

**Reports on Recommended Budgets for FY16**

05/26/15 719 W - + 7 - 5

The cities, towns, and counties of the Triangle have published their recommended budgets in recent days and weeks. What's on tap for fire department and fire service budgets? Here's what Mr. Blogger has gleaned. *Readers, please augment (or outright correct) as needed!*

**Raleigh**

<http://www.raleighnc.gov/government/content/BudgetManagement/Articles/BudgetsAndProcess.html>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Hire some thirty firefighters. (Recruiting starts in July, FYI.)
- Convert three firefighter positions to Lieutenant positions. (Presumably anticipating tiller delivery in fall.)
- Add two Deputy Fire Marshal positions.
- Station 10 and Station 15 are next for renovations (design services funded in FY16), following Station 5 and Station 2 funded this budget year.
- Increased operational funding of \$320,000 for Station 29.
- Funding for needs study for new training facility.
- No new apparatus.

**Durham**

[http://durhamnc.gov/ich/as/bms/Pages/2015-2016\\_Preliminary\\_Budget.aspx](http://durhamnc.gov/ich/as/bms/Pages/2015-2016_Preliminary_Budget.aspx)

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Add fifteen full-time positions. Presuming firefighters, for Engine 17 / Station 17?
- Complete design and development process of Fire Station 17, anticipating construction in FY17. Location is corner of Leesville and Doc Nichols Road. Believe the parcel is addressed 5503, northwest corner. Total 3.379 acres.
- Start land acquisition for future Fire Station 18 site, in area of Herndon Road and Stinhurst Drive.

**Chapel Hill**

<http://www.townofchapelhill.org/town-hall/departments-services/business-management/budget/budget-development/2015-2016>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Two fire inspector positions added.
- References to the town's four (presumably oldest) fire stations needing replacement, along with training center.
- References to a Hamilton Road fire station site, part of a public-private redevelopment project.

**Cary**

<https://www.townofcary.org/Departments/townmanagersoffice/Budget/recommendedFY2016.htm>

See [this blog posting](#).

**Apex**

<https://www.apexnc.org/153/Budget>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Heavy rescue replacement.  
"Apex Rescue 4 serves as the fire district's Heavy Rescue unit operating out of our station on East Williams Street. The truck carries all types of rescue equipment to include Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, Vehicle Extrication and High-Angle Rope Rescue. The total cost of this truck is \$445,000. Of this, \$84,000 will be paid by a Wake County fire apparatus replacement grant."
- Pumper purchase for Station 5.  
"Once Public Safety Station 5 is constructed, a new [\$385,000] fire engine will be required to operate from this location. The purchase of an engine with all necessary equipment will reduce the response times to fire and medical calls to the western side of Apex. The amount shown is the cost of the apparatus. Equipment costs (\$35,000) are included in the budget, but not paid for from fund balance."
- Add twelve new firefighters, effective June 8, 2016, in advance of opening of Station 5.

- SCBA replacement.

Details on Public Safety Station 5?

- Addressed 2050 Kelly Road, which is northeast corner of Apex Barbecue and Kelly roads.
- Architect Stewart-Cooper-Newell completing design work, with project going to bid soon.

Fuquay-Varina

Unable to find online / not yet available online.

Holly Springs

<http://www.hollyspringsnc.us/index.aspx?nid=704>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Replace two vehicles, Battalion 1 and Car 3.
- SCBA Replacement

Knightdale

Unable to find online / not yet available online.

Morrisville

<http://www.townofmorrisville.org/index.aspx?NID=350>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Replacement of light-duty rescue at Station 2
- Resources to implement quint staffing restructure. This puts in place the hierarchy of positions (captain, lieutenant, engineer) as department plans for the next major purchase of equipment in 2018. Also allows for alignment of pay grades and salaries to support the promotions anticipated as a part of the deployment of this plan.

Wake Forest

<http://www.wakeforestnc.gov/budget.aspx>

Wendell

<http://www.townofwendell.com/departments/finance/budget>

Zebulon

Unable to find online / not yet available online.

Wake County

<http://www.wakegov.com/budget/fy16/Pages/default.aspx>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Seven year CIP plan references new fire/police station in Wendell Falls (scheduled to be complete by 2021), and a fire/EMS station on the north side of Fuquay-Varina.
- Seven year CIP plan includes replacement of thirty-two large apparatus, pumper/tankers, tankers, rescues, and an aerial ladder, and twenty-one small/admin vehicles.

Durham County


<http://tinyurl.com/nn2ndph>

Highlights of recommended budget:

- Add Fire Operations Analyst position.
- Combine Bethesda and Parkwood fire districts into single combined fire district.
- Can't find any capital expenditure news, e.g. apparatus or facilities.
- Word on street is that a replacement fire station is planned for the Old Page Road station (formerly Parkwood Station 3). New facility will be located on/around Davis Drive.

For those replacing SCBA, are you getting all new or just replacing some? What brand is being purchased?

**Kenny** - 05/27/15 - 09:27

No new apparatus for Raleigh?  WOW!!! That's a mistake. Wonder why the replacement request was not approved? Last I saw on paper was a request for 5 pumpers which would have replaced 3, 8, 12, 15, & 17. 3 would become 29, 8 would become 5, 12 would become 21, and 15 & 17 would go to reserve along with current 21, 5, & 29.

**Rescue Ranger** - 05/31/15 - 12:50

As with most municipalities in the state, the city took a hit from the state's repeal of privilege licensing. Saw \$7.1 million cited in one news story.

**Legeros** - 05/31/15 - 12:55

Raleigh does have a tiller and an Engine on order from the budget that ends in june. also, Smithfield has ordered a new engine and a new ladder. Brogden in Johnston county has a new engine in production as well.

**fire truck buff** - 05/31/15 - 20:40

News & Observer story about budgets in Western Wake County towns. Notes Fuquay-Varina adding two firefighters, and Holly Springs adding three. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/c..>

**Legeros** - 06/09/15 - 07:28

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