FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2024

GASTON COUNTY
Local Strengths. Global Success.

Prepared by the Gaston County
Finance Department

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GASTON COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

PREPARED BY: FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Introductory Section

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GASTON COUNTY
Finance

Gaston County Finance Department

P.O. Box 1578 · Gastonia, NC 28053-1578 · Phone (704) 866-3111 · Fax (704) 866-3518

December 4, 2024

The Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Commissioners
Gaston County
Gastonia, North Carolina

It is our pleasure to present the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of Gaston County, North Carolina for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, with comparative numbers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

This report consists of management's representations concerning the finances of Gaston County. Consequently, management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of all information presented in this report. To provide a reasonable basis for making these representations, management of the County has established a comprehensive internal control framework that is designed both to protect the government's assets from loss, theft, or misuse and to compile sufficient reliable information for the preparation of Gaston County's financial statements in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Because the cost of internal controls should not outweigh their benefits, the County's comprehensive framework of internal controls has been designed to provide reasonable rather than absolute assurance that the financial statements will be free from material misstatement. As management, we assert that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, this financial report is complete and reliable in all material respects.

Gaston County's financial statements have been audited by Martin, Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A., a firm of licensed certified public accountants. The goal of the independent audit was to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, are free of material misstatement. The independent audit involved examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management; and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Then the independent auditor concluded, based upon the audit, that there was a reasonable basis for rendering an unmodified opinion that the Gaston County's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, are fairly presented in conformity with GAAP. The independent auditor's report is presented as the first component of the financial section of this report.

The independent audit of the financial statements of the County was a part of a broader, federally mandated "Single Audit" and state mandated "State Single Audit Implementation Act" designed to meet the special needs of the federal and state grantor agencies.

The standards governing Single Audit engagement require the independent auditor to report not only on the fair presentation of the financial statements, but also on the audited government's internal controls and compliance with legal requirements, with special emphasis on the internal controls and legal requirements involving the administration of the federal and state awards. These reports are presented in a separately bound presentation.

This report is consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 34, "Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments" and No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity". The report presents the County's basic financial statements. The County's basic financial statements consist of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, (3) notes to the financial statements.

GAAP requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of Management's Discussion and Analysis. This letter of transmittal is designed to complement the Management Discussion and Analysis and should be read in conjunction with it. The County's MD&A can be found immediately following the report of the independent auditors.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY

Gaston County was created on December 21, 1846, by the North Carolina General Assembly. Located in the south-central part of the Piedmont region of the State approximately 15 miles west of Charlotte, Gaston County encompasses an area of 364.5 square miles. The County is bound on the east by the Catawba River and Mecklenburg County, on the south by York County, South Carolina, on the west by Cleveland County and on the north by Lincoln County. The County's 2024 population was estimated at 243,242.

There are 14 active municipalities and one inactive municipal unit fully contained within the County limits. A portion of the City of Kings Mountain (majority located in Cleveland County) lies in the western section of the County. The municipalities range in size from the City of Gastonia, the County seat, with a 2024 estimated population of 85,080 to the Town of High Shoals with an estimated population of 620.

The topography of the County is gently rolling to hilly, with several pronounced ridges, including Kings Mountain Pinnacle, Spencer Mountain, Jackson's Knob, Paysour Mountain, and Crowders Mountain. Elevations above sea level in Gaston County range from 587 feet in the southeast corner to 1,705 feet at the Pinnacle of the Kings Mountain ridge in the southwest. The average elevation is estimated at 825 feet.

The County is traversed from east to west by Interstate Highway I-85 and U.S. Highway 29/74 and north to south by U.S. Highway 321. This segment of U.S. Highway 321 is a controlled access four-lane highway that now connects two major interstate routes, I-85 in the County and Interstate Highway 40 in Catawba County. Two major railroad lines serve the County: Norfolk/Southern Railroad System, and CSX Railroad System. These railroads provide freight and limited passenger transportation to interchange points with other railroads throughout the eastern United States.

Gastonia Municipal Airport is located south of the City of Gastonia and is owned and operated by the

City of Gastonia. The facility has one lighted runway measuring 3,750 feet and one unlighted emergency runway measuring 2,500 feet. Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, west of the City of Charlotte, provides regularly scheduled airline passenger and freight service, on both a national and international schedule. Over 50 freight and trucking companies as well as a national bus line carrier serve the County.

The County operates under the manager form of government. Policy making and legislative authority are vested in a Board of Commissioners consisting of seven members who are elected for four-year terms on a two-year staggered basis. The County Manager is appointed by the Board and is responsible for the administration of the affairs of the County. The County is responsible for and maintains a full range of services inherent in the operation of a county government. These services include general government, public safety, human services, cultural and recreational activities, education, economic and physical development, and environmental protection. The County also operates a landfill on a user charge basis. This report includes all the County's activities in maintaining these services.

The County operates under an annual budget ordinance, adopted in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. Budgetary control is maintained on a fund basis and may be amended as changing conditions warrant.

LOCAL ECONOMY

The County has traditionally been a center for textile goods production but after the economic downturn of the earlier years of this century, many of the textile jobs have been eliminated. The County has made significant advances in diversifying and expanding the local economy. Today, the County's economy is more diversified with a variety of industry, trade and tourism sectors. More than half of the County's workforce is employed in manufacturing (20%), health care and social assistance (15%), retail trade (13%), and accommodation and food service (9%). The remaining workforce is employed in a variety of industries including educational services (8%), administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (6%), construction (6%), public administration (6%), and others (17%).

Major business and institutional employers in the County include Caromont Health, Gaston County Schools, Freightliner Corporation, Gaston County government, Wal-Mart Associates Inc., Mann+hummel, and American & Efird LLC.

In 1977, the Board of Commissioners established a County-wide Economic Development Commission (EDC). The purpose of the EDC is to actively promote and market the County to corporate site location decision-makers throughout the U.S. and the world. The EDC works with the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance to promote the area and recruit business. The EDC has been actively involved in the development of five new business parks since 1997 including the most recent development Apple Creek Corporate Center. These new parks created an additional 1,300 acres of business site inventory located primarily along Interstate Highway 85. This inventory ensures that sites are available for the location of new businesses and the expansion of existing businesses. Not only do the new parks increase the acreage available but they also provide a wide range of sites to accommodate small and large corporate facilities.

The County continues to emphasize the attraction of new and diverse industry, while providing support for the existing commercial and industrial community. The County's annual average unemployment rate as estimated by LAUS was 3.5% in October 2024, compared to 3.4% in October 2023. The economic outlook is cautiously optimistic as consumer/investor confidence consistently improves.

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING

The Local Government Commission (Department of State Treasurer) recommends, at a minimum, fund balance available as a percentage of General Fund expenditures of 8%. It is the County's stated goal to respect the integrity of the fund balance and use it sparingly, by maintaining a minimum unassigned fund balance of at least 15-20% of General Fund revenues at the end of each fiscal year. Where the County falls within this general range depends upon a variety of factors including pending capital projects and economic conditions.

The County's General Fund available fund balance at June 30, 2024 is $115,406,626, 33.44% of total expenditures and transfers-out. With the adoption of the fiscal year 2024/2025 budget, the Board of Commissioners sought to align expenditures with revenues to have a long-term solution to the voter approved debt service, procurement of replacement vehicles for our aging fleet and funding increases in the health insurance premiums.

The County has also made strides with its long-term capital planning, creating a multi-departmental committee and revising the capital project request process to help ensure consistency and promote data-informed decision-making. Long-term capital planning will lower borrowing costs, increase ratings given by credit rating agencies, and give additional and more precise data to the LGC to reflect long-term capital needs. These efforts continued with the adoption of the fiscal year 2024/2025 budget.

MAJOR INITIATIVES

Gaston County strives to be an organization ready to respond to short- and long-term challenges through data-driven decision-making, keen problem-solving, empathy, integrity, and an inclusive, service-oriented mindset. Below are highlighted accomplishments from across the organization by function:

General Government

- Budget & Strategy developed the FY24 budget with a tax rate below revenue neutral and minimal impact to services.
- The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners collaborated with County contract processing stakeholders to develop a digital component for the centralized County contract process.
- The County Attorney's Office reviewed, negotiated, and approved 556 new contracts and 196 contract amendments.
- Communications (Public Information Office) launched *Gaston Unsolved*, started the monthly *Savvy Sounds* series, published the most *Savvy Citizen* podcasts in a single year

since launching the podcast, passed 10,000 downloads and 150 episodes on *Savvy Citizen*, winning multiple state and national awards.

- Elections successfully administered municipal elections in 13 municipalities in Gaston County with the highest voter history accuracy rate, due to improved accounting procedures for precinct workers.
- Finance led a collaboration with representatives from across the County to overhaul the County's Travel Policy, including training and implementation of the new policy and procedures.
- Human Resources implemented a new applicant tracking system.
- Information Technology implemented the ESRI Portal, which allows GIS data to be shared more freely with internal collaborators.
- Internal Audit investigated over 25 employee hotline tips and complaints since inception (April 1, 2023), collaborating with HR on complaints that were personnel related.
- Public Works is nearing completion of a comprehensive parking lot study, exploring various avenues to enhance and optimize parking facilities.
- The Gaston County MWBE/HUB program won an award for its innovative approach to increasing contract participation among minority- and women-owned businesses. Due to a lack of participation and inclusion of these businesses in Gaston County's construction contracting services, county leadership identified the primary causes and took action to address the issue effectively.
- The Register of Deeds' Real Estate Indexing is routinely completed within 24 hours of recording, far surpassing the state completion requirement of 30 days.
- The Tax Office processed 6,200 informal appeals from February to June while also processing 1,416 formal appeals from April to August. Of those 1,416 formal appeals, only 44 were appealed to the Property Tax Commission. These appeals were completed earlier than anticipated, based on the volume and staffing constraints.
- Matthew Rhoten of the County Manager's Office was recognized by UNC Charlotte as its Alumni of the Year.

Public Safety

- Building and Development Services Planning Division has cleaned up and streamlined workflows for rezonings, variances, and special use permits.
- The Gaston County Housing Rehabilitation Program was awarded by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency at the organization's NC Affordable Housing Awards in Raleigh. Gaston County's program was the first county or city entity in the 34-year history of the program to win such an award.
- By participating in Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement (DA-LE), Gaston County Police provided training, peer support, and improved coordination with other County

departments, as well as local municipalities, to identify victims at the highest risk of intimate partner homicide.

- Emergency Management & Fire Services expanded the Fire and Life-Safety Education Program to include the new All-Hazards simulator.
- GEMS expanded our Community Paramedicine program to 24/7 coverage, focusing on high-frequency utilizer reduction, opioid overdose follow-up and MAT treatment, and homebound/homeless vaccinations.
- The Sheriff's Office instituted a Jail Investigation Team responsible for reducing the number of drugs and contraband introduced into the jail facility. This team is responsible for seizing drugs with a street value of $2.6 million.

Human Services

- Community Support Services enhanced community partnerships, such as delivering services to the homeless at Mt. Zion Restoration Church and building a substance use early intervention effort with Gaston County Schools.
- GEMS and Public Health worked together to distribute more than 13,000 opioid overdose reversal kits, thanks to funding from the General Assembly. As part of that work, we are beginning to see a decline in fatal drug overdoses in the county.
- Public Health is responding to new challenges post-COVID-19 by reallocating resources to best serve our needs and patient care. Examples include additional support in business services, realignment of program areas to eliminate work silos, and a renewed focus on health priorities.
- Social Services' Work First program won the Excellence in Innovation award from the NC Association of County Commissioners for creating an all-encompassing location to provide services for the refugee population.

Other

- Cooperative Extension Service provided 1,767 Gaston County residents with health, food & nutrition programming and engaged 1,346 youth in school enrichment programs.
- The Economic Development Commission has two sites in the Apple Creek Corporate Center under option, one for a new industrial manufacturer, and another for a local expansion. The EDC recruited Lynddal Telecom America to the former Marlatex facility in Belmont. Lynddahl, based in Denmark, opened its first North American Production facilty in Gaston County with $5.6 million capital investment and plans to create 54 new jobs. The EDC recruited Heyco Werk USA which announced $12.75 million capital investment to build a 60,000 SF facility in Apple Creek and 34 new jobs. The Groundbreaking Event for Heyco and office Grand Opening for Premix, both in county-owned Apple Creek Corporate Center, were held in 2024. The EDC also supported multiple new industrial warehouse developments announced throughout the county including Pinnacle Park, Westside Logistics Center, and Kings Mountain Exchange.
- Using additional State Aid, the Gaston County Public Library replaced many nonfunctional items and made enhancements at all locations with new book drops, new shelving units, and new furniture.

- The Gaston County Museum of Art and History acquired a national-scale gift of 250 works of art from Gastonia native John T. Biggers, from the Hazel Biggers Trust, making Gaston County Museum of Art & History one of only three major collections of the artist's work in the country.
- Natural Resources' utilization of drone technology has increased the efficiency and effectiveness of sediment and erosion control site inspections.
- Parks and Recreation is celebrating the acquisition of new park properties, including South Point Access, pending Catawba Cove, and Spencer Mountain Access. These additions provide additional passive and active recreation activities to Gaston County.
- Solid Waste Services was critical in helping Cherryville with clean-up activities within regulatory requirements in the wake of the FEMA-classified disaster in Cherryville, May 2023.
- Tourism Development received multiple awards, including the National Association of Counties 2023 Achievement Award, the Black Folks Camp Too 2023 Destination Marketing Organization of the Year Award, and two North Carolina Travel Industry Association 2023 Tourism Achievement Awards: Gold for Leisure Marketing and Platinum for Convention Marketing.

In addition to these department-level operating initiatives, the County continued its merit-based salary adjustment system and 401(k) plan. These initiatives were included in the fiscal year 2023/2024 budget as well.

DEBT

As described in the long-term financial planning section, Gaston County constantly assesses its capital needs and, where appropriate, addresses the need for long-term financing. The County strives to confine long-term borrowing to terms of 20 years or less, paying attention to the expected useful life of the project. Long-term debt will not be used as a source of funding for current operations. The County maintains a sound relationship with all bond rating agencies and lending institutions. In June 2023, Moody's Investors Service upgraded the County's rating from Aa1 to Aaa. The County maintains its AA+ rating, received in April 2019, with Standard & Poor's.

The voters of Gaston County approved $250,000,000 in general obligation bonds for additional school buildings and other school plant facilities, enlarging, reconstructing, renovating, existing school buildings, and acquiring any land, furnishings, equipment, and appurtenant facilities. The first $60,000,000 of these authorized bonds was issued in November of 2018. The second series of the authorized bonds were issued as Bond Anticipation Notes in July 2023 in the amount of $80,000,000.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

Internal controls are designed to ensure that the assets of the County are protected from loss, theft or misuse, and that adequate accounting data is compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP. Internal controls are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met for both internal and external reporting purposes. Refining internal controls is an ongoing process that is necessary to provide assurances.

The County's most significant internal control is the budget used to monitor and manage expenditures. North Carolina General Statutes require the adoption of an annual budget for all funds except fiduciary funds, internal service funds, and those funds for which expenditures are authorized by project ordinance. The annual budget is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting, as mandated by statutes, and is an integral part of the County's accounting system and daily operations.

Under modified accrual accounting, revenues are recorded when they are both measurable and available. The County makes every attempt to maintain a diverse and stable revenue base to shelter it from short and long-term fluctuations in any one revenue source. Aggressive collection policies are in place to ensure the highest collection percentage possible for County revenues. User charges and fees are reviewed annually to establish amounts that support the cost of service provision.

Expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, except for interest on long-term debt and accrued vacation benefits. The Board of County Commissioners can only amend the budget since it creates a legal limit on spending authorizations. Once the budget is adopted, budgetary control is maintained to ensure compliance with the budget as adopted or amended. The level of budgetary control is established within each individual fund as deemed appropriate. At the end of the fiscal year, encumbrances are reported as a reservation of fund balance. Unencumbered balances lapse for the annually adopted budget.

It is believed that the County's internal accounting controls adequately protect assets and provide reasonable assurance of the proper recording of financial transactions.

GRANTS

As a recipient of Federal and State financial assistance, the County is also responsible for ensuring that an adequate internal control structure is in place to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations related to these programs. The County's single audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 and the report, along with any areas of concern, are included in and available through the Finance Department.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT

North Carolina General Statutes require an annual independent audit of all local government units in the state. Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A., a firm of independent certified public accountants, has audited the financial records of the County and its opinion has been included in this report. The firm's audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in Gaston County's basic financial statements as well as assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management. The firm's opinion indicates that the accompanying Gaston County's basic financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, have been prepared in conformity with GAAP.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with applicable General Statutes of North Carolina and in conformance with standards set forth by:

*The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB)
*The State Auditor, State of North Carolina
*The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA)
*The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and its Committee on Governmental Accounting and Auditing

There has been significant summarizing of financial details to make the report easily readable and understandable.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Gaston County, North Carolina for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. Gaston County has received a Certificate of Achievement for the past 16 consecutive years. The County believes the fiscal year annual comprehensive financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and will submit it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to express our appreciation to each member of the Finance Department who has assisted in the preparation of this report. Due to their professional competence and dedicated service, this Annual Comprehensive Financial Report was prepared and contains complete financial information about the County's operations. We would also like to recognize the cooperation of each County department as we work together to meet the needs of all the residents of Gaston County. Additional thanks are due to the members of the Board of Commissioners for their continued guidance and support throughout the past year. The Commission has played a vital role in enabling Gaston County to achieve and maintain a high degree of fiscal responsibility. We believe this report reflects the financial health of the County which we submit to you with pride as a tribute to your leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Rhoten
County Manager

Kyle Sutherland, CPA, CIA
Finance Director

Mission Statement
Providing excellent public service every day.

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GASTON COUNTY RESIDENTS



REGISTER OF DEEDS
Susan Lockridge



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Chad Brown • Bob Hovis • Tom Keigher • Cathy Cloninger • Allen Fraley • Kim Johnson • Ronnie Worley

SHERIFF
Chad Hawkins





CLERK TO THE BOARD
Donna Buff



COUNTY MANAGER
Matthew Rhoten



COUNTY ATTORNEY
Charles Moore (Interim)



DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER
Vincent Wong



ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER
Brian Sciba



ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER
Steve Eaton



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
Justin Amos



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAPITAL PROJECTS
Ray Maxwell



PROCESS IMPROVEMENT DIRECTOR
Janet Schafer



COMMUNICATIONS
Adam Gaub



BUILDING INSPECTIONS
Mike Roper



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES
Dr. Gregory Grier



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Jonette Mungo



FINANCIAL & MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Scott Attaway



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Donny Hicks



EMERGENCY MGMT & FIRE SERVICES
Chief Scott Hunter Sr.



HOUSING REHABILITATION
Marc Bolick



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Ricky Johnson



ELECTIONS
Adam Ragan



BUDGET
Taylor Ricci



FINANCE
Kyle Sutherland



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
Chief Mark Lamphiear



NATURAL RESOURCES
Will Wier



MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY
Alexandrea Pizza



GASTON COLLEGE
Dr. John Hauser



HUMAN RESOURCES
Amia Massey



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM
Michael Applegate



PUBLIC HEALTH
Brittain Kenney



GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
Dr. Morgen Houchard



POLICE
Chief Stephen Zill



PLANNING & ZONING
Jamie Kanburoglu



PUBLIC LIBRARY
Susan McDonald



TAX
Chelsea Tarbush



PUBLIC WORKS
Dan Ziehm



SOCIAL SERVICES
Angela Karchmer

- Elected Official
- Appointed by BoC
- Partner Agency
- Dept. Directors
- Manager's Executive Team

GASTON COUNTY
Organizational Chart
Effective September 2024

GASTON COUNTY, NC

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MISSION STATEMENT
Providing excellent public service every day.

VISION STATEMENT
Gaston County Government will be a model of excellence in public service leadership, innovation, collaboration and inclusion, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents, preserving natural resources and providing recreational, cultural, and economic opportunities that lead to global success and set the stage for future generations.



Chairman
CHAD BROWN
Riverbend Township



Vice-Chairman
BOB HOVIS
Crowders Mountain Township



CATHY CLONINGER
Dallas Township



ALLEN FRALEY
Cherryville Township



KIM JOHNSON
Gastonia Township



TOM KEIGHER
Gastonia Township



RONNIE WORLEY
South Point Township

Gaston County, NC
PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS



MATTHEW RHOTEN
County Manager

SUSAN LOCKRIDGE
Register of Deeds

CHAD HAWKINS
Sheriff

VINCENT WONG
Deputy County Manager

STEVE EATON
Assistant County Manager

BRIAN SCIBA
Assistant County Manager

JUSTIN AMOS
Executive Director Intergovernmental Relations

RAY MAXWELL
Executive Director Capital Projects

DONNY HICKS
Economic Development

DONNA BUFF
Clerk to the Board

ADAM GAUB
Communications

SCOTT ATTAWAY
Financial & Management Services

CHARLES MOORE
Interim County Attorney

KYLE SUTHERLAND
Finance

TAYLOR RICCI
Budget & Strategy

JANET SCHAFER
Process Improvement

AMIA MASSEY
Human Resources

DAN ZIEHM
Public Works

RICKY JOHNSON
Information Technology

CHELSEA TARBUSH
Tax

CHIEF STEPHEN ZILL
County Police

SCOTT HUNTER
Emergency Management & Fire Services

MICHAEL APPLEGATE
Parks, Recreation & Tourism

MARK LAMPHIEAR
Gaston Emergency Medical Services

JONETTE MUNGO
Cooperative Extension

ADAM RAGAN
Elections

BRITTAIN KENNEY
Public Health

DR. JOHN HAUSER
Gaston College

DR. MORGEN HOUCHARD
Gaston County Schools

DAVID WILLIAMS
Community Affairs/ Business Inclusion

SUSAN MCDONALD
Library

ALEXANDREA PIZZA
Museum

ANGELA KARCHMER
Social Services

Gaston County, NC

PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS

MIKE ROPER	**DR. GREGORY GRIER**	**MARC BOLICK**	**WILL WIER**	**JAMIE KANBUROGLU**
Building Inspections	Community Support Services	Housing Rehabilitation	Natural Resources	Planning & Zoning

Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

Gaston County
North Carolina

For its Annual Comprehensive
Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2023

Christopher P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Section

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Independent Auditor's Report

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MARTIN ♦ STARNES
& ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.
"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
Gaston County
Gastonia, North Carolina

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County, North Carolina, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States *(Government Auditing Standards)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, which raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards,* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise a substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Schedule of the Change in Total Pension Liability and Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll, the Other Post-Employment Benefits' Schedules of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System Schedules of the County's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset) and County Contributions, and the Register of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund Schedule of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Schedule of County Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic

financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Gaston County's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements, budget and actual schedules, and other schedules, as well as the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund financial statements, budget and actual schedules, other schedules, and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory section and the statistical tables but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report date December 4, 2024 on our consideration of Gaston County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Gaston County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* in considering Gaston County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
December 4, 2024

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Management's Discussion and Analysis

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Management's Discussion and Analysis

The management of Gaston County provides the readers of the County's financial statements the following narrative summary and analysis of the financial activities of Gaston County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to read this information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the County's financial statements, which follows this narrative.

Financial Highlights

- The liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of Gaston County exceed its assets and deferred outflows of resources at the end of the fiscal year by $182,285,493 (net position).
- The County's net position of governmental activities increased by $17,559,859, and business-type activities increased by $3,849,310.
- As of June 30, 2024, Gaston County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of $316,996,609, after a net increase in fund balance of $73,493,751. Approximately 42.89% of this total amount, or $135,944,057, is restricted or non-spendable.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, available fund balance for the General Fund was $115,406,626, or 33.44%, of total General Fund expenditures and transfers to other funds for the fiscal year.
- Gaston County's total debt, excluding premium on refunding, compensated absences, net pension obligations and other post-employment benefits, increased by $62,195,119 during the current fiscal year.
- The County maintained the following bond ratings:

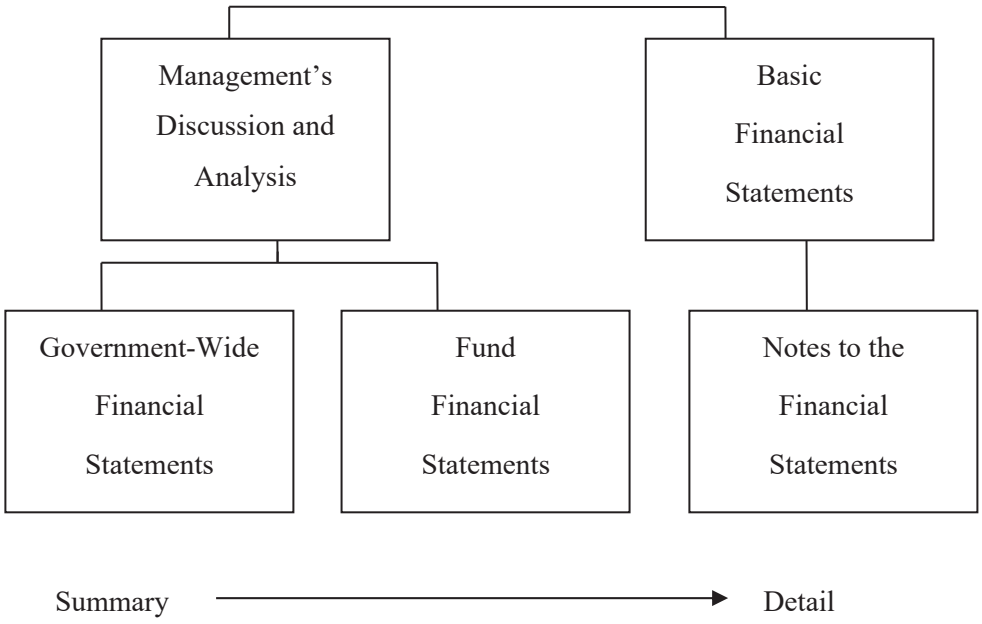
Moody's	Aaa
Standard & Poor's	AA+

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is an introduction to Gaston County's basic financial statements. The County's basic financial statements consist of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of the County through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of Gaston County.

Required Components of the Annual Financial Report

Figure 1



Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits A and B) in the basic financial statements are the **government-wide financial statements.** They provide both short and long-term information about the County's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits C through L) are **fund financial statements.** These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of Gaston County government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are four parts to the fund financial statements: (1) the governmental funds statements, (2) the budgetary comparison statements, (3) the proprietary fund statements, and (4) the fiduciary fund statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **notes**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the notes, **supplemental information** is provided to show details about Gaston County's nonmajor governmental funds and internal service funds, all of which are added together in one column on the basic financial statements. Budgetary information required by the General Statutes also came be found in this part of the statements.

Following the notes is the required supplemental information. This section contains funding information about the County's pension plans.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the County's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the County's financial condition as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the County's net position and how they have changed. Net position is the difference between the County's assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the County's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are divided into two categories: (1) governmental activities and (2) business-type activities. The governmental activities include most of the County's basic services, such as public safety, health and social services, parks and recreation, and general administration. Property taxes and federal and state grants finance most of these activities. The business-type activities are those that the County charges customers to provide. In Gaston County, only landfill services are reported as a business-type activity.

The government-wide financial statements are found on Exhibits A and B of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide a more detailed look at the County's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Gaston County, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the County's budget ordinance. All of the funds of Gaston County can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Most of the County's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow, both in and out, and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method also has a current financial resources focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the County's programs. The relationship between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.

Gaston County adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens and management of the County and the decisions of the Board of Commissioners about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the County to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the County complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the County succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the

legal budget document. The statement shows four columns: (1) the original budget as adopted by the Board; (2) the final budget as amended by the Board; (3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations and ending balances in the General Fund and Public Assistance Fund; and (4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges.

Proprietary Funds. Gaston County has one kind of proprietary fund. Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. Gaston County uses an enterprise fund to account for its solid waste services. This fund is the same as the function shown in the business-type activities in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

Custodial (Fiduciary) Funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Gaston County has two fiduciary funds, which are custodial funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements start on page 31 of this report.

Other Information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report includes certain required supplementary information concerning Gaston County's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found beginning on page 91 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of Gaston County exceeded its assets and deferred outflows of resources by $182,285,493 as of June 30, 2024. The County's net position increased by $21,409,169 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The largest portion of net position in the amount of $161,774,560 reflects the County's net investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt still outstanding that was issued to acquire those items. Gaston County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although Gaston County's investment in its capital assets is reported net of the outstanding related debt, the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided by other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. An additional portion of Gaston County's net position, $89,290,756 represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of ($68,779,823) is unrestricted.

The net deficit in unrestricted net position results from a situation somewhat unique to North Carolina in that counties record the debt for school bonds issued, but title to the land and buildings resides with the school system. The County's outstanding school debt at June 30, 2024 was $202,345,696.

Gaston County's Net Position

Figure 2

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Assets:						
Current and other assets	$ 391,067,959	$ 330,139,624	$ 21,019,410	$ 21,049,991	$ 412,087,369	$ 351,189,615
Capital assets, net	172,119,103	147,923,878	38,564,875	31,704,996	210,683,978	179,628,874
Non-current assets	19,869,016	24,335,911	181,814	186,029	20,050,830	24,521,940
Total assets	583,056,078	502,399,413	59,766,099	52,941,016	642,822,177	555,340,429
Deferred Outflows of Resources	68,873,013	57,092,589	1,189,403	965,307	70,062,416	58,057,896
Liabilities:						
Long-term liabilities outstanding	299,505,267	318,472,296	21,156,082	20,571,497	320,661,349	339,043,793
Other liabilities	198,095,937	97,745,752	5,583,107	2,851,169	203,679,044	100,596,921
Total liabilities	497,601,204	416,218,048	26,739,189	23,422,666	524,340,393	439,640,714
Deferred Inflows of Resources	6,042,418	12,548,344	216,289	332,943	6,258,707	12,881,287
Net Position:						
Net investment in capital assets	123,399,568	104,066,102	38,374,992	32,309,506	161,774,560	136,375,608
Restricted	89,290,756	78,381,072	-	-	89,290,756	78,381,072
Unrestricted	(64,404,855)	(51,721,564)	(4,374,968)	(2,158,792)	(68,779,823)	(53,880,356)
Total net position	$ 148,285,469	$ 130,725,610	$ 34,000,024	$ 30,150,714	$ 182,285,493	$ 160,876,324

Several aspects of the County's financial operations influenced the total unrestricted governmental net position:

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes by maintaining a collection percentage of 99.00%.
- Sales tax revenue saw only a slight increase of $340,388 over FY 2023.
- Continued low cost of debt due to the County's capital planning and high bond rating.
- The County continues to invest in staff compensation, by conducting mid-year performance reviews.

The County continues to monitor and control operating expenditures considering current economic conditions as well as balance the available funding with the needs of the residents.

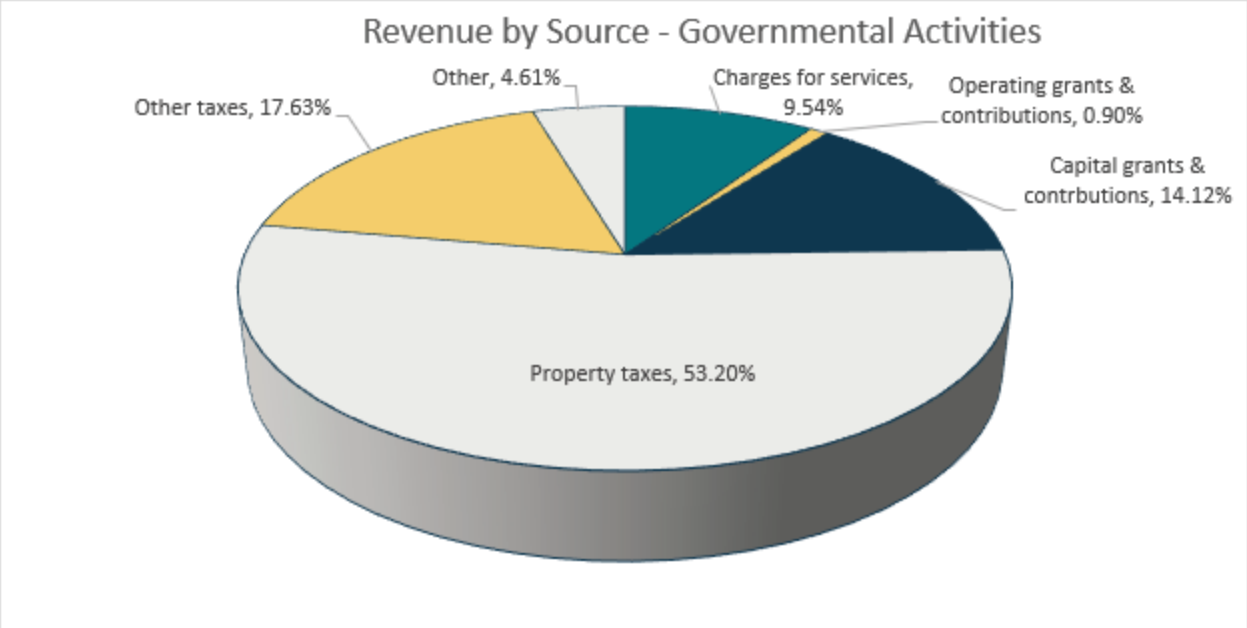
Gaston County Changes in Net Position

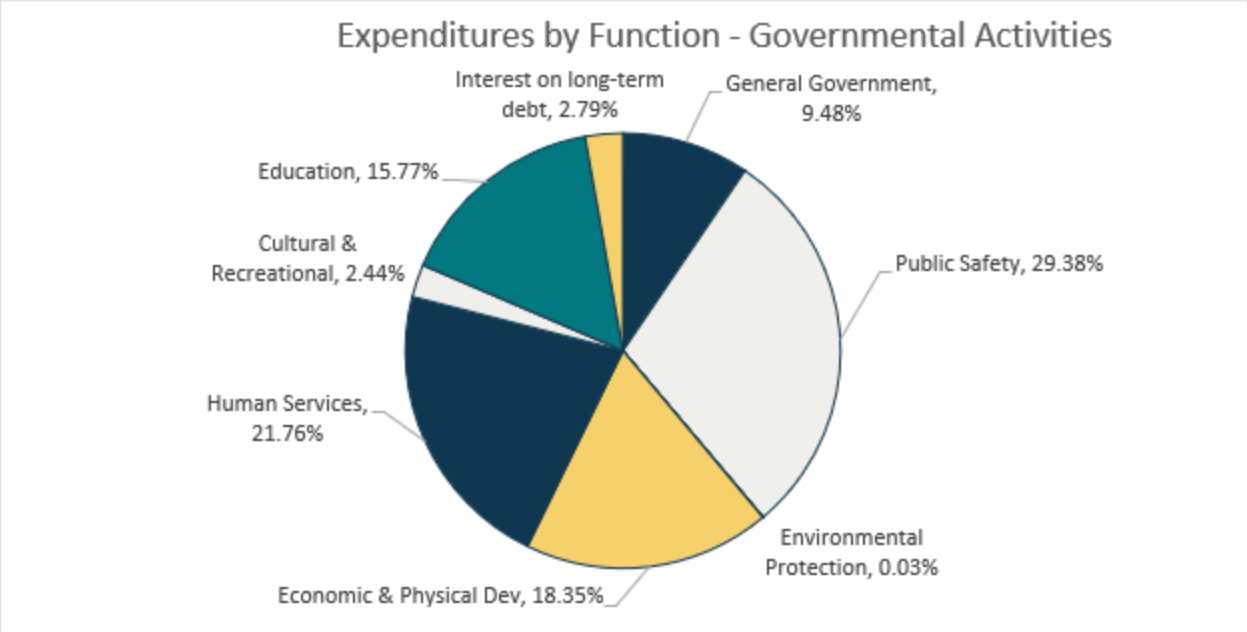
Figure 3

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	$ 38,549,069	$ 40,815,894	$ 14,501,948	$ 13,752,041	$ 53,051,017	$ 54,567,935
Operating grants and contributions	3,649,934	17,140,991	678,048	639,350	4,327,982	17,780,341
Capital grants and contributions	57,041,778	61,297,556	-	-	57,041,778	61,297,556
General revenues:						
Property taxes	214,970,690	187,211,798	-	-	214,970,690	187,211,798
Other taxes	71,258,587	70,918,199	-	-	71,258,587	70,918,199
Other	18,641,667	12,122,819	795,125	508,220	19,436,792	12,631,039
Total revenues	404,111,725	389,507,257	15,975,121	14,899,611	420,086,846	404,406,868
Expenses:						
General government	36,638,588	44,596,359	-	-	36,638,588	44,596,359
Public safety	113,551,928	100,482,129	-	-	113,551,928	100,482,129
Environmental protection	106,537	64,896	-	-	106,537	64,896
Economic and physical development	70,948,415	38,005,222	-	-	70,948,415	38,005,222
Human services	84,127,200	76,507,554	-	-	84,127,200	76,507,554
Cultural and recreational	9,422,983	8,803,571	-	-	9,422,983	8,803,571
Education	60,978,024	60,182,352	-	-	60,978,024	60,182,352
Interest on long-term debt	10,778,191	6,123,814	-	-	10,778,191	6,123,814
Solid waste management	-	-	12,125,811	14,221,442	12,125,811	14,221,442
Total expenses	386,551,866	334,765,897	12,125,811	14,221,442	398,677,677	348,987,339
Change in net position	17,559,859	54,741,360	3,849,310	678,169	21,409,169	55,419,529
Net Position:						
Beginning of year - July 1	130,725,610	75,984,250	30,150,714	29,472,545	160,876,324	105,456,795
End of year - June 30	$ 148,285,469	$ 130,725,610	$ 34,000,024	$ 30,150,714	$ 182,285,493	$ 160,876,324

Governmental Activities. Governmental activities increased the County's net position by $17,559,859, thereby accounting for 82.02% of the total change in the net position of Gaston County. Key elements in this change are as follows:

- Property tax revenues collections continue to be strong and were consistent with FY 2023. The property tax rate decreased by 20 cents while the County's assessed property values increased 52.62% over the prior year. This increase is a result of the County revaluation that was completed in FY 2023 for the FY 2024 budget year. The County is on a four-year reappraisal cycle, with the next reappraisal planned to be effective as of January 1, 2027.
- Sales tax revenue collections continue to be strong, and the County collections in FY 2024 were higher over FY 2023, with an increase of 0.48% ($340,388). While sales tax did increase from FY 2023, it appears the post-COVID surge is slowing.





Business-Type Activities. Business-type activities increased the County's net position by $3,849,310 which was 17.98% of the total change of the County's net position. Key elements in this change are as follows:

- Landfill operations revenues continued to increase in FY 2024 by $602,386 over FY 2023.
- Energy charges increased in FY 2024 from FY 2023 by $120,665.

Financial Analysis of the County's Funds

As noted earlier, Gaston County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of Gaston County's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing Gaston County's financing requirements. Specifically, fund balance available for appropriation can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County. At the end of the current fiscal year, Gaston County's fund balance available in the General Fund was $115,406,626, while total fund balance increased to $136,064,713. The change is primarily due to an increase in Property Tax and Other Tax Revenue in the amount of approximately $36 million and a decrease in Intergovernmental revenues of approximately $9 million. Expenditures for FY 2024 increased approximately $16 million over FY 2023. The governing body of Gaston County has determined that the County should maintain an unassigned fund balance of 15% to 20% of General Fund expenses The County currently has an available fund balance of 33.44% of General Fund expenses and transfers to other funds, while total fund balance represents 39.43% of the same amount. The County's unassigned fund balance is 18.28% of General Fund revenues.

The Capital Improvements Fund, a major fund, had an increase in fund balance during the current year of $44,381,518 to bring the year-end fund balance to $121,996,879. The increase in fund balance was mainly due to ongoing funding for capital projects related to schools, and governmental vehicles, equipment, land purchases, and building purchases.

The Debt Service Fund, a major fund, had an increase in fund balance during the current year of $1,675,216 to bring the year-end fund balance to $4,487,312. The increase in fund balance was mainly due to debt service payments budgeted for anticipated debt issuance which the County did not issue in the fiscal year, resulting funds reverting to fund balance.

The Community Investment Fund had an increase in fund balance during the current year of $7,998,484 to bring the year-end fund balance to $35,363,054. The increase is mainly due to projects planned for, but not yet started, so the funds have not been transferred to the General Government Capital Fund. Funds are set aside in the community investment funds to plan for long term capital planning and to increase the County's debt capacity.

The Opioid Settlement Fund, a major fund, had an increase in fund balance during the current year of $5,671,355 to bring the year-end fund balance to $8,564,491. The increase in fund balance was mainly due to the distributions received from the National Opioid Settlement Agreement with pharmaceutical and drug distribution companies due to the opioid epidemic.

At June 30, 2024, the governmental funds of Gaston County reported a combined fund balance of $316,996,609, a 30.18% increase over last year. The primary reason for the increase is due to property taxes, investment earnings, and capital projects appropriated but not yet fully expended.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights. During the fiscal year, the County revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: (1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; (2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as federal and state grants; and (3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain services. Various budget amendments accounted for a $13,002,084 increase in the revenue estimates for the General Fund, the result of additional federal and state funding. Other amendments appropriated a total of $33,756,672 from the fund balance of the General Fund.

As a result of management's efforts to control expenditures in light of current economic conditions, the General Fund's actual expenditures were $21,668,398 under budgeted expenditures. The Gaston County Human Services expenditures were $18,141,091 under budget. The remaining amount was spread over numerous operating expenditures and capital outlay accounts.

Proprietary Funds. Gaston County's proprietary fund provides the same type of information found in the government-wide statements, but in more detail. Unrestricted net position of the Solid Waste Fund at the end of the fiscal year amounted to ($4,374,968). The total increase in net position for that fund was $3,849,310. Other factors concerning the finances of this fund have already been addressed in the discussion of Gaston County's business-type activities.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets. Gaston County's net investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2024 totals $210,683,978 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include land, buildings, machinery and equipment, park facilities, and vehicles.

Major capital asset transactions during the year include:

- Various additions and renovations of County buildings, including the Gas House building, Public Health building, and the Courthouse.
- Ongoing construction for ADA renovations
- Acquisition of new vehicles for the County's departments to replace aging models.
- Purchase of the land for the future site of the Public Safety Campus
- Equipment purchases for public safety, and general government.

Gaston County's Capital Assets
(net of depreciation/amortization)

Figure 4

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Land	$ 33,605,972	$ 22,004,003	$ 4,554,863	$ 3,572,672	$ 38,160,835	$ 25,576,675
Buildings and improvements	61,840,243	63,728,209	15,941,005	16,765,555	77,781,248	80,493,764
Equipment	6,583,186	4,662,732	1,574,367	1,326,861	8,157,553	5,989,593
Right-to-use lease assets	1,850,454	1,209,349	-	-	1,850,454	1,209,349
Subscription assets	2,975,343	1,155,379	-	-	2,975,343	1,155,379
Vehicles and motorized equipment	8,740,370	6,661,952	2,870,235	2,218,812	11,610,605	8,880,764
Construction in progress	56,523,535	48,502,254	13,624,405	7,821,096	70,147,940	56,323,350
Total	$ 172,119,103	$ 147,923,878	$ 38,564,875	$ 31,704,996	$ 210,683,978	$ 179,628,874

Additional information on the County's capital assets can be found in Note 2.F of the basic financial statements.

Long-Term Debt. As of June 30, 2024, Gaston County had total bonded debt outstanding of $221,730,000, all of which is debt backed by the full faith and credit of the County.

Gaston County's Outstanding Debt

Figure 5

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
General obligation bonds	$ 202,820,000	$ 139,105,000	$ -	$ -	$ 202,820,000	$ 139,105,000
Limited obligation bonds	18,910,000	20,505,000	-	-	18,910,000	20,505,000
Lease liabilities issued	1,846,190	1,238,015	-	-	1,846,190	1,238,015
Subscription liabilities issued	2,680,518	1,155,396	-	-	2,680,518	1,155,396
Installment purchases	13,885,129	15,341,446	189,883	791,744	14,075,012	16,133,190
Total	$ 240,141,837	$ 177,344,857	$ 189,883	$ 791,744	$ 240,331,720	$ 178,136,601

Gaston County's total debt increased by $62,195,119 during the past fiscal year due to the issuance of the County's General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes.

Pursuant to the North Carolina General Statutes, the County's outstanding general obligation debt is subject to a legal limitation based on 8% of the total assessed valuation of taxable property located within the government's bounties. As of June 30, 2024, the County's legal debt limit was approximately $2,696,700,525. The outstanding debt subject to this limit was $235,615,129 leaving a net legal debt margin of approximately $2,461,085,396.

Additional information regarding the County's long-term debt can be found beginning on page 71 of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

Economic Factors

The following key indicators reflect the economic condition of the County:

Gaston County is located within the Charlotte, North Carolina, Metropolitan Area, one of the fastest growing and most affluent areas in the Country. The Charlotte Metropolitan Area is the second largest banking center in the United States.

The County has an estimated population of 243,242, an increase of approximately 2,067 from last fiscal year. The population growth is mainly due to the growth of Charlotte, NC and the economic development projects in Gaston County. The County's unemployment rate was 4.0% in June 2024, compared to 3.4% in June 2023. Comparable rates for the state of North Carolina were 4.1% and 3.6%, respectively.

Construction within the County remained strong, even with a decrease in the number of permits issued in FY 2024 compared to FY 2023. While the cost of building continues to rise and is a factor in the decrease, a more prominent influence is that some of the larger subdivisions are fully built out, while other subdivisions are still in the early stages of build out. Additionally, County permit data shows that more of the new construction has shifted north and west in the County, instead of being concentrated on the eastern side, adjacent to Charlotte, in the Mount Holly and Belmont areas. We expect this trend to continue, as more people are moving into the Charlotte metro and are searching for affordable housing options and undeveloped land which mostly exists on the north and west sides of the County.

Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

General Fund: The Board of County Commissioners adopted the 2024/2025 budget with a decrease of 1.1 cents in the tax rate to 59.9 cents per $100 from FY 2024. This is the lowest tax rate on record for Gaston County. Ad valorem taxes were budgeted with a conservative increase over FY 2024, with a 7% increase. Sales tax revenue and other tax revenue were budgeted at an increase of 10% over the FY 2024 adopted budget. While this increase still indicates a positive economic outlook in the future, it also is a signal that the surge of sales tax revenue in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic is beginning to slow.

Budgeted expenditures and transfers-out in the General Fund are $339,443,376, a 5.5% increase. The increase was driven by mandated personnel and operating increases, as well as continued inflationary increases. The largest component of those expenditures is the funding of the compensation and benefits of the County's employees, including a compensation study, state-mandated retirement increases, and an increase in healthcare costs. As health insurance premiums, co-pays, and cost of prescriptions continue to rise, these health insurance costs continue to be absorbed by the County with no impact to employees. The 2024/2025 budget includes two additional full-time positions for the following departments: Emergency Management & Fire Services (1) and Tourism Development (1). Both positions are aimed at addressing emerging needs within the County and are fully funded by fee revenue and occupancy tax revenue, respectively.

In the 2024/2025 budget, education funding for Gaston County Schools and Gaston College totaled $91,890,426. The funding breakdown is as follows: $62,128,367 for operating, $24,637,840 for debt service, and $5,124,219 for capital. This is an increase of 8% over the FY 2024 adopted budget. The increase can be attributed to a $2,100,000 appropriation to end-of-life technology replacements as well as new debt service and additional allocations for capital projects.

Governmental Activities: The Building & Development Services fee structure increased over 2023/2024. The County saw an increase in zoning permits, flood permits, and code enforcement fees. Animal Care & Enforcement had increases for while also decreasing exotic pet registration fees and other miscellaneous fines. Parks & Recreation introduced new fees for FY 2025 related to the new South Point Access on Lake Wylie for parking and shelter/picnic rentals. The Environmental Health division of Public Health had the most increases in its fee structure. Well/Water Fees, Septic Fees, and Tattoo Fees all saw substantial increases. Public Works Print Shop increased fees incrementally. Fee increases are in response to the continued rising costs necessary to operate and serve the residents of the County, including some adjustments due to the current inflationary period in the United States.

Business-Type Activities: The County's landfill fee structure increased over 2023/2024. For 2024/2025, the County introduced a new fee for out-of-county waste. Additionally, there were incremental increases to municipal and commercial waste, as well as material disposals (shingles, illegal tires, single-wide mobile homes). Hourly rates for landfill equipment and operators also increased on a per hour basis.

Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide an overview of the County's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Gaston County Finance Director, P.O. Box 1578, Gastonia, North Carolina 28053-1578.

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Financial Statements

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total Primary Government
Assets:			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 257,562,685	$ 19,524,796	$ 277,087,481
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	1,139,982	-	1,139,982
Accounts receivable, net	45,167,671	1,414,062	46,581,733
Lease receivable, current	72,178	4,215	76,393
Accrued interest receivable	-	4,653	4,653
Inventories	306,092	71,684	377,776
Prepaid items	94,538	-	94,538
Lease deposits	16,975	-	16,975
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	86,707,838	-	86,707,838
Total current assets	391,067,959	21,019,410	412,087,369
Non-current assets:			
Net pension asset - ROD	309,855	-	309,855
Lease receivable, non-current	494,991	181,814	676,805
Accounts receivable, non-current	19,064,170	-	19,064,170
Capital assets:			
Land, improvements, and construction in progress	90,129,507	18,179,268	108,308,775
Other capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization	81,989,596	20,385,607	102,375,203
Total capital assets	172,119,103	38,564,875	210,683,978
Total non-current assets	191,988,119	38,746,689	230,734,808
Total assets	583,056,078	59,766,099	642,822,177
Deferred Outflows of Resources:			
OPEB deferrals	7,254,511	114,943	7,369,454
Pension deferrals	57,489,766	1,074,460	58,564,226
Deferred charge on refunding	4,128,736	-	4,128,736
Total deferred outflows of resources	68,873,013	1,189,403	70,062,416
Liabilities:			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	29,049,236	3,479,981	32,529,217
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	11,899	-	11,899
Advance from grantor	30,835,485	-	30,835,485
Unearned revenue	2,086,369	-	2,086,369
Current portion of total OPEB liability	16,457,598	260,759	16,718,357
Current portion of total pension liability - LEOSSA	9,934,832	-	9,934,832
Due in less than one year	109,720,518	1,842,367	111,562,885
Total current liabilities	198,095,937	5,583,107	203,679,044

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total Primary Government
Liabilities (continued):			
Long-term liabilities:			
Net pension liability - LGERS	81,802,539	1,683,659	83,486,198
Non-current portion of total pension liability - LEOSSA	9,934,832	-	9,934,832
Non-current portion of OPEB liability	49,372,792	782,278	50,155,070
Due in more than one year	158,395,104	18,690,145	177,085,249
Total long-term liabilities	299,505,267	21,156,082	320,661,349
Total liabilities	497,601,204	26,739,189	524,340,393
Deferred Inflows of Resources:			
OPEB deferrals	1,956,259	30,996	1,987,255
Pension deferrals	2,020,367	5,779	2,026,146
Lease receivables	604,899	179,514	784,413
Prepaid taxes	1,460,893	-	1,460,893
Total deferred inflows of resources	6,042,418	216,289	6,258,707
Net Position:			
Net investment in capital assets	123,399,568	38,374,992	161,774,560
Restricted for:			
Stabilization by state statute	39,790,613	-	39,790,613
Medicaid maximization	19,953,970	-	19,953,970
Fire protection	2,591,483	-	2,591,483
Public safety protection	1,306,610	-	1,306,610
Emergency telephone	1,632,997	-	1,632,997
General government	8,571,061	-	8,571,061
Travel and tourism	1,925,573	-	1,925,573
Building inspections	11,494,319	-	11,494,319
Register of Deeds	1,714,050	-	1,714,050
Register of Deeds - pension plan	309,855	-	309,855
Unrestricted net position	(64,404,630)	(4,374,968)	(68,779,598)
Total net position	$ 148,285,469	$ 34,000,024	$ 182,285,493

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		Program Revenues		
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions
Functions/Programs:				
Primary Government:				
Governmental Activities:				
General government	$ 36,638,588	$ 7,492,797	$ 1,465,745	$ 46,655,023
Public safety	113,551,928	18,161,452	172,596	-
Environmental protection	106,537	8,332,545	-	-
Economic and physical development	70,948,415	2,400	-	104,848
Human services	84,127,200	4,332,643	2,011,593	8,131,618
Cultural and recreational	9,422,983	227,232	-	-
Education	60,978,024	-	-	2,150,289
Interest expense and fees	10,778,191	-	-	-
Total governmental activities	386,551,866	38,549,069	3,649,934	57,041,778
Business-Type Activities:				
Solid waste	12,125,811	14,501,948	678,048	-
Total primary government	$ 398,677,677	$ 53,051,017	$ 4,327,982	$ 57,041,778

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Functions/Programs:			
Primary Government:			
Governmental Activities:			
General government	$ 18,974,977	$ -	$ 18,974,977
Public safety	(95,217,880)	-	(95,217,880)
Environmental protection	8,226,008	-	8,226,008
Economic and physical development	(70,841,167)	-	(70,841,167)
Human services	(69,651,346)	-	(69,651,346)
Cultural and recreational	(9,195,751)	-	(9,195,751)
Education	(58,827,735)	-	(58,827,735)
Interest expense and fees	(10,778,191)	-	(10,778,191)
Total governmental activities	(287,311,085)	-	(287,311,085)
Business-Type Activities:			
Solid waste	-	3,054,185	3,054,185
Total primary government	(287,311,085)	3,054,185	(284,256,900)
General Revenues:			
Taxes:			
Ad valorem taxes	214,970,690	-	214,970,690
Sales tax	71,258,587	-	71,258,587
Real estate transfer taxes	4,391,980	-	4,391,980
Investment earnings	14,249,687	795,125	15,044,812
Total general revenues	304,870,944	795,125	305,666,069
Change in net position	17,559,859	3,849,310	21,409,169
Net Position:			
Beginning of year - July 1	130,725,610	30,150,714	160,876,324
End of year - June 30	$ 148,285,469	$ 34,000,024	$ 182,285,493

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Major					Nonmajor	
	General Fund	Capital Improvements Fund	Community Investments Fund	Debt Service Fund	Opioid Settlement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:							
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 130,167,949	$ 83,722,018	$ 16,515,748	$ 4,487,312	$ -	$ 9,944,393	$ 244,837,420
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	996,525	-	-	-	-	143,457	1,139,982
Accounts receivable	20,283,237	275,841	18,848,321	-	24,405,048	403,969	64,216,416
Lease receivables	567,169	-	-	-	-	-	567,169
Inventories	306,034	-	-	-	-	58	306,092
Prepaid items	89,571	-	-	-	225	4,742	94,538
Lease deposits	16,975	-	-	-	-	-	16,975
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	26,241,215	46,967,484	4,381,237	-	8,489,904	627,998	86,707,838
Total assets	$ 178,668,675	$ 130,965,343	$ 39,745,306	$ 4,487,312	$ 32,895,177	$ 11,124,617	$ 397,886,430
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances:							
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 11,658,491	$ 8,312,441	$ 1,015	$ -	$ 52,010	$ 447,661	$ 20,471,618
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	-	-	-	-	-	11,899	11,899
Advance from grantor	26,048,225	406,023	4,381,237	-	-	-	30,835,485
Unearned revenue	1,834,929	250,000	-	-	-	1,440	2,086,369
Total liabilities	39,541,645	8,968,464	4,382,252	-	52,010	461,000	53,405,371
Deferred Inflows of Resources:							
Prepaid taxes	1,460,893	-	-	-	-	-	1,460,893
Property taxes receivable	996,525	-	-	-	-	143,457	1,139,982
Lease receivables	604,899	-	-	-	-	-	604,899
Unavailable revenue	-	-	-	-	24,278,676	-	24,278,676
Total deferred inflows of resources	3,062,317	-	-	-	24,278,676	143,457	27,484,450
Fund Balances:							
Non-Spendable:							
Inventories	306,034	-	-	-	-	58	306,092
Prepaids	89,571	-	-	-	225	4,742	94,538
Restricted:							
Stabilization by state statute	20,262,482	275,841	18,848,321	-	-	403,969	39,790,613
Restricted for Medicaid maximization	19,953,970	-	-	-	-	-	19,953,970
Education	-	39,343,858	-	-	-	-	39,343,858
Building inspections	11,494,319	-	-	-	-	-	11,494,319
Fire protection	-	-	-	-	-	2,591,483	2,591,483
Sheriff protection	-	-	-	-	-	278,488	278,488
Capital projects	-	7,217,603	-	-	-	-	7,217,603
Emergency telephone	-	-	-	-	-	1,632,997	1,632,997
Register of Deeds	1,714,050	-	-	-	-	-	1,714,050
General government	1,290	-	-	-	8,564,266	6,795	8,572,351
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-	1,028,122	1,028,122
Travel and tourism	-	-	-	-	-	1,925,573	1,925,573
Committed:							
Future capital projects	-	75,159,577	16,514,733	-	-	-	91,674,310
Tax revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	616,099	616,099
Assigned:							
Insurance reserves	2,995,099	-	-	-	-	-	2,995,099
Subsequent year's expenditures	15,607,001	-	-	-	-	-	15,607,001
Gaston County tap fees	181,777	-	-	-	-	-	181,777
Parking	-	-	-	-	-	1,561,959	1,561,959
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-	585,757	585,757
Debt service	-	-	-	4,487,312	-	-	4,487,312
Unassigned:	63,459,120	-	-	-	-	(115,882)	63,343,238
Total fund balances	136,064,713	121,996,879	35,363,054	4,487,312	8,564,491	10,520,160	316,996,609
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	$ 178,668,675	$ 130,965,343	$ 39,745,306	$ 4,487,312	$ 32,895,177	$ 11,124,617	$ 397,886,430

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Total fund balances, per Exhibit C	$ 316,996,609
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	172,119,103
Net pension asset - ROD	309,855
Net pension liability - LGERS	(81,802,539)
Total pension liability - LEOSSA	(19,869,664)
Total OPEB liability	(65,830,390)
Assets and liabilities of the Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund used by management to account for certain insurance costs are included in governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position.	7,035,527
Deferred inflows of resources in the governmental funds are used to offset accounts receivable not expected to be available within 90 days of year-end. These receivables are a component of net position in the Statement of Net Position.	25,418,658
Charges related to refundings issued	4,128,736
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension are not reported in the funds.	57,489,766
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB are not reported in the funds.	7,254,511
Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are not reported in the funds.	(2,020,367)
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB are not reported in the funds.	(1,956,259)
Long-term liabilities, accrued interest, and compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	(270,988,077)
Net position of governmental activities, per Exhibit A	$ 148,285,469

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Major					Nonmajor	
	General Fund	Capital Improvements Fund	Community Investments Fund	Debt Service Fund	Opioid Settlement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:							
Ad valorem taxes	$ 205,493,787	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,567,833	$ 215,061,620
Other taxes and licenses	48,585,758	-	25,595,411	-	-	1,469,398	75,650,567
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	47,838,425	104,848	11,928,674	-	6,059,236	2,314,016	68,245,199
Fees, licenses, and permits	12,630,991	-	-	-	-	-	12,630,991
Sales and services	17,371,201	-	-	-	-	47,814	17,419,015
E911 surcharge	-	-	-	-	-	754,786	754,786
Investment earnings	8,677,715	3,289,615	1,125,473	181,001	290,933	454,276	14,019,013
Miscellaneous revenues	6,575,943	2,400	1,108,843	-	-	209,053	7,896,239
Total revenues	347,173,820	3,396,863	39,758,401	181,001	6,350,169	14,817,176	411,677,430
Expenditures:							
Current:							
General government	50,206,323	-	-	-	-	582,848	50,789,171
Public safety	99,494,941	-	-	-	496,276	9,396,757	109,387,974
Environmental protection	63,070	-	-	-	-	-	63,070
Economic and physical development	5,566,442	-	-	-	-	1,303,203	6,869,645
Human services	83,569,862	-	-	-	182,538	764,868	84,517,268
Cultural and recreational	8,777,448	-	-	-	-	-	8,777,448
Education	59,665,861	-	-	-	-	1,312,163	60,978,024
Capital outlay	-	72,000,852	-	-	-	-	72,000,852
Debt service:							
Principal retirement	1,947,549	-	-	24,080,715	-	118,428	26,146,692
Interest and fees	37,343	-	-	10,097,048	-	7,616	10,142,007
Total expenditures	309,328,839	72,000,852	-	34,177,763	678,814	13,485,883	429,672,151
Revenues over (under) expenditures	37,844,981	(68,603,989)	39,758,401	(33,996,762)	5,671,355	1,331,293	(17,994,721)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Installment purchase contracts issued	-	-	4,634,989	-	-	-	4,634,989
Bonds issued	-	-	80,000,000	-	-	-	80,000,000
Lease liabilities issued	1,248,043	-	-	-	-	58,926	1,306,969
Subscription liabilities issued	2,768,308	-	-	-	-	233,406	3,001,714
Premium from issuance of bond	-	-	1,144,800	-	-	-	1,144,800
Transfers in	5,955,836	134,581,030	53,519,138	35,671,978	-	253,584	229,981,566
Transfers out	(35,777,199)	(21,595,523)	(171,058,844)	-	-	(150,000)	(228,581,566)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(25,805,012)	112,985,507	(31,759,917)	35,671,978	-	395,916	91,488,472
Net change in fund balances	12,039,969	44,381,518	7,998,484	1,675,216	5,671,355	1,727,209	73,493,751
Fund Balances:							
Beginning of year - July 1	124,024,744	77,615,361	27,364,570	2,812,096	2,893,136	8,792,951	243,502,858
End of year - June 30	$ 136,064,713	$ 121,996,879	$ 35,363,054	$ 4,487,312	$ 8,564,491	$ 10,520,160	$ 316,996,609

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit E)	$ 73,493,751
Capital outlays are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement. However, in the Statement of Activities, capital outlay is not an expense, rather it is an increase in capital assets.	33,582,667
Depreciation/amortization expense allocates the costs of capital assets over their useful lives. It is not reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds statement.	(8,401,132)
The sale/disposal of capital assets is reported as a revenue in the governmental funds statement without subtracting the net book value of the capital assets sold.	(986,310)
Exhibit E reports revenues using a current financial resources basis, which generally means revenue is recognized when collected, or is expected to be collected, within 90 days of year-end. Exhibit B reports revenues when the earning process is complete, regardless of when it is collected. This measurement difference causes timing of revenue recognition differences for the following revenue types:	
Property taxes	(90,930)
Unavailable revenues	(4,723,318)
Expenses related to compensated absences that do not require current financial resources are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement.	1,121,082
Pension expense - LEOSSA	(1,586,273)
Pension expense - LGERS	(10,012,410)
Pension expense - ROD	(28,689)
OPEB plan expense	3,920,842
Proceeds from issuance of debt are reported as revenues in the governmental funds statement. However, in the Statement of Activities, it is not a revenue, rather it is an increase in liabilities.	(88,943,672)
Principal repayments are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement. However, in the Statement of Activities, these transactions are not an expense, rather they are a decrease in liabilities.	26,146,692
Accrued interest expense reported in the Statement of Activities does not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, is not reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds.	(2,872,455)
Changes in deferred charge on refunding	(987,954)
Change in premium related to bonds	2,079,425
Net revenue of the Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund determined to be governmental-type	(4,151,457)
Change in net position of governmental activities - Exhibit B	$ 17,559,859

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	$ 187,075,714	$ 187,075,714	$ 205,493,787	$ 18,418,073
Other taxes and licenses	48,684,672	48,684,672	48,585,758	(98,914)
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	39,631,560	51,867,842	47,838,425	(4,029,417)
Permits and fees	10,163,862	10,369,185	12,630,991	2,261,806
Sales and services	19,716,220	19,787,514	17,371,201	(2,416,313)
Investment earnings	448,607	453,683	8,677,715	8,224,032
Miscellaneous	4,297,609	4,781,718	6,575,943	1,794,225
Total revenues	310,018,244	323,020,328	347,173,820	24,153,492
Expenditures:				
General government	43,833,595	51,595,230	50,206,323	1,388,907
Public safety	90,798,277	100,059,625	99,494,941	564,684
Environmental protection	110,661	107,571	63,070	44,501
Economic and physical development	6,071,368	6,576,075	5,566,442	1,009,633
Human services	87,885,848	101,710,953	83,569,862	18,141,091
Cultural and recreational	8,942,129	9,282,699	8,777,448	505,251
Education	59,674,766	59,674,766	59,665,861	8,905
Principal retirement	-	1,947,549	1,947,549	-
Interest and fees	-	37,343	37,343	-
Total expenditures	297,316,644	330,991,811	309,328,839	21,662,972
Revenues over (under) expenditures	12,701,600	(7,971,483)	37,844,981	45,816,464
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Appropriated fund balance	6,600,000	33,756,672	-	(33,756,672)
Lease liabilities issued	-	1,248,043	1,248,043	-
Subscription liabilities issued	-	2,725,401	2,768,308	42,907
Transfers in	5,248,400	6,018,566	5,955,836	(62,730)
Transfers (out)	(24,550,000)	(35,777,199)	(35,777,199)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(12,701,600)	7,971,483	(25,805,012)	(33,776,495)
Net change in fund balances	$ -	$ -	12,039,969	$ 12,039,969
Fund Balances:				
Beginning of year - July 1			124,024,744	
End of year - June 30			$ 136,064,713	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Business-Type Activities	Governmental Activities
	Enterprise Solid Waste Fund	Internal Service Fund
Assets:		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 19,524,796	$ 12,725,265
Accounts receivable, net	1,414,062	15,425
Lease receivable, current	4,215	-
Accrued interest receivable	4,653	-
Inventories	71,684	-
Total current assets	21,019,410	12,740,690
Non-current assets:		
Lease receivable, non-current	181,814	-
Capital assets:		
Land, improvements, and construction in progress	18,179,268	-
Capital assets	49,044,868	-
Accumulated depreciation	(28,659,261)	-
Total capital assets, net	38,564,875	-
Total non-current assets	38,746,689	-
Total assets	59,766,099	12,740,690
Deferred Outflows of Resources:		
OPEB deferrals	114,943	-
Pension deferrals	1,074,460	-
Total deferred outflows of resources	1,189,403	-
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	3,479,981	5,705,163
Compensated absences	36,873	-
Current portion of notes payable	189,883	-
Current portion of total OPEB liability	260,759	-
Current portion of closure and post-closure care	1,615,611	-
Total current liabilities	5,583,107	5,705,163

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Business-Type Activities	Governmental Activities
	Enterprise Solid Waste Fund	Internal Service Fund
Liabilities (continued):		
Non-current liabilities:		
Net pension liability	1,683,659	-
Compensated absences	110,620	-
Total OPEB liability	782,278	-
Landfill closure and post-closure care	18,579,525	-
Total non-current liabilities	21,156,082	-
Total liabilities	26,739,189	5,705,163
Deferred Inflows of Resources:		
Lease receivable	179,514	-
OPEB deferrals	30,996	-
Pension deferrals	5,779	-
Total deferred inflows of resources	216,289	-
Net Position:		
Net investment in capital assets	38,374,992	-
Unrestricted net position	(4,374,968)	7,035,527
Total net position	$ 34,000,024	$ 7,035,527

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Business-Type Activities	Governmental Activities
	Enterprise Solid Waste Fund	Internal Service Fund
Operating Revenues:		
Charges for services	$ 12,952,028	$ 27,344,083
Energy charges	693,207	-
Other operating revenues	856,713	-
Total operating revenues	14,501,948	27,344,083
Operating Expenses:		
Operating expenses	8,941,655	30,326,214
Renewable energy department	1,181,193	-
Depreciation/amortization	1,920,163	-
Total operating expenses	12,043,011	30,326,214
Operating income (loss)	2,458,937	(2,982,131)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):		
Loss on disposal of asset	(82,800)	-
Other grants and revenue	678,048	-
Investment earnings	795,125	230,674
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)	1,390,373	230,674
Income (loss) before transfers	3,849,310	(2,751,457)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):		
Transfers out	-	(5,000,000)
Transfers in	-	3,600,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	(1,400,000)
Change in net position	3,849,310	(4,151,457)
Net Position:		
Beginning of year - July 1	30,150,714	11,186,984
End of year - June 30	$ 34,000,024	$ 7,035,527

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Business-Type Activities	Governmental Activities
	Enterprise Solid Waste Fund	Internal Service Fund
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Cash received from customers	$ 13,343,356	$ 27,343,260
Other operating receipts	856,713	-
Cash paid to employees for services	(2,596,229)	-
Cash paid for goods and services	(3,930,301)	(29,220,367)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	7,673,539	(1,877,107)
Cash Flows From Non-Capital Financing Activities:		
Other non-operating revenues	678,048	-
Transfer in (out)	-	(1,400,000)
Net cash (used) provided by non-capital financing activities	678,048	(1,400,000)
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:		
Principal payments	(601,861)	-
Acquisition of capital assets	(8,862,842)	-
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	(9,464,703)	-
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Interest income (loss)	795,125	230,674
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(317,991)	(3,046,433)
Cash and Cash Equivalents:		
Beginning of year - July 1	19,842,787	15,771,698
End of year - June 30	$ 19,524,796	$ 12,725,265
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
Operating income (loss)	$ 2,458,937	$ (2,982,131)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation/amortization	1,920,163	-
Landfill closure and post-closure care cost	669,854	-
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
Increase (decrease) in net pension liability	392,797	-
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources for pensions	(187,909)	-
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources for OPEB	(36,187)	-
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources for pensions	(751)	-
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources for OPEB	(108,067)	-
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - leases	(7,836)	-
Increase (decrease) in OPEB liability	43,307	-
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(294,043)	(823)
(Increase) decrease in inventories and prepaid expenses	10,848	-
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	2,834,281	1,105,847
Increase (decrease) in accrued payroll and other liabilities	(21,855)	-
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	$ 7,673,539	$ (1,877,107)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Custodial Funds
Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 360,295
Interest receivable for other governments	
Receivable for other governments, net	1,269,162
Total assets	1,629,457
Net Position:	
Restricted for:	
Individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 1,629,457

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Custodial Funds
Additions:	
Ad valorem taxes collected for other governments	$ 109,750,333
Collections on behalf of inmates	2,026,205
Total additions	111,776,538
Deductions:	
Tax distributions to other governments	109,716,930
Payments on behalf of inmates	1,999,357
Total deductions	111,716,287
Net increase (decrease) in fiduciary net position	60,251
Net position - beginning of year	1,569,206
Net position - end of year	$ 1,629,457

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying financial statements and the following accounting policies of Gaston County, North Carolina (the "County"), conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to local governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

A. Reporting Entity

The County, which is governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners, is one of the 100 counties established in North Carolina under North Carolina General Statute 153A-10. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, the County determined there to be no component units required to be presented with the financial statements. There are no separate legal entities for which the County controls the boards or memberships, requires financial accountability, or is fiscally dependent on the County.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the primary government net position. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Interfund services provided and used are not eliminated in the process of consolidation. These statements distinguish between the *governmental* and *business-type activities* of the County. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed, in whole or in part, by fees charged to external parties.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the different business-type activities of the County and for each function of the County's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the Statement of Activities. Program revenues include fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary fund. Separate statements for each fund category - *governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary* - are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and proprietary funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds. The County only has one proprietary fund.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from non-exchange transactions or ancillary activities.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund of the County. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Capital Improvements Capital Project Fund. The Capital Improvements Capital Project Fund is used to account for financial resources for capital improvements for all County departments, as well as the Gaston County schools and Gaston College.

Community Investments Fund. The Community Investments Fund is used to account for financial resources for community improvements for all County departments.

Debt Service Fund. The Debt Service Fund is used to account for debt service payments for the County.

Opioid Settlement Fund. The Opioid Settlement Fund is used to account for the distributions from the National Opioid Settlement Agreement with pharmaceutical and drug distribution companies due to the opioid epidemic. These funds are required to be used for opioid remediation activities that benefit the residents of Gaston County.

The County reports the following major proprietary fund:

Solid Waste Fund. The Solid Waste Fund is used to account for those operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises or where the governing body has decided that the periodic determination of revenues earned, costs incurred, and/or net income is necessary for management accountability.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

Fiduciary Funds. Fiduciary funds account for assets being held by the government in a trust or as an agent on behalf of others. Trust funds account for assets held by the government under the terms of a formal trust agreement.

Fiduciary funds include the following fund type:

Custodial Funds. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in pension trust funds, investment trust funds, or private-purpose trust funds. Custodial funds are used to account for assets the County holds on behalf of others that meet certain criteria. The County maintains the following custodial funds: The Municipality Tax Fund, which accounts for property taxes and motor vehicle taxes that are billed and collected by the County for various municipalities and special districts within the County; and the Sheriff Inmate Fund, which accounts for inmate deposits and payments.

Internal Service Funds. Internal service funds are used to account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the government and to other government units on a cost reimbursement basis. The measurement focus is upon determination of net income, financial position, and changes in financial position. The generally accepted accounting principles here are those applicable to similar businesses in the private sector and, thus, these funds are maintained on the accrual basis. The County has one internal service fund, the Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund.

Nonmajor Funds. The County maintains twelve legally budgeted funds. The Representative Payee Fund, Travel and Tourism Fund, Property Revaluation Fund, Emergency Telephone System Fund, Drug Forfeitures Fund, Controlled Substance Abuse Tax Fund, Parking Fee Fund, Fire Districts Fund, Fines and Forfeitures Fund, Civil Process Fund, and the Deed of Trust Fund are reported as nonmajor special revenue funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-Wide, Proprietary, and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide, proprietary, and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the County gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Amounts reported as program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided; 2) operating grants and contributions; and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the County enterprise funds are charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation/amortization on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized in the accounting period when they become susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable" and "available"). Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt,

claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases and IT subscriptions are reported as other financing sources.

The County considers all revenues available if they are collected within 90 days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem property taxes are not accrued as a revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. Also, as of September 1, 2013, state law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the state of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013 and for limited registration plates are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Sales taxes collected and held by the state at year-end on behalf of the County are recognized as revenue. Intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because generally they are not measurable until received in cash. All taxes including those dedicated for specific purposes are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been satisfied.

Under terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the County’s policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then by general revenues.

D. Budgetary Data

The County's budgets are adopted as required by the North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for all governmental and enterprise funds, except the Opioid Settlement Fund. A project ordinance is adopted for the Opioid Settlement Fund. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the function level for all annually budgeted funds and at the object level for the multi-year funds. The County Manager and/or the Finance Director may make transfers of appropriations between and within a fund. The budget amounts presented in the financial statements are the final amounts budgeted as of June 30, 2024. The budget was prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting as required by North Carolina General Statutes. During the year, several immaterial amendments to the original budget were necessary. The budget ordinance must be adopted by July 1 of the fiscal year, or the governing board must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted

E. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Outflows, and Fund Equity

Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the County are made in Board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by state law [G.S.159-31]. The County may designate, as an official depository, any bank or savings and loan association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the County may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law G.S. 159-30 authorizes the County to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States; obligations of the state of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority; obligations of certain non-guaranteed federal agencies; certain high-quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances, and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT).

The North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT) Government Portfolio is as SEC registered money market mutual fund that is certified by the Local Government Commission under the provisions of G.S. 159-30(c)(8) and the North Carolina Administrative Code. The Government Portfolio is a 2a-7 fund that invests in treasuries, government agencies, and repurchase agreements collateralized by treasuries. It is rated AAAm by S&P and AAAmf by Moody Investor Services and is reported at fair value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The County pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income. Therefore, all cash and investments are considered cash and cash equivalents.

Restricted Assets

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and various other grant funds are classified as restricted cash because they must be expended in accordance with the purpose for which the funds were issued. Unspent bond proceeds and unspent debt proceeds are classified as restricted assets because their use is restricted to the purpose for which the bonds were originally issued. Money in the Property Revaluation Fund is classified as restricted assets, because its use is restricted per North Carolina General Statute 153A-150. Funds received in advance for the first payment over an eighteen-year period of the State Opioid Settlement Funds are classified as restricted assets because their use is restricted to opioid remediation activities. Worker’s Compensation Escrow funds are restricted by the insurance vendor as the minimum balance required for the County to keep on hand. Spencer Mountain – Reserve funds are funds remaining after the dissolution of Spencer Mountain as a municipality and must only be expended for expenditures incurred as a result of the dissolution.

Governmental Activities:		
General Fund - Major:		
Unspent grant proceeds	$	26,048,225
Vehicle financing proceeds		1,290
Worker's compensation escrow		186,000
Spencer Mountain reserve		5,700
Total General Fund - Major		26,241,215
Opioid Settlement Funds - Major		8,489,904
Capital Improvements Fund - Major:		
Unspent grant proceeds		406,023
Unspent bond proceeds		39,343,858
Vehicle financing proceeds		7,217,603
Total Capital Improvements Fund - Major		46,967,484
Community Investments Fund - Major:		
Unspent grant proceeds		4,381,237
Nonmajor other governmental funds:		
Tax revaluation		627,998
Total governmental activities restricted cash	$	86,707,838

Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with state law [G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13(a)], the County levies ad valorem taxes on property other than motor vehicles on July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1 (lien date), but penalties do not begin to accrue until the following January 6. The taxes are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023.

Lease Receivable

The County's lease receivable is measured at the present value of lease payments expected to be received during the lease term. There are no variable components under the lease agreement. A deferred inflow of resources is recorded for the lease. The deferred inflow of resources is recorded at the initiation of the lease in an amount equal to the initial recording of the lease receivable. The deferred inflow of resources is amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Allowances for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables that were written off in prior years.

	General Fund	Nonmajor Special Revenue Fund	Solid Waste Fund
Taxes receivable	$ 3,862,969	$ 87,910	$ -
Emergency Medical Services (GEMS)	5,833,662	-	-
Health department	36,936	-	-
Accounts receivable	-	-	10,500
Total	$ 9,733,567	$ 87,910	$ 10,500

Inventories and Prepaid Items

The inventories of the County are valued at cost (first-in, first-out), which approximates market. The County's General Fund inventory consists of expendable supplies that are recorded as expenditures when purchased. The inventory of the County's Enterprise Fund consists of materials and supplies held for consumption. The cost of the inventory carried in the Enterprise Fund is recorded as an expense as it is consumed.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements and expensed as the items are used. Prepaid items for the County's governmental funds are treated using the consumption method.

Capital Assets

Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets received prior to June 30, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 30, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. All other purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. Capital assets of the County generally have an initial, individual cost of more than $5,000 and an estimated useful life of more than one year. Capital assets are depreciated on the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives:

Assets	Estimated Useful Lives
Buildings and improvements	20-30 years
Vehicles	5 years
Equipment	7-15 years

The County holds title to certain Gaston County Board of Education properties that have not been included in capital assets. The properties have been deeded to the County to permit certificates of participation financing of acquisition and construction costs. Agreements between the County and the Board of Education give the Board of Education full use of the facilities, full responsibility for maintenance of the facilities, and provide that the County will convey title to the property back to the Board of Education once all restrictions of the financing agreements have been met. The properties are reflected as capital assets in the financial statements of the Gaston County Board of Education.

The County's capital assets also include certain right-to-use assets. These right-to-use assets arise in association with agreements where the County reports a lease (only applies when the County is the lessee) or agreements where the County reports an Information Technology (IT) Subscription in accordance with the requirements of GASB 87 and GASB 96, respectively.

The right-to-use lease assets are initially measured at an amount equal to the initial measurement of the related lease liability plus any lease payments made at or prior to the start of the lease term, less lease incentives received from the lessor at or prior to the start of the lease term, and plus ancillary charges necessary to place the lease asset into service. The right-to-use lease assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the related lease.

The right-to-use IT subscription assets are initially measured at an amount equal to the initial measurement of the subscription liability plus any subscription payments made at the start of the subscription term, if applicable, plus capitalizable initial implementation costs at the start of the subscription term, less any incentives received from the IT subscription vendor at the start of the subscription term. Subscription payments, as well as payments for capitalizable implementation costs made before the start of the subscription term should be reported as a prepayment (asset). Such prepayments should be reduced by any incentives received from the same vendor before the start of the subscription term if a right of offset exists. The net amount of the prepayments and incentives should be reported as an asset or liability, as appropriate, before the start of the subscription term at which time the amount should be included in the initial measurement of the subscription asset. The right-to-use subscription assets should be amortized on a straight-line basis over the subscription term.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflow of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Outflows of Resources*, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The County has several items that meet these criteria – a deferred charge on refunding, pension and OPEB related deferrals. In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position can also report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Inflows of Resources*, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as revenue until then. The County has several items that meet the criteria for this category – prepaid taxes, property taxes receivables, lease receivables, unavailable revenues, and pension and OPEB related deferrals.

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and in the proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type Statement of Net Position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method that approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premiums or discounts. Bond issuance costs, except for prepaid insurance costs, are expensed in the reporting period in which they are incurred. Prepared insurance costs are expensed over the life of the debt.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether withheld from the actual debt proceeds received or not, are reported as debt service expenditures.

Compensated Absences

The vacation policy of the County provides for the accumulation of up to thirty (30) days of earned vacation leave, with such leave being fully vested when earned. For the County's government-wide and proprietary funds, an expense and a liability for compensated absences and the salary related payments are recorded as the leave is earned.

The sick leave policy of the County provides for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since the County has no obligation for the accumulated sick leave until it is actually taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made.

Opioid Settlement Funds

In April 2022, drug manufacturer Johnson & Johnson, and three drug distributors, McKesson, AmerisourceBergen, and Cardinal Health, finalized a $56 billion-dollar nationwide settlement related to multiple opioid lawsuits. These funds will be disbursed to each participating state over an 18-year period according to an allocation agreement reached with all participating states. The majority of these funds are intended for opioid abatement and the distribution of the funds will be front loaded.

North Carolina's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the state and local governments for the settlement funds allocates the funds as follows:

- 15% directly to the state ("State Abatement Fund")
- 80% to abatement funds established by local governments ("Local Abatement Funds")
- 5% to a County Incentive Fund

As of June 30, 2024, the County has received $8,734,841 as part of this settlement. Per the terms of the MOA, the County created a special revenue fund, the Opioid Settlement Fund, to account for these funds. All funds are to be used for opioid abatement and remediation activities. Funds are restricted until expended. The MOA offered the County two options for expanding the funds. As of June 30, 2024, the County has approved programs for a total of $3,858,519.

Reimbursements for Pandemic-related Expenditures

In FY 2020/21, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support urgent COVID-19 response efforts and replace lost revenue for eligible state, local, territorial, and tribal governments. The County was allocated $43,612,126 of fiscal recovery funds to be paid in two equal installments. The first installment of $21,806,063 was received in May 2021, the second received in June 2022. In Fiscal Year 2022, County staff and the Board of Commissioners used $178,747 of the ARPA funds for grant administration, victim housing, and a park project. In Fiscal Year 2023, the County used ARPA funds for several Board approved projects totaling $10,561,932 which included funding for standard allowance revenue replacement, grant administration, project management, several waterline projects, a park project, a mobile shower unit, victim housing support, homelessness, and courthouse video arraignment project. In Fiscal Year 2024 used $8,772,297 of the ARPA funds for projects that support an HVAC project, broadband service, homelessness, grant administration, project management, courthouse video system, victim housing support, a public safety campus, and several waterline projects. The remaining unobligated funds will be transferred to the appropriate funds once the intended use of the funds is determined.

Net Position/Fund Balances

Net Position

Net position in government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are classified as net investment in capital assets; restricted and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through state statutes.

Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Non-Spendable Fund Balance

This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Inventories – portion of fund balance that is not an available resource because it represents the year-end balance of inventories, which are not spendable resources.

Prepaids – portion of fund balance that is not an available resource because it represents the year-end balance of prepaids, which are not spendable resources.

Restricted Fund Balance

This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State Statute – North Carolina G.S. 159-8 prohibits units of government from budgeting or spending a portion of their fund balance. This is one of several statutes enacted by the North Carolina State Legislature in the 1930's that were designed to improve and maintain the fiscal health of local government units. Restricted by state statute (RSS), is calculated at the end of each fiscal year for all annually budgeted funds. The calculation in G.S. 159-8(a) provides a formula for determining what portion of fund balance is available for appropriation. The amount of fund balance not available for appropriation is what is known as "restricted by state statute". Appropriated fund balance in any fund shall not exceed the sum of cash and investments minus the sum of liabilities, encumbrances, and deferred revenues arising from cash receipts, as those figures stand at the close of the fiscal year next preceding the budget. Per GASB guidance, RSS is considered a resource upon which a restriction is "imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation." RSS is reduced by inventories and prepaids as they are classified as non-spendable. Outstanding encumbrances are included within RSS. RSS is included as a component of restricted net position and restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.

Restricted for Education – portion of fund balance that can only be used for school capital per G.S. 159-18-22. The Capital Improvements Fund had $39,343,858 in unspent bond proceeds at June 30, 2024.

Restricted for Fire Protection – portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for fire protection expenditures.

Restricted for Sheriff Protection – portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for sheriff protection expenditures.

Restricted for Public Safety – portion of fund balance available for appropriation but legally segregated for public safety expenditures.

Restricted for Capital Projects – portion of fund balance restricted for capital expenditures and projects. The Capital Improvements Fund had $7,217,603 in unspent debt proceeds at June 30, 2024.

Restricted for Emergency Telephone – portion of fund balance restricted for expenditures to enhance the state's 911 system.

Restricted for Register of Deeds – portion of fund balance restricted by state statute for automation enhancement (software) improvements.

Restricted for Medicaid Maximization – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for Gaston County Health Department expenditures.

Restricted for Building Inspections – portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for building inspections.

Restricted for General Government – portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for general government expenditures. Additionally, the General Fund had $1,290 in unspent debt proceeds at June 30, 2024.

Restricted for Travel and Tourism – portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for tourism expenditures.

Restricted net position on Exhibit A varies from restricted fund balance on Exhibit C by the amount of unspent bond and debt proceeds of $46,562,751 and Register of Deeds pension plan of $309,855 at June 30, 2024.

Committed Fund Balance

This classification represents the portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority. The governing body is the highest level of decision-making authority for the government that can, by adoption of an ordinance prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

Committed for Tax Revaluation – portion of fund balance that can only be used for tax revaluation.

Committed for Future Capital Projects – portion of fund balance that can only be used for future capital projects.

Assigned Fund Balance

Assigned fund balance is the portion of fund balance that Gaston County intends to use for specific purposes. The County's governing body has the authority to assign fund balance.

Subsequent Year's Expenditures – portion of fund balance that is appropriated in the next year's budget that is not already classified in restricted or committed. The governing body approves the appropriation; however, the budget ordinance authorizes the Manager to make certain modifications utilizing a contingency line item without requiring Board approval.

Assigned for Insurance Reserves – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for future insurance expenditures and catastrophic events.

Assigned for Parking – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for expenditures related to the County's parking facilities.

Assigned Debt Service – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for debt service expenditures.

Assigned for Gaston County Tap Fees – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for tap fee expenditures.

Assigned for Public Safety – portion of fund balance budgeted by the Board for public safety expenditures.

Unassigned Fund Balance

Unassigned fund balance represents the portion of fund balance that has not been assigned to another fund or is not restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds. Only the General Fund may report a positive unassigned fund balance. In other governmental funds, it is not appropriate to report a positive unassigned fund balance amount. However, in governmental funds other than the General Fund, if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceed the amounts restricted, committed or assigned to those purposes, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

Gaston County has a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officer will use resources in the following hierarchy: debt proceeds, federal funds, state funds, local non-County funds, and/or County funds. For purposes of fund balance classification, expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and lastly, unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the County or when required by grant or other contractual agreements.

Gaston County has also adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund, which instructs management to conduct the business of the County in such a manner that unassigned fund balance is in the range of 15% to 20% of the prior year's audited revenues.

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of General Fund balance that is available for appropriation:

Total fund balance - General Fund	$	136,064,713
Less:		
Inventories		306,034
Prepaids		89,571
Stabilization by state statute		20,262,482
Fund balance available for appropriation	$	115,406,626

F. Defined Benefit Cost-Sharing Plans

The County participates in two cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plans that are administered by the state: the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) and the Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund (RODSPF) (collectively, the "state-administered defined, benefit pension plans"). For purposes of measuring the net pension asset or liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net positions of the state-administered defined, benefit pension plans' fiduciary net positions have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the state-administered defined, benefit pension plans. For this purpose, plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. The County's employer contributions are recognized when due and the County has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the state-administered defined, benefit pension plans. Investments for all plans are reported at fair value.

G. Management Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

H. Other Resources

The General Fund provides the basis of local resources for other governmental funds. These transactions are recorded as "transfers out" in the General Fund and "transfers in" in the receiving fund.

2. Detail Notes On All Funds

A. Assets

Deposits

All of the County's deposits of the County are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits over the federal depository insurance coverage are collateralized with securities held by the County's agent in the County's name. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity County for the County, these deposits are considered to be held by the County's agent in the County's name. The amount of collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest-bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the County or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amount of collateral provided for the County under the Pooling

Method, the potential exists for under collateralization. This risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method. The County has no formal policy regarding custodial risk for deposits but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The County complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured.

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of the County's deposits was $29,255,990, and the related bank balance was $30,412,127. Of the bank balance, $436,000 was covered by federal depository insurance, and $29,976,127 in deposits were covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method. The County had $9,165 cash on hand.

B. Investments

All investments are stated at fair value. The County distributes interest earned to the various funds based on each fund's proportionate equity in pooled cash and investments during each month of the year.

At June 30, 2024, the County had the following investments and maturities:

Investment Type	Valuation Measurement Method	Fair Value	Within 12 Months	1-3 Years	Over 3 Years
US government agencies	Fair Value Level 2	$ 87,600,167	$ 47,187,485	$ 38,392,576	$ 2,020,108
NC Class	Fair Value Level 1	44,317,887	44,317,887	-	-
NCIP	Fair Value Level 1	35,884,885	35,884,885	-	-
US Treasury Notes	Fair Value Level 1	20,781,768	14,332,803	6,448,965	-
Total		188,584,707	141,723,060	44,841,541	2,020,108
NC Capital Management Trust - Government Portfolio	Fair Value Level 1	146,305,752	146,305,752	N/A	-
Total		$ 334,890,459	$ 288,028,812	$ 44,841,541	$ 2,020,108

The North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT), North Carolina Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (NC CLASS), and North Carolina Investment Pool (NCIP) all have a weighted average maturity of less than 90 days and are presented as investments with a maturity of less than twelve (12) months.

All investments are measured using the market approach: using prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or a group of assets.

Level of Fair Value Hierarchy: Level 1: Debt securities valued using directly observable, quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets. Level 2: Debt securities are valued using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' benchmark quoted prices.

Interest Rate Risk. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates, the County's investment policy limits investments to maturities of no more than five years. Also, the County's investment policy requires purchase of securities to be tiered with staggered maturity dates and limits all securities to a final maturity of no more than five years.

Credit Risk. State law limits investments in commercial paper to the top rating issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSROs); however, the County had no formal policy on managing credit risk. As of June 30, 2024, the County had no investments in commercial paper. The County's investments in US Agencies (Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Fannie Mae, and Federal Farm Credit Bank) are rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Services. The following table shows the credit ratings for each authorized investment pool:

Investment Type	Standard & Poor	Moody's	Fitch
NCCMT	AAAm	AAA-mf	-
NC CLASS	AAAm	-	-
NCIP	AAAm	-	AAA-mmf

Custodial Credit Risk. For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the County will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County's formal policy indicates that the County shall utilize a third-party custodial agent for book entry transactions, all of which shall be a trust department authorized to do trust work in North Carolina who has an account with the Federal Reserve. Certificated securities shall be in the custody of the Director of Finance.

Concentration of Credit Risk. No more than 5% of the County's investment funds may be invested in an issuer's commercial paper (CP) or bankers' acceptance (BA) and no more than 25% of the County's investment portfolio may be invested in CP or BA. The combined total investment in CP and BA shall not exceed 35%. No more than 30% of the County's investments may be invested in any one US Agency's Securities. As of June 30, 2024, 26% of the County's investments are in government agencies, 6% in government treasuries, 44% in North Carolina Management Trust, 13% in NC Class, and 11% in NCIP.

County shall utilize a third-party custodial agent for book-entry transactions, all of which shall be a trust department authorized to do trust work in North Carolina who has an account with the Federal Reserve. Certificated securities shall be in the custody of the Director of Finance.

C. Property Tax Use-Value Assessment on Certain Lands

In accordance with the General Statutes, agriculture, horticulture, and forestland may be taxed by the County at the present use-value as opposed to market value. When the property loses its eligibility for use-value taxation, the property tax is recomputed at market value for the current year and the three preceding fiscal years, along with the accrued interest from the original due date. This tax is immediately due and payable. The following are property taxes that could become due if present use-value eligibility is lost. These amounts have not been recorded in the financial statements.

Year Levied	Tax	Interest	Total
2021	$ 1,209,131	$ 287,169	$ 1,496,300
2022	1,190,971	175,668	1,366,639
2023	1,297,038	74,580	1,371,618
2024	1,279,790	-	1,279,790
Total	$ 4,976,930	$ 537,417	$ 5,514,347

D. Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable at the government-wide level at June 30, 2024, were as follows:

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Emergency Medical Services (GEMS), net	$ 3,268,146	$ -
Landfill fees, net	-	1,414,062
Health department fees, net	55,643	-
Due from other governments, General Fund	8,978,326	-
Due from other governments, capital improvement	275,841	-
Due from other governments, Special Revenue Fund	403,969	-
Lease receivables	567,169	186,029
Accrued interest receivables	-	4,653
Internal Service Fund	15,425	-
Sales tax paid	20,960,932	-
Interest income	1,564,612	-
Opioid Settlement Fund	24,405,048	-
Other	4,303,899	-
Accounts receivable	$ 64,799,010	$ 1,604,744

E. Lease Receivable

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 348-month lease as lessor for the use of T-Mobile Tower Space. An initial lease receivable was recorded in the amount of $305,859. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease receivable is $270,849. The lessee is required to make monthly fixed payments of $1,571. The lease has an interest rate of 2.5630%. The value of the deferred inflow as of June 30, 2024 is $274,246 and the County recognized lease revenue of $10,538 during the fiscal year. The lessee has three extension option(s), each for 60-months.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 126-month lease as lessor for the use of National Renewable Energy Corp. An initial lease receivable was recorded in the amount of $105,517. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease receivable is $80,000. The lessee is required to make annual fixed payments of $9,561. The lease has an interest rate of 1.6040%. The value of the deferred inflow as of June 30, 2024 is $75,370 and the County recognized lease revenue of $10,049 during the fiscal year. The lessee has the option to purchase the infrastructure for $93,799. The lessee has one extension option, 120-months.

On March 1, 2024, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessor for the use of Caromont – 991 W Hudson. An initial lease receivable was recorded in the amount of $273,520. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease receivable is $216,320. The lessee is required to make annual fixed payments of $57,200. The lease has an interest rate of 2.2820%. The value of the deferred inflow as of June 30, 2024 is $255,285 and the County recognized lease revenue of $18,235 during the fiscal year.

Governmental Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest
2025	$ 72,178	$ 13,021
2026	75,886	11,380
2027	77,884	9,668
2028	61,509	8,107
2029	4,158	6,824
2030-2034	107	34,175
2035-2039	52,198	33,281
2040-2044	90,291	23,104
2045-2049	108,661	10,404
2050-2054	24,297	347
Total	$ 567,169	$ 150,311

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 310-month lease as lessor for the use of Auten Ground Lease. An initial lease receivable was recorded in the amount of $203,022. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease receivable is $186,029. The lessee is required to make annual fixed payments of $8,868. The lease has an interest rate of 2.5010%. The value of the deferred inflow as of June 30, 2024 is $179,514 and the County recognized lease revenue of $7,836 during the fiscal year. The lessee has four extension option(s), each for 60-months.

Business-Type Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest
2025	$ 4,215	$ 4,653
2026	4,321	4,547
2027	4,429	4,439
2028	4,717	4,328
2029	5,016	4,210
2030-2034	29,963	19,011
2035-2039	39,588	14,813
2040-2044	53,505	9,208
2045-2049	40,275	2,052
Total	$ 186,029	$ 67,261

F. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance June 30, 2024
Governmental Activities:					
Non-Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:					
Land	$ 22,004,003	$ 12,513,969	$ (932,000)	$ 20,000	$ 33,605,972
Construction in progress	48,502,254	8,144,169	(31,619)	(91,269)	56,523,535
Total non-depreciable/ amortizable capital assets	70,506,257	20,658,138	(963,619)	(71,269)	90,129,507
Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:					
Buildings and improvements	147,104,395	734,046	-	71,269	147,909,710
Equipment	15,323,836	2,984,016	(7,400)	-	18,300,452
Right-to-use lease assets	2,068,102	1,433,788	(470,300)	-	3,031,590
Subscription assets	1,737,261	3,001,714	(389,270)	-	4,349,705
Vehicles and motorized equipment	24,939,046	4,770,965	(547,136)	-	29,162,875
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets	191,172,640	12,924,529	(1,414,106)	71,269	202,754,332
Less Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortization:					
Buildings and improvements	83,376,186	2,693,281	-	-	86,069,467
Equipment	10,661,104	1,056,250	(88)	-	11,717,266
Right-to-use lease assets	858,753	792,683	(470,300)	-	1,181,136
Subscription assets	581,882	1,181,750	(389,270)	-	1,374,362
Vehicles and motorized equipment	18,277,094	2,677,168	(531,757)	-	20,422,505
Total accumulated depreciation/ amortization	113,755,019	8,401,132	(1,391,415)	-	120,764,736
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	77,417,621				81,989,596
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$147,923,878				$ 172,119,103

Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

General government	$ 2,382,569
Public safety	4,107,074
Economic and physical development	3,966
Human services	1,315,777
Cultural and recreational	591,746
Total depreciation/amortization expense	$ 8,401,132

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2024
Business-Type Activities:				
Non-Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:				
Land	$ 3,572,672	$ 982,191	$ -	$ 4,554,863
Construction in progress	7,821,096	5,803,309	-	13,624,405
Total non-depreciable/amortizable capital assets	11,393,768	6,785,500	-	18,179,268
Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:				
Buildings and improvements	33,248,151	-	-	33,248,151
Equipment	3,671,410	647,327	(107,860)	4,210,877
Vehicles and motorized equipment	10,181,168	1,430,015	(25,343)	11,585,840
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets	47,100,729	2,077,342	(133,203)	49,044,868
Less Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortization:				
Buildings and improvements	16,482,596	824,550	-	17,307,146
Equipment	2,344,549	317,021	(25,060)	2,636,510
Vehicles and motorized equipment	7,962,356	778,592	(25,343)	8,715,605
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	26,789,501	1,920,163	(50,403)	28,659,261
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	20,311,228			20,385,607
Business-type activities capital assets, net	$ 31,704,996			$ 38,564,875

Net Investment in Capital Assets

The total net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024, is composed of the following elements:

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Capital assets, net of depreciation/amortization	$ 172,119,103	$ 38,564,875
Less:		
Long-term debt	(258,284,124)	(189,883)
Add:		
Debt related to assets not owned by the County	202,345,696	-
Unspent debt proceeds related to debt for assets owned by the County*	7,218,893	-
Total	(48,719,535)	(189,883)
Net investment in capital assets	$ 123,399,568	$ 38,374,992

*Unexpended debt proceeds and deferred charges on refunding related to education debt is not included in the calculation of governmental net investment in capital assets.

Construction Commitments

A summary of the remaining commitments on the County's open construction projects is as follows:

Project	Remaining Commitment
ADA Compliance Upgrades	$ 1,514,539
Admin Annex Building	947,199
Apple Creek Project	3,187,360
ARPA Cherryville Park Project	168,381
ARPA Stream Restoration	275,674
ARPA Water Line Projects	14,441,669
Carolina Thread Trail	92,375
Carriage House Ste. 100	22,392
Catawba Cove Park - Property & Development	3,837,333
Cherryville Business Park	28,173
Child Advocacy Ctr Bldg	57,092
CMAQ: Dallas Park Trail	552,692
CMAQ: Neal Hawkins Sidewalk	1,811,124
CMAQ: Rankin Lake to GTP Trail	1,810,177
CMAQ:Lowell-Poston Prk Sidewak	317,731
CMAQ Tryon Courthouse Rd Sidewalks	1,685,773
Courthouse Upgrades	1,004,882
Dallas Park Expansion/Buildout	1,371,649
Emergency Fueling Station	30,235
Gas House Bldg & Renovation	4,823,117
Gaston County Courthouse	4,790,045
Hudson Health Building Renovation	4,535,504
IT Data Center Renovation	313,686
Jail Annex Upgrades	195,500
Other Improv & Cap Outlay	104,212
Parking Lot Improvements	868,445
Public Safety Campus	7,036,075
Receiving Home Removdel	254,424
South Point Landing	31,100
Total	$ 56,108,558

G. Payables

Payables at the government-wide level at June 30, 2024, were as follows:

	Vendors	Accrued Expenses	Total
Governmental Activities:			
General	$ -	$ 14,530,946	$ 14,530,946
Capital Improvement	8,312,441	-	8,312,441
Community Investment	1,015	-	1,015
Opioid Settlement Fund	52,010	-	52,010
Nonmajor Special Revenue	11,899	447,661	459,560
Internal Service Fund	5,705,163	-	5,705,163
Total governmental activities	$ 14,082,528	$ 14,978,607	$ 29,061,135
Business-Type Activities:			
Solid Waste	$ -	$ 3,479,981	$ 3,479,981

H. Closure and Post-Closure Costs

In October 1991, the US Environmental Protection Agency issued its rule entitled "Solid Waste Disposal Facility Criteria" (the "EPA rule"). The effect of the EPA rule is to obligate all municipal solid waste landfill owners and operators to perform certain closing functions and certain post-closure monitoring and maintenance functions as a condition for the right to continue operating existing landfill sites. Beginning in April 1995, owners and operators were also required to provide assurance that financial resources would be available to provide for the closure and post-closure care costs.

The County is continuing to develop and modify closure plans and assess post-closure monitoring methods and strategies. Engineering cost estimates continue to be refined consistent with current regulatory requirements and anticipated rule changes. Such costs, which are to include the cost of all equipment and facilities, the cost of providing final cover, and the cost of monitoring and maintaining the landfill area during the 30-year post-closure period are likely to be significant.

Federal and state laws and regulations required the County to close by December 31, 1997, the last remaining unlined landfill cell in which the County was burying solid waste. Just prior to January 1, 1998, as required by law, the County opened its first landfill cell containing a synthetic liner to capture any leach ate from the solid waste. The County obtained approval for an operating permit for only the one cell in which the liner was installed. Much of the 300 acres of the original tract purchased for landfill purposes will remain unpermitted until the need for additional cells arises. Consequently, the County considers only the cell currently in use to calculate its estimate of landfill closure and post-closure care costs for this landfill.

The County's current landfill cell and the one closed in December 1997, are subject to the new regulations. Although closure and post-closure care costs will be paid only near or after the date that the individual landfill cells stop accepting waste, a portion of these closure and post-closure care costs are reported as a liability within the Proprietary Fund based on County landfill used as

of each balance sheet date. The closure and post-closure care costs accrued at June 30, 2024, amount to $20,195,136. This estimated amount is based on what it would cost to perform all closure and post-closure care costs in 2024. Actual costs may differ due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations. The County will recognize the remaining estimated costs of closure and post-closure care costs of each new cell as it is permitted and begins to accept waste. The County is currently using two lined cells, which were opened in January 1998 and March 2003, and expects to close both of those concurrently in approximately four years once another cell has been permitted.

The County has three additional landfills, which have not received solid waste since October 9, 1991, and, therefore, are not subject to the most recent EPA requirements. The Biggerstaff Landfill was closed during the 1992 fiscal year. The Cramerton and Auten Road Landfills were closed during the 1995 fiscal year. These landfills are subject to the 1986 EPA rule requiring certain closure functions and post-closure monitoring for five years. The five-year period for monitoring the landfills closed under the 1986 EPA rule has expired, therefore, the County has accrued no costs for those landfills at June 30, 2024.

I. Deferred Inflows of Resources

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Charge on refunding of debt	$ 4,128,736	$ -
Pensions - difference between expected and actual experience	11,693,527	223,119
Pensions - net difference between projected and actual investment earnings	22,501,951	-
Pensions - change in proportion and difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	3,660,545	116,275
Pensions - change of assumptions	5,121,566	1,686,752
Contributions to pension plan	14,977,841	-
Benefit payments and administration costs paid subsequent to the measurement date (LEOSSA)	608,796	-
OPEB - difference between expected and actual experience	2,651,188	-
OPEB - change of assumptions	-	1,987,255
Benefit payments and plan administrative expense made subsequent to the measurement date	4,718,266	-
Prepaid taxes not yet earned (General Fund)	-	1,460,893
Lease receivables	-	784,413
Taxes receivable, net (General Fund)	-	996,525
Taxes receivable, net (Special Revenue Fund)	-	143,457
Opioid Settlement Fund	-	24,278,676
Total	$ 70,062,416	$ 31,677,365

J. Long-Term Obligations

Pension Plan Obligations

Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description. The County is a participating employer in the state-wide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the state of North Carolina. LGERS membership is comprised of general employees and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) of participating local governmental entities. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of 13 members – nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the State Senate, one appointed by the State House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The LGERS is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina. The state's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410 or by calling (919) 981-5454, or at www.osc.nc.gov.

Benefits Provided. LGERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.85% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. Plan members are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of creditable service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. Plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of creditable service (age 55 for firefighters). Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age (15 years of creditable service for firefighters and rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty) or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases. Increases are contingent upon actuarial gains of the plan.

LGERS plan members who are LEOs are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 55 with five years of creditable service as an officer, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. LEO plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 15 years of creditable service as an officer. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of LEO members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age, or have completed 15 years of service as a LEO and have reached age 50, or have completed five years of creditable service as a LEO and have reached age 55, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as a LEO if killed in the line of duty. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions.

Contributions. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 128-30 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. County employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation. Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The County's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024, was 14.10% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 12.85% for general employees and firefighters, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the County were $14,953,661 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Refunds of Contributions – County employees who have terminated service as a contributing member of LGERS, may file an application for a refund of their contributions. By state law, refunds to members with at least five years of service include 4% interest. State law requires a 60-day waiting period after service termination before the refund may be paid. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual's right to employer contributions, or any other benefit provided by LGERS.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024, the County reported a liability of $83,486,198 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2023, utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the County's long-term share of future payroll covered by the pension plan, relative to the projected future payroll covered by the pension plan of all participating LGERS employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023 (measurement date), the County's proportion was 1.26053%, which was an increase of 0.12883% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the County recognized pension expense of $25,170,209. At June 30, 2024, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 9,302,834	$ 200,273
Changes of assumptions	3,547,682	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	22,344,561	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	3,660,545	89,112
County's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	14,953,661	-
Total	$ 53,809,283	$ 289,385

$14,953,661 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows and outflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Total
2025	$ 14,106,986
2026	7,516,445
2027	15,997,960
2028	944,846
2029	-
Thereafter	-
Total	$ 38,566,237

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.25 to 8.25 percent, including inflation & productivity factor
Investment rate of return	6.50 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The plan actuary currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e., general and law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e., disabled, and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. public plan population. The mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period as of December 31, 2019 and adopted by the Board of Trustees on January 28, 2021.

Future ad hoc COLA amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are, therefore, not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to

produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Fixed income	33.0%	0.9%
Global equity	38.0%	6.5%
Real estate	8.0%	5.9%
Alternatives	8.0%	8.2%
Opportunistic fixed income	7.0%	5.0%
Inflation sensitive	6.0%	2.7%
Total	100%	

The information above is based on 30-year expectations developed with an investment consulting firm as part of a study that was completed in early 2022, and is part of the asset, liability, and investment policy of the North Carolina Retirement Systems. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.25%. Return projections do not include any excess return expectations over benchmark averages. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.50%. This discount rate is in line with the long-term nominal expected return on pension plan investments. The calculation of the net pension liability is a present value calculation of the future net pension payments. These net pension payments assume that contributions from plan members will be made at the current statutory contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50%, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset or net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (5.50%) or one percentage point higher (7.50%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	$ 144,636,556	$ 83,486,198	$ 33,141,493

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina.

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

Plan Description. Gaston County administers a public employee retirement system (the "Separation Allowance"); a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to the County's qualified sworn law enforcement officers under the age of 62 who have completed at least 30 years of credible service or have attained 55 years of age and have completed five or more years of credible service. The Separation Allowance is equal to 0.85% of the annual equivalent of the base rate of compensation most recently applicable to the officer for each year of creditable service. The retirement benefits are not subject to any increases in salary or retirement allowances that may be authorized by the General Assembly. Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. A separate report was not issued for the plan.

The Separation Allowance covers all full-time law enforcement officers of the County. At June 30, 2023, valuation, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

	Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
Retirees receiving benefits	52
Active plan members	299
Total	351

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting. The County has chosen to fund the Separation Allowance on a pay-as-you-go basis. Pension expenditures will be made from the General Fund, which is maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

The Separation Allowance has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria, which are outlined in GASB Statement 73.

Actuarial Assumptions. The entry age normal actuarial cost method was used in the June 30, 2023, valuation. The total pension liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	3.30 to 7.80 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Discount rate	3.77 percent

The discount rate used to measure the TPL is the Fidelity GO AA Bond 20-Year Rate Index.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, valuation were based on the results of an experience study completed by the Actuary for the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System for the five-year period ending December 31, 2019. Other key assumptions include:

Mortality Assumption: All mortality rates use Pub-2010 amount-weighted tables.

Mortality Projection: All mortality rates are projected from 2010 using generational improvement with Scale MP-2019.

Deaths After Retirement (Healthy): Mortality rates are based on the Safety Mortality Table for Retirees. Rate for all members are multiplied by 97% and Set Forward by 1 year.

Deaths After Retirement (Disabled Members at Retirement): Mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 General Disabled Mortality Table. Rates are Set Back 3 years for all ages.

Deaths Prior to Retirement: Pub-2010 Safety Employees Male and Female Mortality tables projected generationally with MP-2019.

Contributions. The County is required by Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 to provide these retirement benefits and has chosen to fund the amounts necessary to cover the benefits earned on a pay-as-you-go basis through appropriations made in the General Fund operating budget. There were no contributions made by employees. The County's obligation to contribute to this plan is established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. Administration costs of the Separation Allowance are financed through investment earnings. The County paid $912,992 as benefits came due for the reporting period.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024, the County reported a total pension liability of $19,869,664. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, based on a June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to December 31, 2023, utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the County recognized pension expense of $2,664,408.

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Benefit payments and administrative costs subsequent to measurement date	$ 608,796	$ -
Difference between expected and actual experience	2,390,693	9,129
Changes of assumptions and other inputs	1,573,884	1,686,752
Total	$ 4,573,373	$ 1,695,881

$608,796 paid as benefits came due subsequent to the measurement date have been reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a decrease of the total pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Total
2025	$ 1,293,665
2026	793,897
2027	321,083
2028	(139,949)
2029	-
Thereafter	-
Total	$ 2,268,696

Sensitivity of the County's Total Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the County's total pension liability calculated using the discount rate of (3.77)%, as well as what the County's total pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.77 %) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.77%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (2.77%)	Discount Rate (3.77%)	1% Increase (4.77%)
Total pension liability	$ 21,319,176	$ 19,869,664	$ 18,534,264

Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability
Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

Beginning balance	$ 16,621,056
Service cost	547,271
Interest on the total pension liability	654,665
Difference between expected and actual experience	2,582,721
Changes of assumptions and other inputs	376,943
Benefit payments made	(912,992)
Net change in total pension liability	3,248,608
Ending balance of the total pension liability	$ 19,869,664

Changes of Assumptions. Changes of assumption and other inputs reflect a change in the Municipal Bond Index Rate from 4.05% at December 31, 3 (measurement date) to 3.77% at December 31, 2023 (measurement date).

Changes of Benefit Terms. Reported compensation adjusted to reflect the assumed rate of pay as of the valuation date.

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age and health status (i.e., disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers

Plan Description. The County contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (Plan), a defined contribution pension plan administered by the Department of State Treasurer and a Board of Trustees. The Plan provides retirement benefits to law enforcement officers employed by the County. Article 5 of G.S. Chapter 135 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. The Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina. The state's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes the pension trust fund financial statements for the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(k) plan that includes the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, or by calling (919) 981-5454.

Funding Policy. Article 12E of G.S. Chapter 143 requires the County to contribute each month an amount equal to 5% of each officer's salary, and all amounts contributed are vested immediately. Also, the law enforcement officers may make voluntary contributions to the Plan. Contributions for the year ended June 30, 2024 were $1,887,164, which consisted of $1,078,011 from the County and $809,153 from the law enforcement officers, no amounts were forfeited.

Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund

Plan Description. The County also contributes to the Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund (RODSPF), a non-contributory, cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan administered by the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer. RODSPF provides supplemental pension benefits to any eligible county Register of Deeds who is retired under the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) or an equivalent locally sponsored plan. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 161 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of 13 members – nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the State Senate, one appointed by the state House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina. The state's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the Fund. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, or by calling (919) 981-5454.

Benefits Provided. An individual's benefits for the year are calculated as a share of accumulated contributions available for benefits for that year, subject to certain statutory limits. An individual's eligibility is based on at least ten years of service as a register of deeds with the individual's share increasing with years of service. Because of the statutory limits noted above, not all contributions available for benefits are distributed.

Contributions. Benefits and administrative expenses are funded by investment income and 1.5% of the receipts collected by each County Commission under Article 1 of Chapter 161 of the North Carolina General Statutes. The statutory contribution currently has no relationship to the actuary's required contribution. The actuarially determined contributions this and for the foreseeable future is zero. Registers of Deeds do not contribute. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 161-50 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. Contributions to the pension plan from the County were $24,180 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024, the County reported an asset of $309,855 for its proportionate share of the net pension asset. The net pension asset was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2023, utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The County's proportion of the net pension asset was based on the County's share of contributions to the pension plan, relative to contributions to the pension plan of all participating RODSPF employers. At June 30, 2024, the County's proportion was 2.57847% (measured as of June 30, 2023), which was an increase of 0.13175% from its proportion as of June 30, 2023 (measured as of June 30, 2022).

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the County recognized pension expense of $52,856. At June 30, 2024, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ -	$ 13,717
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	157,390	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	27,163
County's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	24,180	-
Total	$ 181,570	$ 40,880

$24,180 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as an increase of the net pension asset in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows and outflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Total
2025	$ 17,440
2026	43,451
2027	45,690
2028	9,929
2029	-
Thereafter	-
Total	$ 116,510

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.25 to 8.25 percent, including inflation and productivity factor productivity factor
Investment rate of return	3.00 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, and health status (i.e., disabled, and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. public plan population. The mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience review for LGERS for the period January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2019.

Future and ad hoc cost of living adjustment amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are, therefore, not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns, and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income returns projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple-year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return

by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The adopted asset allocation policy for the RODSPF is 99.9% in the fixed income asset class. The best estimate of arithmetic real rate of return for the fixed income asset class as of June 30, 2023 is 0.9%.

The information above is based on 30-year expectations developed with an investment consulting firm as part of a study that was completed in early 2022, and is part of the asset, liability and investment policy of the North Carolina Retirement Systems. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.25%. Return projections do not include any excess return expectations over benchmark averages. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 3.00%. This discount rate is in line with the long-term nominal expected return on pension plan investments. The calculation of the net pension asset is a present value calculation of the future net pension payments. These net pension payments assume that contributions from plan members will be made at the current statutory contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset calculated using the discount rate of 3.00%, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.00%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (2.00%)	Discount Rate (3.00%)	1% Increase (4.00%)
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	$ 211,512	$ (309,855)	$ 392,778

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina.

Pension Liabilities (Assets), Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

The net pension liability (asset) for LGERS and ROD was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability for LEOSSA was measured as of December 31, 2023, with an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2023. The County's

proportion of the net pension liability was based on the County's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contribution of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	LGERS	LEOSSA	ROD	Total
Proportionate share of net pension liability (asset)	$ 83,486,198	$ -	$ (309,855)	$ 83,176,343
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	1.26053%	NA	2.57847%	-
Total pension liability	-	19,869,664	-	19,869,664
Pension expense	25,170,209	2,664,408	52,856	27,887,473

At June 30, 2024, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Deferred Outflows of Resources	LGERS	LEOSSA	ROD	Total
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 9,302,834	$ 2,390,693	$ -	$ 11,693,527
Changes of assumptions	3,547,682	1,573,884	-	5,121,566
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	22,344,561	-	157,390	22,501,951
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	3,660,545	-	-	3,660,545
County contributions (LGERS, ROD) and benefit payments and administration costs (LEOSSA) subsequent to the measurement date	14,953,661	608,796	24,180	15,586,637
Total deferred outflows of resources	$ 53,809,283	$ 4,573,373	$ 181,570	$ 58,564,226
Deferred Inflows of Resources				
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 200,273	$ 9,129	$ 13,717	$ 223,119
Changes of assumptions	-	1,686,752	-	1,686,752
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	89,112	-	27,163	116,275
Total deferred inflows of resources	$ 289,385	$ 1,695,881	$ 40,880	$ 2,026,146

Other Post-Employment Benefits

Plan Description. In accordance with a County resolution, the County administers a single-employer, defined benefit plan, which provides healthcare benefits to retirees of the County who participate in the North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (System) and have at least five years of creditable service with the County. The plan is available to qualified retirees until the age of 65 or until Medicare eligible, whichever is sooner. The County pays the full cost of coverage for these benefits if you have 25 or more years of service. Also, retirees can purchase coverage for their dependents at the County's group rates. Currently, 197 retirees are eligible for post-retirement health benefits. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the County made payments for post-retirement health benefit premiums of $3,776,494. The County obtains healthcare coverage through self and private insurers. A separate report was not issued for the plan. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 75.

Retiree must have been hired prior to 8/11/2005 with no break in service.

- Retirees with 25+ years of service will receive:
- Health insurance at a subsidized rate from the county through a private healthcare insurer through age 65:
  - For retiree and dependents
  - $326 Medicare supplement for life beginning at age 65.
- Retirees with 20 – 24 years of service will receive:
  - Health insurance at a subsidized rate ($100 discount) from the county through a private healthcare insurer through age 65:
    - For retiree and dependents
  - $100 Medicare supplement for life beginning at age 65.
- A small group of Retirees continue to receive a smaller supplement from a prior plan that was replaced by the August 2005 resolution.
  - $150 – 8 participants

Membership of the post-employment health benefit plan consisted of the following at June 30, 2023, the date of the latest actuarial valuation:

Retirees and dependents receiving benefits	561
Active members	272
Total	833

Total OPEB Liability

The County's total OPEB liability of $66,873,427 was measured as of June 30, 2023, and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs. The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.50%
Real wage growth	0.75%
Wage inflation	3.25%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	
General employees	3.30%-8.30%
Firefighters	3.30%-8.00%
Law enforcement officers	3.30%-7.80%
Municipal bond index rate	
Prior measurement date	3.69%
Measurement date	3.86%
Healthcare cost trend rates:	
Pre-Medicare medical and prescription drug	7.00% for 2023 decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% by 2030
Medicare medical and prescription drug	6.50%
HSA contributions	2.50%

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance at July 1, 2023	$ 61,785,932
Changes for the Year:	
Service cost	1,235,843
Interest	2,209,940
Differences between expected and actual experience	7,069,834
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(1,121,148)
Benefit payments	(4,306,974)
Net changes	5,087,495
Balance at June 30, 2024	$ 66,873,427

The County selected a Municipal Bond Index Rate equal to the Fidelity BA AA 20-year Bond Index and the Municipal Bond Index Rate as of the measurement date as the discount rate used to measure the TOL.

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables and generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2019.

The demographic actuarial assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increase used in the June 30, 2023, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2019, adopted by the LGERS Board.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2023, valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience done concurrently with the June 30, 2023, valuation.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.86 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.86 percent) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (2.86%)	Discount Rate (3.86%)	1% Increase (4.86%)
Total OPEB liability	$ 73,655,997	$ 66,873,427	$ 61,050,557

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current	1% Increase
Total OPEB liability	$ 64,302,812	$ 66,873,427	$ 69,711,201

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the County recognized OPEB expense of $715,244. At June 30, 2024, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 2,651,188	$ -
Changes of assumptions	-	1,987,255
Benefit payments and plan administrative expense made subsequent to the measurement date	4,718,266	-
Total	$ 7,369,454	$ 1,987,255

$4,718,266 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from benefit payments made and administrative expenses incurred subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the total OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows and outflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Total
2025	$ 663,933
2026	-
2027	-
2028	-
2029	-
Thereafter	-
Total	$ 663,933

Leases

The County has entered into agreements to lease certain equipment. The lease agreements qualify as other than short-term leases under GASB 87 and, therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 386-month lease as lessee for the use of Southern Benedictine-Tourism. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $188,303. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $180,920. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $570. The lease has an interest rate of 2.5830%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $188,303 with an accumulated amortization of $17,545. The County has two extension option(s), each for 120-months.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 39-month lease as lessee for the use of the City of Cherryville-GEMS. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $38,555. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $2,996. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $1,000. The lease has an interest rate of 0.7270%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $38,555 with an accumulated amortization of $35,589. The County has one extension option for 12-months.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 40-month lease as lessee for the use of Carolina Recording Systems. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $323,915. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $86,968. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $67,300. The lease has an interest rate of 1.6810%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $323,915 with an accumulated amortization of $287,924.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 101-month lease as lessee for the use of Penegar Building. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $192,044. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $126,797. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $2,000. The lease has an interest rate of 1.4510%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $192,044 with an accumulated amortization of $67,803.

On July 1, 2021, the County entered into a 57-month lease as lessee for the use of Quadient-Public Works. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $34,833. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $13,004. The County is required to make quarterly fixed payments of $1,877. The lease has an interest rate of 1.0590%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $34,833 with an accumulated amortization of $22,000.

On October 1, 2021, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessee for the use of Pitney Bowes-Social Services. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $45,753. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $20,833. The County is required to make quarterly fixed payments of $2,346. The lease has an interest rate of 1.0590%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $45,753 with an accumulated amortization of $25,165.

On August 2, 2021, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessee for the use of Pitney Bowes-Health Department. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $32,955. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $13,326. The County is required to make quarterly fixed payments of $1,682. The lease has an interest rate of 0.8770%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $32,955 with an accumulated amortization of $19,206.

On November 1, 2021, the County entered into a 59-month lease as lessee for the use of Public Safety SAN Lease – CCA Financial. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $554,271. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $223,116. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $113,745. The lease has an interest rate of 1.3040%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $554,271 with an accumulated amortization of $300,621.

On September 1, 2022, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessee for the use of Canon Copier Lease. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $187,173. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $130,102. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $3,557. The lease has an interest rate of 2.3660%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $187,173 with an accumulated amortization of $68,631.

On July 1, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month lease as lessee for the use of Cott Systems-Register of Deeds. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $180,698. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $123,528. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $5,095. The lease has an interest rate of 2.8480%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $304,018 with an accumulated amortization of $101,246.

On July 1, 2023, the County entered into a 59-month lease as lessee for the use of Ricoh Copier. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $833,712. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $667,644. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $13,728. The lease has an interest rate of 0.0259%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $833,712 with an accumulated amortization of $169,473.

On September 1, 2023, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessee for the use of 420 E. Long Ave. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $158,941. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $155,441. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $3,500. The lease has an interest rate of 2.6560%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $158,941 with an accumulated amortization of $26,490.

On December 30, 2023, the County entered into a 60-month lease as lessee for the use of Pitney Bowes-GEMS. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $20,996. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $18,894. The County is required to make quarterly fixed payments of $1,138. The lease has an interest rate of 3.4510%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $20,996 with an accumulated amortization of $2,111.

On October 9, 2023, the County entered into a 24-month lease as lessee for the use of Flock Camera System. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $58,926. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $28,926. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $30,000. The lease has an interest rate of 3.7120%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $62,426 with an accumulated amortization of $22,716.

On September 7, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month lease as lessee for the use of Jail Round Electronic System. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of $53,695. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is $53,695. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $28,000. The lease has an interest rate of 2.8480%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $53,695 with an accumulated amortization of $14,616.

The future minimum lease obligations and the net present value of these minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2024, were as follows:

Governmental Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest
2025	$ 602,203	$ 26,838
2026	498,177	14,556
2027	287,073	8,472
2028	246,463	6,072
2029	37,344	4,687
2030 -2034	37,759	19,497
2035-2039	29,364	15,892
2040-2044	33,407	11,849
2045-2049	38,007	7,248
2050-2054	36,393	2,073
Total	$ 1,846,190	$ 117,184

Subscriptions

The County has entered into subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs). The SBITAs qualify as other than short-term SBITAs under GASB 96 and, therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum subscription payments as of the date of their inception.

On July 1, 2022, the County entered into a 26-month subscription for the use of Citrix License. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $236,298. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $0. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $119,735. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.0240%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $236,297 with an accumulated amortization of $218,120.

On July 1, 2022, the County entered into a 24-month subscription for the use of Debtbook. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $37,073. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $0. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $17,500. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.1840%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $37,072 with an accumulated amortization of $22,586.

On August 1, 2022, the County entered into a 48-month subscription for the use of Learning Management System (NeoGov). An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $590,546. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $424,394. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $88,785. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.2750%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $590,546 with an accumulated amortization of $277,195.

On July 1, 2022, the County entered into a 29-month subscription for the use of TeamMate+ Audit Software. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $10,065. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $0. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $5,130. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.0240%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of June 30, 2024 is $10,065 with an accumulated amortization of $8,188.

On July 1, 2022, the County entered into a 46-month subscription for the use of CAMA Tax Assessment Software (DevNet). An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $474,011. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $160,972. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $164,634. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.2750%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $474,011 with an accumulated amortization of $247,310.

On October 1, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of CLEAR Proflex. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $12,629. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $9,736. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $351. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.5910%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $12,629 with an accumulated amortization of $3,157.

On November 15, 2023, the County entered into a 45-month subscription for the use of Axon Enterprise. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $61,239. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $46,294. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $2,261. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.4790%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $61,239 with an accumulated amortization of $10,252.

On December 1, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Northwoods Consulting Partners. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $159,346. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $104,346. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $55,000. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.5910%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $159,346 with an accumulated amortization of $30,984.

On November 1, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of SHI International. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $1,617,518. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $1,059,216. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $558,303. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.5910%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $1,617,518 with an accumulated amortization of $359,449.

On November 22, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Eagleview. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $233,406. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $233,406. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $81,387. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.8510%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $233,406 with an accumulated amortization of $47,330.

On September 7, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Jail Electronic Round System. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $91,366. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $61,366. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $30,000. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.8480%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $91,366 with an accumulated amortization of $24,872.

On April 30, 2024, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Everbridge. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $36,690. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $24,114. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $12,575. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.8510%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $36,690 with an accumulated amortization of $2,129.

On January 1, 2023, the County entered into a 31-month subscription for the use of Policy Management Software. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $42,907. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $20,089. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $7,557. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.5830%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $42,907 with an accumulated amortization of $24,914.

On August 1, 2023, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Policy Management Software. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $37,740. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $25,300. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $12,440. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.8480%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $37,740 with an accumulated amortization of $11,532.

On January 1, 2024, the County entered into a 59-month subscription for the use of SOCH Integra. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $56,483. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $43,311. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $8,322. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.5700%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $56,483 with an accumulated amortization of $11,197.

On July 1, 2023, the County entered into a 59-month subscription for the use of Ricoh. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $260,693. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $207,693. The County is required to make monthly fixed payments of $4,421. The subscription has an interest rate of 0.0259%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $260,693 with an accumulated amortization of $53,022.

On May 1, 2024, the County entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of SHI International Public Safety. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $374,620. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $246,221. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $128,400. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.8510%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $374,620 with an accumulated amortization of $20,812.

On June 1, 2024, the County entered into a 13-month subscription for the use of PowerDMS. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of $17,077. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is $14,060. The County is required to make annual fixed payments of $1,116. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.2950%. The value of the right-to-use asset is of June 30, 2024 is $17,077 with an accumulated amortization of $1,313.

Governmental Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest
2025	$ 1,238,050	$ 72,360
2026	1,080,539	39,516
2027	310,384	6,607
2028	51,545	74
Total	$ 2,680,518	$ 118,557

Installment Purchases

As authorized by state law (G.S. 160A-20 and 153A-158.1), the County financed various property and equipment acquisitions by installment purchase.

Installment purchase contracts at June 30, 2024, are comprised of the following:

Governmental Activities:	
.6939% note, payable in annual installments of $660,439, including interest; final payment due in 2024; secured by equipment issued November 2021	$ 1,127,566
3.85% note, payable in annual installments of $725,135, including interest; final payment due in 2026; secured by equipment issued June 2023	5,557,673
4.2946% note, payable in semi-annual installments of $413,732, including interest; final payment due in 2027; secured by equipment issued January 2024	4,271,020
Total	$ 10,956,259
Business-Type Activities:	
.6939% note, payable in annual installments of $660,439, including interest; final payment due in 2024; secured by equipment issued November 2021	$ 189,883

The County's outstanding note from direct placements related to governmental activities of $1,127,566 is secured by equipment and contain provisions that an event of default would result in (a) declare all installment payments payable by purchases pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts payable by purchaser under such purchase agreement to the end of the then term to be due; (b) lender may enter the premises where the equipment is listed in such purchase agreement is located and take possession of such equipment and sell or lease such equipment for the account of purchaser continuing to hold purchaser liable, but solely from funds previously appropriated, for the difference between (i) the installment payments payable by purchaser pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts related to such purchase agreement or the equipment listed therein that are payable by purchaser, and (ii) the net proceeds of any such sale or leasing (after deducting all expenses of lender in exercising its remedies under such purchase agreement, including without limitation all expenses of taking possession, storing, reconditioning and selling or leasing such equipment and all brokerage, auctioneer's and attorney's fees), subject, however, to the provisions of the purchase agreement; (c) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce performance by purchaser of the applicable covenants of the purchase agreement or to recover for the breach thereof, including enforcement of the requirement that the purchaser return all amounts held in the project fund to the lender; provided, however, that nothing in the purchase agreement shall be deemed to allow any judgment for a deficiency or waive any provision of N.C.G.S. 160A-20 or any defense the purchaser otherwise have; (d) exercise all the rights and remedies of a secured party or creditor under the UCC of the state of North Carolina and the general laws of the state of North Carolina with respect to the enforcement of the security interest granted or reserved; (e) require purchaser to deliver the equipment, at the purchaser's sole expense, to any location within the state of North Carolina designated by lender, and take possession of any proceeds of the equipment, including net proceeds; (f) require purchaser to deliver all amounts remaining in the project fund to the lender; or (g) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to enforce its rights under such purchase agreement or as a secured party in any or all of the equipment subject to such purchase agreement.

The County's outstanding note from direct placements related to governmental activities of $5,557,673 is secured by equipment and contain provisions that an event of default would result in (a) declare all installment payments payable by purchases pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts payable by purchaser under such purchase agreement to the end of the then term to be due; (b) lender may enter the premises where the equipment is listed in such purchase agreement is located and take possession of such equipment and sell or lease such equipment for the account of purchaser continuing to hold purchaser liable, but solely from funds previously appropriated, for the difference between (i) the installment payments payable by purchaser pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts related to such purchase agreement or the equipment listed therein that are payable by purchaser, and (ii) the net proceeds of any such sale or leasing (after deducting all expenses of lender in exercising its remedies under such purchase agreement, including without limitation all expenses of taking possession, storing, reconditioning and selling or leasing such equipment and all brokerage, auctioneer's and attorney's fees), subject, however, to the provisions of the purchase agreement; (c) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce performance by purchaser of the applicable covenants of the purchase agreement or to recover for the breach thereof, including enforcement of the requirement that the purchaser return all amounts held in the project fund to the lender; provided, however, that nothing in the purchase agreement shall be deemed to allow any judgment for a deficiency or waive any provision of N.C.G.S. 160A-20 or any defense the purchaser otherwise have; (d)

exercise all the rights and remedies of a secured party or creditor under the UCC of the state of North Carolina and the general laws of the state of North Carolina with respect to the enforcement of the security interest granted or reserved; (e) require purchaser to deliver the equipment, at the purchaser's sole expense, to any location within the state of North Carolina designated by lender, and take possession of any proceeds of the equipment, including net proceeds; (f) require purchaser to deliver all amounts remaining in the project fund to the lender; or (g) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to enforce its rights under such purchase agreement or as a secured party in any or all of the equipment subject to such purchase agreement.

The County's outstanding note from direct placements related to governmental activities of $4,271,020 is secured by equipment and contain provisions that an event of default would result in (a) declare all installment payments payable by purchases pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts payable by purchaser under such purchase agreement to the end of the then term to be due; (b) lender may enter the premises where the equipment is listed in such purchase agreement is located and take possession of such equipment and sell or lease such equipment for the account of purchaser continuing to hold purchaser liable, but solely from funds previously appropriated, for the difference between (i) the installment payments payable by purchaser pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts related to such purchase agreement or the equipment listed therein that are payable by purchaser, and (ii) the net proceeds of any such sale or leasing (after deducting all expenses of lender in exercising its remedies under such purchase agreement, including without limitation all expenses of taking possession, storing, reconditioning and selling or leasing such equipment and all brokerage, auctioneer's and attorney's fees), subject, however, to the provisions of the purchase agreement; (c) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce performance by purchaser of the applicable covenants of the purchase agreement or to recover for the breach thereof, including enforcement of the requirement that the purchaser return all amounts held in the project fund to the lender; provided, however, that nothing in the purchase agreement shall be deemed to allow any judgment for a deficiency or waive any provision of N.C.G.S. 160A-20 or any defense the purchaser otherwise have; (d) exercise all the rights and remedies of a secured party or creditor under the UCC of the state of North Carolina and the general laws of the state of North Carolina with respect to the enforcement of the security interest granted or reserved; (e) require purchaser to deliver the equipment, at the purchaser's sole expense, to any location within the state of North Carolina designated by lender, and take possession of any proceeds of the equipment, including net proceeds; (f) require purchaser to deliver all amounts remaining in the project fund to the lender; or (g) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to enforce its rights under such purchase agreement or as a secured party in any or all of the equipment subject to such purchase agreement.

The County's outstanding note from direct placements related to business-type activities of $189,883 is secured by equipment and contain provisions that an event of default would result in (a) declare all installment payments payable by purchases pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts payable by purchaser under such purchase agreement to the end of the then term to be due; (b) lender may enter the premises where the equipment is listed in such purchase agreement is located and take possession of such equipment and sell or lease such equipment for the account of purchaser continuing to hold purchaser liable, but solely from funds previously appropriated, for the difference between (i) the installment payments payable by purchaser pursuant to such purchase agreement and other amounts related to such purchase agreement or the

equipment listed therein that are payable by purchaser, and (ii) the net proceeds of any such sale or leasing (after deducting all expenses of lender in exercising its remedies under such purchase agreement, including without limitation all expenses of taking possession, storing, reconditioning and selling or leasing such equipment and all brokerage, auctioneer's and attorney's fees), subject, however, to the provisions of the purchase agreement; (c) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce performance by purchaser of the applicable covenants of the purchase agreement or to recover for the breach thereof, including enforcement of the requirement that the purchaser return all amounts held in the project fund to the lender; provided, however, that nothing in the purchase agreement shall be deemed to allow any judgment for a deficiency or waive any provision of N.C.G.S. 160A-20 or any defense the purchaser otherwise have; (d) exercise all the rights and remedies of a secured party or creditor under the UCC of the state of North Carolina and the general laws of the state of North Carolina with respect to the enforcement of the security interest granted or reserved; (e) require purchaser to deliver the equipment, at the purchaser's sole expense, to any location within the state of North Carolina designated by lender, and take possession of any proceeds of the equipment, including net proceeds; (f) require purchaser to deliver all amounts remaining in the project fund to the lender; or (g) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to enforce its rights under such purchase agreement or as a secured party in any or all of the equipment subject to such purchase agreement.

Annual debt service payments of the installment purchase as of June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Governmental Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 5,348,545	$ 337,424	$ 5,685,969
2026	4,392,702	162,766	4,555,468
2027	1,215,012	26,183	1,241,195
Total	$ 10,956,259	$ 526,373	$ 11,482,632

Business-Type Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 189,883	$ 494	$ 190,377

General Obligation Indebtedness

General obligation bonds are collateralized by the full faith, credit, and taxing power of the County. Principal and interest requirements will be provided by appropriation in the year in which they become due.

If the County fails to pay any installment of principal or interest on its outstanding debts on or before their due date and remains in default for 90 days, the Local Government Commission may take action as it deems advisable to investigate the County's fiscal affairs, consult with the Board of Commissioners and negotiate with its creditors in order to assist the County in working out a plan for refinancing, adjusting or compromising the debt. The Local Government Commission has the statutory authority to impound the books and records of the County and assume full control of all its financial affairs when and for as long as it is deemed necessary.

$50,025,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2016:	
Principal due in annual installments through February 1, 2036. Installments range from $2,500,000 to $2,505,000. Interest payable semi-annually (February and August) ranges from 2.0% to 5.0% issued May 2016.	$ 30,000,000
$58,855,000 2013 Refunding Bonds:	
Principal due in annual installments through March 1, 2028. Installments range from $85,000 to $6,180,000. Interest payable semi-annually (March and September) ranges from 2.0% to 5.0% issued April 2013.	16,205,000
$50,145,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020:	
Principal due in annual installments through February 1, 2029. Installments range from $4,485,000 to $7,665,000. Interest payable semi - annually (February and August) at 5.0% issued October 2020.	31,615,000
$60,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2018:	
Principal due in annual installments through August 1, 2038. Installments are $3,000,000. Interest payable semi-annually (February and August) ranges from 3.00% to 5.00% issued November 2018.	45,000,000
$80,000,000 General Obligation School Bond Anticipation Notes, Series 2023:	
$80,000,000 School Bond Anticipation Notes issued on July 11, 2023; interest at 4.00%. The notes will be repaid from a $250,000,000 General Obligation Bond issue expected to be sold in the next fiscal year.	80,000,000
Total	$ 202,820,000

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the County's general obligation bonds are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 96,285,000	$ 8,389,350	$ 104,674,350
2026	16,195,000	4,461,900	20,656,900
2027	15,695,000	3,706,700	19,401,700
2028	13,980,000	2,946,750	16,926,750
2029	13,165,000	2,304,500	15,469,500
2030-2034	27,500,000	6,491,250	33,991,250
2035-2039	20,000,000	1,725,000	21,725,000
Total	$ 202,820,000	$ 30,025,450	$ 232,845,450

Limited Obligation Bonds

The County issued Series 2019A and 2019B Limited Obligation Bonds in April 2019. As security for the 2019 bonds, the County will execute and deliver a deed of trust granting, among other things, a lien of record on the mortgaged property subject to permitted encumbrances. Each series of the 2019, bonds will also be secured by a Debt Service Reserve Fund.

Approximately 57% of the Series 2019A Limited Obligation Bonds were issued to provide funds for the replacement and upgrade of the public safety system throughout the County including the radio communication equipment and infrastructure. The remaining 43% of the Series 2019A limited obligation bonds were issued for the renovation, expansion, equipping and improving of the existing sheriff's office and jail facility.

The Series 2019B limited obligation bonds were issued for the acquisition and improving of a planned business park to be known as the Apple Creek Corporate Center.

The County's limited obligation bonds payable at June 30, 2024, are comprised of the following individual issues:

- Series 2019A Limited Obligation Bonds, $16,330,000
- Series 2019B Limited Obligation Bonds, $2,580,000

Governmental Activities – Limited Obligation Bonds:

$18,230,000 Limited Obligation Bond, Series 2019A: Principal due in annual installments through April 1, 2029. Installments range from $360,000 to $1,210,000. Interest payable semi-annually (October and April) ranges from 2.25% to 5.00% issued April 2019.	$ 16,330,000
$8,555,000 Limited Obligation Bond, Series 2019B: Principal due in annual installments through April 1, 2039. Installments range from $960,000 to $3,620,000. Interest payable semi-annually (October and April) ranges from 3.00% to 5.00% issued April 2019.	2,580,000
Total	$ 18,910,000

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the County's limited obligation bonds for governmental activities are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 1,595,000	$ 814,728	$ 2,409,728
2026	1,595,000	759,783	2,354,783
2027	1,210,000	703,749	1,913,749
2028	1,210,000	646,225	1,856,225
2029	1,210,000	585,725	1,795,725
2030-2034	6,050,000	2,055,500	8,105,500
2035-2039	6,040,000	615,750	6,655,750
Total	$ 18,910,000	$ 6,181,460	$ 25,091,460

Revolving Loan Payables

On July 12, 2011, the County was approved for a maximum loan amount of $8,500,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency passed-through the North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program. The loan proceeds were being used to construct High Shoals Sewer Interconnect. The loan is repayable at 2.455% for 20-years.

The loan repayment schedule based on the maximum loan of $8,500,000 calls for fixed annual principal payments of $425,000 and semi-annual interest repayments based on outstanding principal annually for 20 years. The total amount outstanding at June 30, 2024 was $2,928,870. Principal and interest requirements will be provided by appropriation in the year that they become due. The long-term debt is recorded in the General Fund. The County's outstanding note from direct borrowings related to governmental-type activities of $3,294,978 is not secured by a pledge of the faith and credit of the state of North Carolina or of the County but is payable solely from the revenues of the project or benefited systems, or other available funds. The note contains provisions that an event of default would result in (1) any other monies due to the County from the state may be withheld by the state and applied to the payment of the outstanding debt.

Year Ending	Governmental Activities		
June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 366,108	$ 71,904	$ 438,012
2026	366,108	62,916	429,024
2027	366,108	53,928	420,036
2028	366,108	44,940	411,048
2029	366,108	35,952	402,060
2030-2034	1,098,330	53,928	1,152,258
Total	$ 2,928,870	$ 323,568	$ 3,252,438

Long-Term Obligation Activity

The following is a summary of changes in the County's long-term obligations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2024	Current Portion
Governmental Activities:					
General obligation bonds	$ 139,105,000	$ -	$ (16,285,000)	$ 122,820,000	$ 16,285,000
GO BANS	-	80,000,000	-	80,000,000	80,000,000
Premium	20,221,712	1,144,800	(3,224,225)	18,142,287	1,827,737
Limited obligation bonds	20,505,000	-	(1,595,000)	18,910,000	1,595,000
Lease liabilities issued	1,238,015	1,306,969	(698,794)	1,846,190	602,203
Subscription liabilities issued	1,155,396	3,001,714	(1,476,592)	2,680,518	1,238,050
State revolving loan - direct borrowing	3,294,978	-	(366,108)	2,928,870	366,108
Installment purchases payable - direct placement	12,046,468	4,634,989	(5,725,198)	10,956,259	5,348,545
Compensated absences	10,952,580	2,496,253	(3,617,335)	9,831,498	2,457,875
Total OPEB liability	60,786,202	5,044,188	-	65,830,390	16,457,598
Net pension liability (LGERS)	62,553,179	19,249,360	-	81,802,539	-
Total pension liability (LEOSSA)	16,621,056	3,248,608	-	19,869,664	9,934,832
Total governmental activities	$ 348,479,586	$ 120,126,881	$ (32,988,252)	$ 435,618,215	$ 136,112,948
Business-Type Activities:					
Installment purchases - direct placement	$ 791,744	$ -	$ (601,861)	$ 189,883	$ 189,883
Compensated absences	169,348	39,978	(61,833)	147,493	36,873
Net pension liability (LGERS)	1,290,862	392,797	-	1,683,659	-
Total OPEB liability	999,730	43,307	-	1,043,037	260,759
Landfill closure and post-closure costs	19,525,282	669,854	-	20,195,136	1,615,611
Total business-type activities	$ 22,776,966	$ 1,145,936	$ (663,694)	$ 23,259,208	$ 2,103,126

Compensated absences, OPEB liability, and pension liabilities of the governmental activities are generally liquidated by the General Fund. At June 30, 2024, Gaston County had a legal debt margin of approximately $2,461,085,396.

Debt Related to Capital Activities

Of the total governmental activities' debt listed, only $55,938,428 relates to assets the County holds title. There is $7,218,893 in unspent restricted cash related to this debt.

K. Interfund Balances and Activity

The composition of interfund transfers during the year ended June 30, 2024, is as follows:

	Transfers Out					
	Major General Fund	Capital Improvements Fund	Community Investments Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Fund	Internal Service Funds	Total
Transfers In:						
Major General Fund	$ -	$ -	$ 805,836	$ 150,000	$ 5,000,000	$ 5,955,836
Capital Improvements Fund	-	-	134,581,030	-	-	134,581,030
Community Investments Fund	31,923,615	21,595,523	-	-	-	53,519,138
Debt Service Fund	-	-	35,671,978	-	-	35,671,978
Nonmajor governmental funds	253,584	-	-	-	-	253,584
Internal service funds	3,600,000	-	-	-	-	3,600,000
Total	$ 35,777,199	$ 21,595,523	$ 171,058,844	$ 150,000	$ 5,000,000	$ 233,581,566

From the Major General Fund to:

- The Community Investments Fund for capital expenditures.
- Nonmajor governmental funds for building signage needed by Travel & Tourism and to the Revaluation Fund for various expenditures.
- The Internal Service Fund to cover increased insurance expenditures for active and retired employees

From the Capital Improvements Fund to the Community Investments Fund for expenditures that did not meet the capital threshold, and for funds advanced while waiting on the issuance of the 2023 GO BANs.

From the Community Investments Fund to:

- The Major General Fund that are operating and not capital in nature
- The Capital Improvements Fund for general government capital expenditures, Gaston County Schools capital expenditures, and Gaston College capital expenditures.
- The Debt Service Fund to fund the County's general government and school debt service payments for FY24

From Nonmajor Governmental Funds to the Major General Fund for allowance on administrative costs on collection of Real Estate Conveyance Taxes.

From Internal Service Funds to the Major General Fund to cover a portion of estimated group health insurance expenses for FY24.

3. Other Information

A. Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County is self-insured for all liability coverages up to the self-insured retention of $250,000. The County is self-insured for (1) any collision damage to County-owned, on-road vehicles as a result of at-fault accidents and (2) any window breakage, vandalism, or theft of vehicles typically included in comprehensive commercial coverage. This self-insurance program is funded by annual appropriation. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the previous years and settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the last three fiscal years.

The County carries flood insurance of $25,000,000 (other than high hazard and Coastal flood zones).

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the County's employees that have access to $100 or more at any given time of the County's funds are performance bonded through a commercial surety bond. The Finance Director is individually bonded for $1,000,000 and the Tax Collector is individually bonded for $1,000,000. The remaining employees that have access to funds are bonded under a blanket bond for $500,000.

The County accounts for health, life, and dental Insurance within the Internal Service Fund. Liabilities of the fund are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred, and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred, but not reported (IBNR). The result of the process to eliminate the claims liability is not an exact amount as it depends on many complex factors, such as inflation, changes in legal doctrines and damage awards. Accordingly, claims are reevaluated periodically to consider the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends (including frequency and amount of pay-outs), and other economic and social factors. The estimate of the claims liability also includes amounts for incremental claim adjustment expenses related to specific claims and other claim adjustment expenses regardless of whether they are allocated to specific claims. Estimated recoveries, for example from salvage or subrogation, are another component of the claim's liability estimate.

Changes in the balances of claims liabilities during the past two years are as follows:

	Year Ended June 30	
	2024	2023
Unpaid claims, beginning of fiscal year	$ 3,961,296	$ 3,668,372
Incurred claims (including IBNRs)	(24,149,451)	(19,974,036)
Claim payments	25,092,663	20,266,960
Unpaid claims, end of fiscal year	$ 4,904,508	$ 3,961,296

B. Joint Ventures

The County, in conjunction with Lincoln County, Cleveland County, Burke County, Catawba County, Iredell County, Surry County, Rutherford County, Yadkin County, Forsyth County, Davie County, Cabarrus County, Union County, Davidson County, and Stanly participates in a joint venture to operate Partners Behavioral Health Management. The Board of Directors shall consist of up to 26 members (25 members appointed by the County Commissioners and one Consumer and Family Advisory Committee representative). The number of members from each County shall be determined by the percentage of each County's population compared to the total population of the Catchment area. The organization's continued existence depends on the participating government's support. The Board of Commissioners of each County appoints one of its own members to the Authority's Board. Those Board members, in turn, appoint the additional members of the Authority's Board allotted to each County. The Authority provides a variety of services to citizens of the fourteen counties, including individual and group out-patient psychiatric services for adults and adolescents, case management services, a community support program for formerly institutionalized persons adjusting to a return to the community, a 24-hour crisis service, and a full range of mental retardation services for citizens of all ages. The County has an ongoing financial responsibility to the Authority to supplement the federal and state funds, which comprise the bulk of its budget. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the County contributed $884,300 to the Authority, which represented approximately 0.27% of its total budget. The County does not have an equity interest in the Authority; therefore, no equity interest has been reflected in the financial statements. Complete financial statements for the Authority may be obtained from its administrative offices at 901 S. New Hope Road, Gastonia North Carolina 28054.

The County participates with the state of North Carolina, the Gaston County Board of Education, and Lincoln County in a joint venture to operate Gaston College (the "College"), a part of the North Carolina Community College System, which provides low-cost education to area citizens in a variety of academic disciplines, often in conjunction with local industry. Each of the participants appoints four members of the 14-member Board of Trustees of the College, with the exception of Lincoln County Commissioners appointing 2 members. The president of the College's student government association serves as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees. The College is included as a component unit of the state of North Carolina. The County has the responsibility for providing funding for the facilities of the College and also provides some financial support for its operations. In addition to providing annual appropriations for facilities, the County periodically issues general obligation bonds to provide financing for new and restructured facilities. The County has an ongoing financial responsibility for the College because of the statutory responsibilities to provide funding for the College's facilities. The County's contributions for the College's operating and capital expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2023 were $6,613,723 and $11,837,358 respectively. The participating governments do not have any equity interest in the joint venture; therefore, no equity interest has been reflected in the County's financial statements at June 30, 2024. Complete financial statements for the College may be obtained at its administrative offices at 201 Highway 321 South, Dallas, North Carolina 28034.

The County, in conjunction with Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and York County, South Carolina, participates in the Lake Wylie Marine Commission (the "LWMC"). The LWMC was established by the 1987 session of the North Carolina General Assembly, Chapter 683 as amended by Chapter 897, and the 1987 session of the South Carolina General Assembly, Act 176 as amended by Act 769, for the purpose of preserving and protecting property and wildlife and promoting public safety in, on, and around Lake Wylie. The counties that fall within the jurisdiction of the LWMC appoint its Board members. Gaston County appoints three members, Mecklenburg County appoints three members, and York County appoints three members. The primary sources of revenue for the LWMC are the member assessments in equal amounts of $25,000 for each of the three counties for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The County has no equity interest in the joint venture, so no equity interest has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2024. Complete financial statements for the Lake Wylie Marine Commission are available from the Centralina Council of Governments, 10735 David Taylor Dr #250, Charlotte, North Carolina 28262, which performs general and administrative services for the LWMC under an administrative services contract.

C. Related Organizations

The County Board of Commissioners appoints 8 members: 7 township representatives (4-year term, 3 term limit), and 1 commissioner appointee (1 year term, 12 term limit), and 5 At Large members and 1 Chief of Staff of CaroMont Regional Medical Center are appointed by the CaroMont Health Inc. (formerly Gaston Health Care, Inc.). CaroMont Health, Inc. is a holding company, which includes several operating companies providing health services to the citizens of Gaston County and surrounding counties. The most significant of these companies is Gaston Memorial Hospital, Inc.

The County Board of Commissioners appoints the seven-member Board of Directors of the Gaston County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority (the "Authority"), which was created in 1976 under the authority of North Carolina General Statute 159D. The Authority is charged with the review of applications for the County's allotment of industrial revenue bonds and approves or denies the preliminary application. The Authority also makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding each bond application and serves as agent for industrial bond issues as specified under federal and state tax laws for tax-exempt industrial revenue bonds

D. Other Employment Benefits

The County has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple-employer, state-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one-year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death are eligible for death benefits. Lump sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest months' salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit will be a minimum of $25,000 and will not exceed $50,000. Because all death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan and not by the County, the County does not determine the number of eligible participants. The County has no liability beyond the

payment of monthly contributions. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the post-employment benefit amount and the other benefit amount. Contributions are determined as a percentage of monthly payroll based upon rates established annually by the state. Separate rates are set for employees not engaged in law enforcement and for law enforcement officers. The County considers these contributions to be immaterial.

E. Claims and Judgments

At June 30, 2024, the County was a defendant to other various lawsuits. In the opinion of the County's management and the County attorney, the ultimate effect of these legal matters will not have a material adverse effect on the County's financial position.

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Required Supplementary Information

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Required Supplemental Financial Data

This section contains additional information required by generally accepted accounting principles.

- Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability for Law Enforcement Officer's Special Separation Allowance.
- Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll for Law Enforcement Officer's Special Separation Allowance
- Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios for Other Post-Employee Benefits
- County's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset) for Local Government Employee's Retirement System
- County's Contribution for Local Government's Retirement System
- County's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset) for Register of Deeds' Pension Fund
- County's Contributions for Register of Deeds' Pension Fund

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Beginning balance	$ 16,621,056	$ 18,733,761	$ 18,012,303	$ 13,289,055
Service cost	547,271	749,667	738,852	463,489
Interest on the total pension liability	654,665	411,645	338,810	418,403
Difference between expected and actual experience	2,582,721	-	1,001,025	(34,133)
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	376,943	(2,397,149)	(442,458)	4,784,687
Benefit payments	(912,992)	(876,868)	(914,771)	(909,198)
Ending balance of the total pension liability	$ 19,869,664	$ 16,621,056	$ 18,733,761	$ 18,012,303

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior December 31.

Note: Information is intended to be shown for ten years; additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	$ 12,312,206	$ 11,847,267	$ 10,886,409	$ 10,936,528
Service cost	411,848	421,381	341,920	387,553
Interest on the total pension liability	433,980	361,747	407,079	380,199
Difference between expected and actual experience	552,843	919,101	253,678	-
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	357,514	(438,152)	638,815	(244,487)
Benefit payments	(779,336)	(799,138)	(680,634)	(573,384)
Ending balance of the total pension liability	$ 13,289,055	$ 12,312,206	$ 11,847,267	$ 10,886,409

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF COVERED-EMPLOYEE PAYROLL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total pension liability	$ 19,869,664	$ 16,621,056	$ 18,733,761	$ 18,012,303
Covered-employee payroll	20,804,277	16,087,860	16,087,860	16,006,541
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	95.51%	103.31%	116.45%	112.53%

Notes to Schedules:
Gaston County has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 73 to pay related benefits.

Note: Information is intended to be shown for ten years; additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

*Valuation payroll

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF COVERED-EMPLOYEE PAYROLL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total pension liability	$ 13,289,055	$ 12,312,206	$ 11,847,267	$ 10,886,409
Covered-employee payroll	15,269,438	14,185,827	13,342,210	14,212,061
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	87.03%	86.79%	88.80%	76.60%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	Other Post-Employment Benefits			
	2024	2023	2022	2021
Service cost	$ 1,235,843	$ 1,722,405	$ 1,685,988	$ 1,198,671
Interest	2,209,940	1,542,223	1,878,568	2,579,049
Differences between expected and actual experience	7,069,834	-	(16,095,711)	211,525
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(1,121,148)	(11,062,737)	4,046,714	10,360,051
Benefit payments	(4,306,974)	(3,630,362)	(3,218,907)	(3,807,231)
Net change in total OPEB liability	5,087,495	(11,428,471)	(11,703,348)	10,542,065
Total OPEB liability - beginning	61,785,932	73,214,403	84,917,751	74,375,686
Total OPEB liability - ending	$ 66,873,427	$ 61,785,932	$ 73,214,403	$ 84,917,751
Covered-employee payroll	$ 21,461,786	$ 20,252,275	$ 20,252,275	$ 26,197,912
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	311.59%	305.08%	361.51%	324.14%

Notes to the Required Schedules:

Changes of Assumptions : Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate of each period. The following are the discount rates used in each period:

Fiscal Year	Rate
2024	3.86%
2023	3.69%
2022	2.16%
2021	2.21%
2020	3.50%
2019	3.89%
2018	3.56%

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 75.

Note: Information is intended to be shown for ten years; additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	Other Post-Employment Benefits		
	2020	2019	2018
Service cost	$ 1,586,540	$ 1,650,496	$ 1,804,661
Interest	2,891,578	2,694,526	2,408,143
Differences between expected and actual experience	(5,006,612)	1,080,160	(648,987)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	2,698,068	(2,631,144)	(4,749,335)
Benefit payments	(4,214,816)	(4,088,332)	(2,191,789)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(2,045,242)	(1,294,294)	(3,377,307)
Total OPEB liability - beginning	76,420,928	77,715,222	81,092,529
Total OPEB liability - ending	$ 74,375,686	$ 76,420,928	$ 77,715,222
Covered-employee payroll	$ 26,197,912	$ 30,225,889	$ 30,225,889
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	283.90%	252.83%	257.11%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	1.26053%	1.13170%	1.13954%	1.09636%	1.12203%
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) ($)	$ 83,486,198	$ 63,844,041	$ 17,475,940	$ 39,177,613	$ 30,641,764
County's covered payroll*	$ 110,601,995	$ 91,346,420	$ 82,522,928	$ 78,976,783	$ 76,866,665
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	75.48%	69.89%	21.18%	49.61%	39.86%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability**	82.49%	84.14%	95.51%	88.61%	90.86%

* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ended June 30.

** This will be the same percentage for all participant employers in the LGERS plan.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	1.11494%	1.07214%	1.11399%	1.09906%	1.14287%
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) ($)	$ 26,450,190	$ 16,379,329	$ 23,642,600	$ 4,932,515	$ (6,740,036)
County's covered payroll*	$ 73,803,006	$ 69,171,453	$ 67,510,404	$ 66,133,607	$ 65,995,520
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	35.84%	23.68%	35.02%	7.46%	-10.21%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability**	91.63%	94.18%	91.47%	98.09%	102.64%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GASTON COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTIONS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Contractually required contribution	$ 14,953,661	$ 13,486,640	$ 10,422,263	$ 8,425,503	$ 7,144,846
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	14,953,661	13,486,640	10,422,263	8,425,503	7,144,846
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
County's covered payroll	$ 115,479,243	$ 110,601,995	$ 91,346,420	$ 82,522,928	$ 78,976,783
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	12.95%	12.19%	11.41%	10.21%	9.05%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GASTON COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTIONS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	$ 6,049,796	$ 5,637,293	$ 5,126,405	$ 4,687,940	$ 4,693,058
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	6,049,796	5,637,293	5,126,405	4,687,940	4,693,058
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
County's covered payroll	$ 76,866,665	$ 73,803,006	$ 69,171,453	$ 67,510,404	$ 66,133,607
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	7.87%	7.64%	7.41%	6.94%	7.10%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

Register of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	2.57847%	2.44672%	2.29758%	2.36007%	11.81697%
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) ($)	$ (309,855)	$ (323,946)	$ (441,434)	$ (540,881)	$ (2,332,906)
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability **	135.74%	139.04%	156.53%	173.61%	164.11%

* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ended June 30.

** This will be the same percentage for all participant employers in the ROD plan.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

Register of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	78.51700%	0.85230%	1.13299%	1.34155%	1.42133%
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) ($)	$ (130,048)	$ (145,479)	$ (211,824)	$ (310,898)	$ (322,166)
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability **	153.31%	153.77%	160.17%	197.29%	193.88%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GASTON COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTIONS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Register of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Contractually required contribution	$ 24,180	$ 23,011	$ 114,674	$ 114,199	$ 108,791
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	24,180	23,011	114,674	114,199	108,791
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GASTON COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTIONS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	Register of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	$ 112,317	$ 6,719	$ 7,405	$ 10,735	$ 10,765
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	112,317	6,719	7,405	10,735	10,765
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Supplementary Information

Combining and Individual Fund Financial Statements and Schedules

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Schedules

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

The General Fund accounts for resources traditionally associated with government that is not required to be accounted for in other funds.

Opioid Settlement Fund

Accounts for the distributions from the National Opioid Settlement Agreement with pharmaceutical and drug distribution companies due to the opioid epidemic. These funds are required to be used for opioid remediation activities that benefits the residents of Gaston County.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund is used to account for all expenditures for principal and interest for all long-term debt payments. The other governmental fund types provide the resources to the Debt Service Fund to make the payments through transfers.

Capital Improvements Fund

The Capital Improvements Fund is used to account for the acquisition and construction of major capital and capital facilities other than those financed by the proprietary funds and trust funds.

Community Investment Fund

The Community Investment Fund is used to account for the financial resources for community improvements for all County Departments.

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Ad Valorem Taxes:				
Taxes	$ 186,200,714	$ 204,675,703	$ 18,474,989	$ 178,482,367
Penalties and interest	875,000	818,084	(56,916)	800,836
Total	187,075,714	205,493,787	18,418,073	179,283,203
Other Taxes and Licenses:				
One-cent tax	18,691,266	18,691,266	-	14,776,300
Half-cent sales tax	26,490,906	26,597,170	106,264	19,977,533
Real estate transfer taxes	2,527,000	2,233,862	(293,138)	2,064,881
Alcoholic beverage excise tax	300,000	387,888	87,888	357,125
Utility tax	350,500	300,832	(49,668)	329,372
Gross receipts tax	325,000	374,740	49,740	340,601
Total	48,684,672	48,585,758	(98,914)	37,845,812
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues:				
Federal grants	37,949,251	35,767,795	(2,181,456)	44,058,345
State grants	9,158,500	8,131,618	(1,026,882)	9,633,729
Federal prisoner detention reimbursements	1,445,000	1,047,743	(397,257)	1,001,409
Other	3,315,091	2,891,269	(423,822)	2,294,080
Total	51,867,842	47,838,425	(4,029,417)	56,987,563
Fees, Licenses, and Permits:				
Inspection fees	5,200,000	8,007,426	2,807,426	6,271,174
Register of Deeds' fees	1,599,952	1,320,045	(279,907)	1,338,291
Sheriff's department fees	607,000	504,797	(102,203)	541,046
Animal shelter fees	365,600	325,119	(40,481)	343,879
Environmental health fees	300,000	304,497	4,497	328,092
Other	2,296,633	2,169,107	(127,526)	1,911,014
Total	10,369,185	12,630,991	2,261,806	10,733,496
Sales and Services:				
Medical transport fees	11,002,960	12,950,765	1,947,805	11,850,687
Library fees	40,000	43,709	3,709	39,805
Jail fees	10,000	12,092	2,092	15,239
Municipal election fees	125,000	152,966	27,966	-
Central transportation fees	275,000	233,618	(41,382)	209,911
Recreation fees	128,815	183,523	54,708	159,926
Personal health fees	1,952,600	1,230,781	(721,819)	2,207,132
Highland Medical Center	2,600	679	(1,921)	2,139
Family planning fees	1,127,000	355,715	(771,285)	370,571
Maternal and child health fees	2,886,400	419,272	(2,467,128)	501,830
Primary care fees	60,000	72,766	12,766	80,851
Gynecological clinic fees	15,800	5,202	(10,598)	4,948
Miscellaneous	2,161,339	1,710,113	(451,226)	1,305,941
Total	19,787,514	17,371,201	(2,416,313)	16,748,980

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Investment Earnings	453,683	8,677,715	8,224,032	4,738,723
Miscellaneous Revenue:				
Sales of surplus property	318,774	3,637	(315,137)	38,177
Insurance settlements	100,000	1,055,274	955,274	200,939
Other	4,362,944	5,517,032	1,154,088	7,686,897
Total	4,781,718	6,575,943	1,794,225	7,926,013
Total revenues	323,020,328	347,173,820	24,153,492	314,263,790
Expenditures:				
General Government:				
County Commissioners:				
Salaries and employee benefits	755,063	673,453	81,610	644,901
Operating expenditures	1,049,334	463,590	585,744	557,222
Total	1,804,397	1,137,043	667,354	1,202,123
County Manager				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,260,881	1,981,956	278,925	2,184,981
Operating expenditures	241,498	224,287	17,211	262,632
Total	2,502,379	2,206,243	296,136	2,447,613
Public Information:				
Salaries and employee benefits	700,399	716,502	(16,103)	694,323
Operating expenditures	85,820	66,885	18,935	116,139
Total	786,219	783,387	2,832	810,462
County Attorney:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,081,000	829,096	251,904	622,154
Operating expenditures	68,222	39,118	29,104	35,072
Total	1,149,222	868,214	281,008	657,226
Elections:				
Salaries and employee benefits	729,469	623,447	106,022	532,189
Operating expenditures	973,522	907,320	66,202	534,056
Capital outlay	56,483	61,333	(4,850)	-
Total	1,759,474	1,592,100	167,374	1,066,245
Register of Deeds:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,532,620	1,514,278	18,342	1,369,727
Operating expenditures	148,606	105,720	42,886	115,353
Capital outlay	304,018	304,018	-	-
Total	1,985,244	1,924,016	61,228	1,485,080

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Finance:				
Salaries and employee benefits	3,241,811	2,266,682	975,129	2,130,176
Operating expenditures	1,432,964	1,067,747	365,217	765,526
Capital outlay	-	-	-	37,073
Total	4,674,775	3,334,429	1,340,346	2,932,775
Budget:				
Salaries and employee benefits	998,365	819,278	179,087	890,353
Operating expenditures	864,416	719,696	144,720	231,240
Total	1,862,781	1,538,974	323,807	1,121,593
Internal Audit:				
Salaries and employee benefits	342,720	374,527	(31,807)	325,203
Operating expenditures	44,703	16,852	27,851	27,352
Capital outlay	-	-	-	10,065
Total	387,423	391,379	(3,956)	362,620
Information Technology:				
Salaries and employee benefits	4,518,648	4,493,569	25,079	4,262,016
Operating expenditures	2,521,334	2,140,998	380,336	2,546,375
Capital outlay	1,518,306	1,518,306	-	255,212
Total	8,558,288	8,152,873	405,415	7,063,603
ACCESS/Central Transportation:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,222,665	1,358,413	(135,748)	1,062,934
Operating expenditures	726,183	468,171	258,012	471,498
Total	1,948,848	1,826,584	122,264	1,534,432
Tax:				
Salaries and employee benefits	5,308,198	5,038,898	269,300	4,663,292
Operating expenditures	1,447,039	1,327,608	119,431	1,271,322
Capital outlay	-	-	-	474,011
Total	6,755,237	6,366,506	388,731	6,408,625
Human Resources:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,550,625	2,158,742	391,883	2,150,665
Operating expenditures	1,680,054	1,314,287	365,767	1,027,616
Capital outlay	-	-	-	590,546
Total	4,230,679	3,473,029	757,650	3,768,827
Public Works Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,036,914	1,080,791	(43,877)	842,796
Operating expenditures	147,617	132,805	14,812	132,388
Total	1,184,531	1,213,596	(29,065)	975,184

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Public Works - Fleet Maintenance:				
Salaries and employee benefits	717,404	821,257	(103,853)	721,466
Operating expenditures	392,194	245,526	146,668	161,896
Service fees to other departments	(425,000)	(201,714)	(223,286)	(255,916)
Total	684,598	865,069	(180,471)	627,446
Public Works - Facilities Management:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,546,209	1,527,874	1,018,335	1,279,565
Operating expenditures	4,685,018	3,731,074	953,944	3,298,101
Total	7,231,227	5,258,948	1,972,279	4,577,666
Public Works Facilities - Courts:				
Salaries and employee benefits	57,219	56,613	606	52,447
Operating expenditures	1,086,674	860,645	226,029	1,096,828
Reimbursements from other funds	(8,395)	(8,395)	-	-
Total	1,135,498	908,863	226,635	1,149,275
Public Works - Print Shop:				
Salaries and employee benefits	247,651	243,728	3,923	226,659
Operating expenditures	39,257	14,055	25,202	19,524
Capital outlay	-	-	-	187,173
Service fees to other departments	(125,000)	-	(125,000)	-
Total	161,908	257,783	(95,875)	433,356
Parks and Recreation - Grounds Maintenance:				
Salaries and employee benefits	747,266	709,189	38,077	680,169
Operating expenditures	469,029	324,098	144,931	244,244
Service fees to other departments	(102,642)	(110,211)	7,569	(81,033)
Total	1,113,653	923,076	190,577	843,380
Non-Departmental Expenditures:				
Medicare supplement	1,200,000	1,138,322	61,678	1,053,098
Retirees	3,500,000	3,500,000	-	3,500,000
Human relations	39,650	39,627	23	39,629
Lake Wylie Marine Commission	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Insurance reserves	945,032	865,355	79,677	769,557
Special programs	140,483	140,478	5	91,651
Investment grant program	1,323,743	1,323,743	-	1,274,712
Stormwater fees	52,900	49,645	3,255	46,519
Employee wellness	-	-	-	15,687
Gaston Community Foundation	102,041	102,041	-	102,000
Miscellaneous expenditures	(3,000,000)	-	(3,000,000)	-
Indirect cost reimbursement from DSS	(2,650,000)	-	(2,650,000)	-
Total	1,678,849	7,184,211	(5,505,362)	6,917,853
Total general government	51,595,230	50,206,323	1,388,907	46,385,384

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Public Safety:				
County Police:				
Salaries and employee benefits	16,857,802	17,006,144	(148,342)	16,578,655
Operating expenditures	3,903,639	3,277,077	626,562	3,151,733
Capital outlay	265,300	263,534	1,766	238,500
Total	21,026,741	20,546,755	479,986	19,968,888
County Police Animal Control:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,663,803	2,526,219	137,584	2,339,120
Operating expenditures	796,182	691,243	104,939	682,660
Total	3,459,985	3,217,462	242,523	3,021,780
County Police Telecommunications:				
Salaries and employee benefits	5,125,612	5,210,062	(84,450)	4,865,529
Operating expenditures	1,002,865	985,797	17,068	591,313
Capital outlay	-	-	-	24,382
Total	6,128,477	6,195,859	(67,382)	5,481,224
County Police School Resource Officer:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,963,500	1,932,667	30,833	1,638,226
Sheriff:				
Salaries and employee benefits	10,216,663	12,250,517	(2,033,854)	14,346,261
Operating expenditures	2,996,220	2,846,974	149,246	4,753,393
Capital outlay	138,949	181,856	(42,907)	219,299
Services to other departments	(569,881)	(503,205)	(66,676)	(458,845)
Reimbursements from other funds	(177,275)	(177,275)	-	-
Total	12,604,676	14,598,867	(1,994,191)	18,860,108
Sheriff Jail:				
Salaries and employee benefits	12,473,306	14,693,580	(2,220,274)	10,607,884
Operating expenditures	6,458,736	6,210,281	248,455	6,029,206
Capital outlay	145,061	145,061	-	-
Total	19,077,103	21,048,922	(1,971,819)	16,637,090
Law Enforcement Special Allowance:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,107,532	1,146,593	(39,061)	916,800
Juvenile Detention Home:				
Operating expenditures	425,000	337,950	87,050	415,530
Emergency Management & Fire Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,415,345	1,200,235	215,110	1,277,710
Operating expenditures	1,155,172	862,937	292,235	906,832
Capital outlay	16,034	16,034	-	38,761
Total	2,586,551	2,079,206	507,345	2,223,303

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Building Inspections:				
Salaries and employee benefits	3,245,412	3,120,508	124,904	3,005,441
Operating expenditures	575,489	550,648	24,841	404,758
Total	3,820,901	3,671,156	149,745	3,410,199
Emergency Medical Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	13,707,059	15,894,932	(2,187,873)	14,297,939
Operating expenditures	5,889,079	5,580,645	308,434	4,775,333
Capital outlay	315,763	288,287	27,476	302,644
Rescue squad supplements	1,319,115	1,180,484	138,631	1,321,737
Total	21,231,016	22,944,348	(1,713,332)	20,697,653
Non-Departmental Expenditures:				
Medical examiner	247,300	239,650	7,650	237,050
Pretrial services	1,495,355	1,495,355	-	1,349,355
Innovative court programs - veterans	148,030	21,878	126,152	-
Miscellaneous expenditures	4,500,000	-	4,500,000	-
Veterans treatment court	237,458	18,273	219,185	-
Total	6,628,143	1,775,156	4,852,987	1,586,405
Total public safety	100,059,625	99,494,941	564,684	94,857,206
Environmental Protection:				
Forestry Control Services:				
Operating expenditures	107,571	63,070	44,501	79,386
Economic and Physical Development:				
Building Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,674,998	1,342,510	332,488	1,203,979
Operating expenditures	687,137	325,090	362,047	390,775
Total	2,362,135	1,667,600	694,535	1,594,754
Economic Development Commission:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,209,967	1,108,688	101,279	1,064,547
Operating expenditures	775,838	628,480	147,358	545,863
Total	1,985,805	1,737,168	248,637	1,610,410
Cooperative Extension Service:				
Salaries and employee benefits	233,458	173,640	59,818	168,779
Operating expenditures	614,937	524,129	90,808	526,265
Total	848,395	697,769	150,626	695,044

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Gaston County Soil and Water Conservation:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,260,569	1,345,969	(85,400)	1,201,394
Operating expenditures	119,171	117,936	1,235	95,488
Total	1,379,740	1,463,905	(84,165)	1,296,882
Total economic and physical development	6,576,075	5,566,442	1,009,633	5,197,090
Human Services:				
Health Department:				
Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,049,943	1,733,825	316,118	2,338,316
Operating expenditures	7,196,962	2,708,182	4,488,780	2,853,028
Capital outlay	367,704	367,704	-	-
Total	9,614,609	4,809,711	4,804,898	5,191,344
Allied Health:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,538,060	2,253,365	284,695	2,112,299
Operating expenditures	466,165	299,091	167,074	383,975
Capital outlay	36,690	36,690	-	-
Total	3,040,915	2,589,146	451,769	2,496,274
Environmental Health:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,276,145	2,247,038	29,107	1,975,841
Operating expenditures	637,958	161,142	476,816	226,937
Total	2,914,103	2,408,180	505,923	2,202,778
Gynecological Health:				
Salaries and employee benefits	10,015,287	7,555,414	2,459,873	6,816,194
Operating expenditures	4,283,886	1,823,346	2,460,540	2,148,409
Total	14,299,173	9,378,760	4,920,413	8,964,603
Women, Infants, and Children:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,142,116	1,194,580	(52,464)	1,104,492
Operating expenditures	73,682	67,579	6,103	75,889
Total	1,215,798	1,262,159	(46,361)	1,180,381
Maternal and Child Health:				
Salaries and employee benefits	183,150	-	183,150	-
Operating expenditures	76,850	8,995	67,855	-
Total	260,000	8,995	251,005	-
Quality and Innovation:				
Operating expenditures	595,762	14,429	581,333	-
Total health department	31,940,360	20,471,380	11,468,980	20,035,380

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Social Services - Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,907,024	2,679,719	227,305	2,673,059
Operating expenditures	2,344,639	2,303,597	41,042	2,069,896
Capital outlay	985,773	985,261	512	23,411
Total	6,237,436	5,968,577	268,859	4,766,366
Social Services - Economic Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	16,555,235	15,348,492	1,206,743	13,818,085
Operating expenditures	4,925,322	2,743,651	2,181,671	3,328,693
Total	21,480,557	18,092,143	3,388,414	17,146,778
Social Services - Family and Children Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	12,665,861	11,885,790	780,071	10,716,920
Operating expenditures	8,866,631	6,769,860	2,096,771	6,564,120
Total	21,532,492	18,655,650	2,876,842	17,281,040
Social Services - Adult and Aging Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	3,382,030	3,157,532	224,498	3,012,620
Operating expenditures	569,013	443,559	125,454	366,885
Total	3,951,043	3,601,091	349,952	3,379,505
Community Support Services - Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits	912,343	912,342	1	208,216
Operating expenditures	492,098	95,490	396,608	91,511
Capital outlay	158,941	158,941	-	-
Total	1,563,382	1,166,773	396,609	299,727
Community Support Services - Family and Children Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	337,398	318,619	18,779	339,927
Operating expenditures	92,492	36,314	56,178	27,720
Total	429,890	354,933	74,957	367,647
Community Support Services - Economic Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	512,540	376,846	135,694	380,701
Operating expenditures	9,106,713	6,191,444	2,915,269	5,230,687
Total	9,619,253	6,568,290	3,050,963	5,611,388
Community Support Services - Adult and Aging Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,177,609	1,015,580	162,029	936,152
Operating expenditures	1,429,134	909,785	519,349	735,452
Total	2,606,743	1,925,365	681,378	1,671,604

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
In Home Aide Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	291,450	290,555	895	276,121
Operating expenditures	800,019	800,019	-	806,287
Total	1,091,469	1,090,574	895	1,082,408
Hope United - Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits	361,435	351,252	10,183	416,445
Operating expenditures	563,684	382,364	181,320	296,770
Total	925,119	733,616	191,503	713,215
Hope United - Battered Spouse:				
Salaries and employee benefits	688,654	499,951	188,703	536,903
Operating expenditures	729,250	433,460	295,790	257,301
Total	1,417,904	933,411	484,493	794,204
Hope United - Child Advocacy Ctr.:				
Salaries and employee benefits	619,628	684,910	(65,282)	619,997
Operating expenditures	282,323	156,237	126,086	218,842
Total	901,951	841,147	60,804	838,839
Hope United - Family Justice Center:				
Salaries and employee benefits	646,403	522,179	124,224	477,793
Operating expenditures	390,205	299,880	90,325	428,647
Total	1,036,608	822,059	214,549	906,440
Veterans Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits	491,361	415,162	76,199	358,952
Operating expenditures	162,454	106,954	55,500	78,781
Total	653,815	522,116	131,699	437,733
Youth Services	770,631	770,437	194	824,435
Non-Departmental Expenditures:				
Gaston family health services	-	-	-	344,872
Contribution to Pathways	884,300	884,300	-	884,300
Gaston skills	168,000	168,000	-	168,000
County-wide salary study	(4,500,000)	-	(4,500,000)	-
Miscellaneous expenditures	(1,000,000)	-	(1,000,000)	-
Total	(4,447,700)	1,052,300	(5,500,000)	1,397,172
Total human services	101,710,953	83,569,862	18,141,091	77,553,881

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Cultural and Recreational:				
Recreation:				
Salaries and employee benefits	702,724	724,986	(22,262)	635,669
Operating expenditures	1,442,277	1,076,949	365,328	794,687
Capital outlay	-	-	-	76,846
Total	2,145,001	1,801,935	343,066	1,507,202
Museum:				
Salaries and employee benefits	718,992	632,924	86,068	626,491
Operating expenditures	206,441	189,406	17,035	152,118
Total	925,433	822,330	103,103	778,609
Library:				
Salaries and employee benefits	4,567,124	4,520,891	46,233	4,318,722
Operating expenditures	1,785,727	1,421,493	364,234	1,348,098
Capital outlay	-	-	-	106,523
Total	6,352,851	5,942,384	410,467	5,773,343
Senior Center:				
Salaries and employee benefits	148,364	110,560	37,804	137,086
Operating expenditures	211,050	100,239	110,811	59,663
Total	359,414	210,799	148,615	196,749
Non-Departmental Expenditures:				
Miscellaneous expenditures	(500,000)	-	(500,000)	-
Total cultural and recreational	9,282,699	8,777,448	505,251	8,255,903
Education:				
Gaston College:				
Operating expenditures	5,968,062	5,968,062	-	5,868,062
County Schools:				
Resource officers	640,000	640,000	-	728,019
School of excellence	65,000	56,095	8,905	56,550
Operating expenditures	53,001,704	53,001,704	-	52,501,704
Total	53,706,704	53,697,799	8,905	53,286,273
Total education	59,674,766	59,665,861	8,905	59,154,335
Debt Service:				
Principal retirement	1,947,549	1,947,549	-	1,020,913
Interest and fees	37,343	37,343	-	21,960
Total debt service	1,984,892	1,984,892	-	1,042,873
Total expenditures	330,991,811	309,328,839	21,662,972	292,526,058

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(7,971,483)	37,844,981	45,816,464	21,737,732
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Installment purchase contracts issued	-	-	-	3,134,771
Lease liabilities issued	1,248,043	1,248,043	-	187,173
Subscription liabilities issued	2,725,401	2,768,308	42,907	1,737,261
Fund balance appropriated	33,756,672	-	(33,756,672)	-
Transfers From (to) Other Funds:				
From Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000	-	5,000,000
From Capital Improvements Fund	-	-	-	19,240
From Community Investment Fund	805,836	805,836	-	34,804
From Civil Process Fund	32,725	-	(32,725)	259,639
From Parking Fund	30,005	-	(30,005)	3,230
From Emergency Telephone System Fund	-	-	-	60,018
From Deed of Trust Fund	150,000	150,000	-	-
To Tourism	(3,584)	(3,584)	-	-
To Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund	(3,600,000)	(3,600,000)	-	-
To Property Revaluation Fund	(250,000)	(250,000)	-	(694,566)
To Community Investment Fund	(31,923,615)	(31,923,615)	-	(18,517,677)
To Emergency Telephone System Fund	-	-	-	(4,350)
Total other financing sources (uses)	7,971,483	(25,805,012)	(33,776,495)	(8,780,457)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	12,039,969	$ 12,039,969	12,957,275
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		124,024,744		111,067,469
End of year - June 30		$ 136,064,713		$ 124,024,744

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR DEBT SERVICE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Investment earnings	$ -	$ 181,001	$ 181,001	$ 71,195
Expenditures:				
Principal Retirement:				
Vehicles	5,720,025	5,725,198	(5,173)	3,059,037
School bonds	14,788,876	14,788,876	-	14,774,713
College bonds	1,328,852	1,328,852	-	1,336,990
Courthouse bonds	167,272	167,272	-	168,297
Jail infill	167,391	167,391	-	167,391
Apple Creek	1,210,000	1,210,000	-	1,210,000
Radio equipment and infrastructure	217,609	217,609	-	217,609
Public Safety lease	264,490	109,409	155,081	108,001
Other buildings	366,109	366,108	1	366,108
Total principal retirement	24,230,624	24,080,715	149,909	21,408,146
Interest and Fees:				
School bonds	5,675,356	5,675,356	-	5,963,666
College bonds	214,140	214,139	1	267,619
Vehicles	353,264	346,364	6,900	44,258
Courthouse bonds	26,955	26,955	-	441,666
Professional fees	422,222	302,766	119,456	22,500
Jail infill	328,903	328,902	1	337,272
Apple Creek	111,988	111,988	-	145,142
Radio equipment and infrastructure	427,574	427,572	2	438,453
Public Safety lease	4,336	4,336	-	5,744
Other buildings	80,892	80,892	-	89,880
GO BANS	2,577,778	2,577,778	-	-
Payment to escrow agents	1,217,946	-	1,217,946	-
Total interest and fees	11,441,354	10,097,048	1,344,306	7,756,200
Total expenditures	35,671,978	34,177,763	1,494,215	29,164,346
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(35,671,978)	(33,996,762)	1,675,216	(29,093,151)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers from Community Investment Fund	35,671,978	35,671,978	-	30,802,362
Net change in fund balance	$ -	1,675,216	$ 1,675,216	1,709,211
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		2,812,096		1,102,885
End of year - June 30		$ 4,487,312		$ 2,812,096

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FROM INCEPTION AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		Actual			
	Project Authorization	Prior Year	Current Year	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Revenues:					
Restricted intergovernmental	$ 2,826,416	$ 2,801,978	$ 5,932,863	$ 8,734,841	$ 5,908,425
Other beneficiary revenues	-	-	126,373	126,373	126,373
Investment earnings	-	91,158	290,933	382,091	382,091
Total revenues	2,826,416	2,893,136	6,350,169	9,243,305	6,416,889
Expenditures:					
Health services:					
Collaborative Strategic Planning:					
Salaries and employee benefits	225,388	-	51,558	51,558	173,830
Operating expenditures	41,976	-	14,890	14,890	27,086
Total expenditures	267,364	-	66,448	66,448	200,916
Expanded Medication Assisted Treatment:					
Operating expenditures	376,600	-	66,664	66,664	309,936
Olive Branch Parent Partner's Positive Change:					
Operating expenditures	234,773	-	35,857	35,857	198,916
Medication Assisted Treatment Scholarship:					
Operating expenditures	368,400	-	13,569	13,569	354,831
Total human services expenditures	1,247,137	-	182,538	182,538	1,064,599
Public Safety:					
Community Paramedics:					
Salaries and employee benefits	637,428	-	268,518	268,518	368,910
Operating expenditures	7,500	-	5,586	5,586	1,914
Total expenditures	644,928	-	274,104	274,104	370,824
Peer Support Specialist Services:					
Operating expenditures	52,329	-	-	-	52,329
Recovery Transportation Program:					
Salaries and employee benefits	665,352	-	95,693	95,693	569,659
Operating expenditures	91,828	-	14,736	14,736	77,092
Capital outlay	108,960	-	111,743	111,743	(2,783)
Total expenditures	866,140	-	222,172	222,172	643,968

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FROM INCEPTION AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		Actual			
	Project Authorization	Prior Year	Current Year	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Medication Assisted Addiction Treatment for Incarcerated Individuals:					
Salaries and employee benefits	738,483	-	-	-	738,483
Operating expenditures	309,502	-	-	-	309,502
Total expenditures	1,047,985	-	-	-	1,047,985
Total public safety expenditures	2,611,382	-	496,276	496,276	2,115,106
Total expenditures	3,858,519	-	678,814	678,814	3,179,705
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,032,103)	2,893,136	5,671,355	8,564,491	9,596,594
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Fund balance appropriated	1,032,103	-	-	-	(1,032,103)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	$ 2,893,136	5,671,355	$ 8,564,491	$ 8,564,491
Fund Balance:					
Beginning of year - July 1			2,893,136		
End of year - June 30			$ 8,564,491		

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Revenues:			
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues:			
Federal grant revenues	$ 730,690	$ 104,848	$ (625,842)
Investment Earnings:			
School Bond Proceeds - General Obligation	13,905	14,495	590
Other	256,003	3,275,120	3,019,117
Miscellaneous Revenues:			
Rent:York Chester Square	-	2,400	2,400
Total revenues	1,000,598	3,396,863	2,396,265
Capital Expenditures by Department:			
Building & Development Services:			
Vehicles	62,573	-	62,573
Land	(12,515)	152,022	(164,537)
Community Support Services:			
ARPA: Mobile Shower Trailer	900	223,000	(222,100)
Child Advocacy Center Bldg	191,795	134,703	57,092
Vehicles	64,553	41,803	22,750
Other - Furniture & Equipment	36,584	14,190	22,394
Department of Social Services:			
Receiving Home Remodel	884,530	895,256	(10,726)
Vehicles	(1,368)	51,800	(53,168)
Economic Development Commission:			
Land Purchase and Development			
Apple Creek	3,726,980	539,619	3,187,361
Cherryville Business Park	28,173	-	28,173
One NC Grant: Project Ceign	112,500	-	112,500
One NC Grant: Project Server	150,000	-	150,000
One NC Grant: Polykemi	25,000	75,000	(50,000)
One NC Grant: Tosaf	168,750	-	168,750
Other	133,413	-	133,413
Other - Furniture & Equipment	8,500	7,250	1,250
Emergency Management:			
Vehicles	34,342	151,156	(116,814)
Other - Furnitture & Equipment	92,158	232,051	(139,893)
Emergency Medical Serives:			
Vehicles	918,479	2,064,642	(1,146,163)
Ventilators	59,620	59,620	-
Other - Furniture & Equipment	129,335	32,454	96,881

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Gaston Police Department:			
Animal Control Facility	96,769	-	96,769
Portable Radio PSAP Grant	87,692	6,090	81,602
Radios for School Resource Offiers	-	22,416	(22,416)
Vehicles: Police Department	504,784	1,000,099	(495,315)
Vehicles: Animal Enforcement	71,933	57,820	14,113
Other - Furniture & Equipment	247,927	95,076	152,851
Information Technology			
Courthouse Fiber Upgrade	161,542	50,366	111,176
Servers & Network Switches	1,140,878	1,020,694	120,184
Musemus:			
Land: Historic Preservation	(62,573)	-	(62,573)
HVAC	18,200	-	18,200
Natural Resources:			
Vehicles	90,406	45,203	45,203
Park & Recreation:			
Catawba Cove	1,937,333	-	1,937,333
Dallas Park Expansion	1,409,989	368,051	1,041,938
Park Playground	450,000	49,250	400,750
Poston Park Improvements	33,456	-	33,456
Other Capital Improvements & Equipment	-	7,000	(7,000)
South Point Landing	82,000	50,900	31,100
Vehicles	170,553	167,229	3,324
Public Information:			
Video System	75,000	43,969	31,031
Public Health:			
Vehicles	202,894	553,486	(350,592)
Hudson Health Buildging Renovation	6,600,000	1,839,646	4,760,354
Respirator Fit Tester	16,335	16,335	-
Public Works:			
ADA Compliance Renovations	1,850,312	335,773	1,514,539
Annex Building	-	46,696	(46,696)
ARPA:			
Chapel Grove Water Line	136,500	98,830	37,670
Lowell Elem Water Line	-	600	(600)
N. Belmont Pk Water Line	-	58,315	(58,315)
Tryon Elem Water Line	703,000	282,032	420,968
Courthouse Arraignment	-	90,878	(90,878)
Public Safety Campus	7,550,000	7,526,132	23,868

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Gaston College	3,200,000	89,000	3,111,000
Courthouse 5th Floor	893,706	-	893,706
DEQ: ARPA Grants:			
Dallas High Shoals Water Line	-	734,150	(734,150)
Emergency Fuel Station	69,500	39,265	30,235
GasHouse Bld	7,521,055	2,877,036	4,644,019
Highway Planning and Construction Grants:			
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / CMAQ Dallas Park CMAQ Trail	554,792	2,100	552,692
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / CMAQ-000S(899) Lowell-Poston Park Sidewalk	348,304	30,573	317,731
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / CMAQ (C-5606M) Neal Hawkins Sidewalk	1,860,578	49,454	1,811,124
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / CMAQ Parking Lot Improvements	(1,100,000)	310,887	(1,410,887)
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / CMAQ-000S(900) Rankin Lake to GTP Trail	1,861,209	51,032	1,810,177
IT Data Center Renovation	424,864	111,178	313,686
Jail Security Camera Upgrades	146,295	-	146,295
NC OSBM - GC County Courthouse	592,309	651,725	(59,416)
Public Safety Campus	7,000,000	1,237,794	5,762,206
Renovations and Improvements	6,555,713	1,193,432	5,362,281
Vehicles	183,652	227,179	(43,527)
York Chester Roof Replacement	-	(14,846)	14,846
Sheriff:			
Jail Annex	195,500	-	195,500
Jail Infill/Expansion	273,344	-	273,344
NCDPS SWAT Equipment	-	(7,400)	7,400
Radios	18,137	18,137	-
Sheriffs State Directed Grant	171,771	-	171,771
Vehicles	(69,268)	547,616	(616,884)
Other - Furniture & Equipment	30,000	-	30,000
Tax:			
Other - Furniture & Equipment	7,500	-	7,500
Special Grants and Programs:			
Township	182,157	31,000	151,157

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Nondepartmental Expenditures:			
ERP System	79,889	-	79,889
Gaston College	797,219	645,661	151,558
Gaston County Schools	62,894,472	44,668,427	18,226,045
Vehicles	197,678	-	197,678
Total expenditures	125,279,608	72,000,852	53,278,756
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(124,279,010)	(68,603,989)	55,675,021
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Fund balance appropriated	11,293,503	-	(11,293,503)
Transfers in (out):			
Transfers from the Community Investment Fund	134,581,030	134,581,030	-
Transfers to the Community Investment Fund	(21,595,523)	(21,595,523)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	124,279,010	112,985,507	(11,293,503)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	44,381,518	$ 44,381,518
Fund Balance:			
Beginning of year - July 1		77,615,361	
End of year - June 30		$ 121,996,879	

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

MAJOR COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Revenues:			
Sales tax	$ 27,023,111	$ 25,595,411	$ (1,427,700)
Sale of property	-	1,108,843	1,108,843
Interest on investments	4,682	1,125,473	1,120,791
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues:			
Lottery proceeds	2,000,000	2,150,289	150,289
American Rescue Plan Act grant	11,590,400	8,401,798	(3,188,602)
Other grant revenue	504,293	1,376,587	872,294
Total revenues	41,122,486	39,758,401	(1,364,085)
Capital Expenditures by Department:			
Future capital expenditures	9,362,570	-	9,362,570
Revenues over (under) expenditures	31,759,916	39,758,401	7,998,485
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Installment purchase contracts issued	4,634,990	4,634,989	(1)
Bonds issued	80,000,000	80,000,000	-
BAN premium	1,144,800	1,144,800	-
Transfers in (out):			
Transfers from the General Fund	31,923,615	31,923,615	-
Transfers from Education Capital Fund	20,789,687	20,789,687	-
Transfers from Gen Govt Capital	805,836	805,836	-
Transfers to the General Fund	(805,836)	(805,836)	-
Transfers to the Gen Gov Debt Service Fund	(12,207,746)	(12,207,746)	-
Transfers to the Education Debt Service	(23,464,232)	(23,464,232)	-
Transfers to Gen Govt Capital	(47,557,329)	(47,557,329)	-
Transfers to Education Capital Fund	(87,023,701)	(87,023,701)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(31,759,916)	(31,759,917)	(1)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	7,998,484	$ 7,998,484
Fund Balance:			
Beginning of year - July 1		27,364,570	
End of year - June 30		$ 35,363,054	

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Non-major Special Revenue Funds

Special Revenue Funds account for the proceeds of special revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

Individual Fund Descriptions

- **Representative Payee Fund** – accounts for the monies of indigents for which the county Department of Social Services acts as an agent.
- **Travel and Tourism Fund** – accounts for the revenue receipts from occupancy tax and the related expenditures.
- **Property Revaluation Fund** – accounts for the accumulation of funds necessary to cover the cost of real property revaluation.
- **Emergency Telephone System Fund** – accounts for the activities of a county-wide emergency telephone service funded by telephone company line charges.
- **Drug Forfeitures Fund** – accounts for revenues received from Federal Drug Forfeitures in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies as a result of property confiscations. These funds must be used by the County for law enforcement purposes.
- **Controlled Substance Abuse Tax Fund** – accounts for revenues received from State Drug Forfeitures in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies as a result of property confiscations. These funds must be used by the County for law enforcement purposes.
- **Parking Fee Fund** – accounts for the revenues received from parking fees at the County Courthouse.
- **Fire Districts Fund** – accounts for the revenues of the fire districts within the County.
- **Deed of Trust Fund** – accounts for the revenues of the Deed of Trust within the County which is remitted to the State of North Carolina.
- **Civil Process Fund** – accounts for the revenues remitted to the County for fees and commissions assessed and collected in civil actions and special proceedings, except for actions brought under Chapter 50B of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- **Fines and Forfeitures Fund** – accounts for various legal fines and forfeitures that the County collects.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2024

	Representative Payee Fund	Travel and Tourism Fund	Property Revaluation Fund	Emergency Telephone System Fund	Drug Forfeitures Fund	Controlled Substance Abuse Tax Fund
Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 278,488	$ 2,049,811	$ -	$ 1,633,603	$ 642,478	$ 385,644
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts receivable	-	141,091	-	62,899	-	-
Inventory	-	58	-	-	-	-
Prepaid expenses	-	4,742	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash	-	-	627,998	-	-	-
Total assets	$ 278,488	$ 2,195,702	$ 627,998	$ 1,696,502	$ 642,478	$ 385,644
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances:						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ -	$ 124,238	$ -	$ 606	$ -	$ -
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	-	-	11,899	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	-	124,238	11,899	606	-	-
Deferred Inflows of Resources:						
Property taxes receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances:						
Non-Spendable:						
Inventory	-	58	-	-	-	-
Prepaid expenses	-	4,742	-	-	-	-
Restricted:						
Stabilization by state statute	-	141,091	-	62,899	-	-
Human services	278,488	-	-	-	-	-
Fire protection	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emergency telephone	-	-	-	1,632,997	-	-
General government	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-	-	642,478	385,644
Travel and tourism	-	1,925,573	-	-	-	-
Committed:						
Tax revaluation	-	-	616,099	-	-	-
Assigned:						
Parking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	278,488	2,071,464	616,099	1,695,896	642,478	385,644
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	$ 278,488	$ 2,195,702	$ 627,998	$ 1,696,502	$ 642,478	$ 385,644

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2024

	Parking Fee Fund	Fire Districts Fund	Deed of Trust Fund	Civil Process Fund	Fines and Forfeitures Fund	Total
Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,563,399	$ 2,591,656	$ 210,204	$ 585,757	$ 3,353	$ 9,944,393
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	-	143,457	-	-	-	143,457
Accounts receivable	1,440	73,382	769	8,506	115,882	403,969
Inventory	-	-	-	-	-	58
Prepaid expenses	-	-	-	-	-	4,742
Restricted cash	-	-	-	-	-	627,998
Total assets	$ 1,564,839	$ 2,808,495	$ 210,973	$ 594,263	$ 119,235	$ 11,124,617
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances:						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ -	$ 173	$ 203,409	$ -	$ 119,235	$ 447,661
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	-	-	-	-	-	11,899
Unearned revenue	1,440	-	-	-	-	1,440
Total liabilities	1,440	173	203,409	-	119,235	461,000
Deferred Inflows of Resources:						
Property taxes receivable	-	143,457	-	-	-	143,457
Fund Balances:						
Non-Spendable:						
Inventory	-	-	-	-	-	58
Prepaid expenses	-	-	-	-	-	4,742
Restricted:						
Stabilization by state statute	1,440	73,382	769	8,506	115,882	403,969
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	278,488
Fire protection	-	2,591,483	-	-	-	2,591,483
Emergency telephone	-	-	-	-	-	1,632,997
General government	-	-	6,795	-	-	6,795
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-	1,028,122
Travel and tourism	-	-	-	-	-	1,925,573
Committed:						
Tax revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	616,099
Assigned:						
Parking	1,561,959	-	-	-	-	1,561,959
Public safety	-	-	-	585,757	-	585,757
Unassigned	-	-	-	-	(115,882)	(115,882)
Total fund balances	1,563,399	2,664,865	7,564	594,263	-	10,520,160
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	$ 1,564,839	$ 2,808,495	$ 210,973	$ 594,263	$ 119,235	$ 11,124,617

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Representative Payee Fund	Travel and Tourism Fund	Property Revaluation Fund	Emergency Telephone System Fund	Drug Forfeitures Fund	Controlled Substance Abuse Tax Fund
Revenues:						
Ad valorem taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Occupancy taxes	-	1,469,398	-	-	-	-
Sales and services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	675,675	-	-	-	160,192	12,404
E911 surcharge	-	-	-	754,786	-	-
Investment earnings	-	140,102	25,331	65,894	36,735	19,680
Miscellaneous revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	675,675	1,609,500	25,331	820,680	196,927	32,084
Expenditures:						
Current:						
General government	-	-	488,190	-	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-	493,738	345,099	21,875
Economic and physical development	-	1,303,203	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	764,868	-	-	-	-	-
Principal retirement	-	2,898	-	85,530	30,000	-
Interest and fees	-	4,716	-	2,900	-	-
Total expenditures	764,868	1,310,817	488,190	582,168	375,099	21,875
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(89,193)	298,683	(462,859)	238,512	(178,172)	10,209
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Lease liabilities issued	-	-	-	-	58,926	-
Subscription liabilities issued	-	-	233,406	-	-	-
Transfers to other funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from other funds	-	3,584	250,000	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	3,584	483,406	-	58,926	-
Net change in fund balances	(89,193)	302,267	20,547	238,512	(119,246)	10,209
Fund Balances:						
Beginning of year - July 1	367,681	1,769,197	595,552	1,457,384	761,724	375,435
End of year - June 30	$ 278,488	$ 2,071,464	$ 616,099	$ 1,695,896	$ 642,478	$ 385,644

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Parking Fee Fund	Fire Districts Fund	Deed of Trust Fund	Civil Process Fund	Fines and Forfeitures Fund	Total
Revenues:						
Ad valorem taxes	$ -	$ 9,567,833	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,567,833
Occupancy taxes	-	-	-	-	-	1,469,398
Sales and services	-	-	47,814	-	-	47,814
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	-	-	153,582	-	1,312,163	2,314,016
E911 surcharge	-	-	-	-	-	754,786
Investment earnings	59,624	106,910	-	-	-	454,276
Miscellaneous revenues	10,160	-	-	198,893	-	209,053
Total revenues	69,784	9,674,743	201,396	198,893	1,312,163	14,817,176
Expenditures:						
Current:						
General government	46,658	-	48,000	-	-	582,848
Public safety	-	8,358,770	-	177,275	-	9,396,757
Economic and physical development	-	-	-	-	-	1,303,203
Education	-	-	-	-	1,312,163	1,312,163
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	764,868
Principal retirement	-	-	-	-	-	118,428
Interest and fees	-	-	-	-	-	7,616
Total expenditures	46,658	8,358,770	48,000	177,275	1,312,163	13,485,883
Revenues over (under) expenditures	23,126	1,315,973	153,396	21,618	-	1,331,293
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Lease liabilities issued	-	-	-	-	-	58,926
Subscription liabilities issued	-	-	-	-	-	233,406
Transfers to other funds	-	-	(150,000)	-	-	(150,000)
Transfers from other funds	-	-	-	-	-	253,584
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	(150,000)	-	-	395,916
Net change in fund balances	23,126	1,315,973	3,396	21,618	-	1,727,209
Fund Balances:						
Beginning of year - July 1	1,540,273	1,348,892	4,168	572,645	-	8,792,951
End of year - June 30	$ 1,563,399	$ 2,664,865	$ 7,564	$ 594,263	$ -	$ 10,520,160

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	$ 675,000	$ 675,675	$ 675	$ 743,643
Expenditures:				
Human services:				
Payee operating	850,000	764,868	85,132	751,553
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(175,000)	(89,193)	85,807	(7,910)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	175,000	-	(175,000)	-
Net change in fund balance	$ -	(89,193)	$ (89,193)	(7,910)
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		367,681		375,591
End of year - June 30		$ 278,488		$ 367,681

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

TRAVEL AND TOURISM FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Occupancy tax	$ 1,222,760	$ 1,469,398	$ 246,638	$ 1,417,681
Investment earnings	-	140,102	140,102	82,247
Total revenues	1,222,760	1,609,500	386,740	1,499,928
Expenditures:				
Economic and physical development:				
Salaries and employee benefits	579,821	607,407	(27,586)	570,581
Operating expenditures	782,472	695,796	86,676	654,854
Capital outlay	876	-	876	-
Total	1,363,169	1,303,203	59,966	1,225,435
Debt Service:				
Principal retirement	2,898	2,898	-	2,067
Interest and fees	4,716	4,716	-	4,777
Total	7,614	7,614	-	6,844
Total expenditures	1,370,783	1,310,817	59,966	1,232,279
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(148,023)	298,683	446,706	267,649
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfer from General Fund	3,583	3,584	1	(47,428)
Fund balance appropriated	144,440	-	(144,440)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	148,023	3,584	(144,439)	(47,428)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	302,267	$ 302,267	220,221
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		1,769,197		1,548,976
End of year - June 30		$ 2,071,464		$ 1,769,197

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

PROPERTY REVALUATION FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Investment earnings	$ -	$ 25,331	$ 25,331	$ 17,281
Expenditures:				
General government:				
Operating expenditures	754,167	254,784	499,383	541,392
Capital outlay	233,406	233,406	-	-
Total expenditures	987,573	488,190	499,383	541,392
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(987,573)	(462,859)	524,714	(524,111)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	504,167	-	(504,167)	-
Lease liabilities issued	233,406	233,406	-	-
Transfers from General Fund	250,000	250,000	-	694,566
Total other financing sources (uses)	987,573	483,406	(504,167)	694,566
Net change in fund balance	$ -	20,547	$ 20,547	170,455
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		595,552		425,097
End of year - June 30		$ 616,099		$ 595,552

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
E911 surcharge	$ 754,786	$ 754,786	$ -	$ 761,179
Investment earnings	-	65,894	65,894	35,264
Total revenues	754,786	820,680	65,894	796,443
Expenditures:				
Public safety:				
Operating expenditures	1,013,664	493,738	519,926	425,290
Principal retirement	85,530	85,530	-	197,448
Interest and fees	2,900	2,900	-	4,753
Total expenditures	1,102,094	582,168	519,926	627,491
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(347,308)	238,512	585,820	168,952
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers from General Fund	-	-	-	4,350
Transfers to General Fund	-	-	-	(60,018)
Appropriated fund balance	347,308	-	(347,308)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	347,308	-	(347,308)	(55,668)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	238,512	$ 238,512	113,284
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		1,457,384		1,344,100
End of year - June 30		$ 1,695,896		$ 1,457,384

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

DRUG FORFEITURES FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Restricted intergovernmental revenue - police	$ -	$ 160,192	$ 160,192	$ 176,774
Investment earnings	34,055	36,735	2,680	25,993
Total revenues	34,055	196,927	162,872	202,767
Expenditures:				
Public safety:				
Operating expenditures - police	690,234	282,673	407,561	60,000
Operating expenditures - sheriff	3,363	-	3,363	-
Capital outlay - police	62,426	62,426	-	-
Principal retirement	30,000	30,000	-	-
Total expenditures	786,023	375,099	410,924	60,000
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(751,968)	(178,172)	573,796	142,767
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	693,042	-	(693,042)	-
Lease liabilities issued	58,926	58,926	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	751,968	58,926	(693,042)	-
Net change in fund balance	$ -	(119,246)	$ (119,246)	142,767
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		761,724		618,957
End of year - June 30		$ 642,478		$ 761,724

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ABUSE TAX FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Controlled substance tax - police	$ -	$ 5,572	$ 5,572	$ 13,597
Controlled substance tax - sheriff	-	6,832	6,832	937
Investment earnings	18,027	19,680	1,653	13,544
Total revenues	18,027	32,084	14,057	28,078
Expenditures:				
Public safety:				
Operating expenditures - police	66,839	21,875	44,964	4,006
Operating expenditures - sheriff	2,749	-	2,749	-
Total expenditures	69,588	21,875	47,713	4,006
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(51,561)	10,209	61,770	24,072
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	51,561	-	(51,561)	-
Net change in fund balance	$ -	10,209	$ 10,209	24,072
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		375,435		351,363
End of year - June 30		$ 385,644		$ 375,435

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

PARKING FEE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Parking fees collected	$ 38,400	$ 10,160	$ (28,240)	$ 4,700
Investment earnings	-	59,624	59,624	39,096
Total revenues	38,400	69,784	31,384	43,796
Expenditures:				
General government:				
Operating expenditures	38,263	38,263	-	9,308
Reimbursements to other funds	8,395	8,395	-	-
Total expenditures	46,658	46,658	-	9,308
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(8,258)	23,126	31,384	34,488
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	38,263	-	(38,263)	-
Transfers to General Fund	(30,005)	-	30,005	(3,230)
Total other financing sources (uses)	8,258	-	(8,258)	(3,230)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	23,126	$ 23,126	31,258
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		1,540,273		1,509,015
End of year - June 30		$ 1,563,399		$ 1,540,273

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

FIRE DISTRICTS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes:				
Taxes	$ 8,358,352	$ 9,525,791	$ 1,167,439	$ 8,049,425
Penalties and interest	-	42,042	42,042	38,883
Investment earnings	-	106,910	106,910	164,286
Total revenues	8,358,352	9,674,743	1,316,391	8,252,594
Expenditures:				
Public safety:				
Operating expenditures	8,396,002	8,358,770	37,232	7,401,087
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(37,650)	1,315,973	1,353,623	851,507
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	37,650	-	(37,650)	-
Net change in fund balance	$ -	1,315,973	$ 1,315,973	851,507
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		1,348,892		497,385
End of year - June 30		$ 2,664,865		$ 1,348,892

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

DEED OF TRUST FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Conveyance tax - administration	$ 150,000	$ 153,582	$ 3,582	$ -
Deed of trust fees	196,953	47,814	(149,139)	51,038
Total revenues	346,953	201,396	(145,557)	51,038
Expenditures:				
General government:				
Fines and penalties	196,953	48,000	148,953	51,032
Revenues over (under) expenditures	150,000	153,396	3,396	6
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfer to General Fund	(150,000)	(150,000)	-	-
Net change in fund balance	$ -	3,396	$ 3,396	6
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		4,168		4,162
End of year - June 30		$ 7,564		$ 4,168

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

CIVIL PROCESS FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Miscellaneous revenues	$ 210,000	$ 198,893	$ (11,107)	$ 191,598
Expenditures:				
Reimbursements to other funds	177,275	177,275	-	-
Revenues over (under) expenditures	32,725	21,618	(11,107)	191,598
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers to General Fund	(32,725)	-	32,725	(259,639)
Net change in fund balance	$ -	21,618	$ 21,618	(68,041)
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		572,645		640,686
End of year - June 30		$ 594,263		$ 572,645

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

FINES AND FORFEITURES FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Restricted intergovernmental	$ 1,312,190	$ 1,312,163	$ (27)	$ 1,028,017
Expenditures:				
Education:				
Fees and penalties	1,312,190	1,312,163	27	1,028,017
Net change in fund balance	$ -	-	$ -	-
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1		-		-
End of year - June 30		$ -		$ -

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Enterprise Fund

The Enterprise Fund is used to account for solid waste collection and disposal operations in Gaston County that are financed through solid waste fees.

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SOLID WASTE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - (NON-GAAP)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues:				
Operating revenues:				
Landfill charges	$ 11,025,660	$ 12,952,028	$ 1,926,368	$ 12,349,642
Other operating revenues	412,750	760,732	347,982	612,021
Restricted intergovernmental	350,000	678,048	328,048	639,350
Energy charges	1,453,266	693,207	(760,059)	572,542
Miscellaneous revenues	11,250	95,981	84,731	217,836
Total operating revenues	13,252,926	15,179,996	1,927,070	14,391,391
Investment Earnings	-	795,125	795,125	508,220
Total revenues	13,252,926	15,975,121	2,722,195	14,899,611
Expenditures:				
Landfill Department:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,562,560	2,396,114	166,446	2,312,140
Professional services	635,000	502,400	132,600	501,976
Operating expenditures	6,388,334	5,176,880	1,211,454	5,138,270
Capital outlay	22,216,073	8,977,914	13,238,159	2,271,145
Renewable Energy Department:				
Salaries and employee benefits	263,697	281,450	(17,753)	271,853
Professional services	20,000	15,900	4,100	16,433
Operating expenditures	1,300,510	883,843	416,667	847,221
Capital outlay	885,544	-	885,544	-
Total operating expenditures	34,271,718	18,234,501	16,037,217	11,359,038
Debt Service:				
Principal retirement	601,109	601,861	(752)	669,734
Interest and fees	3,978	-	3,978	10,129
Total debt service	605,087	601,861	3,226	679,863
Total expenditures	34,876,805	18,836,362	16,040,443	12,038,901

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SOLID WASTE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - (NON-GAAP)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FROM JUNE 30, 2023

	2024			2023
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Over/Under	Actual
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(21,623,879)	(2,861,241)	18,762,638	2,860,710
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	21,623,879	-	(21,623,879)	-
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	$ -	$ (2,861,241)	$ (2,861,241)	$ 2,860,710
Reconciliation of Modified Accrual Basis to Full Accrual Basis:				
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses		$ (2,861,241)		
Reconciling Items:				
Loss on disposal of asset		(82,800)		
(Increase) decrease in accrued vacation payable		21,855		
(Increase) decrease in accrual landfill closure and post-closure care		(669,854)		
(Increase) decrease in net pension liability		(392,797)		
Change in deferred outflows - pension		187,909		
Change in deferred inflows - pension		751		
Change in deferred outflows - OPEB		36,187		
Change in deferred inflows - OPEB		108,067		
Principal payments		601,861		
(Increase) decrease in OPEB liability		(43,307)		
Capital outlay capitalized		8,862,842		
Depreciation/amortization		(1,920,163)		
Change in net position		$ 3,849,310		

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Internal Service Fund

The Internal Service Fund is used to account for the operations of Gaston County's Health, Life, and Dental Insurance programs.

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SELF-INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSTION - FINANCIAL PLAN AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	2024		
	Financial Plan	Actual	Variance Over/Under
Revenues:			
Charges for services:			
Health insurance	$ 25,455,850	$ 25,802,127	$ 346,277
Dental insurance	758,743	866,520	107,777
Life insurance	544,176	675,436	131,260
Total charges for services	26,758,769	27,344,083	585,314
Investment earnings	-	230,674	230,674
Total revenues	26,758,769	27,574,757	815,988
Expenditures:			
Other operating expenditures:			
Benefits paid:			
Health insurance	26,223,069	25,935,572	287,497
Dental insurance	701,500	691,174	10,326
Life insurance	525,000	524,617	383
Administrative costs:			
Health insurance	2,807,850	3,092,089	(284,239)
Dental insurance	66,350	50,528	15,822
Professional services	35,000	32,234	2,766
Total other operating expenditures	30,358,769	30,326,214	32,555
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(3,600,000)	(2,751,457)	848,543
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Fund balance appropriated	5,000,000	-	(5,000,000)
Transfers out - General Fund	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	-
Transfers in - General Fund	3,600,000	3,600,000	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	3,600,000	(1,400,000)	(5,000,000)
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	$ -	(4,151,457)	$ (4,151,457)
Net Position:			
Beginning of year - July 1		11,186,984	
End of year - June 30		$ 7,035,527	

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Custodial Funds

Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the County as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds.

Individual Fund Descriptions

- **Municipality Tax Custodial Fund** – accounts for funds collected by the Tax Collector's office on behalf of other municipal entities within the County.

- **Sheriff Inmates Fund –** accounts for monies held on behalf of inmates of the County jail**.**

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Municipality Tax Custodial Fund	Sheriff Inmate Custodial Fund	Total
Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 15,237	$ 345,058	$ 360,295
Receivable for others, net	1,269,162	-	1,269,162
Total assets	1,284,399	345,058	1,629,457
Net Position:			
Restricted For:			
Individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 1,284,399	$ 345,058	$ 1,629,457

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Municipality Tax Custodial Fund	Sheriff Inmate Custodial Fund	Total
Additions:			
Collections for other governments	$ 109,750,333	$ -	$ 109,750,333
Collections on behalf of inmates	-	2,026,205	2,026,205
Total additions	109,750,333	2,026,205	111,776,538
Deductions:			
Tax distributions to other governments	109,716,930	-	109,716,930
Payments on behalf of inmates	-	1,999,357	1,999,357
Total deductions	109,716,930	1,999,357	111,716,287
Net increase (decrease) in fiduciary net position	33,403	26,848	60,251
Net position, beginning of year	1,250,996	318,210	1,569,206
Net position, end of year	$ 1,284,399	$ 345,058	$ 1,629,457

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Other Supplemental Schedules

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF AD VALOREM TAXES RECEIVABLE
JUNE 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Uncollected Balance July 1, 2023	Additions	Collections and Credits	Uncollected Balance June 30, 2024
2023-2024	$ -	$ 206,144,442	$ 204,085,150	$ 2,059,292
2022-2023	1,517,147	375,994	1,064,085	829,056
2021-2022	576,390	47,280	218,210	405,460
2020-2021	407,223	6,791	105,056	308,958
2019-2020	420,604	-	153,531	267,073
2018-2019	310,549	-	97,420	213,129
2017-2018	289,973	94	57,671	232,396
2016-2017	220,271	-	22,548	197,723
2015-2016	190,422	89	24,372	166,139
2014-2015	200,746	26	22,451	178,321
2013-2014	183,961	-	183,414	547
2012-2013	159,482	-	159,133	349
2011-2012	163,872	-	163,522	350
2010-2011	175,961	-	175,611	350
2009-2010	170,640	-	170,289	351
Total	$ 4,987,241	$ 206,574,716	$ 206,702,463	4,859,494

Less: Allowance for uncollectible ad valorem taxes receivable:	
General Fund	(3,862,969)
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	$ 996,525

Reconciliation with Revenues:	
General Fund	$ 205,493,787
Penalties and interest collected current year	(536,737)
Interest on prior years' delinquent taxes	(281,347)
Miscellaneous adjustment	1,194,454
Amount written off per Statute of Limitations	832,306
Total collections and credits	$ 206,702,463

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

ANALYSIS OF CURRENT PROPERTY TAX LEVY - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	County-Wide			Total Levy	
	Property Valuation	Rate	Amount of Levy	Property Excluding Registered Motor Vehicles	Registered Motor Vehicles
Original Levy:					
Property taxed at current year's rate	$ 33,543,476,393	$ 0.0061	$ 204,615,206	$ 187,661,593	$ 16,953,613
Penalties	-		521,027	308,723	212,304
Total	33,543,476,393		205,136,233	187,970,316	17,165,917
Discoveries:					
Current year taxes	117,724,098		718,117	718,117	-
Adjusted prepaids	101,705,246		620,402	620,402	-
Penalties	27,360,164		166,897	166,897	-
Total	246,789,508		1,505,416	1,505,416	-
Abatements					
Current year taxes	(79,929,836)		(487,572)	(487,572)	-
Penalties	(1,579,508)		(9,635)	(9,635)	-
Total	(81,509,344)		(497,207)	(497,207)	-
Total property valuation	$ 33,708,756,557				
Net Levy			206,144,442	188,978,525	17,165,917
Uncollected taxes at June 30, 2024 (General Fund)			2,059,292	2,059,292	-
Current Year Taxes Collected			$ 204,085,150	$ 186,919,233	$ 17,165,917
Current Levy Collection Percentage			99.00%	98.91%	100.00%
Prior Year Levy Collection Percentage			99.15%	99.05%	100.00%

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

ANALYSIS OF CURRENT TAX LEVY
COUNTY-WIDE LEVY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Secondary Market Disclosures:

Assessed Valuation:	
Assessment ratio	100.00%
Real and personal property	$ 29,875,073,770
Tag and tax vehicles	2,779,280,762
GAP vehicles	47,535,410
Public service companies	1,006,866,615
Total assessed valuation	$ 33,708,756,557
Tax rate per $100	0.0061
Levy (includes discoveries, releases, and abatements, excludes penalties)	$ 206,144,442

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF THE TEN LARGEST TAXPAYERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Taxpayer	Type of Business	2024 Assessed Valuation	Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation
Duke Energy Carolinas LLC	Electric Utility	$ 648,627,749	1.92%
FMC Lithium USA Corp.	Manufacturing	198,738,389	0.59%
NP Gastonia Industrial LLC	Manufacturing	191,161,880	0.57%
Daimler Trucks North America-Freightliner Parts Plant	Manufacturing	182,628,452	0.54%
Triangle Real Estate	Real Estate	125,344,270	0.37%
Public Service Co. of NC, Inc.	Natural Gas Co.	101,920,548	0.30%
Progress Residential Borrower LLC	Real Estate	78,153,030	0.23%
Glatfelter Mt Holly LLC	Manufacturing	77,691,204	0.23%
Owens Corning Non-Woven	Manufacturing	73,452,653	0.22%
American & Efird LLC	Manufacturing	55,864,649	0.17%
Total		$ 1,733,582,824	5.14%

Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Statistical Section

Gaston County
Net Position by Component,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Government activities					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 55,545,813	$ 71,461,891	$ 72,933,525	$ 72,946,461	$ 67,300,111
Restricted	50,677,610	52,033,806	35,125,642	44,572,115	77,311,495
Unrestricted	(82,292,573)	(95,007,944)	(99,008,303)	(160,435,574)	(181,349,359)
Total governmental activities net position	$ 23,930,850	$ 28,487,753	$ 9,050,864	$ (42,916,998)	$ (36,737,753)
Business-type activities					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 18,240,871	$ 18,219,489	$ 21,569,824	$ 21,961,445	$ 23,345,048
Unrestricted	(4,361,654)	(2,085,745)	(2,645,334)	(702,062)	959,248
Total business-type activities net position	$ 13,879,217	$ 16,133,744	$ 18,924,490	$ 21,259,383	$ 24,304,296
Primary government					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 73,786,684	$ 89,681,380	$ 94,503,349	$ 94,907,906	$ 90,645,159
Restricted	50,677,610	52,033,806	35,125,642	44,572,115	77,311,495
Unrestricted	(86,654,227)	(97,093,689)	(101,653,637)	(161,137,636)	(180,390,111)
Total primary government net position	$ 37,810,067	$ 44,621,497	$ 27,975,354	$ (21,657,615)	$ (12,433,457)

Gaston County
Net Position by Component,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Government activities					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 78,593,203	$ 72,265,228	$ 84,203,927	$ 104,066,102	$ 123,399,568
Restricted	46,751,723	57,797,261	63,100,685	78,381,072	89,290,756
Unrestricted	(152,166,113)	(113,098,805)	(87,946,311)	(51,721,564)	(64,404,855)
Total governmental activities net position	$ (26,821,187)	$ 16,963,684	$ 59,358,301	$ 130,725,610	$ 148,285,469
Business-type activities					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 23,471,977	$ 29,635,797	$ 29,664,480	$ 32,309,506	$ 38,374,992
Unrestricted	1,863,279	(1,184,805)	(191,935)	(2,158,792)	(4,374,968)
Total business-type activities net position	$ 25,335,256	$ 28,450,992	$ 29,472,545	$ 30,150,714	$ 34,000,024
Primary government					
Net investment in capital assets	$ 102,065,180	$ 101,901,025	$ 113,868,407	$ 136,375,608	$ 161,774,560
Restricted	46,751,723	57,797,261	63,100,685	78,381,072	89,290,756
Unrestricted	(150,302,834)	(114,283,610)	(88,138,246)	(53,880,356)	(68,779,823)
Total primary government net position	$ (1,485,931)	$ 45,414,676	$ 88,830,846	$ 160,876,324	$ 182,285,493

Gaston County
Changes in Net Position
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Expenses					
Governmental activities:					
General government	$ 27,552,105	$ 28,558,125	$ 28,494,793	$ 32,021,171	$ 24,654,945
Public safety	58,453,071	61,146,913	63,783,887	64,758,386	79,033,392
Environmental protection	83,892	64,799	82,563	80,459	54,555
Economic and physical development	4,442,119	8,144,361	7,119,799	6,953,443	21,773,076
Human Services	58,060,108	62,370,891	63,926,904	56,430,359	57,901,271
Cultural and recreation	5,345,740	5,128,279	5,301,850	6,217,083	4,905,313
Education	58,782,741	62,216,186	86,104,362	80,128,234	69,334,401
Debt service - interest and fees	8,310,982	7,982,990	8,064,520	6,680,302	6,603,577
Total governmental activities expenses	221,030,758	235,612,544	262,878,678	253,269,437	264,260,530
Business-type activities:					
Solid Waste	7,399,385	8,001,750	8,722,360	9,422,597	9,097,588
Total primary government expenses	$ 228,430,143	$ 243,614,294	$ 271,601,038	$ 262,692,034	$ 273,358,118
Program Revenues					
Governmental activities:					
Charges for services:					
General government	$ 22,667,151	$ 5,915,128	$ 8,187,016	$ 8,529,223	$11,475,456
Public safety	13,026,981	13,199,535	13,669,409	15,053,195	18,847,526
Environmental protection	1,728,225	2,027,978	2,270,607	2,608,882	3,189,152
Economic and physical development	1,754,027	378,454	940,616	421,410	1,824
Human Services	9,313,829	8,505,340	8,444,809	10,716,470	8,917,862
Cultural and recreation	193,471	215,113	260,552	246,616	231,254
Operating grants and contributions:					
General government	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	545,193	1,109,440	48,618	116,893	81,807
Economic and physical development	-	-	-	-	-
Human Services	25,846,473	27,109,313	26,971,143	19,562,935	21,403,426
Cultural and recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions:					
General government	420,403	402,209	812,010	645,239	516,253
Economic and physical development	328,042	109,938	656,980	264,649	624,881
Human Services	4,484,882	4,430,744	4,698,298	5,023,236	5,859,347
Cultural and recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Education	2,056,824	2,369,350	1,880,336	2,120,880	2,242,658
Total governmental activities program revenues	82,365,501	65,772,542	68,840,394	65,309,628	73,391,446
Business-type activities:					
Charges for services:					
Solid Waste	8,673,300	10,243,430	11,101,886	11,106,915	12,001,498
Operating grants and contributions:					
Solid Waste	-	-	-	-	-
Total business-type activities program revenues	8,673,300	10,243,430	11,101,886	11,106,915	12,001,498
Total primary government program revenues	$ 91,038,801	$ 76,015,972	$ 79,942,280	$ 76,416,543	$ 85,392,944
Net (Expense)/Revenue					
Governmental activities	$ (138,665,257)	$ (169,840,002)	$ (194,038,284)	$ (187,959,809)	$ (190,869,084)
Business-type activities	1,273,915	2,241,680	2,379,526	1,684,318	2,903,910
Total primary government net expense	$ (137,391,342)	$ (167,598,322)	$ (191,658,758)	$ (186,275,491)	$ (187,965,174)

Gaston County
Changes in Net Position
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Expenses					
Governmental activities:					
General government	$ 35,595,530	$ 37,683,711	$ 38,823,065	$ 44,596,359	$ 36,638,588
Public safety	62,939,205	74,710,903	86,092,447	100,482,129	113,551,928
Environmental protection	100,204	35,496	44,226	64,896	106,537
Economic and physical development	21,538,252	20,506,642	25,017,839	38,005,222	70,948,415
Human Services	61,986,901	62,817,313	79,669,163	76,507,554	84,121,774
Cultural and recreation	6,770,357	7,828,226	7,808,985	8,803,571	9,422,983
Education	88,040,979	78,112,936	59,153,869	60,182,352	60,978,024
Debt service - interest and fees	9,595,732	6,909,340	6,978,209	6,123,814	10,778,191
Total governmental activities expenses	286,567,160	288,604,567	303,587,803	334,765,897	386,546,440
Business-type activities:					
Solid Waste	11,257,256	9,475,769	11,122,940	14,221,442	12,125,811
Total primary government expenses	$ 297,824,416	$ 298,080,336	$ 314,710,743	$ 348,987,339	$ 398,672,251
Program Revenues					
Governmental activities:					
Charges for services:					
General government	$7,899,710	$6,159,375	$8,288,181	$12,566,510	$ 7,492,797
Public safety	15,709,718	18,993,234	19,439,935	16,421,169	18,161,452
Environmental protection	2,859,411	3,711,079	4,107,862	6,615,053	8,332,545
Economic and physical development	26,824	2,455,852	2,348	2,016	2,400
Human Services	8,825,029	7,829,923	6,540,095	5,011,415	4,332,643
Cultural and recreation	183,668	168,952	210,429	199,731	227,232
Operating grants and contributions:					
General government	-	667,331	1,016,850	1,028,017	1,465,745
Public safety	71,705	138,038	133,119	191,308	172,596
Economic and physical development	-	20,750	-	-	-
Human Services	22,842,412	32,669,305	1,974,837	15,921,666	2,011,593
Cultural and recreation	-	728,563	672,667	-	-
Capital grants and contributions:					
General government	4,902,786	18,047,937	39,493,071	49,335,325	46,649,597
Economic and physical development	-	-	100,000	55,736	104,848
Human Services	4,476,540		7,608,802	9,676,200	8,131,618
Cultural and recreation		4,002,821	-	-	-
Education	2,364,600	-	-	2,230,295	2,150,289
Total governmental activities program revenues	70,162,403	95,593,160	89,588,196	$119,254,441	$ 99,235,355
Business-type activities:					
Charges for services:					
Solid Waste	12,141,271	12,562,448	12,095,301	13,752,041	14,501,948
Operating grants and contributions:					
Solid Waste	-	20,000	2,653	639,350	678,048
Total business-type activities program revenues	12,141,271	12,582,448	12,097,954	14,391,391	15,179,996
Total primary government program revenues	$ 82,303,674	$ 108,175,608	$ 101,686,150	$ 133,645,832	$ 114,415,351
Net (Expense)/Revenue					
Governmental activities	$ (216,404,757)	$ (193,011,407)	$ (213,999,607)	$ (215,511,456)	$ (287,311,085)
Business-type activities	884,015	3,106,679	975,014	169,949	3,054,185
Total primary government net expense	$ (215,520,742)	$ (189,904,728)	$ (213,024,593)	$ (215,341,507)	$ (284,256,900)

Gaston County
Changes in Net Position
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

General Revenues and Other Changes in Net Position	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Governmental activities:					
Ad valorem taxes	$ 139,163,619	$ 139,255,320	$ 143,710,080	$ 148,141,098	$ 151,938,625
Sales tax	30,781,557	32,979,693	35,671,950	37,084,145	39,003,754
Real estate transfer taxes	724,130	1,803,998	1,710,358	2,120,723	7,544,708
Investment earnings	166,921	357,894	906,903	1,734,305	3,338,776
Transfers	-	-	(366,730)	(462,698)	-
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total governmental activities	170,836,227	174,396,905	181,632,561	188,617,573	201,825,863
Business-type activities:					
Investment earnings	6,436	12,847	44,490	131,598	141,003
Transfers	-	-	366,730	462,698	-
Total governmental activities	6,436	12,847	411,220	594,296	141,003
Total primary government	$ 170,842,663	$ 174,409,752	$ 182,043,781	$ 189,211,869	$ 201,966,866
Change in Net Position					
Governmental activities	$ 32,170,970	$ 4,556,903	$ (12,405,723)	$ 657,764	$ 10,956,779
Business-type activities	1,280,351	2,254,527	2,790,746	2,278,614	3,044,913
Total primary government	$ 33,451,321	$ 6,811,430	$ (9,614,977)	$ 2,936,378	$ 14,001,692

Gaston County
Changes in Net Position
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

General Revenues and Other Changes in Net Position	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023
Governmental activities:					
Ad valorem taxes	$ 172,021,975	$ 176,874,990	$ 183,654,431	$ 187,211,798	$ 214,970,690
Sales tax	41,081,488	56,623,399	65,797,535	70,918,199	71,258,587
Real estate transfer taxes	10,441,771	2,988,156	4,894,697	4,169,059	4,391,980
Investment earnings	2,776,089	79,656	(1,012,487)	7,953,760	14,249,687
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-	3,067,470	-	-
Total governmental activities	226,321,323	236,566,201	256,401,646	270,252,816	304,870,944
Business-type activities:					
Investment earnings	146,945	9,057	39,117	508,220	795,125
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total governmental activities	146,945	9,057	39,117	508,220	795,125
Total primary government	$ 226,468,268	$ 236,575,258	$ 256,440,763	$ 270,761,036	$ 305,666,069
Change in Net Position					
Governmental activities	$ 9,916,566	$ 43,554,794	$ 42,394,617	$ 54,741,360	$ 17,559,859
Business-type activities	1,030,960	3,115,736	1,021,553	678,169	3,849,310
Total primary government	$ 10,947,526	$ 46,670,530	$ 43,416,170	$ 55,419,529	$ 21,409,169

Gaston County
Fund Balances, Governmental Funds,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General Fund					
Nonspendable	$ 234,324	$ 258,057	$ 359,525	$ 830,609	$ 547,329
Restricted	24,349,723	24,810,036	24,832,155	28,249,790	32,955,914
Assigned	22,060,660	23,827,805	23,684,737	26,031,354	16,815,592
Unassigned	29,619,149	15,486,470	12,638,808	2,450,356	4,884,062
Total General Fund	$ 76,263,856	$ 64,382,368	$ 61,515,225	$ 57,562,109	$ 55,202,897
All Other Governmental Funds					
Nonspendable	$ 369	$ 18,067	$ 54,571	$ 88,687	$ 16,363
Restricted	26,327,887	70,014,957	36,244,219	24,624,826	108,726,287
Committed	11,942,050	16,454,167	22,994,576	12,422,983	3,299,537
Assigned	15,864,939	25,967,185	24,717,961	36,056,393	46,528,925
Unassigned	-	-	-	-	-
Total all other governmental funds	$ 54,135,245	$ 112,454,376	$ 84,011,327	$ 73,192,889	$ 158,571,112

Gaston County
Fund Balances, Governmental Funds,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Fund					
Nonspendable	$ 381,137	$ 356,936	$ 790,450	$ 498,069	$ 395,605
Restricted	25,362,832	32,869,158	39,407,589	50,876,738	53,426,111
Assigned	21,508,220	21,427,155	32,628,830	29,736,284	18,783,877
Unassigned	6,828,242	19,386,039	38,240,600	42,913,653	63,459,120
Total General Fund	$ 54,080,431	$ 74,039,288	$ 111,067,469	$ 124,024,744	$ 136,064,713
All Other Governmental Funds					
Nonspendable	$ 41,367	$ 55,287	$ 8,738	$ 1,204	$ 5,025
Restricted	71,487,974	38,841,927	35,389,953	42,915,236	82,117,316
Committed	377,866	28,579,939	68,363,569	71,639,131	92,290,409
Assigned	51,349,764	63,931,394	3,246,474	4,922,543	6,635,028
Unassigned	-	(29,963)	(46,696)	-	(115,882)
Total all other governmental funds	$ 123,256,971	$ 131,378,584	$ 106,962,038	$ 119,478,114	$ 180,931,896

Gaston County
Changes in Fund Balances, Governmental Funds,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Revenues					
Ad valorem taxes	$ 140,402,323	$ 139,748,392	$ 144,143,069	$ 148,367,037	$ 152,502,495
Other taxes and licenses	32,228,917	34,783,691	37,382,308	39,204,868	46,548,462
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	35,948,393	37,354,507	36,921,808	29,330,886	32,146,584
Fees, licenses and permits	3,363,174	3,933,473	4,227,840	4,614,578	6,526,808
Sales and services	18,497,802	18,239,812	18,559,984	22,560,970	23,283,237
E911 surcharge	729,724	714,921	734,975	736,000	760,575
Investment earnings	150,420	332,737	838,903	1,568,297	3,112,370
Miscellaneous revenues	24,139,339	3,130,389	4,288,594	3,931,473	2,328,043
Total revenues	255,460,092	238,237,922	247,097,481	250,314,109	267,208,574
Expenditures					
General government	25,227,484	26,296,804	26,805,601	30,290,301	31,726,839
Public safety	58,366,090	60,586,898	63,057,252	65,452,881	84,276,206
Environmental protection	83,892	64,799	60,916	81,533	65,385
Economic and physical development	3,457,506	4,192,734	4,568,532	4,417,548	4,496,983
Human services	58,703,124	61,931,748	61,589,102	56,434,756	57,772,654
Cultural and recreational	5,235,321	5,384,033	5,548,764	5,819,668	5,902,072
Education	49,517,556	49,693,622	51,384,897	54,073,032	55,485,329
Capital outlay	10,176,139	16,317,490	38,538,487	28,481,094	31,036,309
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	16,981,256	17,133,085	19,714,275	78,023,256	19,410,727
Interest and fees	8,511,386	8,183,394	8,634,832	10,955,829	6,803,367
Total expenditures	236,259,754	249,784,607	279,902,658	334,029,898	296,975,871
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	19,200,338	(11,546,685)	(32,805,177)	(83,715,789)	(29,767,297)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Installment purchase contracts issued	1,713,854	2,610,233	-	3,459,164	15,886,553
Refunding bonds issued	-	5,020,000	-	59,182,000	-
Bonds issued	-	50,025,000	1,861,715	6,000,000	60,000,000
Limited Obligation Bonds	-	-	-	-	26,785,000
Lease liabilities issued	-	-	-	-	-
Subscription liabilities issued	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Contribution	-	-	-	-	-
Payments to escrow agent	-	(5,308,094)	-	-	-
Bond premium	-	5,637,189	-	-	8,506,758
Sale of property	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	51,381,592	54,096,440	43,198,890	45,580,119	43,617,299
Transfers out	(49,927,276)	(54,096,440)	(43,565,620)	(45,277,048)	(42,009,299)
Total other financing sources (uses)	3,168,170	57,984,328	1,494,985	68,944,235	112,786,311
Net change in fund balances	$ 22,368,508	$ 46,437,643	$ (31,310,192)	$ (14,771,554)	$ 83,019,014
Debt service as a percentage of noncapital expenditures	11.28%	10.84%	11.75%	29.12%	9.86%

Gaston County
Changes in Fund Balances, Governmental Funds,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenues					
Ad valorem taxes	$ 171,314,638	$ 177,566,661	$ 183,461,238	$ 187,371,511	$ 215,061,620
Other taxes and licenses	51,523,259	59,611,555	70,692,232	75,087,258	75,650,567
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	36,121,395	56,352,948	54,238,136	64,843,276	68,239,773
Fees, licenses and permits	6,484,384	9,889,809	7,245,512	10,733,496	12,630,991
Sales and services	19,980,373	19,845,793	20,767,440	16,748,980	17,419,015
E911 surcharge	698,276	579,741	809,328	761,179	754,786
Investment earnings	2,577,553	67,107	(1,045,726)	7,616,750	14,019,013
Miscellaneous revenues	2,636,773	5,256,719	7,566,782	12,647,609	7,896,239
Total revenues	291,336,651	329,170,333	343,734,942	375,810,059	411,672,004
Expenditures					
General government	34,322,360	38,505,544	48,555,750	46,987,116	50,789,171
Public safety	75,182,323	74,652,785	86,306,054	102,747,589	109,387,974
Environmental protection	69,718	-	82,754	79,386	63,070
Economic and physical development	4,393,547	4,470,307	5,502,464	6,464,195	6,869,645
Human services	59,251,335	59,708,312	83,139,382	77,553,881	84,511,842
Cultural and recreational	6,064,538	6,884,869	7,947,537	9,007,456	8,777,448
Education	57,591,462	57,240,267	59,153,869	60,182,352	60,978,024
Capital outlay	47,436,706	36,781,478	22,687,960	32,003,724	72,000,852
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	35,948,139	23,263,916	22,669,305	22,628,574	26,146,692
Interest and fees	10,220,860	9,596,392	8,642,080	7,787,690	10,142,007
Total expenditures	330,480,988	311,103,870	344,687,155	365,441,963	429,666,725
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(39,144,337)	18,066,463	(952,213)	10,368,096	(17,994,721)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Installment purchase contracts issued	1,099,727	1,958,436	6,707,137	8,180,821	4,634,989
Refunding bonds issued	-	50,145,000	-	-	-
Bonds issued	-	-	-	-	80,000,000
Limited Obligation Bonds	-	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities issued	-	-	2,430,121	187,173	1,306,969
Subscription liabilities issued	-	-		1,737,261	3,001,714
Capital Contribution	-	1,710,881	-	-	-
Payments to escrow agent	-	(60,192,495)	-	-	-
Bond premium	-	10,371,875	-	-	1,144,800
Sale of property	-	-	3,067,470	-	-
Transfers in	64,543,253	110,919,703	141,736,750	128,476,338	229,981,566
Transfers out	(62,935,253)	(107,129,470)	(138,377,630)	(123,476,338)	(228,581,566)
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,707,727	7,783,930	15,563,848	15,105,255	91,488,472
Net change in fund balances	$ (36,436,610)	$ 25,850,393	$ 14,611,635	$ 25,473,351	$ 73,493,751
Debt service as a percentage of noncapital expenditures	16.31%	11.98%	9.72%	9.12%	10.15%

Gaston County
Ratios of General Bonded Debt Outstanding
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	General Bonded Debt Outstanding					
Fiscal Year	Total Debt	Less: Amounts Restricted to Repaying Principal	Total	Percentage of Personal Income (a)	Percentage of Actual Value of Taxable Property (b)	Per Capita (a)
2015	$ 178,203,288	$ -	$ 178,203,288	2.26%	1.30%	833.29
2016	213,575,436	-	213,575,436	2.62%	1.55%	980.84
2017	195,722,876	-	195,722,876	2.27%	1.23%	885.75
2018	186,341,784	-	186,341,784	2.11%	1.13%	831.13
2019	269,601,609	-	269,601,609	2.89%	1.60%	1,192.19
2020	234,753,198	-	234,753,198	2.29%	1.19%	1,027.30
2021	203,400,222	-	203,400,222	1.80%	0.99%	879.24
2022	188,174,420	-	188,174,420	1.62%	0.89%	803.43
2023	174,951,446	-	174,951,446	*	0.79%	725.41
2024	235,615,129	-	235,615,129	*	0.70%	968.64

* Information not yet available.

Notes:
(a) See "Demographic and Economic Statistics" schedule for personal income and population figures.
(b) See "Assessed Value and Actual Value of Taxable Property" schedule for property values.

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Gaston County
Legal Debt Margin Information
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Assessed Value of Property	$ 13,693,431,657	$ 13,808,052,961	$ 15,943,317,816	$ 16,437,042,595	$ 16,855,932,097
Debt Limit, 8% of Assessed Value (Statutory Limitation)	1,095,474,533	1,104,644,237	1,275,465,425	1,314,963,408	1,348,474,568
Amount of Debt Applicable to Limit					
General Obligation Bonds	161,684,000	199,590,000	185,044,000	176,575,000	220,130,000
Certificates of Participation	3,095,000	1,580,000	-	-	-
Other Debt	13,424,288	12,405,436	10,678,876	9,766,784	49,471,609
Total net debt applicable to limit	178,203,288	213,575,436	195,722,876	186,341,784	269,601,609
Legal Debt Margin	$ 917,271,245	$ 891,068,801	$ 1,079,742,549	$ 1,128,621,624	$ 1,078,872,959
Total net debt applicable to the limit as a percentage of debt limit	16.27%	19.33%	15.35%	14.17%	19.99%

Gaston County
Legal Debt Margin Information
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Assessed Value of Property	$ 19,745,275,404	$ 20,546,387,144	$ 21,202,036,917	$ 22,086,737,037	$ 33,708,756,557
Debt Limit, 8% of Assessed Value (Statutory Limitation)	1,579,622,032	1,643,710,972	1,696,162,953	1,766,938,963	2,696,700,525
Amount of Debt Applicable to Limit					
General Obligation Bonds	200,411,000	172,647,000	155,385,000	139,105,000	202,820,000
Certificates of Participation	-	-	-	-	-
Other Debt	34,342,198	30,753,222	32,789,420	35,846,446	32,795,129
Total net debt applicable to limit	234,753,198	203,400,222	188,174,420	174,951,446	235,615,129
Legal Debt Margin	$ 1,344,868,834	$ 1,440,310,750	$ 1,507,988,533	$ 1,591,987,517	$ 2,461,085,396
Total net debt applicable to the limit as a percentage of debt limit	14.86%	12.37%	11.09%	9.90%	8.74%

Gaston County
Ratios of Outstanding Debt by Type
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	Governmental Activities						
Fiscal Year	General Obligation Bonds	Certificates of Participation	Leases	Subscription Liabilities	Limited Obligation Bonds	Installment Purchases	Unamortized Premium
2015	$161,684,000	$ 3,095,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,200,445	$ 9,079,174
2016	199,590,000	1,580,000	-	-	-	6,547,702	14,020,119
2017	185,044,000	-	-	-	-	5,187,250	12,946,062
2018	176,575,000	-	-	-	-	4,641,266	11,872,005
2019	220,130,000	-	-	-	-	44,712,200	19,304,706
2020	200,411,000	-	-	-	-	29,948,896	17,805,311
2021	172,647,000	-	-	-	23,695,000	3,031,030	25,525,362
2022	155,385,000	-	1,693,756	-	22,100,000	7,028,334	22,873,537
2023	139,105,000	-	1,238,015	1,155,396	20,505,000	12,046,468	20,221,712
2024	202,820,000	-	1,846,190	2,680,518	18,910,000	10,956,259	18,142,287

* Information not yet available.

Gaston County
Ratios of Outstanding Debt by Type
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities				
Fiscal Year	State Revolving Loan	Leases	Installment Purchases	Total Primary Government	Percentage of Personal Income	Per Capita
2015	$ 6,223,843	$ -	$ 3,460,339	$ 190,744,816	2.41%	892
2016	5,857,734	-	2,876,030	230,473,601	2.83%	1,058
2017	5,491,626	-	2,712,329	211,383,284	2.46%	957
2018	5,125,518	-	2,266,934	200,482,741	2.27%	894
2019	4,759,409	-	1,238,309	290,146,643	3.11%	1,283
2020	4,393,302	-	419,929	252,980,458	2.47%	1,107
2021	4,027,192	-	811,319	229,738,924	2.04%	993
2022	3,661,086	-	1,461,478	214,205,213	1.84%	915
2023	3,294,978	-	791,744	198,360,336	*	822
2024	2,928,870	-	189,883	258,476,031	*	1,063

Gaston County
Assessed Value and Actual Value of Taxable Property,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30	Real & Personal Property	Vehicles	GAP Vehicles	Public Service Companies
(FY14-15) 2015	$ 11,849,164,221	$ 1,200,100,637	$ -	$ 644,166,799
(FY15-16) 2016	11,846,593,779	1,268,743,871	-	692,715,311
(FY16-17) 2017	13,762,503,341	1,451,272,391	-	729,542,084
(FY17-18) 2018	14,063,126,530	1,584,208,673	-	789,707,392
(FY18-19) 2019	14,172,111,402	1,851,929,878	-	831,890,817
(FY19-20) 2020	16,990,798,356	1,850,365,458	-	904,111,590
(FY20-21) 2021	17,431,210,503	2,171,192,627	-	943,984,014
(FY21-22) 2022	17,907,237,470	2,245,357,037	14,219,759	1,035,222,651
(FY22-23) 2023	18,664,661,239	2,436,623,452	56,535,926	928,916,420
(FY23-24) 2024	29,875,073,770	2,779,280,762	47,535,410	1,006,866,615

Source: Gaston County Tax Department

Note: The county assesses property every four years. Property is assessed at market value.
(a) Sales assessment ratios from the NC Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division. Property Tax Publications - Sales Ratio

Gaston County
Assessed Value and Actual Value of Taxable Property,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30	Total Taxable Assessed Value	Total Direct Tax Rate	Percentage of Actual Taxable Value (a)	Estimated Actual Taxable Value
(FY14-15) 2015	$ 13,693,431,657	0.8700	108.41%	$ 12,631,151,791
(FY15-16) 2016	13,808,052,961	0.8700	97.84%	14,112,891,416
(FY16-17) 2017	15,943,317,816	0.8700	108.00%	14,762,331,311
(FY17-18) 2018	16,437,042,595	0.8700	86.34%	19,037,575,394
(FY18-19) 2019	16,855,932,097	0.8700	96.99%	17,379,041,238
(FY19-20) 2020	19,745,275,404	0.8400	99.05%	19,934,654,623
(FY20-21) 2021	20,546,387,144	0.8300	99.04%	20,745,544,370
(FY21-22) 2022	21,202,036,917	0.8300	83.67%	25,340,070,416
(FY22-23) 2023	22,086,737,037	0.8100	68.67%	32,163,589,685
(FY23-24) 2024	33,708,756,557	0.6100	96.77%	34,833,891,244

Gaston County
Direct and Overlapping Property Tax Rates
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(rate per $100 of assessed value)

	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
County Direct Rate					
General *	0.8700	0.8700	0.8700	0.8700	0.8700
City Rates					
Belmont	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.5150
Bessemer City	0.4300	0.4300	0.4500	0.4500	0.4700
Cherryville	0.4600	0.4600	0.4600	0.4600	0.4600
Gastonia	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300
Kings Mountain	0.4000	0.4000	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300
Mt. Holly	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300
Town Rates					
Cramerton	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750
Dallas	0.3800	0.3800	0.4000	0.4000	0.4000
High Shoals	0.4100	0.4100	0.4100	0.4100	0.4100
Lowell	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300
McAdenville	0.3000	0.3000	0.3000	0.3300	0.3300
Ranlo	0.3700	0.4000	0.4000	0.4000	0.4000
Spencer Mountain	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stanley	0.5400	0.5400	0.5400	0.5400	0.5400

*Note: The County direct rate does not have components.

Source: Gaston County Tax Department.

Gaston County
Direct and Overlapping Property Tax Rates
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(rate per $100 of assessed value)

	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
County Direct Rate					
General *	0.8400	0.8300	0.8300	0.8100	0.6100
City Rates					
Belmont	0.5150	0.5150	0.5150	0.4950	0.4550
Bessemer City	0.4500	0.4500	0.4500	0.4500	0.4500
Cherryville	0.4600	0.5200	0.5200	0.5200	0.4800
Gastonia	0.5200	0.5200	0.5200	0.5200	0.4700
Kings Mountain	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300	0.4300	0.4800
Mt. Holly	0.4850	0.4850	0.4850	0.4850	0.4050
Town Rates					
Cramerton	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.4750	0.4450
Dallas	0.4000	0.4000	0.4200	0.4200	0.4200
High Shoals	0.4100	0.3800	0.3800	0.3800	0.3200
Lowell	0.4300	0.4300	0.4900	0.4900	0.4900
McAdenville	0.3300	0.3300	0.3300	0.3900	0.3900
Ranlo	0.4000	0.4000	0.5000	0.5000	0.4500
Spencer Mountain	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stanley	0.5400	0.5400	0.5400	0.5400	0.4900

Gaston County
Direct and Overlapping Property Tax Rates
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(rate per $100 of assessed value)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Fire District Rates					
Agriculture Center	0.0630	0.0630	0.0730	0.0730	0.0730
Alexis	0.0850	0.0900	0.0900	0.0950	0.0950
Chapel Grove	0.0950	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050
Chestnut Ridge	0.0800	0.0840	0.0840	0.0840	0.0950
Community	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1200
Crouse	0.0740	0.0740	0.0740	0.0740	0.0860
East Gaston	0.0840	0.0840	0.0840	0.0840	0.0840
High Shoals	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030
Hughs Pond	0.1010	0.1010	0.1010	0.1100	0.1100
Long Shoals	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030	0.1030
Lowell	0.0500	0.0500	0.0740	0.0740	0.0740
Lucia-Riverbend	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050	0.1100	0.1140
New Hope	0.0800	0.0880	0.0880	0.0880	0.1000
Ranlo	0.0840	0.0840	0.0740	0.0840	0.0840
South Gastonia	0.0950	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050
South Point	0.0640	0.0640	0.0500	0.0400	0.0400
Spencer Mountain	0.0700	0.0800	0.0800	0.0800	0.0800
Tryonota	0.0800	0.0840	0.0840	0.0840	0.0950
Union Road	0.0670	0.0770	0.0770	0.0770	0.0770
Waco	0.0730	0.0730	0.0730	0.0950	0.0950
Special Taxing Rates					
Gastonia York-Chester District	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300	0.5300
Gastonia Service District	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000

Source: Gaston County Tax Department.

Gaston County
Direct and Overlapping Property Tax Rates
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(rate per $100 of assessed value)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Fire District Rates					
Agriculture Center	0.0920	0.0112	0.1200	0.1100	0.0850
Alexis	0.0790	0.0990	0.1060	0.1100	0.0850
Chapel Grove	0.0930	0.0930	0.1240	0.1100	0.0850
Chestnut Ridge	0.0810	0.1010	0.1200	0.1100	0.0850
Community	0.0990	0.1190	0.1210	0.1100	0.0850
Crouse	0.0690	0.0750	0.0750	0.1100	0.0850
East Gaston	0.0720	0.0920	0.0980	0.1100	0.0850
High Shoals	0.1040	0.1040	0.1040	0.1100	0.0850
Hughs Pond	0.1050	0.1050	0.1050	0.1100	0.0850
Long Shoals	0.1040	0.1040	0.1040	0.1100	0.0850
Lowell	0.0680	0.0680	0.0680	0.1100	0.0850
Lucia-Riverbend	0.0930	0.1130	0.1250	0.1100	0.0850
New Hope	0.0840	0.0970	0.0970	0.1100	0.0850
Ranlo	0.0880	0.0910	0.0910	0.1100	0.0850
South Gastonia	0.0930	0.0930	0.1240	0.1100	0.0850
South Point	0.0360	0.0500	0.0500	0.1100	0.0850
Spencer Mountain	0.0930	0.1030	0.1030	0.1100	0.0850
Tryonota	0.0810	0.1010	0.1200	0.1100	0.0850
Union Road	0.0650	0.0760	0.0760	0.1100	0.0850
Waco	0.0810	0.0950	0.0950	0.1100	0.0850
Special Taxing Rates					
Gastonia York-Chester District	0.5200	0.5200	0.5200	0.4700	0.4700
Gastonia Service District	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000

Gaston County
Principal Property Tax Payers,
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

	Fiscal Year 2024			Fiscal Year 2015		
Taxpayer	**Assessed Value**	**Rank**	**Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation**	**Assessed Value**	**Rank**	**Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation**
Duke Energy Carolinas LLC	$ 648,627,749	1	1.9%	$ 402,344,986	1	2.8%
FMC Lithium USA	198,738,389	2	0.6%	50,960,018	6	0.4%
NP Gastonia Ind.	191,161,880	3	0.6%	-	-	-
Daimler Trucks	182,628,452	4	0.5%	91,155,042	2	0.6%
Triangle Real Estate	125,344,270	5	0.4%	-	-	-
Public Service Company	101,920,548	6	0.3%	63,882,771	3	0.4%
Progress Residential Borrower LLC	78,153,030	7	0.2%	-	-	-
Glatfelter Mt Holly LLC	77,691,204	8	0.2%	-	-	-
Owens Corning	73,452,653	9	0.2%	-	-	-
American & Efird	55,864,649	10	0.2%	-	-	-
BellSouth	-	-	-	53,837,204	4	0.4%
Bud Antle, Inc.	-	-	-	51,036,603	5	0.4%
Pharr Yarns	-	-	-	47,285,428	7	0.3%
Southwood Realty Company	-	-	-	44,114,600	8	0.3%
Mann+Hummel (formerly WIX Filtration)	-	-	-	42,237,836	9	0.3%
Rutherford EMC	-	-	-	34,847,979	10	0.2%
Total	$ 1,733,582,824		5.14%	$ 881,702,467		6.03%

Source: Gaston County Tax Department

Gaston County
Property Tax Levies and Collections,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30	Taxes Levied for the Fiscal Year	Collected within the Fiscal Year of the Levy		Collections in Subsequent Years	Total Collections to Date	
		Amount	Percentage of Levy		Amount	Percentage of Levy
2015	$ 134,740,856	$ 132,998,045	98.71%	$ 1,542,066	$ 134,540,111	99.85%
2016	134,957,472	133,397,408	98.84%	1,369,643	134,767,051	99.86%
2017	139,161,704	137,616,976	98.89%	1,324,457	138,941,433	99.84%
2018	143,478,862	141,959,045	98.94%	1,229,844	143,188,889	99.80%
2019	147,062,463	145,746,820	99.11%	1,005,095	146,751,915	99.79%
2020	166,281,606	163,922,402	98.58%	1,938,600	165,861,002	99.75%
2021	170,971,588	169,413,769	99.09%	1,150,596	170,564,365	99.76%
2022	176,450,171	174,965,654	99.16%	908,128	175,873,782	99.67%
2023	179,402,454	177,885,307	99.15%	688,091	178,573,398	99.54%
2024	206,144,442	204,085,150	99.00%	-	204,085,150	99.00%

Source: Gaston County Tax Department

Gaston County
Demographic and Economic Statistics
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Year	Population (a)	Personal Income (b) (thousands of dollars)	Per Capita Personal Income (b)	Public School Enrollment (c)	Private School Enrollment (d)	Unemployment Rate (e)
2015	213,856	$ 7,901,694	36,949	31,293	2,129	5.9%
2016	217,748	8,149,218	37,425	31,442	2,081	5.3%
2017	220,969	8,605,557	38,945	31,665	2,195	4.6%
2018	224,204	8,823,284	39,354	31,527	2,240	4.0%
2019	226,140	9,342,541	41,313	31,804	2,220	3.8%
2020	228,514	10,239,160	44,808	31,153	2,129	7.8%
2021	231,337	11,277,151	48,748	30,975	2,148	5.2%
2022	234,215	11,634,395	49,674	31,028	2,235	3.7%
2023	241,175	*	*	30,431	2,491	3.4%
2024	243,242	*	*	30,341	2,667	*

* Information is not yet available.

Sources:

(a) North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, State Demographer's Office.
2014-2019 Intercensal Population Estimates.
2020 Census.
2021-2022 County Population Projections.

(b) US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Annual Average.

(c) North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

(d) North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of Non-Public Education.

(e) US Department of Labor, US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Annual Average.

Gaston County
Principal Employers,
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

	2024			2015		
Employer	Employees	Rank	Percentage of Total County Employment	Employees	Rank	Percentage of Total County Employment
Caromont Health (A Corp)	1000+	1	-	1000+	2	-
Gaston County Schools	1000+	2	-	1000+	1	-
Freightliner Corp	1000+	3	-	1000+	3	-
County Of Gaston	1000+	4	-	1000+	5	-
Wal-Mart Associates Inc.	1000+	5	-	1000+	4	-
Mann+hummel	1000+	6	-	1000+	7	-
American & Efird Llc	1000+	7	-	1000+	6	-
City Of Gastonia	500-999	8	-	500-999	8	-
Food Lion	500-999	9	-	-	-	-
Kintegra Health	500-999	10	-	-	-	-
Pharr Yarns	-	-	-	500-999	9	-
Sara Lee Corporation	-	-	-	500-999	10	-

Source: Gaston County Economic Development Commission

Gaston County
Full-time Equivalent Budgeted
County Government Employees by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years
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Function / Program	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General Government	169	172	172	171	173
Public Safety	612	616	616	636	636
Economic and Physical Development	20	21	21	21	21
Human Services	623	619	619	626	626
Cultural and Recreational	60	60	60	62	62
Solid Waste / Landfill	26	27	27	28	28
Total	1,510	1,515	1,515	1,544	1,546

Sources: County budget department and individual county departments.

Gaston County
Full-time Equivalent Budgeted
County Government Employees by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Government	173	185	205	209	216
Public Safety	642	666	674	684	684
Economic and Physical Development	23	25	26	27	30
Human Services	630	643	633	632	648
Cultural and Recreational	62	64	65	66	69
Solid Waste / Landfill	28	30	29	30	30
Total	1,558	1,613	1,632	1,648	1,677

Gaston County
Operating Indicators by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General Government					
Access					
Passenger trips	133,970	122,114	116,462	107,393	67,899
Service Miles	586,000	608,850	494,053	489,725	538,619
Commissioners / Clerk to the Board					
Number of Contracts	475	586	552	563	632
Number of Minutes	334	273	255	301	362
Human Resources					
Number of applications processed	10,668	10,219	8,362	10,238	7,532
Information Technology					
Number of service request / trouble tickets	10,086	10,616	7,217	7,082	6,583
Public Works					
Number of vehicle work orders processed / completed	3,107	2,886	3,217	2,974	3,139
Number of non-vehicle work orders requested / completed	9,644	8,991	6,768	8,590	9,162
Register of Deeds					
Vital records issued (birth, death, marriage)	23,715	23,445	25,516	25,709	27,493
Instruments recorded (deeds, deeds of trust, corporations, etc.)	21,665	22,628	32,745	23,549	23,287
Notary oaths administered	582	704	667	734	741
Passports	0	0	0	89	1,394
Passport photos	0	0	0	46	876
Tax					
Business audits	97	140	195	195	131
Registered vehicles processed	184,200	182,000	193,886	193,974	193,224
Public Safety					
Animal Control					
Number of calls	13,327	15,879	16,100	15,864	17,558
Adoptions (rescue group placement & owner reclaims)	3,347	2,788	2,783	2,757	2,529
Building Inspections					
Inspections conducted	38,228	24,917	27,170	35,217	37,914
Residential permits issued	1,959	1,042	1,430	1,551	1,514
Commercial and other non-residential permits issued	1,393	281	437	221	240
Electrical permits issued	1,798	2,686	2,131	2,612	3,086
Mechanical permits issued	1,581	2,351	1,557	1,681	1,483
Plumbing permits issued	700	1,209	472	848	612
County Police					
UCR Part I Crimes	1,326	1,423	1,412	1,418	1,182
Emergency Management					
Emergency calls (hazardous material spills, missing persons, complaints, etc)	12	14	14	5	15
Presentations / programs conducted	11	7	12	*	4
Exercises conducted or attended	12	13	5	3	7
Formal plans developed, reviewed, updated or adopted	18	15	19	*	12
Emergency Medical Services					
Emergency calls for service	44,429	46,233	46,401	39,812	30,895
Non-emergency calls for service	1,879	2,005	2,313	3,253	2,757
Number of dispatches	46,308	51,093	51,978	48,128	35,499
Number of transports	17,752	16,638	17,544	17,424	12,790
Fire Marshal					
Inspections	941	1,164	1,057	1,595	1,771
Investigations / Incidents	211	166	196	175	161
Fire investigation K9 Callouts	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Education Classes Taught	11	784	14	9	13
Rescue Squads					
Public Safety (continued)					
Sheriff					
Average monthly jail population	497	502	574	632	658
Number of civil papers served	23,554	23,664	16,338	17,930	17,726
Number of criminal papers served	4,575	5,236	3,383	4,405	5,059
Number of weapon permits issued	6,096	11,424	7,988	8,306	10,727
Number of court cases scheduled	130,248	136,580	158,322	144,421	180,762
Telecommunications					
Number of 911 calls	137,645	150,571	143,247	123,510	132,864

Gaston County
Operating Indicators by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Government					
Access					
Passenger trips	44,576	34,691	33,677	29,453	30,599
Service Miles	467,688	289,819	321,176	254,982	318, 615
Commissioners / Clerk to the Board					
Number of Contracts	593	617	655	636	745
Number of Minutes	320	354	348	374	324
Human Resources					
Number of applications processed	7,221	5,699	6,910	6,610	14,183
Information Technology					
Number of service request / trouble tickets	4,055	5,857	5,296	6,486	5,612
Public Works					
Number of vehicle work orders processed / completed	2,937	2,916	3,223	3,361	3,380
Number of non-vehicle work orders requested / completed	6,902	8,516	8,293	8,787	6,732
Register of Deeds					
Vital records issued (birth, death, marriage)	25,613	30,324	32,627	34,228	29,745
Instruments recorded (deeds, deeds of trust, corporations, etc.)	39,253	48,603	49,753	31,704	29,562
Notary oaths administered	562	778	857	859	878
Passports	1,055	1,080	1,725	2,819	4,067
Passport photos	719	791	1,280	1,984	3,279
Tax					
Business audits	175	181	206	184	230
Registered vehicles processed	192,592	204,569	196,697	201,747	201,467
Public Safety					
Animal Control					
Number of calls	15,349	16,565	17,325	18,100	18,418
Adoptions (rescue group placement & owner reclaims)	1,797	2,541	2,201	2,589	2,425
Building Inspections					
Inspections conducted	36,582	43,211	40,926	54,155	64,168
Residential permits issued	1,708	2,457	2,188	3,892	3,729
Commercial and other non-residential permits issued	277	292	357	795	591
Electrical permits issued	1,758	1,675	2,437	3,788	3,328
Mechanical permits issued	1,079	1,169	1,195	3,095	2,547
Plumbing permits issued	380	379	451	831	659
County Police					
UCR Part I Crimes	1,311	1,352	1,206	979	989
Emergency Management					
Emergency calls (hazardous material spills, missing persons, complaints, etc)	*	11	44	214	75
Presentations / programs conducted	*	4	4	5	11
Exercises conducted or attended	*	56	50	25	39
Formal plans developed, reviewed, updated or adopted	*	25	25	20	33
Emergency Medical Services					
Emergency calls for service	37,028	41,438	51,328	53,159	55,564
Non-emergency calls for service	3,708	5,667	12,486	14,651	16,668
Number of dispatches	51,917	61,006	70,903	75,135	79,788
Number of transports	18,513	21,105	23,823	25,641	27,823
Fire Marshal					
Inspections	*	796	939	1,129	1,281
Investigations / Incidents	*	153	152	239	163
Fire investigation K9 Callouts	*	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fire Education Classes Taught	*	1	1	41	49
Rescue Squads					
Public Safety (continued)					
Sheriff					
Average monthly jail population	587	559	596	617	664
Number of civil papers served	30,751	18,520	23,337	25,036	13,086
Number of criminal papers served	3,580	1,614	1,340	2,574	1,609
Number of weapon permits issued	15,171	21,164	12,810	10,117	5,194
Number of court cases scheduled	160,430	110,462	164,234	149,884	78,242
Telecommunications					
Number of 911 calls	139,885	148,072	161,750	152,461	141,133

Gaston County
Operating Indicators by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Economic and Physical Development					
Cooperative Extension Service					
Structured teaching activities	445	393	410	422	397
Volunteer Hours	14,950	14,215	13,875	14,320	14,350
Natural Resources					
Number of people served (clients)	15,177	13,378	12,855	12,298	12,835
Number of technical services provided	16,875	16,144	21,724	20,534	21,712
Number of acres affected	7,936	7,005	8,162	6,751	7,008
Planning / Land Use					
Zoning permits issued	410	575	541	525	565
Site plans for commercial/industrial reviewed	17	20	17	14	11
Major subdivisions submitted (>50 homes)	0	1	0	2	4
Minor subdivisions submitted (<49 homes)	*	*	*	*	*
Minimum Housing Inspections	21	16	24	49	*
Tourism Development					
Overnight Stays	357,753	392,766	383,211	*	*
Visits to Visitors Center	4,486	4,619	4,200	*	*
Visitor's Guide Printed and Distributed	27,500	27,264	30,000	*	*
Total Social Media Followers	*	10,064	13,573	18,033	21,236
Total Website Visitation	*	121,458	124,339	191,894	191,894
Total Weekend Hotel Demand	*	113,226	111,450	109,703	109,703
Human Services					
Health					
*** Number of patient visits	64,312	76,571	61,544	56,321	50,856
Onsite Wastewater Permits issued	872	731	983	1,039	1,358
Well permits issued	138	121	167	167	196
Food and Lodging Inspections performed	2,290	2,140	2,572	2,672	1,884
Social Services					
** Medicaid cases	383,628	383,628	40,106	39,481	38,858
** Medicaid recipients	524,496	524,496	63,469	65,945	68,156
** Food and nutrition services cases	256,868	245,756	16,591	15,487	15,219
** Food and nutrition services recipients	520,569	498,432	36,697	34,510	33,933
** Children in DSS custody	3,278	3,360	345	346	349
Cultural and Recreation					
Art and History Museum					
Museum Visits	4,039	4,399	3,620	2,821	2,792
Program Attendance	23,164	19,622	19,105	21,025	19,350
Social Media Engagement	*	*	*	*	*
Virtual Engagement	*	*	*	*	*
Exhibits	18	16	17	15	15
Library					
Library Visits (Door Count)	486,111	530,498	575,420	567,500	536,541
Circulation - Books	666,939	750,487	717,366	679,201	628,314
Circulation - Audiovisuals	193,037	237,577	230,605	210,201	200,023
Circulation - e-resources	185,833	124,084	202,202	206,631	214,494
Library Programs	2,991	6,339	5,683	5,590	6,331
Cultural and Recreation (continued)					
Parks and recreation					
Park reservations	9,175	8,908	6,338	3,963	4,290
Scheduled park attendance	793,048	885,164	603,206	591,684	422,195
Senior Center					
Program Attendance	40,108	41,895	45,383	46,101	44,766
Senior Center visits	39,167	42,534	46,408	47,893	47,052
Solid Waste / Landfill					
Waste tonnage disposed	222,587	250,065	281,841	260,385	274,770
Recycling tonnage	1,688	2,484	2,929	2,467	2,122

Sources: Individual County departments.

Note: Indicators are not available for Environmental Protection.
* Information is not available.
** 2017 and after is reported in monthly averages.

Gaston County
Operating Indicators by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Economic and Physical Development					
Cooperative Extension Service					
Structured teaching activities	352	315	311	306	348
Volunteer Hours	11,887	10,325	10,692	10,656	15,896
Natural Resources					
Number of people served (clients)	12,116	9,811	11,367	7,850	7,488
Number of technical services provided	18,667	18,560	18,106	32,423	18,857
Number of acres affected	8,250	14,885	19,480	16,162	11,019
Planning / Land Use					
Zoning permits issued	*	542	664	748	704
Site plans for commercial/industrial reviewed	4	17	45	33	15
Major subdivisions submitted (>50 homes)	4	9	10	0	0
Minor subdivisions submitted (<49 homes)	*	*	119	186	212
Minimum Housing Inspections	*	74	100	47	39
Tourism Development					
Overnight Stays	*	*	*	*	*
Visits to Visitors Center	*	*	*	*	*
Visitor's Guide Printed and Distributed	*	*	*	*	*
Total Social Media Followers	27,566	27,906	42,626	28,266	29,586
Total Website Visitation	71,453	74,907	150,781	167,441	263,800
Total Weekend Hotel Demand	103,692	123,063	150,364	146,971	145,125
Human Services					
Health					
*** Number of patient visits	40,167	28,867	31,964	30,492	34,122
Onsite Wastewater Permits issued	1,766	1,911	1,816	1,760	1,518
Well permits issued	205	268	280	257	215
Food and Lodging Inspections performed	2,367	2,434	2,301	2,265	2,744
Social Services					
** Medicaid cases	37,892	42,683	46,926	47,327	47,892
** Medicaid recipients	52,319	62,558	66,129	71,848	69,485
** Food and nutrition services cases	15,919	19,370	21,558	20,266	19,166
** Food and nutrition services recipients	33,676	39,096	43,207	40,657	38,394
** Children in DSS custody	324	365	445	387	370
Cultural and Recreation					
Art and History Museum					
Museum Visits	2,134	574	11,751	2,627	3,140
Program Attendance	13,817	2,616	9,548	9,245	15,727
Social Media Engagement	51,285	242,331	162,712	174,957	48,568
Virtual Engagement	13,305	29,509	16,806	18,510	28,932
Exhibits	9	9	11	12	12
Library					
Library Visits (Door Count)	385,113	139,777	386,857	420,284	427,436
Circulation - Books	480,141	306,512	518,384	553,126	556,687
Circulation - Audiovisuals	145,591	60,952	95,138	90,071	85,429
Circulation - e-resources	198,968	248,002	224,312	234,306	244,861
Library Programs	4,296	1,630	4,185	5,899	5,890
Cultural and Recreation (continued)					
Parks and recreation					
Park reservations	3,652	4,970	4,580	4,486	3,179
Scheduled park attendance	177,031	195,518	161,175	167,817	165,423
Senior Center					
Program Attendance	28,537	8,897	15,079	15,318	15,953
Senior Center visits	29,691	9,078	15,121	18,073	18,509
Solid Waste / Landfill					
Waste tonnage disposed	279,224	286,879	295,215	322,602	327,710
Recycling tonnage	1,339	2,300	2,332	2,346	2,224

Gaston County
Capital Asset Statistics by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Public Safety					
Sheriff					
Jail capacity	584	584	584	584	584
Economic and Physical Development					
Economic Development Commission					
Business park acreage available for purchase:					
Gastonia Technology Park	117.81	117.81	117.81	117.81	117.81
Summit Crossing	16.86	16.86	16.86	16.86	16.86
South Ridge Business Park	25.26	25.26	25.26	25.26	11.86
Apple Creek Corporate Center*	-	-	-	-	326.58
Cultural and Recreation					
Parks and recreation					
Number of county parks	9	9	9	9	9
Park acreage:					
Developed	512	512	512	512	512
Undeveloped	150	150	150	150	150
Total Park Acreage	662	662	662	662	662

Sources: County departments.

*Apple Creek Corporate Center was purchased in 2018.

Gaston County
Capital Asset Statistics by Function,
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function / Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Public Safety					
Sheriff					
Jail capacity	584	664	664	664	664
Economic and Physical Development					
Economic Development Commission					
Business park acreage available for purchase:					
Gastonia Technology Park	117.81	104.35	98.15	88.36	113.95
Summit Crossing	16.86	16.86	16.86	7.76	10.49
South Ridge Business Park	11.86	11.86	11.86	8.32	8.32
Apple Creek Corporate Center*	326.58	269.65	204.7	204.55	194.29
Cultural and Recreation					
Parks and recreation					
Number of county parks	9	9	9	9	10
Park acreage:					
Developed	562	562	562	562	630
Undeveloped	100	100	100	100	100
Total Park Acreage	662	662	662	662	730

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Gaston County, NC

FY 2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Compliance Section

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MARTIN ♦ STARNES
& ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.
"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
Gaston County, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States *(Government Auditing Standards)*, the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 4, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Gaston County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Gaston County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Gaston County's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
December 4, 2024

MARTIN ♦ STARNES
& ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.
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Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
Gaston County, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Gaston County, North Carolina's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission that could have a direct and material effect on each of Gaston County's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Gaston County's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, Gaston County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Gaston County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Gaston County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Gaston County's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Gaston County's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards,* the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act will always detect material non-compliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material non-compliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Gaston County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Gaston County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of Gaston County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Gaston County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed an instance of non-compliance which is required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs as item 2024-002. Our opinion on each major federal program is not modified with respect to this matter.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on Gaston County's response to the non-compliance finding identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs. Gaston County's response was not subjected to

not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, as described below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency*, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs as items 2024-001 and 2024-002 to be significant deficiencies.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on Gaston County's responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs. Gaston County's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
December 4, 2024

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Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program; Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
Gaston County, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program

Opinion on Each Major State Program

We have audited Gaston County, North Carolina's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission that could have a direct and material effect on each of Gaston County's major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Gaston County's major state programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, Gaston County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major State Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Gaston County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major state program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Gaston County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Gaston County's state programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Gaston County's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards,* the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act will always detect material non-compliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material non-compliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Gaston County's compliance with the requirements of each major state program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Gaston County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of Gaston County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Gaston County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, as described below, we did identify a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs as item 2024-001 to be a significant deficiency.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on Gaston County's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs. Gaston County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
December 4, 2024

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GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS, RESPONSES, AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

1. Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance to GAAP:	Unmodified			
Internal control over financial reporting:				
• Material weakness(es) identified?	_____	Yes	X	No
• Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	_____	Yes	X	None reported
Non-compliance material to financial statements noted?	_____	Yes	X	No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:				
• Material weakness(es) identified?	_____	Yes	_____	No
• Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	X	Yes	_____	None reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major federal programs:	Unmodified			
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	X	Yes	_____	No

Identification of major federal programs:

Program Title	AL#
Medicaid Cluster	93.778
COVID-19-Emergency Rental Assistance Program	21.023
Foster Care, Adoption, and Guardianship Assistance Cluster	93.658, 93.659
COVID-19-Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027
SNAP Cluster	10.561
WIOA Cluster	17.258, 17.259, 17.278

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs	$1,329,982			
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	_____	Yes	X	No

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS, RESPONSES, AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

State Awards

Internal control over major state programs:

• Material weakness(es) identified?	_____	Yes	_____	No
• Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	X	Yes	_____	None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major state programs: Unmodified

Any findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the State Single Audit Implementation Act?	X	Yes	_____	No

Identification of major state programs:

Program Title
Medicaid Cluster
Public School Building Capital Fund
Foster Care, Adoption, and Guardianship Assistance Cluster
Opioid Settlement Fund
State Directed Grant

Auditee qualified as state low-risk auditee?	_____	Yes	X	No

2. Financial Statements Findings

None noted.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS, RESPONSES, AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

3. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Passed through the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services
Program Name: Medical Assistance Program
AL# 93.778
Grant Number: XIX-MAP23 / XIX-MAP24
Program Name: Foster Care
AL# 93.658
Grant Number: 2301NCFOST / 2401NCFOST
Program Name: Adoption Assistance
AL# 93.659
Grant Number: 2301NCADPT / 2401NCADPT
Program Name: SNAP Cluster
AL# 10.561
Grant Number: 235NC406S2514 / 245NC406S2514

Significant Deficiency

Finding 2024-001

Criteria: In accordance with the Division of Social Services Fiscal Manual, DSS employees should control physical access to the state network terminals or personal computers that are connected to the state mainframe.

Condition: Upon surprise inspection, two unattended workstations of DSS employees were logged onto the state network.

Context: While performing testing of internal control over compliance related to the Division of Social Services, we noted the above condition.

Effect: Unauthorized access to the state system could be obtained due to the unattended logon to the system throughout the DSS building.

Cause: Lack of proper internal controls over data security.

Identification of a Repeat Finding: This is a modified, repeat finding from the immediate previous audit, 2023-003.

Questioned Costs: None. The finding represents an internal control issue; therefore, no questioned costs are applicable.

Recommendation: Require the County Data Processing Department to implement procedures to require logout of workstations where access to the state DSS system is granted. The control procedures should include random verification of logout in instances where offices are unattended.

Name of Contact Person: Michael Coone, Social Services Assistant Director

Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions: Management concurs with this finding and will adhere to the Corrective Action Plan in this audit report.

3. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs (continued)

U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration
Passed through the N.C. Dept. of Commerce
Program Name: WIOA Cluster
AL# 17.258, 17.259, 17.278
Grant Number: 23A55AY000007-01-00 / AA-38547-22-55-A-37

Significant Deficiency, Nonmaterial Non-Compliance Earmarking

Finding 2024-002

Criteria: In accordance with 20 CFR 681.590, local youth programs must expend not less than 20 percent of the funds allocated to them, except for the local area expenditures for administration, to provide paid and unpaid work experiences.

Condition: The County Department of Social Services failed to meet the required earmark percentage for paid and unpaid work experiences for Youth Activities.

Context: While performing tests over compliance related to the WIOA Cluster, we noted the above condition.

Questioned Costs: In accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)(3), auditors are required to report known questioned costs when likely questioned costs are greater than $25,000. The results of our compliance testing noted $34,440 in known questioned costs.

Effect: Program expenditures could be disproportionately paid across programs.

Cause: The County failed to monitor required earmarking for program specific requirements.

Recommendation: Require the County Program Directors to implement procedures to ensure that earmarking requirements are met.

Name of Contact Person: Michael Coone, Social Services Assistant Director

Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions: Management concurs with this finding and will adhere to the Corrective Action Plan in this audit report.

4. State Award Findings and Questioned Costs

Finding: 2024-001 – In accordance with the Division of Social Services Fiscal Manual, DSS employees should control physical access to the state network terminals or personal computers that are connected to the state mainframe. See more details at Finding 2024-001 in Section 3 Federal Award Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs.

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GASTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
330 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way • Gastonia, North Carolina 28052
Phone 704-862-7500 • www.gastonhhs.org

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Federal and State Awards Findings and Questioned Costs

Finding: 2024-001

Name of Contact Person: Michael Coone, Assistant Social Services Director

Criteria: In accordance with the Division of Social Services Fiscal Manual, DSS employees should control physical access to the state network terminals or personal computers that are connected to the state mainframe.

Recommendation: Require the County Data Processing Department to implement procedures to require logout of workstations where access to the state DSS system is granted. The control procedures should include random verification of logout in instances where offices are unattended.

Corrective Action/Management's Response: Management concurs with this finding and will adhere to the Corrective Action Plan in this audit report**.** The County has implemented the following process:

Awareness has been brought to the staff's attention by addressing the issue at the DSS all staff meetings. The DSS Business Services staff have been assigned areas to complete monthly random walk-throughs to ensure computers are locked when workers are away from their desks. Any workers found with unattended workstations are being recorded on a spreadsheet and reviewed by upper management. A progressive disciplinary process will follow for anyone found on this list.

Proposed Completion Date: Management and the Board will implement the above procedures immediately.

GASTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Federal and State Awards Findings and Questioned Costs

Finding: 2024-002

Name of Contact Person: Michael Coone, Assistant Social Services Director

Criteria: In accordance with 20 CFR 681.590, local youth programs must expend not less than 20 percent of the funds allocated to them, except for the local area expenditures for administration, to provide paid and unpaid work experiences.

Recommendation: Require the County Program Directors to implement procedures to ensure that earmarking requirements are met.

Corrective Action/Management's Response: Management concurs with this finding and will adhere to the Corrective Action Plan in this audit report**.** The County has implemented the following process:

Gaston County Workforce Development Board staff worked closely with the previous Youth service provider requesting them to assign 100% of their WEX specialist salary towards work-based learning expenses to obtain this goal. With a new service provider, Two Hawk Employment Services, their financial staff have budgeted 20% of all WEX related activities, salaries, staff costs, participant costs, etc. to meet the 20% goal. Gaston County WDB and Two Hawk Employment Services have adjusted staff day sheet logs to reflect 20% of staff activities to ensure all staff are assigning the work appropriately.

The Gaston County Workforce Development Board mandated in the service provider Youth contract to meet the 20% WEX Expenditure and future contract awards are determined on successfully meeting the expenditure requirement. Per the state's most recent *Youth Expenditure Report* at the end of October 2024, Gaston County Workforce Development Board is 76% towards meeting the goal.

The Workforce Development Board staff and management will continue to monitor monthly that 20% of all salaries and WEX activities are accurately reflected on all invoices and financials from Two Hawk Employment Services.

Proposed Completion Date: Management and the Board will implement the above procedures immediately with a completion date of June 30, 2025.

GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Finding: **2023-001**
Status: Corrected.

Finding: **2023-002**
Status: Corrected.

Finding: **2023-003**
Status: Modified and repeated as Finding 2024-001.

Finding: **2023-004**
Status: Corrected.

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COUNTY OF GASTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	State / Pass-through Grantor's Number	Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures	State Expenditures	Passed-through to Subrecipients	Local Expenditures
FEDERAL AWARDS:						
U. S. Department of Agriculture						
Food and Nutrition Service						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Division of Social Services:						
Administration:						
SNAP Cluster:						
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	235NC406S2514 / 245NC406S2514	$ 2,576,471	$ -	$ -	$ 2,576,471
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ARPA	10.561	235NC406S2514 / 245NC406S2514	91,387	-	-	-
Total SNAP Cluster			2,667,858	-	-	2,576,471
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Division of Public Health:						
WIC - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children:						
Administration	10.557	5NC700705 / 5NC700707	1,035,803	-	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			3,703,661	-	-	2,576,471
U. S. Department of Education						
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Public Instruction:						
Division of Federal Program Monitoring and Support:						
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287C	S287C200033	406,833	-	-	
Total U.S. Department of Education			406,833	-	-	-
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services						
Passed-through Centralina Council of Governments:						
Division of Aging and Adult Services:						
Aging Cluster:						
Special Programs for the Aging - TITLE III B Grants for Supportive Services and Senior Centers	93.044	23/24 AANCT3SS	287,041	545,323	-	-
COVID-19 - Special Programs for the Aging - TITLE III B Grants for Supportive Services and Senior Centers ARPA	93.044	2101NCSSC6	130,278	22,991	-	-
Special Programs for the Aging - TITLE III C Nutrition Services	93.045	23/24 AANC73HD	480,693	74,217	-	-
COVID-19 - Special Programs for the Aging - TITLE III C Nutrition Services ARPA	93.045	2101NCHDC6	151,784	26,785	-	-
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	93.053		42,653	-	-	-
Total Aging Cluster			1,092,449	669,316	-	-
National Family Caregiver Support - Title III Part E	93.052	23/24 AANCT3FC	74,983	4,999	-	-
Special Programs for the Aging - TITLE III D Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Services	93.043	23/24 AANCT3PH	3,400	200	-	-
Administration for Children and Families						
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families:						
Division of Social Services:						
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	2301NCTANF / 2401NCTANF	2,539,615	42,062	-	3,365,790
Division of Public Health:						
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	2301NCTANF	34,500	-	-	-
Total TANF			2,574,115	42,062	-	3,365,790
Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina						
Child Abuse and Neglect State Grants	93.669		400	-	-	-
Child Abuse and Neglect State Grants	93.669		34,733	-	-	-
Total Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina			35,133	-	-	-
Special Children Adoption Fund Cluster (Note 4):						
Mary Lee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families	93.556	2201NCFPSS / 2201NCFPSS	102,371	-	-	-
Mary Lee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families	93.556	2101NCFPSS / 2201NCFPSS	4,631	-	-	-
Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program:	93.645	2201NCCWSS/2301NCCWSS	58,074	-	-	-
Total Special Children Adoption Fund Cluster			165,076	-	-	-
Child Support Enforcement - Administration	93.563	2201NCCES / 2301NCCES	2,550,859	-	-	1,317,183
Refugee and Entrant Assistance Cluster (Note 4):						
Refugee and Entrant Assistance State/Replacement Designee Administered Programs - Administration	93.566	2001NCRCMA / 2101NCRCMA	23,826	-	-	-
Total Refugee and Entrant Assistance Cluster			23,826	-	-	-
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance:						
Administration	93.568	23B1NCLIEA/24B1NCLIEA	169,116	-	-	-
Energy Assistance Payments	93.568	23B1NCLIEA/24B1NCLIEA	-	2,800	-	-
Crisis Intervention Program	93.568	23B1NCLIEA/24B1NCLIEA	120,332	-	-	-
COVID-19 - LIHWAP ARP Admin	93.568	2101NCLWC6	1,950	-	-	-
COVID-19 - LIHWAP ARP	93.568	2101NCLWC5	114,216	-	-	-
Total Low-Income Home Energy Assistance			405,614	2,800	-	-
Subsidized Child Care / Child Care Development Fund Cluster (Note 4):						
Child Care Mandatory and Match Funds of the Child Care and Development Fund	93.596	G2201NCCCDF / G2301NCCCDF	449,931	-	-	-
Total Subsidized Child Care / Child Care Development Fund Cluster			449,931	-	-	-
Foster Care, Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Cluster (Note 4):						
Foster Care Title IV-E - Administration	93.658	2201NCFOST / 2301NCFOST	1,876,829	174,466	-	1,702,445
Foster Care Title IV-E - Direct Benefit Payments	93.658	2201NCFOST / 2301NCFOST	2,083,352	719,927	-	592,579
Adoption Assistance - Administration	93.659	2201NCADPT / 2301NCADPT	372,761	-	-	372,760
Adoption Assistance - Direct Benefit Payments	93.659	2201NCADPT / 2301NCADPT	4,167	2,083	-	1,430
Total Foster Care, Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Cluster			4,337,109	896,476	-	2,669,214
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) - Other Service and Training	93.667	2301NCSOSR & 2401NCSOSR	674,346	-	-	220,137
Division of Aging and Adult Services:						
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) - State In Home Service Fund	93.667	2301NCSOSR & 2401NCSOSR	83,490	-	-	11,927
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) - State Adult Day Care	93.667	2301NCSOSR & 2401NCSOSR	62,344	68,819	-	18,738
Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Program	93.747	2101NCAPC5	7,893	-	-	-
COVID-19 - Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Program ARPA	93.747	2101NCAPC6	23,036	-	-	-
John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Administration)	93.674	2203NCCILP/2303NCCILP	59,590	14,897	-	-
John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Benefit Payment)	93.674	2203NCCILP/2303NCCILP	13,336	-	-	-
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Administration:						
Division of NC Council for Women:						
Familiy Violence Prevention and Services / Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services	93.671	56-6000300	47,334	-	-	-
Shelter and Supportive Services FVPSA ARP Supplemental	93.671	56-6000300	49,926	-	-	-
Outreach Services for Prevention & Intervention of Family Violence	93.671	1000020926	12,905	-	-	9,684

COUNTY OF GASTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	State / Pass-through Grantor's Number	Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures	State Expenditures	Passed-through to Subrecipients	Local Expenditures
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention						
Direct Program:						
Environmental Public Health & Emergency Response	93.070	1UE2EH001343-01	99,829	-	-	2,149
Public Health Emergency Preparedness:						
Public Health Emergency Preparedness	93.069	5 NU90TP922002	60,520	-	-	-
Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Tuberculosis Control Programs:						
Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Tuberculosis Control Programs	93.116	6 NU52PS910218-03	21	-	-	-
Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Tuberculosis Control Programs	93.116	6 NU52PS910218-04	29	-	-	-
Total Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Tuberculosis Control Program			50	-	-	-
Immunization Cooperative Agreements:						
Immunization Cooperation Agreements	93.268	6NH23IP922624-05-01/6 NH23IP922624-05-00	58,084	-	-	-
COVID 19 Immunization Cooperation Agreements	93.268	6NH23IP922624	30,305	-	-	-
Total Immunization Cooperative Agreements			88,389	-	-	-
Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC)						
Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC)	93.323	6NU50CK000530-01-04/6NU50CK000530-02-06	553,987	-	-	-
COVID-19 - Support for County Confinement Facilities	93.323	NCDHHS GCT1007	8,519			
Total Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC)			562,506	-	-	-
Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant	93.991	NB01OT009251	27,816	-	-	-
Cancer Prevention and Control Programs for State, Territorial and Tribal Organizations	93.898	5NU58DP006281-05	18,430	-	-	-
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Collaboration w/ Academia to Strengthen PH	93.967	1 NE11OE000015-01-00	12,042	-	-	-
HIV Cluster:						
HIV Prevention Activities - Health Department Based	93.940	5NU62PS924527	28,000	-	-	-
Total HIV Cluster			28,000	-	-	-
HIV Prevention Activites Health Department Based						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Prevention and Control Grants	93.977	5NH25PS005152	42	-	-	-
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Division of Medical Assistance:						
Medicaid Cluster:						
Medical Assistance Program - Administration	93.778	XIX-MAP22 / XIX-MAP23	6,767,721	217,704	-	3,231,014
Total Medicaid Cluster			6,767,721	217,704	-	3,231,014
Division of Social Services:						
Children's Health Insurance Program - Administration	93.767	CHIP22 / CHIP23	496,808	6,448	-	144,541
Health Resources and Service Administration						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Division of Public Health:						
Maternal and Child Health Federal Consolidated Programs:						
Maternal and Child Health Federal Consolidated Programs	93.110	U7AMC33712-01	1,250	-	-	-
COVID-19- Public Health Emergency Response:						
Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant	93.870	1X10MC43599-01-00	132,671	-	-	-
Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant	93.870	1 X10MC397050100	330,558	-	-	-
Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant	93.870	X11MC41930-01-00	5,330	-	-	-
Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant	93.870	1X11MC45295-01-00	28,640	-	-	-
Total Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Homevisiting Grant Program			497,199			
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994	B04MC45234	25,940	19,457	-	-
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994	B04MC47436	36,483	-	-	-
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994	6 B04MC52943-01-01	12,108	-	-	-
Total Maternal and Child Health Service s Block Grant to the States			74,531	19,457		
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration						
COVID-19 - Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	93.959	B08TI083959	122,547	-	-	-
Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services:						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services:						
Family Planning Services	93.217	6 FPHPA006555-01-01	137,624	-	-	-
Passed-through Wake Forest University Health Sciences:						
National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program	93.889	2122-45501-11000002161	5,500	-	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Health and Human Services			21,747,499	1,943,178	-	10,990,377
U. S. Department of Homeland Security						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Public Safety:						
Emergency Management:						
Emergency Management Performance Grant	97.042	EMPG-2020-00009-2020035	81,573	-	-	-
Homeland Security Grant Program	97.067	EMW-2022-SS-00018	65,000	-	-	-
Homeland Security Grant Program	97.067	EMW-2021-SS-00039	2,443	-	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Homeland Security			149,016	-	-	-
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development						
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development						
Passed through N. C. Department of Commerce						
Community Development Block Grant/State's Program and Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii	14.228	18-C-3073	531,928	-	-	-
Passed-through the N. C. Housing Finance Agency:						
Home Investment Partnerships Program	14.239	M15-SG370100	13,253	-	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			545,181	-	-	-
U. S. Department of Justice						
Direct Program:						
Equitable Sharing Program	16.922		149,866	-	-	-
Bureau of Justice Assistance						
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	16.606	15PBJA-22-RR-05030-SCAA	29,242	-	-	-
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services						
Direct Program:						
Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	16.710	2020UMWX0123	216,936	-	-	114,867
Office of Justice Programs						
Direct Program:						
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-21-GG-01644-JAGX	12,416	-	-	-
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-22-GG-02333-JAGX	59,735	-	-	-
Comprehesive Opioid, Stimulant, and other Substances Use Program	16.838	15PBJA-21-GG-04492-COAP	354,931	-	-	-
Comprehesive Opioid, Stimulant, and other Substances Use Program	16.838	15PBJA-22-GG-04462-COAP	289,305	-	-	-
Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program	16.043	15PBJA-23-GG-05272-VTCX	18,273	-	-	-

COUNTY OF GASTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	State / Pass-through Grantor's Number	Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures	State Expenditures	Passed-through to Subrecipients	Local Expenditures
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Public Safety:						
Division of Governor's Crime Commission:						
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	2020-V2-GX-0057	12,173	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	2000071168	7,864	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI	3,895	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI	43,120	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI	18,845	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-23-GG-00451-ASSI	3,635	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	2000071022	93,692	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-22-GG-00774-ASSI	118,482	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-22-GG-00774-ASSI	102,297	-	-	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	15POVC-22-GG-00774-ASSI	23,929	-	-	-
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-22-GG-00633-JAGX	9,993	-	-	-
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-22-GG-00633-JAGX	22,416	-	-	-
Office on Violence Against Women						
Direct Program:						
Transitional Housing Assistance for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault	16.736	2017-WH-AX-0057	140,666	-	140,666	-
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Public Safety:						
Division of Governor's Crime Commission:						
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	16.588	15JOV2-22-GG-004360STOP	5,170	-	-	-
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	16.588	2000071015	122,861	-	-	33,549
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	16.588	15JOV2-22-GG-004360STOP	57,637	-	-	-
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	16.588	2000071074	74,760	-	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Justice			1,992,139	-	140,666	148,416
U. S. Department of Labor						
Employment and Training Administration						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Commerce:						
Division of Workforce Solutions:						
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Cluster (Note 4):						
WIOA Adult Program:	17.258					
Administration		23A55AY000007-01-00	48,847	-	-	-
Program Costs		23A55AY000007-01-00	369,403	-	-	-
WIOA Youth Activities:	17.259					
Administration		AA-38547-22-55-A-37	21,075	-	-	-
Program Costs		AA-38547-22-55-A-37	147,671	-	-	-
Administration		23A55AY000007-01-00	27,305	-	-	-
Program Costs		23A55AY000007-01-00	247,413	-	-	-
WIOA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants:	17.278					
Administration		AA-38547-22-55-A-37	16,871	-	-	-
Program Costs		AA-38547-22-55-A-37	22,291	-	-	-
Administration		23A55AY000007-01-00	20,757	-	-	-
Program Costs		23A55AY000007-01-00	252,398	-	-	-
WIOA Youth Activities Industry Sector Partnership:	17.259					
Program Costs		23A55AY000007-01-00	1,024	-	-	-
WIOA Youth Activities Virtural Reality Grant:	17.259					
Program Costs		23A55AY000007-01-00	5,000	-	-	-
Total Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Cluster			1,180,055	-	-	-
Employment Service Cluster (Note 4):						
Employment Service/Wagner-Peyser Funded Activities	17.207					
Program Costs		aA-38547-22-55-A-37	17,609	-	-	-
Total Employment Service Cluster			17,609	-	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Labor			1,197,664	-	-	-
U. S. Department of Transportation						
Federal Transit Administration						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Transportation						
Transportation Planning Branch:						
Highway Planning, Research, and Construction Cluster						
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	CMAC-000S(899)	24,459	-	-	6,115
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	CMAC-000S(911)	40,826	-	-	10,206
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	CMAQ-0114(003)	39,563	-	-	9,891
Total Highway Planning, Research, and Construction Cluster			104,848	-	-	26,212
Public Transportation Division:						
Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program:						
5311 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security	20.509	NC-220-011-00 / 24-CT-008	167,892	10,491	-	-
Total U. S. Department of Transportation			272,740	10,491	-	26,212
U. S. Department of the Treasury						
Department of the Treasury						
Direct Program:						
Equitable Sharing Program	21.016		166,307	-	-	-
COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program	21.023		1,160,293	-	-	-
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027		8,772,298	-	-	-
Division of Public Health:						
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	SLFRP0129	7,933	-	-	-
Pass-through N. C. Pandemic Recovery Office:						
COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program	21.023		4,094,868	-	-	-
Pass-through N.C. Human Trafficking Commission						
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds						
COVID-19 N.C. Human Trafficking Commission Funding for Victims of Domestic Violence	21.027		57,738			1,112
COVID-19 N.C. Human Trafficking Commission Funding for Victims of Sexual Assault	21.027		50,574			1,256
			108,312	-	-	2,368
Total U. S. Department of the Treasury			14,310,011	-	-	2,368
U. S. Institute of Museum and Library Services						
Passed-through the N. C. Department of Cultural Resources:						
Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) State Grant - Grants to States	45.310	LS-253645-OLS-23	8,000	-	-	-
Total U. S. Institute of Museum and Library Services			8,000	-	-	-
Total Federal Awards			44,332,744	1,953,669	140,666	13,743,844

COUNTY OF GASTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	State / Pass-through Grantor's Number	Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures	State Expenditures	Passed-through to Subrecipients	Local Expenditures
STATE AWARDS:						
N. C. Administration Office of the Courts						
Innovative Court Program				21,878	-	-
Total N.C. Administration Office of the Courts				21,878		
N. C. Department of Administration						
NC Council for Women and Domestic Violence Commission:						
Displaced Homemaker Grant		1000018498		19,000	-	-
Domestic Violence Program		1000018498		57,196	-	12,195
Marriage License Grant		1000018498		20,078	-	-
Sexual Assault		1000018498		32,462		6,541
				128,736		18,736
Office of Fiscal Management:						
Veterans Services State Matching Funds				2,174	-	-
Total N. C. Department of Administration				130,910	-	18,736
N. C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services						
Division of Soil and Water Conservation:						
N. C. Agriculture Cost Share - Technical Assistance		21-035-4010		23,245	-	-
Gaston County Natural Resources Conservation District - Matching Funds		21-035-4010		3,600	-	-
Total N. C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services				26,845	-	-
N. C. Department of Commerce						
Division of Rural Economic Development						
One NC Fund Grant		2021-27987		50,000	-	25,000
Total N.C. Department of Commerce				50,000	-	25,000
N. C. Department of Cultural and Natural Resources						
State Library of North Carolina:						
State Aid to Public Libraries				291,570	-	-
Total N. C. Department of Cultural Resources				291,570	-	-
N. C. Department of Health and Human Services						
Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina:						
Children's Advocacy Centers Grant		NCDHHS GCT 1007		118,553	-	-
Total Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina				118,553	-	-
Division of Aging and Adult Services:						
Senior Center General Purpose				11,093	-	903
Total Division of Aging and Adult Services				11,093	-	903
Division of Public Health:						
Other Reciepts / State Supported Expenditures:						
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control		133300 2B05599 2000000000		13,245	-	-
Child Health		132105 2D05745 2000000000		12,534	-	-
DPH General Aid to Counties		131204 2B14110 2000000000		156,877	-	-
Family Planning - State		133000 2B25735 2000000000		13,521	-	-
Food and Lodging Fees		131106 2B04752 200SZ00000		39,831	-	-
General Communicable Disease Control		131304 2B14510 2000000000		28,152	-	-
Healthy Beginnings		133000 2B35116 2000000000		80,000	-	-
Healthy Communities		132001 2B15503 2000000000		3,747	-	-
High Risk Maternity Clinics		133000 2B15746 2000000000		100,387	-	-
HIV / STD - State		133200 2B04601 20G0169002/133200 2B04541 20G0169002		125,767	-	-
Maternal Health		133000 2B15740 2000000000		100,476	-	-
Nurse Family Partnership		132105 2D05020 2000000000		1,753	-	-
Public Health Pest Management		131304 2B14801 2000000000		3,856	-	-
School Nurse Funding Initiative		133406 2D05358 2000000000		100,000	-	-
State Fiscal Recovery Funds		230329 2B0249N 200TT00000		187,195	-	-
Supporting Women Health Services		133000 2B15110 2000000000		33,498	-	-
TPPI - Adolescent Pregancy Prevention Program		133403 2B25150 20G060002		180,780	-	-
Women Health Service Fund		133000 2B26021 20G0079004		22,082		
Tuberculosis Control		134600 2B24551 2000000000		31,362	-	-
Total Division of Public Health				1,235,063	-	-
Division of Social Services:						
Adoption / Foster Care		WC 302	-	146,571	-	-
AFDC Incentive Payments		WC 302		1,023	-	-
Child Protective Services - State		WC 302		96,499	-	-
Child Welfare In-Home Expansion		WC 302		176,935	-	-
Non IV-E Foster Care Extended		WC 302		81,125	-	-
Smart Start - Administration		WC 302		157,056	-	-
State Foster Care - Direct Benefits Program:						
State Foster Care		WC 302		340,843	-	288,928
State Foster Care Maximization		WC 302		316,630	-	248,532
Foster Care At Risk		WC 302		7,784	-	-
Foster Care At Risk Maximization		WC 302		2,253	-	1,068
Foster Care Kinship		WC 302		37,647	-	37,647
Total Division of Social Services			-	1,364,366	-	576,175
Total N. C. Department of Health and Human Services			-	2,729,075	-	577,078
N.C. Department of Information Technology						
Board & Commissions						
N.C. 911 Board		PR2024-57		6,090	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Information Technology				6,090	-	-
N.C. Human Trafficking Commission						
N.C. Human Trafficking Commission Funding for Facility Improvements				17,406	-	-
Total N. C. Human Trafficking Commission				17,406	-	-
N. C. Department of Public Instruction						
Public School Building Capital Fund - Lottery Proceeds				2,150,289	-	2,904,711
Total N. C. Department of Public Instruction				2,150,289	-	2,904,711
N. C. Department of Public Safety:						
Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice:						
Juvenile Crime Prevention Programs				679,265	679,265	133,193
Total N. C. Department of Public Safety				679,265	679,265	133,193
N. C. Department of Transportation						
DOT Cluster:						
ROAP Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (E&DTAP)		DOT-16CL		120,921	-	-
ROAP Employment Transportation Program (EMPL)		DOT-16CL		66	-	-
ROAP Rural General Public Program (RGP)		DOT-16CL		98,813	-	-
Total DOT Cluster				219,800	-	-
Total N. C. Department of Transportation				219,800	-	-

COUNTY OF GASTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	State / Pass-through Grantor's Number	Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures	State Expenditures	Passed-through to Subrecipients	Local Expenditures
N. C. Housing Trust Fund						
NC Housing Finance Agency:						
Urgent Repair Program		URP2312		67,585	-	-
Urgent Repair Program		URP2208		54,950	-	4,218
Total N. C. Housing Trust Fund				122,535	-	4,218
N. C. Partnership for Children						
Smart Start:						
Child Care Health Consultant		3-90-5-16-001		109,934	-	-
Triple P Parenting Program		3-90-5-16-003		61,175	-	-
Total N. C. Partnership for Children				171,109	-	-
N. C. Office of State Budget and Management						
State Directed Grant		20852		651,725	-	232,554
State Directed Grant		20851		453,950	-	32,239
State Directed Grant		20853		7,764	-	-
Total N.C. Office of State Budget and Management				1,113,439	-	264,793
Total State Awards			-	7,730,211	679,265	3,927,729
OTHER AWARDS:						
N. C. Department of Justice						
Opioid Settlement Fund (Note 5)				678,814	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Justice				678,814	-	-
Total Federal and State Awards			$ 44,332,744	$ 10,362,694	$ 819,931	$ 17,671,573

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Financial Awards:

1 Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards (SEFSA) includes the federal and State grant activity of Gaston County under the programs of the federal government and the State of North Carolina for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information in this SEFSA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principals, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Because the SEFSA presents only a selected portion of the operations of Gaston County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of Gaston County.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in the SEFSA are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement.

3 Indirect Cost Rate

Gaston County has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

4 Cluster of Programs

The following are clustered by the NC Department of Health and Human Services and are treated separately for state audit requirement purposes:

Special Children Adoption Fund, Refugee and Entrant Assistance, Foster Care, Adoption Assistance and Guardianship Assistance Cluster, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Clusters, Subsidized Childcare Cluster, Highway Planning, Research and Construction Cluster, and HIV Cluster

5 Opioid Settlement Fund

The N.C. Department of Justice does not consider Opioid Settlement Funds either Federal or State financial assistance since they are from a settlement with private major drug companies. Since these funds are subject to the State Single Audit Implementation Act, they are reported as "Other Awards" on the SEFSA, and considered State Awards for State single audit requirements.

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