



STAFF REPORTS

March 2026 Regular Meeting

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Department News

The department hosted the FBI-LEEDA Supervisor Leadership Institute course February 9-13 at the Leland Cultural Arts Center. Law enforcement professionals from surrounding agencies attended, as well as 10 staff members. This class is part of the FBI's Trilogy Series relating to various aspects of leadership.

Sergeants Andrew Gaston, Chandler Guy, Chris Lewis, and Andrew Terry attended the fifth week of the Law Enforcement Executive Program February 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.

Officer Vincent Bongiorno attended the Police Law Institute February 16-27 at Cape Fear Community College. This course is intended to provide the skills necessary to conduct enforcement activities associated with search warrants, warrantless searches, interviews, eyewitness identifications, and nontestimonial identification orders.

Officer Landen Goodson attended the Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement course February 17-18 at Brunswick Community College. This 16-hour course is intended to provide officers with general knowledge related to drug and alcohol impairment in drivers.

Officer Megan Whitehurst attended Radar recertification February 17 at Cape Fear Community College. This course ensures officers can continue to operate their Radar instruments.

Detective Joe Robeson completed web-based training on Photography Basics for Law Enforcement February 23-March 6. This training is intended to help understand how to take proper law enforcement photographs and have them accepted into the court system.

Sergeant Terry attended the INTOX Recertification class February 24 at Fire Station 51. This course recertifies officers to operate and understand the messages produced on the Intoximeter breath testing instrument for legal breath alcohol tests.

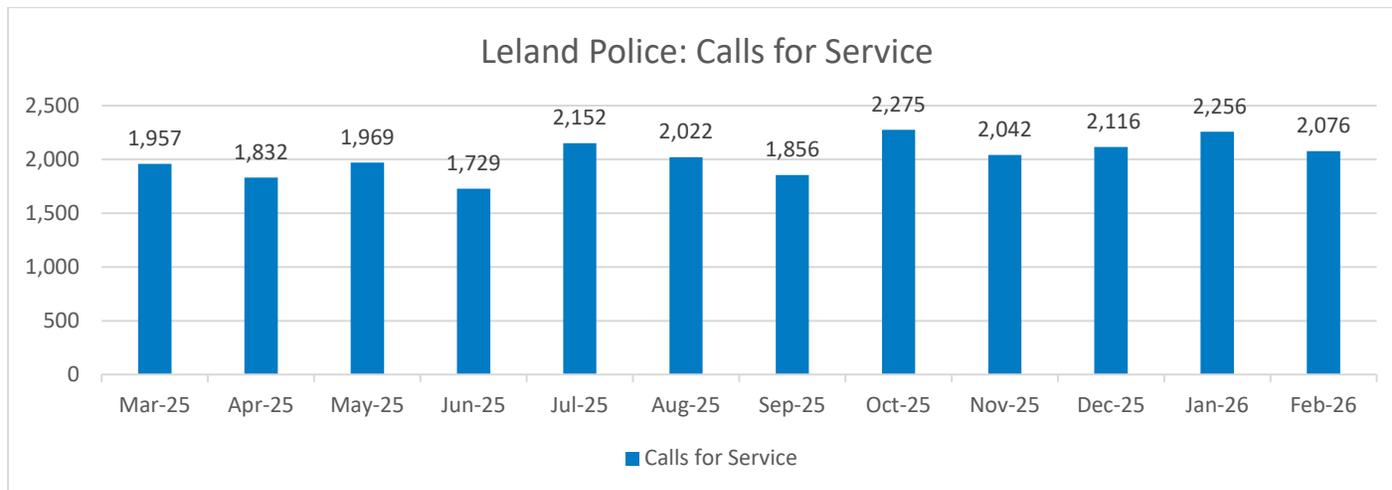
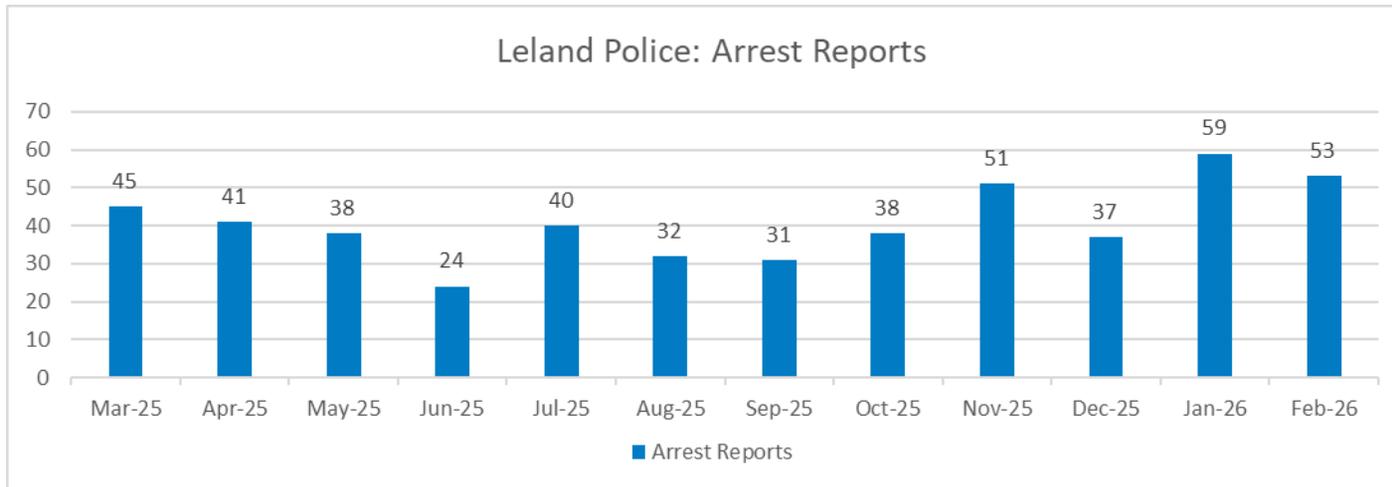
Sergeant James Munger and Detectives Robert Britton, Benjamin Majors, Robeson, and Shannon Walker attended Child Death Investigation training February 25 at Cape Fear Community College. This course is intended to help officers and investigators classify the different causes of death for children and identify the extent of investigation warranted for each.

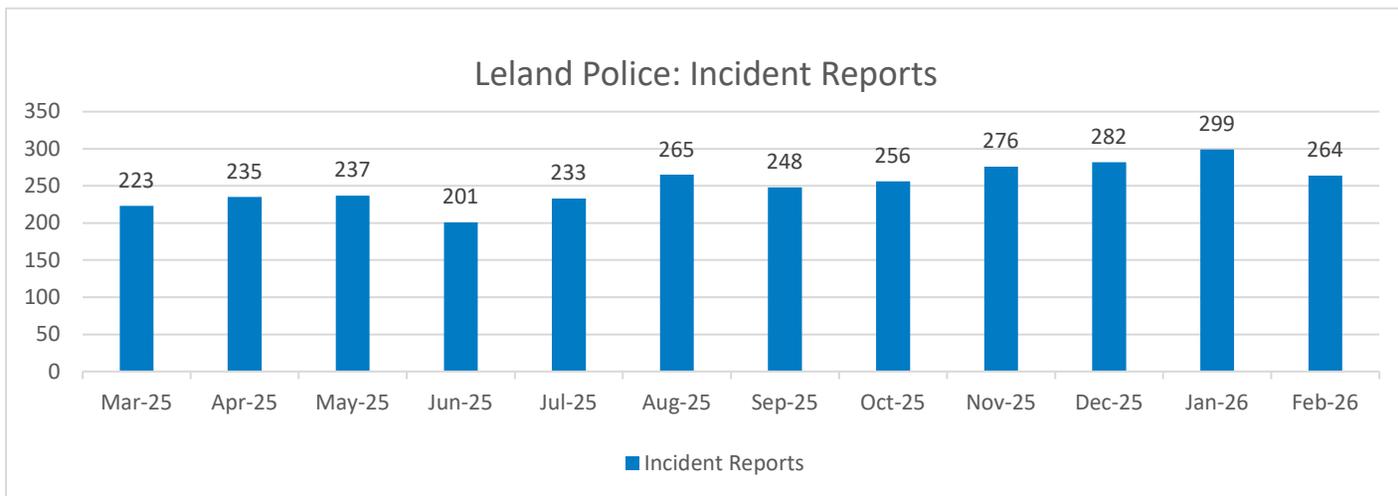
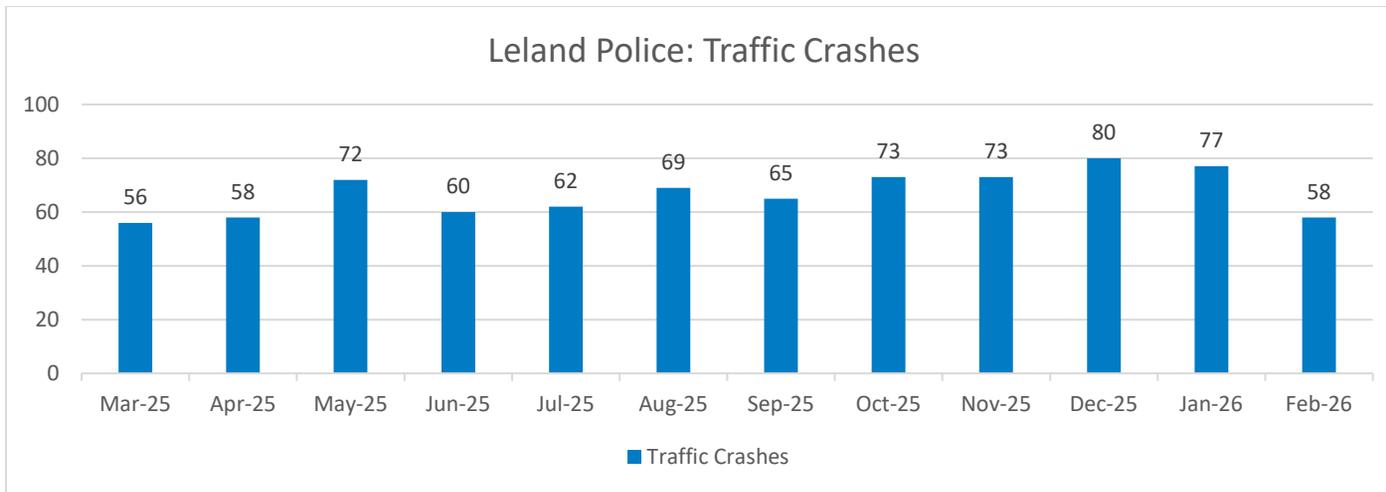
Detective Britton attended Child Abuse from Suspicion to Disclosure training February 26 virtually. This training is intended to teach the best approach with children who are alleged victims of child abuse in the initial phases of a case, after a concern has been identified.

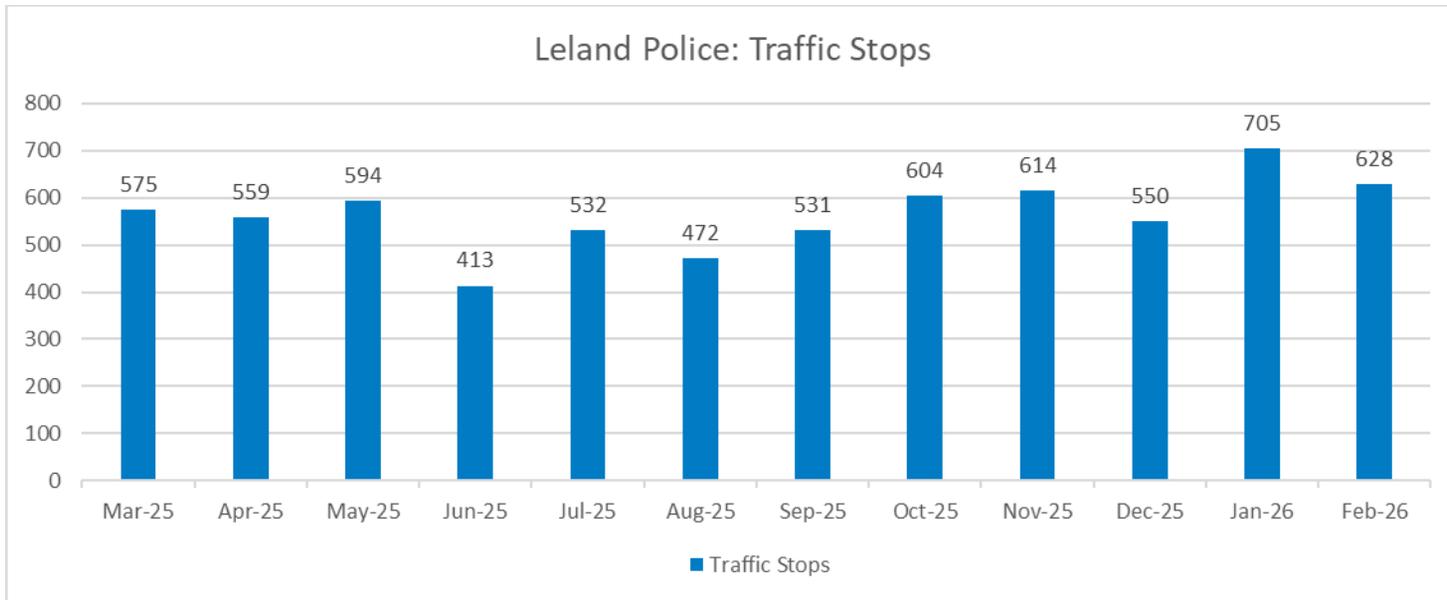
Active Mutual Aid Agreements

- 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

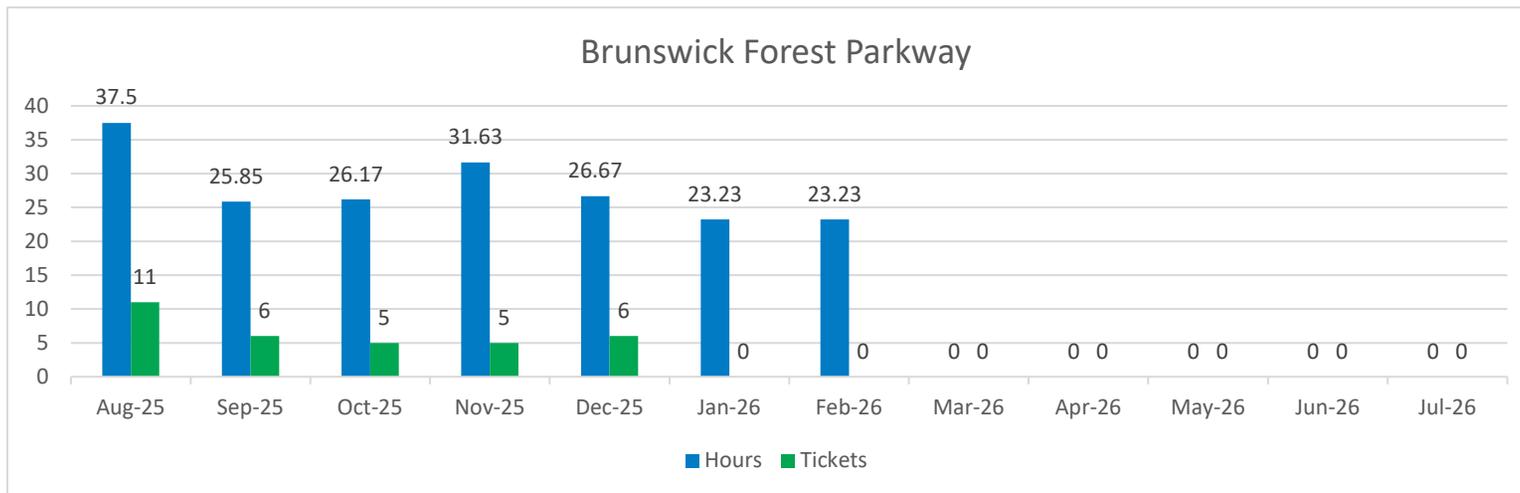
Dashboard

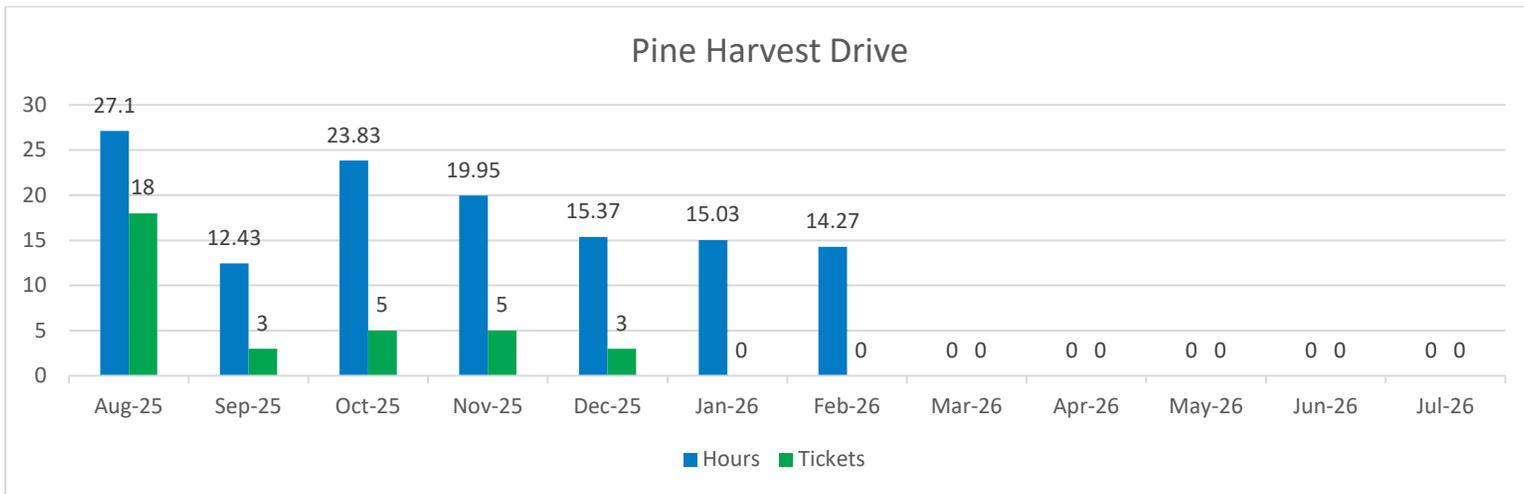
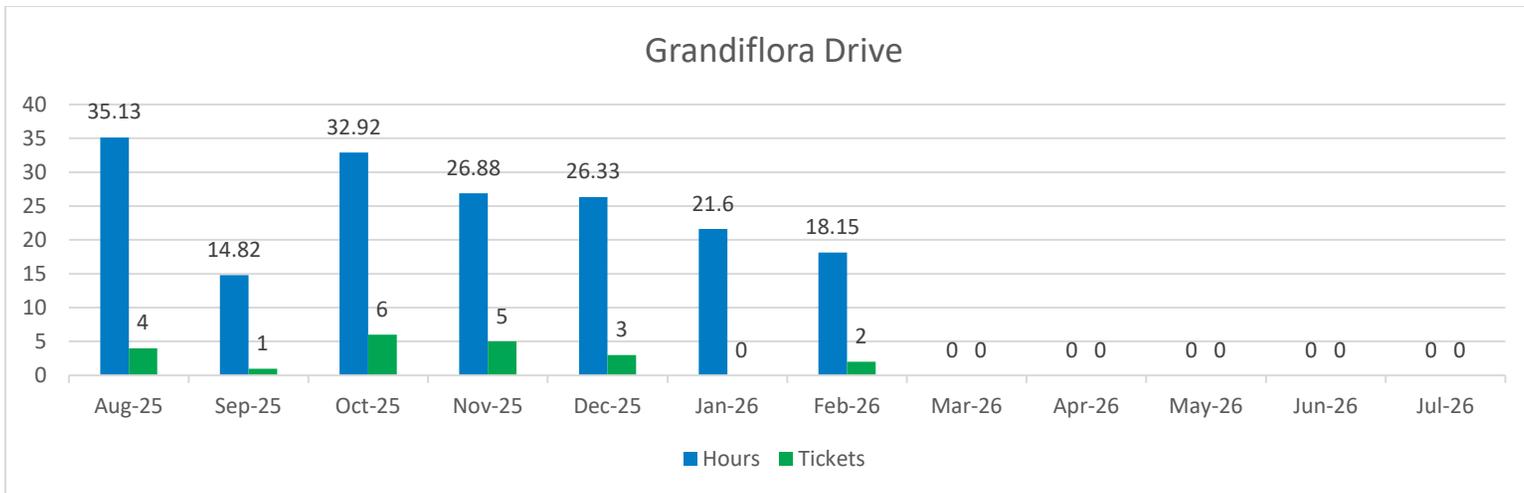


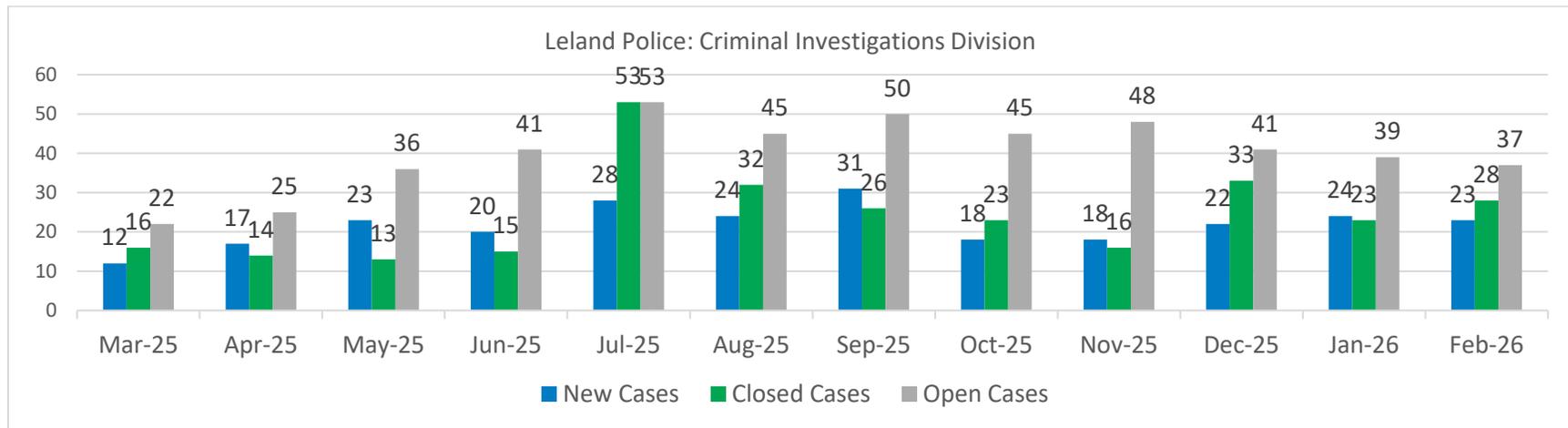
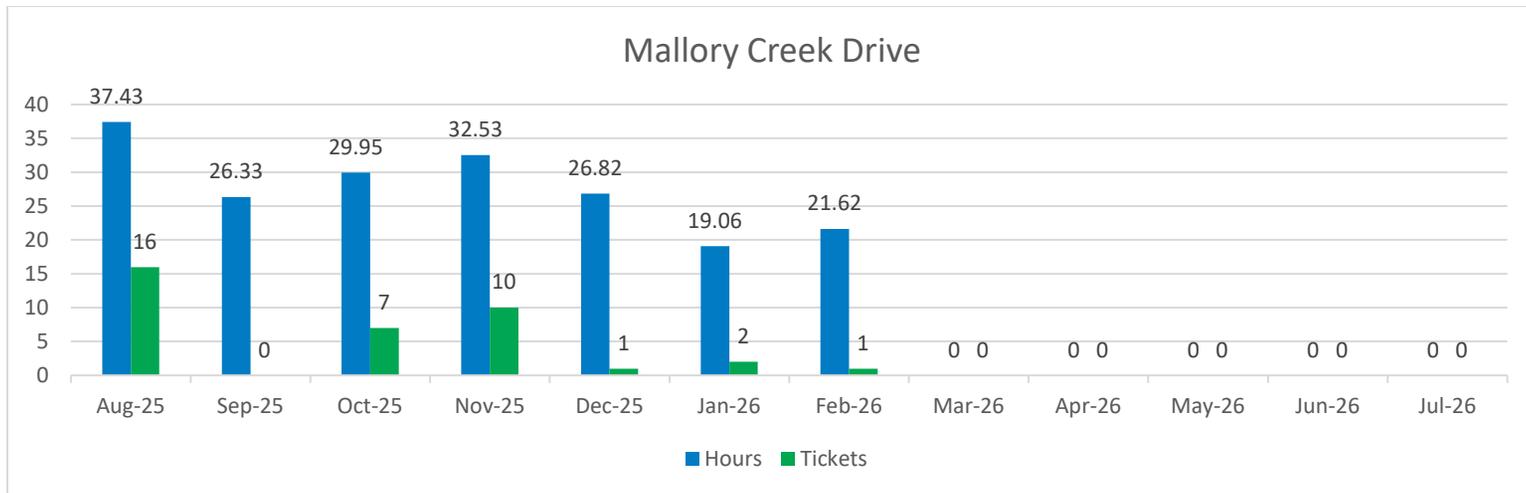




Traffic Focal Areas







Animal Services Report							
	CFS	Cats Picked up	Dogs Picked up	Transported	Traps	Citations	Bites
Mar-25	42	4	5	8	5	2	3
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
Totals	538	12	54	56	12	11	43

Department News

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

- Assisted 14 homeowners with smoke alarm installations or battery replacements
- Assisted four citizens with car seat checks/installations
- Conducted one station/engine tour
- Conducted CPR training for Collingwood Towns residents

Chris Daw, Bryce Parnell, Joe Tassi, and Garrett Yeager were promoted to Fire Apparatus Engineers.

Captain Jeremy Shaw and Senior Fire Apparatus Engineer Chris Barrett attended the North Carolina First Responder Mental Wellness Summit held at Cape Fear Community College. The two-day event featured national speakers and focused on emotional survival, resilience, and reducing stigma for first responders.

Senior Engineer Mark Onabanjo attended the Man Tracking for Search and Rescue class hosted by Richmond Community College. The class was offered through North Carolina Training Exercise Response Management System and focused on search and rescue tracking tools and methods for fire and rescue personnel.

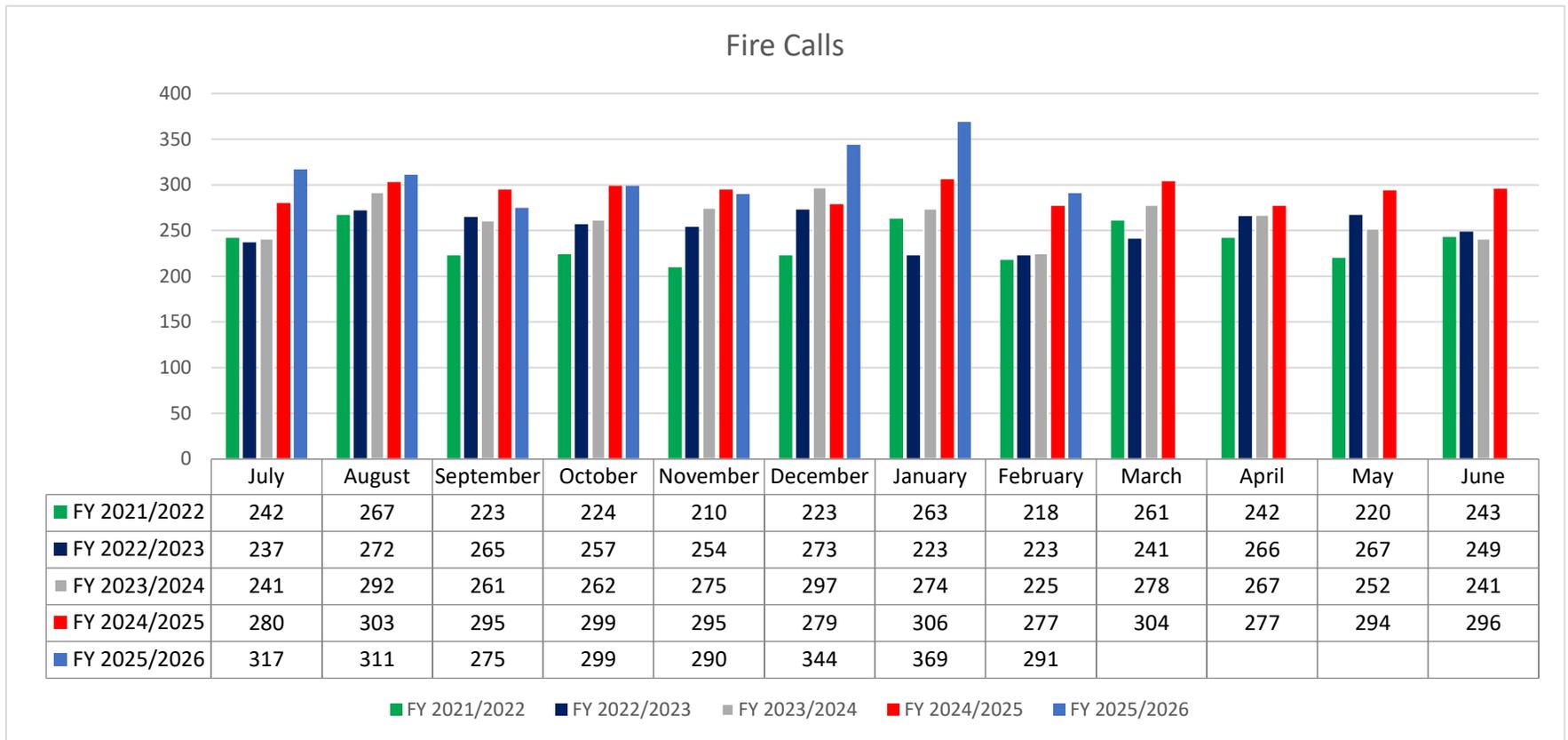
Senior Captain Halsey Hoosier, Engineers Chris Daw and Dallas Spence, and Firefighter Neil Patterson attended the Heavy Stabilization and Lifting class in Union County. The class featured lectures and hands-on training with real world experiences. The class offered a rare opportunity for members to train on lifting loads in excess of 80,000 lbs.

In February, the department continued its transition to a new method of documenting responses, which has caused a delay in this month's 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



Department News

Staff generated 175 work orders in February and completed 135 (77%).

The Engineering Department is currently hiring for a Construction Inspector.

Streets Updates

Work Priorities and Initiatives

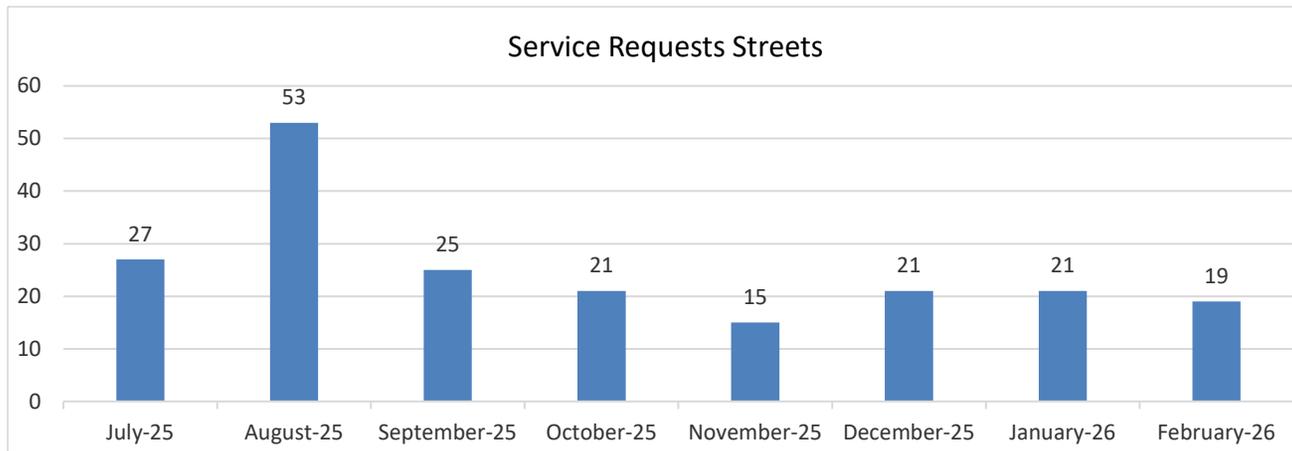
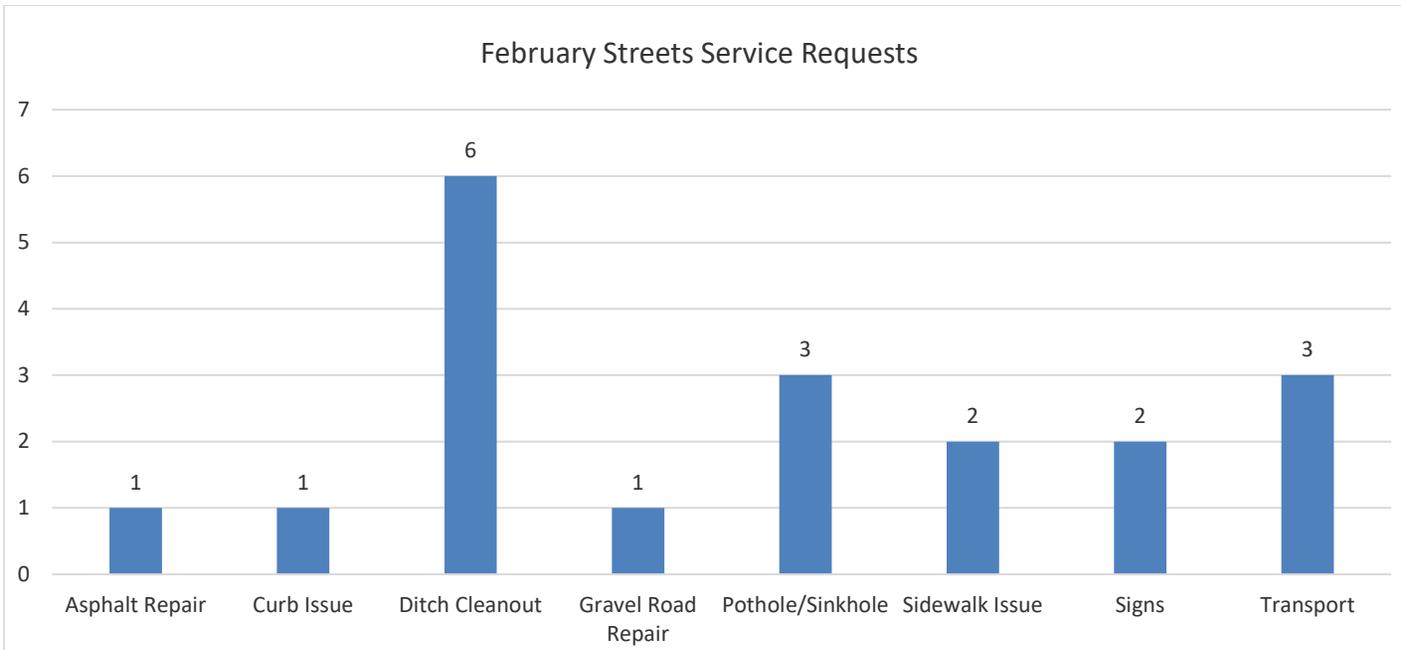
- Staff will focus on repairing sidewalks damaged by tree roots, damaged concrete curbing, and deteriorating asphalt.
- Staff have begun a large concrete curb replacement project on Beaumont Court in Magnolia Greens.

Projects Completed

- Staff cleared and cleaned out ditches on West B & S Road, Murrill Lane, Angels Way, Lyn-Marie Drive, Woodland Drive, Sturgeon Drive, and Moore Road.
- Staff installed new signs and posts in the roundabout on Mallory Creek Drive.
- Staff repaired potholes at various locations throughout Town.
- Staff removed and replaced damaged concrete curbing in Magnolia Greens.
- Staff repaired Graham Road, adding new ABC stone and grading.
- Staff repaired a sinkhole in Magnolia Greens.
- Staff removed and replaced sidewalks damaged by tree roots in Magnolia Greens.
- Staff installed a new sidewalk in Founders Park, connecting the walking path on Perry Avenue to the new playground.
- Staff relocated speed indicators as requested by the Police Department.

Work Order Summary

- Streets generated 19 work orders in February, with the majority being ditch cleanout (6), pothole/sinkhole (3), transport (3), sidewalk issue (2), and sign related (2).
- Streets completed 16 work orders in February, with an approximate expense of \$51,500 in labor, equipment, and materials to complete these work orders. The bulk of this expense was in employee costs (\$27,100) and equipment costs (\$21,500).



Grounds Updates

Work Priorities and Initiatives

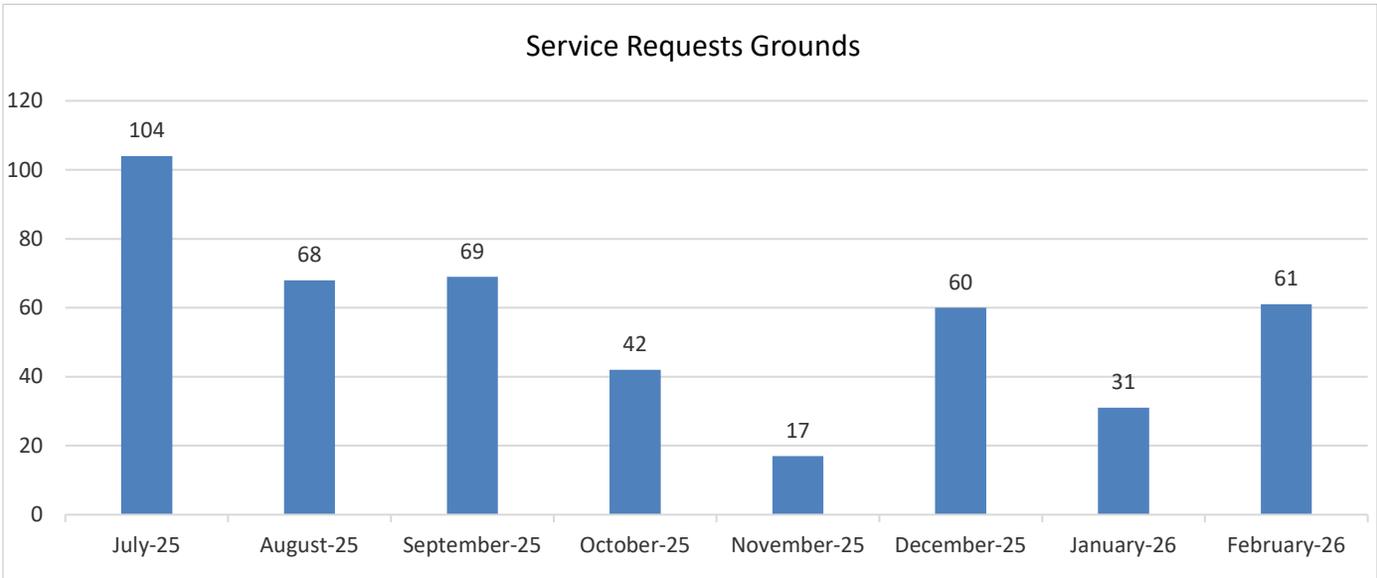
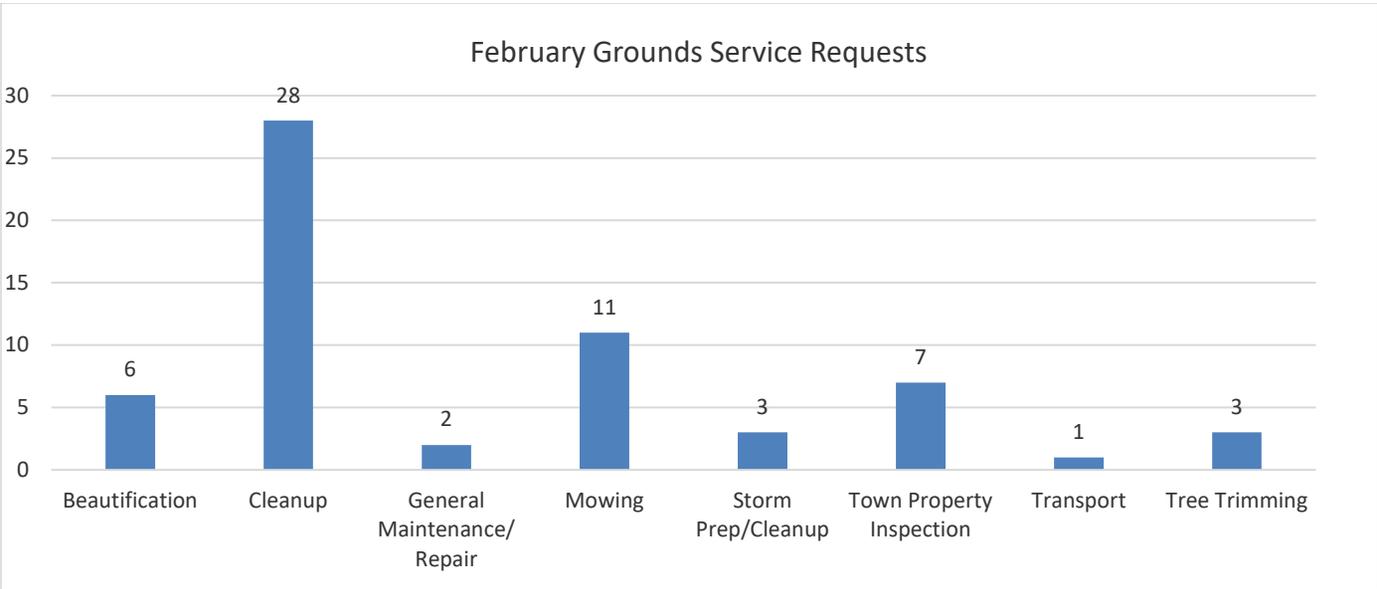
- Staff will begin applying pre-emergent fertilizer to Town-maintained lawn areas.
- Staff will continue to perform lawn maintenance at Town-owned properties and parks.
- Staff will continue to install mulch in the ornamental beds throughout Town-maintained properties.
- Staff will continue to clear 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 for spring annuals.

Projects Completed

- Staff installed mulch in the ornamental beds at Town Hall, Fire Station 51, and the MOC.
- Staff successfully removed saplings from around the large live oak tree on the River Road property.
- Staff installed Green Giant Arborvitaes in front of the generator at Fire Station 51.

Work Order Summary

- Grounds generated 61 work orders in February, with most of them being cleanup (28), mowing (11), Town property inspection (7), and beautification related (6).
- Grounds completed 40 work orders in February, with an approximate expense of \$10,500 in labor and equipment to complete these work orders.



Operations Updates

Work Priorities and Initiatives

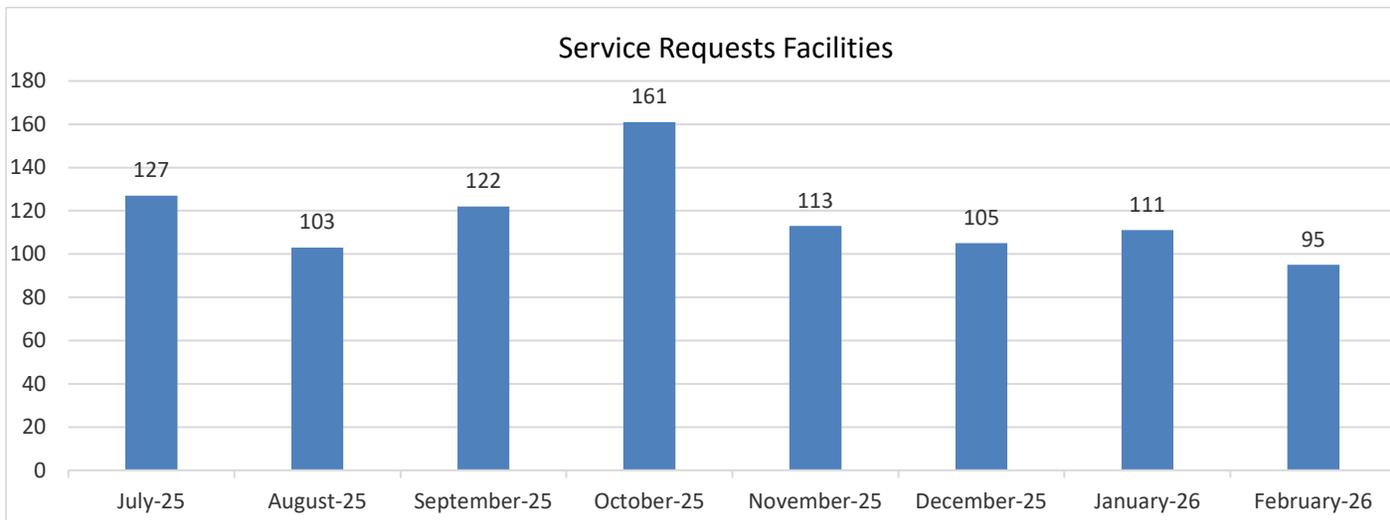
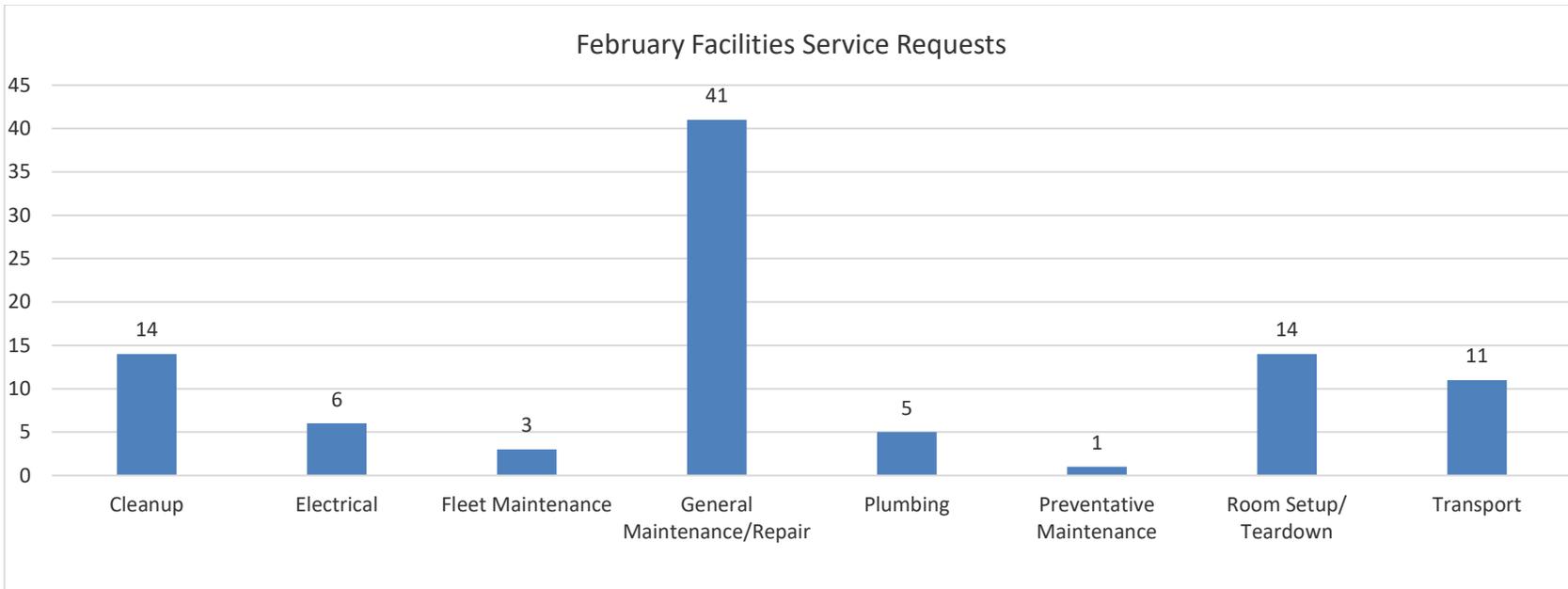
- Staff will begin operational training of the splash pad at Founders Park.
- Staff will continue to install new LED lights at Fire Station 52.
- Staff are repairing the wooden entrance deck and ramp at the MOC.
- Staff are working on new training programs for safety, HVAC, electrical, and custodial needs for 2026.
- Staff will be performing annual maintenance on all Town-owned generators in March and 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 replaced all air filters on HVAC systems within Town Hall.
- Staff completed the initial SOP for the splash pad. This will be an ongoing process.

Work Order Summary

- Operations generated 95 work orders in February, with most of them being general maintenance/repair (41), cleanup (14), room setup/teardown (14), and transport related (11).
- Operations completed 79 work orders in February, with an approximate expense of \$6,600 in labor and materials.



Town Project Updates

Projects In Design

- Baldwin Drive Improvements
- 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

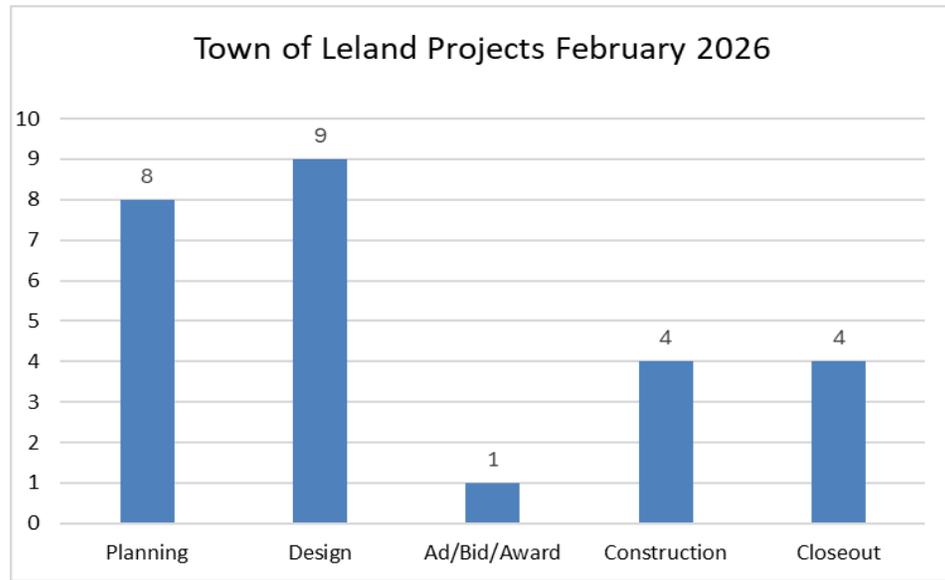
Projects In Ad/Bid/Award

- CDBG Housing Construction

Projects In Construction

- Founders Park Amphitheater Rebuild – 35% complete
- Ocean Gate Plaza Roundabout – 30% complete
- Settler’s Village Connector Road – 80% complete
- Town Hall Expansion and Renovation – 90% complete

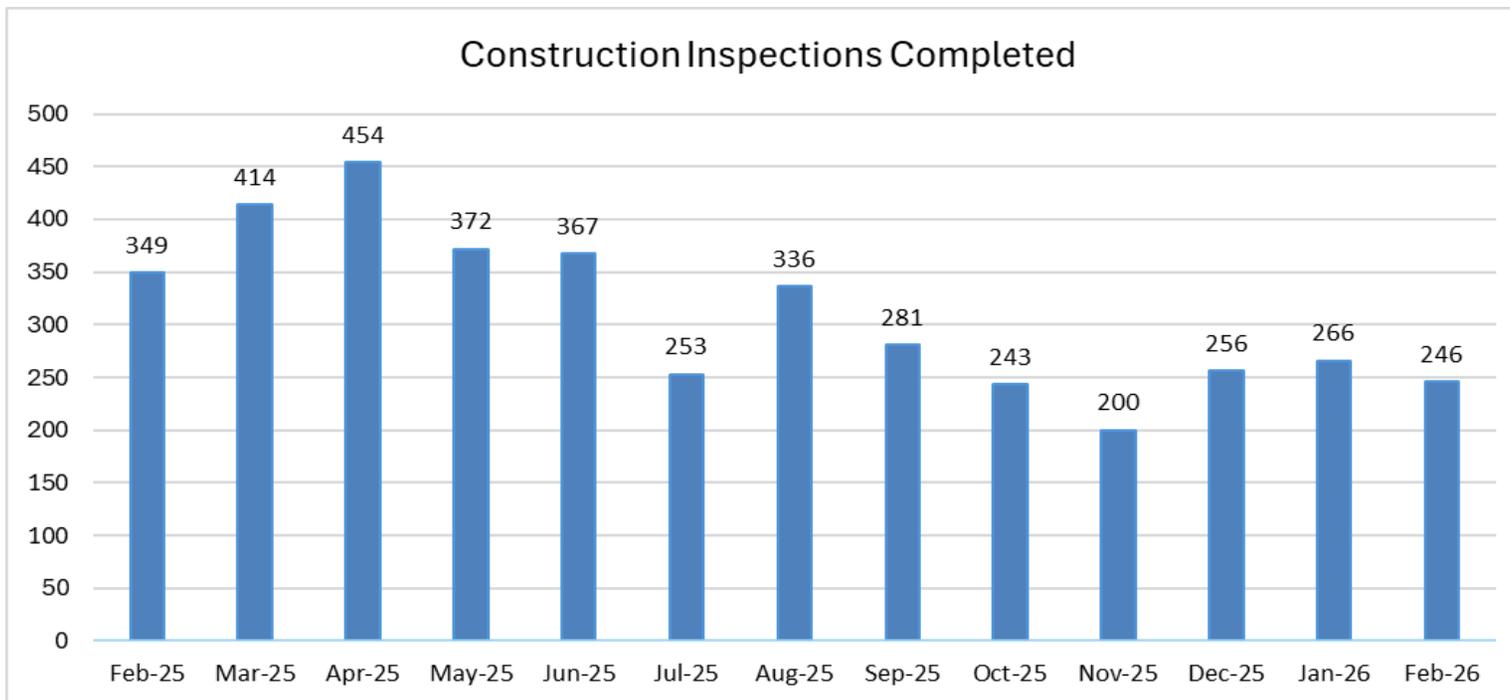
Full project details can be found [on the Town website](#).



Construction Inspections Update

Inspections

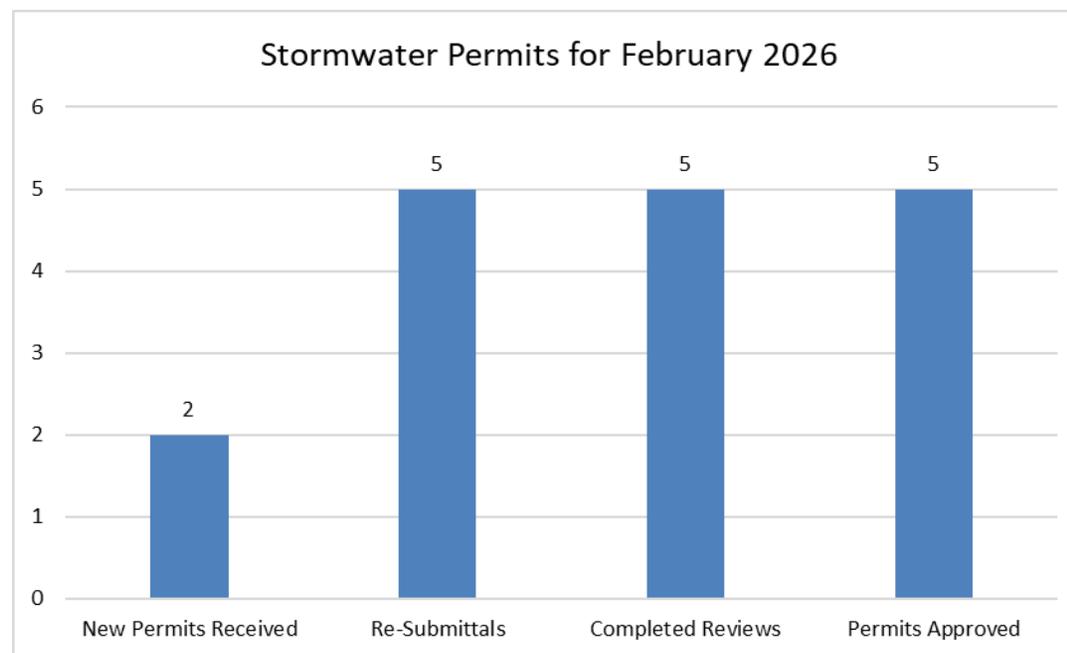
- Staff completed 246 construction inspections in February.
 - Construction inspections include developer and Town projects.



Stormwater Permits Update

Stormwater Permit Review

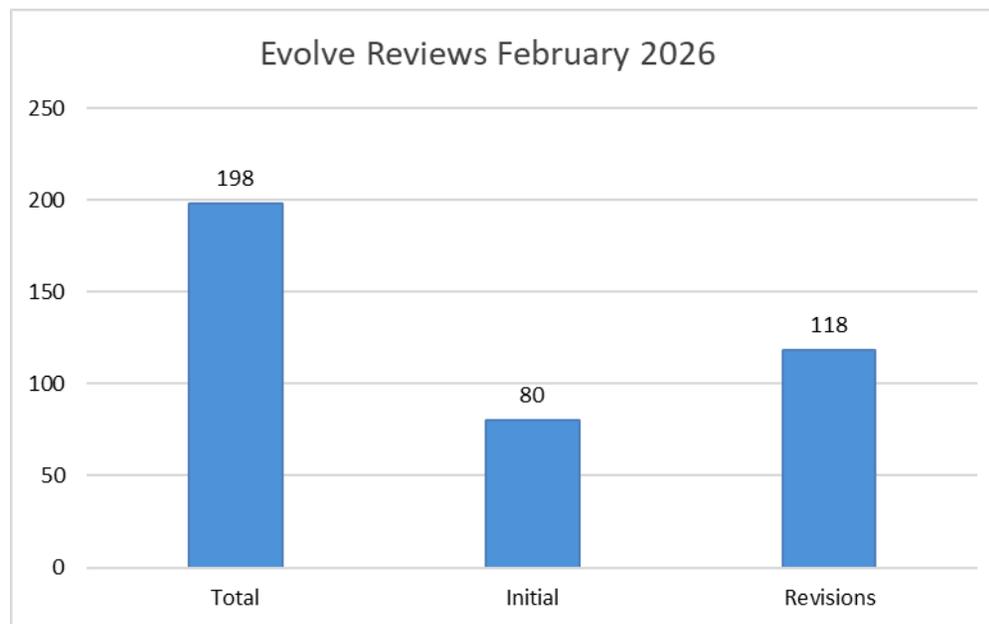
- 100% of stormwater permits submitted within the last 45 business days have either been approved or sent back for comments. Five permits were approved in February.



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.



Department News

In February, staff achieved several critical milestones in the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget cycle. Staff met with Councilmembers the week of February 9 to review the proposed FY26-27 budget in detail. At the Regular Meeting, staff presented a balanced budget and provided a full budget overview.

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 Wilmington Urban Metropolitan Planning Organization training seminar to learn about the reimbursement process for current projects through the Surface Transportation Block Grant projects as well as upcoming grant opportunities.

Assistant Finance Director Melissa Norton attended the UNC School of Government class “Elevate Organizational Performance.”

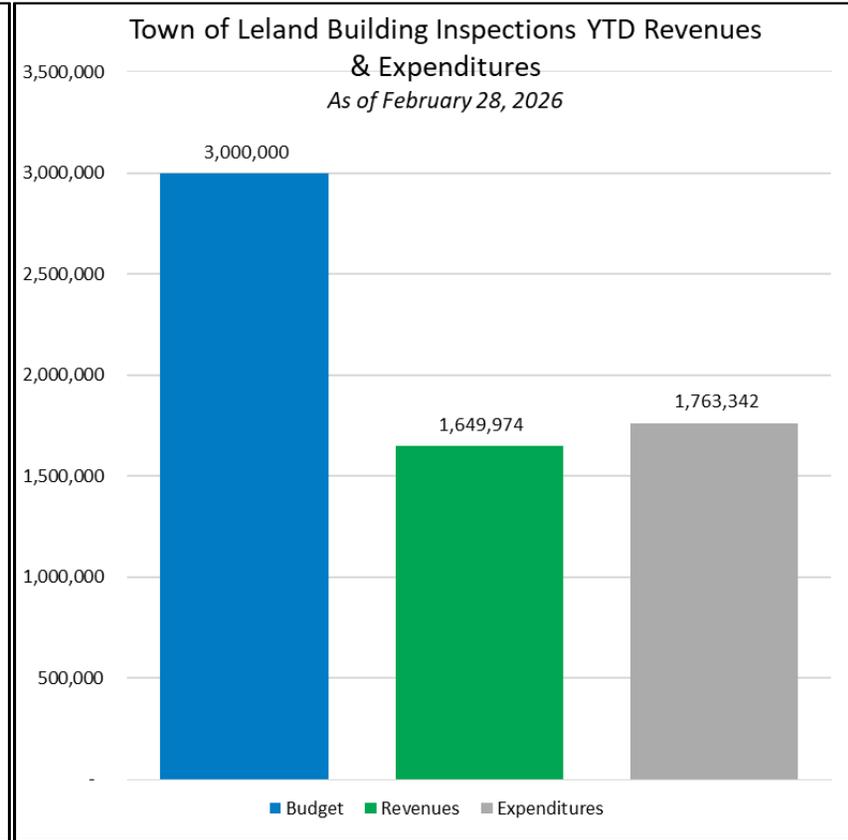
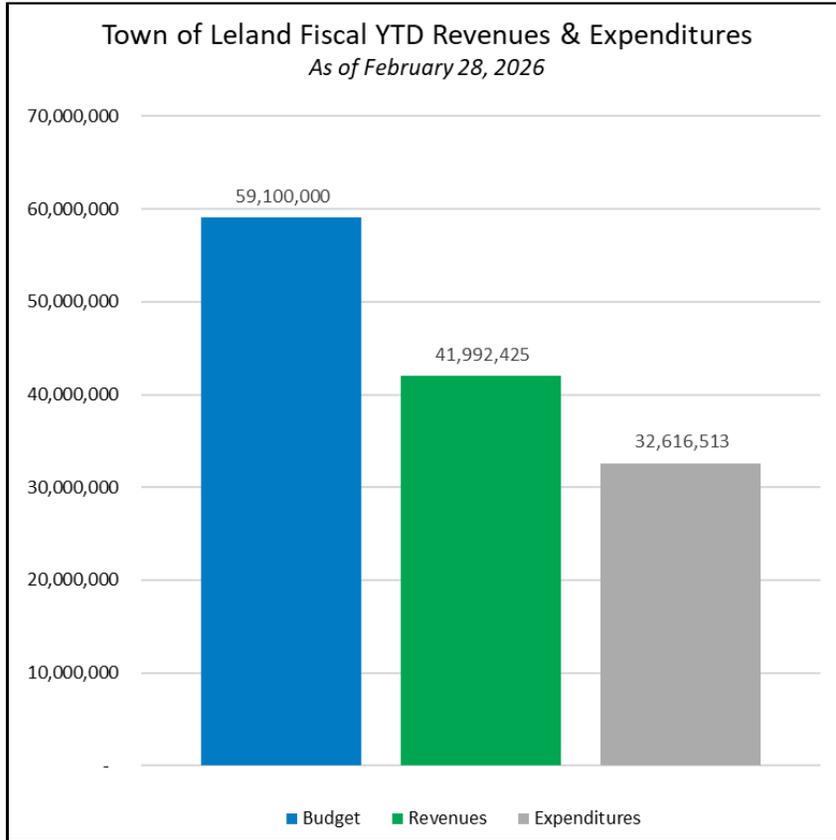
Budget and Strategy Manager Kelli Newton attended the DOJ’s ADA Web Accessibility Rule webinar hosted by the Government Finance Officers Association.

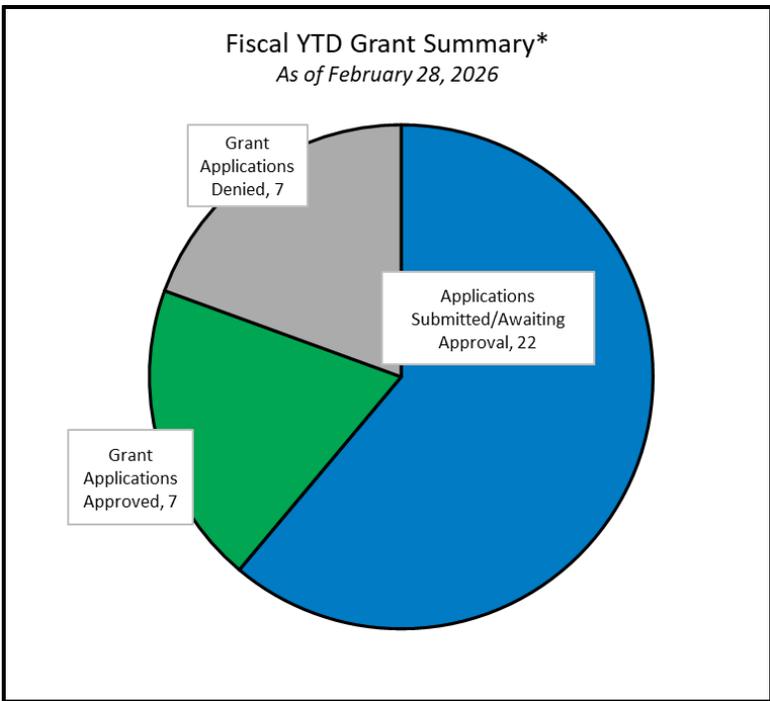
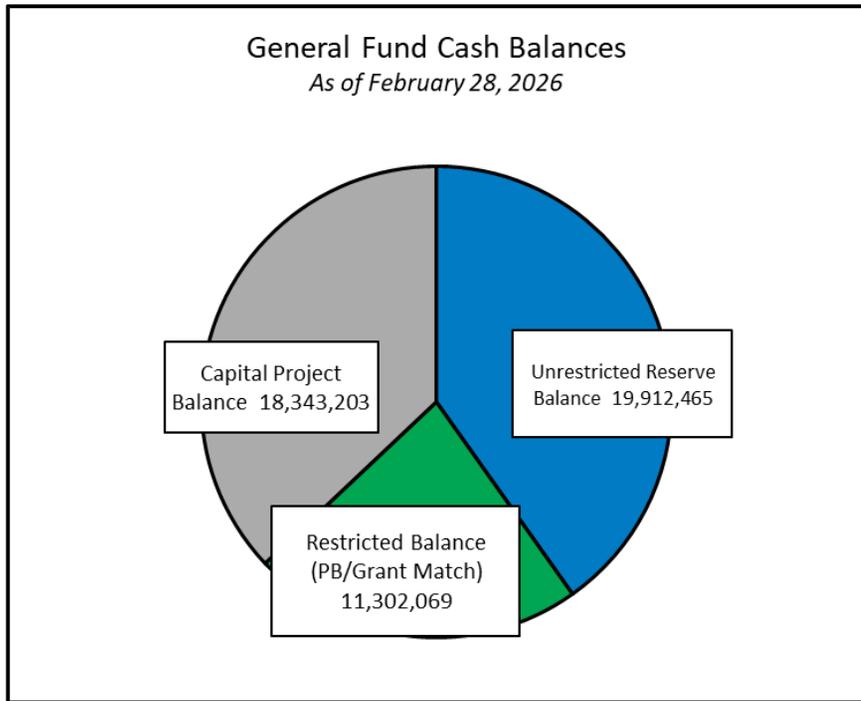
Purchasing Agent Taraus Deas and Accounting Supervisor Shane Nadeau have officially taken their Public Notary oaths.

Financial Budget to Actual Report – February 28, 2026

REVENUES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Property Tax	19,280,000	19,280,000	175,123	19,401,708	-	(121,708)	-0.63%
Sales Tax	14,200,000	14,200,000	1,154,500	9,217,155	-	4,982,845	35.09%
Fire Fees	6,680,000	6,680,000	-	4,921,076	-	1,758,924	26.33%
Municipal Vehicle Tax	950,000	950,000	73,230	686,348	-	263,652	27.75%
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	1,365,215	5,466,139	-	7,123,861	56.58%
Building Inspections	3,000,000	3,000,000.00	308,169	1,649,974	-	1,350,026	45.00%
REVENUES	51,000,000	59,100,000	3,076,237	43,642,399	-	15,457,601	26.15%
EXPENSES							
	Original Budget	Current Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Encumbrances	Variance	Percent Remaining
Governing Body	350,000	350,000	17,758	202,863	70,514	76,623	21.89%
Administration	3,100,000	2,300,000	116,337	1,428,992	114,517	756,490	32.89%
Information Technology	4,160,000	4,160,000	167,897	1,642,565	417,626	2,099,809	50.48%
Human Resources	610,000	610,000	44,530	268,992	20,925	320,083	52.47%
Finance	1,270,000	1,270,000	85,334	831,344	8,486	430,171	33.87%
Planning	1,200,000	1,200,000	73,285	510,424	31,132	658,443	54.87%
P&R & Cultural Arts	1,350,000	1,350,000	81,169	720,050	195,804	434,146	32.16%
Operations	1,970,000	1,970,000	147,571	1,296,743	93,865	579,393	29.41%
Streets & Grounds	3,670,000	3,670,000	207,042	1,671,338	212,171	1,786,492	48.68%
Engineering	1,350,000	1,350,000	80,947	624,007	91,853	634,140	46.97%
Police	8,250,000	8,150,000	549,039	4,696,102	118,610	3,335,288	40.92%
Emergency Management	240,000	240,000	17,636	120,021	1,750	118,229	49.26%
Fire	10,630,000	11,530,000	622,158	4,684,438	3,701,940	3,143,622	27.26%
Debt Services	6,900,000	6,900,000	-	4,459,899	-	2,440,101	35.36%
Transfers	2,950,000	11,050,000	-	9,458,735	-	1,591,265	14.40%
Building Inspections	3,000,000	3,000,000	200,011	1,763,342	26,840	1,209,818	40.33%
EXPENSES	51,000,000	59,100,000	2,410,714	34,379,854	5,106,033	19,614,112	33.19%

Dashboard

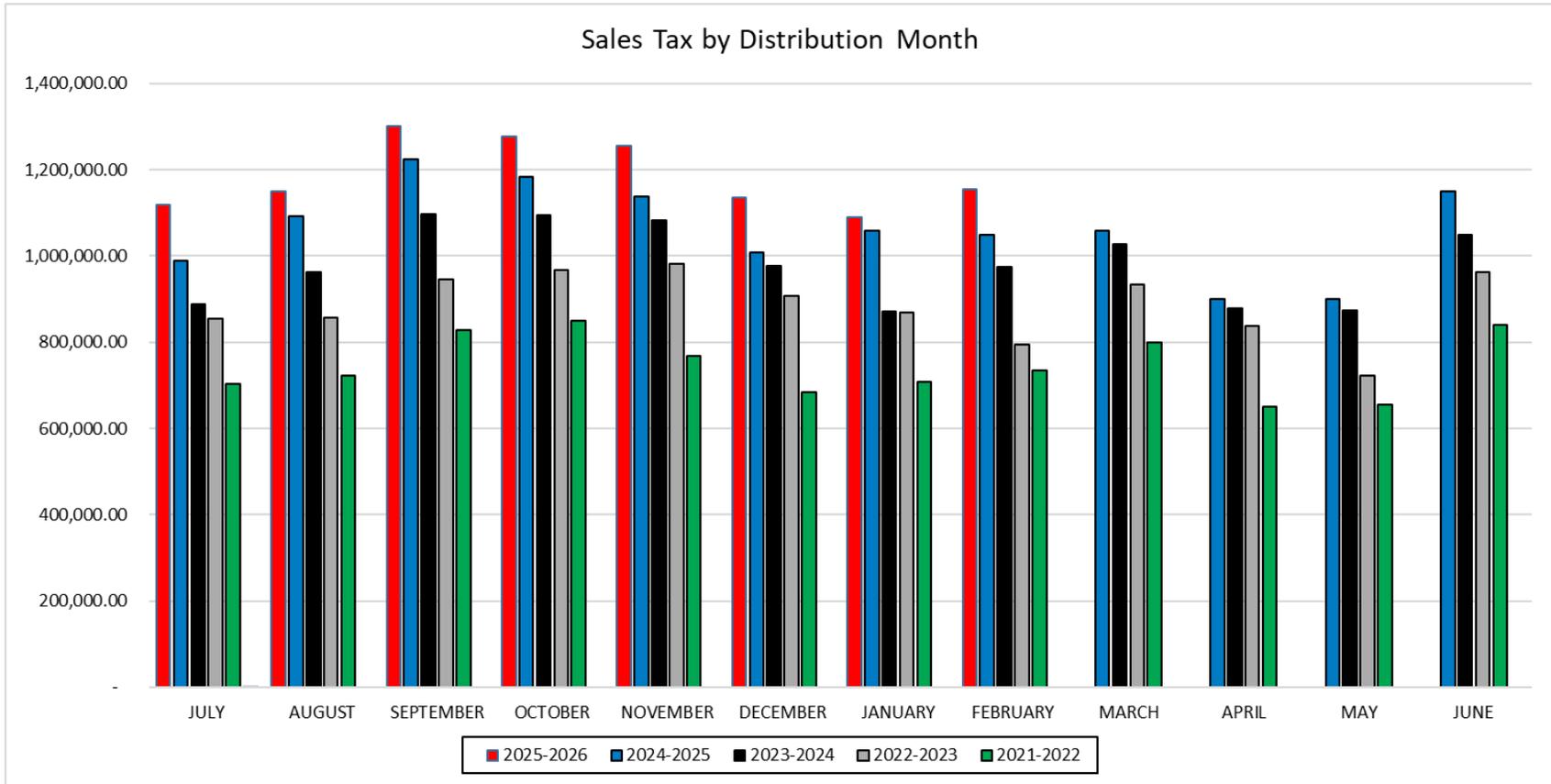




*The Fiscal YTD Grant Summary chart reflects grant application data exclusively from the current fiscal year.

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 February.

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

Description: Panel Christmas Tree; Vendor: Mosca Design Inc; Amount: \$82,006.53

Intradepartmental and Interdepartmental Budget Transfers

There were no budget transfers in February.

Audit Committee Meeting Summary

The Audit Committee did not meet in February.

Resolution R-26-009 Dissolving the Town of Leland Audit Committee was unanimously approved on February 19, 2026. Starting next month, this section will be removed from the staff reports.

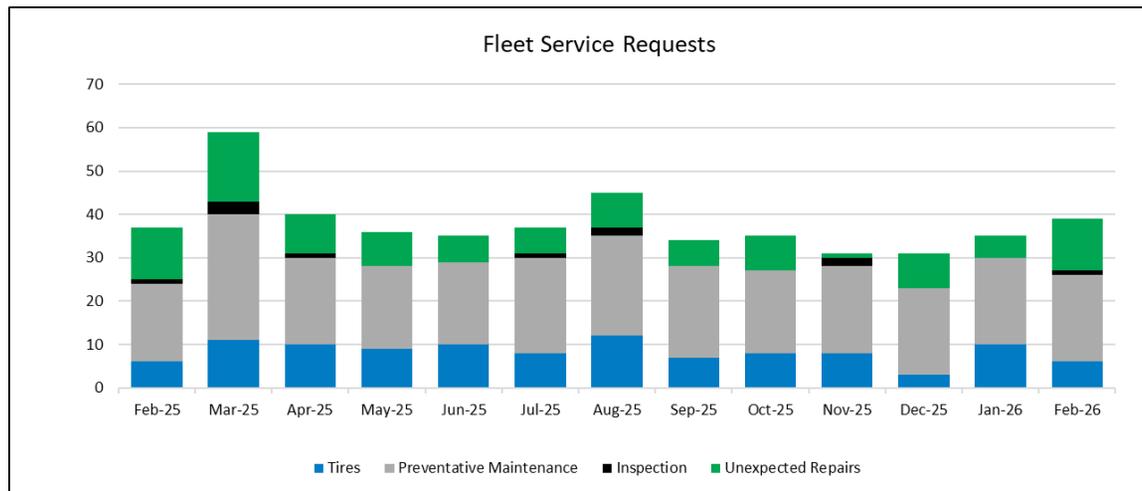
Investment Portfolio

The Town has a diversified investment portfolio across four wealth management banking institutions. The February 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	15,542.40	67,371.86	6,162,440.89
NC Capital Management Trust	0.036	55,353.22	482,320.51	20,855,235.83
NC Class	0.037	12,327.78	115,041.49	4,311,397.58
Atlantic Union Bank 36m CD	0.037	22,452.61	168,451.78	8,168,451.78
Total		105,676.01	833,185.64	39,497,526.08

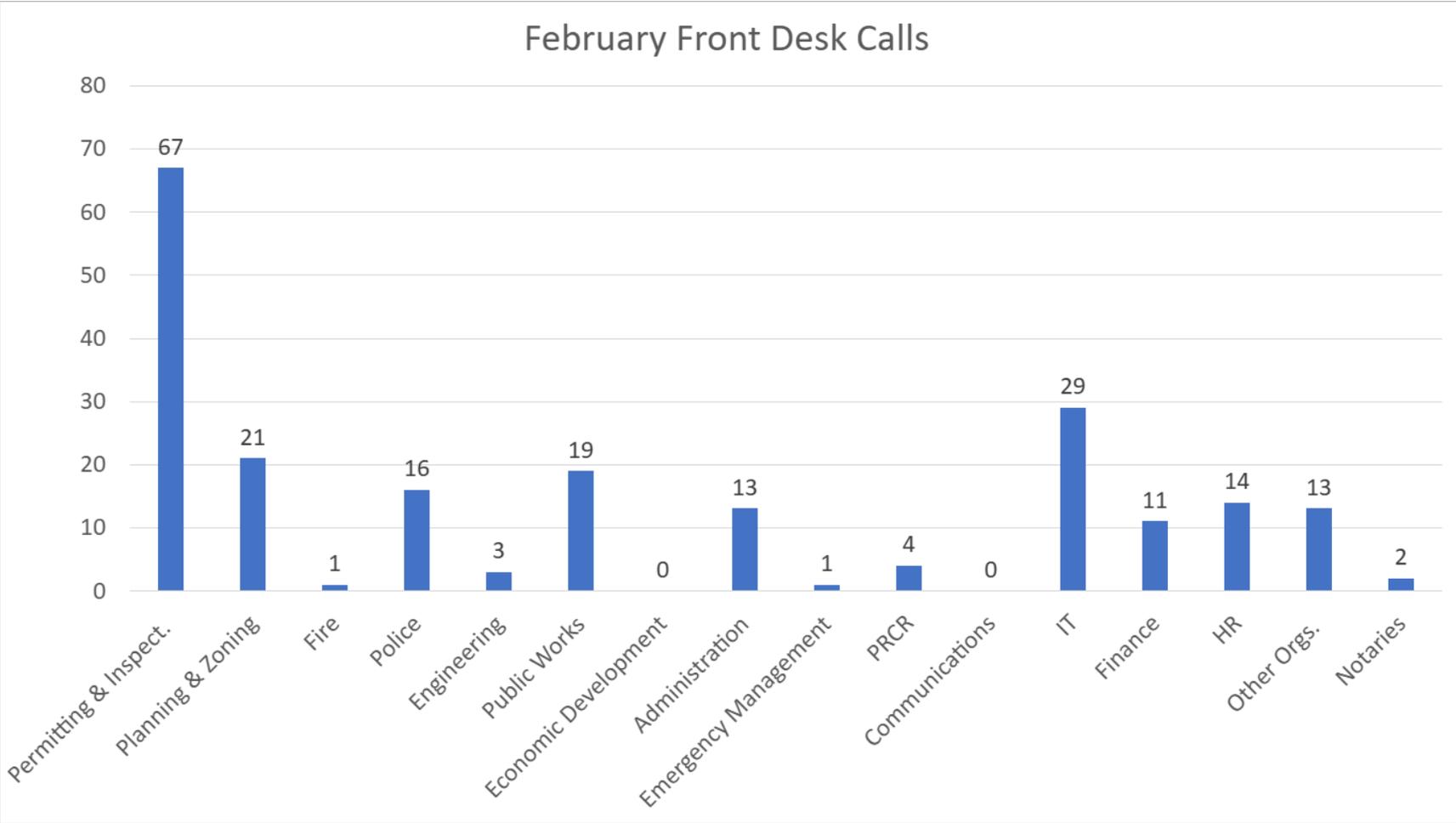
Fleet Updates

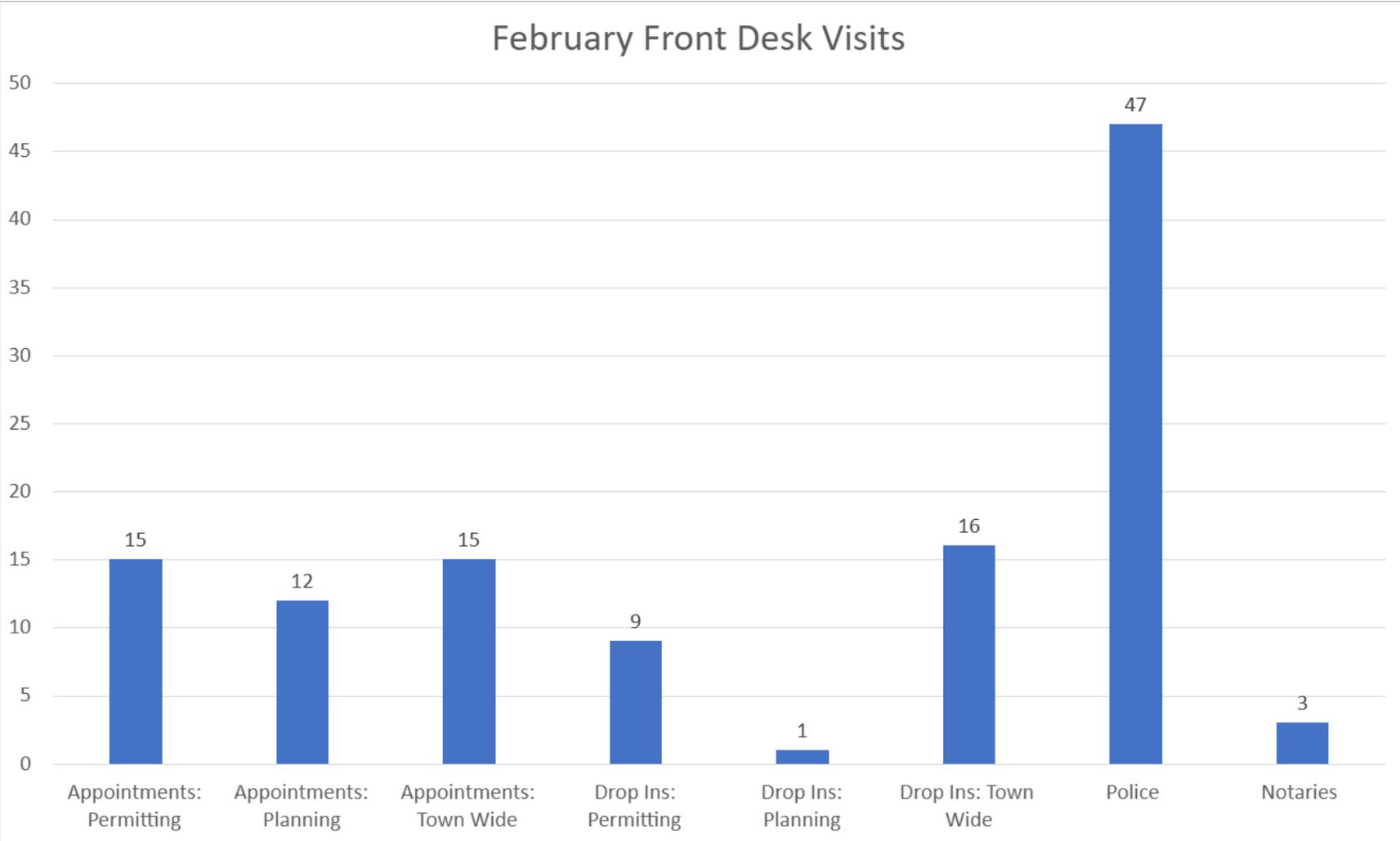
Fleet generated 39 work orders in February with an expense of \$15,637.



Department News

In February, the department facilitated responses to 29 contact forms submitted through the website, received 214 calls, and assisted 118 visitors to Town Hall. The hiring process continues for a Communications Specialist II – Digital Communications. Communications Specialist II Alison Fore participated in a 3CMA webinar titled Three Things Government Communicators Need to Know About Digital Accessibility and a webinar titled Make Your Website ADA-Compliant: Meeting ADA Standards for Your Community with VC3. Communications Manager Jessica Jewell participated in the DOJ's ADA Web Accessibility Rule webinar hosted by the Government Finance Officers Association.





Social Media Update

- Facebook Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Added 205 new page followers
 - Post impressions – 168,895
 - Top post (Largest reach): “❄️ We know the snow looks pretty, but road conditions across Leland are still slick and dangerous. These photos were taken by our public safety teams as they assess conditions across Town. You’re seeing what they’re seeing on Village Road, U.S. 74/76, and at several Town facilities. Because of these conditions, all Town facilities are closed Monday, Feb. 2. We’re asking you to stay off the roads and avoid unnecessary travel so everyone can stay safe. Updates and preparedness resources 🖱️ <https://ow.ly/EzCk50Y7kwa> #LelandPrepares”
- Twitter/X Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Post Impressions – 979
 - Top tweet (Largest reach): “❄️ Help us extend a warm welcome to our newest team member! #LelandNC <https://twitter.com/Townofleland/status/2023487845952889065/photo/1>”
- Nextdoor Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Post Impressions – 12,081
 - Likes/Comments – 66
 - Top post (Largest reach): “We’ve wrapped up our 2024-2025 Roadway Resurfacing Program, giving about five miles of Town roads a smoother, safer ride. We also added bike lanes, ADA-compliant curb ramps, and updated pavement markings to make getting around easier and more accessible for everyone. And we’re not stopping here. Planning is already underway for future resurfacing projects, guided by an upcoming pavement condition assessment. Learn more about what was completed and where we’re headed next 🖱️ <https://ow.ly/ZTq650Ya4Qa>”
- Instagram Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Added 38 new page followers
 - Post Impressions – 6,679
 - Top post (Largest reach): ❄️ We know the snow looks pretty, but road conditions across Leland are still slick and dangerous. These photos were taken by our public safety teams as they assess conditions across Town. You’re seeing what they’re seeing on Village Road, U.S. 74/76, and at several Town facilities. Because of these conditions, all Town facilities are closed Monday, Feb. 2. We’re asking you to stay off the roads and avoid unnecessary travel so everyone can stay safe. Find updates and preparedness resources under Town News at the link in bio. #LelandPrepares #TownofLelandNC #LelandNC”

- LinkedIn Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Added 38 new followers
 - Page views – 228
 - Page impressions – 6,149
 - Reactions/Comments/Shares – 192
 - Top post (Largest reach): “Help us extend a warm welcome to our newest team member!”

Project Updates

- Created posts that resulted in 194,783 impressions across social media platforms.
- Staff continued working with CivicPlus on the migration and rebuilding of the Town’s website.
- Staff continued demos with mobile app vendors and will be working with IT to select a vendor to move forward with.
- 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 and a flyer.
- Began developing the Public Safety annual reports in an online dashboard format to make them more engaging.
- Began conversations with a local graphic designer to create a Lend a Hand in Leland logo.
- Continued working towards ADA compliance by conducting research and contacting vendors.

Website Articles/Media Coverage

- Town of Leland Website
 - [Leland Completes Annual Roadway Resurfacing Project](#)
 - [Town of Leland to Host Spring Fling at Founders Park](#)
 - [2026 Primary Election Information](#)
 - [Town of Leland Hosts Creek Week Activities for All Ages](#)
 - [Openings Available on Town Advisory Boards](#)
 - [Town of Leland Announces Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget](#)
 - [2030 Strategic Plan Update](#)
- WECT
 - [Old Fayetteville Road reopened following winter storm](#)

- [Habitat of Humanity to celebrate anniversary of Leland ReStore](#)
- [DMV opens new temporary office in Leland](#)
- [Leland Town Council requests legal opinion on purchasing controversy](#)
- [Egg hunts return to Founders Park with Spring Fling celebration in Leland](#)
- [Leland considering voting districts as population grows](#)
- [Republican candidates for Brunswick County Sheriff, District Attorney speak at forum](#)
- [District voting on the table: Leland looks to schedule expert workshop](#)
- [Creek Week returning to Leland next month](#)
- [Leland proposes \\$50 million budget for 2026-2027](#)
- [Leland proposes property tax rate cut as part of \\$50M budget](#)
- [State objection puts future of Wilmington Harbor deepening project in question](#)
- [WECT INVESTIGATES: Local governments spend over \\$250K fighting harbor project](#)
- [Leland town council to hold public hearing on data center zoning rules](#)
- WWAY
 - [NCDOT responds after several complaints about trash piling up in Leland](#)
 - [The Brunswick County GOP hosts Candidate forum at Leland Cultural Arts Center](#)
 - [Town of Leland to host Spring Fling at Founders Park](#)
 - [Tempers flare at Leland Town Hall, meeting ends abruptly](#)
 - [Emails detail laptop dispute between Leland councilman and town manager](#)
 - [Policy dispute and voting changes spark heated discussion at Leland Town Council](#)
 - [Town of Leland proposed \\$50 million budget for 2026-27 submitted to town council](#)
- StarNews
 - [Large townhome development in Leland sees delays](#)
 - [Leland to review proposal for riverside homes](#)
 - [Tucked away in a Leland shopping center, how these businesses thrive](#)
 - [Development bringing thousands of homes to Leland prepares to open](#)
 - [Officials say end is in sight for multi-million-dollar Leland project](#)
 - [Leland official's computer purchase prompts investigation](#)
 - [Leland explores election process changes as population soars](#)

- Port City Daily
 - [As Leland growth surges, officials organize overhaul of zoning, development rules](#)
 - [Leland ReStore to host one-year anniversary celebration this Friday](#)
 - [The Agenda: This week in local government meetings](#)
 - [‘Blindsided’: Leland council member takes heat for allegedly breaking purchasing protocol](#)
 - [The Agenda: This week in local government meetings](#)
 - [Packed house, heated debate: Leland election overhaul up for discussion](#)
 - [Next month, ‘Creek Week’ events take place in Leland](#)
 - [7% tax-rate decrease proposed in Leland’s \\$50M budget](#)
 - [The Agenda: Government meetings happening this week](#)
 - [Leland braces for AI surge with strict proposed data center rules](#)
- Wilmington Biz
 - [On The Cusp Of Development In Leland](#)
 - [Akron Pharma Bets Big On Leland](#)

TDA Marketing

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

Leland TDA Meeting Summary

The Leland Tourism Development Authority did not meet in February. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2.

Department News

Kathryn Thurston, AICP, joined the department as Long Range Planner. Ms. Thurston has over 20 years of experience in municipal government, planning, zoning administration, community development, and historic preservation.

Planner II Brooke Maynard attended an online webinar hosted by the Association of State Floodplain Managers that overviewed the process of becoming a Certified Floodplain Manager.

Planner I Justice Herman attended Zoning for Agritourism – A View from the Trenches, a webinar hosted by the American Planning Association Maryland Chapter. The webinar explored zoning for agritourism from the viewpoints of a land use planner and an agritourism operator and provided different perspectives for insights into how to effectively engage stakeholders in the planning process and the pitfalls to avoid in regulating agritourism activities.

Planning Manager Andrew Neylon attended the North Carolina Association of Zoning Officials Midwinter Workshop, which included sessions on planning and development regulation legislation, ethics, and regulation of short-term rentals.

Chief Building Official Daniel Knoch is now serving on the International Code Council Exam Development Committee.

Planning Board Meeting Summary

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

1. Initial Zoning Recommendation – The Planning Board voted to postpone action on proposed 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, and C-3, Commercial Trucking District.
2. Text Amendment – The Planning Board voted 5-0 to recommend approval of a staff-initiated text amendment to amend Chapter 66 to define data centers and create supplement standards for them.
3. Text Amendment – The Planning Board voted 5-0 to recommend approval of a staff-initiated text amendment to amend Chapter 1 and Chapter 66 to clarify enforcement procedures and civil penalties.

The Planning Board's next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Board of Adjustment Meeting Summary

The Board of Adjustment did not meet in February due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Current Planning Update

Technical Review Committee (TRC) Report

In February, the TRC reviewed only project revisions and no new items.

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
Building/ Flood (3 Day Review)	4	1.5	2	1.0	6	1.3
Commercial Building / Flood	5	4.0	1	1.0	6	3.5
Commercial Building / Flood / Zoning	3	7.7	22	2.9	25	3.4
Commercial Building / Flood / Zoning / Pub Serv	0		3	2.7	3	2.7
Commercial Building / Zoning	5	7.6	9	1.9	14	3.9
Commercial Building / Zoning / Pub Serv	1	3.0	1	1.0	2	2.0
Commercial Building Fire	5	5.4	5	1.4	10	3.4
Electrical (5-Day Review)	1	1.0	2	4.5	3	3.3
Fire Operational Permits	1	3.0	0		1	3.0
Fire/Electrical/Zoning/Pub Serv	1	9.0	2	3.5	3	5.3
Permit Building/Zoning	3	9.0	3	2.0	6	5.5
Permit Flood	0		3	3.3	3	3.3
Residential Building / Flood	11	8.3	2	1.5	13	7.2
Residential Building / Zoning / Flood	76	8.1	107	2.0	183	4.6
Residential Flood	1	1.0	0		1	1.0
	Total Initial: 117		Total Revisions: 162		Total Plans: 279	

Number of Reviews by Stage – Planning Applications

<u>Stage/Plan Type</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Revisions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Address Request	6	2	8
Annexation and Initial Zoning	1	0	1
Development Site Plan	2	4	6
Development Site Plan Minor Modification	2	2	4
Exempt Plat	4	3	7
Final Plat with New Performance Guarantee	1	5	6
Final Plat without a Performance Guarantee	0	2	2
Performance Guarantee Reduction	0	3	3
Performance Guarantee Release	0	1	1
Preliminary Plat Minor Modifications	1	1	2
Preliminary Plat-Major Subdivision	1	3	4
PUD Site Specific Plan and Master Land Use Plan Update	0	1	1
Sketch Plan	1	1	2
Text Amendment	2	0	2
Zoning Letter	6	0	6
	Total Initial: 27	Total Revisions: 28	Total Plans: 55

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
Beckington Townhomes				
	Surety Bonds	2	\$139,964.38	\$0.00
Bellamy Place				
	Cash Bond	1	\$1,037,615.00	\$0.00
Bishops Ridge				
	Cash Bond	1	\$14,875.84	\$0.00
Brunswick Forest				
	Surety Bonds	14	\$8,390,338.00	-\$106,148.13
Charleston Commons				
	Cash Bond	2	\$171,490.62	\$0.00
East Lake				
	Surety Bond	6	\$1,398,205.08	\$1,398,205.08
Grand Park				
	Surety Bond	2	\$895,602.23	\$0.00
Grayson Park				
	Cash Bonds	3	\$50,860.15	\$0.00
	Surety Bonds	8	\$1,225,669.38	\$0.00
Highland Hills Village				
	Letters of Credit	1	\$56,250.00	\$0.00
Leland Corners				
	Surety Bond	1	\$181,343.75	\$0.00
Mallory Creek				
	Letters of Credit	1	\$92,285.00	\$0.00
	Cash Bonds	5	\$329,716.44	\$0.00
	Surety Bonds	10	\$2,960,668.01	\$860,876.56
Night Harbor Dr				
	Cash Bond	1	\$7,650.00	\$0.00
Pinewood				
	Surety Bond	5	\$2,282,345.51	\$64,055.75
Riverwalk Point				
	Surety Bond	2	\$481,560.00	\$0.00
Savannah Branch				
	Surety Bond	1	\$854,407.50	\$0.00
Seabrooke				
	Cash Bond	1	\$144,035.00	\$0.00
Terrapin				
	Surety Bond	5	\$540,850.00	\$431,562.50
Townes at Seabrooke				
	Surety Bond	2	\$683,850.25	\$0.00
Westgate Townes				
	Surety Bond	5	\$1,901,216.80	\$410,260.50
Total Cash Bonds		14	\$1,756,243.05	\$0.00
Total Surety Bonds		63	\$21,936,020.89	\$3,058,812.26
Total Letters of Credit		2	\$148,535.00	\$0.00
Total Performance Guarantee Sureties		79	\$23,840,798.94	\$3,058,812.26

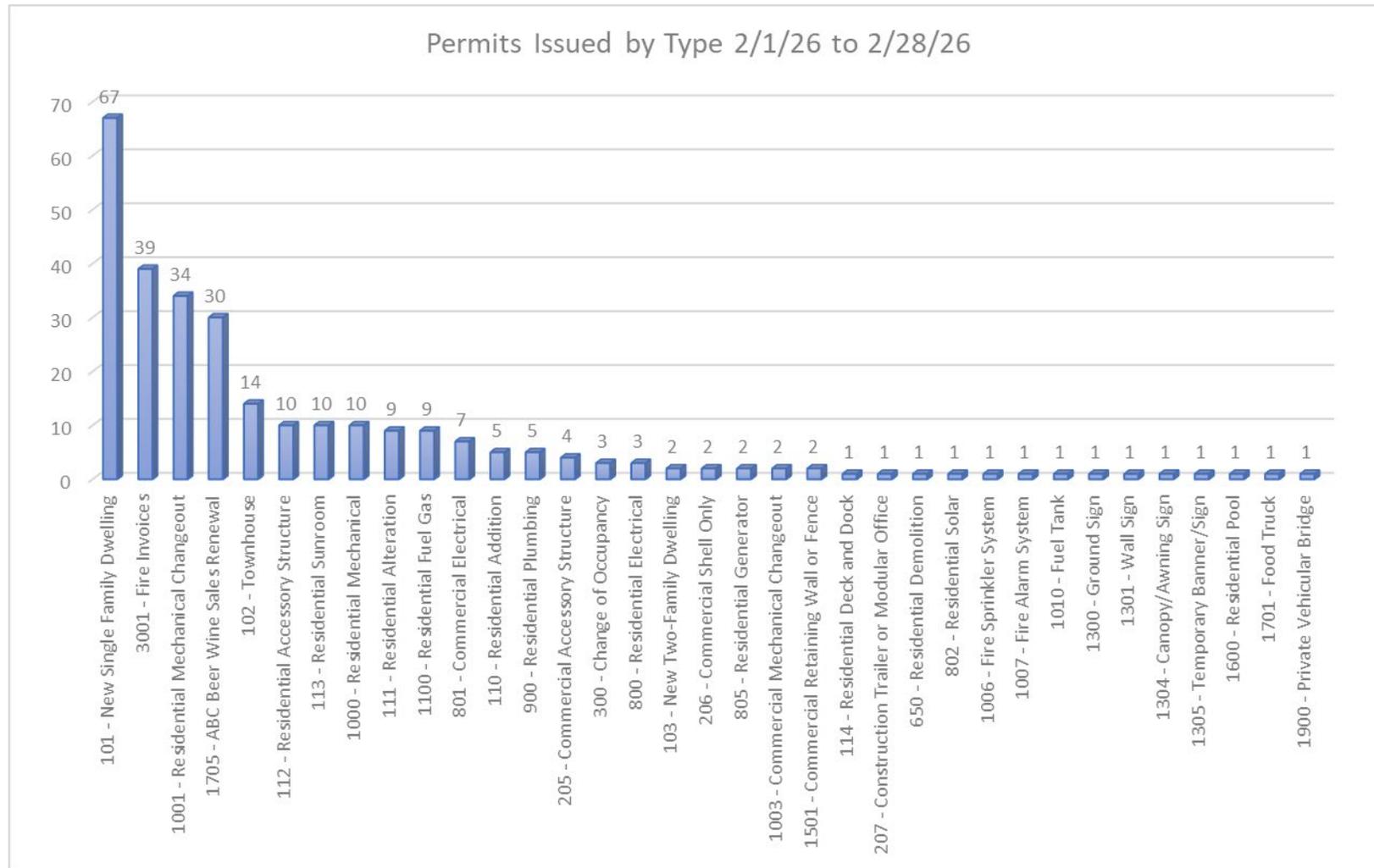
Long Range Planning and Community Development Update

Staff met with representatives from other departments to evaluate implementation of Leland 2045, particularly strategies and action items outlined in the plan that involve departments outside of Planning and Inspections.

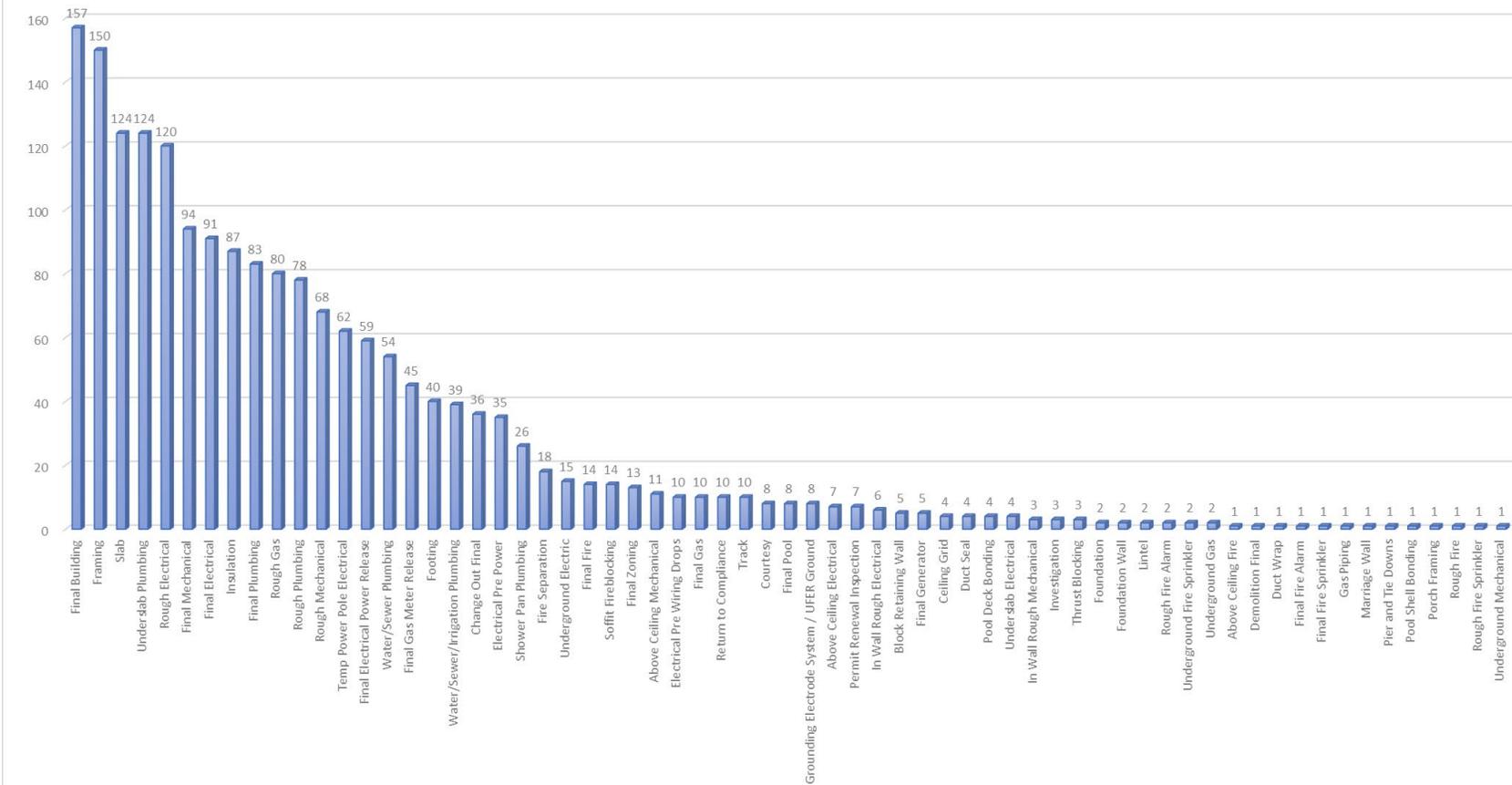
Staff attended the monthly Cape Fear Housing Coalition meeting.

Building Permitting and Inspections Update

Total Permits Issued	Total Inspections	Total Value of Construction
283	1,881	\$22,010,322



Inspections Completed by Type 2/1/26 to 2/28/26



Code Enforcement Update

Case Summary

2/1 Through 2/28	Minimum Housing	Nuisance	Zoning	Vehicle	Total
Cases Carried over from January	1	2	20	0	23
Cases Opened February 2026	0	4	22	1	27
Cases Closed February 2026	0	0	7	0	7
Active Cases (Evolve) 2026	1	6	35	1	43

Department News

Staff facilitated the on-site filming of “RJ Decker”, an ABC original show, at the Founders Park playground. The film crew consisted of 125 staff members, not including the cast and extras. Staff also led a walkthrough of the Founders Park improvements, specifically the event lawn and amphitheater, to local stakeholders interested in bringing regional events to Leland. Staff spoke with WWAY regarding a recent article stating that Brunswick County was the most searched county regarding relocation.

New Businesses

- No new businesses were announced in February.

New Construction/Development

- Venice Landing proposed a single-family development consisting of 31 units, approximately 400 feet south of the intersection of **Lanvale Road NE** and **Lansan Lane NE**.

Economic Development Committee Meeting Summary

The Economic Development Committee did not meet in February. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2026.

Department News

The department has enjoyed a very smooth session one of the winter/spring schedule. Classes were well attended, even through the snow and cold weather. Staff are excited about spring events and continue their plans for Spring Fling and In Bloom, in addition to actively researching events for future amphitheater programming.

Parks and Recreation Board Summary

The Parks and Recreation Board did not meet in February. The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2026.

Upcoming Events

March 21, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. – Improv Let’s Laugh, LCAC

March 26, 6-7:30 p.m. – Candy Bar Bingo, LCAC

March 27, 6-8 p.m. – Youth Art Month Celebration, LCAC

March 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. – Leland Spring Fling, Founders Park

March 28, 10-11 a.m. – Family Clay Day, LCAC

April 11, 12-1:30 p.m. – Storytime, LCAC

April 14, 2-3 p.m. – Little Learners, LCAC

April 18, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Improv Let’s Laugh, LCAC

Social Media Update

- PRCR Facebook Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Followers/Likes – 6,838
 - Page reach – 22,758
 - Top post (Largest reach): “In Bloom is the latest addition to the Town of Leland’s Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. Taking place in the newly renovated Founders Park, this event is meant to celebrate the arts, plants, and people of the Southeastern North Carolina region. Alongside artists and vendors, this event will include diverse native plant educators,

performing artists, live music, dance lessons, and delicious food vendors. All artists and vendors are encouraged to apply to this event. Applicants with sustainable or eco-friendly products, plants and flowers, or nature-focused artwork will be prioritized for this event. We encourage farmers, plant growers, nurseries, and other environmental stewards to apply to our event as well. If you are interested in joining our event as an educator rather than a vendor, please email events@townofleland.com.”

- LCAC Facebook Highlights (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Followers/Likes – 5,498
 - Page reach – 3,007
 - Top post (Largest reach): “In Bloom is the latest addition to the Town of Leland’s Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. Taking place in the newly renovated Founders Park, this event is meant to celebrate the arts, plants, and people of the Southeastern North Carolina region. Alongside artists and vendors, this event will include diverse native plant educators, performing artists, live music, dance lessons, and delicious food vendors. All artists and vendors are encouraged to apply to this event. Applicants with sustainable or eco-friendly products, plants and flowers, or nature-focused artwork will be prioritized for this event. We encourage farmers, plant growers, nurseries, and other environmental stewards to apply to our event as well. If you are interested in joining our event as an educator rather than a vendor, please email events@townofleland.com.”

- PRCR Instagram (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Followers/Likes – 2,177
 - Post reach – 3,418
 - Top post (Largest reach): “In Bloom is the latest addition to the Town of Leland’s Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. Taking place in the newly renovated Founders Park, this event is meant to celebrate the arts, plants, and people of the Southeastern North Carolina region. Alongside artists and vendors, this event will include diverse native plant educators, performing artists, live music, dance lessons, and delicious food vendors. All artists and vendors are encouraged to apply to this event. Applicants with sustainable or eco-friendly products, plants and flowers, or nature-focused artwork will be prioritized for this event. We encourage farmers, plant growers, nurseries, and other environmental stewards to apply to our event as well. If you are interested in joining our event as an educator rather than a vendor, please email events@townofleland.com.”

- LCAC Instagram (February 1 – 28, 2026)
 - Followers/Likes – 2,172
 - Post reach – 250
 - Top post (Largest reach): “In Bloom is the latest addition to the Town of Leland’s Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. Taking place in the newly renovated Founders Park, this event is meant to celebrate the arts, plants, and people of the Southeastern North Carolina region. Alongside artists and vendors, this event will include diverse native plant educators,

performing artists, live music, dance lessons, and delicious food vendors. All artists and vendors are encouraged to apply to this event. Applicants with sustainable or eco-friendly products, plants and flowers, or nature-focused artwork will be prioritized for this event. We encourage farmers, plant growers, nurseries, and other environmental stewards to apply to our event as well. If you are interested in joining our event as an educator rather than a vendor, please email events@townofleland.com.”

Department News

In February, the Town welcomed three new employees, one to the Planning Department, one to Facilities & Maintenance, and one to Engineering. The Town also had eight employee promotions, one transfer, and one ended their service with the Town. The department is currently in the process of reviewing policies and procedures in order to remain current, efficient, and compliant.

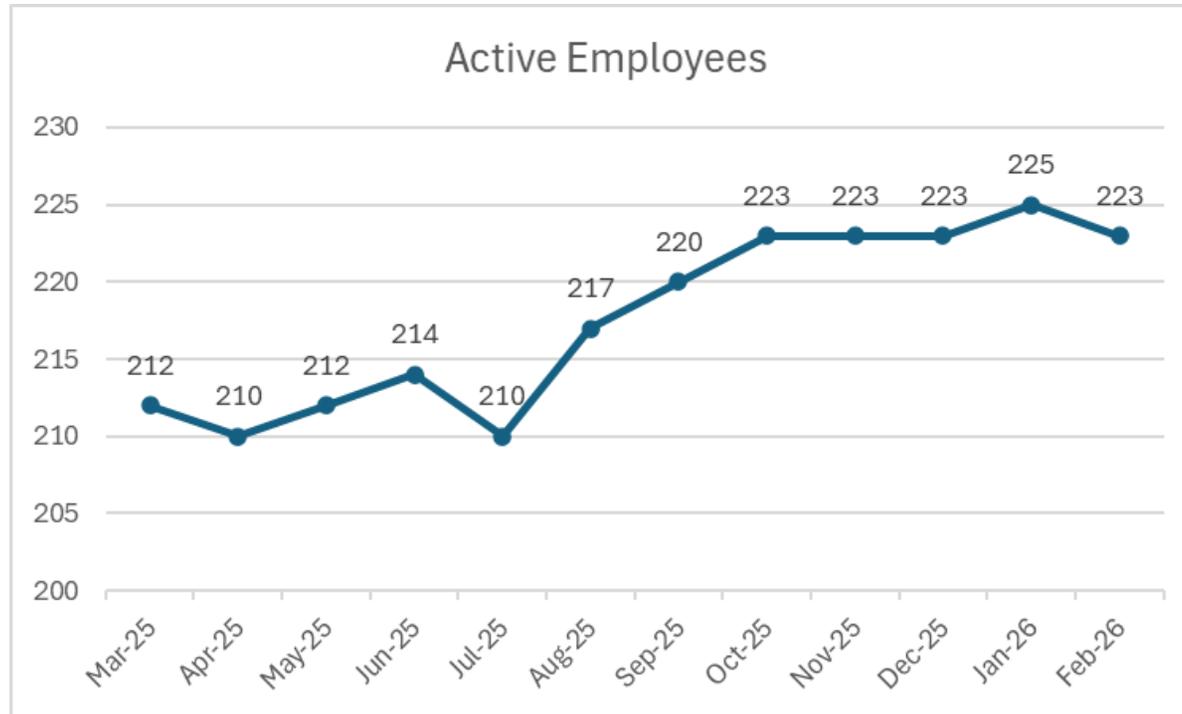
Personnel Updates

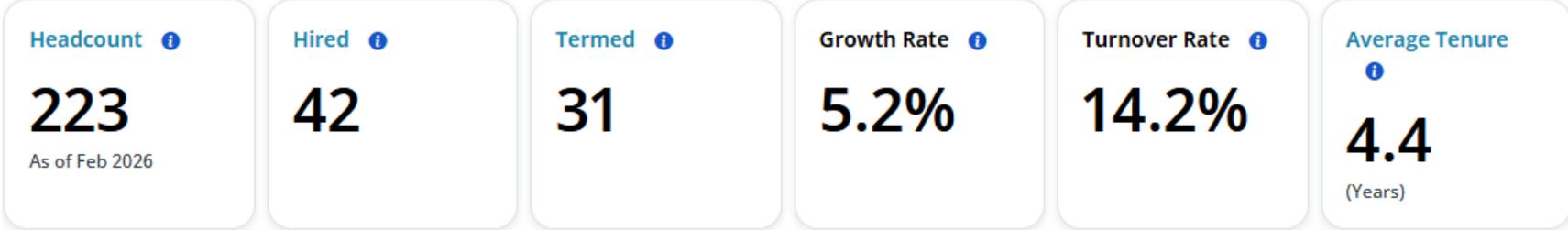
Name of Employee	Department	Type of Change	Date of Change	Position Title	From Position	To Position
Garrett Yeager	Fire Department	Promotion	1/31/2026		Senior Firefighter	Fire Apparatus Engineer
Bryce Parnell	Fire Department	Promotion	1/31/2026		Senior Firefighter	Fire Apparatus Engineer
Chris Daw	Fire Department	Promotion	1/31/2026		Senior Firefighter	Fire Apparatus Engineer
Kathryn Thurston	Planning Department	New Hire	2/2/2026	Long Range Planner		
Susie Juma	Facilities & Maintenance	Termed	2/3/2026	Custodian I		
Brett Usry	Street Maintenance	Promotion	2/14/2026		Grounds Maintenance Technician I	Grounds Maintenance Technician II
Pete Lombardi	Street Maintenance	Transfer	2/14/2026		Grounds Maintenance Technician II	Custodian I
Jake Boland	Engineering	Termed	2/20/2026	Construction Inspector		
Joe Tassi	Fire Department	Promotion	2/28/2026		Senior Firefighter	Fire Apparatus Engineer
Shelton James	Fire Department	Promotion	2/28/2026		Interim Fire Chief	Chief of Fire
Michael Whitmire	Police	Promotion	2/28/2026		Master Police Officer	Senior Police Officer
Cody Piniewski	Police	Promotion	2/28/2026		Master Police Officer	Senior Police Officer

Workers Comp Data February 2026

There were no cases for February.

Headcount (FT and PT Employees) March 2025 – February 2026





Terminations include voluntary and involuntary separations of employment.

Department News

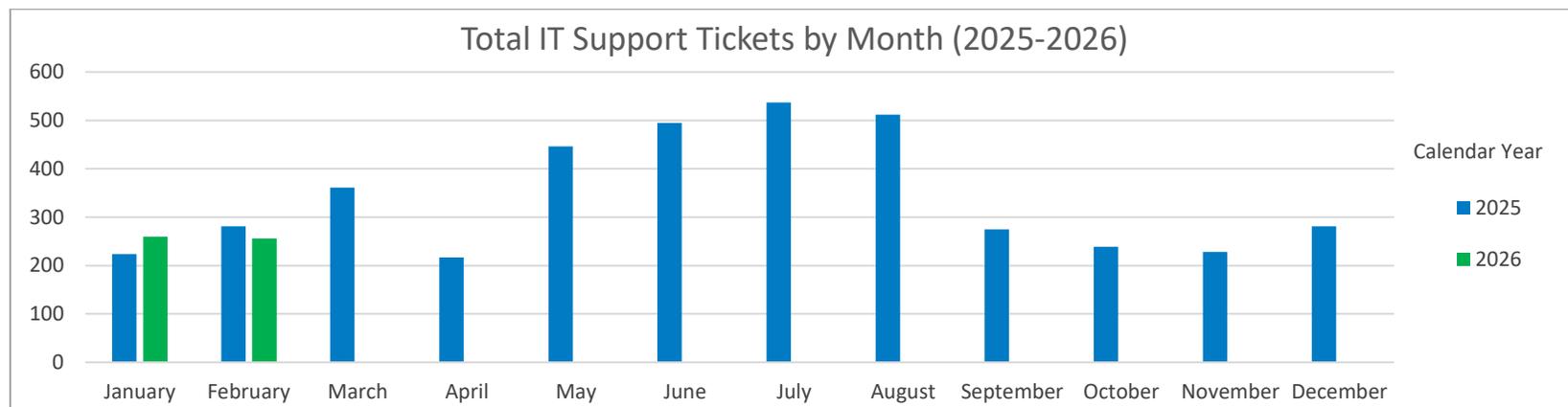
GIS Analyst Josh Wescott attended sessions from The Response Group’s Incident Action Plan User Group meeting, which provides an overview of new features and functionality for the Incident Action Plan software along with opportunities for users to provide feedback on product changes and enhancements.

Major Work Priorities

- Founders Park Infrastructure: Staff are planning for the installation of technology resources necessary to accommodate Founders Park events scheduled for later this year.
- Electronic Forms: Staff are working with the Police Department to finalize electronic forms and automated workflows that standardize and streamline daily data collection processes.
- Website Migration: Staff are working with the Communications Department in the planning phase of the website platform migration that will occur over the next several months.

Projects Completed

- 8 employees onboarded/offboarded
- Electronic Forms: Staff have developed an employee action form for the Human Resources Department to facilitate communication around personnel changes that occur throughout the organization.
- Public Safety Vehicles: Equipment including radios, cameras, and modems have been installed in Fire and Police vehicles entering service.



Administration News

Mayor Brenda Bozeman signed the following letters of support:

- Senator Bill Rabon to formally request an appropriation of \$250,000 for the acquisition and initial design of property for the future Fire Station 55 for the Leland Fire Department.
- Secretary of Transportation to formally request support for the Town's application to the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant program for extension of Basin Street from Old Fayetteville Road to Village Road.
- Representative Frank Iler to formally request an appropriation of \$250,000 for the future development of the Town's Loblolly Park property.
- Representative Charlie Miller to formally request an appropriation of \$45,000 for the external and internal paint coating and installation of a Tommy Lift for the high-water rescue vehicle.

On February 11 and 12, Mayor Bozeman and Mayor Pro Tem Bob Campbell attended the NC Mayors Association Winter Conference in Pinehurst. Topics covered included the mayor's minutes, a legislative leaders panel, a networking reception with State Auditor Dave Boliek, a mayors discussion panel, and the federal and state legislative update.

On February 13, Town Manager David Hollis and Deputy Town Manager Missy Rhodes, attended the quarterly Cape Fear Council of Governments Regional Managers meeting in Ocean Isle Beach to hear a presentation about the Town of Fuquay-Varina Interbasin Transfer Request from members of the NC Department of Environmental Quality, as well as discussion with regional leaders on issues occurring within the respective municipalities and counties.

On February 25, Mayor Bozeman, Mayor Pro Tem Campbell, Councilmembers Veronica Carter and Leland Hyer, along with staff, including Mr. Hollis, Ms. Rhodes, and Town Clerk Sabrena Reinhardt, attended the NCLM Town and State Dinner held in downtown Wilmington. This legislative event brings state legislators and municipal officials together to connect on issues important to local communities. Representative Iler sat with the Town of Leland and discussed state and local issues.

On February 26, Mayor Bozeman, Mayor Pro Tem Campbell, Councilmembers Carter and Hyer, along with Mr. Hollis, Ms. Rhodes, and Ms. Reinhardt, attended the 2026 Cape Fear Council of Government Annual Meeting. The event is a platform for local governments to convene and collaborate on various matters, elect its Executive Committee members, and address other significant issues that require collaboration of the region's local governments. Mayor Bozeman was elected to the Executive Committee as Vice Chair.

Town Clerk's Office

Ms. 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 Panes.

Work Priorities

- The Town Clerk published meeting agendas and prepared minutes for the following meetings:
 - February 3 Board of Adjustment Meeting - Canceled
 - February 9 Special Council Meeting
 - February 12 Economic Development Committee Meeting
 - February 16 Agenda Council Meeting
 - February 19 Regular Council Meeting
 - February 24 Planning Board Meeting

- Action Items:
 - Budget Amendments – 0
 - Budget Ordinances – 0
 - Minutes – 7
 - Agendas – 5
 - Resolutions – 8
 - Ordinances – 0
 - Proclamations – 2
 - Certificate of Achievement – 2
 - Presentations – 4 (H2GO Regional Water/Sewer Update, 2025 PRCR Holiday Programming, Quarterly Update for the Leland 2025 Comprehensive Plan, and Comprehensive Update of Land Development Regulations)
 - Public Hearing Notices for the Council Meetings – 0
 - Current Board/Committee Vacancies: Economic Development Committee Member, Leland Tourism Development Authority Member, Parks & Recreation Board Student Representative (2), and a Planning Board Member.

Government Portal (iCompass) Transparency Update

- Portal Visits – 194,875
- Portal Unique Visits – 4,268
- Special Council Meeting February 9 Agenda Views – 1,924
- Economic Development Committee Meeting February 12 Agenda Views – 155
- Agenda Council Meeting February 16 Agenda Views – 1,680
- Regular Council Meeting February 19 Agenda Views – 1,805
- Planning Board Meeting February 24 Agenda Views – 1,246
- Special Council Meeting January 29 Agenda Views – 374
- Leland Tourism Development Authority Meeting March 2 Agenda Views – 151
- Board of Adjustment (Cancelled) March 3 Agenda Views – 146
- Special Council Meeting March 9 Agenda Views – 661
- February 2026 Monthly Staff Reports – 162