



Durham

News and Information from the City of Durham

CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

July 2017

DurhamNC.gov

FY 2017-2018

2017 -2018 Budget Prioritizes Affordable Housing, Youth and Public Safety

The Durham City Council approved the FY 2017-18 budget on June 19 which includes a 1.79-cent tax rate increase, bringing the new tax rate to 57.86 cents per \$100 of assessed value.

The proposed tax rate generates a tax bill of \$1,041 on a house valued at \$180,000, the median house value for the City of Durham according to the Durham County Office of Tax Administration. This will result in the average homeowner

paying \$32 more than last year, or approximately \$3 more per month.

The total budget for FY 2017-18 is \$429.4 million, a 6 percent increase from last year, and includes a \$189.4 million budget for services covered by the general fund, a nearly 4.3 percent increase from last year.

The budget adds an extra penny to the dedicated housing fund, bringing the tax rate allocation to 2 cents, to help address priority gap areas in the City's affordable housing strategy. The value of a penny on the tax rate is \$2.79 million.

Enhanced opportunities for youth as well as informing them of recreational programs also are funding priorities for this budget. On June 1,

See Budget on Page 2

City and County Announce New Joint Mobile App Initiative

Durham residents can now submit service and public records requests to City or County governments on a new joint mobile application that launched in June. The Durham One Call app is a free interactive tool and can be found by searching for "Durham One Call" on your smart phone in the Apple Store or Google Play store.

The app forwards resident requests for service to City and County departments for concerns such as pothole repair, missed trash or recycling collection, litter removal, reporting a vacant or

See App on Page 2

Upcoming City Holidays

Independence Day - July 4
Labor Day - September 4

For information about City holidays, garbage collection or other City services, contact Durham One Call.



Waste Disposal and Recycling Center
2115 E. Club Blvd., Durham
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - noon / Closed Sundays

Accepting old electronics, appliances, tires, yard waste and other recyclables.

Contact the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau for public events and non-City holiday schedules at 919-687-0288.

The Citizens' Newsletter is published the first month of each quarter with the water bill. For the most current information, visit the website at durhamnc.gov.

City Briefs

July Is Smart Irrigation Month

Did you know that lawn watering and gardening during the summer can increase demand on water treatment plants by up to 40 percent? July is Smart Irrigation Month, a time to increase public awareness about simple practices and innovative technologies that can reduce water consumption.

Durham County's Network of Care Website Has A New Look

Durham County's Network of Care is a comprehensive online resource designed to increase access to community services and support. Residents in search of local health and well-being services can use this helpful tool as a vital information resource. For information, visit <http://durham.nc.networkofcare.org/mh/>.

CenterFest 2017 Set for September 16-17

Now in its 43rd year, CenterFest 2017 will be the largest arts and community festival in Durham and the longest-running street arts festival in North Carolina. The festival showcases 145 juried visual artists from across the U.S. and 600 performing artists from North Carolina. For information, visit www.centerfest.durhamarts.org.

The Durham Information Network

The Durham Information Network represents the communications umbrella for information about the City, and its events and activities. The web page at durhamnc.gov/3011/Durham-Information-Network provides quick access to all of our communications tools including social media, programming and newsletters.

Notice Under The Americans With Disabilities Act

A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in city government activities by contacting the ADA coordinator, voice 919-560-4197, fax 919-560-4196, or at ADA@durhamnc.gov as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.

Budget from Page 1

daily pass fees were eliminated for youth under 18 to encourage them to use the City's recreation centers and pools. Also, the City will introduce after-school drop-in programs for teens at four recreation centers in early fall.

Fighting crime and funding other public safety needs continue to warrant a significant portion of the City's budget, with 53 new positions including 30 new firefighters to staff Fire Station #17 in southeast Durham.

The street resurfacing fund will receive a \$2.6 million boost above the \$4 million included in recurring paving expenditures, which more than doubles the funding for paving and street maintenance.

The City continues to maintain excellent fiscal status with an AAA bond-rating from all three ratings agencies – achieved by only a few of the nation's more than 22,500 cities.

To review the final budget, visit the FY2017-2018 budget webpage at durhamnc.gov/199/Budget-Management-Services or hard copies may also be reviewed in the City Clerk's Office and the City's Budget and Management Services Department at City Hall.

App from Page 1

abandoned home, water service requests or concealed handgun permits.

City Manager Tom Bonfield and County Manager Wendell Davis said the City and County governments have embraced partnership opportunities. This most recent collaboration will increase convenience and accessibility via the Durham One Call app.

Residents will still be able to call Durham One Call at 919-560-1200 or go online at durhamnc.gov/1439/Durham-One-Call.