

# The Political Picture

A publication of the Government Affairs Committee



## SESSION IS UNDERWAY!

The Wake Forest Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in Wake Forest. The Chamber is also your voice for pro-business initiatives as they relate to Government Affairs. The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee works hard to ensure that elected officials at the local, state, and federal level are doing their part to best represent the Wake Forest business community. Session is underway!

After a slow start, the North Carolina General Assembly is in full-swing for the Long Session. Session officially started in late January, and should last until August. In this issue of The Political Picture, we'll give you some updates from Raleigh, more information on the Transit Plan, and end with some good news.

In an effort to better communicate to our membership the work being done by the Government Affairs committee, we will be sending out The Political Picture bi-monthly. The Political Picture will contain politically relevant information for the Wake Forest business community. We value your feedback. If you have an idea or an issue, [we want to hear from you!](#)

-The Government Affairs Committee Team

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## IN THE NEWS ...

### WAKE TRANSIT PLAN SEEKING FEEDBACK

The Wake Transit Plan, passed by voters last November, is seeking feedback regarding a draft work plan for Fiscal Year 2018. We encourage you to review the plan and to give your feedback. The Chamber supports the Transit Plan, but it is critical North Eastern Wake County is not left out of the plan. This is a great opportunity for us as a Chamber to let Wake Transit know our thoughts and ensure we are included in the planning moving forward. To review the plan and to comment, visit: <http://www.waketransit.com/fy18-work-plan/>

### CHAMBER WANTS RAIL

The Wake Weekly: Recruiting and retaining teachers, accessible fiber optic networks, commuter rail, U.S. 1 improvements, job creation, tax base growth, are all on the

agenda. [Read More](#)

### **N.C. BUDGET SURPLUS NOW PREDICTED ABOVE \$550 MILLION**

The AP: North Carolina government revenues are projected to exceed expectations by more than a half-billion dollars this fiscal year, state economists announced.

[Read More](#)

### **EFFORTS TO REPEAL NORTH CAROLINA HB2 ARE AT AN IMPASS AGAIN**

ABC 11: A new proposal to repeal North Carolina's "bathroom bill" appears stuck as Republican lawmakers and the new Democratic governor disagree about empowering local governments to expand LGBT rights. [Read More](#)

### **NOT QUALITY OF LIFE, A PLACE OF QUALITY**

The Wake Forest Gazette: The joint was packed. There were about 215 people in the main hall at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts for a dinner and Mayor Vivian Jones' ninth state of the town speech. [Read More](#)

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## **(NOT SO) BULLY PULPIT**

In an effort to give our readers some confidence that all is not lost politically, in each issue we will end by posting an uplifting, positive, and unifying political story. This issue highlights former President George W. Bush and his new project:

### ***George W. Bush Highlights Military Veterans in New Book 'Portraits of Courage'***

Today: Combining his twin passions of painting and working to help military veterans, former president George W. Bush's new book aims to help those who have served our country in their transition to civilian life. [CLICK TO WATCH](#)

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## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that The Wake Forest Chamber has an [Advocacy Request Form](#)? This means that if you or your business has an identified issue, proposed ordinance, specific legislation, etc. you can submit an [Advocacy Request](#) for the Chamber to consider.



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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Government Affairs Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 5 | 8:00 am**  
**Wake Forest Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**350 S. White Street, Wake Forest**