

The Connect NC Bond – Key Information

Overview

- > The Connect NC Bonds Act is a \$2 billion bond package that citizens across the state will vote on in the primary election March 15, 2016.
- > North Carolina leadership – including the Governor, General Assembly and UNC Board of Governors – have approved this bond referendum to support needed statewide capital improvements in education, parks, public safety, recreation, plant sciences, agriculture, and water and sewer infrastructure.
- > More than two-thirds of the Connect NC bond will go to fund critical improvements in higher education – including capital projects that focus on STEM education, career readiness, medical sciences and business for the 17 UNC System campuses along with long-needed upgrades to modernize the state's 58 community colleges.
- > Projects span from the mountains to the coast and include investments in both rural communities and urban cities – investments across 76 counties in total.
- > **No tax increases** would be necessary to finance the bond, given the state's strong revenue growth and ample debt service capacity.

Why do bonds make sense?

- > Long-term financing is the most efficient and effective way to fund critical needs and projects across our state, especially given that interest rates are low.
- > Additionally, North Carolina has an established and successful history of responsibly using long-term financing to support the infrastructure and educational needs of its communities.
- > Most of the identified infrastructure projects cannot be financed from annual operating budgets on either the state or county levels.
- > Bonds will allow North Carolina to pay over 20 to 25 years for assets that will last for at least 50 years and benefit the state much longer. Just as homeowners pay for a house as they use it over time, North Carolinians will pay over time for improvements needed now and moving forward.

What would the money be used for?

About two-thirds of the bond would benefit higher education, 16 percent would pay for improvements in parks and in sewer and water infrastructure, 9 percent would go to agricultural projects, 5 percent would be allocated to the North Carolina Zoo and 4 percent would be spent on the National Guard and public safety. More specifics follow.

Connect NC through higher education

- > The UNC system will receive \$980 million, particularly to build and repair STEM facilities to prepare our students for careers in these high-demand fields that are critical for driving North Carolina's economy.
- > NC State University, the state's leading research university, will receive \$160 million to support two major projects on NC State's Centennial Campus: The Engineering Oval and the Plant Sciences Initiative
These projects will allow North Carolina to remain a national leader in Agriculture and Engineering, and will result in broad economic and quality of life improvements for North Carolinians
- > The North Carolina Community College System will receive \$350 million for new construction, much-needed repairs and renovations at all 58 community colleges across the state. These necessary improvements will allow a modern learning environment that meets the demands of a 21st century workforce.

Connect NC through agricultural research

- > The bond provides \$85 million for the Plant Sciences Initiative Complex at NC State University to establish North Carolina as the world leader in plant sciences research and innovation, spurring economic growth in our state's largest industry, agriculture.
- > It also invests \$94 million for an Agriculture and Consumer Sciences Lab Building for veterinary, food, drug and motor fuel testing, advancing our state's food safety and security.

Connect NC through state parks and attractions

- > The bond provides a total of \$75 million to update well-used facilities at 45 treasured state parks available to all citizens.
- > It also includes an investment of \$25 million for upgrades to service support facilities, trails and exhibits at the widely renowned North Carolina Zoo.

Connect NC through National Guard facilities

- > The bond includes \$70 million to construct National Guard Regional Readiness Centers in Burke, Guilford and Wilkes Counties allowing the Guard and its members from across the state to more efficiently and effectively train for and respond to state emergencies.

Connect NC through improved water and sewer infrastructure

- > The bond invests \$309.5 million in statewide water and sewer loans and grants to meet the demands of a growing population. Since the passage of the last water and sewer bond in North Carolina, 17 years ago, our state's population has grown by more than 2 million people.

Distribution of Bond Projects by Category and County

University of North Carolina

Appalachian State University	Watauga	New Health Sciences Building	\$70,000,000
East Carolina University	Pitt	Life Sciences & Biotech. Building	\$90,000,000
Fayetteville State University	Cumberland	Lyons Science Bldg. Renovation	\$10,000,000
NC Central University	Durham	New Business School	\$30,000,000
NC State University	Wake	Engineering Building	\$75,000,000
North Carolina A&T University	Guilford	Engineering Building	\$90,000,000
North Carolina School of Science and Math	Burke	North Carolina School of Technology and Engineering	\$58,000,000
UNC – Chapel Hill	Orange	Medical Education Bldg. Replacement	\$68,000,000
UNC – Charlotte	Mecklenburg	New Sciences Building	\$90,000,000
UNC – Greensboro	Guilford	Nursing School Building	\$105,000,000
UNC – Pembroke	Robeson	New Business School	\$23,000,000
UNC – Wilmington	New Hanover	Allied Health and Human Services/ Nursing Building	\$66,000,000
Western Carolina University	Jackson	Science/STEM Building	\$110,000,000
Winston-Salem State University	Forsyth	Sciences Building	\$50,000,000
Various	Statewide	Capital Repairs and Renovations	\$45,000,000

Total for University of North Carolina

\$980,000,000

NC Community Colleges

Alamance Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,100,330
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,487,530
Beaufort Co. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,557,810
Bladen Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,533,120
Blue Ridge Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$2,966,070
Brunswick Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$2,857,320
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,629,330
Cape Fear Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,908,680
Carteret Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$2,674,680
Catawba Valley Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,180,260
Central Carolina Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,307,080
Central Piedmont Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$9,636,450
Cleveland Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,467,350
College of the Albermarle	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,590,680
Coastal Carolina Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,973,100
Craven Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,376,640
Davidson County Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,820,720
Durham Tech. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,362,990
Edgecombe Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,277,870
Fayetteville Tech. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$10,668,060
Forsyth Tech. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,809,410
Gaston College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,949,900
Guilford Tech. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$9,519,540
Halifax Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,519,080
Haywood Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$2,831,380
Isothermal Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,803,660
James Sprunt Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,502,670
Johnston Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$3,701,470
Lenoir Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$8,001,500
Martin Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,566,720
Mayland Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,668,040
McDowell Tech. Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,598,980
Mitchell Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$3,218,010
Montgomery Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,334,530
Nash Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,773,790
Pamlico Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,193,230
Piedmont Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,850,320
Pitt Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$8,376,390
Randolph Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,086,840
Richmond Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,229,430
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,326,510
Robeson Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,296,560
Rockingham Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,848,390
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,211,550
Sampson Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,774,530
Sandhills Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$3,816,260
South Piedmont Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$3,189,220
Southeastern Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,861,620
Southwestern Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,170,590
Stanly Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,510,980
Surry Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,222,180
Tri-County Community College	New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$4,515,720

Vance-Granville Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$7,611,910
Wake Tech. Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$12,595,127
Wayne Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,855,913
Western Piedmont Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,099,649
Wilkes Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$5,243,674
Wilson Community College		New Construction, Repairs, Renovations	\$6,938,426
Total for NC Community Colleges			\$350,000,000

Local Parks and Infrastructure

Dept of Environment and Natural Resources	Statewide	Children with Disabilities and Veterans with Disabilities Local Parks (<i>Matching Grants</i>)	\$3,000,000
Dept of Environmental Quality	Statewide	Water/Sewer Loans and Grants	\$309,500,000
Total for Local Parks and Infrastructure			\$312,500,000

National Guard and Public Safety

National Guard	Guilford/Burke/Wilkes	Readiness Centers	\$70,000,000
Dept of Public Safety	Moore	Samarqand Training Academy	\$8,500,000
Total for National Guard and Public Safety			\$78,500,000

Agriculture

NC State University	Wake	Plant Sciences Building (<i>NCDA&CS/NCSU partnership</i>)	\$85,000,000
Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Wake	Veterinary/Food/Drug/Motor Fuels Lab	\$94,000,000
Total for Agriculture			\$179,000,000

State Parks and Attractions

State Parks	Cumberland	Carvers Creek	\$5,700,750
State Parks	Durham/ Orange	Eno River	\$2,830,500
State Parks	Washington/ Beaufort	Goose Creek	\$1,477,500
State Parks	Onslow	Hammocks Beach	\$1,125,000
State Parks	Dare	Jockeys Ridge	\$751,500
State Parks	Vance/ Warren	Kerr Lake State Recreation Area	\$3,750,000
State Parks	Burke/ McDowell	Lake James	\$3,021,000
State Parks	Iredell	Lake Norman	\$2,307,000
State Parks	Yancey	Mount Mitchell	\$600,000
State Parks	Various	Mountain-To-Sea/Other State Trails	\$4,500,000
State Parks	Surry/ Yadkin	Pilot Mountain	\$4,481,850
State Parks	Camden	Dismal Swamp	\$990,750
State Parks	Watauga	Elk Knob	\$900,000
State Parks	Durham/Wake	Falls Lake State Recreation Area	\$789,750
State Parks	New Hanover	Fort Fisher State Recreation Area	\$1,125,000
State Parks	Transylvania	Gorges	\$2,505,750
State Parks	Stokes	Hanging Rock	\$2,100,000
State Parks	Guilford/ Rockingham	Haw River	\$1,500,000
State Parks	Chatham/Wake	Jordan Lake State Recreation Area	\$3,000,000
State Parks	Columbus	Lake Waccamaw	\$1,506,000
State Parks	Scotland/Hoke/Robeson/ Columbus	Lumber River	\$2,628,750
State Parks	Rockingham	Mayo River	\$750,000
State Parks	Tyrell/Washington	Pettigrew	\$2,830,500
State Parks	Burke	South Mountain	\$2,250,000
State Parks	Alleghany/Wilkes	Stone Mountain	\$1,338,000
State Parks	Wake	William B. Umstead	\$1,725,000
State Parks	Avery	Yellow Mountain State Natural Area	\$2,250,000
State Parks	Watauga	Beech Creek Bog State Natural Area	\$600,000
State Parks	New Hanover	Carolina Beach	\$855,000
State Parks	Rutherford	Chimney Rock	\$1,500,000
State Parks	Wayne	Cliffs of the Neuse	\$692,400
State Parks	Gaston	Crowders Mountain	\$750,000
State Parks	Chatham	Deep River State Trail	\$1,281,000
State Parks	Carteret	Fort Macon	\$135,000
State Parks	Watauga	Grandfather Mountain	\$1,501,500
State Parks	Bladen	Jones Lake	\$651,750
State Parks	Chatham	Lower Haw River State Natural Area	\$203,250
State Parks	Halifax	Medoc Mountain	\$1,383,750
State Parks	Gates	Merchants Millpond	\$870,750
State Parks	Stanly	Morrow Mountain	\$1,537,500
State Parks	Ashe	Mount Jefferson State Natural Area	\$1,500,000
State Parks	Ashe	New River	\$675,000
State Parks	Harnett	Raven Rock	\$1,125,000
State Parks	Bladen	Singletary Lake	\$575,250
State Parks	Moore	Weymouth Woods State Natural Area	\$428,250
North Carolina Zoo	Randolph	Australasia Exhibit Complex/ Africa Pavilion/Related Projects	\$25,000,000
Total for State Parks and Attractions			\$100,000,000

GRAND TOTAL

\$2,000,000,000

Connect NC for NC State: NC State University Projects

Why is the Engineering Oval building considered a critical infrastructure project?

Engineering at NC State is a powerful driver of economic impact for North Carolina and the nation. NC State's engineering graduates not only dominate the state's highly skilled workforce at companies such as Cree, SAS and IBM; they also create jobs by developing new technologies, launching innovative companies and bringing cutting-edge products to market. NC State's College of Engineering is critical in attracting businesses and industries to North Carolina.

NC State has one of the largest and most respected engineering programs in the nation, with more than 9,000 students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate programs ranging from nuclear engineering to computer science.

The new Engineering Oval building on Centennial Campus will enhance the university's ability to continue to attract and support the world's best engineering students and faculty. The building will include more than 100 classrooms and state-of-the-art laboratories to advance research excellence in areas including:

- > Biomanufacturing
- > Advanced manufacturing
- > Rapid prototyping
- > Health systems in engineering
- > Construction engineering and management
- > Environmental engineering
- > Transportation systems

Why is the Plant Sciences Initiative considered a critical infrastructure project?

Agribusiness is the No. 1 sector in North Carolina's economy, at \$78 billion per year. Every \$1 spent on agricultural research in North Carolina returns \$19.90 in economic benefit to the state. In addition, over the next 25 years, 84 percent of U.S. agricultural jobs are projected to be in the plant sciences disciplines. That's why NC State's leadership in the plant sciences — we have the largest and best plant breeding program in the world — helps fuel our state's economy.

Plant sciences research at NC State has an impact far beyond North Carolina's borders. The world must double food production in 35 years to feed a population estimated to reach 9 billion. Meanwhile, climates and water sources are changing, and farm acreage continues to shrink. To address these challenges, we need to enlist the best minds from academia and industry, as well as those from traditionally nonagricultural disciplines such as physics, engineering, mathematics and economics.

The Plant Sciences Research Complex will use an interdisciplinary systems approach in a world-class research facility to increase crop yields, diversify nutrition, improve sustainability and extend growing seasons. The complex incorporates key features to make it the premier interdisciplinary plant sciences research center in the nation:

- > Leasable corporate lab suites
- > Leasable startup suites
- > Atrium collaborative space
- > Faculty labs and offices
- > 30,000 square foot rooftop greenhouse
- > Plant processing laboratory for integration with the Golden Leaf Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center
- > Seminar/classroom space

Learn more at Connect.NC.gov



The bond vote is March 15, 2016