

**Item Title:** Memorandum of Understanding between Wake County and the Wake County Board of Education Regarding Property Disposition

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners approves amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the Wake County Board of Education regarding the Joint Facilities Core Team.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners approves all Memoranda of Understanding between Wake County and other entities, and all amendments to those agreements.

**Background:** In 2014, the Board of Commissioners and the Wake County Board of Education entered into an Interlocal Agreement related to collaboration efforts on school site acquisition and construction. Staff from the County and WCPSS meet regularly as part of the Joint Facilities Core Team. The initial term of the interlocal agreement expired in June 2019; in 2019, the relationship was formally extended and approved by both boards via a conversion of the interlocal agreement to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU was again renewed in 2024 for an additional five years, currently set to expire on June 30, 2029. Both parties desire to amend the MOU to outline a collaborative approach for acquisition and disposition of surplus property.

**Strategic Plan:** This action supports Lifelong Learning Goal 4: By 2029, three out of four residents asked will share that Wake County has high-quality education-based facilities, including schools, libraries, and other educational resources; and Community Health and Wellbeing Goal 1: Create and preserve 2,500 affordable housing units by 2029.

**Fiscal Impact:** This item has no direct fiscal impact. The proposed amendment to the MOU formalizes the relationship between the County and WCPSS to ensure strong collaboration and communication among the organizations related to property acquisition and disposition, which impacts the County's ability to maximize the use of funding streams for all County supported capital improvement programs.

**Additional Information:**

With the initial adoption of the Interlocal Agreement in 2014, both the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education established the creation of the Joint Facilities

Core Team. This team, comprised of facility design and construction, long-range planning, budget, and finance staff from both organizations creates and continues to refine collaborative processes for developing executing, and monitoring WCPSS' CIP.

The long-standing goals of the Core Team are to:

- Increase communication and understanding of each entity's goals
- Promote collaborative, innovative, and effective processes related to the development of the WCPSS capital program
- Optimize taxpayer dollars for WCPSS' rolling, seven-year capital program
- Increase efficiencies in carrying out WCPSS' capital program

Article III of the MOU describes the Joint School Facilities the Core Team. Section 3.02 Purpose will be amended to include periodically reviewing sites in the School District's portfolio for recommendations on future joint planning opportunities with the County and the disposition plan for surplus parcels or remnants no longer needed by the School District. As identified in Section 3.05 Collaboration Process, the Core Team will utilize a work plan (drafted and formalized at a staff level) to outline processes for ongoing site analysis, declaration of surplus properties, and joint planning efforts.

Today's recommended action is to approve the revised MOU. The County and WCPSS are planning a date for a joint Board of Commissioners and Board of Education meeting for the fall of 2025. At that joint meeting, WCPSS and County staff will share more details about the work plan and initiatives to date.

**Attachments:**

1. Memorandum of Understanding