

# 2024 Bond Projects

Wake County Public Libraries

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# Agenda

- Library System Overview
- Status of previous WCPL bonds
- Planning process
- Investment themes
- Potential WCPL projects
- Staff recommended projects
- Discussion and next steps



# Library System Overview

# The Library System Today

8 Regional Libraries  
13 Community Libraries  
2 Special Libraries  
1 Bookmobile  
1 Administrative Building



323,000 square feet

**21% of Wake County Population  
has an active Library Card**

## **FY23 Performance Data**

- Circulation: 10,950,697
- Visits: 2,620,775
- Program attendance: 286,516
- PC Hours Used: 161,542
- Wifi Hours Used: 621,308

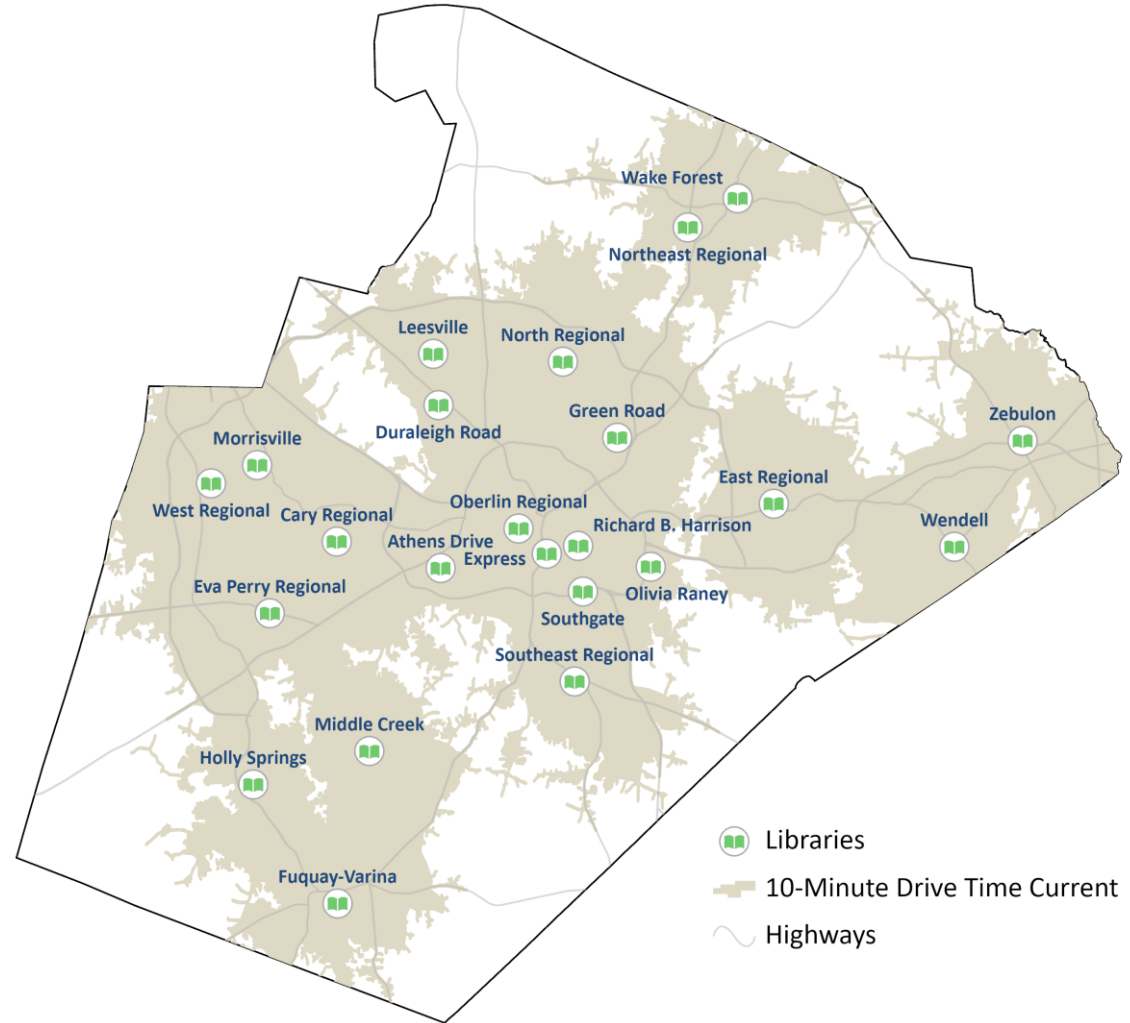
# North Carolina Public Library Standards

The State Library of North Carolina offers suggested guidelines for proximity of Library facilities to populations (minutes of drive time).

| Urban Drive Time to Library Facility |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Essential                            | 20 minutes |
| Enhanced                             | 15 minutes |
| Exemplary                            | 10 minutes |

# Current Libraries

| Urban Drive Time to Library Facility |            | % of Wake County Population |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Essential                            | 20 minutes | 99.8%                       |
| Enhanced                             | 15 minutes | 98.7%                       |
| Exemplary                            | 10 minutes | 84.7%                       |



# 2007 WCPL Bond | Completed

Voters approved \$45 million in 2007 by 70-30 margin to complete the following projects:

## New libraries:

- ✓ Middle Creek
- ✓ Morrisville
- ✗ North Hills

## Expand / replace existing libraries:

- ✓ Cary
- ✓ Fuquay-Varina
- ✓ Wake Forest

## Repairs and / or renovations:

- ✓ East Regional
- ✓ Green Road
- ✓ Olivia Raney
- ✓ Richard B. Harrison
- ✓ Southeast Regional
- ✓ Wendell
- ✓ Zebulon

- ✓ Completed
- ✗ Not completed

## Projects added post-Bond:

- ✓ Eva Perry Regional Library (renovation)
- ✓ North Regional Library (renovation)



# Planning Process and Themes



# Planning Process

## **Analysis of Internal Factors**

- Prior bond review
- Facility assessments
- Services & data

## **Analysis of External Factors**

- Peer benchmarking
- Demographics & population growth

## **Input Opportunities**

- Library Commission
- Community engagement
- Staff focus groups
- Customer satisfaction survey

## **Develop projects & recommendations**

- Conduct prioritization of projects
- Determine project budgets & timelines

# Investment Themes

*Wake County Public Library System's 2024 Facility Plan / Capital Improvement Plan makes recommendations and directions for the future of the library system.*

The goals of this plan are:

- **Equal Access:** Ensure that all residents of Wake County have fair and convenient access to library services.
- **Infrastructure Renewal:** Address aging infrastructure in older library buildings by upgrading or replacing building components.
- **Enhanced Facilities:** Elevate the libraries to become appealing and valuable assets within Wake County.



# Potential WCPL Projects

# Potential Library Projects

## New Libraries

New libraries allow the County to provide library service in areas with little or no library service.

Brier Creek

Friendship (Apex)

North Hills

Rolesville

Southeast Wake

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## Replacement Libraries

Replacements are recommended for libraries that have outgrown their space and cannot be expanded and for certain leased facilities.

Athens Drive Community Library

Duraleigh Community Library

Wendell Community Library

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# Potential Library Projects

## Library Renovations

Renovations ensure modern, accessible, and accommodating spaces for library patrons.

Express Library – Fayetteville Street

Green Road Community Library

Library Administration Building

Northeast Regional Library

Oberlin Regional Library

Richard B. Harrison Community Library

Southeast Regional Library

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## Expansions

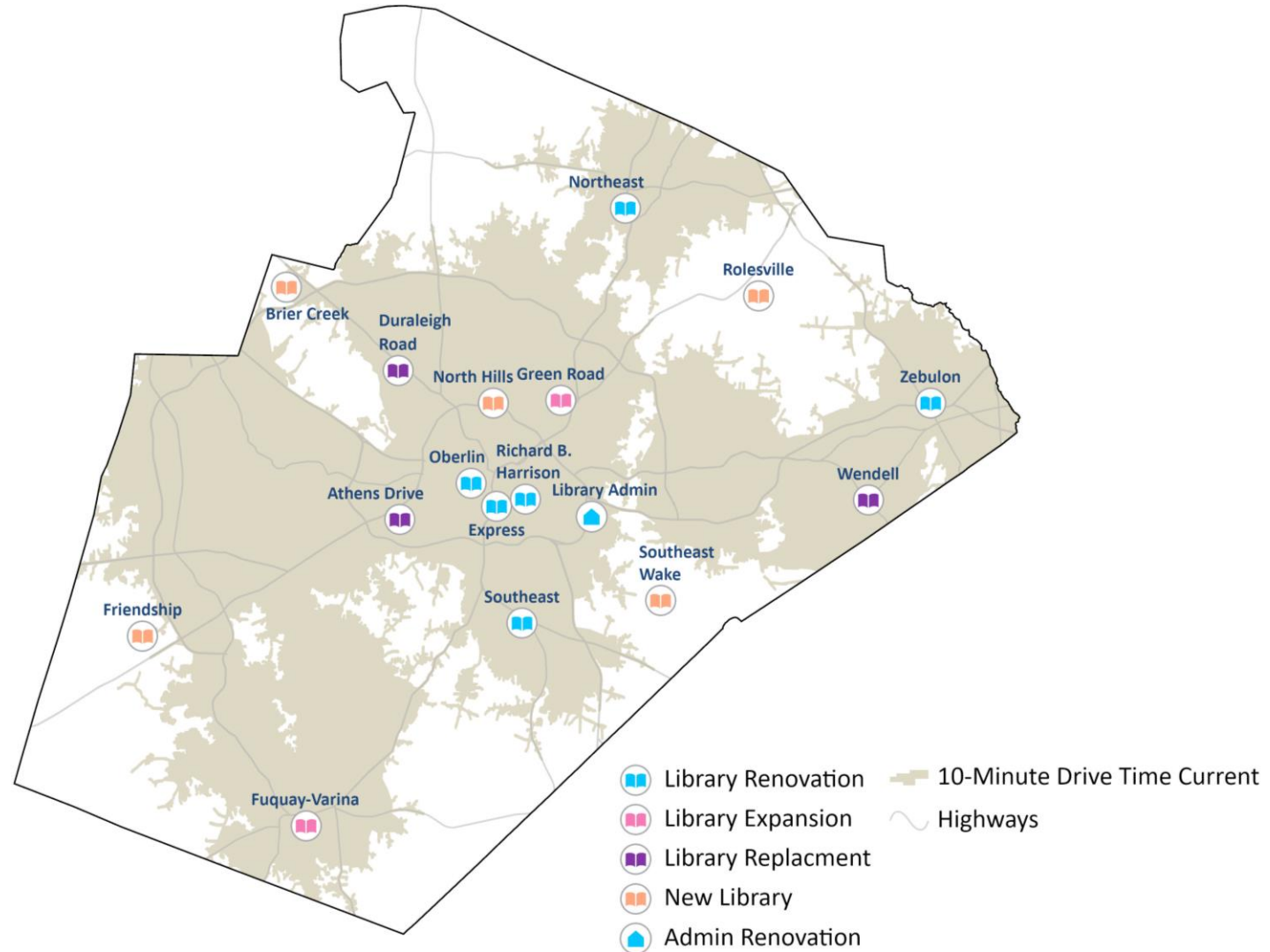
Wake County has incorporated future expansion into library designs when the property allows, positioning us to meet the evolving needs of our communities.

Fuquay Varina Regional Library

Green Road Community Library

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# Potential Library Projects





# Staff Recommendation

# Recommended Renovations & Replacements

- **Library Renovations and Improvements, \$19,240,000** – Projects will address aging facilities, life cycle replacement of HVAC, etc.
- **Athens Drive Library Replacement, \$17,300,000** – The FY27 WCPSS renovation project will require new construction for a public library.  
*This project will require \$1-2M in operating expenses.*
- **Wendell Library Replacement, \$18,160,000** – WCPL's smallest community library is no longer adequate to serve the growing Wendell population.  
*This project will require \$1-2M in operating expenses.*
- **Library Administration Building, \$25,000,000** – Opened in 1987, this building needs significant updates to infrastructure and finishes. The building houses Library Administration, Collection Development, IT, and Marketing, and operates as a warehouse for inventory.



# Recommended New Libraries

- **Rolesville Library, \$14,300,000** – Wake County's only municipality without a library, one of the fastest-growing communities in the county.  
*This project will require \$1-2M in operating expenses.*

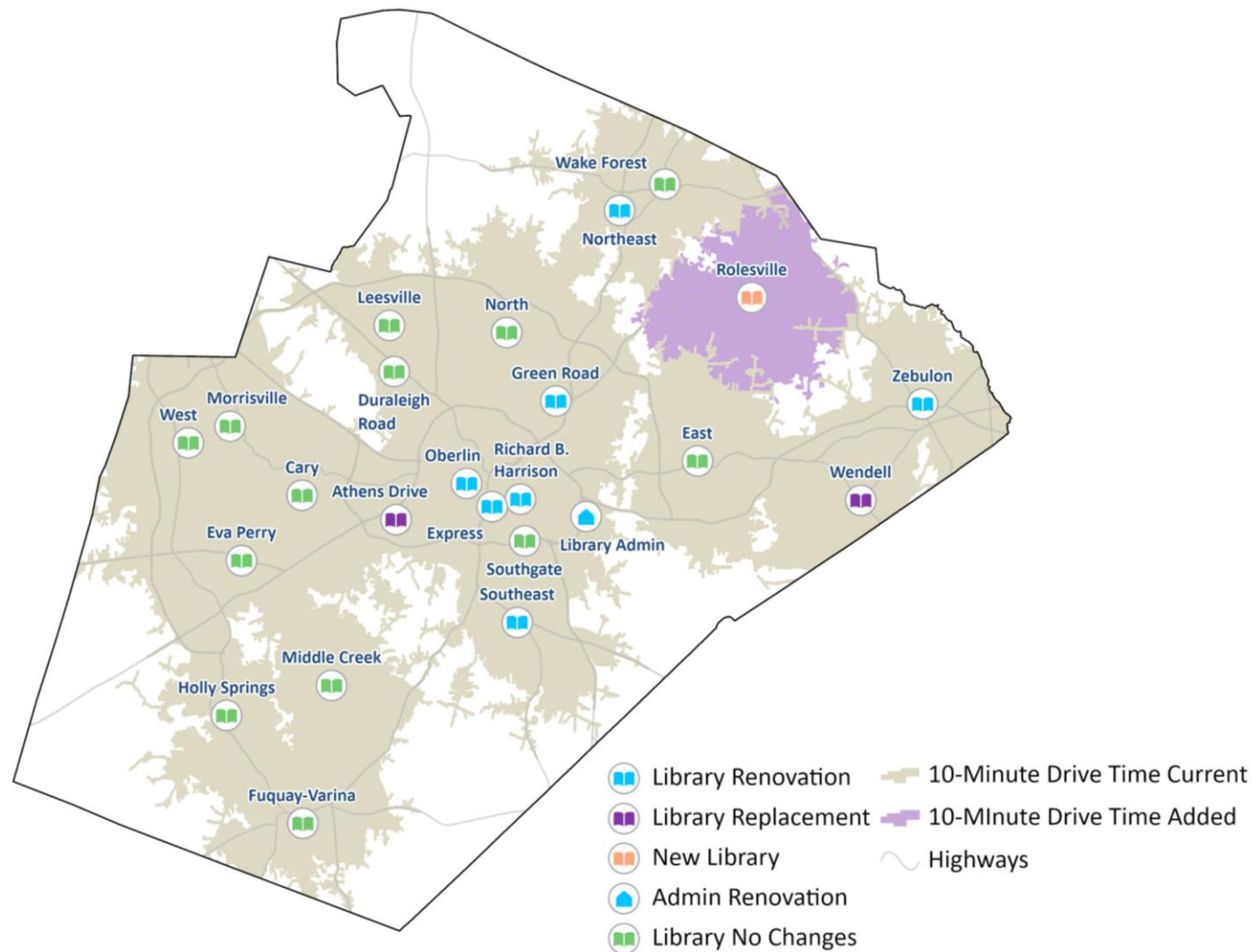
**Renovations & Replacements: \$79,700,000**

**New Libraries: \$14,300,000**

**Total Request: \$94,000,000**

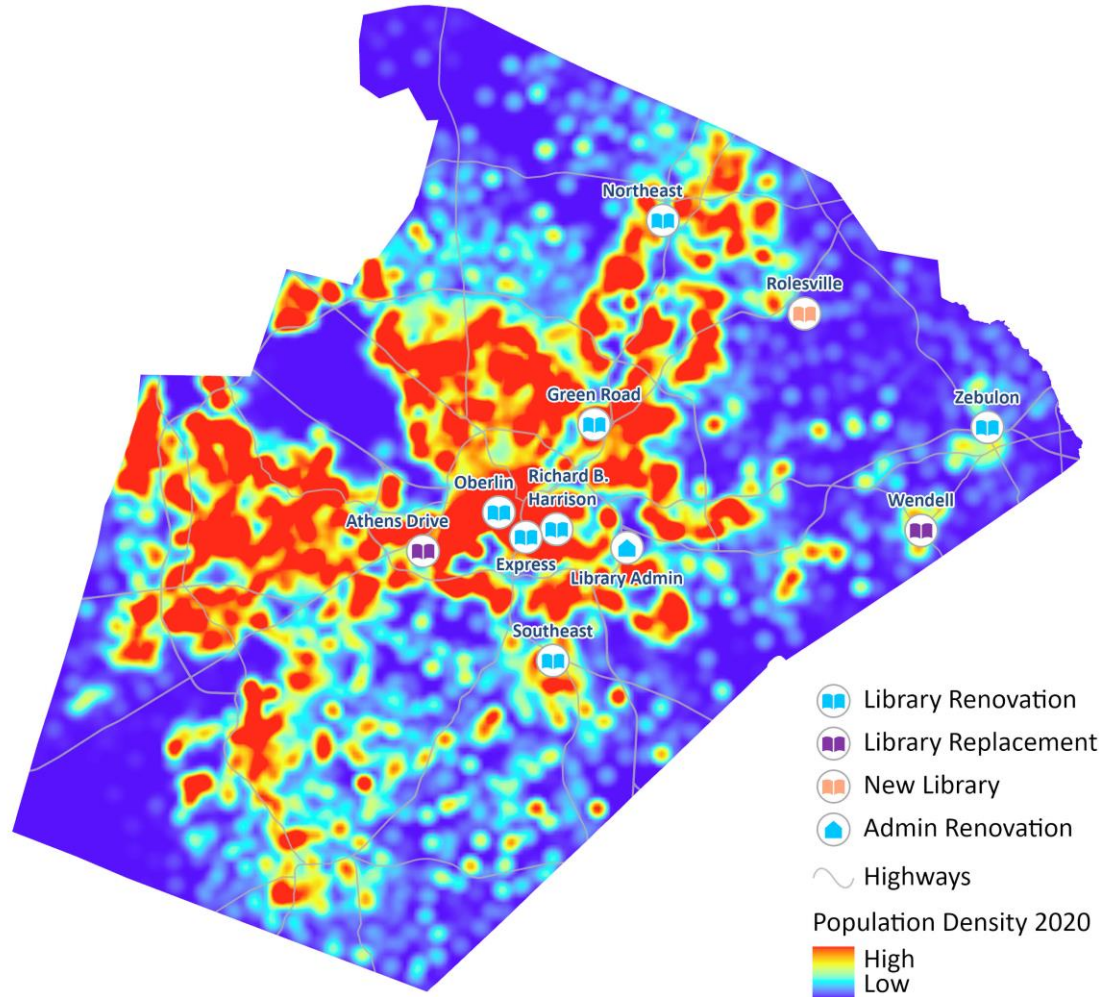
# Recommended Projects

Adding a library in Rolesville increases the percent of Wake County residents having a library within a 10-minute drive from 84.7% to 87.0%.

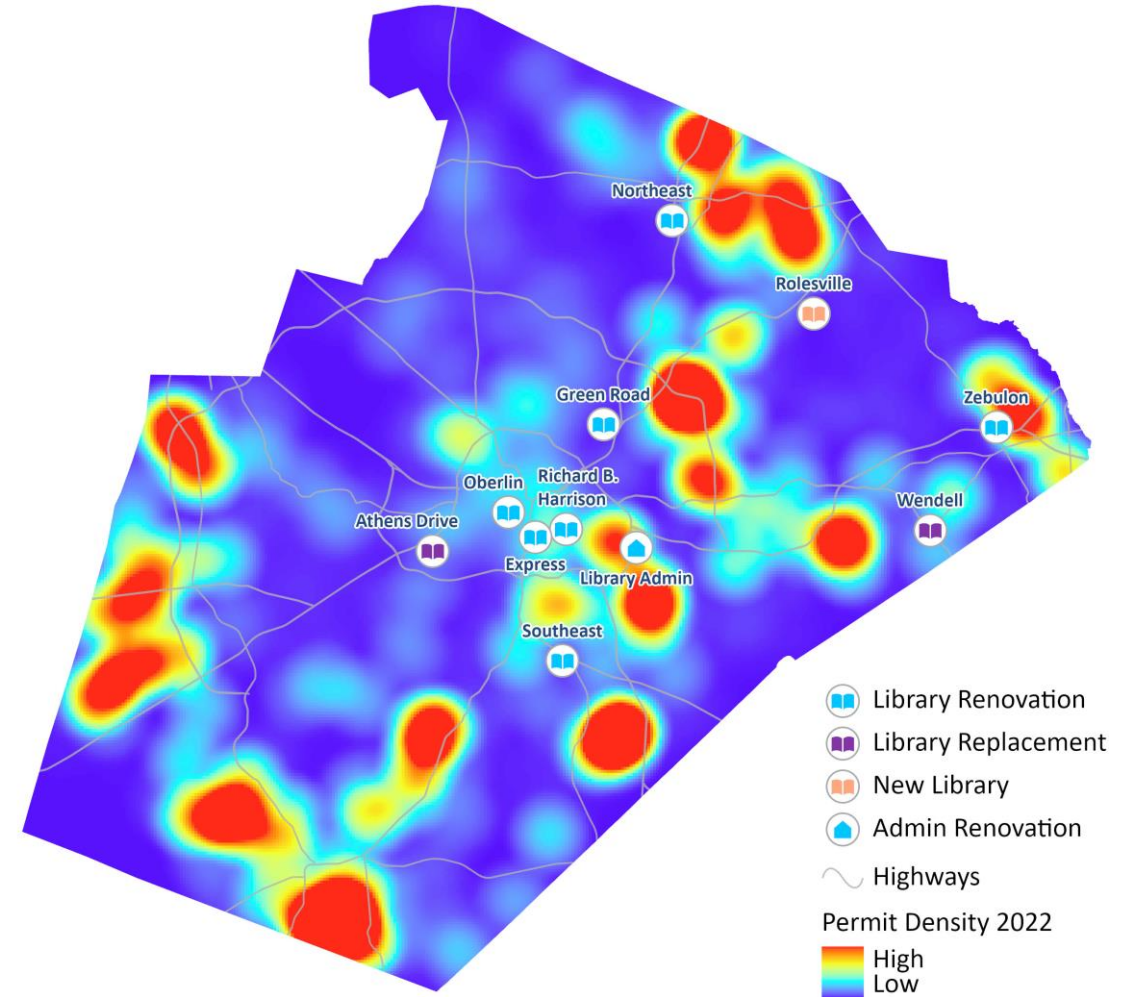


# Recommended Projects

## Population Density (2020)



## Residential & Commercial Permit Density (2022)



# Horizon Projects

*in alphabetical order*

- Brier Creek Library (Raleigh) | \$16.0M
- Duraleigh Library Replacement (Raleigh) | \$16.0M
- Friendship Library (Apex) | \$16.0M
- Fuquay-Varina Library Expansion | \$11.7M
- Green Road Library Expansion (Raleigh) | \$11.7M
- North Hills Library (Raleigh) | \$16.0M
- Southeast Wake Library | \$17.2M



# Next Steps

# Bond Process

- January/February 2024 – update and finalize list of bond projects based on today’s feedback
- April/May 2024 – final decision on amount and wording of bond questions
- Summer 2024 – develop and implement communication plan for bond referendum
- November 2024 – bond referendum