

Mecklenburg County Government

THE COUNTY

- ★ County = major unit of local government
- ★ Towns/cities are located *within* a county
- ★ County seat = administrative center
- ★ There are 100 counties in N.C.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Land Area (square miles):

Mecklenburg County	530
Charlotte	287

Population

Mecklenburg County	1 million
Charlotte	800,000
Metropolitan Area	2.3 Million

25% of Mecklenburg residents are under 18 years old

COUNTY COMMISSION

★ Governing body of Mecklenburg County

- Adopts and sets the annual County budget
- Sets the County property tax rate
- Sets county government priorities and policies

★ Elected for 2-year terms

- 3 At-Large members elected by countywide vote and 6 District members elected by voters in districts

★ Hires the county manager

- Non-elected professional who oversees the daily operations of the county

2015-17 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



**At-Large
Pat Cotham.**



**Chair, At-Large
Trevor Fuller**



**At-Large
Ella Scarborough**



**District 1
Jim Puckett**



**District 2
Vilma Leake**



**District 3
George Dunlap**



**Vice Chair
District 4
Dumont Clarke**



**District 5
Matthew Ridenhour**



**District 6
Bill James**



COUNTY MANAGER

- ★ The Board of County Commissioners sets policy for the County.
- ★ The County Manager executes policy decisions set by the County Commissioners and leads the County organization by overseeing the administration of County departments.
- ★ The County Manager advises the Board on operational and financial matters, services and other issues, and submits an annual operating and capital budget for the Board's consideration.

COUNTY SERVICES

★ **Community health and safety**

- Health, social services, courts, jails

★ **Education and economic development**

- CMS and CPCC funding, job training, libraries

★ **Growth and environment**

- Parks, greenways, historic preservation

★ **County government operations**

- Property, county taxes, budgeting, elections, communications to citizens and businesses

COUNTY BUDGET

FY 2016 Budget = \$1,571,842,776

★ Sources of funds (“Revenue”)

- Other governments, taxes, fees, other funds
 - Property tax: 81.57 cents for \$100 of property
 - Raise tax 1 penny = Adds approx \$10 million

★ Where funds go (“Expenditures”)

- 38% CMS Operating, Debt Service, Construction
- 16% Health and Safety
- 14% County Operations, 9% Debt Service, PayGo
- 10% Social, Education, Economic (Libraries, Jobs, Social Services, Other Education services)
- 10% Sustainable Community (Growth, Parks, Environment)
- 3% CPCC Operating and Debt Service

*Source: Mecklenburg County
FY13-14 Tax Brochure*

BUDGET PRIORITIES

★ Different kinds of services in the budget

- Mandated
 - Defined by law (NC or federal law, or interest payments)
 - Means this service must be provided and at a specific level
- Discretionary
 - Service does not *have* to be provided, but is done so as a service to the community
- Some are both mandated and discretionary
 - Service must be provided; level can fluctuate

★ Examples

- Mandatory: build and maintain schools and jails
- Discretionary: build and operate libraries and parks

GET INVOLVED

- ★ Website: www.mecklenburgcountync.gov
- ★ Social media: county news and leaders
 - Twitter: #meckbocc, Facebook, YouTube, etc.
- ★ Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council/GenerationNation
www.generationnation.org
- ★ County Commission Meetings
 - First and third Tuesday, 6PM at Government Center
 - Who can attend? Anyone! Want to sign up to speak?
<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/BOCC/RegisterToSpeak.htm>
 - Watch on GovTV (16) or online
<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/BOCC/Meetings/View.htm>



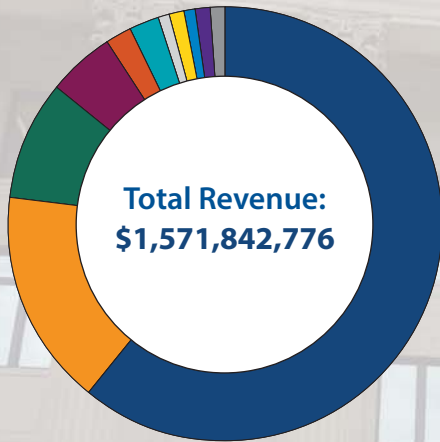
Mecklenburg County

www.MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

FY 2015-2016 Mecklenburg County Budget Summary

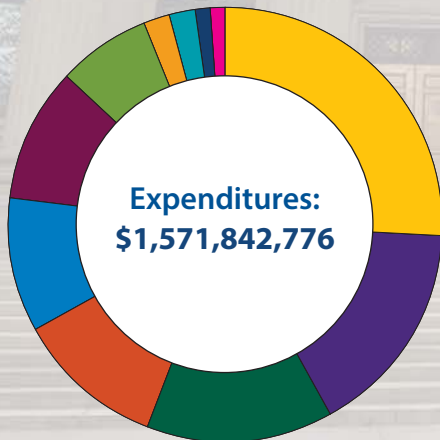
FY 2016 Mecklenburg County	Law Enforcement Service District	Fire Protection Service District
Tax Rate: \$0.8157 per \$100 of assessed value	Tax Rate: \$0.2114 per \$100 of assessed value	Tax Rate: Charlotte (MCH) - \$0.06 Cornelius (MCN) - \$0.05 Davidson (MDV) - \$0.06 Huntersville (MHT) - \$0.05 Mint Hill (MMH) - \$0.07

Where the Money Comes From:



- **61%** - Property Tax - \$963,251,078
- **16%** - Sales Tax - \$247,441,786
- **9%** - Federal & State - \$143,137,894
- **5%** - Fees & Charges - \$89,039,080
- **2%** - Fund Balance - \$40,134,652
- **2%** - Other Revenue - \$38,100,794
- **1%** - Licenses & Permits - \$23,939,837
- **1%** - Law Enforcement Service District Tax - \$14,838,995
- **1%** - Fire Service District Tax - \$4,363,660
- **1%** - Investment Income - \$4,015,000
- **1%** - Local ABC Profits - \$3,580,000

How the Money is Used:



- **26%** - CMS Operating - \$406,202,352
- **16%** - Community Health & Safety - \$255,100,721
- **14%** - Effective & Efficient Government - \$212,849,606
- **11%** - CMS Debt Service - \$170,468,438
- **10%** - Social Education & Economic - \$165,713,348
- **10%** - Sustainable Community - \$156,665,257
- **7%** - General Debt Service - \$117,908,523
- **2%** - CPCC Operating - \$35,429,083
- **2%** - Pay As You Go - \$35,110,860
- **1%** - CPCC Debt Service - \$11,434,588
- **1%** - CMS Capital Replacement - \$4,960,000