

Potential County Priorities for FY 2009-2010	
Guiding Principles	
1	Create budget ethic/discipline for BOCC and staff that does not assume an annual increase in the tax rate
2	Focus on providing 'core' county services.
3	No new services can be added without exchanging current services or increasing taxes.
4	County workforce is a valuable asset which should be protected.
5	Make county government accessible, understandable and transparent. Begin now to relay the message to citizens, partner agencies, and organizations that current levels of service may not be maintained. Make clear county priorities and what might change.
6	Maintain a 'reserve fund' dedicated for responding to emergencies
7	Exercise caution when considering issuing new debt
8	Work against unfunded state and federal mandates
Revenues	
1	Diversify tax base, including new 'green' commercial tax base
2	Lobby local General Assembly representatives to consider legislative reforms to allow flexibility in revenue generation
3	Seek potential federal dollars for infrastructure (new emphasis or new resources based on political shifts)

Expenditures	
Goal 1: Ensure a community network of basic human services that maintains, protects, and promotes the well being of county residents	
a.	Improve residents' standard of living and quality of life. Influence private investments in affordable housing through building regulations and land use policies
Goal 2: Promote an interactive and transparent system of governance that reflects community values	
b.	Clarify and communicate to public how and why county funding is allocated the way it is, including identifying core county (versus other local government) responsibilities for services
c.	Improve the way the county and citizens communicate with each other
d.	Improve intra- and intergovernmental coordination, cooperation, and collaboration. Work with both Mebane and Hillsborough on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint land use planning approaches, policies and ordinances

	2. Economic Development Districts 3. SAPFO (Schools and Adequate Facilities Public Funding Ordinance)
e.	Annexation: 1. Finalize annexation boundaries with Hillsborough 2. Define annexation boundaries with Mebane
f.	Relations with UNC-Chapel Hill: 1. Be actively involved and informed about UNC-CH decisions and intentions and reacting to such 2. Clarify county's role in selecting site for the airport. Challenge the assumptions made about local home rule vs. UNC authority to supersede local authority
g.	Review the Schools and Adequate Facilities Public Funding Ordinance. Determine how it is enforced. Is it doing what it was originally intended? Is it still relevant?
h.	Examine advisory boards and commissions to see if they are meeting their missions (consider disbanding if necessary) and how their work can be best integrated with BOCC.
	Goal 3: Implement planning and economic development policies which create a balanced, dynamic local economy that promotes diversity, sustainable growth and enhanced revenue while embracing community values.
i.	Develop plan for county Economic Development Districts
j.	Create jobs for all skill levels
k.	Explore use of local zoning to guide land use within the county
l.	Create and connect to local, regional, and national transit networks
m.	Support transit, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities and other alternatives to the single passenger automobile

Goal 4: Invest in quality county facilities, a diverse work force, and technology to achieve a high performing county government

n.	Consider what to do about inequities between old and new schools. Older schools are in need of capital improvements. Building new schools has been the funding priority.
o.	Design and fund space for county attorney offices. Manager and board to discuss concept and staffing.
p.	Provide 'adequate' staffing to perform core county services
q.	Hire staff with 'flexibility' to be reallocated to cover core functions
r.	Invest in technology to increase worker efficiencies, e.g., web streaming, paperless agendas, integrated tracking systems between field and office
s.	Review and update all county policies, procedures and ordinances.

Goal 5: Create, preserve and protect a natural environment that includes clean water, clean air, wildlife, important natural lands and sustainable energy for present and future generations.

t.	Develop an energy plan that includes economic development strategies to attract, retain, and grow "green" business
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Goal 6: Ensure a high quality of life and lifelong learning that champions diversity, education at all levels, libraries, parks, recreation and animal welfare.

u.	Provide 'equitable' library services for OC residents. Options: 1. Implement the Library Task Force Plan. 2. Partner with the Town of Chapel Hill to provide library services.
v.	Land bank for future park development. Purchase now and develop later?
w.	Develop a policy/update current plan about how parks will be developed, appropriate ratio of parks to population, length of time to develop, and incorporation of such into CIP.
x.	Define equitable services. Resources equal to those offered by the Town of Chapel Hill? All OC residents have equal access to services? Or same quality and quantity of programs and services? Discuss whether to change how resources are distributed within the county.

Additional Potential Issues to Examine

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z.	
aa.	
bb.	
cc.	