



POLICY GOALS

The following long-term goals were reviewed and approved by Department Heads to guide the development of departmental budgets. These goals reflect the focus of County departments in their allocation of resources to the most important areas. All departments are aware that these goals are dependent on available financial and staffing resources. Many of these goals are continuing in nature and do not imply the end will be achieved within the current budget period. There are seven functional policy goals, outlining the focus of services provided directly by the County and educational organizations that receive substantial financial assistance. Many County services satisfy more than one policy goal. In addition, there are three goals designed to promote quality of service; service standards that are expected from all county departments and that clarify our fiscal responsibilities to citizens.

Functional Policy Goals

General Government – Provide policy leadership and manage public resources to enable the efficient delivery of County services to citizens.

Administration - Oversee the implementation of public policy as determined by elected officials. Deliver operational support to all county departments as well as coordinate effectively with federal and state agencies and local organizations.

Information Technology - Enhance the delivery of County governmental services to the public through the effective use of technology.

Tax - Accurately identify, list, appraise and bill all taxable real and personal property in Randolph County as governed by North Carolina General Statutes. Effectively collect Randolph County property taxes, ambulance charges and other tax assessments and exercise the enforced collection remedies considered necessary and appropriate under North Carolina General Statutes.

Elections - Provide fair and honest administration of all federal, state and local elections, and enforce campaign finance laws, rules, and regulations.

Register of Deeds - Maintain the security, integrity, and public access to land, vital and other public records entrusted to the Register of Deeds.

Public Buildings - Provide safe and functional facilities for the employees and citizens of Randolph County and properly maintain the named-road sign program for the 911 emergency system.

Public Safety - Provide a safe community for all Randolph County citizens and visitors.

Sheriff - Protect and serve the citizens of Randolph County by relentlessly prosecuting criminals, while supporting the rights of all citizens to liberty, equality, and justice. Provide safe public educational facilities for the children of Randolph County by maintaining the established partnership with the schools and their officials in the deployment of school resource officers.

Emergency Services - Protect our community by preventing and minimizing loss of life, pain and suffering, property loss, and environmental damage from fire, natural disasters, and medical emergencies by offering education, prevention, and emergency response. Promote a responsive public safety communications center with employees that are highly skilled in responding to the emergency needs of citizens and visitors.

Building Inspections - Promote the public safety, health, and general welfare of the citizens and visitors to Randolph County through the administration and enforcement of the State Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing Codes.

Adult Day Reporting Center - Provide structured supervised programs for court-involved adults in a cost-effective and efficient manner to increase public safety and assist participants to progress toward achievement and accomplishment as productive members of the community.

Juvenile Day Reporting Center - Provide multiple services to court-involved youth, at risk youth, and their families to help ensure the safety of the community, the well-being of the juveniles, and to help the juveniles make positive life decisions in the future.

Economic and Physical Development - Manage the County's growth and improve the standard of living through sustainable economic and infrastructure development as well as support and encouragement of traditional commerce.

Planning & Zoning - Develop and administer a comprehensive and strategic planning program designed to maintain quality and sustainable growth within Randolph County.

Cooperative Extension - Partner with North Carolina Cooperative Extension to deliver education and technical assistance that enriches the lives, land and economy of citizens. Extension professionals provide education based on research from North Carolina's land-grant universities, NC State University and NC A&T State University.

Soil & Water Conservation - Develop and carry out programs for the conservation, protection and development of soil, water and related plant and animal resources within Randolph County by cooperating with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation, working hand in hand with the American people to conserve natural resources on private lands. Promote environmental stewardship on farms, in forests, on public lands, in communities and at home through conservation education and other best management practices for water, air and soil quality.

Environmental Protection – Protect the environment for future generations and provide sustainable solutions to current demands.

Public Works - Protect the environment through safe and efficient solid waste disposal, solid waste reduction and other disposal methods for all types of solid waste. Assist in the development of safe, comfortable and efficient facilities for all departments, economical development projects and Board of Commissioners requests through quality engineering practices.

Human Services - Improve the quality of life and ensure the personal health and welfare of all Randolph County citizens, including determination of available state and federal programs that address individual needs.

Public Health - Preserve, protect, and improve the health of the community by the collection and dissemination of health information, education and service programs aimed at the prevention of disease, protection of the environment, and improvement of the quality of life for our citizens. Improve access to health care, increase preventive services, reduce lifestyle-related risks, and reduce outbreaks of infectious disease and other public health threats.

Social Services - Provide residents access to programs that promote economic independence and family stability and still preserve the dignity of the family/individual. Enroll citizens in social economic programs that assist with basic subsistence needs.

Child Support Services - Assist families with children by enforcing the collection of child support payments.

Veterans Services – Provide technical assistance to Randolph County veterans and their dependents, assuring that all VA claimants have consistent availability of qualified representation and assistance in obtaining benefits administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Cultural and Recreational – Promote literacy and other programs that improve our citizens’ enjoyment of life.

Public Library - Provide for the informational and reading needs of citizens at library sites, through remote access, and to homebound and institutional patrons.

Education - Improve the standard of living for Randolph County citizens through educational opportunities.

Provide supplemental financial support for the current operating expenses and capital needs of public schools.

Provide supplemental financial support for the current operating expenses and capital needs of Randolph Community College.

Service Delivery Goals

Advance efficient operation of County business through investment in electronic technology.

- Enhance the County's technology resources to provide greater public access, efficient internal operations, and improved electronic communications.
- Expand and enhance departmental web sites to ensure the public's awareness of all services provided by County departments, as well as keeping the public informed of decisions and/or policies made by County officials.
- Continue the use of the Internet and Geographic Information System (GIS) resources to support E911, Planning, Tax, Inspection, and data exchange services and provide support services to initiatives involving mapping, disaster planning and response, and health service programs.

Maintain prompt, courteous, and professional services from all County employees

- Ensure satisfaction with County services by encouraging and educating employees to respond to services and/or inquiries requested by the public, or by other County departments, in a prompt, courteous, and professional manner.
- Support a competitive compensation and benefits package that will ensure our ability to attract, recruit and retain highly competent employees in our marketplace.
- Ensure that qualified and skilled personnel are recruited and hired for all job vacancies.
- Maximize productivity and improve efficiencies by providing appropriate training to employees, including awareness and understanding of County policies and procedures.
- Promote safety by providing routine maintenance and safety inspections of County facilities and equipment, as well as offering safety training to all employees.

Ensure the County's financial stability, promote fiscal responsibility, and protect public resources.

- Maintain the property tax rate as low as economically possible while providing essential services to citizens of Randolph County.
- Encourage all departments to closely monitor expenditures through regular review of operational and administrative costs and to initiate cost-cutting efforts.
- Encourage all departments to aggressively collect revenue due to the County and seek alternate forms of revenue whenever possible, such as grants and user fees.
- Maintain an unassigned fund balance of at least 20 percent of the total General Fund budget in order to have adequate reserves to offset revenue volatility, to maintain liquidity despite the timing of cash inflows/outflows, and to meet unforeseen contingencies.
- Incorporate discussion of capital improvement needs as an integral part of the annual budget process.
- Maintain or improve the current bond ratings with Moody's and Standard and Poor's.
- Schedule debt for repayment on the basis of the entire outstanding debt, not just the individual issue, in a manner which seeks to reduce fluctuation in the total tax rate.
- Protect the County through legal documents that minimize litigation.
- Continue risk management to reduce uncertainties regarding potential losses to assets, maintain continuity of services to the public, and support the integrity of the budget.
- Continue to achieve at least a 99 percent collection rate of ad valorem property taxes.

Matrix Linking Policy Goals with County Departments

POLICY GOAL:	General Government	Public Safety	Economic and Physical Development	Environmental Protection	Human Services	Cultural and Recreational	Education	Efficiency Through Electronic Technology	Prompt, Courteous & Professional Service	Financial Stability
General Government:										
Governing Body	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Administration	x							x	x	x
Information Technology	x							x	x	x
Tax	x							x	x	x
Elections	x							x	x	x
Register of Deeds	x							x	x	x
Public Buildings	x							x	x	x
Public Safety:										
Sheriff		x						x	x	x
Emergency Services		x						x	x	x
Building Inspections		x						x	x	x
Adult Day Reporting Center		x						x	x	x
Juvenile Day Reporting Center		x						x	x	x
Other Public Safety Appropriations		x						x	x	x
Economic and Physical Development:										
Planning and Zoning			x					x	x	x
Cooperative Extension Services			x					x	x	x
Soil and Water Conservation			x					x	x	x
Other Economic and Physical Development Appropriations			x							
Environmental Protection:										
Public Works				x				x	x	x
Human Services:										
Public Health					x			x	x	x
Social Services					x			x	x	x
Veteran Services					x			x	x	x
Child Support Services					x			x	x	x
Other Human Services Appropriations					x					
Cultural and Recreational:										
Public Library						x		x	x	x
Other Cultural and Recreational Appropriations						x				
Education:										
Education Appropriations							x			