

Category	Question	Mike Dasher	David Delaney	Franklin Gomez-Flores	Karen Howard	Katie Kenlan
Budget Calendar	Are there any milestones you would like added to the budget calendar to make it more useful?	No, the current budget calendar is adequate for making informed decisions.	Yes. Direct BOCC discussion with other independent entities or elected officials, including the Sheriff, Bd of Elections, Bd of Health, senior superior/district court judges, and maybe others.	CIP process to happen 100% after elections or before elections. Commissioners being sent all department requests (currently budgeted and expansion items) and individual commissioner expansion requests. Commissioners being asked to prioritize expansion items. All of that prior to the tax rate conversation.	I would like an opportunity early in the year to revisit budget priorities in the event that there have been significant changes in circumstances for Chatham...eg. continued increased tax revenues.	No
Retreat	Was the information provided at the retreat and one-on-one sessions helpful to you?	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
	Can you suggest any changes that would make the retreat and/or the one-on-one sessions more effective?		Closer integration and tracking between our strategic plan and annual plan. We should be able to make annual funding decisions based on what brings specific outcomes toward Plan Chatham in that particular year.	1. BOC be sent/informed of all requests made by each department/commissioner/manager. 2. Commissioners being asked to prioritize expansion items and to be explicitly requested if there are any expansion items they wish to be added. 3. All of that is to happen before the conversation regarding the tax rate.	I think both processes work well although I recognize the challenge for incoming, new board members to engage fully so early in their tenure.	The power points and humor were very helpful in the one on ones and budget retreat. Having the Carter financial consultants at the budget retreat helped put in perspective our process for the CIP and our AAA rating. Having an outside group help give context for how organized and sophisticated our budget process built further trust for me in how the budget is shaped and tracked. For one on ones I think there is a lot of basic budget vocab that could be introduced ahead of time in a pdf or email that would have allowed me to process the information more effectively. I did some of that on my own before the meeting but was still translated things like enterprise fund as you were presenting.
	Does "Heads Up" presentation help you to understand department input?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
	Can you suggest any changes to the "Heads Up" presentation that would make the information easier to understand?		Tracking/mapping spreadsheets of the sort that were provided for me at the 1-1. I think we could evolve that product to be used throughout the process.	Departments do not all operate in a similar manner, in other words, their success/challenges/shortcomings are not measured within the same metric. I want each department to have a metric to compare their past and current performance as a tool to prioritize expansion items, identify low-performance areas, and set goals and expectations.	There have been times when hearing the "why" from a department might help us understand a request better.	
Recommended Budget	Does the Recommended Budget document provide you with the information you need?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Can you suggest any changes to the Recommended Budget document or any additions and/or deletions that would make it a more useful tool?		The Recommended Budget has the essential details. I encourage us to integrate/map those numbers (as they're being developed and finalized) with our strategic plan and annual plan with the County Manager.	I would like to see property tax raised per region (per zip code, precincts, Commissioner Districts, others?) I would like to see a table of "missed" property tax (fed/state/county programs that keep property tax payment lower than what it could be for a beneficial purpose) per region The picture of the dollar bill reflecting the allocation of funds is useful I would like to see it done on a regional level (per zip code, precincts, Commissioner Districts, others?) because there is a difference in how money is allocated to each region,	None	The majority of the recommended budget guide does help me know the information I needed. It was very thorough and clear. I still get confused by transfers in and out and some more detailed break down and or description of that would be helpful. I like to see the forest before the trees and basics or non detailed descriptions would be a helpful primer. Knowing things such as the majority of our budget goes to schools, public safety and salaries then breaking those up further as we go into the process.
CIP	x	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Can you suggest any changes to the Recommended CIP document or any additions and/or deletions that would make it a more useful tool?			The when it happens. All of it before elections or after, not split.	None	The CIP was a very good experience. It was my first one on one process as commissioner. It helped to receive the power points multiple times. In the one on one and budget retreat. I especially liked that they were the same power points. Darrell was very clear when presenting the same powerpoint if anything had been added or tweaked as well. I really appreciate that attention to detail.
Other Improvements	Do you have any additional suggestions that would improve the budget process for commissioners?	No suggestions at this time. Thanks to the budget team for your work throughout the year to keep the Board informed, and providing the necessary information in a clear way to allow the Board to make budgeting decisions.	At the retreat, 3 commissioners expressed an interest in balancing the high CCS budget request against other priority public needs. So I was surprised that all three budget options presented in the 1-1 sessions showed full funding of the CCS request. If we need to clarify such details during the retreat then let's create a format. If there was follow-up discussion with the chair and/or vice chair to eliminate such options from consideration then we need to improve that process by clarifying the role of the chair and vice chair. Work sessions need to be planned in greater detail and respecting our Procedures, which say that all commissioners can put items on the agenda. My multiple requests for agenda topics were not answered or accepted. We need better fidelity to our Procedures and better opportunity to plan our time against other commitments. Thanks for a successful overall process and this opportunity to provide feedback.	Not at this time. Thank you	None	The history of our budgets: what percentages historically have gone where: non profits spending, the arts, schools, parks, affordable housing. How is our budget similar or different to counties of our size in what and how much we spend. Are there any counties with democratic or progressive boards that have different allocations of spending that might help guide commissioners to know we are allocating to areas that reflect our values appropriately? How do we compare to our neighbors in their budget such as their population and county income. Those areas can be used to emphasize how our decisions and allocations are unique or standard. The bigger picture helps me to more fully understand where we fit in and to fully grasp the decisions we make. What does Orange county spend on their sheriff's department would be of interest to me as another example.