The Wake Forest Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025. Mayor Vivian Jones and the five commissioners were present.

Watch the Meeting

The October 21 meeting is available on demand. The meeting agenda, including links to specific agenda items, is provided with the video offering easy viewing access to particular items of interest.

Meeting Summary

An overview of the Board's actions is provided below.

Please note: This summary should not be viewed as official minutes. To view the meeting minutes, visit the <u>BOC page</u> on the Town website or contact Town Clerk <u>Evelyn Wright</u>.

Presentations

- A. Proclamation Recognizing November 2025 as "Native American Heritage Month"
- B. Presentation of Annual Reports from the Town's Advisory Boards
- C. Introduction of Candidates for the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board
- D. Proclamation Recognizing October 2025 as "Community Planning Month"

Public Hearings/Public Comment

- A. Public Hearing on the Towns of Wake Forest and Youngsville Annexation Agreement Update
 - No one spoke
- B. Public Hearing on LEGISLATIVE CASE RZ-18-15, Grove 98 PUD Amendment #4, a request submitted by Jordan Petersen on behalf of Wegmans Food Markets, Inc., to amend the existing Grove 98 Planned Unit Development (PUD) District for approximately 14.0 acres located at 11051 Ligon Mill Road, being Wake County Tax PIN 1830769192.
 - o Jordan Petersen spoke
- C. Public Comment the following people spoke (topic(s) provided on sign-up form shown in parentheses):
 - Abby Black (Public Comment Policy)
 - o Tom Baker IV (General comment)
 - Jennifer Amyx (N/a)
 - o Margaret Watkins (Wegmans & public comment)

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #2 for FY 2025-2026
- B. Approval of FY2025-2026 Senior Center General Purpose Funding Application and Project Submission

Board of Adjustment & Planning Board Appointments

The Board reappointed Ken Christie, Rick Porter, and William Hendrick to the Board of Adjustment. The Board also appointed Heather Bradley and Richard Adams to full terms on the Planning Board and Brandon Panameno to fill an unexpired term.

Wake Forest & Youngsville Annexation Agreement

The Towns of Wake Forest and Youngsville entered into an annexation agreement in 2007. The approved agreement was for a term not to exceed 20 years. Since we are approaching the end of the 20-year term, Wake Forest and Youngsville are proposing to extend the annexation agreement for a period of 10 years in accordance with NCGS 160A Part 6. Annexation Agreements. The Town of Youngsville held their public hearing and approved the annexation agreement on October 9, 2025. The Board voted unanimously to extend the annexation agreement.

LEGISLATIVE CASE RZ-18-15, Grove 98 PUD Amendment #4

A public comment session on the requested amendment was held at the September 9, 2025, Planning Board meeting. The Planning Board voted 5-0 to find the request inconsistent with the Community Plan but nevertheless reasonable and in the public interest and recommended approval of the requested amendment. Planning staff presented the requested amendment to the Board of Commissioners at its October 7, 2025, work session. The Board unanimously approved the requested amendment.

LAPP Funding Request

Smith Creek Greenway Phases 2 and 3, a combined project, would fill a critical gap in the Town of Wake Forest's greenway network, connecting over 60,000 people to Raleigh and the region via the adjacent Neuse River Greenway. Kimley-Horn, project engineer, prepared a preliminary cost estimate associated with our 90% construction drawings. The opinion of probable costs (OPCC) for Smith Creek Greenway Phase 2, Phase 3, and the trailhead is approximately \$19.2 million. This cost estimate includes construction, contingency, construction oversight, and mitigation fees. To assist with the escalating costs on infrastructure projects, staff is pursuing \$4 million dollars in FY27 LAPP funding to help offset the estimate project costs. The Board unanimously approved the request.

Go Wake Forest Fares

As part of the Town's ongoing commitment to providing safe, reliable, and affordable transit to residents and visitors of Wake Forest, Town staff is proposing to update the Go Wake Forest fare policy. At the October 7 Board of Commissioners Work Session, the Board reviewed and discussed the proposed Go Wake Forest fare implementation, which included a tiered fare rate based on distance traveled and a reduced fare program for certain qualifiers. A fare initiation date of January 1, 2026, was proposed at this meeting by the Town's transit partner, Via. However, to ensure ample time for outreach towards transit-dependent riders, staff is proposing a February 1, 2026, initiation date. The Board unanimously approved the tiered fare rate contingent upon a six-month review from the initiation date.

Proposed Alcohol Sales at 2026 Meet in the Street

For Meet in the Street 2026, the Wake Forest Chamber Foundation is requesting a waiver of the alcohol ordinance from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., to serve alcohol to customers in an approved, clear container. It would further allow event visitors to carry and consume said beverages within the contained event area. The Board unanimously approved a waiver of the ordinance from noon to 4 p.m.

Public Comment Policy

The Board unanimously approved a <u>formal policy</u> to ensure a fair and equitable process to hear comments while properly maintaining the order and decorum of Board Meetings.

View Meetings Live & On Demand

Board of Commissioners meetings can be viewed both live and on demand by visiting our **Public Meetings Portal**.

After their original air date, meetings are made available in streaming video and featured in a convenient scroll-down menu.

Meeting agendas, including links to specific agenda items, are provided with each video offering easy viewing access to particular items of interest.

Board of Commissioners meetings are also shown live on <u>Wake Forest TV 10</u> - the Town of Wake Forest's government access channel - then re-broadcast daily throughout the remainder of the month at 9 a.m., 3 p.m., and 9 p.m.

Available to Wake Forest residents and businesses that subscribe to Spectrum Cable TV service, **WFTV 10** is also provided on the Town website in real-time streaming video.

BOC Meeting Summaries

Board of Commissioners Meeting Summaries are issued by the Communications & Public Affairs Department following the Board's monthly meetings, which are typically scheduled at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. To receive each month's meeting summary via email, sign up for <u>E-Notifier</u>.