

Item Title: Appropriate Funds Awarded by Duke Energy Foundation Grant for Emergency Preparedness Kit Distribution

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to sign the grant agreement between Wake County and the Duke Energy Foundation and accepts and appropriates \$25,000 in the Grants and Donations fund.

Item Summary:

Purpose: To enhance household emergency preparedness by providing emergency kits to residents throughout Wake County, funded by the Duke Energy Foundation.

Background: Wake County Emergency Management has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation to support the purchase and distribution of approximately 491 emergency preparedness kits. The kits will be made available to residents across Wake County through public distribution opportunities. While efforts will be made to reach residents who may be at higher risk during power outages and severe weather events, kits will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to ensure broad and equitable access. Wake County Emergency Management will provide direct oversight and coordination to ensure proper management of the program.

Strategic Plan: This action supports standard County operations.

Fiscal Impact: The \$25,000 grant will cover the cost of purchasing 491 emergency preparedness kits. The grant requires a county contribution of \$1,777 for sales tax. This cost will be covered by using funds already budgeted in the FY 2026 General Fund in the Fire Services & Emergency Management department.

Additional Information:

Wake County Emergency Management will coordinate the distribution of emergency preparedness kits through public availability at designated locations. Kits will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to residents across the county, with an emphasis on ensuring equitable access. While outreach will include efforts to engage populations at higher risk during emergencies, the flexible distribution model allows for broad community participation. The program's effectiveness will be evaluated through recipient feedback and coordination with partner organizations.

Attachments:

1. Duke Energy Foundation Grant Award Notification
2. Budget Memo – FY2026 Grants and Donations Fund