

OTHER ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

This organization includes funding for outside agencies tied to economic development efforts, incentive payments to companies with economic development agreements and some general County expenses that aren't attributable to a specific department.

Budget Highlights

OTHER ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Organization: 420050

	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Current	2017/18 Requested	2017/18 Adopted	Percent Change
Revenues					
1/4 Cent Sales Tax	\$108,928	\$312,202	\$308,532	\$355,532	13.9%
Local	115,000	352,193	317,193	317,193	-9.9%
General Fund	5,338,767	5,519,882	6,068,567	6,063,736	9.9%
Total	\$5,562,695	\$6,184,277	\$6,694,292	\$6,736,461	8.9%
Expenses					
Chamber of Commerce - Edison Project	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.0%
Chamber of Commerce - Visitor Information Center	2,186	2,500	2,500	2,500	0.0%
Chamber of Commerce - Leadership Catawba Sponsor	0	0	1,000	1,000	0%
Convention & Visitors Bureau	20,000	20,000	47,000	20,000	0.0%
Economic Development Commission	286,527	295,925	303,165	307,266	3.8%
EDC Marketing	0	0	0	0	0%
EDC Claremont Speculative Building	0	36,000	0	45,000	25.0%
EDC NC Data Campus	52,000	551,612	551,615	551,615	0.0%
EDC Apple	4,820,403	4,723,596	4,738,940	4,759,008	0.7%
EDC - Axjo AB	0	8,338	14,231	14,231	70.7%
EDC Bed, Bath & Beyond	49,227	58,741	53,256	53,256	-9.3%
EDC - Blue Bloodhound	0	73,600	73,600	73,600	0.0%
EDC - Carolina Non-Woven	0	35,938	37,375	37,375	4.0%
EDC Dalco Non-Wovens	14,539	0	0	0	0%
EDC Fiserv	33,081	19,966	0	0	0%
EDC GKN Driveline	0	0	525,989	525,989	0%
EDC - GKN Sinter Metals	0	27,551	37,594	37,594	36.5%
EDC-GKN Sinter Metal Grant Adm	0	5,000	0	0	0%
EDC HSM	0	46,151	0	0	0%
EDC Miscellaneous	1,250	0	0	0	0%
EDC Park 1764	35,539	0	0	0	0%
EDC People's Bank	0	0	10,093	10,093	0%
EDC Punker	0	14,259	18,224	18,224	27.8%
EDC Sarstedt	30,620	37,985	0	0	0%
EDC Substance Incorporated	0	0	7,887	7,887	0%
EDC Transportation Insight	0	0	28,408	28,408	0%
EDC Turbocoating	52,163	52,163	0	0	0%
EDC Turbotec	14,044	0	0	0	0%
PDC LRU Health Sciences Center	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	0.0%
Economic Development Marketing	0	35,000	55,000	55,000	100.0%
Innovate Catawba	10,000	0	0	0	0%
NC Wildlife Commission - Beaver Mgmt.	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	0.0%
TDA - City of Hickory	67,072	65,784	64,497	64,497	-2.0%
WPCOG - Dues	42,044	42,168	42,176	42,176	0.0%
WPCOG - Growth Estimation Model	0	0	40,000	40,000	0%
WPCOG - Water Resource Committee	3,000	3,000	12,742	12,742	324.7%
Total	\$5,562,695	\$6,184,277	\$6,694,292	\$6,736,461	8.9%

Economic Development Commission (EDC) (\$11,341 increase): Catawba County continues to provide the EDC with 51.5 percent of its overall funding, with the remaining 48.5 percent coming from municipalities. Funding by cities is based on population, total tax valuation, and business personal property valuation. The County's portion of EDC's Fiscal Year 2017/18 budget is \$307,266, which is a \$11,341 or 3.8 percent increase over the current year.

Incentives (\$462,377 increase): Incentive payments increased by \$462,377 driven primarily by investments in GKN Driveline. These contracts are negotiated to encourage business investment to grow the tax base and create new jobs and result in net revenue above the cost of the incentives that helps support County services.

Claremont Spec Building \$45,000 (\$9,000 increase): The budget includes \$45,000 (a \$9,000 increase) for the second Claremont Spec Building payment as approved by the Board of Commissioners at the April 3, 2017 meeting.

Chamber of Commerce (\$5,000 for Edison Project, \$2,500 for Visitor Information Center, and \$1,000 for Leadership Catawba Sponsorship): The budget maintains current funding for the Edison Project at \$5,000. This program is designed to identify, support, and reward new startup small businesses in Catawba County. Entrepreneurs with viable business ideas and associated plans submit them for consideration and review by judges, competing with other entrepreneurs for economic incentives and start-up assistance. Funding for the Visitor Information Center at \$2,500 is also maintained. Additionally, \$1,000 is included for continued Leadership Catawba Sponsorship. Previously this was paid from another line item rather than being separately identified in the budget.

LRU Health Science Center (maintained): Per the agreement approved in December 2013 to fund \$20,000 per year for 5 years, the budget includes funding for the third of five annual payments to facilitate the development of Lenoir-Rhyne University's (LRU) Health Sciences Center. This project is in partnership with Catawba Valley Medical Center, Frye Regional Medical Center, the City of Hickory, and Catawba County EDC Committee of 100. The Center, which began offering classes in January 2016, is open to 48 new students and 5 to 6 full-time faculty and staff and houses a new Physician's Assistant program. The initiative involves LRU establishing clinical training centers and requires the University to develop certain medical programming and undergo rigorous analysis in consideration of further medical programming, including a potential medical school.

EDC NC Data Campus (maintained): The budget continues to include debt service (\$551,615) for the NC Data Campus, a 70-acre multi-jurisdictional business park partnership between Catawba County, the Cities of Conover and Hickory, and the Towns of Maiden and Catawba. (Funds to support this expense include \$314,419 from current and previously reserved ¼ cent sales tax, with the balance reimbursed by the municipal partners). The park bolsters Catawba County's economic development efforts by providing up to three shovel-ready sites marketed primarily for data center recruitment. These efforts also further bolster the region's efforts to create a cluster of data centers known as the NC Data Center Corridor, leveraging the presence of existing data centers like Apple and Google to transform the region's reputation into one that embraces innovation and high tech industry.

NC Wildlife Commission Beaver Management (maintained): Funding for the Beaver Management program is maintained at \$4,000. The program helps landowners in dealing with beavers, which can be very destructive. The last available statewide report indicates that in total \$5.28 is saved for every \$1 spent on the program. Services are available to DOT in all 100 counties and are available to landowners, local governments, soil and water conservation districts, and others in the 42 counties that pay at least the base level participation fee of \$4,000. Participation in the program means citizens and others pay a cost share of \$20 for each visit to their property and \$125 for dam removal.