

MULTI-YEAR PLANS

Guilford County has a number of multi-year planning processes to help forecast future expenses and revenues. While the annual budget focuses on needs for the next fiscal year, long-term plans focus beyond the immediate budget year. Being aware of future needs provides a broad fiscal perspective that helps decision makers make better short-term choices and understand how those choices may impact future budgets.

The multi-year plans prepared by the County include:

- The **Large Equipment Plan** focuses on significant equipment needs. These purchases typically cost over \$5,000 and may be annual purchases or one-time purchases. Examples of large equipment purchases that would be included in the plan are cardiac monitors and defibrillators for ambulances. The plan presented is for five fiscal years.
- The **Major Facility Maintenance Plan** focuses on major facility repairs and renovations, such as roof repairs or replacement of air conditioning equipment. The plan presented is for five fiscal years.
- The **Major Technology Plan** focuses on major county technology needs, such as software and hardware purchases and upgrades. The county's annual desktop replacement plan is accounted for in the Technology Plan. The plan presented is for five fiscal years.
- The **Vehicle Replacement Plan** plans for the replacement of county fleet vehicles, including passenger cars, equipment trucks, law enforcement vehicles, and ambulances. Vehicles are considered for replacement based on mileage, condition, use, and maintenance costs. The plan presented is for the next fiscal year.
- The **Capital Investment Plan (CIP)** focuses on expensive, usually one-time investments that are anticipated to take more than one year to complete and represent a long-term interest. The County prepares a separate CIP document for rolling 10 year periods. A summary of highlights including new projects and changes to existing projects planned for the current fiscal year is included in the Capital section of this document. The latest CIP and a dashboard with up-to-date financial information about current capital projects are both available on the County's website.

These plans are developed by staff committees that receive and evaluate requests to purchase the items described above. The committees consider departmental priorities, county priorities, and funding constraints to develop plans that meet the organization's needs while avoiding significant spikes in the annual budgets. Committee recommendations are submitted to and reviewed by Budget Department staff for presentation to the County Manager and inclusion in the recommended and adopted budgets. The approved purchases on the following pages have been incorporated into the departmental budgets presented throughout this document.