

Item Title: Amend the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget to Appropriate General Fund Fund Balance for Two Additional Early Voting Sites for the Wake County 2026 Primary Election

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners appropriate \$331,078 of General Fund Fund Balance to add two additional Early Voting sites for the Wake County 2026 Primary Election.

Item Summary:

Purpose: In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Board of Commissioners must approve all amendments that increase the budget for a fund.

Background: Wake County budgeted for 10 early voting sites for the Wake County 2026 Primary Election. On August 19, 2025, the Board of Elections unanimously voted to request two additional early voting sites from the Board of Commissioners. Two additional early voting sites will ensure that citizens in Wake County will have equal access to an Early Voting site and accommodate the City of Raleigh's municipal election.

Strategic Plan: This action supports standard County operations.

Fiscal Impact: The cost of adding two additional Early Voting sites for the Wake County 2026 Primary Election is estimated at \$331,078. This amount will be appropriated from General Fund Fund Balance. This use of fund balance will not cause the fund balance to drop below the General Fund policy minimum of 30%.

Additional Information:

The Wake County 2026 Primary Election will be held on March 3, 2026, with Early Voting happening from February 12, 2026 through February 28, 2026. Early Voting site selection happened on the August 19, 2025 Board of Elections meeting. The 10 budgeted Early Voting sites are listed below.

- Board of Elections Office
- John Chavis Memorial Park Community Center
- NCSU Talley Student Union
- Optimist Park Community Center
- Herbert C. Young Recreation Center
- Hilltop Needmore Town Park and Preserve
- John M. Brown Community Center
- Northern Regional Center
- W.E. Hunt Recreation Center

- Wendell Community Center

If this item is approved, the two additional Early Voting sites would be Lake Lynn Community Center and the Avery Street Recreation Center. This would result in 12 Early Voting sites for the Wake County 2026 Primary Election. This information would be posted on the Board of Elections website in November 2025.

Attachments:

1. Budget Memo FY26 – General Government