

Buncombe County Government

2024 Legislative Agenda

April 2, 2024



Background and Request

Background

- Ward and Smith provided an update to the Board of Commissioners at the February 6th Briefing and shared updates from the 2023 Legislative Session.
- During the Legislative Debrief, Commissioners identified additional areas of focus for the upcoming 2024 Short Session.
 - Appropriations for infrastructure expansion
 - Appropriations for projects included in the Buncombe County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
 - Appropriations for water quality improvements (e.g., Community Conservation Assistance Program).

Request

- Adopt the 2024 Buncombe County Legislative Agenda.



Legislative Priorities - Appropriations

- Seek state funding for State Employees, including K-12 and Community College education, and related capital needs.
- Seek additional state funding and/or direct earmarks for water quality, flood resiliency, and stormwater mitigation projects in the French Broad River basin, including targeted funding for the Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP).
- Seek state funding for water and/or sewer projects to extend service to Southwestern Buncombe County towards Canton.
- Seek and advocate for additional state funding to address the Innovation Waiver slots waiting list for IDD individuals in the Buncombe community.
- Seek state funding resources for repairs and improvements to McCormick Field.



Legislative Priorities - Policy

- Seek additional state funding support for early childhood education and Pre-K programs including simplifying or modifying the subsidy formula for Buncombe County.
- Oppose any proposals that would limit local government ability to regulate short-term rentals or online marketplaces.
- Seek authorization of a General Assembly study for property tax relief and related exemptions for permanent residents of the State of North Carolina.
- Continue to evaluate methods to modernize NC House Occupancy Tax guidelines to meet the evolving visitation and infrastructure needs of Buncombe County.
- Seek additional state investment in broadband including the re-allocation of unspent State or Federal funds to the GREAT Grant program, as well as additional flexibility for local government investment in broadband infrastructure.



Request

Request

- Adopt the 2024 Buncombe County Legislative Agenda.

