

GUIDE TO **ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT**




ORANGE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

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www.orangecountync.gov
(919) 732-8181
webadmin@orangecountync.gov

Physical address:
300 W. Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Mailing address:
PO Box 8181
Hillsborough, NC 27278

 [orangecountyncgov](https://www.facebook.com/orangecountyncgov)

 [ocncgov](https://twitter.com/ocncgov)

 [ocncgov](https://www.instagram.com/ocncgov)

 [orangecountyncgov](https://www.youtube.com/orangecountyncgov)

It is the policy of Orange County to provide timely, meaningful access for Limited English Proficiency ("LEP") persons to all county government services, programs and activities. All language assistance services are free to all LEP individuals who request language assistance services. Call (919) 245-2498.



ORANGE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

Orange County, North Carolina, operates under the council-manager form of local government, which combines the strong political leadership of the elected governing body with the capable managerial experience of an appointed local government manager.

County Manager Travis Myren serves as the chief administrator. He is appointed by and serves under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).



The County Manager supervises and coordinates the activities of the county's departments, ensuring that all decisions, policies and programs approved by the BOCC are implemented. The manager also works to ensure the county complies with federal and state mandates.

The manager recommends an annual budget, makes recommendations on appropriate matters of business, represents the county in dealing with various agencies and performs other duties assigned by the BOCC.

More than 1,000 dedicated employees work for Orange County and strive to provide the best customer service to the community. This guide highlights the departments and programs available through Orange County Government.

www.orangecountync.gov/CountyManager
(919) 245-2300

tmyren@orangecountync.gov

300 W. Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Orange County is governed by a seven-member board of commissioners, elected by district and at-large in partisan countywide elections.

Commissioners serve staggered, four-year terms and elections are held in November of even-numbered years. New board members take office at the first meeting in December following the November election. At this meeting, commissioners take the oath of office and elect a chair and vice-chair for the coming year.

The primary duties of the Board include:

- Adopting an annual budget
- Establishing the annual property tax rate
- Appointing various officials and representatives to advisory boards and commissions
- Planning for county needs
- Enacting local ordinances
- Meetings

The Board of Commissioners meets at 7 p.m., usually on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

The first Tuesday meeting is held at the Donna S. Baker Meeting Room, 300 W. Tryon St, Hillsborough.

The second Tuesday meeting is held in the board room of the Southern Human Services Center, 2501 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill.

Meeting days and locations may be adjusted due to holidays, and additional meetings/work sessions may be added. All meetings are open to the public.

www.orangecountync.gov/BOCC
(919) 245-2130
ocbocc@orangecountync.gov

Whitted Building
300 W. Tryon Street
Donna S. Baker Meeting Room
Hillsborough, NC 27278

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Aging

The Department on Aging is a one-stop resource where older adults and caregivers can meet their social, mental, physical, financial, and day-to-day practical needs.

AGING TRANSITIONS provides services and supports to meet the needs of older adults and their caregivers as they face changing health needs, relocations, and other age-related issues.

SENIOR CENTERS offer a wide variety of services, programs and classes in-person, virtually, and a hybrid of the two.

VOLUNTEER CONNECT 55+ offers a wide range of volunteer opportunities designed to maximize aging well and aging in community.

www.orangecountync.gov/Aging
Aging Helpline: (919) 968-2087
agingtransitions@orangecountync.gov



Passmore Center
103 Meadowlands Drive
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 245-2015

Seymour Center
2551 Homestead Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 968-2070

 [OrangeCountyDepartmentOnAging](https://www.facebook.com/OrangeCountyDepartmentOnAging)
 [@orangecountyncdeptonaging1](https://www.youtube.com/@orangecountyncdeptonaging1)

Animal Services

The mission of Animal Services is to meet the needs of residents by working with volunteers and other partners to deliver cost-effective and integrated sheltering and animal control services that ensure the health, safety and well-being of humans, pets and the community as a whole. Services include:

- Pet Adoption
- Spay and Neuter programs
- Lost and Found pet resources
- Animal Control & Protection team

www.orangecountync.gov/AnimalServices
(919) 942-7387

Please dial 9-1-1 if you have an animal-related emergency when Animal Services is closed, such as in the event of animal bites to humans or exposure to rabies.



ocas@orangecountync.gov

Animal Services Center
1601 Eubanks Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

 [OCASpets](https://www.facebook.com/OCASpets)
 [oc_animalservices](https://www.instagram.com/oc_animalservices)

Arts Commission

The Orange County Arts Commission (OCAC) promotes and strengthens artistic and cultural development in Orange County, which includes the towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, & Hillsborough. The OCAC is funded by hotel occupancy tax and serves as the Designated County Partner with the North Carolina Arts Council.

Programs and services include:

- Annual grant programs for organizations and artists
- Managing the Eno Arts Mill, a 10,000-square foot community arts space that offers artist studios, classes and camps, events, and the Eno Arts Mill Gallery.
- Advocating for arts-friendly policies and partnering with Arts North Carolina.
- Arts in Education partner with The ArtsCenter
- Regional Partner with the Piedmont Laureate Program, Emerging Artists Grant Program, and 4th Congressional District High School Contest
- Professional/Organizational Development training for organizations and artists
- Special events and festivals including Up roar Festival of Public Art



www.artsorange.org
(919) 245-2129
arts@orangecountync.gov

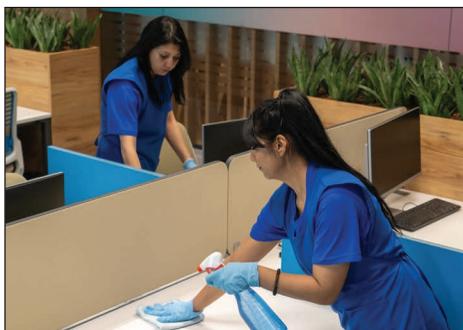
*Eno Arts Mill Gallery/
Orange County Arts Commission Office
437 Dimmocks Mill Road, Suite 17
Hillsborough, NC 27278*



Asset Management Services

Asset Management Services manages the day-to-day operations of county facilities, including:

- Capital project management
- Facility maintenance
- Facility custodial services
- Energy management services
- Room reservation and setup services
- Lease administration



www.orangecountync.gov/AMService
(919) 245-2625
AMService@orangecountync.gov

*306 Revere Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278*

Child Support Services

Child Support Services secures child support for Orange County children, thereby strengthening the family's potential for economic independence and self-sufficiency. Child support is obtained by:

- Enforcing child support orders
- Establishing child support orders
- Establishing paternity for children born outside marriage
- Locating non-custodial parents

Child Support Services works with parents and partner agencies such as Orange Works Employment and Training Center to ensure compliance with court orders. The state offices for Child Support Services may be reached at 1-800-992-9457.



www.orangecountync.gov/CSS
(919) 245-2175
childsupportservices@orangecountync.gov
131 W. Margaret Lane
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Clerk to the Board

The Office of the Clerk to the Board provides direct support for the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

Duties include:

- Posting agendas and recording minutes for BOCC meetings
- Retaining county ordinances
- Maintaining and publishing a calendar of public meetings and providing public notice of meetings
- Coordinating and tracking volunteer citizen boards and commissions appointed by the BOCC
- Keeping the county seal
- Providing communication support to the public and media through news releases



www.orangecountync.gov/Clerk
(919) 245-2130
clerk@orangecountync.gov
300 W. Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Community Relations

The Community Relations Department focuses on public information sharing and engagement with the community. The department works to strengthen relations with community members and businesses through in-person events such as the Orange County Road Show, where we bring government programs to neighborhoods around Orange County, as well as traditional methods such as social media and brochures. Projects include:

- *This Week in Orange County* newsletter
- County Government Academy, an annual course designed to educate about the many services and programs provided by Orange County Government
- Crisis communications
- Digital message monitors
- Media Relations
- *Orange County Government Gazette*
- Manage www.orangecountync.gov



Orange County Government Academy

www.orangecountync.gov/CR
(919) 245-2302
webadmin@orangecountync.gov

300 W. Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

 [orangecountyncgov](https://www.facebook.com/orangecountyncgov)

 [ocncgov](https://twitter.com/ocncgov)

 [ocncgov](https://www.instagram.com/ocncgov)

 [orangecountyncgov](https://www.youtube.com/orangecountyncgov)

Cooperative Extension

Cooperative Extension partners with communities to deliver education and technology that enriches the lives, land and economy of Orange County.

Core focus areas include:

- **Agriculture and Food**
Extension Master GardenerSM Program, Breeze Farm Incubator, NC Farm School, Technical Assistance for Farms and Home Landscapes, Community Garden Grant Program
- **Health and Nutrition**
Family & Consumer Sciences, Food Safety, Extension & Community Association
- **4-H Youth Development**
Community Clubs, After School, School Enrichment, Summer Camps
- **Community and Rural Development**
Food Systems, Food Security, Agriculture Economic Development



orange.ces.ncsu.edu

(919) 245-2050

jonathon_smith@ncsu.edu

Bonnie B Davis Environment & Agricultural Center
1020 US Hwy 70 West, Suite 130
Hillsborough, NC 27278

 [OrangeCountyCES](https://www.facebook.com/OrangeCountyCES)

County Manager's Office: Sustainability Programs

Orange County Sustainability provides innovative and equitable programs aimed at tackling climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resiliency to climate change related events. Sustainability Programs include:

- Implementing the County's Climate Action Plan
- Installing EV chargers
- Overseeing the annual Community Climate Action Grant Program
- Providing information and resources on sustainable practices
- Promoting clean energy and energy efficiency within our community and county operations



www.orangecountync.gov/Sustainability
(919) 245-2626

sustainability@orangecountync.gov

300 W. Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC

Criminal Justice Resource

The mission of the Criminal Justice Resource Department (CJRD) is to safely reduce unnecessary pretrial incarceration, increase jail alternatives and diversion opportunities, reduce the number of individuals with behavioral health issues facing justice involvement and incarceration, reduce recidivism, reduce racial and economic disparities, and increase public safety. CJRD provides treatment and support for justice-impacted individuals, including:

- Pretrial services
- Recovery Court and Family Treatment Courts
- Deflection and diversion of individuals from law enforcement and the criminal legal system (youth, first offender and harm reduction)
- Behavioral health services for youth and adults in court and incarcerated
- The Lantern Project, which supports diversion, reentry, and harm reduction for people with substance use disorders
- Pro bono legal assistance for record expunctions and driver's license restoration
- The Local Reentry Council



- Street Outreach, Harm Reduction and Deflection program (SOHRAD)
- Court debt and court transportation assistance for eligible Orange County residents
- Policing and Mental Health Diversion Collaboration (CCDR Team)
- OC Youth Build

www.orangecountync.gov/CJRD
(919) 245-2310 or (919) 245-2303
cfehnagen@orangecountync.gov

Orange County Courthouse
106 E. Margaret Lane, Ground Floor
Hillsborough, NC 27278

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Economic Development

Economic Development offers direct assistance with business expansion, retention, and relocation in Orange County. It strives to provide high paying employment opportunities for county residents and increase the non-residential tax base. Additionally, this department promotes tourism through the affiliated Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau.

They offer:

- Business and Agriculture grant programs
- Assistance with marketing and site selection to recruit new retail, industrial and commercial businesses
- Promotion of entrepreneurial start-ups
- Customized economic and demographic research



www.orangecountync.gov/EconomicDevelopment
(919) 245-2325

edcmail@orangecountync.gov

131 W. Margaret Lane, Suite #205
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Elections

The Board of Elections provides Orange County with fair, efficient, convenient, and accurate elections within the guidelines of State and Federal Election Laws.

In addition to preparing for and conducting all elections within Orange County, the Board of Elections is responsible for processing and maintaining all Orange County voter registration records. Visit our office to:

- Register to vote or update your voter registration (registration form may be downloaded from our website and returned by mail)
- Receive a free photo ID if you do not have an acceptable ID card (i.e. driver's license, etc.)
- File to run for local office



www.orangecountync.gov/Elections
(919) 245-2350

vote@orangecountync.gov

Physical address:
208 S. Cameron Street
Hillsborough NC 27278

Mailing address:
PO Box 220
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Emergency Services

Emergency Services provides help and support to the community during times of personal and large-scale emergencies. In addition, Emergency Services coordinates response efforts of various agencies during major catastrophic events.

The department is organized into five mission areas:

- Business Services
- 9-1-1 Communications
- Fire and Life Safety
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Management



www.orangecountync.gov/EMS

(919) 245-6100

es@orangecountync.gov

510 Meadowlands Drive
Hillsborough, NC 27278

 [OCNCEmergency](#)

 [ocncemergency](#)

Environment, Agriculture, Parks & Recreation

The Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation (DEAPR) works to conserve and manage the natural and cultural resources of Orange County and provide recreation and environmental education opportunities for the public. The department promotes cultural and natural stewardship and physical activity through recreation and healthy lifestyles. DEAPR coordinates a variety of efforts, including:

- Protection of natural areas and wildlife habitat
- Provision of Parks, Nature Preserves, Trails, and Open Spaces
- Operate Athletics and Recreation facilities, including Soccer.com Center
- Protection of Water Resources
- Promote conservation of agricultural and cultural resource lands, and work with farmers on farm improvements and federal and state programs



www.orangecountync.gov/DEAPR

(919) 245-2510

deapr@orangecountync.gov

Bonnie B Davis Environment & Agricultural Center
1020 US Hwy 70 West
Hillsborough NC 27278

 [ocdeapr](#)

 [OCDEAPR](#)

 [ocdeapr](#)

Finance & Administrative Services

The Department of Finance & Administrative Services strives to be a strategic partner to Orange County by providing fiscal leadership, excellent service delivery, and financial accountability to ensure residents and stakeholders that county funds are being used appropriately and legally. They offer the following activities:

- Accounting
- Debt and capital administration
- Financial reporting
- Fiscal policy and compliance
- Purchasing



- Accounts receivable and accounts payables and payroll processing

www.orangecountync.gov/Finance
(919) 245-2450

ALL_FINANCE_EMAIL@orangecountync.gov

131 West Margaret Lane, Suite 300
Hillsborough, NC, 27278

Health

The Orange County Health Department's (OCHD) mission is to promote and protect health, enhance quality of life, and preserve the environment for everyone in Orange County.

OCHD offers:

- Dental Health Services
- Environmental Health services such as permits and inspections of retail food establishments and septic systems, water sampling, and investigation of public health environmental health complaints
- Community health services such as family home visiting and tobacco prevention
- Medical services including family planning, behavioral health, vaccine clinics and nutrition counseling
- Child health

www.orangecountync.gov/Health
(919) 245-2400
healthpio@orangecountync.gov



The Health Department has three primary locations:

Whitted Human Services Building:
300 W. Tryon Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Medical clinic, dental clinic, community health services and health administration

Southern Human Services:
2501 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Medical clinic

West Campus Office Building:
131 West Margaret Lane, Suite 100
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Environmental Health

 [orangecountyhealthdepartment](https://www.facebook.com/orangecountyhealthdepartment)

 [OrangeHealthNC](https://twitter.com/OrangeHealthNC)

 [orangehealthnc](https://www.instagram.com/orangehealthnc)

 [OCHDNC](https://www.youtube.com/OCHDNC)

Housing

Housing staff work with empathy and a racial equity lens to connect people and partners with housing resources. Its free programs and services include:

- Information and referral to community resources and affordable housing options
- Emergency rent and utility assistance
- Outreach, service connections, and housing solutions for individuals and families experiencing homelessness
- Legal information and advice about evictions and other housing-related issues
- Housing Choice Vouchers
- Home repair and rehabilitation*
- Tax assistance for long-term homeowners*
- Advising the Board of County Commissioners about affordable housing needs and opportunities

**Income-based*

Human Resources

The Human Resources Department provides a full range of human resources and risk management services. The Human Resource Department supports and promotes an inclusive culture and work environment defined by fair treatment of staff, open communications, personal accountability, trust, and mutual respect.

The department develops and manages value-added human resources policies and programs and provides expert consultation, services, and solutions in an efficient and customer-focused manner; and to provide our employees with the tools necessary to meet our customers' needs.

Areas of service include:

- Competitive recruitment and selection for all county positions (excluding the Sheriff's Department)
- Position classification and pay administration



www.orangecountync.gov/Housing
Main office: (919) 245-2490
Housing Helpline: (919) 245-2655
housinghelp@orangecountync.gov

 **orangedept**

The Housing Department has two offices:

Whitted Human Services Building:
300 W. Tryon Street, 3rd floor
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Southern Human Services:
2501 Homestead Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516



- Staff development and training
- Employee and retiree benefit administration
- Employee relations
- Identifying potential risks and taking precautionary steps to reduce risk

www.orangecountync.gov/HR
(919) 245-2550
humanresources@orangecountync.gov

131 W. Margaret Lane, 3rd Floor
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Information Technologies

The Information Technologies Department supports county operations by creating, configuring, and maintaining secure, reliable, and cost-effective technical solutions for the delivery of public services and the protection of county information. Services include:

- Coordinate technology procurement for all departments
- Ensure all staff members have access to efficient and effective technology
- Establish security and best practices policies for computing
- Protect and preserve the county's digital data
- Provision and maintain the Orange County server network
- Provision and support Orange County staff computers



www.orangecountync.gov/OCIT

(919) 245-2280

helpdesk@orangecountync.gov

131 West Margaret Lane
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Library

The library is an inclusive space for learning and connection. With the help of friendly and knowledgeable staff and a variety of resources, the library enables community members to explore their love of learning in a safe, accessible space. Some of the services at the library include:

- Computer access
- Group and individual meeting space
- Print and electronic reading materials
- DVDs, video games, board games and more
- Children, teen and adult programs, lectures, and special events

www.orangecountync.gov/Library

(919) 245-2525

library@orangecountync.gov

Main Library in Hillsborough:

137 W. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC 27278



Orange County Southern Branch Library

Drakeford Library Complex

203 S. Greensboro Street, Carrboro, NC 27510.

 **OCNCLibrary**

 **OCPLibraries**

 **OCNCPublicLibraries**

 **ocplnc**

Office of Civil Rights & Civic Life

Protecting rights and strengthening civic participation in Orange County.

We work to ensure that all residents—regardless of background, language, or ability—can access services, understand their rights, and take part in public life.

Our Services:

- Civil Rights Complaint Intake
- ADA & Language Access Coordination
- Civic Education & Training
- Community Programs & Events
- Veteran Services



www.orangecountync.gov/CivilRights
(919) 245-2594

civilrights@orangecountync.gov

P.O. Box 8181, Hillsborough, NC 27278

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 OCOEI_NC

Planning & Inspections

The Planning and Inspections Department serves residents by implementing land use, environmental, and building codes, policies, and standards to support stable and quality development that reflects the goals and objectives of Orange County, as detailed in its Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Services include:

- Building inspections
- Comprehensive and Long-Range Planning
- Demographics and Mapping
- Engineering
- Erosion Control and Stormwater Management
- Floodplain Management
- Subdivisions
- Zoning



www.orangecountync.gov/Planning

Orange County Building Inspections:
(919) 245-2600 or (919) 245-2601

Orange County Current Planning and Zoning:
(919) 245- 2575 or (919) 245-2574

planningapps@orangecountync.gov

131 W Margaret Lane, Suite 201
Hillsborough, NC 27278

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds serves as custodian and manager of a large number of public records. By law, the Register of Deeds is charged with the integrity, accuracy, and safekeeping of these public records. The services provided by this office include:

- Recording legal documents and maps
- Issuing marriage licenses
- Providing certified copies of documents such as birth and death certificates and military discharges
- Administering notary oaths and personal information redaction
- Accepting applications for passports



www.orangecountync.gov/ROD
(919) 245-2676
RODVitalsRequest@orangecountync.gov
Gateway Center Building,
228 S Churton Street, 3rd floor,
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff is an elected official with constitutional powers who has jurisdiction throughout Orange County and the responsibility for many duties. A professional staff, detention officers, and deputies assist the Sheriff.

The mission of the Sheriff's Office is to be responsive to the needs of all members of our community, as well as to those who visit or travel through. Services include:

- Law enforcement
- Providing for the health and safety of those in the detention center
- Civil process
- Criminal investigations
- School safety
- Court security
- Crime prevention and community outreach
- Victim and crisis services
- Traffic safety
- Logistics
- Maintaining the sex offender registry



www.ocsonc.com
(919) 245-2900
websheriff@orangecountync.gov
106 E. Margaret Lane
Hillsborough, NC 27278

-  [ocsonc](#)
-  [ocncsheriff](#)
-  [ocncsheriff](#)
-  [ocsonc7860](#)

Social Services

The Department of Social Services provides protection to vulnerable children and adults, economic support to low-income individuals and families in crisis, and intervention services to at-risk persons residing in Orange County. They offer access to most state and federal human services programs, including:

- Emergency Food and Financial Assistance
- Medicaid
- Food and Nutrition Services
- Utility Assistance
- Employment Programs
- Child Care Subsidy Assistance
- Protection and Support for Vulnerable Children and Adults



www.orangecountync.gov/DSS
(919) 245-2800
dssinfo@orangecountync.gov

The Department of Social Services has two primary locations:

*Hillsborough Commons
113 Mayo Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278*

*Southern Human Services
2501 Homestead Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516*

Solid Waste Management

The Solid Waste Management Department operates the Orange County Integrated Solid Waste Management facility which contains the construction and demolition landfill, regulated material recycling, and mulch and compost sales. The Department also manages:

- Five Solid Waste and Recycling Centers, including three with Food Waste drop-offs and two with Household Hazardous Waste
- The county's comprehensive Recycling Collection Programs for residential and commercial entities
- A Shred Center for confidential unshredded paper
- Educational services including tours and presentations

www.orangecountync.gov/Recycling
(919) 968-2788
recycling@orangecountync.gov



*Administration Office:
1207 Eubanks Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516*

*Orange County Landfill:
1514 Eubanks Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516*

Stay up to date with Orange County Solid Waste by downloading the free app in the Apple Store or Google Play Store: "Orange County NC Recycles"

 [OCNCSolidwaste](https://www.facebook.com/OCNCSolidwaste)
 [ocncsolidwaste](https://twitter.com/ocncsolidwaste)
 [ocncsolidwaste](https://www.instagram.com/ocncsolidwaste)

Tax Administration

The Tax Administration consists of three divisions:

- GIS/Addressing/Land Records
- Tax Assessment
- Revenue & Collections

Tax Administration Services include:

- Maintaining property information used in public inquiry and legal research
- Discovering, listing, and appraising all property, in accordance with North Carolina statutes, to support fair and equitable property taxation across the county.
- Administering state-authorized tax relief programs, including the Homestead Exclusion for Elderly and Disabled and the Present Use Value program for agricultural, horticultural, and forestry land.
- Supervising the timely collection and disposition of taxes within the county



- Collecting ambulance billing
- Issuing business licenses for beer and wine
- Issuing mobile home moving permits

www.orangecountync.gov/Tax
(919) 245-2100

tax@orangecountync.gov

Gateway Center Building
228 S Churton Street, Suite 200
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Orange County Transportation Services

Transportation Services is a transit organization committed to promoting a healthy quality of life for all community members. We strive to provide locally accessible, community-based transportation services. These services include:

- Mobility on Demand (MOD) Service is an on-demand travel option for the Hillsborough area, including the Ebanks Park-and-Ride in Chapel Hill
- Commuter Options Program provides various ways to get to work that don't include driving alone, such as public transportation, ride sharing, and personalized trip planning to explore commuter options
- Demand Response Services, including Medicaid transportation, Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (EDTAP),



the Rural General Public (RGP) program, and Employment and Transportation Assistance Program

- Fixed routes which include the Hillsborough Circulator and the Orange-Alamance Connector

www.orangecountync.gov/Transportation
(919) 245-2007

OCpublictransit@orangecountync.gov

600 NC Hwy 86 N
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau

Since 1992, the Visitors Bureau has provided information and assistance to those interested in visiting the communities of Orange County, including Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough. The walk-in Visitors Center provides:

- Suggested itineraries
- Directions
- Visitor guides
- North Carolina and local maps
- ADA guide to local restaurants and hotels highlighting accessibility
- Brochures from many of the area's favorite attractions
- A restaurant guide
- Maps to local murals

Free parking to those visiting the Welcome Center is to the left of the building, West Franklin Street, Chapel Hill. ADA access and parking is available in the parking lot.



www.orangecountync.gov/VisitorsBureau
www.visitchapelhill.org
(919) 245-4320 or toll-free at 888-968-2060
info@visitchapelhill.org

308 West Franklin Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

- Facebook: [visitchapelhill](https://www.facebook.com/visitchapelhill)
- X: [visitchapelhill](https://twitter.com/visitchapelhill)
- Instagram: [visitchapelhill](https://www.instagram.com/visitchapelhill)
- YouTube: [chocvb](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



For information about boards and commissions or to obtain an application, please contact the County Clerk's Office at (919) 245-2130 or clerk@orangecountync.gov or go online: www.orangecountync.gov/BoardsAndCommissions.

ADULT CARE HOME AND NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee works to maintain the intent of the Adult Care Home and Nursing Home Residents' Bills of Rights and promote community involvement and cooperation with these homes to ensure quality care for older and disabled adults.

ADVISORY BOARD ON AGING

This Board advocates for older adults in Orange County by making recommendations and suggesting policies to the Board of County Commissioners and the Department on Aging. These suggestions include the needs for a comprehensive, integrated approach to the delivery of services in the fields of health, mental health, social services, recreation, employment and other programs for older adults.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

This Board advises the Board of County Commissioners regarding prioritizing housing needs, assessing project proposals, publicizing the county's housing objectives, monitoring the progress of local housing programs, exploring new funding opportunities, and increasing the community's awareness of the need for attractive, affordable housing.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

This Board seeks to encourage the voluntary preservation of farmland from non-farm development, recognizing the importance of agriculture to the economic and cultural life of the county. It administers the county's Voluntary Farmland Protection Program ordinance and advises the Board of County Commissioners on a wide range of agricultural topics.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

The ABC Board has the authority to buy, sell, transport and possess alcoholic beverages for the operation of its stores. This Board also adopts rules for the ABC system and has the authority to hire and dismiss employees.

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

The Animal Services Advisory Board advises the Board of County Commissioners on matters of concern regarding animal issues and services within the county and works with Animal Services on various policy concerns and issues.

ANIMAL SERVICES HEARING PANEL POOL

The panel hears appeals concerning violations of the Orange County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4 ("Animal Control Ordinance"), as provided in the Orange County Code of Ordinances, Section 4-53 Appeals and also potentially dangerous dog appeals as prescribed by N.C. Gen. Stat. §67-4.1(c). Pool members conduct fair and impartial hearings for these appeals and receive training in both law and proper procedure prior to participating in a hearing.

ARTS COMMISSION

The Arts Commission recommends strategies to promote the artistic and cultural growth of Orange County, advises the Board of County Commissioners on matters involving the arts, and acts as the granting panel for two annual funding programs available to individual artists and non-profit groups sponsoring arts projects in Orange County.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

The Board of Equalization and Review hears appeals from residents concerning various property tax issues, including valuation and exemption appeals. The Board of Equalization and Review is charged with ensuring that all taxable property is appraised and assessed according to the standards required by N.C. General Statutes. Members are compensated for all meetings attended.

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health is the primary policy-making and adjudicatory body for the Health Department and is charged to protect and promote the public health of Orange County. The board is mandated by state law and is composed of professionals representing specified health-related fields in addition to several at-large members.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The Board is charged with selecting the Director of Social Services and advising the county and municipalities on ways to improve the social conditions of the community.

CHAPEL HILL/ORANGE COUNTY VISITOR'S BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD

The Visitor's Bureau develops and coordinates visitor services in Orange County. It also implements marketing programs to enhance the economic activity and quality of life in the community.

COMMISSION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

This commission advises the Board of Commissioners on matters affecting the environment with particular emphasis on protection. It educates public and local officials on environmental issues and performs special studies and projects. The commission also recommends environmental initiatives and studies changes in environmental science and local and federal regulations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

The Economic Development Advisory Board works cohesively with Economic Development staff and other economic development partners to position Orange County as a competitive location for business opportunities.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

This commission identifies, inventories and protects sites in the county with historical, prehistorical, architectural, and/or cultural significance. It recommends areas to be designated or removed as historic sites and provides preservation policy recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) studies and makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners concerning problems in the field of human relations. The HRC seeks solutions to community issues that may create animosity and unrest, makes recommendations designed to promote goodwill and harmony among groups in the county, and addresses and attempts to remedy the violence, tensions, polarization, and other harm created through discrimination, bias, hatred, and inequity.

OPIOID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Opioid Advisory Committee is charged to discuss opioid-related health concerns and issues impacting the residents of Orange County and advise the Board of Commissioners on options to expend funds to remedy opioid impacts. The committee will also plan and host one annual meeting open to the public to receive input from municipalities on proposed uses of the settlement funds and to encourage collaboration between local governments.

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustments hears and decides on variance applications and appeals submitted related to decisions/determinations made by the Planning Director and reviews and takes action on Class B Special Use Permit applications and matters required to pass by the Unified Development Ordinance.

ORANGE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

The Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA) Board oversees the running of all OCHA programs, chiefly the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV, formerly “Section 8”) program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Board monitors all HCV processes and approves major policy changes and updates.

ORANGE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COUNCIL

This council consults with the Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks & Recreation and advises the Board of County Commissioners on matters including park planning, public trails and open space, recreation facilities and programs.

ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

This board studies Orange County and surrounding areas to determine objectives in the development of the county. It prepares and recommends plans to achieve that development, including the suggesting of policies, ordinances, and procedures. The Planning Board also reviews development applications and makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

ORANGE UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION BOARD

The Orange Unified Transportation Board (OUTBoard) advises the Board of County Commissioners and provides information and comments on major transportation issues. The OUTBoard also provides recommendations regarding the overall planning and programming of transportation improvements in the county.

For information about boards and commissions or to obtain an application, please contact the County Clerk’s Office at (919) 245-2130 or clerk@orangecountync.gov or go online: www.orangecountync.gov/BoardsAndCommissions.



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