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## STAFF REPORTS

April 2026 Regular Meeting

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## Police Department News

Officers Vincent Bongiorno, Luke Saternow, and Lee Simpson attended the INTOX Operator Course March 2-6 at Fire Station 51. This course trains law enforcement officers on the operation of the breath testing instrument, and the applicable NC administrative codes, general statutes, and policies that govern evidential breath alcohol testing and implied consent offenses.

Officer Nathan Silos attended Community Oriented Policing training March 2-4 at the North Carolina Justice Academy. This course is for personnel actively engaged in community policing initiatives within their agency.

Officer Nathan Rogers attended a General Instructor Training Class March 2-18 at Cape Fear Community College. This course is intended for criminal justice personnel planning to teach any course mandated by the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission.

Sergeants Andrew Gaston, Chandler Guy, Chris Lewis, and Andrew Terry attended the sixth and final week of the Law Enforcement Executive Program March 9-11 at NC State University. This is an ongoing program that builds initiative-taking leadership among law enforcement executives by enabling them to manage their most critical current and future challenges effectively.

Sergeant Gaston and Detective Shannon Walker attended the Domestic Violence Institute Training March 16-20 at the North Carolina Justice Academy. This training is intended to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively respond to and investigate domestic violence incidents and provide trauma-informed responses to victims.


Lieutenants James Almond and Dallas Warren and Sergeant James Munger attended Firearms Training March 18-20 in Bethel. This training is for firearm instructors and focuses on aspects related to teaching firearms training.

Officers Bongiorno, Conor Montanye, and Joseph Cappuccilli attended Crisis Intervention Training March 23-27 at the New Hanover County Sheriff's Office. This course provides officers with the skills needed to respond to incidents involving individuals with a mental health or substance use crisis, and those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Officer Joseph Benson attended First Call Training March 23-24 at Cape Fear Community College. This training is designed to assist first-line responders from child protective services and law enforcement in obtaining information from potential child and adolescent victims or witnesses at case initiation.

Lieutenant Bryan Reid attended Fundamentals for Investigative Process Training March 24-26 at Cape Fear Community College. This training covers the basics of investigations and different methods for obtaining information.

Sergeant Munger and Detective Robeson attended Suicide Investigation Training March 24-25 at the North Carolina Justice Academy. This course is intended to provide details and recommendations on how to investigate a death by suicide.



Officers Bongiorno, Cappuccilli, Silos, Jason Clemente, and Harrison Hart attended Verbal Judo March 30-April 1 at Cape Fear Community College. This training provides technical and practical skills needed to use "presence of words" to calm difficult people who may be under severe emotional or other influences, redirect the behavior of hostile people, defuse potentially dangerous situations, perform professionally under all conditions, and achieve the desired outcome in an encounter.

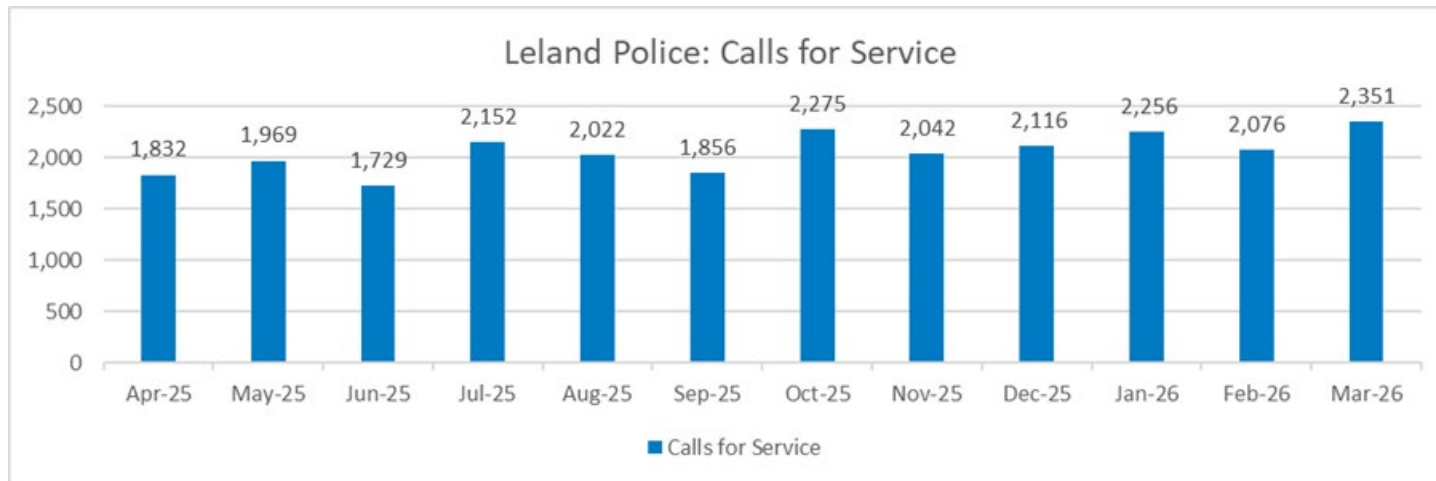
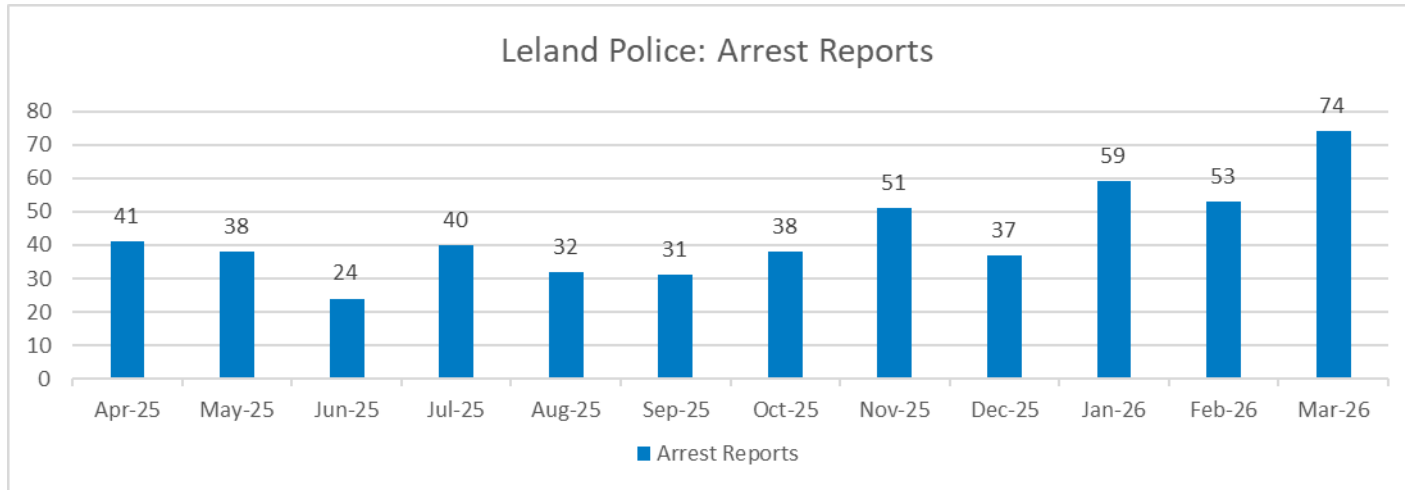
Detective Robert Britton attended Courtroom Testimony March 30-April 1 virtually. This course enhanced the officer's understanding of expert testimony in the court, the procedures in court, how to prepare for courtroom testimony, the tactics of a cross-examining attorney, and the ethical considerations of presenting facts and opinions.

Sergeant Christopher Winder attended Driving Instructor Pre-qualification Training March 30-31 at the North Carolina Justice Academy. This training qualifies law enforcement personnel as driving instructors and allows them to train others.

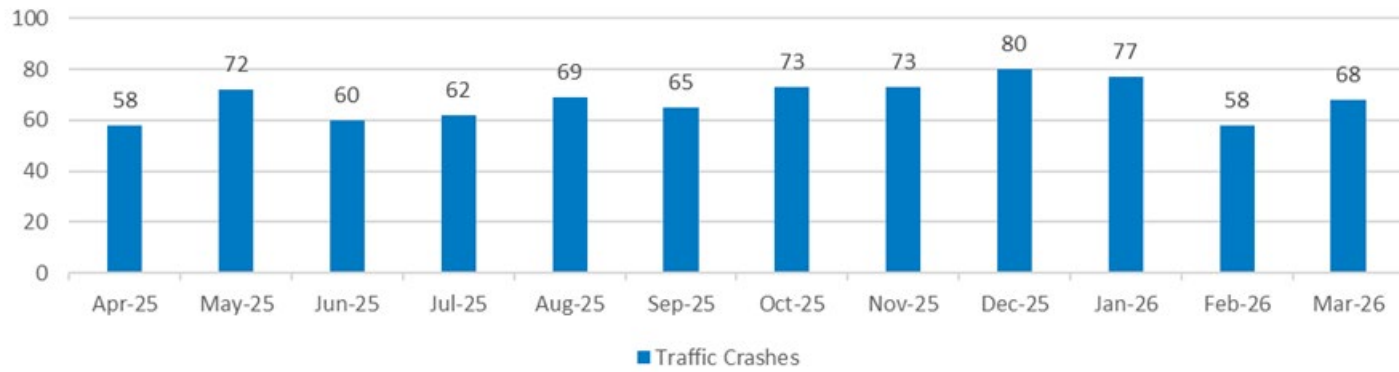
## Active Mutual Aid Agreements

- Bald Head Island
- Boiling Spring Lakes
- Brunswick Community College
- Brunswick County
- Carolina Beach
- Caswell Beach
- DCI
- Duke Energy
- Holden Beach
- Jacksonville
- Navassa
- NCDOT
- NCDMV
- New Hanover County
- Northwest
- Oak Island
- Ocean Isle Beach
- SABLE
- Shallotte
- Southport
- Sunny Point
- Sunset Beach
- Wilmington

## Dashboard

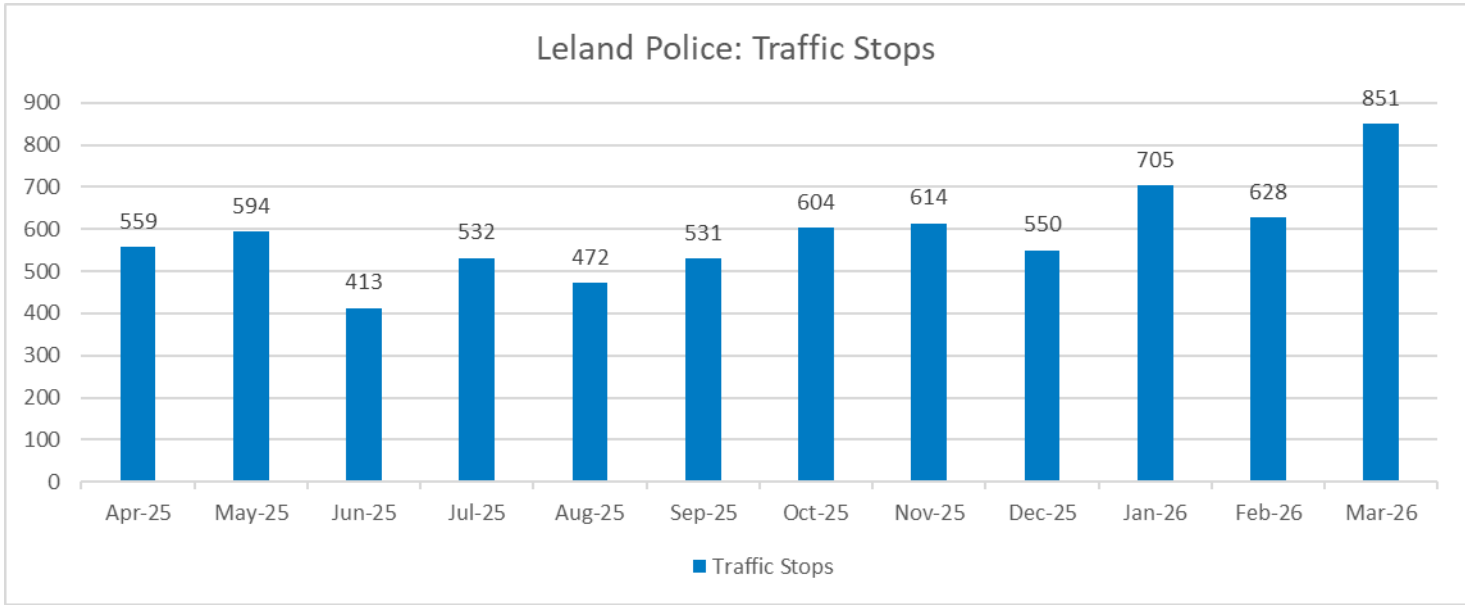


### Leland Police: Traffic Crashes

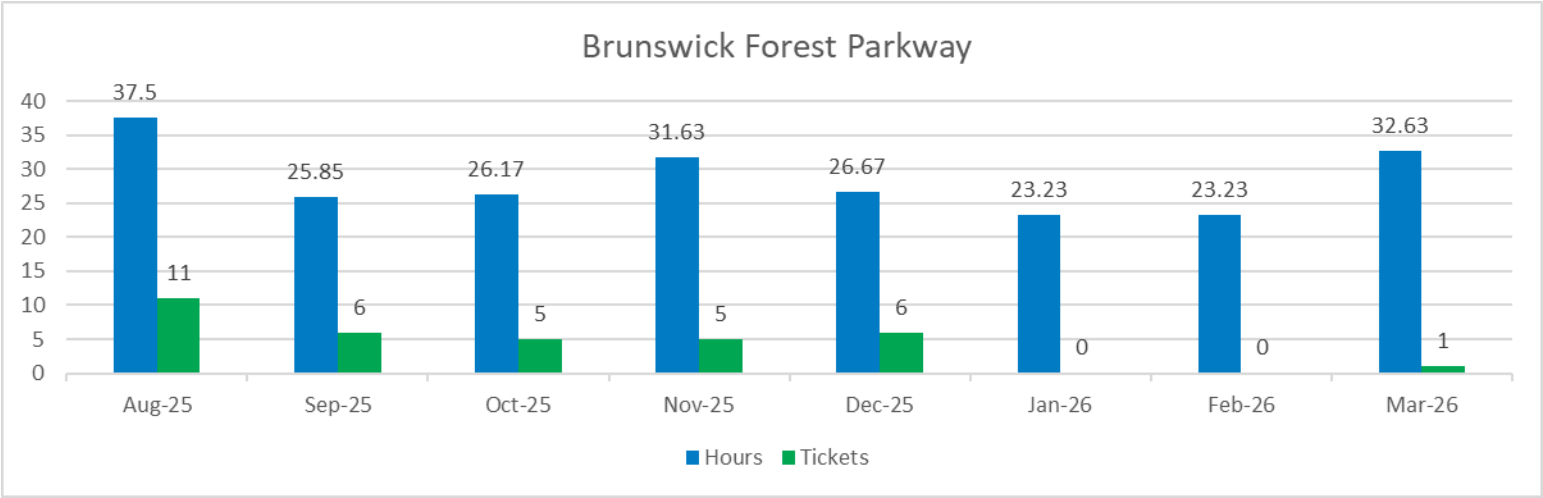


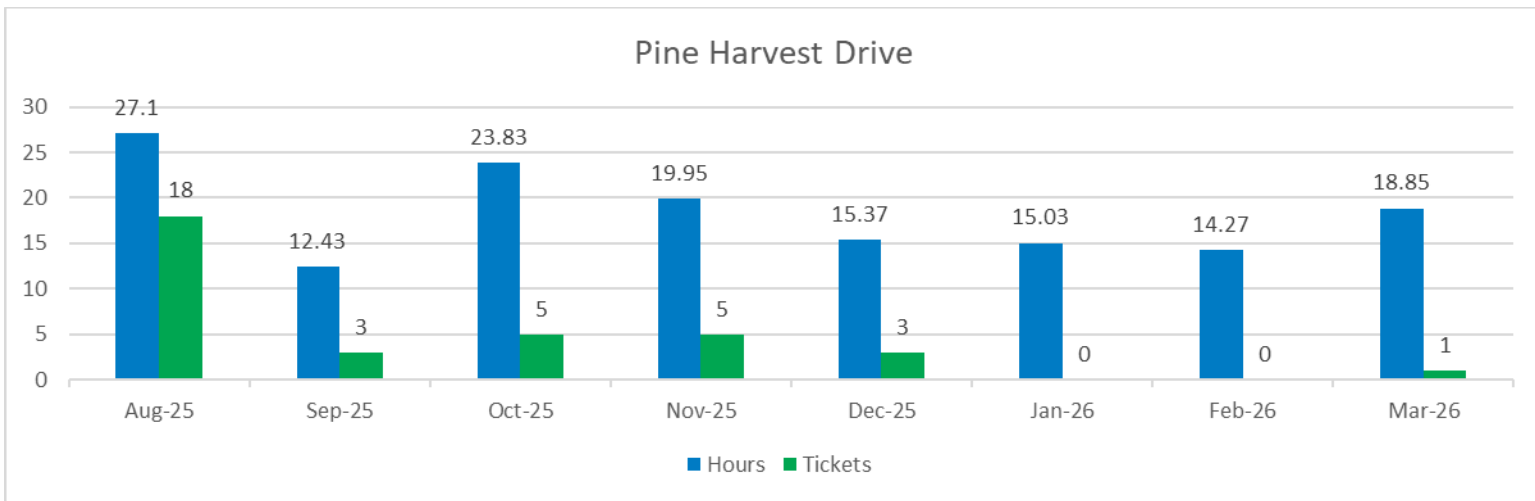
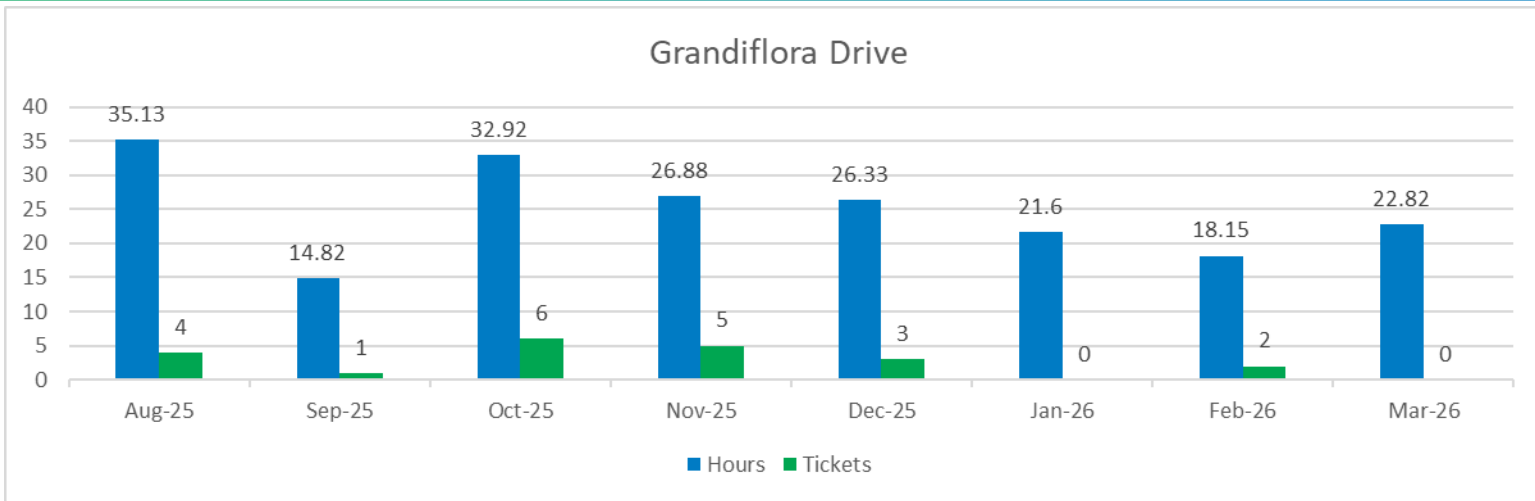
### Leland Police: Incident Reports

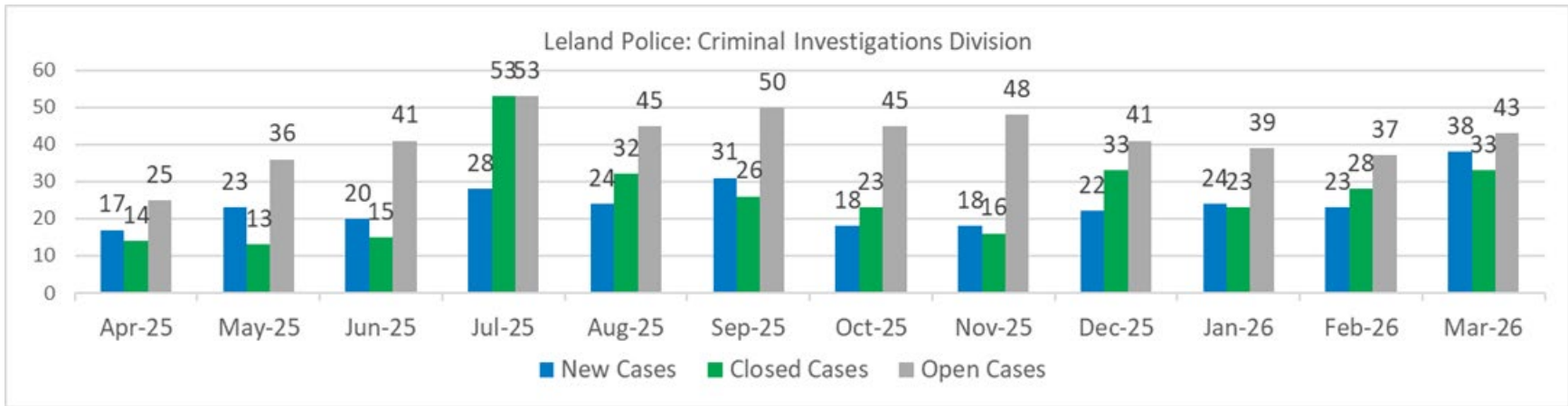
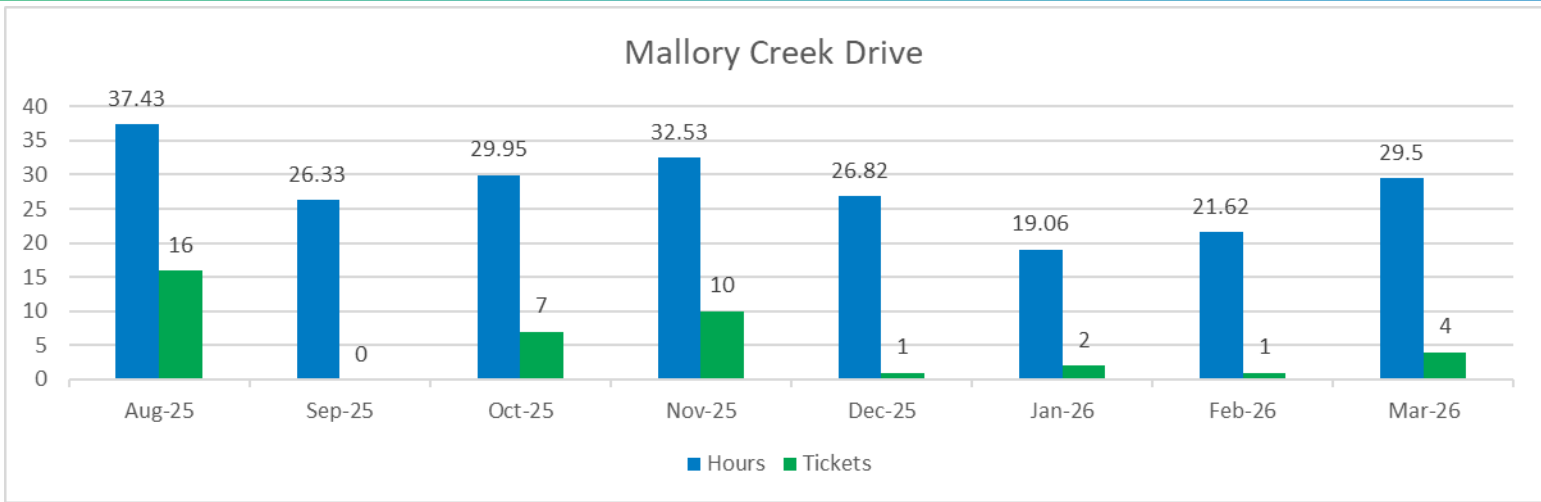




### Traffic Focal Areas







Animal Services Report							
	CFS	Cats Picked up	Dogs Picked up	Transported	Traps	Citations	Bites
Apr-25	52	4	1	4	2	0	3
May-25	67	3	1	4	5	0	5
Jun-25	47	0	3	3	0	0	3
Jul-25	42	0	4	4	0	0	1
Aug-25	38	1	4	2	0	0	4
Sep-25	43	0	12	12	0	0	4
Oct-25	42	0	6	5	0	1	6
Nov-25	43	0	4	4	0	1	6
Dec-25	34	0	4	2	0	2	2
Jan-26	34	0	3	3	0	1	5
Feb-26	54	0	7	5	0	4	1
Mar-26	53	15	5	7	3	1	3
Totals	549	23	54	55	10	10	43

## Fire Department News

In addition to answering calls, staff accomplished numerous tasks in March:

- Assisted 15 homeowners with smoke alarm installations or battery replacements
- Assisted five citizens with car seat checks/installations
- Conducted one station/engine tour
- Presented fire safety education to 10 preschoolers
- Participated in Read Across America at Belville Elementary
- Participated in the Town of Leland Spring Fling

Firefighter Stanton James joined the department.


All department members participated in the second part of a two-part series in evidence-based wellness model training hosted by Coastal Horizons.

Chief Shelton James and members from B-Shift participated in an automatic aid drill with Navassa Volunteer Fire Department. This drill included collaboration with several partnering agencies to conduct a comprehensive multi-agency training exercise at the CSX Train Yard in Navassa. Other participating agencies included ADR Fire Rescue, Boiling Spring Lakes Fire Department, Brunswick County Emergency Services, Brunswick County Fire Administration, Brunswick County 911 Center, Brunswick County Community College, CSX Transportation, Grissettown Longwood Fire Rescue, New Hanover County Fire Rescue, and Pender EMS & Fire.

Senior Captain David Owens, Captain Jamie Williamson, Senior Fire Apparatus Engineer Jason Thornon, and Fire Apparatus Engineers Kyle Kling, Mark Onabanjo, and Joe Tassi attended the Fire Officer Development Program hosted by Robeson Community College. The course prepares current and aspiring fire officers to lead with confidence on the fireground and in the firehouse. Through real-world case studies, interactive discussions, and scenario-based exercises, participants explore leadership, command, strategy, tactics, firefighter safety, and communication. The program also focuses on team building, accountability, and how to have tough conversations that define strong leadership.

Senior Fire Apparatus Engineer Chris Barrett and Fire Apparatus Engineer Logan Fowler attended the Technical Rescuer Machinery and Agriculture class at Robeson Community College. This certification-related block course provides specialized training for emergency responders to handle entrapments and accidents involving complex equipment.

Fire Apparatus Engineers Hunter Rogers and Garrett Yeager attended the Technical Rescuer Trench class at Fayetteville Tech Community College. This certification-related block course provides emergency responders with the specialized knowledge and hands-on skills required for safe excavation and collapse rescues.



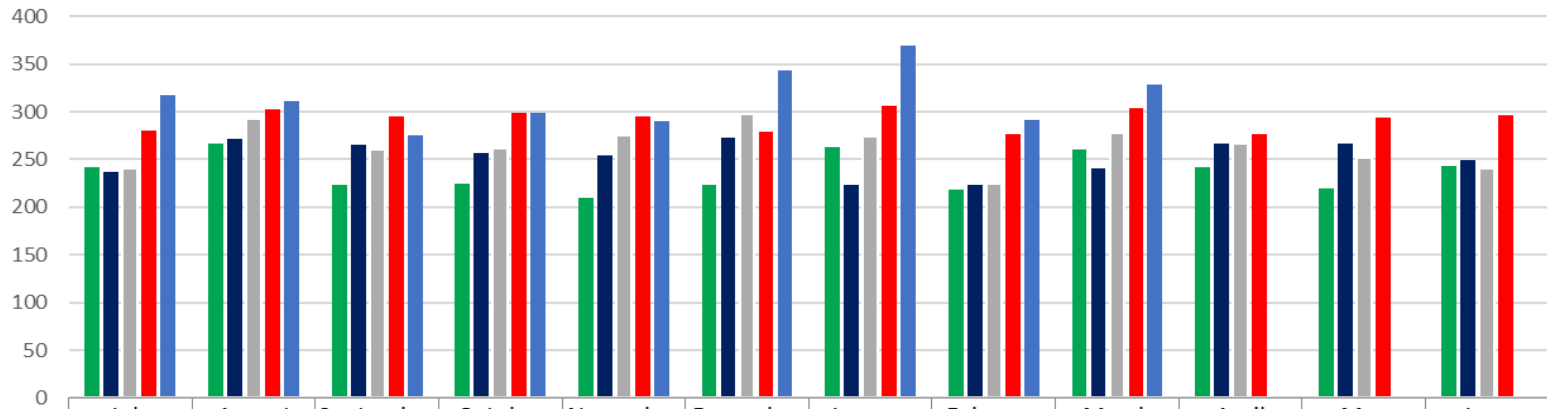
The department continued transitioning to a new method of documenting responses and data. Future reports will include this information.

## Active Mutual Aid Agreements

- Bald Head Island Department of Public Safety
- Boiling Spring Lakes Fire Rescue
- Bolivia Volunteer Fire Department
- Calabash Volunteer Fire Department
- Civietown Volunteer Fire Rescue
- Grissettown Longwood Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department
- Navassa Volunteer Fire Department
- North Carolina Incident Mutual Aid System
- New Hanover County Fire Rescue
- Northwest Volunteer Fire Department
- Oak Island Fire Department
- Ocean Isle Beach Fire Department
- Shallotte Fire & Rescue Department
- Shallotte Point Volunteer Fire Department
- Southport Fire Department
- St. James Volunteer Fire Department
- Sunny Point Military Ocean Terminal
- Sunset Beach Fire Department
- Sunset Harbor & Zion Hill Volunteer Fire Department
- Supply Volunteer Fire Department
- Tri-Beach Volunteer Fire Department
- Waccamaw Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department
- Wilmington Fire Department
- Winnabow Volunteer Fire Department
- Yaupon Beach Volunteer Fire Department

# Dashboard

## Fire Calls



	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
FY 2021/2022	242	267	223	224	210	223	263	218	261	242	220	243
FY 2022/2023	237	272	265	257	254	273	223	223	241	266	267	249
FY 2023/2024	241	292	261	262	275	297	274	225	278	267	252	241
FY 2024/2025	280	303	295	299	295	279	306	277	304	277	294	296
FY 2025/2026	317	311	275	299	290	344	369	291	329			

■ FY 2021/2022  
 ■ FY 2022/2023  
 ■ FY 2023/2024  
 ■ FY 2024/2025  
 ■ FY 2025/2026

## Public Works Department News

Staff generated 201 work orders in March and completed 168 (84%).

Streets Maintenance Technician I Connor Jacobs and Grounds Maintenance Technicians I Ryan Staley and Dylan Patterson joined the department in March.

Streets Maintenance Technician II Tyler Barth joined the Engineering Department as a Construction Inspector in March.

Streets is currently hiring for a Maintenance Technician Level I or II.

## Streets Updates

### Work Priorities and Initiatives

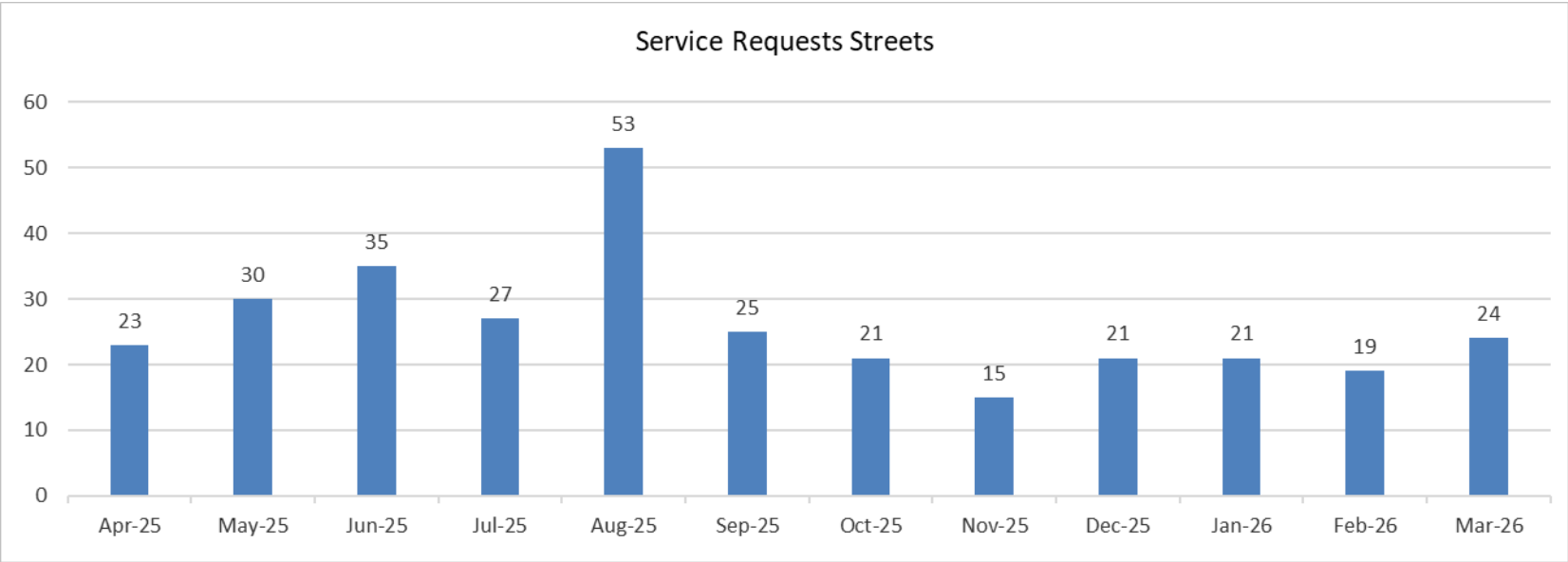
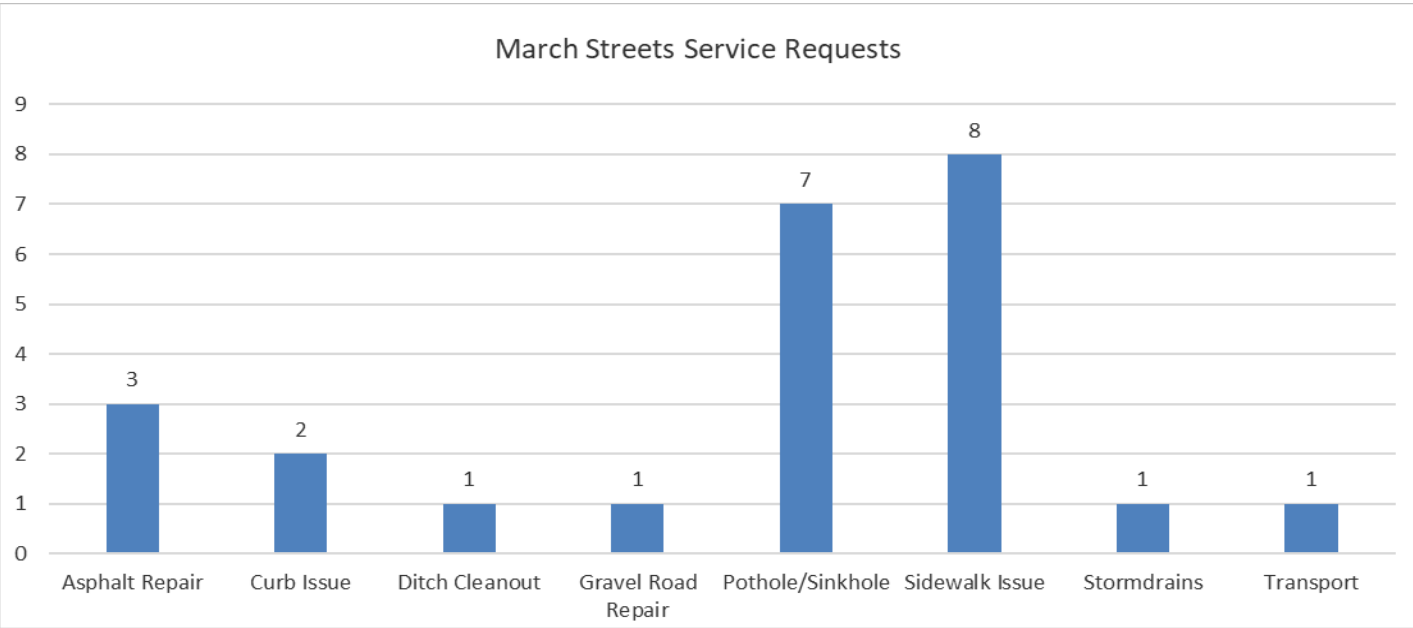
- Staff will focus on repairing sidewalks damaged by tree roots, damaged concrete curbing, and deteriorating asphalt.
- Staff received a new line striping machine and will be utilizing it for new crosswalk installations in Westgate and Magnolia Greens.
- Staff will complete a large concrete curb replacement project on Beaumont Court in Magnolia Greens.

### Projects Completed

- Staff removed and replaced 250 linear feet of damaged and deteriorating concrete curbing on Beaumont Court in Magnolia Greens.
- Staff repaired potholes at several locations throughout Town.
- Staff repaired a sinkhole in Seabrooke and adjusted the shoulders to allow for positive drainage from the roadway.
- Staff removed and replaced sidewalks and concrete curbing damaged by tree roots in Magnolia Greens.
- Staff are regrading and preparing Founders Park for sod installation.
- Staff removed trees that were damaging sidewalks in Magnolia Greens. Sidewalk replacement will begin soon.

### Work Order Summary

- Streets generated 24 work orders in March, with the majority being sidewalk issues (8), pothole/sinkhole (7), and asphalt related (3).
- Streets completed 19 work orders in March, with an approximate expense of \$70,300 in labor, equipment, and materials to complete these work orders. The bulk of this expense was in employee costs (\$34,600) and equipment costs (\$28,500).



## Grounds Updates

### Work Priorities and Initiatives

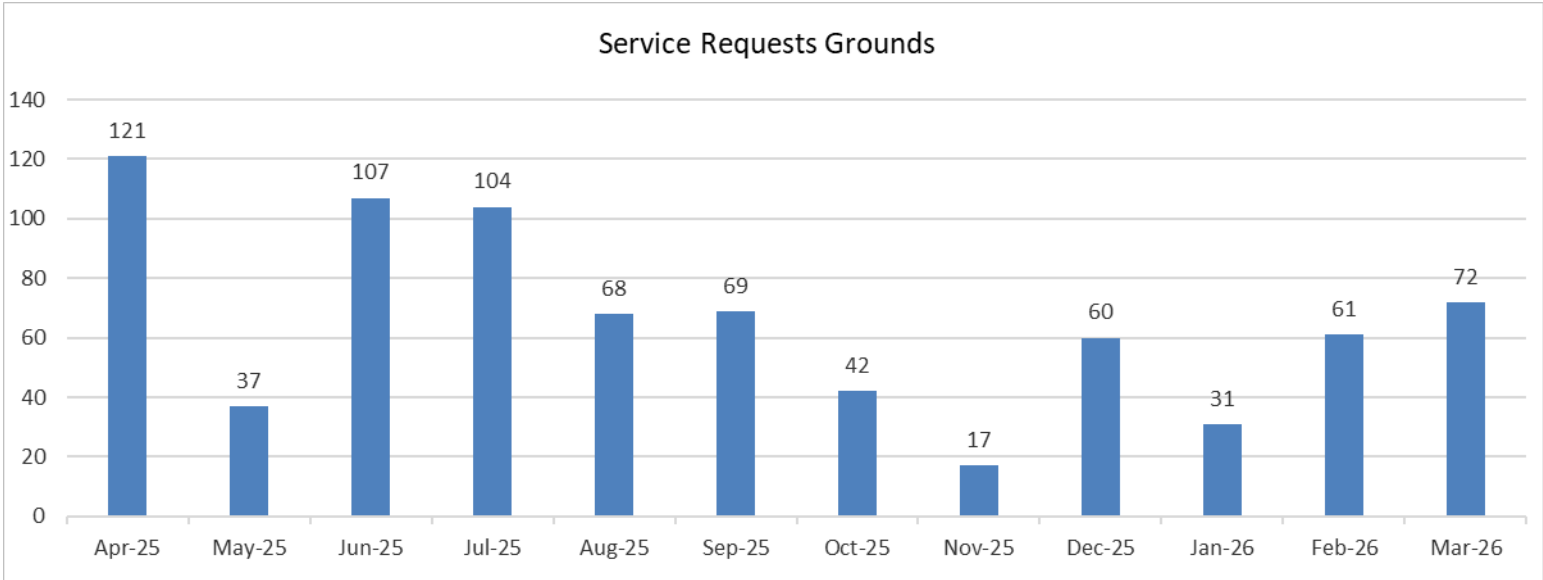
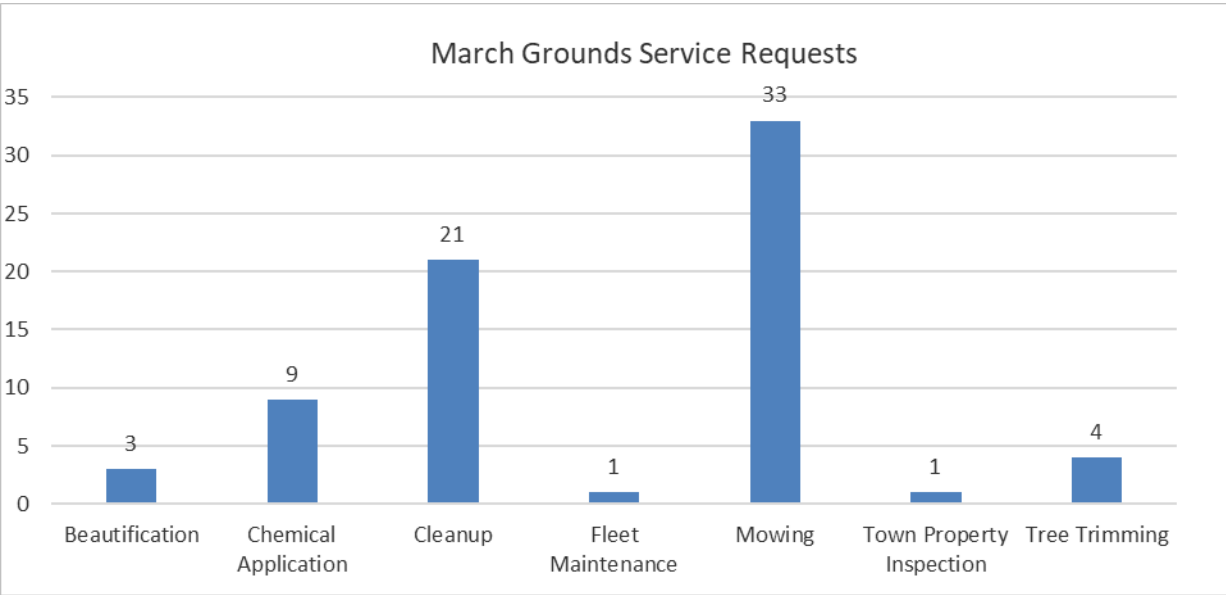
- Staff will begin applying pre-emergent fertilizer to Town-maintained lawn areas.
- Staff will continue to perform lawn maintenance at Town-owned properties and parks.
- Staff will continue to install mulch in the ornamental beds throughout Town-maintained properties.
- Staff will continue to clear underbrush/vegetation on Town-owned properties to enhance their appearance.
- Staff will continue working on Northgate Retention Pond area washouts.
- Staff will begin to remove winter annuals from ornamental beds and prepare the area for spring annuals.

### Projects Completed

- Staff installed mulch in the ornamental beds at Town Hall, Fire Station 51, and the MOC.
- Staff applied pre-emergent chemicals to the lawn areas at Town Hall.
- Staff successfully removed saplings from around the large live oak tree on the River Road property.

### Work Order Summary

- Grounds generated 72 work orders in March, with most of them being mowing (33), cleanup (21), and chemical application related (9).
- Grounds completed 60 work orders in March, with an approximate expense of \$21,500 in labor and equipment to complete these work orders.



## Operations Updates

### Work Priorities and Initiatives

- Custodial staff will be attending online training through the ISSA Cleaning Management Institute.
- Staff will be trained on daily operations of the splash pad at Founders Park.
- Staff will continue to install new LED lights at Fire Station 52.
- Staff are working on new training programs for safety, HVAC, electrical, and custodial needs for 2026.
- Staff will continue performing annual maintenance on all Town-owned generators in April.
- Staff will continue to work on a final detailed preventative maintenance plan for each Town facility.
- Staff will be assisting BFPE with fire line inspections of all Town facilities.

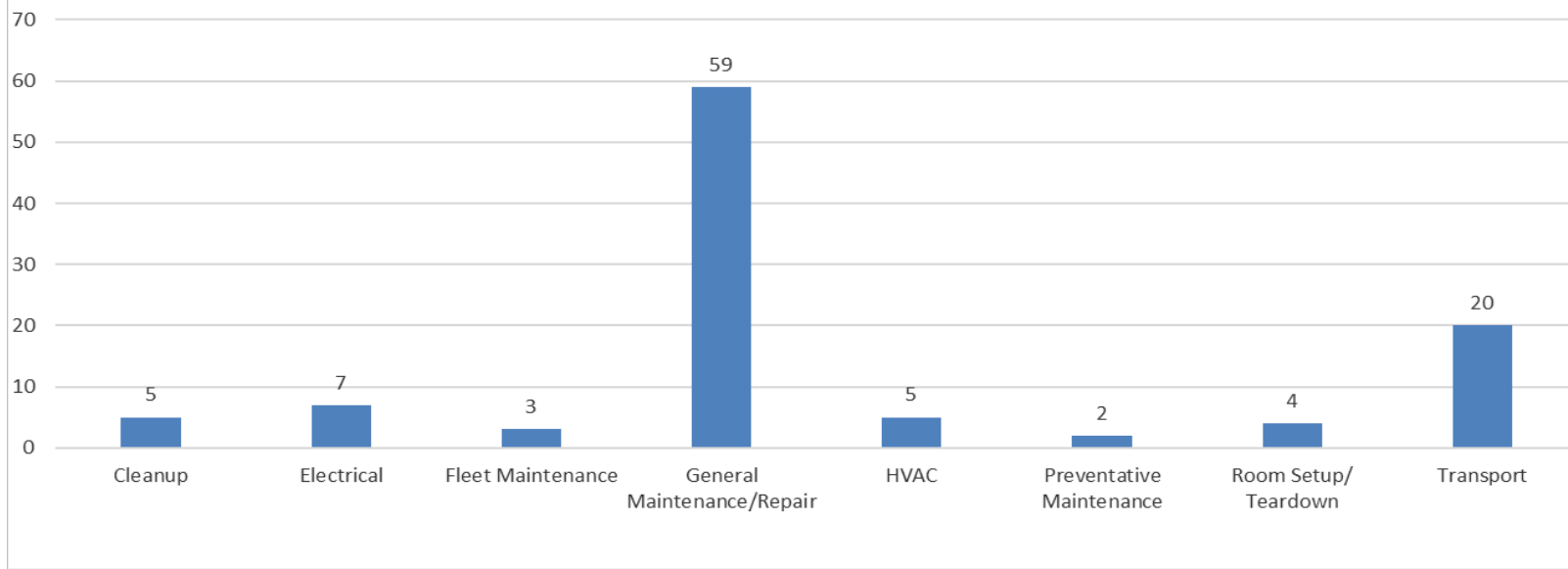
### Projects Completed

- Staff completed repairs on the splash pad and pavilion at Founders Park.
- Staff replaced the wooden entrance deck, ramp, and handrails at the MOC office.
- Staff replaced all air filters on HVAC systems within Town Hall.

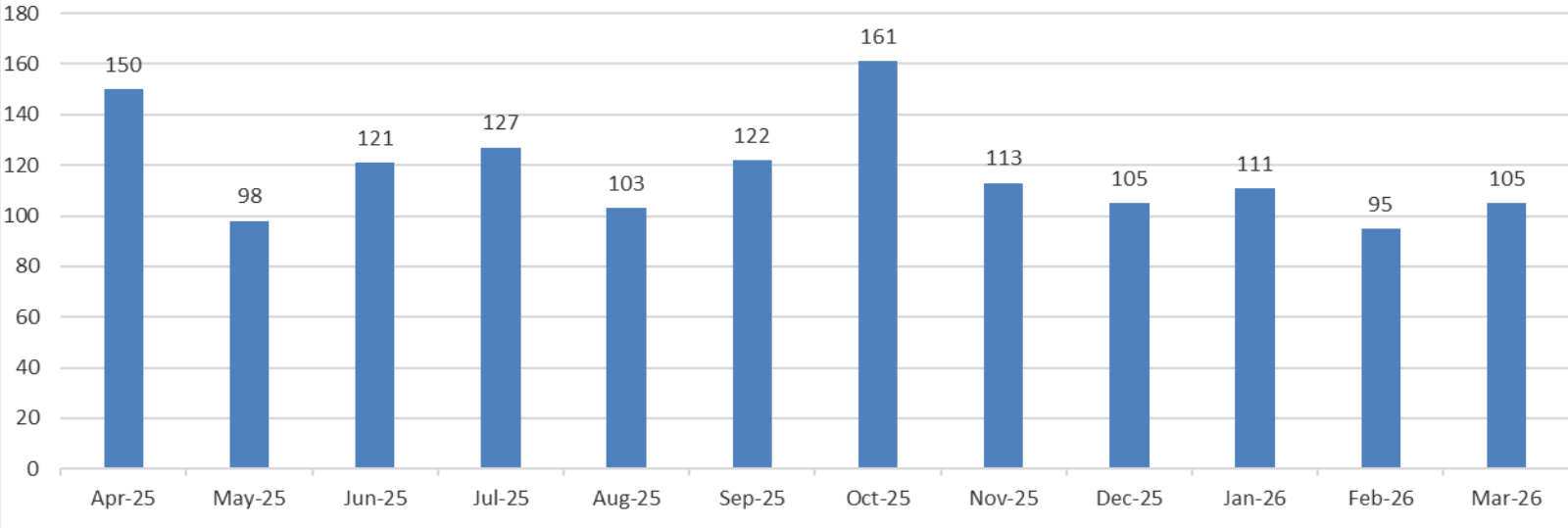
### Work Order Summary

- Operations generated 105 work orders in March, with most of them being general maintenance/repair (59), transport (20), and electrical related (7).
- Operations completed 89 work orders in March, with an approximate expense of \$9,900 in labor and materials.

March Facilities Service Requests



Service Requests Facilities



## Town Project Updates

### Projects In Design

- 860 Appleton Way Demo
- Baldwin Drive Improvements
- Brunswick Village Boulevard Northeast Extensions
- Gateway District Utility Resiliency
- Leland Unpaved Roads Improvements
- Loblolly Park
- Low Country Boulevard Culvert Improvements
- 2025-2026 Roadway Resurfacing
- Sturgeon Creek Park
- U.S. Highway 17 Pedestrian Crossing
- West Gate Drive Pedestrian Improvements

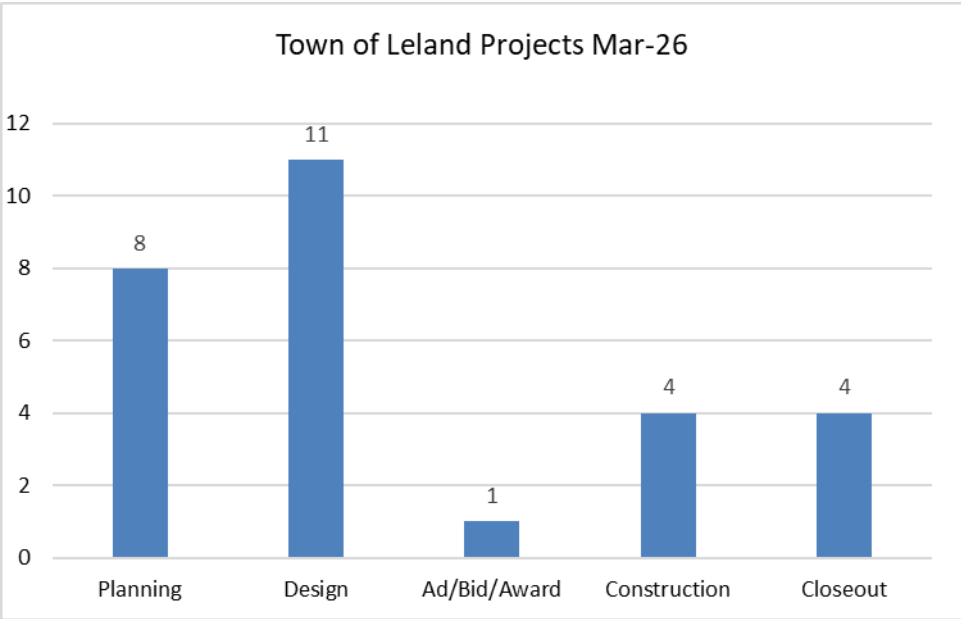
### Projects In Ad/Bid/Award

- CDBG Housing Construction

### Projects In Construction

- Founders Park Amphitheater Rebuild – 80% complete
- Ocean Gate Plaza Roundabout – 60% complete
- Settler’s Village Connector Road – 85% complete
- Town Hall Expansion and Renovation – 98% complete

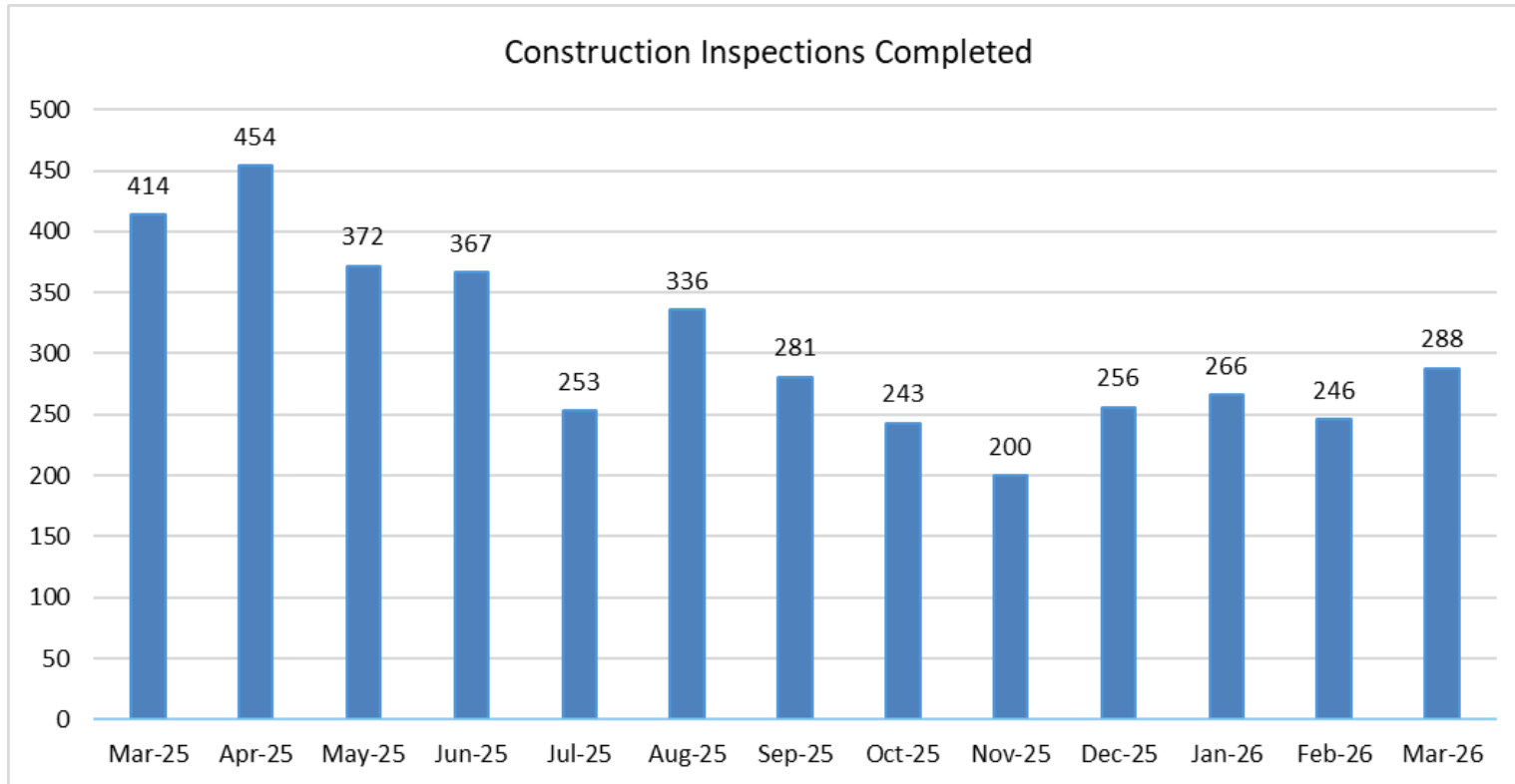
Full project details can be found [on the Town website](#).



# Construction Inspections Update

## Inspections

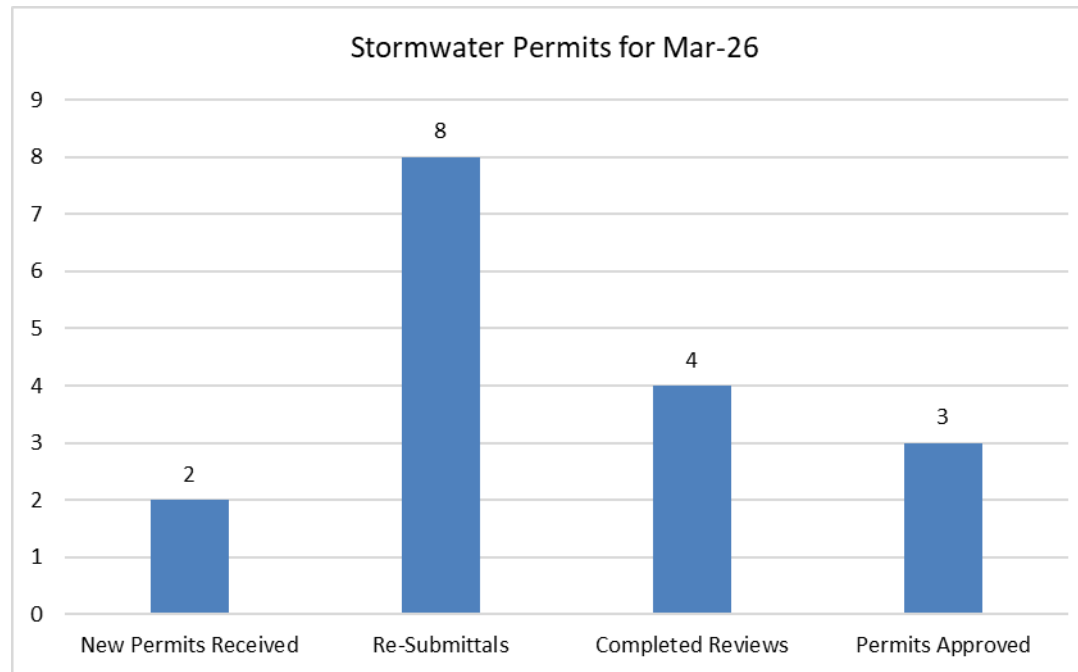
- Staff completed 288 construction inspections in March.
  - Construction inspections include developer and Town projects.



## Stormwater Permits Update

### Stormwater Permit Review

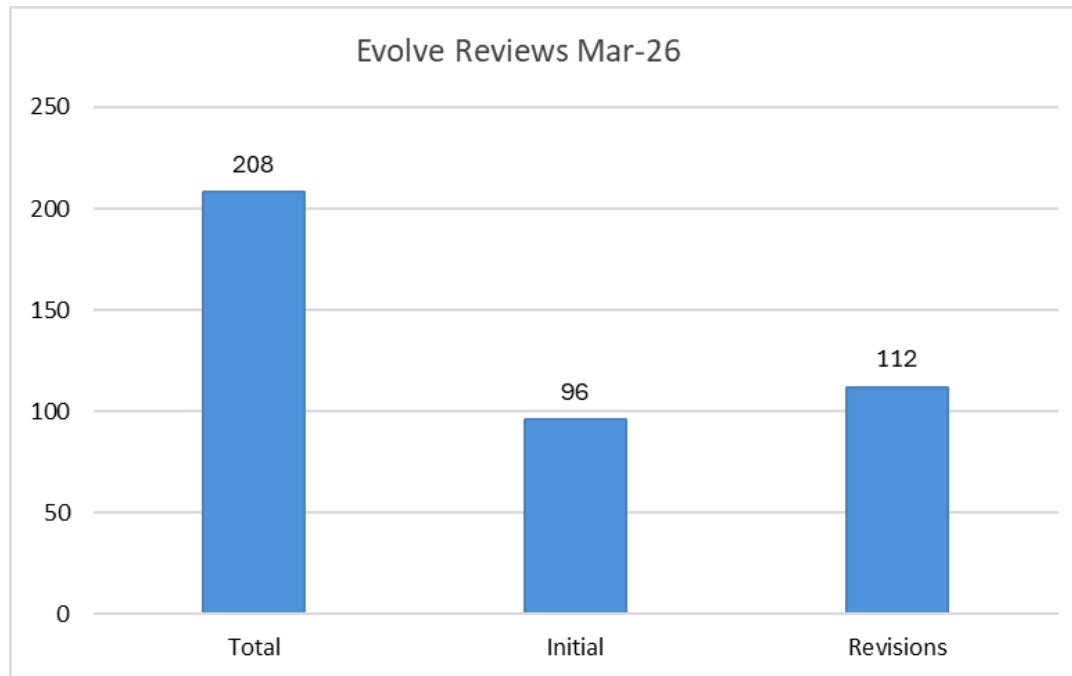
- 100% of stormwater permits submitted within the last 45 business days have either been approved or sent back for comments. Three permits were approved in March.



## Evolve Reviews

### Evolve Reviews

- Evolve reviews confirm that plats align with stormwater plans, performance guarantees cover required infrastructure and costs, and built-upon areas remain within impervious surface limits.



## Finance Department News

In March, staff achieved several critical milestones in the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget cycle. On March 9, the Town hosted the FY26-27 Budget Q&A Forum, providing residents with an opportunity to ask questions and receive information from staff and Town Council regarding the proposed budget. Town Council discussed potential adjustments to the proposed budget based on the Budget Q&A Forum during the March 16 Agenda Meeting. The formal budget public hearing was held on March 19.

The department continues to advance the development of an interactive Transparency Portal. This platform is designed to provide Town Council and the public with streamlined access to municipal financial and performance data. The project remains on schedule for a Spring 2026 launch.

Grant Manager Samantha Cook attended the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grant Workshop to learn about the criteria and eligibility requirements for this upcoming grant.

Finance and Fleet Coordinator Alley Gallagher attended the NCLM RMS Spring Tour held at the LCAC. This training covered insurance renewal and rate information and risk management programming information.

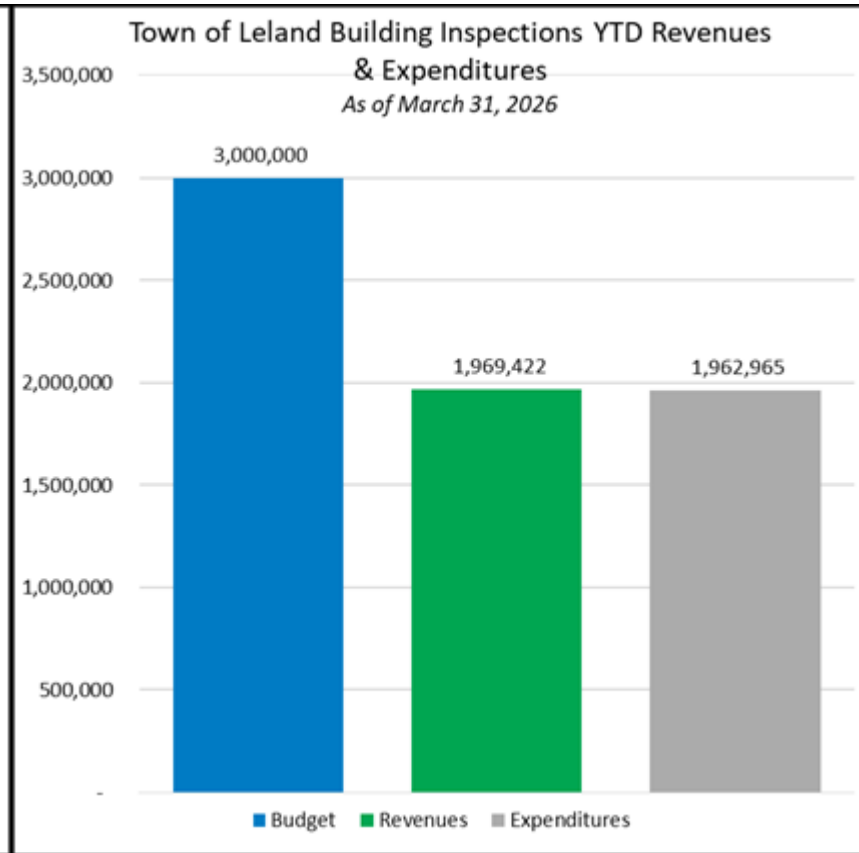
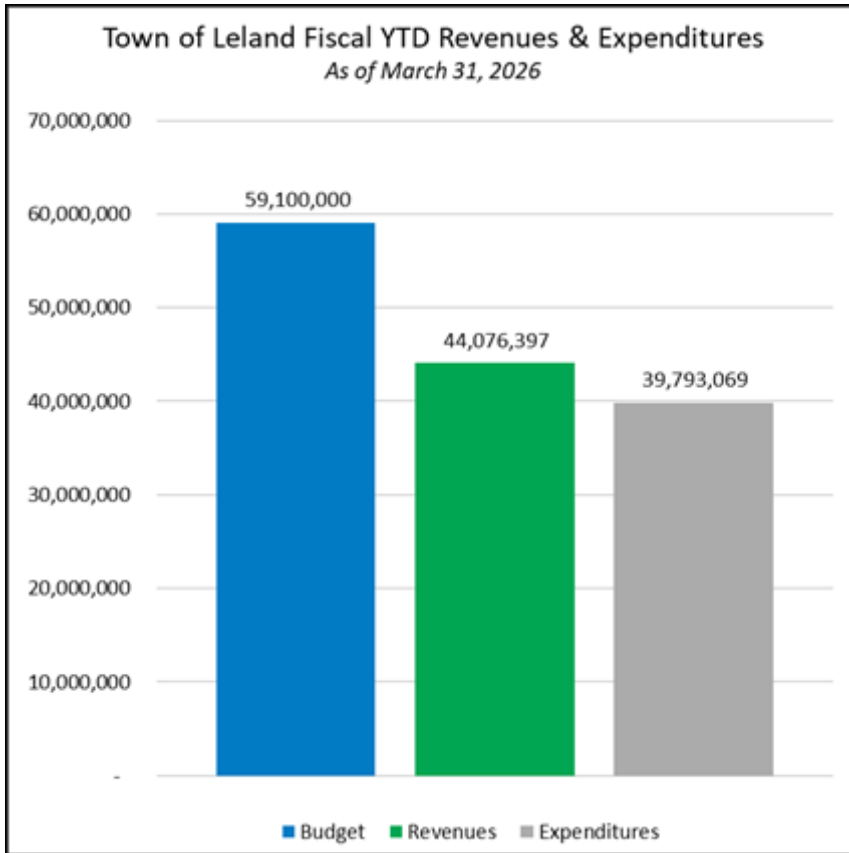
Budget and Strategy Manager Kelli Newton attended the Managing Public Records for Local Government Employees webinar hosted by the State Archives of North Carolina. This training provided information regarding public records law and records management.

Purchasing Agent Taraus Deas attended the 70th Annual North Carolina Association of Government Purchasing Conference in Wilmington. This conference contained numerous sessions regarding local government procurement topics ranging from IT procurement, RFP/RFQ processes, and surplus property procedures.

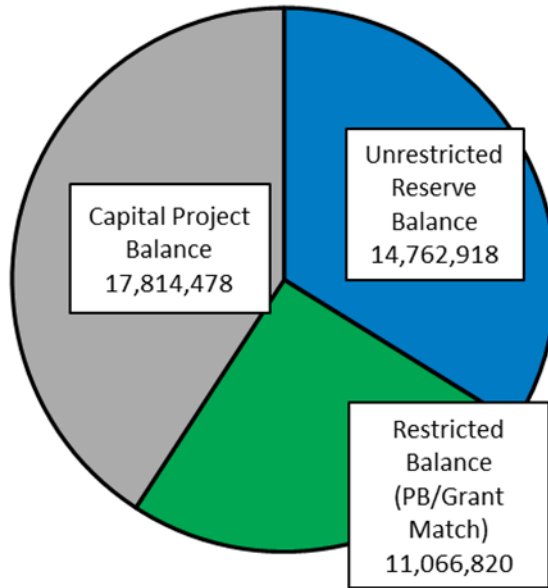
## Financial Budget to Actual Report – March 31, 2026

REVENUES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Property Tax	19,280,000	19,280,000	270,618	19,672,326	-	(392,326)	-2.03%
Sales Tax	14,200,000	14,200,000	1,210,128	10,427,283	-	3,772,717	26.57%
Fire Fees	6,680,000	6,680,000	3,551	4,924,627	-	1,755,373	26.28%
Municipal Vehicle Tax	950,000	950,000	64,170	750,518	-	199,482	21.00%
Loan Proceeds	2,600,000	2,400,000	-	2,300,000	-	100,000	4.17%
Non-Primary General Fund	4,290,000	12,590,000	535,532	6,001,643	(106)	6,588,463	52.33%
Building Inspections	3,000,000	3,000,000.00	319,497	1,969,422	-	1,030,579	34.35%
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>51,000,000</b>	<b>59,100,000</b>	<b>2,403,498</b>	<b>46,045,818</b>	<b>(106)</b>	<b>13,054,288</b>	<b>22.09%</b>
EXPENSES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Governing Body	350,000	350,000	65,356	268,219	10,543	71,238	20.35%
Administration	3,100,000	2,300,000	154,159	1,583,151	73,441	643,408	27.97%
Information Technology	4,160,000	4,160,000	298,760	1,941,326	251,624	1,967,050	47.28%
Human Resources	610,000	610,000	47,238	316,230	47,971	245,798	40.29%
Finance	1,270,000	1,270,000	90,644	921,988	6,775	341,237	26.87%
Planning	1,200,000	1,200,000	78,659	589,083	25,678	585,239	48.77%
P&R & Cultural Arts	1,350,000	1,350,000	90,251	810,301	168,687	371,012	27.48%
Operations	1,970,000	1,970,000	158,432	1,455,175	73,328	441,498	22.41%
Streets & Grounds	3,670,000	3,670,000	238,931	1,910,269	181,807	1,577,924	43.00%
Engineering	1,350,000	1,350,000	113,558	737,565	66,393	546,042	40.45%
Police	8,250,000	8,150,000	549,745	5,245,847	77,566	2,826,587	34.68%
Emergency Management	240,000	240,000	1,010	121,031	1,750	117,219	48.84%
Fire	10,630,000	11,530,000	2,890,284	7,574,722	1,358,993	2,596,285	22.52%
Debt Services	6,900,000	6,900,000	2,356,375	6,816,274	-	83,726	1.21%
Transfers	2,950,000	11,050,000	43,154	9,501,889	-	1,548,111	14.01%
Building Inspections	3,000,000	3,000,000	199,623	1,962,965	25,698	1,011,338	33.71%
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>51,000,000</b>	<b>59,100,000</b>	<b>7,376,180</b>	<b>41,756,034</b>	<b>2,370,254</b>	<b>14,973,712</b>	<b>25.34%</b>

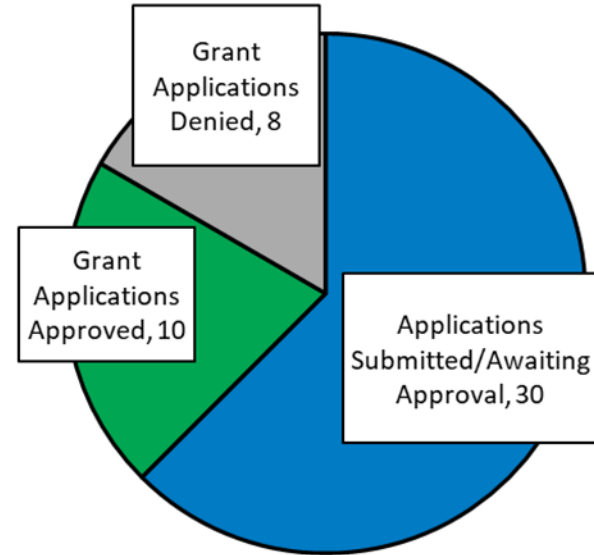
# Dashboard



General Fund Cash Balances  
As of March 31, 2026



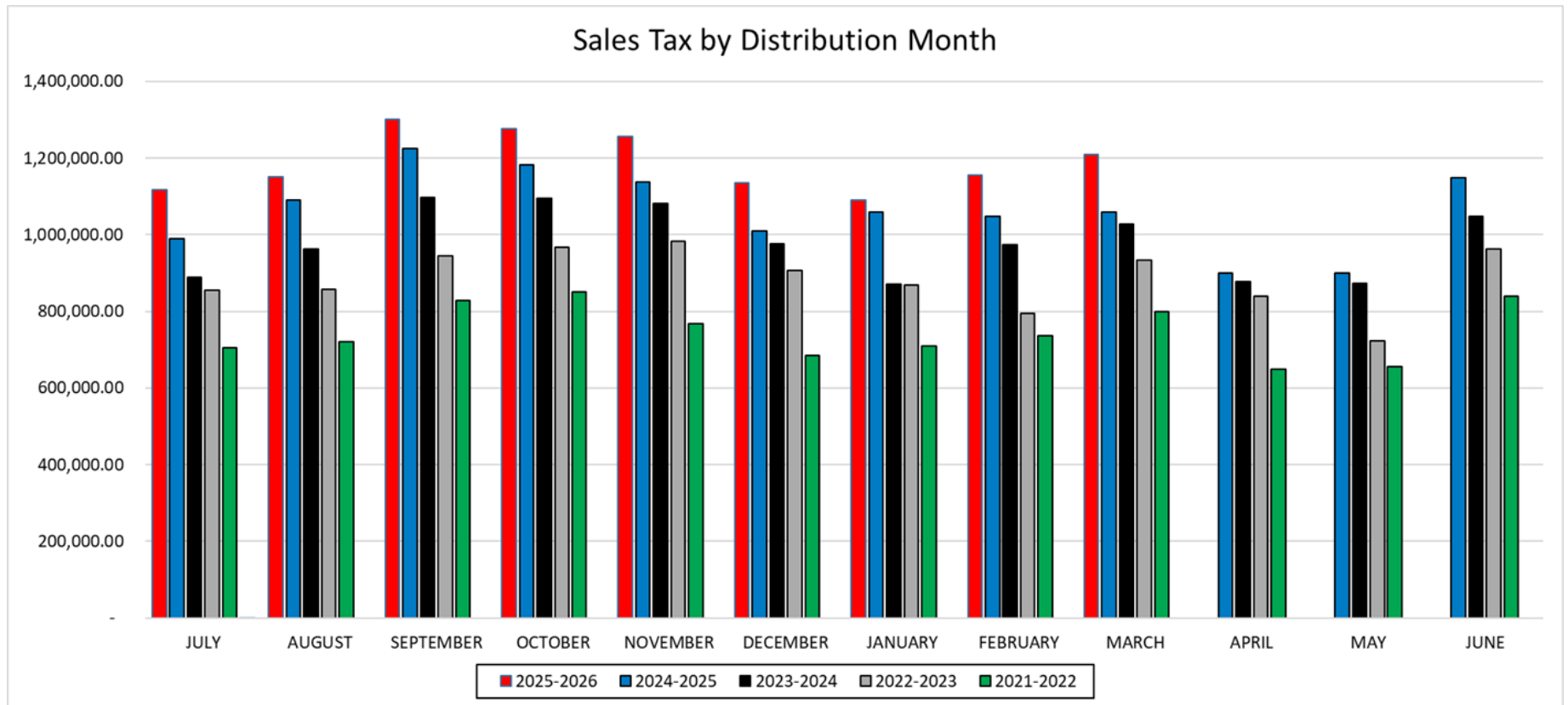
Fiscal YTD Grant Summary\*  
As of March 31, 2026



\*The Fiscal YTD Grant Summary chart reflects grant application data exclusively from the current fiscal year.

## FY Sales Tax Distribution

These amounts represent the month/year the Town received the funds from NCDOR.



## Grant News

For detailed grant/project information, please visit the [Grants webpage](#).

## Donations

There were no donations in March.

## Purchase Orders Issued at the Direction of the Town Manager in Excess of \$50,000

Description: Utility Relocation – Baldwin Drive; Vendor: Duke Energy Progress LLC; Amount: \$161,893.53

## Intradepartmental and Interdepartmental Budget Transfers

There were no budget transfers in March.

## Investment Portfolio

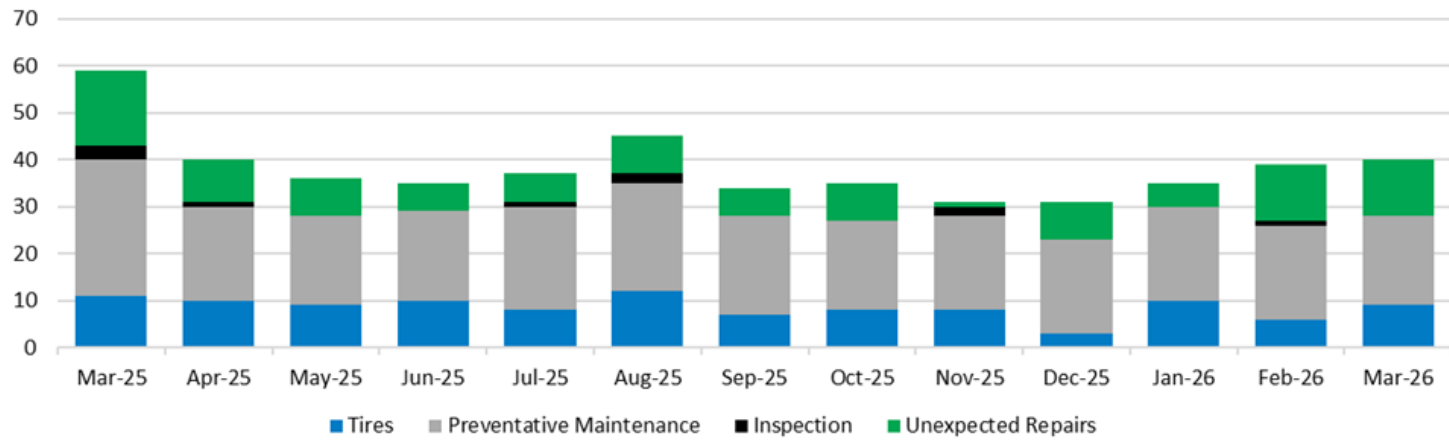
The Town has a diversified investment portfolio across four wealth management banking institutions. The March overview is below:

	Average Monthly Yield	Dividend Reinvestment / Interest Earned	Fiscal YTD Dividend Reinvestment / Interest Earned	Month End Statement Balance or Market Value
First Citizens Bank	0.040	6,166.66	73,538.52	6,168,607.55
NC Capital Management Trust	0.036	62,356.01	544,676.52	18,460,329.21
NC Class	0.037	13,608.69	128,650.18	4,325,006.27
Atlantic Union Bank 36m CD	0.037	24,926.76	193,378.54	8,193,378.54
<b>Total</b>		107,058.12	940,243.76	37,147,321.57

## Fleet Updates

Fleet generated 40 work orders in March with an expense of \$12,237.55

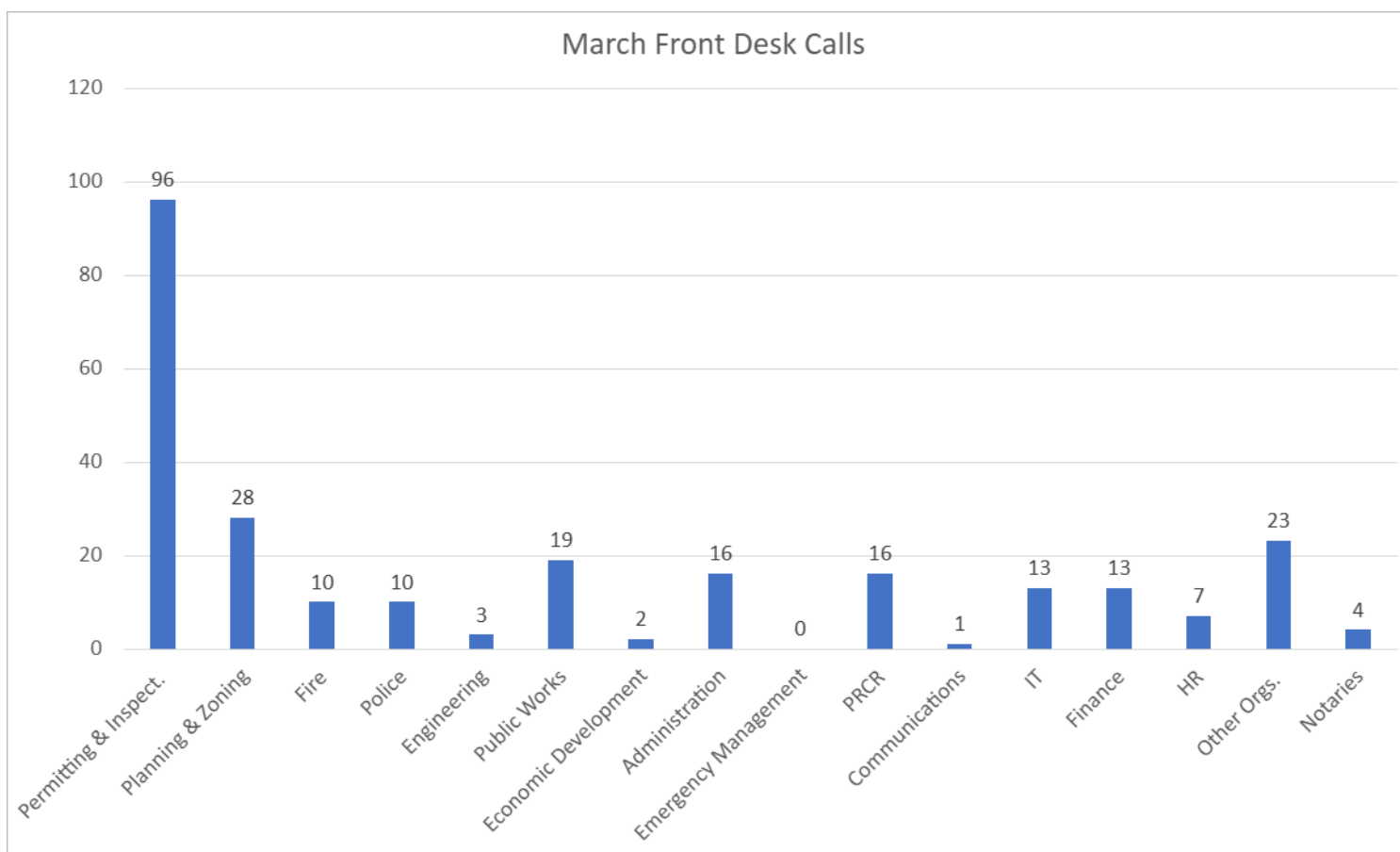
### Fleet Service Requests



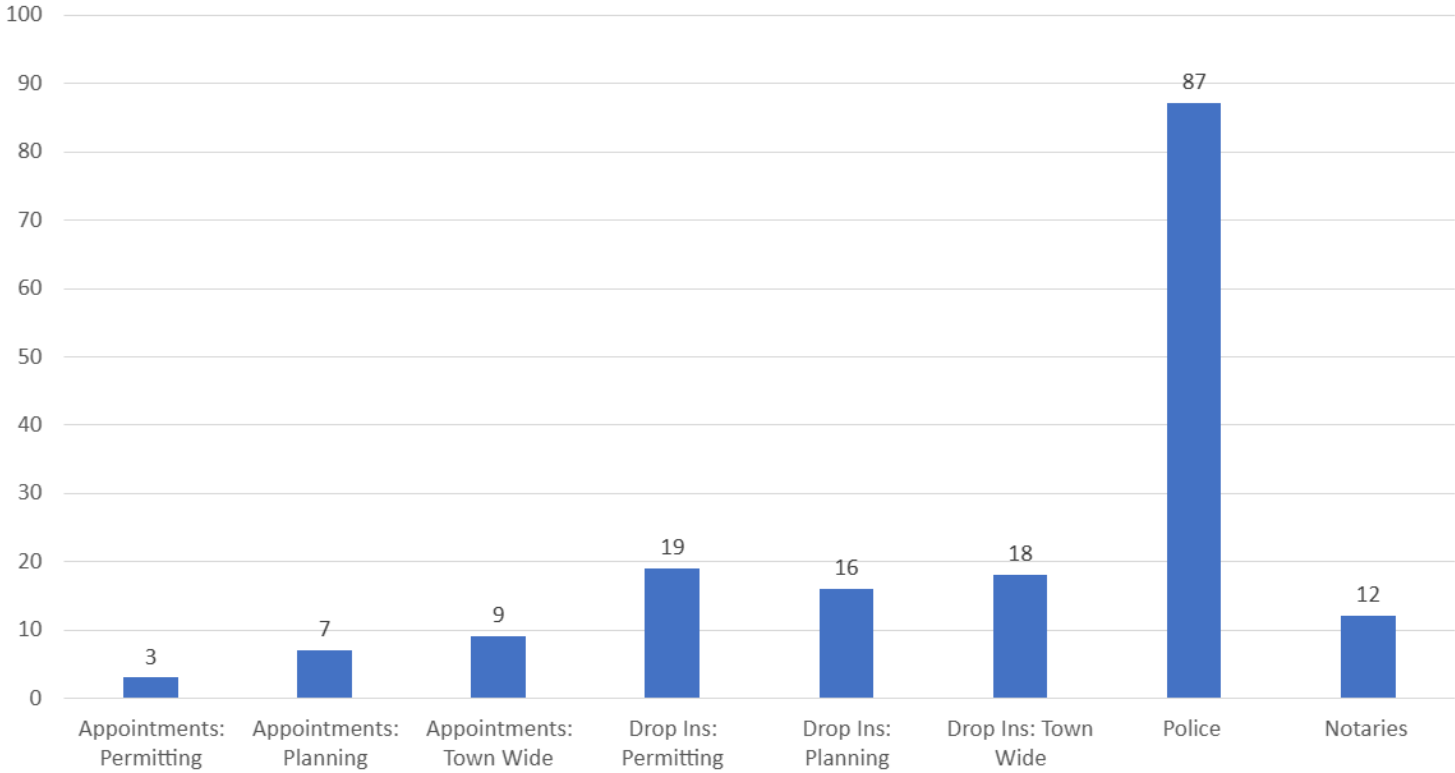
## Communications Department News

In March, the department facilitated responses to 37 contact forms submitted through the website, received 261 calls, and assisted 171 visitors to Town Hall. The hiring process continues for a Communications Specialist II – Digital Communications.

Communications Specialist II Alison Fore and Communications Manager Jessica Jewell participated in an ICMA webinar titled *It's Complicated: Learn the Truth of ADA Website Compliance and How To Do It Right*. Ms. Jewell participated in a 3CMA webinar titled *Tackling Tricky Conversations in the Age of Information*.



March Front Desk Visits



## Social Media Update

- Facebook Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Added 241 new page followers
  - Post impressions – 155,265
  - Top post (Largest reach): “ 🌳 Ready to bring some new life to your yard? The Tree Giveaway is this Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Leland Cultural Arts Center! Stop by and take home up to two trees per household while supplies last. It’s a great way to add shade, beauty, and a little extra green to your space. 🌱 Before you come, learn more about the available trees and their care requirements 🖱️ <https://ow.ly/1XyK50YqeHB>”
- Twitter/X Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Post Impressions – 1,267
  - Top tweet (Largest reach): “The Parks & Recreation Board will meet March 25 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. Highlights: ✅ Founders Park update ✅ Recommendations for the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan ✅ Special Meeting with Visit NC and Outdoor NC information Agenda 🖱️ <https://ow.ly/Gfcb50YwRi9> #LelandNC”
- Nextdoor Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Post Impressions – 17,681
  - Likes/Comments – 66
  - Top post (Largest reach): “Town Council and staff joined leaders from across the region at the 2026 North Carolina League of Municipalities State and Town Dinner and the Cape Fear Council of Governments Annual Meeting on February 25 and 26. It provided two nights of opportunity to collaborate and share ideas with state and local counterparts in an effort to make our communities stronger. 🤝💡”
- Instagram Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Added 47 new page followers
  - Post Impressions – 4,231
  - Top post (Largest reach): “We continue investing in smoother, safer streets with support from the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Powell Bill program. 🛣️ Powell Bill funds financial support the Town’s 20-year roadway lifecycle program, which aims to resurface approximately five miles of roadway each year. Learn more about Powell Bill funding at the link in our bio. #LelandNC #TownofLelandNC”

- LinkedIn Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Added 28 new followers
  - Page views – 195
  - Page impressions – 5,925
  - Reactions/Comments/Shares – 152
  - Top post (Largest reach): “Thank you to everyone who came out to Spring Fling at Founders Park! It was great to see the park full again with families, laughter, and community spirit. We loved celebrating with you!”

## Project Updates

- Created posts that resulted in 184,369 impressions across social media platforms.
- Work to develop a new Town Hall style engagement series for Town Council and the public continues in collaboration with the Town Clerk.
- Staff continued working with CivicPlus on the migration and rebuilding of the Town’s website.
- Staff continued working with IT to select a mobile app vendor.
- Staff continue working with a local graphic designer to create a logo and brand guide for Leland in Lights.
- Continued working with IT to create an employee intranet site.
- Proposed budget content creation continued, with staff working to produce budget highlight videos.
- Published the Public Safety annual reports in an online dashboard format to make them more engaging.
- Continued working with a local graphic designer to create a Lend a Hand in Leland logo.
- Continued working towards ADA compliance by conducting research, contacting vendors, and collaborating with IT to develop an organization-wide strategy for implementation.

## Website Articles/Media Coverage

- Town of Leland Website
  - [Leland Leverages State Funding to Maintain and Improve Local Roadways](#)
  - [Pick Up a Free Tree at Leland’s Community Tree Giveaway](#)
  - [Project Proposals Now Open for Lend a Hand in Leland](#)
  - [Leland Police Department Celebrates Outstanding Service](#)
  - [Leland 2045 Quarterly Update](#)
  - [See How Leland’s Public Safety Departments Served the Community in 2025](#)
  - [Town of Leland Issues Town-wide Burn Ban](#)

- WECT

- [Leland receives \\$400K in state mitigation grant funding](#)
- [Free native trees available this weekend at Leland Cultural Arts Center](#)
- [Leland residents call for spending transparency at budget forum](#)
- [WECT INVESTIGATES: What's really in Leland's \\$470K travel budget?](#)
- [Leland town attorney says no crime in laptop dispute, but policy was violated](#)
- [Leland council member speaks out after violating town policy in laptop request](#)
- [Leland daycare workers under investigation after alleged assault of 3-year-old](#)
- [Novant Health receives state approval for two new medical facilities in Brunswick County](#)

- WWAY

- [Leland project included in \\$40 million disaster relief and mitigation funding](#)
- [Business Expo set for March 18 at Leland Cultural Arts Center](#)
- [Question and answer forum for residents held for \\$50 million Leland town budget](#)
- [Leland leaders consider voting districts amid growth concerns](#)
- [Leland town leaders moving on after ruling made in laptop controversy](#)
- [Leland town council hears public on budget, approves text amendment defining data centers](#)
- [Ocean Gate reconstruction project in Leland nearing completion](#)
- [Two Leland daycare employees suspended in child abuse investigation](#)
- [Leland hospital, Carolina Shores emergency department approved for Brunswick County](#)

- StarNews

- [Leland makes way to allow data centers with strict rules](#)
- [Leland proposes \\$50 million budget with tax cut, new positions](#)
- [After 4,500 acres added since 2022, Leland considers annexing more](#)
- [Several new businesses planned at Leland shopping center](#)
- [See what's happening at a growing Leland shopping center](#)
- [Another Taco Bell planned for Brunswick County. Here's where.](#)
- [Federal lawsuit claims Leland police negligent in 'unlawful' stop](#)
- [Leland pays attorney fees after computer purchase confusion](#)

- [Novant Health to build new hospital in Leland](#)
- Port City Daily
  - [Native tree giveaway to take place in Leland on Saturday](#)
  - [The Agenda: Meetings in local government this week](#)
  - [The Agenda: This week in local government meetings](#)
  - [Leland councilmember pushes back after probe finds policy violation, no legal wrongdoing](#)
  - [The Agenda: This week in local government meetings](#)
  - [Peacocks out, livestock restricted in Leland, following resident complaints](#)
  - [Belville aligns with Leland on burn ban, push for united front](#)
- Wilmington Biz
  - [Novant Approved For 20-bed Hospital, Emergency Department In Brunswick County](#)

## TDA Marketing

- Continued working with Springer Studios on brand development, which includes logo design and brand voice.
- Staff have finalized spring ads for Our State magazine.

## Leland TDA Meeting Summary

The Leland Tourism Development Authority met on March 2, 2026 and heard the following:

- Town of Leland's Leland in Lights grant project closeout presentation
- LTDA branding discussion
- FY26-27 budget public hearing

The next LTDA meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2026.

## Planning and Inspections Department News

Drew Dimella joined the department as Planner I.

Planner II Brooke Maynard attended Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program, a three-day workshop preparing her to become a Certified Floodplain Manager.

Mr. Dimella and Planning Supervisor Ben Watts attended MDOT: Complete Streets, a webinar from the Maryland Department of Transportation. Speakers presented MDOT's complete streets policy and went over best practices for implementation.

## Planning Board Meeting Summary

The Planning Board met on March 24, 2026, and heard the following items:

1. Initial Zoning Recommendation – The Planning Board voted to recommend the initial zoning of 150.26 acres on U.S. Highway 74/76 in front of Compass Pointe to M-F, Multifamily District, C-1, General Commercial Business District, C-3, Commercial Trucking District, and CD, Conservation District.
2. Initial Zoning Recommendation – The Planning Board voted to recommend the initial zoning of 103.94 acres on Colon Mintz Road to be CD, Conservation District.

The Planning Board's next meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2026, at 6 p.m.

## Board of Adjustment Meeting Summary

The Board of Adjustment did not meet in March due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2026, at 6 p.m.

## Current Planning Update

### Technical Review Committee (TRC) Report

In addition to project reviews, the Technical Review Committee (TRC) reviewed the following new items:

1. Preliminary Subdivision Plat for Venice Landing – Proposal for 31 single family detached lots on 9.69 acres on Lanvale Road.
2. Development Site Plan for Grand Park Phase 4 Active Open Space – Proposal for paved walking area with landscaping and benches.
3. Development Site Plan for East Lake Phase 5 Amenity Site – Proposal for outdoor pool, pickleball courts, grilling area, playground, shuffleboard courts, and associated parking and walkways.

4. Development Site Plan for Tesla Supercharger Station – Proposal for eight electric vehicle charging stations adjacent to Murphy USA on New Pointe Boulevard.

### Number of Reviews by Stage – Permitting Applications

<u>Stage/Plan Type</u>	<u>Initial</u>		<u>Revisions</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	No.	Avg. Days	No.	Avg. Days	No.	Avg. Days
Address Request	1	1.0	0		1	1.0
Building/ Flood (3 Day Review)	6	2.2	3	1.0	9	1.8
Chief Building Official Review	1	1.0	0		1	1.0
Commercial Building / Flood	3	3.7	0		3	3.7
Commercial Building / Flood / Zoning	3	9.0	15	3.3	18	4.2
Commercial Building / Zoning	5	10.4	15	4.9	20	6.3
Commercial Building Fire	2	14.0	7	4.7	9	6.8
Electrical (5-Day Review)	4	6.8	1	1.0	5	5.6
Fire Operational Permits	3	6.3	0		3	6.3
Permit Building/Zoning	7	10.7	6	3.7	13	7.5
Permit Flood	1	2.0	0		1	2.0
Permit Zoning Only	3	1.7	0		3	1.7
Residential Building / Flood	3	7.3	3	1.0	6	4.2
Residential Building / Zoning / Flood	81	7.3	96	2.1	177	4.5
<b>Total Initial: 123</b>			<b>Total Revisions: 146</b>		<b>Total Plans: 269</b>	

## Number of Reviews by Stage – Planning Applications

<u>Stage/Plan Type</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Revisions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Address Request	19	8	27
Development Site Plan	5	8	13
Development Site Plan Minor Modifi	4	4	8
Exempt Plat	5	1	6
Family Care/ Group Home	1	1	2
Final Plat with New Performance Gu	6	2	8
Final Plat without a Performance Gu	1	2	3
General Rezoning	1	0	1
Home Occupation	1	0	1
Performance Guarantee Extension	1	0	1
Performance Guarantee Release	0	1	1
Preliminary Plat Minor Modifications	2	0	2
Preliminary Plat-Major Subdivision	0	2	2
PUD Site Specific Plan and Master	0	2	2
PUD Site Specific Plan Revision/Ma	1	0	1
Sketch Plan	2	1	3
Zoning Letter	2	0	2
<b>Total Initial: 51</b>		<b>Total Revisions: 32</b>	<b>Total Plans: 83</b>

## Floodplain Development Update

Floodplain Development Permits	Floodplain Development Inspections
2	0

## Other Information

### Performance Guarantees

Subdivision	Number of Agreements	Total per Agreement Type	Change from Previous Month
<b><i>Beckington Townhomes</i></b>			
Surety Bonds	2	\$139,964.38	\$0.00
<b><i>Bellamy Place</i></b>			
Cash Bond	1	\$1,037,615.00	\$0.00
<b><i>Bishops Ridge</i></b>			
Cash Bond	1	\$14,875.84	\$0.00
<b><i>Brunswick Forest</i></b>			
Surety Bonds	16	\$4,855,835.42	-\$3,534,502.58
<b><i>Charleston Commons</i></b>			
Cash Bond	2	\$171,490.62	\$0.00
<b><i>East Lake</i></b>			
Surety Bond	6	\$1,398,205.08	\$0.00
<b><i>Grand Park</i></b>			
Surety Bond	2	\$895,602.23	\$0.00
<b><i>Grayson Park</i></b>			
Cash Bonds	3	\$50,860.15	\$0.00
Surety Bonds	8	\$1,225,669.38	\$0.00
<b><i>Highland Hills Village</i></b>			
Letters of Credit	1	\$56,250.00	\$0.00
<b><i>Leland Corners</i></b>			
Surety Bond	1	\$181,343.75	\$0.00
<b><i>Mallory Creek</i></b>			
Letters of Credit	1	\$92,285.00	\$0.00
Cash Bonds	5	\$329,716.44	\$0.00

Surety Bonds	10	\$2,960,668.01	\$0.00
<b>Night Harbor Drive</b>			
Cash Bond	1	\$7,650.00	\$0.00
<b>Pinewood</b>			
Surety Bond	5	\$2,282,345.51	\$0.00
<b>Riverwalk Point</b>			
Surety Bond	2	\$481,560.00	\$0.00
<b>Savannah Branch</b>			
Surety Bond	1	\$854,407.50	\$0.00
<b>Seabrooke</b>			
Cash Bond	1	\$0.00	-\$144,035.00
<b>Terrapin</b>			
Surety Bond	5	\$540,850.00	\$0.00
<b>Townes at Seabrooke</b>			
Surety Bond	2	\$683,850.25	\$0.00
<b>Westgate Townes</b>			
Surety Bond	5	\$1,901,216.80	\$0.00
Total Cash Bonds	14	\$1,612,208.05	-\$144,035.00
Total Surety Bonds	65	\$18,401,518.31	-\$3,534,502.58
Total Letters of Credit	2	\$148,535.00	\$0.00
Total Performance Guarantee Sureties	81	\$20,162,261.36	-\$3,678,537.58

## Long Range Planning and Community Development Update

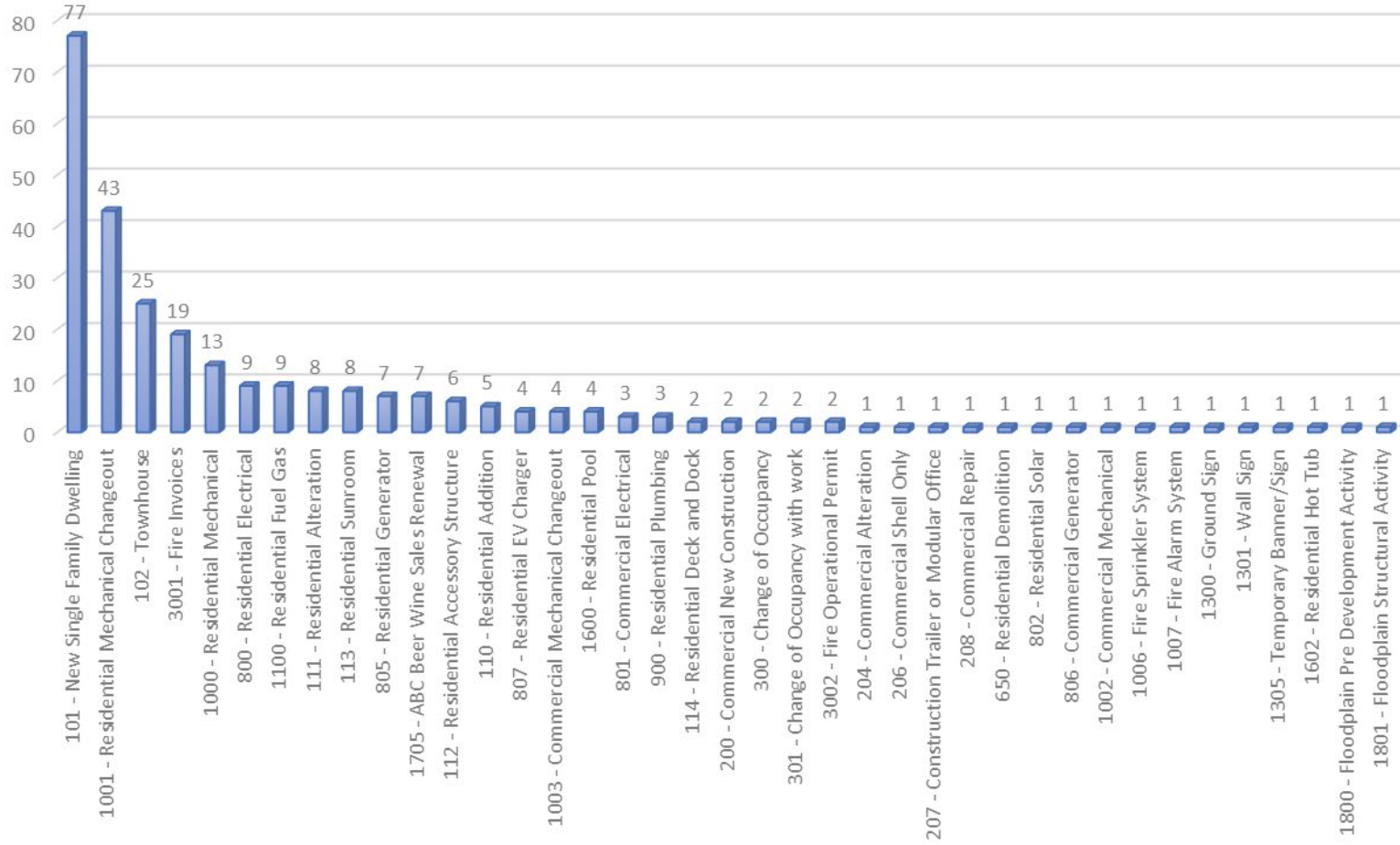
Staff is starting to work on the corridor plans for S. Navassa Road and Village Road, including setting project scope, goals, and the public engagement plan.

Staff attended the monthly Cape Fear Housing Coalition meeting.

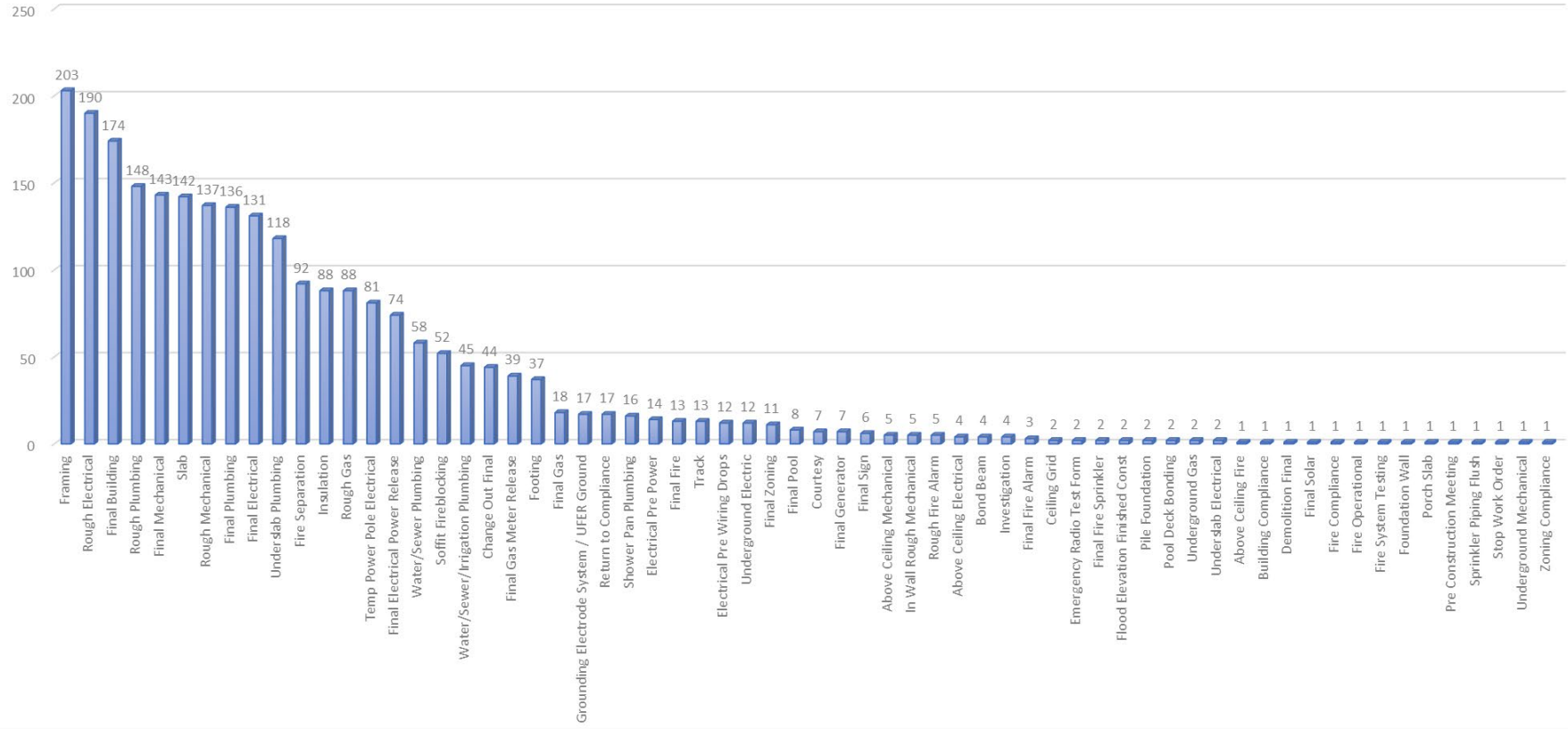
## Building Permitting and Inspections Update

Total Permits Issued	Total Inspections	Total Value of Construction
280	2,451	\$26,839,294

### Permits Issued by Type 3/1/26 to 3/31/26



Inspections Completed by Type 3/1/26 to 3/31/26



## Code Enforcement Update

### Case Summary

3/1 Through 3/31	Minimum Housing	Nuisance	Zoning	Vehicle	Total
Cases Carried over from February	1	1	25	0	27
Cases Opened March 2026	1	8	15	2	26
Cases Closed March 2026	1	2	8	0	11
Active Cases (Evolve) 2026	1	7	32	1	42

## Economic and Community Development Department News

Staff was invited by the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship to attend the Power Breakfast: Big Jobs event hosted by the Wilmington Business Journal. At the event, staff heard directly from David Gray, CEO of FedUp Foods, Holly Sullivan, Vice President of Worldwide Economic Development at Amazon, and Steve Uebele, CEO of Frontier Scientific Solutions. They discussed what is driving the growth of their companies and why the greater Wilmington area is attractive for employers and employees.

Staff met with the State representation from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, the Brunswick County economic development organization, and commercial realtors to discuss priority projects, prospective businesses, and strategies to align target sector attraction and workforce development.

Staff met on-site in the Leland Innovation Park with project developers to discuss prospective tenants and a development timeline for three new flex space buildings accounting for approximately 130,000 square feet of industrial space.

### New Businesses

- No new businesses were announced in March.

### New Construction/Development

- Sheetz proposed an approximately 6,100-square-foot restaurant and gas station at the northeast intersection of **Highway 17** and **Knightbell Circle**.

## Economic Development Committee Meeting Summary

The Economic Development Committee met on March 12 and heard a presentation from Greenfield, a consulting firm that specializes in assisting state, regional, and local development groups to recruit businesses and help businesses navigate the site selection process. During the presentation and discussion, topics included margins of commercial leakage and growing segments of the market such as industrial and retail. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2026.

## Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Resources Department News

The department has enjoyed an exciting Session Two of the winter/spring schedule. The highlight in March was the annual Spring Fling, which included many vendors, local businesses, and an Easter egg hunt. More than 2,800 people attended the annual event.

## Parks and Recreation Board Summary

The Parks and Recreation Board did not meet in March. The next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2026 at 6 p.m.

## Upcoming Events

March 30-April 17 – Erika Pifher Gallery, LCAC

April 20-24 – Brunswick County Parks and Rec, Silver Arts Gallery, LCAC

April 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Homeschool Studio, LCAC

April 21, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – Homeschool Studio Teens, LCAC

April 22, 6-7:30 p.m. – History and Future of Eagles Island, LCAC

April 24, 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Silver Arts Gallery Reception, LCAC

April 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – Little Leaps Dance Recital, LCAC

May 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Homeschool Studio, LCAC


May 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Homeschool Studio Teens, LCAC

May 9, 12-1:30 p.m. – Storytime, LCAC

May 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. – In Bloom, Founders Park

## Social Media Update

- PRCR Facebook Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Followers/Likes – 6,935
  - Page reach – 47,204
  - Top post (Largest reach): “The Town of Leland is teaming up with Alliance for Cape Fear Trees, Enterprise Mobility, and the Arbor Day Foundation to give away 1,000 FREE native trees! Each household may take home up to two trees—first come; first served. Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Leland Cultural Arts Center Choose from climate-ready species like Southern Live Oak, River Birch, American Holly, Persimmon, Flowering Dogwood, White Oak, American Elm, and Black gum. Certified arborists and Tree Stewards will be there to help you choose the right tree and share planting and care tips.”
- LCAC Facebook Highlights (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Followers/Likes – 5,536
  - Page reach – 2,404
  - Top post (Largest reach): “The Town of Leland is teaming up with Alliance for Cape Fear Trees, Enterprise Mobility, and the Arbor Day Foundation to give away 1,000 FREE native trees! Each household may take home up to two trees—first come; first served. Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Leland Cultural Arts Center Choose from climate-ready species like Southern Live Oak, River Birch, American Holly, Persimmon, Flowering Dogwood, White Oak, American Elm, and Black gum. Certified arborists and Tree Stewards will be there to help you choose the right tree and share planting and care tips.”
- PRCR Instagram (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Followers/Likes – 2,207
  - Post reach – 5,532
  - Top post (Largest reach): “The Town of Leland is teaming up with Alliance for Cape Fear Trees, Enterprise Mobility, and the Arbor Day Foundation to give away 1,000 FREE native trees! Each household may take home up to two trees—first come; first served. Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Leland Cultural Arts Center Choose from climate-ready species like Southern Live Oak, River Birch, American Holly, Persimmon, Flowering Dogwood, White Oak, American Elm, and Black gum. Certified arborists and Tree Stewards will be there to help you choose the right tree and share planting and care tips.”
- LCAC Instagram (March 1 – 31, 2026)
  - Followers/Likes – 2,185
  - Post reach – 950
  - Top post (Largest reach): “The Town of Leland is teaming up with Alliance for Cape Fear Trees, Enterprise Mobility, and the Arbor



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Day Foundation to give away 1,000 FREE native trees! Each household may take home up to two trees—first come; first served. Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Leland Cultural Arts Center Choose from climate-ready species like Southern Live Oak, River Birch, American Holly, Persimmon, Flowering Dogwood, White Oak, American Elm, and Black gum. Certified arborists and Tree Stewards will be there to help you choose the right tree and share planting and care tips.”

## Human Resources Department News

In March, the Town welcomed seven new employees, four to the Public Works Department, one to Economic and Community Development, one to the Fire Department, and one to the Planning and Inspections Department. The Town had three employee promotions, with one staff member ending their service with the Town. The department hosted the March Madness Employee Appreciation Event and part two of the Community Resiliency Model training from Coastal Horizons.

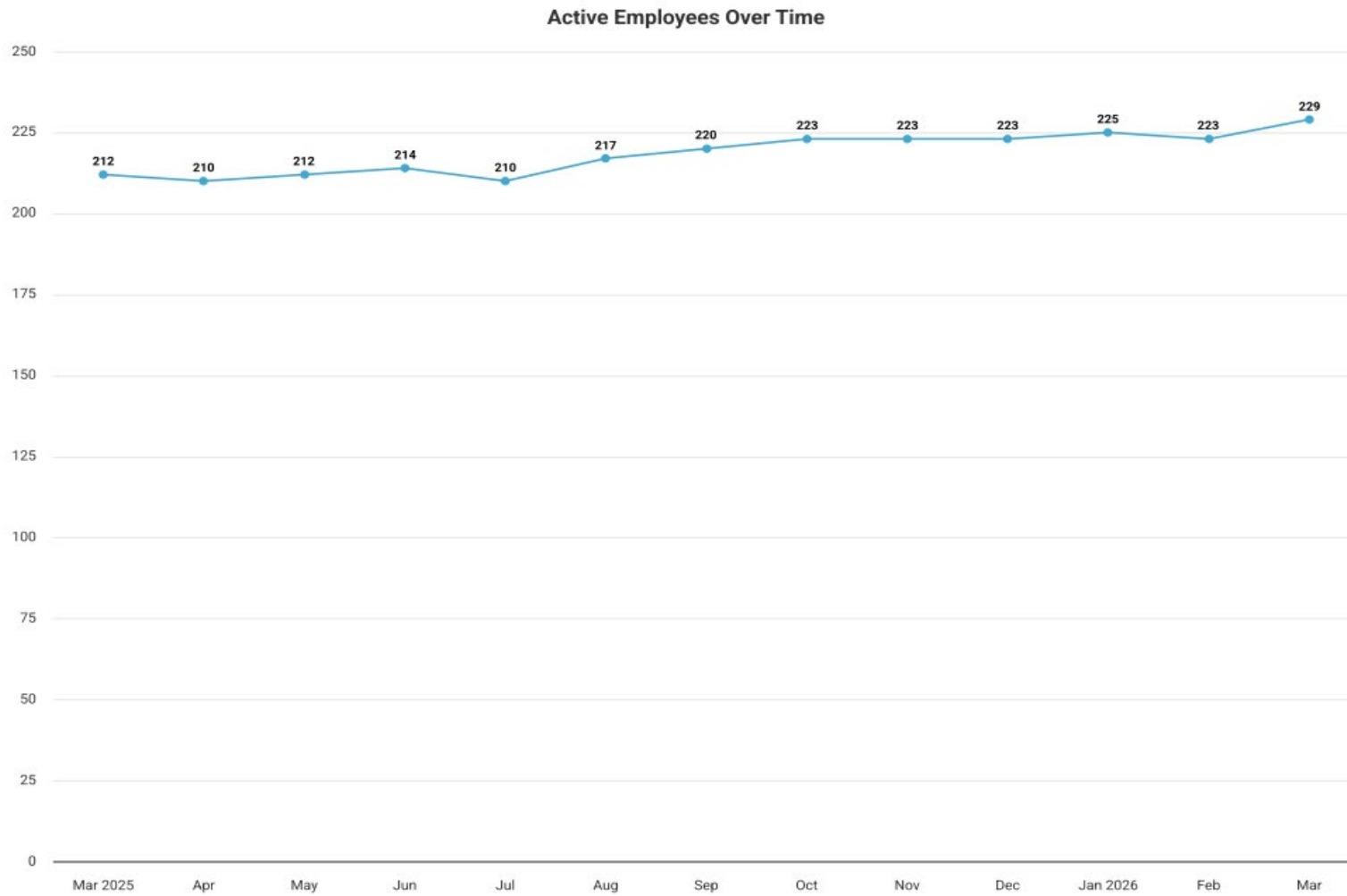
### Personnel Updates

Name of Employee	Department	Type of Change	Date of Change	Position Title	From Position	To Position
Connor Jacobs	Public Works	New Hire	3/2/2026	Streets Maintenance Technician I		
Ryan Staley	Public Works	New Hire	3/2/2026	Grounds Maintenance Technician I		
Neil Patterson	Fire Department	Promotion	3/14/2026		Firefighter	Senior Firefighter
Nathan Silos	Police Department	Promotion	3/14/2026		Police Officer	Master Police Officer
Troy Bolyard	Economic & Community Development	New Hire	3/16/2026	Business and Tourism Development Coordinator		
Adalis Chavez	Public Works	New Hire	3/16/2026	Custodian I		
Drew Dimella	Planning and Inspections Department	New Hire	3/16/2026	Planner I		
Stanton James	Fire Department	New Hire	3/16/2026	Firefighter		
Dylan Patterson	Public Works	New Hire	3/16/2026	Grounds Maintenance Technician I		
Shea Duncan	Economic & Community Development	Termed	3/27/2026	Recreation Assistant		
Tyler Barth	Public Works	Promotion	3/28/2026		Streets Maintenance Technician II	Construction Inspector

## Workers Comp Data March 2026

Number of Incidents	Loss Time (Y or N)	Brief Description of Incident and Injury/Illness
1	N	Neck injury

## Headcount (FT and PT Employees) April 2025 – March 2026



Headcount ⓘ

**229**

As of Mar 2026

Hired ⓘ

**49**

Termed ⓘ

**32**

Growth Rate ⓘ

**8.0%**

Turnover Rate ⓘ

**14.6%**

Average Tenure ⓘ

**4.4**

(Years)

Terminations include voluntary and involuntary separations of employment.

## Information Technology Department News

Systems Administrator Greg Vandergriff attended virtual training on Microsoft security tools to gain experience with real-world scenarios and build practical skills to support cybersecurity administration within the organization.

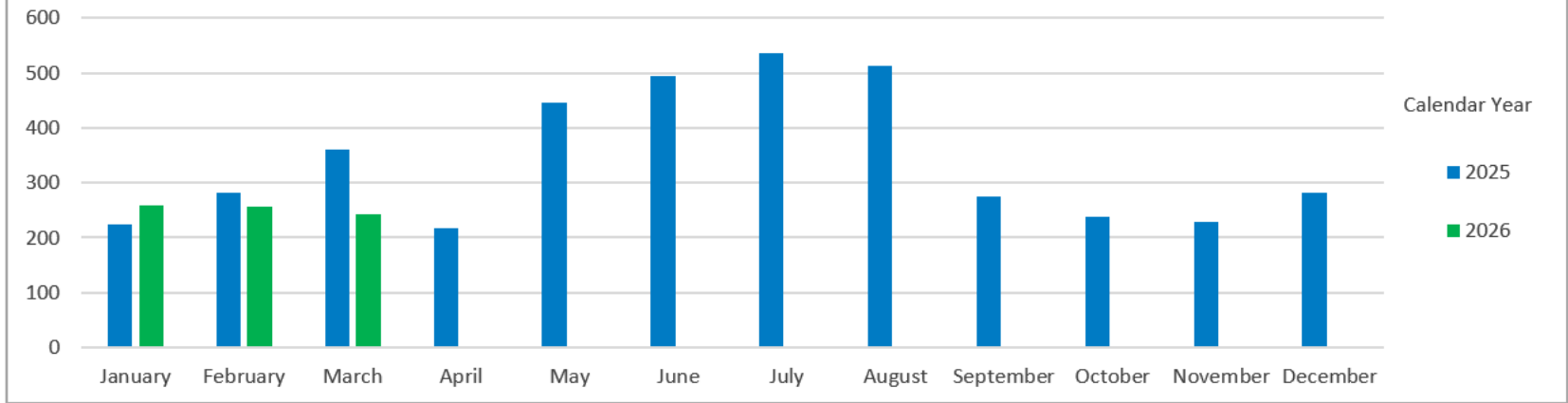
### Major Work Priorities

- Facility Improvements: Staff are planning for a Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) system that will enhance radio coverage within Fire Station 52.
- Audio-Visual Systems Upgrade: Work continues with installation of new audio-visual equipment in renovated conference rooms within Town Hall.
- Founders Park Infrastructure: Staff continue planning for the installation of technology resources necessary to accommodate Founders Park events scheduled for later this year.
- Website Migration: Staff continue to work with the Communications Department in the planning and design phases of the website platform migration.

### Projects Completed

- 6 employees were onboarded/offboarded.
- Address Data Management: Staff provided training sessions for the Planning Department on the use of an address management tool provided by Brunswick County to support the maintenance of Town address data.
- Town Hall Renovation: Staff completed office equipment moves for Fire and IT personnel as renovations have been completed in renovated portions of the building.

Total IT Support Tickets by Month (2025-2026)



## Administration Department News

Mayor Brenda Bozeman signed a letter of support for staff to submit the Baldwin Drive Pedestrian Improvement Project for the FY27 Community Project Funding request.

On April 14, Councilmember Carter attended the NCLM Municipal Finance Comprehensive Fiscal Training for Local Governments. The training covered a wide range of municipal finance topics, including the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, budgeting, internal controls, debt management, audits, purchasing processes, and ethical considerations, as well as best practices for financial oversight. The course also emphasized the roles of elected officials and staff in maintaining strong financial management and accountability.

## Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk Sabrena Reinhardt and Deputy Town Clerk Adam Golonka attended the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) Region III Academy held in Wrightsville Beach. The sessions included the following: What Leaders Miss About Cybersecurity, Navigating Legal Boundaries on Social Media, Communication Excellence – Building Successful Relationships, Essential Records and Disaster Preparedness, IIMC Region III Annual Business Meeting, First Amendment Audits, and the Changing Role of the Clerk Discussion Panels.

## Work Priorities

- The Town Clerk published meeting agendas and prepared minutes for the following meetings:
  - March 2 Leland Tourism Development Authority Meeting
  - March 3 Board of Adjustment Meeting - Canceled
  - March 9 Special Council Meeting
  - March 12 Economic Development Committee Meeting
  - March 16 Agenda Council Meeting
  - March 18 Special Council Meeting
  - March 19 Regular Council Meeting
  - March 24 Planning Board Meeting
  - March 25 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting - Canceled
  
- Action Items:
  - Budget Amendments – 0
  - Budget Ordinances – 0
  - Minutes – 9

- Agendas – 7
- Resolutions – 3
- Ordinances – 3
- Proclamations – 4
- Certificate of Achievement – 0
- Presentations – (4) Voting Districts, Leland Tourism Development Authority Overview, Development and Economic Development Agreements Annual Report, and Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Update
- Public Hearing Notices for the Council Meetings – (3) Budget Hearing, Data Center Permitting, and Civil Penalties and Enforcement
- Current Board/Committee Vacancies: Parks & Recreation Board Student Representative (2)

## Government Portal (iCompass) Transparency Update

- Portal Visits – 41,415
- Portal Unique Visits – 5,417
- Leland Tourism Development Authority March 2 Agenda Views – 347
- Special Council Meeting March 9 Agenda Views – 621
- Economic Development Committee Meeting March 12 Agenda Views – 356
- Agenda Council Meeting March 16 Agenda Views – 672
- Special Council Meeting March 18 Agenda Views – 966
- Regular Council Meeting March 19 Agenda Views – 1,096
- Planning Board Meeting March 24 Agenda Views – 1,110
- March 2026 Monthly Staff Reports – 90