

To the Warren County Commissioners,

We understand that the Warren County Commissioners are being presented a proposal to reduce the current annual funding for the volunteer fire departments to provide funds for capital improvements of a new Farmers Market, Senior Center, and a 4th EMS station. **We are opposed to Warren County changing its contractual position with the Volunteer Fire Departments and any reduction in funding of the Volunteer Fire Departments.**

We are not opposed to the proposed capital improvements, but they should not be at the expense of the funding of the volunteer fire departments. and the valuable services they provide the citizens of Warren County. As stated on Warren County's website¹ the First Responder Program supported by nine fire departments throughout the county is "invaluable to EMS and the public considering some of the remote locations people live in Warren County."

² For example, neighboring Vance County population density is approximately four times greater than in Warren County.

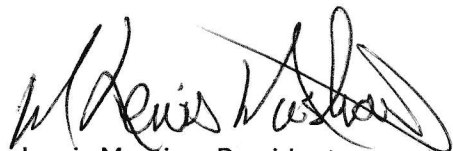
We fully support the men and women who volunteer, provide lifesaving and property protection services for the citizens of Warren County. We ask that no county funding be decreased for the Volunteer Fire Departments without fully considering the potential negative impact on the most vulnerable members of our community. We also ask that any supporting analyses for funding reductions be made available to the public for full transparency of community impacts before any final decisions are made by the board.

Sincerely,

Warren County Concerned Citizens of the Lake Gaston Community



Jeffrey L. Zimmer, President
Lake Gaston Association



Lewis Mustian, President
Lake Gaston Water Safety Council



Melissa Hartman, Chairperson Board of Directors
Lake Gaston 911 Task Force

¹ <https://www.warrencountync.com/155/Emergency-Medical-Services>

² Warren County population density is 43.3/square mile compared to neighboring Vance County at 168.4/square mile. <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US37181-vance-county-nc/#:~:text=Vance%20County%2C%20NC%2042%2C492%20Population%20252.4,square%20miles%20168.4%20people%20per%20square%20mile>