MID-YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FY 2019



GOAL #1

Preserve the rural character and lifestyle of Chatham County.

- Planning completed the first round of business property rezonings. 49 parcels were rezoned. The second round of rezonings for 17 properties is currently in process and will be completed by early 2019.
- Cooperative Extension expanded 4-H Youth Development program to eight clubs with varied focus areas.
- Cooperative Extension began planning for a future expansion of the Agriculture & Conference Center that would provide venues where the county's agricultural products can be exhibited or utilized as teaching tools for producers and the general public.

GOAL #2

Preserve, protect, and enable agriculture and forestry.

- Soil and Water staff assisted with an all day regional cover crops workshop.
- **Planning** continued revisions to land use regulations and ordinances.

GOAL #3

Promote a compact growth pattern by developing in and near existing towns, communities, and in designated, well-planned, walkable mixed-use centers.

- **Planning** is nearing completion of development of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Request for Proposals. RFP should be ready to issue in early 2019.
- Parks and Recreation included major collaboration with towns on connected trails and greenways in the Comprehensive Plan that would help promote compact growth.

GOAL #4

Diversify the tax base and generate more high-quality, in-county jobs to reduce dependence on residential property taxes, create economic opportunity, and reduce out-commuting.

- County Manager completed a tri-party agreement between the County, DOT and Tim Booras for funds to improve transportation infrastructure at the CAM Site.
- County Manager reached agreement with Sanford to complete the wastewater extension to the Moncure Mega Site.
- CVB reported that visitors to and within Chatham County spent an estimated \$35 Million in 2017, an increase of 3.5% over the prior year.
- **CVB** printed a new visitor brochure that will be available at Raleigh Durham Airport, NC Welcome Visitors centers, and online.

EDC:

- Wilson Brothers Trucking announced \$4 million investment and 25 new jobs.
- Mountaire Farms anticipates operations beginning this month and has training happening in Siler City.
- Strata Solar is investing \$3 million in a 5.0 MW system to generate solar power in Pittsboro. The company is also permitted for a \$3.4 million, 5.0 MW project in Moncure.
- Penguin Place in Pittsboro is 100% leased and nearing completion of build-out.
- A. D. Tubi USA, an Italian welding company, announced a \$6 Million investment and 8 new jobs in Siler City
- Capital Ready Mix Concrete announced a \$5 Million investment and 60 jobs in Pittsboro, reusing a former poultry industry building

Conserve natural resources.

- **Emergency Operations** responded to 8 fuel and/or chemical spills to ensure cleanup by responsible parties and preventing materials from contaminating surface water resources.
- Soil and Water staff completed the installation of a freshwater pond with the assistance of the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program.
- Soil and Water developed 24 State and Federal cost share applications and contracts for natural resource conserving practices.
- Solid Waste & Recycling partnered with Brooks Recycling to help schools to increase/improve recycling and composting. Siler City & Bennet School have increased recycling and started composting at lunch. Silk Hope School is in progress.
- Solid Waste & Recycling and Parks and Rec received a grant to place recycling containers next to trash cans at county parks.

- Solid Waste & Recycling established a Keep Chatham County Beautiful community team and completed training.
- Solid Waste & Recycling created a new brochure that addresses recycling and the items that can and cannot be recycled.
- Watershed Protection and GIS established a database to allow field gathering of GPS coordinates of Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs) for GIS integration
- Watershed Protection prepared a presentation to educate HOA Boards in subdivisions with stormwater SCM's on maintenance requirements of privately owned SCMs to promote water quality.

Provide recreational opportunities and preserve open space.

Parks and Recreation:

- Presented a draft Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan in December
- Design is underway for the bridge over Pokeberry Creek along the Haw River
- A shared recreation center is included in the construction that has begun on Chatham Grove Elementary School
- Implemented a successful open gym pilot program at North Chatham that will be expanded to other locations

Provide infrastructure to support desired development and support economic and environmental objectives.

- MIS began collaboration with Chatham County Schools to pursue release of RFP for county-wide fiber network connecting all schools.
- MIS identified a wireless pilot project that would provide broadband service to a selected area within the county.
- County Manager initiated a regional effort with all of the towns and surrounding counties to complete a water and wastewater "master plan" to identify demand based projections and plan for future capital investments and partnerships to provide utility service.
- County Manager began preliminary work with the Western Intake Partners for the new Jordan Lake intake and regional water treatment plant.
- County Manager entered into an agreement to study a joint partnership with Sanford, Fuquay-Varina, and Holly Springs for the expansion of the Sanford water treatment facility.

Become more resilient by mitigating, responding, and adapting to emerging threats.

- Emergency Operations facilitated the organization of a Community Emergency Response Team in Chatham County (Chatham CERT) which has 30 active members and 200 on its mailing list.
- Emergency Operations updated plans and procedures for emergency shelters and mass feeding during disasters. Completed American Red Cross Shelter Survey for all designated congregate care shelters. New plans and procedures activated during Hurricane Florence at two shelters housing a total of 124 residents.

Provide equitable access to high-quality education, housing, and community options for all.

- Council on Aging and Cooperative Extension built upon Chatham's 1st one-day educational retreat for seniors in April 2018 using the new Agricultural and Conference Center, to offer a Conference in November. Both events were well attended and received very positive evaluations from attendees.
- Wren Library hosted job fairs for local businesses
- Affordable Housing: The Henry Siler School project awarded 9% Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). The Henry Siler School project being developed by Third Wave Housing, LLC is proposing 44 units on the historic site affordable to households up to 60% AMI.
- County Manager's Department staff collaborated with the Chatham County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, Triangle J Council of Governments, The Fair Housing Project with Legal Aid NC, and the Chatham County Housing Authority to host a landlord forum in October 2018. Participants received a presentation on the section 8 program in Chatham, fair housing training by Legal Aid, and had the opportunity to voice their concerns and provide feedback about being landlords in Chatham County. More community engagement forums of this nature are to be held in 2019.

Foster a healthy community.

- **Council on Aging** was one of eight GSK IMPACT recipients in the Triangle region for addressing critical community health challenges, which included a \$40,000 cash award.
- Health Department staff provided comments on the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Request for Proposals and will be involved in drafting the UDO once a consultant has been selected.
- Wren and Goldston Libraries partnered with CORA to serve as distribution sites for CORA's Summer Nutrition for Chatham Kids (SNACK) program.
- The Chatham Health Alliance completed the first Community Assessment. The alliance used the results to determine top three priority issues for next four years: poverty, obesity and access to health/mental health services.
- The Library addressed community needs by hosting navigators to enroll individuals in health insurance programs and co-hosting programs to create awareness of significant issues such as opioid addiction.

GOAL II

Demonstrate sound fiscal stewardship to ensure we can meet the important service needs of our residents.

- Finance Department received the lowest interest rate possible 3.056732% for the FY 2019 borrowing for the new schools.
- Finance Department was awarded a Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Chatham County for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. This was the twenty eighth consecutive year that the County has received this award.

Provide effective, efficient government that is responsive to the different needs of residents and varying circumstances across the county.

Provide social services and support that seek to minimize the impacts to those in poverty and stabilize individuals and families in the community.

Ensure public safety through adequate resources, plans, and partnerships to keep people and property safe.

Strengthen relationships with other boards, municipalities, and regional entities to address common challenges and opportunities.

- **Emergency Operations** coordinated County response to major incidents impacting Chatham County, including: Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Michael, and December 2018 Winter Weather.
- Cooperative Extension partnered with the Council on Aging to deliver the first Senior Education Conference, aimed at addressing a recently adopted County Aging Plan oriented on social connectedness, community engagement, and opportunities for self-fulfillment for seniors.
- **Extension** was awarded the NCACC North Central District's County Government Partnership Award, acknowledging the importance of Chatham County Government in Extension programming provided to Chatham residents.
- **Central Permitting** began CityView migration to WorkSpace, a major software upgrade involving multiple departments. Targeted deployment is latter half of FY 2019.

- Soil and Water assisted the town of Siler City and the Resource Conservation Council with an urban conservation grant implementation at Boling Lane Park.
- Health Department completed the 2018 Chatham County Community Assessment, an innovative partnership with the Chatham Health Alliance and numerous county agencies and organizations.
- Health Department Animal Services provided more marketing that promoted/increased spay/neuter awareness and participation in low cost spay/neuter plan provided by the County. Held 2 offsite adoption events to increase adoptions and citizen education. Held 2 off-site and 2 on-site low cost rabies clinics.
- Facilities and Construction Management selected a vendor for the new Animal Shelter and worked with the vendor to identify the most cost-effective solutions for construction of the facility.

Human Resources

- Launched job shadowing program with Chatham County Schools.
- Launched Chatham Local Government Job Application Sharing Network.
- Development of Tier 3-to-I outreach program to pair a Tier 3 county (Chatham) with two Tier I counties (Martin, Bertie) to share resources and establish a leadership academy.
- Implemented unique Tobacco Free Petty Leave Incentive Policy.
- Continued strong presence in statewide safety award program: 6 gold and 5 silver awards, including 5 fifthconsecutive year awards.

- **DSS** administered a Disaster Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (DSNAP) after Hurricane Florence resulting in over 1700 applications taken and \$641,000 in benefits issued.
- Watershed Protection participated in monthly meetings with Town of Pittsboro staff to facilitate project review efficiency, promote communication, and enable cooperation where possible.

Support Pre-K through 12 and the community college in providing a quality education for all students

- Cooperative Extension partnered with Chatham County Schools (Virginia Cross Elementary) to provide SNAP-Ed instruction to 2nd grade classrooms discussing the importance of nutrition, physical activity, and overall wellness.
- Cooperative Extension implemented hands-on 4-H school enrichment programs in 56 local Chatham County classrooms to address students' lagging performance in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (S.T.E.M.).
- Health Department worked with the School Health and Wellness position that was created in FY18 to implement new goals that foster healthy school communities.

- County Manager completed an MOU between the County and the Community College for the Chatham County Promise program that guarantees up to two (2) years of free in-state tuition for all eligible Chatham County residents who graduate from a public high school in Chatham County in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.
- Chatham County Board of Commissioners were selected as the NC School Board Association County Commissioners of the Year.
- Chatham Community Library Youth services expanded services with Saturday activities to reach children who are unable to attend story time at CCL on weekdays. The "Baby Lap Sit" program encourages new parents to start reading to their children as early as possible. Introductory computer coding classes were scheduled for older kids. An Exceptional Stories program was introduced at Wren as an inclusive program for all ages and abilities.