



Capital Priority Requests to Federal & State Representatives **Assistance to Address Critical Public Safety & Economic Development Needs**

- ✓ **Fire station – move fire department out of 83-year-old building to new station.** The main station serving Hillsborough and the 60+ square mile Orange Rural Fire District was built in 1942 as a car dealership. The Orange Rural/Hillsborough Fire Department moved into this location in 1976. Retrofits have been made to accommodate operations, but options have run out in terms of space and functionality. Maintenance on such an old building is an increasing problem, such as cracking walls. The downtown location and being an architecturally contributing historic building make it a prime location for economic re-development by a variety of businesses. The town already owns land to construct a new station several blocks away on N. Churton Street. The town is placing \$300,000 per year into a capital reserve fund to save money and build financial capacity for future debt service payments. Approximately \$1.0 million has already been set aside, but the \$8 - 10 million project leaves a significant funding gap.
- ✓ **Replace 90+ year old undersized Hassell Street water tank.** The 1930's tank is vastly undersized and of outdated material. The inefficient standpipe design significantly limits the amount of usable water storage, and available pressure delivered throughout the system. The tank is connected to the water main linking Hillsborough's water system to Durham's which is used for emergency transfers to/from each system. The tank size needs to be doubled to 500,000 gallons to support the current and future demands of the system including future commercial development planned in the US 70/Cornelius Street Corridor Strategic Plan. Total project estimate: \$3.67 million.
- ✓ **Cates Creek Sewer Outfall to serve I-40/Old NC86 Economic Development District and adjacent areas.** The current outfall is nearing capacity, limiting and preventing development in the part of Hillsborough which is most attractive to developers and businesses. The I-40 and Old NC86 interchange area is anchored by the Waterstone development and UNC-Hillsborough hospital. This is a rare interstate exit in the Triangle and Triad area that's not been fully developed. Installing 3.4 miles of upsized sewer will allow growth in this economic development area to continue and prevent sewer overflows during storms. The Phase 1 cost is \$6.4 million. The Phase 2 cost is \$4.6 million. Some funding sources are available for this project, but it is not enough to cover the estimated \$11 million.
- ✓ **Update outdated and hazardous water disinfection system.** The water treatment plant utilizes chlorine gas for primary disinfection and to form chloramines for secondary disinfection. The extreme toxic and corrosive nature of chlorine and the large quantities that must be stored on site require annual hazard assessments by the USEPA Risk Management Program Rules. This assessment estimates that in a worst-case scenario, a major chlorine leak at the water plant could be toxic to a population of 13,365 and that a plume of noxious chlorine gas would likely travel towards the town's core commercial and historic district if a failure of the system would occur. Furthermore, there is a single supplier of this gas which, if a supply interruption occurs, creates the risk of being unable to disinfect and thus leave the community without potable drinking water. A study has been completed detailing how the town can move away from chlorine gas to a safer and readily available disinfection system – sodium hypochlorite. This project cost has been estimated at \$1.97 million. Design and construction can be implemented rather quickly.

Note: These projects are unique in benefit as each one addresses both public safety and economic development priorities.