

GOAL #1

In partnership with the private sector, support a coordinated effort to create jobs and property tax base by investing in infrastructure, the development of the County's quality of place and educational opportunities.



How did we do?

Adopted the 2015 Unifour Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan to manage risks from hazards.

Continuously monitor County regulations to ensure they supported orderly growth and business development.



Utilities and Engineering received NACo Award for development of Remote Access Permitting Terminal (RAPT), providing real-time interaction between citizens and Permit Center Specialists.



In July 2014, Board approved Park 1764 rezoning request in partnership with City of Hickory to create jobs through a high-end, high-tech, Class A industrial park.



Board approved amendment to Conceptual Site Plan for Village at Sherrills Ford and new development agreement for 200 acres. Board accepted private offer to purchase 39 acres from County to further enhance proposed development.

Partner with private sector and municipalities to focus on framework to increase small and/or entrepreneurial businesses.



Board approved economic incentives for Blue Bloodhound, LP to bring 191 new jobs and investment in Moretz Mill redevelopment.



Partner with private and public sectors to implement Innovate Catawba.



Board adopted FY2014/15 budget with \$10,000 allocation for Innovate Catawba, supporting initiative to retain young people.



Board approved funding commitment of \$20,000 per year for five years to facilitate Lenoir Rhyne University development of Health Sciences Center. In partnership with Catawba Valley Medical Center, Frye Regional Medical Center, City of Hickory, and Catawba County Committee of 100, this will develop medical programming and centralize and support current and future healthcare opportunities.



GOAL #2

Increase citizens' awareness of County programs and services and promote healthy activities throughout the County by strengthening communications and outreach to citizens.

How did we do?



Board accepted Services and Technology Act Grant funds to: develop long-range strategic plan to prioritize library service; install and implement Radio Frequency Identification technology at Main and St. Stephens branches, host robotics camp for young adults to promote STEM careers.



The Public Health Farmers Market Program received NACo award for improving individual and community health by increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables.



"Catawba Communities" TV program was recognized by National Association of County Information Officers for being one of nation's best examples of a cost-effective information program.



Board approved updated Parks Master Plan which continues mission to preserve County's unique and diverse natural heritage through education and conservation while providing quality passive recreation and wellness opportunities. Board included funding in FY2015/16 budget to increase park hours and adopt six-day schedule.

GOAL #3

To ensure transportation connectivity of Catawba County to rest of region, continue to advocate for completion of widening of HWY 16.

How did we do?



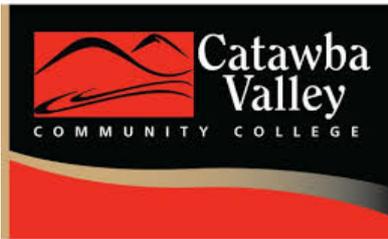
Right-of-way funds and utility relocation were included by Department of Transportation for both sections of HWY 16.

Board adopted 2015 Long Session Legislative Goals which included support of widening of HWY 16 and HWY 150, with beneficial economic impact measured in \$100s of millions, potentially creating hundreds of full-time and temporary construction jobs.

GOAL #4

Support three school systems and Catawba Valley Community College as they work to increase educational attainment level in Catawba County.

How did we do?



In March 2015, Board approved transfer of \$480,000 from capital project to current expense to mitigate State funding reversions for CVCC, which avoided elimination of 7 positions.

Board provided letter of commitment to College to fund \$890,000 to replace approx. 1.5 miles of severely deteriorated underground piping on campus.



Board approved transfer of funds from completed school project so Hickory Public Schools could provide \$35,000 local match for \$300,000 in federal E-rate funds to upgrade technology infrastructure.



In June 2015, Board adopted FY2015/16 budget and increased investment in public education to maintain statewide rank of 15th in total public schools current expense funding and advance from 18th to 15th in statewide community funding for CVCC.



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