will improve the reliability of transit service for riders by improving the productivity of staff and freeing up garage space. Documents currently stored in the garage will be moved to dedicated storage, built as part of this project.

Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization (2,793 of 4000 Characters):

The Columbus County Transportation Facility Expansion project advances goals of local and regional plans, which identify the need for investing in the transit system strategically in order to address mobility, improve accessibility, and meet the community's transportation demand.

Address System Needs

The project advances the objectives outlined in the Cape Fear Rural Planning Organization's submittal to

Prioritization (P6.O). The project was identified as one that would have Regional Impact (T185281) in the

P6.O submittal although it was not selected for funding (Attachment03_EOs and Plans). Additionally, the Columbus County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) identified a project that would provide more access to CCT by constructing a new two-lane extension of Legion Drive from its current terminus to US-

701, thereby creating more access to CCT (Attachment03 EOS and Plans). This project was removed from

the Division Needs category of the P6.0 revision process though, and Legion Drive's extension was recommended to be constructed through the subdivision and development process instead (Attachment03_EOs and Plans).

Advance Agency Goals and Address System Needs

The project also advances the NCDOT goals outlined in the NC Moves 2050 plan, which include connecting communities to statewide opportunities, maintaining a high-quality system, and providing transportation access for all (Attachment03_EOs and Plans). One strategy included in the "Connect Communities to Statewide Opportunities" objective of NC MOVES 2050 is to accelerate demand response strategies to meet the needs of the aging population and residents with disabilities. Columbus County has a higher percentage of individuals with disabilities (19.5%) than the state of North Carolina (13.4%) and also has a higher percentage of individuals over 65 (20.0%) than North Carolina (16.3%). Investing in CCT is an investment in the rural aging and disabled population. The expansion of CCT's facility also meets the objective to "Maintain a High-Quality System" by incorporating risk considerations across transportation activities. The addition of another emergency exit that is more accessible intentionally considers emergency management and prioritizes staff safety. Lastly, the expansion project meets the objective to "Provide Transportation Access for All" by connecting NC to neighboring economies through direct competitive mobility. The Greyhound stop that uses CCT's facility connects Whiteville to Charlotte thereby expanding the economic impact of the service.

This project has support from local and regional stakeholders across the southeastern NC region with letters of support from Columbus County Health Dept, Local Partnership for Children, the County Schools, DSS, The

Dream Center, and NCWorks in conjunction with Southeastern Community College.

Local Financial Commitment

Matching Funds Amount: \$70,200 (local)

Provide information on the source, availability and supporting documentation: (40914000 Characters)

Columbus County Transportation's local match funds are available for the local cost share of the projeœ
CCT's local funding is designated in the [Transportation Reservesplaceholder for final confirmation-FY23budget]. _____ Please see the following attachment #X CCTLocal Match describing the local match and #X CCTLetterofCommitment,furtherdetailingColumbus CountyTransportation'sand Columbus Countys commitment to this project.

Project
Budget

Description (100 characters)	Quantity	Federal Amount Requested	Local Match Amount	Other Federal Funds	Other	Total Cost
<u>2023 Bid</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$240,000</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>			\$300,000
<u>Bid Contingency (5%)</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>	<u>\$3,000</u>			<u>\$15,000</u>

<u>Inflation 23-24 (6%)</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$15,200</u>	<u>\$3,800</u>			\$19,000
<u>Inflation 24-25 (5%)</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$13,600</u>	<u>\$3,400</u>			<u>\$17,000</u>
<u>TOTAL COST</u>		<u>\$280,800</u>	<u>\$70,200</u>			<u>\$351,000</u>

Does the project budget include funding for workforce development activities or training at the National Transit Institute (NTI)? [2 Yes X No

For any zero emission related project (vehicle, facility, or equipment), is 5% of the project budget for workforce development training as outlined in the applicant's Zero-Emission Transition Plan?

If no, an explanation must be provided for the project to be eligible (0/1000Characters)

a Yes

Project Scalability	
Is the project scope scalable? Yes [8 No	
If yes, specific the minimum Federal Funds necessary: \$	
Provide explanation of scalability with specific references to the budget line items above (0 of 4000):	
<div>Project Implementation Strategy (2,359 of 4000 Characters):</div> <div>Can the project be obligated within 12 months? Yes [2 No</div> <div>Funds awarded for this project can be obligated within 5 months from the time of award based on an</div> <div>anticipated selection of projects in June 2023. As described in the following section, NCDOT IMD and CCT remain authorized and eligible recipients of federal funding and free of any issues that would hinder the permitting and construction of the facility and bus equipment. Additionally, Columbus County</div> <div>Transportation has worked closely with NCDOT IMD for more than 20 years as a subrecipient of FTA funding. Thus, CCT has the proper authorizations, resources, and processes in place to ensure the swift obligation of awarded FTA funds. CCT can obligate and implement the project within an 18-month period.</div> <div>As this project will involve expansion of the existing facility, environmental clearance under the National Environmental Policy Act (N EPA) is anticipated to be an FTA Categorial Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.118(C)(7).</div>	

It is also assumed that the project would not require Section 106 consultation as the project is not likely to have the potential to cause effects to historic properties.

Lastly, NCDOT IMD would provide oversight for the procurement of equipment and construction. NCDOT IMD has a quality control process to assist with the management of the procured resources and would work with Columbus County to provide the necessary transition of the assets into their respective inventories.

As is described in the Project Timeline, the project plan consists of six primary tasks:

- 1. Project Management — Ongoing
- 2. Planning — Ongoing
- 3. Environmental Clearance — Ongoing
- 4. Preliminary Design
- 5. Procurement Processes for Design and Construction
- 6. Final Design and Construction

Preliminary environmental screening indicated that the site is not in a floodplain and no wetlands or threatened or endangered species were identified. Based on the initial screening and successful NEPA completion (Attachment_06 NEPA Checklist), CCT anticipates the project will qualify for Categorical Exclusion.

Additionally, CCT will work with Cape Fear RPO to include this project in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The TIP is typically updated as needed, and the STIP is updated quarterly. Based on prior experience, CCT estimates it will be able to incorporate the new award into the TIP and STIP by October 2023.

Project Timeline		
Timeline Description (100 Characters)	Timeline Item	Date
<u>Begin pre-design for Facility</u>		<u>May 15, 2023</u>
<u>FTA Buses and Bus Facility Grant Award</u>		<u>June 27, 2023</u>
<u>Pre-Design Complete</u>		<u>July 28, 2023</u>
<u>Begin Environmental Clearance</u>		<u>July 28, 2023</u>
<u>Begin Permitting Process</u>		<u>July 28, 2023</u>
<u>Environmental Clearance Complete</u>		<u>November 22, 2023</u>

<u>Permitting Process Complete</u>	<u>November 22, 2023</u>
<u>Begin Procurement for Design</u>	<u>November 27, 2023</u>
<u>End Procurement for Design</u>	<u>January 26, 2024</u>
<u>Start Design</u>	<u>January 31, 2024</u>
<u>End Design</u>	<u>May 10, 2024</u>
<u>Construction Bidding Begins</u>	<u>May 17, 2024</u>
<u>Construction Bidding Complete</u>	<u>July 15, 2024</u>

<u>Construction Begins</u>	<u>July 18, 2024</u>
<u>Construction Complete</u>	<u>November 15, 2024</u>
<u>Commissioning Begins</u>	<u>November 18, 2024</u>
<u>Open for Service</u>	<u>December 18, 2024</u>

Partnership Provision

Note: the partnership provision is only applicable to low or no emission projects that are applying to the Low-No Program or both the Low-No and Bus Program. Projects applying only to the Bus program are not eligible to use the partnership provision. See NOFO Section C(1).

Is this application a partnership between an eligible applicant and one or more partners? C] Yes IX No

If yes, please list the partner(s) (0/500 Characters Per Line)

2.

3.

4.

Provide a description of the partner(s) qualifications (0/4000 Characters)

Provide a description of the partner(s) qualifications

Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity (2,876 of 4000 Characters):

As the project sponsor, NCDOT IMD has the technical, legal, and financial capacity to assist Columbus County in their facility expansion, as demonstrated in the most recent FTA State Management Review/Triennial Review, which received only one finding.

Ability to Assume Full Responsibility:

NCDOT IMD is responsible for administering and managing multiple FTA and state grant programs for transit providers across all 100 North Carolina counties as the designated recipient of federal transit funds. Formed in 1974, NCDOT IMD has decades of experience providing transportation opportunities to communities, responsibly managing transit grant programs, and adhering to applicable state and federal regulations. A recent update to NCDOT IMD's State Management Plan demonstrates the commitment to evolving in response to changing federal and state transit policy to best support the state's transit agencies (Attachment03_EOs and Plans).

Legal Impediments:

NCDOT IMD has no violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations to disclose.

Statement of Financial Feasibility:

An outside CPA firm on behalf of the state of North Carolina has audited the accounting system for NCDOT using the Enhancing Accountability in Government through Leadership and Education (EAGLE) audit. The date of the audit was July 29, 2022. The audit consists of an annual assessment of internal controls over financial reporting, compliance, and IT general controls processes. There were three findings in the IT area. Management responded to each of the findings. POC: Wayne Davenport — wdavenport@ncdot.gov.

Furthermore, NCDOT IMD has reviewed title 2 CFR§170 (CFR: 2CFR Part 170 — Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information) dated September 14, 2010, and acknowledges understanding the requirement, has the necessary processes and systems in place, and is prepared to fully comply with the reporting described in the term if it receives funding resulting from this notice.

Technical Ability to Implement Projects:

If awarded, NCDOT IMD would apply for a grant through the FTA Transit Award Management System

(TrAMS) and would abide by the grant requirements of FTA Section 5339(b) and 5339(c), including those of FTA Circular 9030.1E. Columbus County Transportation would follow the Grants Management

Requirements of FTA Circular 5010.1E and the labor protections of 49 U.S.C. 5333(b) in addition to the Buy

America requirements under the Biden Administration Executive Order 14005 (1/25/2021) and the newby' published "Made in America" changes to the Buy American Act that will be in effect October 2022.

Columbus County's Capacity:

Columbus County Transportation completed a Proficiency Review in 2022, addressing the deficiencies that were discovered promptly. As such, CCT is technically, legally, and financially capable of participating in this project.

Climate Change	
Is this application requesting 20 or more zero emission 40-foot buses? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Applicants must input the amount of reductions per vehicle from the FY 2023 Bus and Low-No Emissions Reduction Calculator (0/500 Characters)	
Full Fleet Transition	
If applicable, identify how the proposed project and fleet transition plan support the conversion of the agency's overall fleet to zero emissions (0/500 Characters)	
Creating Good Paying Jobs	
1. Is this a facility project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is the total project cost over \$35 million?	C] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is there a commitment to registered apprenticeship positions and use of apprentices on the project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> C] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> a Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Is there a project labor agreement?	
5. Is there a commitment to participating in the U.S Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) Mega Construction Project if select by OFCCP (see F.2.e Federal Contract Compliance)?	
Please describe the use of apprentices and partnerships with workforce development programs that have supportive services? (0/500 Characters)	
Procurement Methods that Reduce Customization	
If applicable, identify the proposed approach, other partners if applicable, and how the procurement approach reduces vehicle customization (0/500 Characters)	
Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Plan — Workforce Development	

<p>Is this a zero-emission project? Were workforce representatives consulted on all aspects of the workforce plan?</p> <p>Is a plan to provide or connect workers to supportive services (such as childcare and transportation assistance) provided? If yes, please describe below</p> <p>Does the workforce plan include at least one of the following strategies?</p> <p>Use of labor-management partnerships for training?</p> <p>5. Use of registered apprenticeship training to support skilling of incumbent and entry level workers with focus on using registered apprenticeship to advance Black, Hispanic, Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, tribal women, and other groups facing systemic barriers to employment that may be underrepresented in the current workforce, especially in higher-paying jobs?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>a Yes x No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Yes x No</p>
<p>Please describe (0/500 Characters)</p>	

<p>Justice 40</p> <p>Does the project support the Justice40 Initiative? Yes D No</p> <p>Describe how the project supports the Justice40 Initiative and the benefits provided (945/1000)</p> <p>In alignment with the Justice40 Initiative, the project will support access to reliable, safe transit for disadvantaged populations to reach essential destinations. Eleven census tracts are identified as disadvantaged due to demographics related to climate change, health burdens, training and workforce development, clean energy and energy efficiency, and affordable and sustainable housing. Within CCT's service area, 22.1% of residents live below the poverty level (Attachment06 CCT Demographic Snapshot Tool). The expanded CCT facility will provide social, economic, and environmental benefits to the County's disadvantaged communities. CCT aims to incorporate sustainable building practices in the construction to reduce the impact of the project.</p> <p>The facility will also allow the existing conference room to be used for both driver and staff trainings as well as conferences and <u>meetings with other organizations outside of CCT staff, thereby thereby promoting the system's services.</u></p> <p>Describe the methodology used to determine the project meets the Justice40 Initiative (935/1000 Characters):</p>

The EPA's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) along with the USDOT's Justice 40 Mapping tool were used to identify the disadvantaged communities. A total of 52,149 residents within CCT service area are members of disadvantaged communities according to CEJST. Using the Justice40 Screening tool, eleven tracts were identified with a total of 49,785 individuals that face challenges including health burdens, climate change, training and workforce development, clean energy and energy efficiency, and affordable and sustainable housing.

The estimated ridership in 2021 was 15,762 compared to 31,031 in 2019. However, as the system regains momentum followingthe COVID-19 pandemic, CCT is hopeful to return to pre-pandemic ridership numbers. Throughout the design and implementation, CCT will engage with the public and with riders in alignment with the NCDOT Statewide Public Involvement Plan (Attachment03_EOs and Plans).

Justice40 Population Impacted (0/100 Characters):

Is there a Justice40 population impacted by the project? [X] Yes [] No

Justice40 Populations that faced health burdens, climate change, training and workforce development, clean energy and energy efficiency, and sustainable housing

Justice40 Disadvantaged Community Served as Identified in the NOF-O Section E.2 (insert rows as needed)	Actual or Estimated Annual Ridership Count
	49, 785
37047930600 — Health burdens; Climate Change	3,530
37047930400 — Climate Change; Health Burdens	3,677
37047930100 — Climate Change; Health Burdens	4,293
37047930500 — Climate Change; Clean Energy; Health burdens	4,252
37047931000 — Climate Change	5,406
37047930900 — Climate Change; Clean energy, Affordable & sustainable housing; Health Burdens	4,764
37047930700 — Climate Change; Health Burdens; Training and workforce development	4,822
37047931100 — Climate Change	4,046
37047930200 — Climate Change	2,246
37047931300 — Health burdens; Climate Change	5,460
37047931200 — Health Burdens; Climate Change	7,289

SUPPLEMENTALGRANT

What is the percentage of Disadvantaged Communities within the project area?	
Was the estimate generated using the Justice40 online mapping tool?	Yes

Agenda Item #22: **FINANCE – APPROVAL of BUDGET AMENDMENT.**

- Finance Director Lacie Jacobs is requesting approval of the following budget amendment:
- a. Water District IV EDA Project – Contingency

MOTION:
Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #23: APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, & REPLACEMENTS.
Staff is requesting appointments, re-appointments or replacements to the following boards, committees and councils.

Legend: EB	= Entire Board
Listed Zone #	= Individual Commissioner

Zone I:	Barbara Featherson	Zone V:	Brent Watts
Zone II:	Chris Smith	Zone VI:	Ricky Bullard
Zone III:	Giles E. Byrd	Zone VII:	Scott Floyd
Zone IV:	Lavern Coleman		

COMMITTEE	ZONE EB	PERSON(S)	EXP.DATE	BOARD ACTION
Board of Adjustments	I	Jerome Chestnut	(Resigned) 1/21/2025	Commissioner Featherson Appointed Frank Charles Merritt

RECESS REGULAR SESSION and enter into COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV and V BOARD MEETING

MOTION:
At 7:15 P.M., Vice Chairman Coleman made a motion to recess regular session and enter into the Columbus County Water and Sewer Combination Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Watts. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #24: APPROVAL OF WATER AND SEWER COMBINATION MINUTES.

March 06, 2023 (5 sets)

MOTION:
Commissioner Watts made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

ADJOURN COMBINATION MEETING of COLUMBUS COUNTY WATER and SEWER DISTRICTS I, II, III, IV AND V BOARD MEETING.

MOTION:
Commissioner Watts made a motion to a, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion unanimously passed.

Agenda Item #25: COMMENTS:

- A. Board of Commissioners
1. **Commissioner Smith** stated the following:
I hope everyone in this room remembers what this week is about, Palm Week and let us not forget what the Easter Season is about.
- Commissioner Floyd** stated the following:
I'd like to say hats off to the telecommunicators, again that is a very important job to the Fire & Rescue and Law Enforcement.
- Commissioner Featherson:** stated the following:

I also would like to speak about remembering in what Easter is about. Also, the Columbus County School will begin their Easter Break on April 7th, and there will be a lot of kids out driving on the road and some are having Prom, so be safe.

Vice Chairman Laverne Coleman stated the following:

I would also like to thank EMS and Telecommunicators for the job they do and Law Enforcement it's a remarkable job and I appreciate it. County workers, I appreciate what you do as well. The ball fields look very nice, I went this weekend with my grandchildren and I looked around the fields and bathrooms looked very good, thank you Julie Strickland for ensuring those areas are clean. I'd like to encourage you if you have a question or concern about the ball fields let us know.

Commissioner Byrd stated the following:

I have 3 things I would like to discuss, and the first is one I have brought up at the last two previous meetings. We definitely need to look at taking the pressure off of the emergency rooms at our hospital. I have been several times and the rescue squads are bringing patients in and they have to stand in the hall way or where ever they can because the rooms are being taken up by mental patients. I know we need to take care of them too. When a family member comes in with someone injured or sick and there are children there just sitting in the rooms for weeks and months. The IVC patients absolutely need a facility so they can take that strain off of our emergency rooms.

Next, I have had several calls about the trash at Acme Delco. There is a place that is permitted and I've gotten a lot of calls about the place and the tires piled up there.

Also, Steve Camren called about funds something like 28,000 dollars about water rescue or rope rescue.

Nick West Responded:

Yes, we do have those funds and they have not been used anywhere else, we just have run into some issues with the availability of the equipment. I spoke with someone recently about getting the bid and quote in for that and we should be able to bring that and the budget amendment in front of the board soon. As far as going forward, we will work it out in the budget to where we can assist the squads with quotes, tracking and ordering.

Commissioner Watts stated the following:

Just wanted to ask one question, is the Water Rescue the same thing. (Nick West responded "yes"). Also, I agree with the rest of the commissioners that we need to remember what this week is about, the ultimate sacrifice.

Chairman Bullard stated the following:

I'd also like to thank and acknowledge the EMS, Fire & Rescue, Telecommunicators, and Law Enforcement for the job they do. It is really a hard job and kind of heart touching when you think of all the things they have to do and see on a daily basis. I hope everyone has a Happy Easter.

B. County Manager Mr. Eddie Madden stated the following:

Just want to call your attention to the information section of that our clerk is provided for you mainly that the first item is that the offices will be closed Friday for Good Friday, and will be open the following Monday for a couple of other events that are scheduled for you in the month of April, and as well as some coming up in early in early May. Hard to believe we are talking about May already but, I will I'll just bring your attention to those things and if you have any questions or need throughout the week, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Agenda Item #26: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION:

At 7:37 P.M. Commissioner Watts made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Floyd The motion unanimously passed.

JANA NEALEY, Clerk to the Board

RICKY BULLARD, Chairman