

FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

JUNE 9, 2025

POTENTIAL SPENDING AND TAX RATE REDUCTIONS:

PER REQUESTS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Budget Category	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
		<u>Equivalent</u>
GENERAL FUND		
Salary and Benefits Reductions	\$1,800,000	0.47
Convention Center Subsidy	100,000	0.03
General Fund Subtotal	\$1,900,000	0.50
TRANSIT FUND		
Transit Service Reductions	\$1,300,000	0.30
Transit Fund Subtotal	\$1,300,000	0.30
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,200,000	0.80

*Amounts above are rounded. Ordinances for adoption will reflect actual amounts to account for rounding errors.

COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

- 2% IN JULY (COLA AND PAY SCALES ADJUSTMENT)
- 2% IN JANUARY (MERIT)
- PROVIDES FOR FIRST CYCLE OF THREE-YEAR CLASSIFICATION REVIEW FOR ALL POSITIONS
- GENERAL FUND REDUCTION:
 \$1.8 MILLION (SALARY AND BENEFITS)

City and County Proposed COLA/Merit Adjustments: Local Market Peers

Jurisdiction	<u>Proposed Average</u> <u>COLA/Merit</u>
Forsyth County	4.4%
Greensboro	4.0%
Guilford County	3.0%
High Point	3.0%

*Average of other cities proposed COLA and merit is 3.6%.

TRANSIT FUND RECOMMENDATION

W-S DOT Staff Recommendation

- Reduce fixed route weekday evening services
 - Reductions to save \$1.3 million
- Generally, routes would stop at 9:30 p.m. (currently 12:30 a.m.)
 - Varies by route; estimated 12.6% reduction in weekday service hours
 - Would negotiate routes/times with transit provider to minimize impact on ridership

Other reduction options include:

- Cuts to Saturday service
- Route elimination (lowest use routes)