

## **AGENDA**

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting  
Monday, June 2, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Catawba County Justice Center  
100 Government Drive, Newton, NC

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Invocation.
4. [Approval of the Minutes from the Board's Regular Meeting of May 19, 2025, and Special Meetings on May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.](#)
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
6. Public Comments.
7. [Appointments.](#)
8. Presentations.
  - a. [Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Ordinance Adoption. \*Presented by County Manager Mary Furtado.\*](#)
  - b. [Opioid Settlement Funds Expenditure Resolution.](#)
9. Public Hearings.  
[Final Assessment Resolution: Special Assessment for Mountain Creek Ridge Subdivision Road Improvements. \*Presented by Director of Utilities and Engineering Peter Shonka.\*](#)
10. Other Items of Business.
11. Manager's Report.  
Budget Transfer
12. Attorney's Report.
13. Adjournment.

**PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, or disability.

**CALENDAR:** The next Board of Commissioners Meeting will take place on Monday, June 16, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room of the Catawba County Justice Center.

## APPOINTMENTS

AUSTIN (Due)

Public Health Board

6/30/25

Ginger Powers (Bill Pitts-Pharmacist Position)

Eligible for a 1<sup>st</sup> Term

3-year terms

Vice-Chair Allran recommends the appointment of Ginger Powers to the Public Health Board with a term beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and ending June 30, 2028.

RANDY (Due)

Catawba County Planning Board

12/31/22

Danny Long (Vacant Alternate - unexpired term)

Eligible for a 1<sup>st</sup> Term

12/31/22

Vacant Alternate (unexpired term)

4-year terms

Chair Isenhower recommends the appointment of Danny Long, to fill an unexpired term as an Alternate to the Catawba County Planning Board, with a term expiration of December 31, 2026.

# Board of Commissioners Changes to the Manager's Recommended Budget

June 2, 2025

## To the Catawba County Board of Commissioners and Citizens:

I am pleased to present to you the proposed budget for adoption. On May 12, 2025, I presented my recommended budget. Budget hearings were held on May 21, 2025, with a public hearing and wrap-up session occurring on May 22, 2025. During deliberations the Board made changes to the budget as follows:

- Newton Rural Fire District's tax rate was set at \$0.1110 (versus increasing to the recommended tax rate of \$0.1210), reducing the total budget by \$94,861.
- Funding for Newton-Conover High School Phase II was reduced from \$16 million to \$12 million, reducing the total budget by \$4 million.
- Funding for Chromebook Replacements was eliminated, reducing the General Fund budget by \$1.1 million and the total budget by \$2.2 million due to a transfer to the Schools' Capital Projects Fund where the funds would have been spent.

In addition to the above changes, after the public hearing staff received notification that the total funding approved by the NC 911 Board for Fiscal Year 2025/26 was \$81,557 more than originally anticipated. This revenue is added to the budget and fund balance appropriated in the 911 Fund is reduced accordingly.

After incorporation of the above changes, the final General Fund budget is \$256,190,703, and the total budget is \$338,705,936.

Sincerely,



**Mary Furtado**  
County Manager

# BUDGET ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Catawba County:

## SECTION I

### Budget Adoption, 2025/26

The following budget with anticipated fund revenues of \$338,705,936 and departmental expenditures of \$338,705,936 is hereby adopted in accordance with Chapter 159 of the North Carolina General Statutes by the County of Catawba for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and the same is adopted by fund and function as follows:

GENERAL FUND & GENERAL FUND LIKE FUNDS				
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	General	Self-Insurance	Reappraisal	ROD Auto. & Preserv.
Property Tax	\$126,384,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sales Tax	46,356,000	0	0	0
Other Taxes	2,582,500	0	0	0
Federal	18,844,688	0	0	0
State	8,371,538	0	0	0
Federal & State	6,294,128	0	0	0
Local	5,697,997	410,000	0	0
Permits & Fees	17,179,777	15,000	0	0
Miscellaneous	4,049,337	0	0	90,000
Fund Balance	7,977,361	687,050	55,000	0
Transfers from Other Funds	1,097,980	2,541,300	1,009,062	0
Other Sources	11,355,397	3,103,000	0	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$256,190,703</b>	<b>\$6,756,350</b>	<b>\$1,064,062</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	General	Self-Insurance	Reappraisal	ROD Auto. & Preserv.
General Government	\$12,230,005	\$6,756,350	\$1,064,062	\$90,000
Public Safety	59,197,142	0	0	0
Environmental Quality	988,684	0	0	0
Economic & Physical Development	26,306,811	0	0	0
Human Services	62,460,516	0	0	0
Education	53,321,026	0	0	0
Libraries & Culture	4,650,514	0	0	0
Debt Service	26,769,026	0	0	0
Transfers to Other Funds	10,266,979	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$256,190,703</b>	<b>\$6,756,350</b>	<b>\$1,064,062</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
GENERAL FUND & GENERAL FUND LIKE FUNDS				

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Emergency Telephone	State Unauth. SA	Federally Seized Justice	Opioid Settlement
State	\$292,488	\$0	\$0	\$777,980
Fund Balance	148,918	15,000	200,000	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$441,406</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$777,980</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Emergency Telephone	State Unauth. SA	Federally Seized Justice	Opioid Settlement
Public Safety	\$441,406	\$15,000	\$200,000	\$777,980
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$441,406</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$777,980</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Hospital Reserve Fund	Library Endowment	Gretchen Peed Scholarship	Stream Rehab
Local	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	5,000	0	4,000	0
Transfers from Other Funds	0	0	0	75,000
Fund Balance	495,000	0	0	80,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Hospital Reserve Fund	Library Endowment	Gretchen Peed Scholarship	Stream Rehab
Human Services	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$0
Libraries & Culture	0	3,000	0	0
Environmental Quality	0	0	0	155,000
Transfers to Other Funds	500,000	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	DSS Repr. Payee	Register of Deeds Fund	Fines & Forfeitures	
Federal & State	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	
Permits & Fees	0	150,000	0	
Other Sources	0	0	534,744	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$534,744</b>	
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	DSS Repr. Payee	Register of Deeds Fund	Fines & Forfeitures	
General Government	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	
Human Services	400,000	\$0	\$0	
Education	0	0	534,744	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$534,744</b>	
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - FIRE SERVICE PROTECTION DISTRICTS				
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Bandys	Catawba	Claremont	Conover
Property Tax - Fire Tax	\$1,346,473	\$417,575	\$705,058	\$183,518
Fund Balance	110,000	0	0	194,041
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,456,473</b>	<b>\$417,575</b>	<b>\$705,058</b>	<b>\$377,559</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Bandys	Catawba	Claremont	Conover
Public Safety	\$1,456,473	\$417,575	\$705,058	\$377,559
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,456,473</b>	<b>\$417,575</b>	<b>\$705,058</b>	<b>\$377,559</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Cooksville	Hickory	Longview	Maiden
Property Tax - Fire Tax	\$208,814	\$877,619	\$68,230	\$558,940
Fund Balance	0	43,043	0	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$208,814</b>	<b>\$920,662</b>	<b>\$68,230</b>	<b>\$558,940</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Cooksville	Hickory	Longview	Maiden
Public Safety	\$208,814	\$920,662	\$68,230	\$558,940
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$208,814</b>	<b>\$920,662</b>	<b>\$68,230</b>	<b>\$558,940</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Mt. View	Newton	Oxford	Propst
Property Tax - Fire Tax	\$1,108,290	\$1,056,051	\$528,003	\$405,057
Fund Balance	31,957	0	0	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,140,247</b>	<b>\$1,056,051</b>	<b>\$528,003</b>	<b>\$405,057</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Mt. View	Newton	Oxford	Propst
Public Safety	\$1,140,247	\$1,056,051	\$528,003	\$405,057
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,140,247</b>	<b>\$1,056,051</b>	<b>\$528,003</b>	<b>\$405,057</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	Sherrills Ford	St. Stephens		
Property Tax - Fire Tax	\$4,966,632	\$1,960,413		
Fund Balance	191,600	140,450		
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$5,158,232</b>	<b>\$2,100,863</b>		
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	Sherrills Ford	St. Stephens		
Public Safety	\$5,158,232	\$2,100,863		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$5,158,232</b>	<b>\$2,100,863</b>		
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - FIRE SERVICE PROTECTION DISTRICTS				

CAPITAL FUNDS				
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	General Capital	Road Improvement	Schools' Capital	Schools' Construction
Sales Tax	\$575,000	\$0	\$9,280,000	\$0
State	\$0	\$0	\$581,138	\$0
Local	0	0	0	0
Permits & Fees	0	384,347	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	73,674	0	0
Fund Balance	250,000	59,864	1,317,474	0
Transfers Between Funds	2,835,000	0	0	3,806,617
Other Sources	0	0	0	12,000,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,660,000</b>	<b>\$517,885</b>	<b>\$11,178,612</b>	<b>\$15,806,617</b>
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	General Capital	Road Improvement	Schools' Capital	Schools' Construction
General Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety	\$715,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Economic & Physical Development	\$2,475,000	\$517,885	\$0	\$0
Human Services	\$320,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Education	\$0	\$0	\$11,178,612	\$15,806,617
Libraries & Culture	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,660,000</b>	<b>\$517,885</b>	<b>\$11,178,612</b>	<b>\$15,806,617</b>
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	SECC Capital	Water & Sewer Capital	Solid Waste Capital	
Transfers Between Funds	0	4,964,000	2,742,000	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,964,000</b>	<b>\$2,742,000</b>	
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	SECC Capital	Water & Sewer Capital	Solid Waste Capital	
Economic & Physical Development	\$0	\$4,964,000	\$2,742,000	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,964,000</b>	<b>\$2,742,000</b>	
CAPITAL FUNDS				
ENTERPRISE FUNDS				
REVENUES BY TYPE				
Revenue Type	SECC Operating	Water & Sewer Operating	Solid Waste Management	
Sales Tax	\$0	\$1,389,000	\$0	
Other Taxes	0	0	475,000	
State	0	0	35,700	
Local	0	0	3,000	
Permits & Fees	0	4,500,000	9,904,315	
Miscellaneous	0	0	136,111	
Fund Balance	0	882,864	126,823	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,771,864</b>	<b>\$10,680,949</b>	
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION				
Function	SECC Operating	Water & Sewer Operating	Solid Waste Management	
Economic & Physical Development	\$0	\$6,771,864	\$10,680,949	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,771,864</b>	<b>\$10,680,949</b>	
ENTERPRISE FUNDS				

Appropriations within each fund and function are under the purview of specific departments or the County Manager. The following procedures, controls, and authorities shall apply to transfers and adjustments within the budget except for the budgets of the Reinventing Departments as shown in Section II.

- A. **Transfers Between Departments and Funds:** Transfers of appropriations between departments in a fund, between funds, and from contingency shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners or may be approved by the County Manager in conformance with all of the following guidelines:
  - 1. The County Manager finds they are consistent with operational needs and any Board-approved goals.
  - 2. Transfers between departments and funds do not exceed \$50,000 each.
  - 3. Transfers from Contingency appropriations do not exceed \$50,000 each unless the County Manager finds an emergency exists.
  - 4. All transfers between departments in a fund, between funds, and from contingency are reported to the Board of Commissioners by its next regular meeting following the date of the transfer (with the exception of performance awards and reclassification/pay inequity funds, which the County Manager has the authority to transfer).
- B. **Transfers within Departments and Activities:** Department Heads may transfer line item appropriations between and within activities within the departments under their jurisdiction with the approval of the Budget and Management Director.
- C. **Transfers of Appropriations from Contingency or Departments for Real Estate Transactions:** Transfers of appropriations from Contingency or departments may be made by the County Manager in order to secure options, pay deposits, or pay other necessary expenses related to real estate transactions approved by the Board of Commissioners.
- D. **Transfers of Capital Projects Appropriations:** Transfers of appropriations up to \$50,000 between projects within a capital project fund may be approved by the County Manager. All transfers between projects are reported to the Board of Commissioners by its next regular meeting following the date of the transfer.
- E. **Transfers of Appropriations from Special Departmental Expense and Revenue Contingencies:** Transfers of appropriations may be made by the Budget and Management Director from special departmental expense and revenue contingency accounts that have been set aside to accommodate mid-year adjustments for allocations from outside agencies. The budget for such special departmental contingency expenditures will not be used until revenues are received and the related funds are transferred out of the contingency accounts to an appropriate line item.

## **SECTION II**

### **Amendment to Procedures, Controls, and Authorities for Reinventing Departments**

The following procedures, controls, and authorities shall apply to transfers, personnel, and adjustments within the budget for the Reinventing Departments, as determined by the County Manager:



- A. The Board of Commissioners will appropriate funds for the Reinventing Departments based on approved outcomes to be achieved during the fiscal year.
- B. Department Heads are hereby authorized to transfer appropriations between activities or from special department contingencies under their jurisdiction with the approval of the Budget and Management Director. Requests for transfers from the General Fund contingency must be approved by the County Manager. The budget for such special departmental contingency expenditures will not be used until revenues are received and the related funds are transferred out of the contingency accounts to an appropriate line item. Department Heads within the Reinventing Departments are hereby authorized to reallocate existing positions between activities under their jurisdiction.
- C. Departments will be allowed to retain all unexpended allocations and/or revenues as defined by the County Manager.
- D. Reinventing Departments may create or abolish positions which impact the outcomes approved by the Board of Commissioners and within available revenues upon summary approval of the Board of Commissioners. Approval will come at the next regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting and will be attached and approved as part of the minutes.

## SECTION III

### Tax Levy Rate

A tax rate of \$0.3985 per \$100 of assessed valuation is hereby levied for Fiscal Year 2025/26, all of which is levied in the General Fund. No discounts will be allowed for early payment of taxes.

The following rates are levied for fire protection service districts:

Fire Protection Service District	Levied Tax Rate Per \$100 Valuation
Bandys Fire	\$0.1000
Catawba Rural Fire	\$0.1170
Claremont Rural Fire	\$0.1300
Conover Rural Fire	\$0.1000
Cooksville Fire	\$0.0710
Hickory Rural Fire	\$0.1250
Longview Rural Fire	\$0.1000
Maiden Rural Fire	\$0.0883
Mt. View Fire	\$0.0855
Newton Rural Fire	\$0.1110
Oxford Fire	\$0.0610
Propst Fire	\$0.0620
Sherrills Ford Fire	\$0.0990
St. Stephens Fire	\$0.1240

## **SECTION IV**

### **Hospital Fund**

The Catawba Valley Medical Center Board of Trustees is hereby required to submit a monthly copy of its financial statements to the County Chief Financial Officer that will include a budget to actual comparison of all expenses and revenues. The Hospital maintains a balance with the County, in the Hospital Reserve Fund. This Fund is intended to be used to finance and construct major Hospital capital projects, if needed, and the school nurse program at Public Health. Catawba Valley Medical Center is a public non-profit hospital and an entity or component unit of Catawba County Government. The County owns the assets but the Hospital is not a line department of the County and therefore is not included in the County budget. The Hospital is authorized to operate as an enterprise fund.

## **SECTION V**

### **Schools' Current Expense**

The allocation of general revenues for the schools' current expense per school system is \$2,146 per pupil based on the average daily membership of K-12, \$66 per pupil of which is budgeted in support of schools cooperating on the following inter-school system programs--Catawba County Bus Garage, HCAM Core Academy, Conover School for Exceptional Children, therapeutic day treatment, and Community Schools.

In accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act, each Board of Education is required to submit to the Board of Commissioners, as soon as adopted, a copy of the School Board's budget resolution. The school finance officer will submit a quarterly statement of the financial condition of the Administrative unit to the Board of Commissioners.

## **SECTION VI**

### **Southeastern Catawba County (SECC) Water and Sewer District**

The SECC Water and Sewer District was established by the Board of Commissioners in accordance with Chapter 162A of the North Carolina General Statutes effective May 9, 2021. The district is a separate legal entity that operates as an enterprise fund, with a separate governing body comprised of the Board of Commissioners. As such, the district is accounted for as a blended component of the County with district revenue and expenditures reflected in the County budget.

## **SECTION VII**

### **Capital Projects, Grants, and Economic Development Incentive Contracts**

Project Managers will be designated on a project-by-project basis for all County construction projects and the procedures set forth in Chapter 8 of the Catawba County Code of Ordinances shall be used to coordinate the efforts of all parties involved in a project. Any changes in the cost estimate, as a result of bids or otherwise, shall be reported by the Project Manager, along with

his or her recommendation of approval to the Board of Commissioners. When compiled and approved by user agencies, all projects must conform to the Catawba County Design and Construction Specifications.

In accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act each school system will submit to the County Budget and Management Director detailed project sheets for each capital project included in this budget.

The General Capital Projects Fund, the Hospital Construction Fund, the Water and Sewer Fund, SECC Water and Sewer District Fund, the School Capital Outlay Fund, the School Bond Capital Projects Fund, the Schools' Construction Fund, the Fire Districts Funds, and the Community Development Fund are hereby authorized. Appropriations made for the specific projects or grants in these funds are hereby appropriated until the project is completed. Balances remaining as of June 30, 2025, in previously appropriated water and sewer capital projects located within the SECC Water and Sewer District Service Area are hereby authorized to be transferred to the district fund.

Any grant, capital project budget, or economic development incentive contract previously appropriated in any fund, the balance of any anticipated, but not received, revenues and any unexpended appropriations remaining on June 30, 2025, shall be reauthorized in the Fiscal Year 2025/26 budget unless a specific new budget has been prepared.

## **SECTION VIII**

### **Emergency Approvals, Schools**

Emergency transfers to and from the School Capital Outlay Fund shall be in accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

## **SECTION IX**

### **Annual Financial Reports**

All agencies receiving County funding are required to submit an audit report by December 31, 2025. Approved payments may be delayed pending receipt of this financial information.

## **SECTION X**

### **Fees and Licenses**

Charges for fees and licenses by Catawba County Departments or Agencies shall be in accordance with the fee policy. Fee changes to be adopted by the Board of Commissioners are set forth in the [Fee Updates section of the Executive Summary](#) and the entire fee schedule is included in the [Appendix](#).

## SECTION XI

### Per Diem Pay

The Board of Commissioners and members of County boards are authorized to receive per diem pay as reflected in the table below. Annually, the Board of Commissioners' per diem pay rate will increase at a level consistent with changes in the Consumer Price Index, provided the budget includes a performance pay increase for employees meeting performance expectations as determined by annual evaluations.

Per Diem Pay	
Board	Pay
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board	Chair, \$75 per meeting; Members, \$50 per meeting
Board of Adjustment	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Board of Commissioners	Chair, \$1,522 per month; Members, \$1,277 per month; In-County Travel Allowance, \$350 per month
Board of Elections	Chair, \$75 per meeting; Members, \$50 per meeting; \$100 for Election Day
Equalization & Review Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Jury Commission	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Library Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Planning Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Public Health Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Social Services Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Subdivision Review Board	Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting

## SECTION XII

### Personnel

- A. Salaries – Salaries for Fiscal Year 2025/26 are based on the Fiscal Year 2025/26 pay plan for Catawba County that is adopted as a part of this budget and is effective July 1, 2025. The budget includes a 3 percent pay plan adjustment for all employees and additional adjustments for targeted positions based on market. Funds are included for a 2.5 percent performance pay increase for employees who satisfy performance expectations as reflected in employees' annual performance evaluations and an additional \$500 added to base for top performers as identified by employees' department heads.
- B. Performance Awards – Funds are allocated in the budget to provide one-time lump sum performance awards to recognize exceptional performance at the discretion of the County Manager.
- C. Reclassifications/Pay Inequities – Funds are allocated in the budget to maintain equity between similar positions within the organization and to ensure market competitiveness within the County's recruiting area.
- D. Travel Allowance – The travel allowance rate will be according to the IRS reimbursement rate.
- E. Special Payment – Positions that require specialized skills may be compensated by a special payment. This payment will only occur while the employee is serving in that

capacity. This special payment is not considered a part of the annual base pay for classification. The amount of special payment is to be approved by the County Manager upon a recommendation by the Human Resources Director.

## **SECTION XIII**

### **Budget Policy for State and Federal Fund Decreases**

It will be the policy of this Board that it will not absorb any reduction in State and Federal funds; that any decrease shall be absorbed in the budget of the agency by reducing personnel or department expenditures to stay within the County appropriation as authorized.

This policy is extended to any agency that is funded by the County and receives State or Federal money. This shall remain in effect until otherwise changed or amended by the Board of Commissioners. The County Manager is hereby directed to indicate this to each of the agencies that may be involved.

## **SECTION XIV**

### **Reappraisal Fund**

In accordance with the provisions of G.S. 153A-150, an appropriation of \$1,009,062 will be made from the General Fund to the Reappraisal Fund for the purpose of providing funds for the next reappraisal.

## **SECTION XV**

### **Opioid Settlement Fund**

Catawba County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids. Catawba County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA and in alignment with section E.6 of the NC MOA, the Fiscal Year 2025/26 budget appropriates \$777,980 in Opioid Settlement funds as follows:

- A. \$163,936 to employ an Opioid / Substance Use Disorder Program Coordinator Position and provide related operating expenses to explore /oversee / implement the County's collaborative strategic planning efforts related to Opioid / Substance Use Disorder, and criminal justice diversion programs (part of duties will be to work with Drug Court and Veterans Court).
- B. \$180,000 to provide medically assisted treatment for this purpose and associated therapy for inmates in the Catawba County Detention Center.
- C. \$434,044 to fund PORT, a post-overdose response team (PORT) follow-up program that allows Community Paramedics to visit a person who experienced an overdose within 24-72 hours of the incident. PORTs provide support, education, and access to evidence-based treatment such as medication for opioid use disorder and other life-saving resources.

## **SECTION XVI**

### **Fiscal Control Act**

The Budget and Management Director and the Chief Financial Officer are hereby directed to make any changes in the budget or fiscal practices that are required by the Local Government and Fiscal Control Act. This shall extend to permitted consolidations of funds and "Single Tax Levies" permitted in the Fiscal Control Act.

- A. As provided by G.S. 159-25 (b), the Board has authorized dual signatures for each check or draft that is made on County funds. The signatures of the County Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant County Manager, and Assistant Chief Financial Officer shall be authorized signatures of the County.
- B. Operating funds encumbered on the financial records of the County as of June 30, 2025, are hereby re-appropriated to this budget.
- C. The Board authorizes the appropriation of all Fund Balances earned by the Reinventing Departments as determined by the County Manager and as a result of the County's annual audit of June 30, 2025.
- D. The Board authorizes the appropriation of all remaining balances of approved economic development incentive contracts as determined by the County Manager and as a result of the County's annual audit of June 30, 2025.
- E. The Board also authorizes (as is the practice) one principal account as depository for all funds received by the Chief Financial Officer from any source. Current accounting techniques shall be used to assure that all funds will be properly accounted for in the financial records of the County.

## **SECTION XVII**

### **Authorization to Contract**

The County Manager or her designee is hereby authorized to execute agreements, within funds included in the Budget Ordinance or other actions by the Board of Commissioners, for the following purposes: 1) Form grant agreements to public and non-profit organizations; 2) Leases of routine business equipment; 3) Consultant, professional, or maintenance service agreements; 4) Purchase of supplies, materials, or equipment where formal bids are not required by law; 5) Applications for and agreements for acceptance of grant funds from Federal, State, public, and non-profit organization sources, and other funds from other government units, for services to be rendered which have been previously approved by the Board; 6) Construction or repair projects; 7) Liability, health, life, disability, casualty, property, or other insurance or performance bonds other than similar items required by the Sheriff or Register of Deeds; and 8) Other administrative contracts which include agreements adopted in accordance with the directives of the Board of Commissioners.

## **SECTION XVIII**

### **Authorization to Award and Reject Bids**

Pursuant to General Statute 143-129, the County Manager is hereby authorized to award formal bids received in amounts less than \$250,000 within the following guidelines: 1) bid is awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; 2) sufficient funding is available within the departmental budget; and 3) purchase is consistent with the goals and/or outcomes of the department. The County Manager shall further be authorized to reject any and/or all bids received if it is in the best interest of Catawba County. A report shall be made to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners of all bids awarded or rejected under this section and entered in the minutes of its formal sessions.

## **SECTION XXIV**

### **Micro-purchase Threshold**

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.320(a)(1)(iv) and the applicable provisions of North Carolina law, the County hereby self-certifies the following micro-purchase thresholds, each of which is a “higher threshold consistent with State law” under 2 C.F.R. § 200.320(a)(1)(iv)(C):

- A. \$30,000, for the purchase of “apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment”; and
- B. \$30,000, for the purchase of “construction or repair work”; and
- C. \$50,000, for the purchase of services not subject to competitive bidding under North Carolina law; and
- D. \$50,000, for the purchase of services subject to the qualifications-based selection process in the Mini-Brooks Act; provided that such threshold shall apply to a contract only if the County has exercised an exemption to the Mini-Brooks Act, in writing, for a particular project pursuant to G.S. 143-64.32. If the exemption is not authorized, the micro-purchase threshold shall be \$0.

The self-certification made herein shall be effective as of the effective date of this ordinance and shall be applicable until June 30, 2026, but shall not be applicable to Federal financial assistance awards issued prior to November 12, 2020, including financial assistance awards issued prior to that date under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Support (CARES) Act of 2020 (Pub. L. 116-136).

In the event that the County receives funding from a federal grantor agency that adopts a threshold more restrictive than those contained herein, the County shall comply with the more restrictive threshold when expending such funds.

The County shall maintain documentation to be made available to a Federal awarding agency, any pass-through entity, and auditors in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.334.

The Catawba County Purchasing Manager and Clerk are hereby authorized, individually and collectively, to revise the County’s Purchasing Ordinance and Policy to reflect the increased micro-purchase thresholds specified herein, and to take all such actions, individually and collectively, to carry into effect the purpose and intent of the foregoing resolution.

This ordinance is adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2025.

C. Randall Isenhower, Chair

Mary S. Furtado, County Manager



**A RESOLUTION BY CATAWBA COUNTY  
TO DIRECT THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS** Catawba County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids, including settlements with drug distributors Cardinal, McKesson, and AmerisourceBergen, and the drug maker Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals; and

**WHEREAS** the allocation, use, and reporting of funds stemming from these national settlement agreements and certain bankruptcy resolutions ("Opioid Settlement Funds") are governed by the Memoranda of Agreement Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation ("MOA"); and

**WHEREAS** Catawba County has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required by section D of the MOA; and

**WHEREAS** section E.6 of the MOA states:

E.6. Process for drawing from special revenue funds.

- a. Budget item or resolution required. Opioid Settlement Funds can be used for a purpose when the Governing Body includes in its budget or passes a separate resolution authorizing the expenditure of a stated amount of Opioid Settlement Funds for that purpose or those purposes during a specified period of time.
- b. Budget item or resolution details. The budget or resolution should (i) indicate that it is an authorization for expenditure of opioid settlement funds; (ii) state the specific strategy or strategies the county or municipality intends to fund pursuant to Option A or Option B, using the item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to identify each funded strategy, and (iii) state the amount dedicated to each strategy for a stated period of time.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, in alignment with the NC MOA, the Catawba County Board of County Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of opioid settlement funds as follows:

1. First strategy authorized:
  - a. Name of strategy: Opioid / Substance Use Disorder Program Coordinator
  - b. Strategy is included in: Exhibit A
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A Item 1
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$415,689
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 8/7/2023 through End date 6/30/2026
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provides funding to employ an Opioid / Substance Use Disorder Program Coordinator Position and provide related operating expenses to explore /oversee / implement the County's collaborative strategic planning efforts related to Opioid / Substance Use Disorder, and criminal justice diversion programs (part of duties will be to work with Drug Court and Veterans Court).
  - g. Provider: Catawba County
  - h. Date(s) of BOC Action: 8/7/23; 6/3/24; 6/2/25
2. Second strategy authorized:
  - a. Name of strategy: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in Detention Centers
  - b. Strategy is included in: Exhibit A
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Item 11
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$200,000
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 7/1/2024 through End date 6/30/2026

- f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Provides medically assisted treatment for this purpose and associated therapy for inmates in the Catawba County Detention Center.
  - g. Provider: Catawba County Sheriff's Office and its contracted medical provider/s.
  - h. Date(s) of BOC Action: 6/3/24; 6/2/25
3. Third strategy authorized:
- a. Name of strategy: Community Paramedicine/PORT
  - b. Strategy is included in: Exhibit A
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Item 8
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$633,044
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 8/26/2024 through End date 6/30/2026
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: A post-overdose response team (PORT), is an overdose follow-up program that allows Community Paramedics to visit a person who experienced an overdose within 24-72 hours of the incident. PORTs provide support, education, and access to evidence-based treatment such as medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and other life-saving resources.
  - g. Provider: Catawba County Emergency Services / Emergency Medical Services
  - h. Date(s) of BOC Action: 8/26/24; 6/2/25
4. Fourth strategy authorized:
- a. Name of strategy: Newton-Conover City Schools (N-CCS) School Resilience Pilot
  - b. Strategy is included in: Exhibit A
  - c. Item letter and/or number in Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the MOA: Exhibit A, Item 6
  - d. Amount authorized for this strategy: \$80,000
  - e. Period of time during which expenditure may take place:  
Start date 8/26/2024 through End date 6/30/2025
  - f. Description of the program, project, or activity: Partner with N-CCS to continue building out School Resilience Framework. Structure as pilot program to potentially serve as model for other schools
    - i. Fund full-time School Psychologist (\$61,000); part-time Community Outreach Coordinator (\$19,000) at N-CCS as part of pilot team; roles are critical to defining and facilitating framework
    - ii. Moving forward, develop replicable, measurable model and implementation method that can be scaled to fit other school systems, based on readiness.
  - g. Provider: N-CCS
  - h. Date(s) of BOC Action: 8/26/24

The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated across the above named and authorized strategies is \$1,328,733.

This the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2025.

**[Seal]**

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C. Randall Isenhower, Chairman  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

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Dale R. Stiles, Clerk  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Catawba County Board of Commissioners  
**FROM:** Peter Shonka, P.E., Director of Utilities and Engineering  
**DATE:** June 2, 2025  
**IN RE:** Special Assessment and Public Hearing for Mountain Creek Ridge Subdivision Road Improvements

### REQUEST:

Staff requests the Board of Commissioners:

1. Conduct a public hearing to consider Mountain Creek Ridge Subdivision Road Improvement Project, and
2. Adopt the Final Assessment Resolution for the Project.

### BACKGROUND:

In 2020, in support of the Board of Commissioners' Strategic Plan, the Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution 2020-17, creating a petition-driven program to facilitate acceptance of private roads in the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) Secondary Road Maintenance Program by providing up-front funding to improve the roads to NCDOT Standards. As statutorily permitted, the cost of improvements may be assessed against the property owners and recouped over a 10-year period, through the special assessment process. To participate in the program, at least 75 percent of the homeowners to be assessed must voluntarily sign a petition supporting the project, and the owners who sign the petition must account for at least 75 percent of the road frontage to be improved through the assessment.

### ANALYSIS:

Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision is located off Little Mountain Road in unincorporated Catawba County. The property owners of that portion of Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision fronting Mountain Creek Drive, Creek Bend Court, Stonemill Path and Falls Ridge Trail filed with the Utilities & Engineering Department a petition for improving the streets. The portion of Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision included in the petition consists of forty-six lots. Property owners of 35 of the 46 lots, representing 76.1% of the affected owners, signed the petition. These property owners represent approximately 7,986.34 lineal feet of the 10,634.02 lineal feet (75.1%) of total frontage.

The streets are approximately 21 years old and are generally in poor condition for pavement of this age. To bring the roads up to North Carolina Department of Transportation standards, objects within the right-of-way will be removed; most sections of pavement will be milled 1.5 inches and overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Certain sections of pavement will be milled 2.0 inches; the gravel base will be reconditioned and after passing a proof roll test, will be overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Some sections of pavement will not be milled and will be overlaid with 1.0 inches of asphalt. The cost of the work is estimated to be \$282,000, or about \$6,130.00 per lot. The final cost and per lot assessment remains unknown until the project is bid and constructed.

The table below summarizes the statutory process for establishing private road assessments and, for the items that have been completed, provides the dates on which the Board of Commissioners took each required action. The table also outlines the remaining steps the Board will still need to take in order to implement the assessment (*noted in italics, with planned dates*).

<b>NCGS §</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
153A-205	4/1/2025	Citizens petition BOC with >75% of property owners & >75% of road frontage.
153A-190 & 153A-191	5/5/2025	BOC accepts Citizen Petition, makes funding decision and adopts Preliminary Resolution describing the Project, financing and setting time for Public Hearing.
153A-192	6/2/2025	BOC holds Public Hearing on Preliminary Assessment Resolution.
153A-192	6/2/2025	BOC adopts Final Resolution approving Project, setting financing terms.
143-131	TBD	<i>Project is bid in accordance with NC Procurement Procedures.</i>
143-131	TBD	<i>Bid awarded.</i>
153A-193 & 194	TBD	<i>BOC determines Project Total Cost, sets date and time for Public Hearing on the Preliminary Assessment Rolls.</i>
153A-195	TBD	<i>BOC holds Public Hearing on the Preliminary Assessment Rolls annuals, confirms Preliminary Assessment Rolls. If confirmed, Tax Administrator is authorized to collect assessment fees in same manner as property taxes.</i>

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative to adopting the Final Assessment Resolution is to take no action, and the roads will remain in their current state and maintenance responsibility status.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners:

1. Conduct a public hearing to consider Mountain Creek Ridge Subdivision Road Improvement Project, and
2. Adopt the Final Assessment Resolution for the Project.

#### **Attachments:**

Map of Mountain Creek Ridge

Final Assessment Resolution for Road Improvement Project for Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision

RESOLUTION No. 2025-

FINAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
FOR MOUNTAIN CREEK RIDGE SUBDIVISION  
JUNE 2, 2025

WHEREAS, on the 1st of April 2025, the property owners of that portion of Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision filed with the Catawba County Utilities and Engineering Department a petition for improving said street in the following manner:

Objects within the right-of-way will be removed; most sections of pavement will be milled 1.5 inches and overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Certain sections of pavement will be milled 2.0 inches; the gravel base will be reconditioned and after passing a proof roll test, will be overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Some sections of pavement will not be milled and will be overlaid with 1.0 inches of asphalt; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Utilities and Engineering for Catawba County has certified to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners that said petition is sufficient in all respects, the same having been duly signed by more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the owners, whose property represents more than seventy-five percent (75%) of all the lineal feet of frontage of the lands abutting upon the streets or portion of streets hereinabove described; and

WHEREAS, a Preliminary Assessment Resolution has been adopted by this the Catawba County Board of Commissioners and a public hearing thereon duly held.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Catawba County Board of Commissioners that:

1. That Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision be improved in the following manner:

Objects within the right-of-way will be removed; most sections of pavement will be milled 1.5 inches and overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Certain sections of pavement will be milled 2.0 inches; the gravel base will be reconditioned and after passing a proof roll test, will be overlaid with 1.5 inches of asphalt. Some sections of pavement will not be milled and will be overlaid with 1.0 inches of asphalt; and

under and by virtue of Chapter 153A Article 9 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and the procedure therein established for acceptance into the NCDOT State system for highway maintenance, and that said project is hereby directed to be undertaken.

2. That one hundred percent (100%) of the total cost of said improvement, be assessed upon the property receiving the improvements according to the assessment basis set out in the petition as approved by the Catawba County Board of Commissioners,

Mountain Creek Ridge subdivision lots fronting Mountain Creek Drive, Creek Bend Court, Stonemill Path and Falls Ridge Trail;

That the assessment shall be payable in cash or if any property owner shall so elect, such owner shall have the option of paying the assessment in ten (10) equal annual installments, said installments to bear interest at the rate of 1.5% percent per annum.

The County, and its officers, agents and attorneys are hereby directed to take any further actions as may be required by the laws of the State of North Carolina to perform the matters and things directed by this Resolution.

Adopted this 2nd day of June, 2025.

[Seal]

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C. Randall Isenhower, Chairman  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

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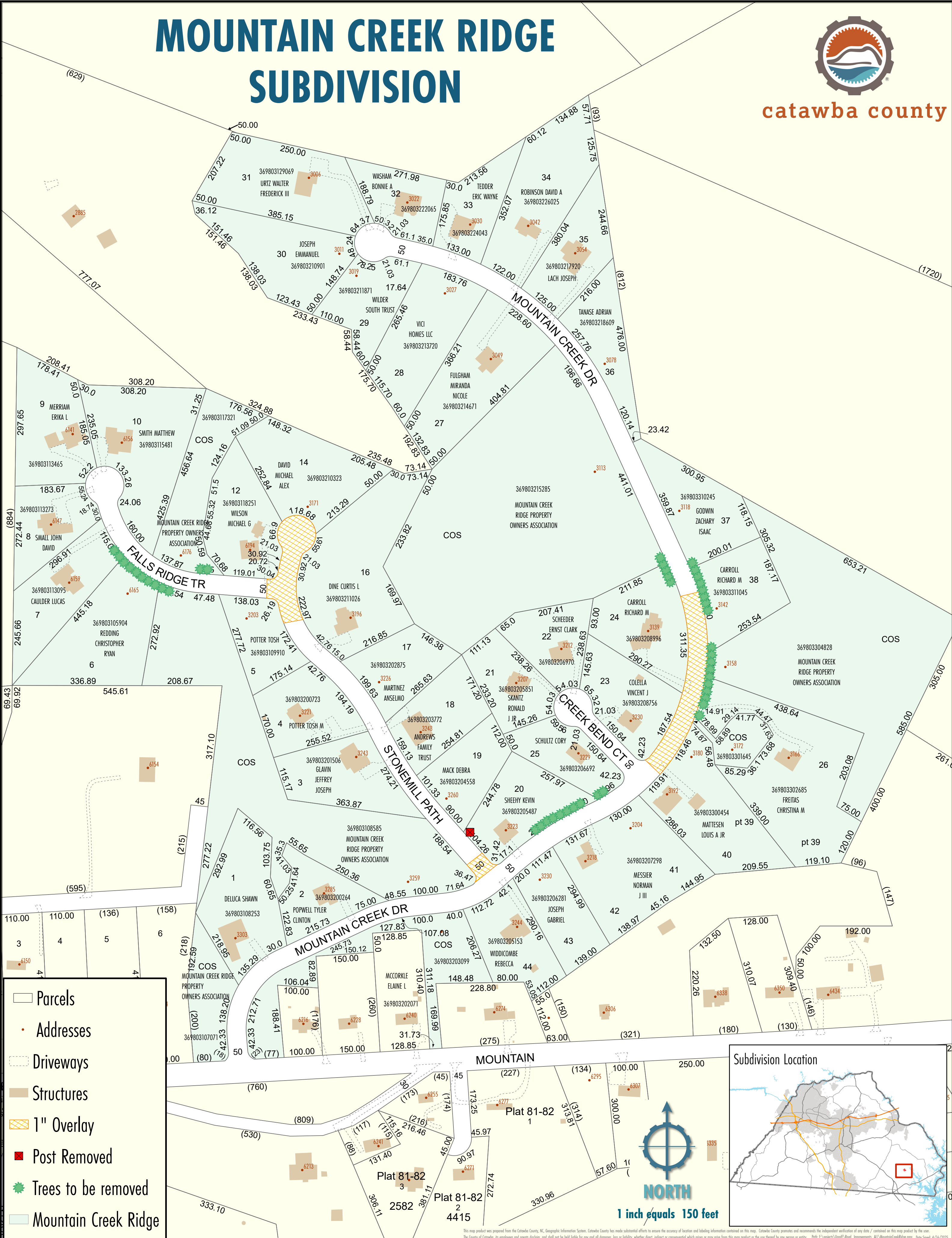
Dale Stiles, Clerk  
Catawba County Board of Commissioners



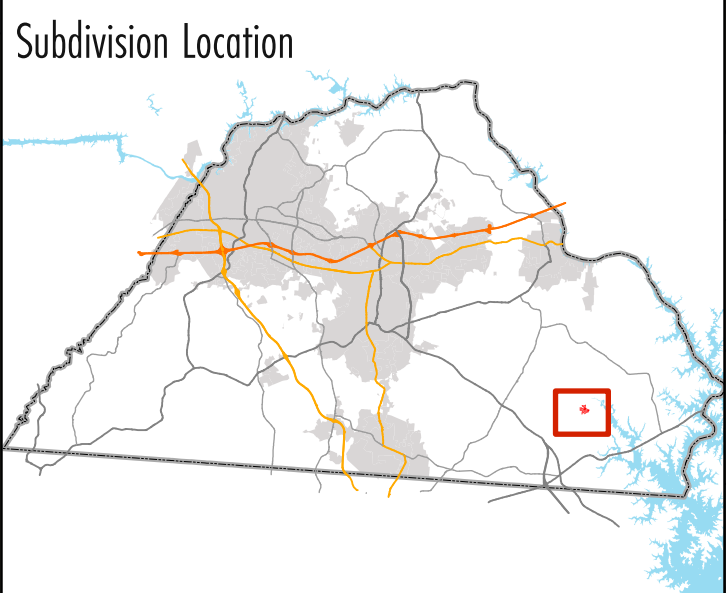
# MOUNTAIN CREEK RIDGE SUBDIVISION



catawba county



- Parcels
- Addresses
- Driveways
- Structures
- 1" Overlay
- Post Removed
- Trees to be removed
- Mountain Creek Ridge



This map product was prepared from the Catawba County, NC, Geographic Information System. Catawba County has made substantial efforts to ensure the accuracy of location and labeling information contained on this map. Catawba County promotes and recommends the independent verification of any data / contained on this map product by the user. The County of Catawba, its employees and agents disclaim, and shall not be held liable for any and all damages, loss or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential which arises or may arise from this map product or the use thereof by any person or entity. © Plat: E:\projects\MountainCreekRidge\Improvements\ALLMountainCreekRidge.aprx Data Source: 4/16/2025