



**FY 2024**  
**Recommended Budget**

**Currituck County**

# A Narrative Budget

---

**Intended to aid your decision making and add transparency by showing rationale for recommended programs and their funding**



# A Place to Call Home

---

**10.4%**  
**increase in**  
**population**  
**from 2020 to**  
**2022**



**20.2%**  
**increase in**  
**population**  
**from 2010 to**  
**2020**

# **A Place to Call Home**

---

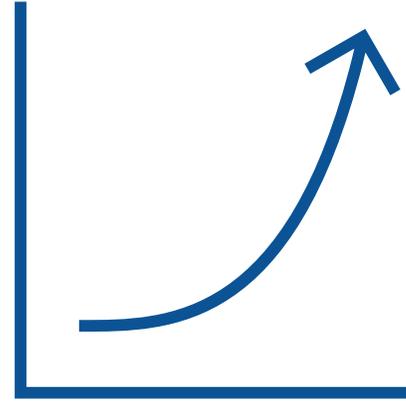
**North Carolina Department of Commerce in  
2023 named Currituck County as the**

**LEAST**

**economically distressed county out of all  
100 North Carolina counties.**

# The Economy

---



**Inflation  
rate of 8.6%**

**Estimated it would take additional revenue equivalent to 4 cents of the tax rate, or \$3,244,000, to fund the FY 2024 budget at the same level as the FY 2023 budget.**

# **Lay of the Land & Standing Alone**

---

**Currituck County is one of only two North Carolina counties without cities or towns within its borders. Unlike 98 other counties in the state that can rely upon cities or towns within their boundaries to provide some level of service, any government service within Currituck County is borne solely by the county.**

# **General Fund**

---

# General Fund

---

## Principal operating fund

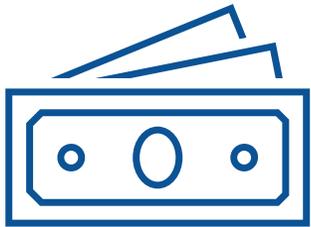
**Major operating activities include general government administration, public safety, education, human services, and other governmental service functions**



# General Fund

---

**36%** of General Fund appropriations to departments associated with public safety



Proposed that **19%** of the General Fund is appropriated to Currituck County Schools.

# **Public Safety**

---

# Sheriff's Office

---



## **Aging fleet and mounting maintenance costs**

### **Solutions**

- Reinststate scheduled vehicle replacement rotation
- Replace 15 patrol vehicles and purchase 1 new vehicle at a cost of \$842,103

# Sheriff's Office

---



## **Renewed focus on school safety**

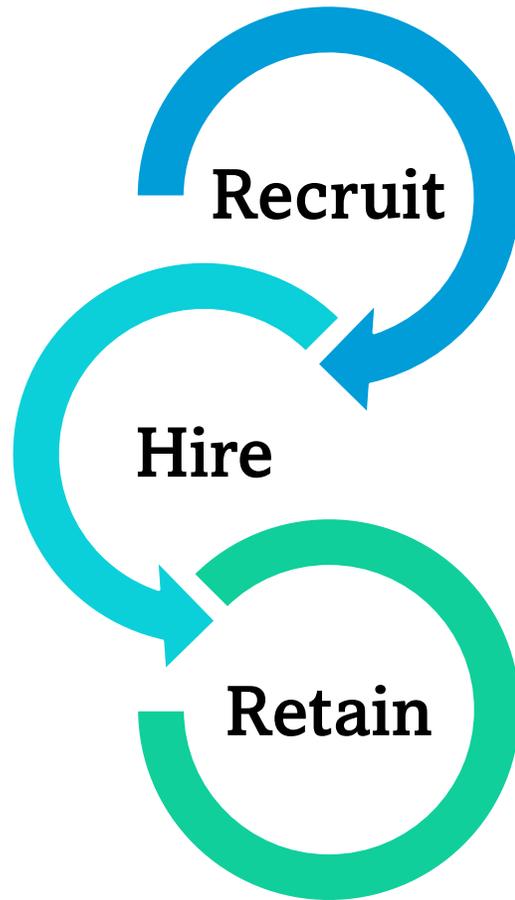
### **Investments**

- Six new school resource officer positions
- One new deputy position to back up school resource officer positions

**Keep students and teachers safe and give families peace of mind.**

# Detention

---



## Challenges filling vacant positions

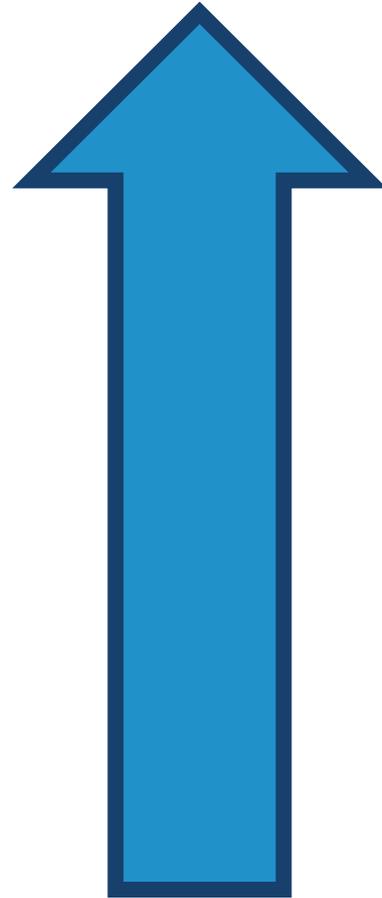
### Solution

Incentive pay plan for detention officers allowing step increases in salary upon completion of certain training and certifications.

# Emergency Medical Services

---

**EMS**  
**responded to**  
**4,785** calls  
**in 2018.**



**Response to**  
**calls increased**  
**to 5,882**  
**calls in 2022.**

**22.9%**  
increase in call volume  
over 4 years

# Emergency Medical Services

---



## **Aging ambulance fleet and mounting maintenance costs**

### **Solutions**

- Purchase two ambulances at a cost of \$750,000
- Program the purchase of two ambulances in each of next 4 fiscal years

# Emergency Medical Services

---

## **Need for strategic placement of EMS and fire stations**

### **Solution**

Acquire property in Moyock Township and begin design of a new county-owned station

### **Long-Term**

New station will require future funding for an ambulance and personnel

# Fire Services

---



## **Aging fire apparatus fleet**

### **Solution**

**Allocation of \$1,000,000 for purchase of four-wheel drive engine that will be based with Carova Beach Volunteer Fire Department.**

# Communications

---

The county recently received a grant from the NC 911 Board in the amount of

**\$1,964,978**

for radio system upgrades. The county's match of \$500,000 is included in the recommended budget.

## End of useful life of equipment

### Investments

- Replace microwave system
- Construct monopole at High Cotton water tank
- Install dedicated fiber
- Migrate from conventional to trunked radio system

# Education

---

# Local Current Expense

---

**Strongly support Currituck County Schools even in challenging economic times**



Currituck County Schools  
Inspiring Excellence in Every Student

<b>Local Current Expense</b>	<b>\$13,035,602</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 700,000</b>
<b>Total Local Current Expense</b>	<b>\$13,735,602</b>

# Schools Capital Outlay

---

Currituck County Schools receives an annual capital allocation of \$1.4 million.

The recommended budget includes an additional allocation of \$3,085,000.

**Support prioritized request of facilities repairs and improvements over 5-year period.**

---

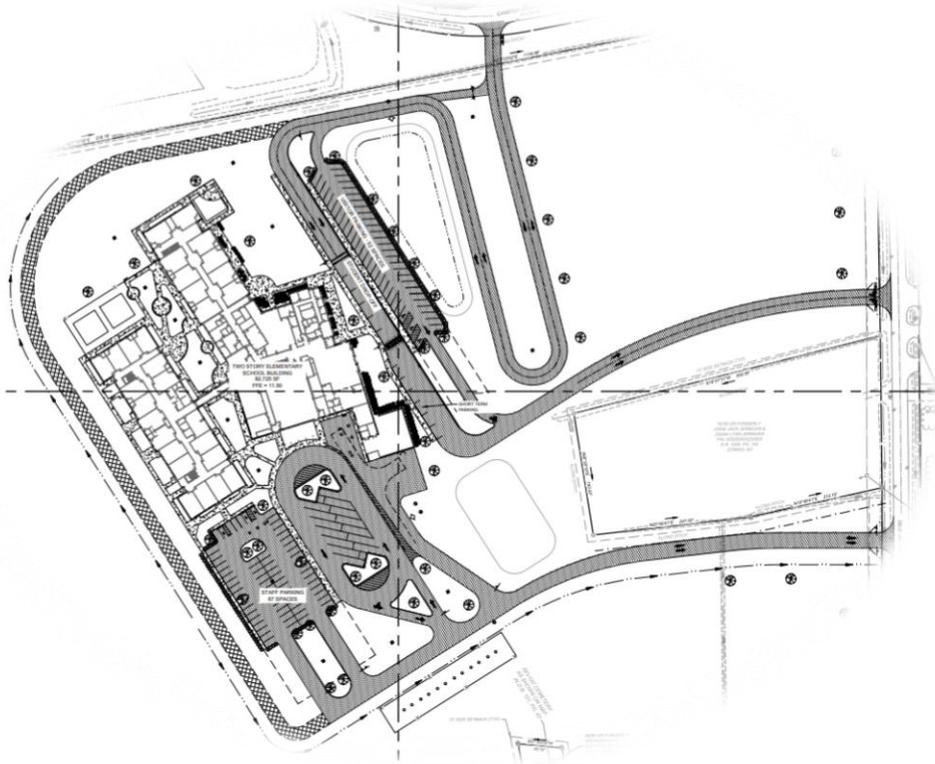
# New Elementary School

---

## Prevent overcrowding in schools

### Solution

- Installment purchase financing for Tulls Creek Elementary School
- Estimate first debt payment of \$3,190,345 which equates to approximately 4 cents of proposed tax rate



# Commitment to Higher Education

---

**Ensure access to quality education opportunities from trades to general college level courses**

## **Investment**

- Continue partnership with College of the Albemarle with allocation of \$243,927

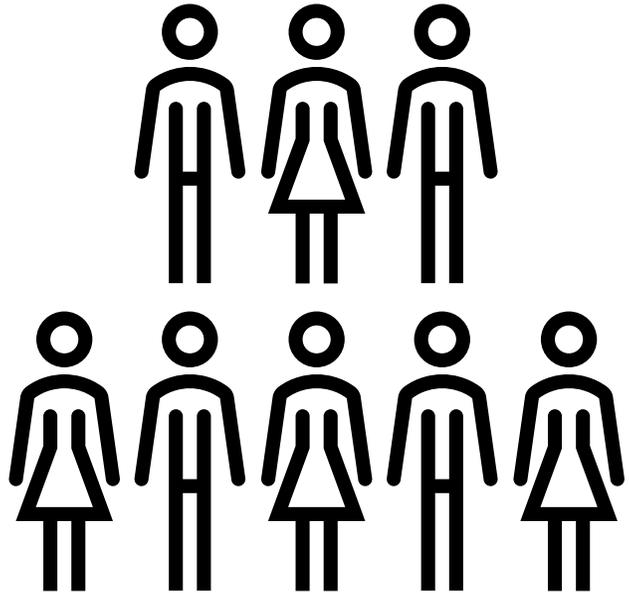


# **Our Team**

---

# Our Team

---



**Our employees are our greatest resource**

## Investments

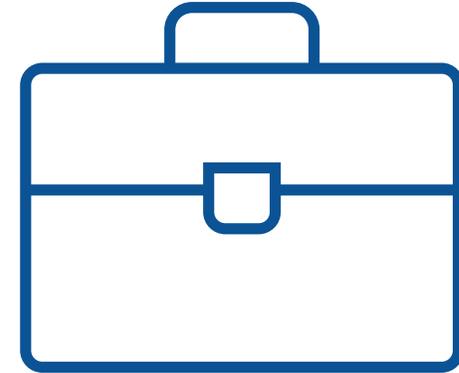
- Contribution to 401k Supplemental Retirement Plan
- Longevity pay program
- Recently approved health insurance provider change to NC Health Insurance Pool

# Personnel Changes

---

## New Positions

- Telecommunicator I – Communications
- Lineman – Airport



## Reclassifications

- Detention Officer position to Secretary I position
- EMS Training Officer – Grade 70 to Grade 77
- Fire Training Officer – Grade 70 to Grade 77
- Administrative Services Officer I at Grade 70 to Business Officer I at Grade 76
- Accounting Clerk II at Grade 53 to Accounting Technician I at Grade 68

# **Enterprise Funds**

---

# Highlighted Projects

---

## Investments in infrastructure

- New Reverse Osmosis Well and connection to Southern Outer Banks Water System
- Southern Outer Banks Water Treatment Plant Expansion
- 16-inch Water Main Upgrades from Sligo to High Cotton elevated tank in Moyock
- Reverse Osmosis Well #4 and connection to Mainland Water Treatment Plan
- Mainland Water Treatment Plant Expansion



# Highlighted Projects

---



## **Expand services to meet needs**

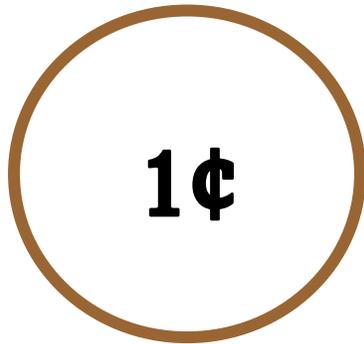
- Acquire land for new convenience center in Moyock Township
- Design expansion of existing Moyock Convenience Site on Panther Landing Road

# **Special Revenue Funds**

---

# Recommend increasing Corolla Fire Service District Tax Rate

---



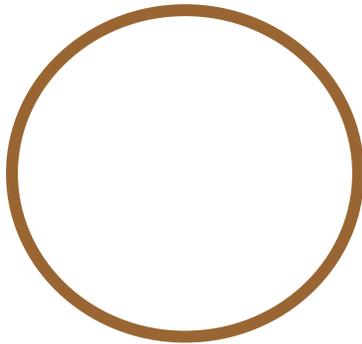
1¢

**Current rate does  
not provide  
sufficient revenue**

New rate would equal  
**6 cents** per \$100 of  
property value

# **Recommend increasing Knotts Island Fire Service District Tax Rate**

---



**Current rate does  
not provide  
sufficient revenue**

New rate would equal  
**6 cents** per \$100 of  
property value

# **Recommend no tax for Hog Bridge Ditch Watershed Improvement Service District**

---



**Propose repeal of service district**

Expend fund balance for projects until it is depleted

# **Recommend increasing OSN&CP Service District for Watershed Improvement Tax Rate**

---



**Increase rate to fund stormwater infrastructure projects**

New rate would equal **25.5 cents** per \$100 of property value

# Recommend decreasing Whalehead Stormwater Service District Tax Rate

---



**Decrease rate in recognition of major project's completion**

New rate would equal **10 cents** per \$100 of property value

# Recommend decreasing Whalehead Beach Service District for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Tax Rate

---



**Decrease rate in recognition of large fund balance**

New rate would equal **1.5 cents** per \$100 of property value

# **Capital Improvement Plan**

---

# Capital Improvement Plan

---



Involves substantial cost



Anything financed by debt



Acquisition of tangible asset



Takes more than one year to complete



Does not include operating expenses

**Critical to determine the need and funding for capital facilities and infrastructure**

# **FY 2024**

---

## **Recommend following capital allocations:**

**General Fund Capital** **\$4,239,959**

**Special Revenue Funds Capital** **\$1,612,558**

**Enterprise Funds Capital** **\$6,713,000**

# **Financial Policies**

---

# Financial Policies

---



**Affirm operation under balanced budget**



**Set realistic and attainable revenue projections**

# Financial Policies

---



**Establish guidelines for institution of user fees**

**30%**

**Require combined General Fund and Debt Service Fund total balance minimum**

# Financial Policies

---

**Annually submit audit to GFOA Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program**



**Provide monthly interim financial statements**

**Adopt 5-year capital improvement plan to be revised and approved annually**



# **FY 2024 Financial Picture and Beyond**

---

# Property Tax Rate

---

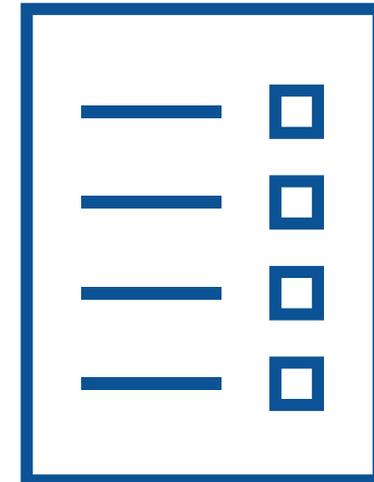
New revenue is not sufficient to meet rising cost and demand of services

**New rate  
would equal  
56 cents per  
\$100 of  
property  
value**

# Property Tax Rate Comparison

---

<b>City of Virginia Beach</b>	<b>\$0.99</b>
<b>City of Chesapeake</b>	<b>\$1.05</b>
<b>Camden County</b>	<b>\$0.88</b>
<b>Southern Shores + Dare County</b>	<b>\$0.6363</b>
<b>Kitty Hawk + Dare County</b>	<b>\$0.7005</b>
<b>Duck + Dare County</b>	<b>\$0.6205</b>



# Looking Ahead

---

Full debt payment  
required for Tulls Creek  
Elementary School in  
FY 2025



**Will require  
additional 4  
cents of tax  
setting rate to  
60 cents per  
\$100 of property  
value**

**FY 2024**  
**Recommended Budget**

**\$77,330,167**

---

# Recommended Schedule

---

<b>May 30</b>	<b>June 5</b>	<b>June 19</b>	<b>July 1</b>
Budget Presentation	Budget Work Session	Public Hearing & Possible Adoption	Effective Date of Adopted Budget

# **Review and Comment**

---

The recommended budget will be posted on the county website and a hard copy will be available in the office of the Clerk to the Board in the Historic Courthouse.

Comments can be made on the recommended budget to [commissioners@currituckcountync.gov](mailto:commissioners@currituckcountync.gov).