

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 5, 2006, 7:30AM

Special Meeting

Pate Room, Library

PRESENT: Chairman Billy R. King  
Vice Chairman Kenneth S. Edge  
Commissioner Breeden Blackwell  
Commissioner Talmage S. Baggett, Jr.  
Commissioner Jeannette M. Council  
Commissioner John T. Henley, Jr.  
Commissioner Diane Wheatley  
James Martin, County Manager  
Sara VanderClute, PIO  
Marsha Fogle, Clerk

The purpose of the meeting was to receive information regarding branch library development, cost, etc.

Jerry Thrasher, Library Director, presented to the Board an overview of a study that was done in 2006 regarding branch development.

The study suggested that 7 new branches be built from 2008 – 2025. Those branches would be located in the following areas and are prioritized as follows:

(1)	Strickland Bridge Road Area	18,000 sq. ft.	FY2008-10
(2)	West Raeford Road Area	18,000 sq. ft.	FY2013-15
(3)	Pamalee Drive Area	18,000 sq. ft.	FY2013-15
(4)	Gray's Creek Area	18,000 sq. ft.	FY2018-20
(5)	Carver Creek Area	18,000 sq. ft.	FY2018-20

Express Branches

(6)	Wade-Falcon	4,000 sq. ft.	FY2023-25
(7)	Cedar Creek	4,000 sq. ft.	FY2023-25

Cost Estimates: FY 2008-10 - 1 branch - \$6.7 million  
FY 2013-15 - 2 branches - \$17.8 million (\$8.9 million each)  
FY 2018-20 - 2 branches - \$24 million (\$12 million each)  
FY 2023-25 - 2 express branches - \$7.6 million (\$3.8M each)

Note: The estimated cost figures above include land purchase.

Funding Possibilities: County dollars  
Bond Referendum  
Certificates of Participation  
Build to suit tenant (lease)

Mr. Thrasher noted that the Library System has insufficient facility space for library services. Cliffdale, Hope Mills and Bordeaux Branches are crowded and receive extensive use beyond capabilities. By 2025, the shortfall in public library space will be 107,000 square feet. He said that planning for the seven proposed branches should begin now and funding and land acquisition should begin immediately.

Commissioner Council inquired if the above figures included personnel costs. Mr. Thrasher noted they did not.

Commissioner Wheatley inquired if it was possible to add on to the current facilities. Mr. Thrasher said no.

Commissioner Edge said he would like to see more info on the "lease" aspect of providing new library space and services.

Commissioner Blackwell suggested that sites be identified and land purchased since the land cost would only be 2% of the figures noted above for construction.

Commissioner Edge also inquired about the possibility of contiguous counties partnering in funding a regional library. Mr. Thrasher said that is possible and there are examples but it tends to be cumbersome.

It was suggested that library staff and county administration staff meet and determine priorities along with cost of construction and personnel.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:20AM

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Clerk