

Town of Knightdale, NC

CITIZENS' FINANCIALREPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023













CITIZENS'FINANCIALREPORT CONTENTS

This report is not an audited document and does not include all details of the audit report; rather, this report is intended to increase awareness of the financial operations of Knightdale. For more in-depth financial information, the **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)** is available online at the Town's website: **www.KnightdaleNC.gov**.

If you have questions concerning the financial reports or would like additional information, you may call **Customer Service** at **919.217.2200.**

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TOWNCOUNCIL

The Town of Knightdale has a Council-Manager form of government. Under this system the citizens elect a mayor and five council members as the Town's governing body. The Council then appoints the Town Manager who serves at the discretion of the Council. Council members are elected to four-year terms. The Mayor, as the principal elected official of the town, provides leadership to the governing body and the community, and presides over council meetings.



Mayor Jessica Day Term 2021-2023



Mayor Pro Tem Ben McDonald Term 2019-2023



Councilor Mark Swan Term 2021-2025



Councilor Stephen Morgan Term 2019-2023



Councilor Latatious Morris Term 2021-2025



Councilor Steve Evans Term 2021-2025

KNIGHTDALENORTHCAROLINA



The Town of Knightdale is one of 12 municipalities in Wake County, North Carolina. It is located on the eastern side of the county and shares portions of its western boundary contiguous to the City of Raleigh, the capital and second largest city in North Carolina. Other neighboring municipalities include:

Town of Rolesville
Town of Wake Forest
Town of Wendell
Town of Zebulon

MANAGER'SMESSAGE

Dear Town of Knightdale Residents,

One of our most important responsibilities to you, as a taxpayer, is to ensure transparency and accountability in our financial operations. This report, what we call the Citizens' Financial Report, is designed to make our financials open and accessible, allowing you to understand how your tax dollars are spent to run Town services and programs.

At its core, municipal government is designed to provide the infrastructure for a sound, safe, and thriving community. Our financial stewardship requires us to invest in ways that address both the short-term needs of the community while responsibly investing in our future. We hope to make you an educated partner in our Town's investments and show the return on those investments to you, our citizens.

The information found in this report, financial and otherwise, is derived in large part from the financial statements contained in the Town's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and is audited by an independent certified public accounting firm. The ACFR contains more detailed and extensive information, such as the audited financial statements, notes, schedules, and other relevant information. The data reflects the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

Thank you for your partnership. We hope this report increases your confidence in the way your Town is operated, and we invite you to continue the conversation with us and welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,

Willy & fit

WILLIAMSUMMERS







ABOUTKNIGHTDALE

Incorporated in 1927, the Town of Knightdale is located in Wake County, just seven miles east of Raleigh, the State Capital of North Carolina. It has a corporate limit comprised of 7.81 square miles and an extraterritorial jurisdiction of 17.38 square miles. With a population of only 243 in the 1930 Census, the Town's major growth started in the 1990s, and today, it is recognized as one of the fastest growing municipalities in Wake County, the State's second largest county.

Knightdale is a dynamic community full of opportunity, welcoming those who want something different. It is a place citizens can call their own, where the culture is decided by the people, and a place that encourages its citizens to make the Town what they want and gives them the freedom to be themselves.

The Town's tag line, "Start Something," is more than a motto. It is a mindset, not only for citizens, businesses, and community partners, but for the Town itself. A major accomplishment in fiscal year 2023 was the creation of a Community Relations Department. This department will oversee the Town's overall community engagement, economic development, and communications. Work is currently underway on some major Town initiatives. In the previous fiscal year, Town Council placed an emphasis on meeting public safety needs by directing staff to pursue two new fire stations and a law enforcement center. Construction has begun on both fire stations. The Hodge Road Fire Station is scheduled for completion in fiscal year 2024. The Forestville Road Fire Station is scheduled for completion in early fiscal year 2025. The design contract was awarded for the law enforcement center remodel, with construction scheduled to begin in early fiscal year 2025. These are only a few exciting changes started and coming as Knightdale continues as a place to live, work and play.















GROWINGECONOMY

The Town of Knightdale's diverse economy is supported by businesses of all shapes and sizes from locally-owned shops to nationally recognized corporations. Its economy benefits from the proximity to the City of Raleigh and the Research Triangle Park, which includes Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and surrounding communities. This area is considered one of the best places to live and work in the United States. Unemployment has decreased to 3.4% compared to 3.6% at the same point last year. The median household income is \$72,118.

Town of Knightdale Adopts Comprehensive Transportation Plan



COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN Town of Knightdale

Date: NOVEMBER 2022 Town of Knightdale, NC

KNIGHTDALE

Adopted in fiscal year 2023, the Town's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) presents a long-term vision for roadways, transit and bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Knightdale. The plan was developed over a year long process which included extensive public and stakeholder outreach. The CTP will guide the Town in pursuing projects to implement the long-term transportation vision. Current priorities are improving safety and connectivity, boosting transit ridership and expansion of the bicycle and pedestrian network. In the future, priorities will likely shift to system maintenance and alternative modes of transportation as many widening projects are completed. This Plan will also assist in securing funding for transportation projects from federal, state and local transportation partners.



Top 10 Employers

Wake County Public Schools

Eby-Brown

PCX Corp

Eaton Corp

UNC Rex Healthcare

Wake Stone

Ametek

Duke Health

Professional Healthcare, Inc.

Ernest Packaging



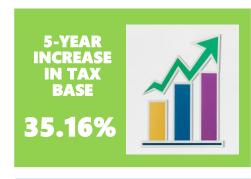
ECONOMICSUMMARY

In fiscal year 2023, the Town's tax base has continued to grow. The number of building permits issued increased by 20% in the last calendar year, bringing a total of 115 million in assessed property value into the Town. Of the 115 million, 58% is related to commercial development. This positive trend has brought new jobs to the area. Knightdale is a wonderful place to live, raise a family, work, and establish a business. In addition to providing a highly desirable quality of life for every type of business and its workforce, Knightdale is an excellent marketplace for businesses and entrepreneurs to offer goods and services of all descriptions.

EDUCATIONRESOURCES

The Town is served by Wake County Public School System (WCPSS), the State's largest school system and 15th largest in the country. Knightdale is home to six WCPSS schools: four elementary schools and one each middle and high school.

Institutions of higher education within 20 miles include: Wake Tech, NC State, Shaw, William Peace, Saint Augustine's, and Meredith.





TOWNACCOLADES

Top 100 Places to Live in America-Money

Safest Cities in North Carolina
-Safewise

10 Fastest Growing Towns in North Carolina

-US Census Bureau

Sixth Happiest City in North Carolina

-HomeSnacks

GENERALFUND

The General Fund is the Town's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except for those required to be accounted for in a different fund. These other, smaller funds are used for specific purposes with more Information being found in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) on the Town's website.



FUND BALANCE QUICK FACTS FOR FY2023

Fund Balance is the difference between assets and liabilities in a governmental fund. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) provide the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent. Information on fund balance classifications can be found in the notes of the ACFR.

- At the end of the fiscal year, the total fund balance for the General Fund was \$13,579,538. The unassigned fund balance was \$9,453,325.
- Town Council policy says the Town should maintain an unassigned fund balance of 25%—four months of general fund expenditures—in cases of unforeseen needs or opportunities in addition to meeting cash flow needs of the Town. The Town has exceeded this with an unassigned fund balance of 35.6%.
- Any unassigned fund balance over 40% gets transferred to the Town's Capital Reserve Fund to offset costs of future capital projects. No funds were moved in FY2023.

What kinds of services are accounted for in the General Fund?

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- Legislative Body
- Administration
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Police
- Fire

TRANSPORTATION

- Streets
- Public Buildings
- Grounds
- Public Works

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Sanitation

ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEV

- Development Services
- Code Enforcement

CULTURAL & RECREATION

- Parks
- Recreation
- Cultural/Education Events

DEBT SERVICE

- Principal
- Interest



WHERE DOES THE FUNDING COME FROM?

REVENUES

\$25,136,421

Property taxes are the single largest source of revenue for the Town of Knightdale consistent with all other municipalities and counties in North Carolina. The Town also shares in a portion of sales taxes collected and remitted to the NC Department of Revenue by retailers and others. While the State retains the majority of collected sales taxes, portions are allocated back to local governments according to state statutes. To mitigate the overall impact on citizens, where possible the Town charges specific end users for the costs of services. These amounts are reflected in the Sales & Services and Permits & Fees categories. Recreational programming, trash pickup, and building permit fees are examples of these types of revenues.

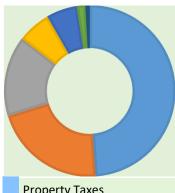
WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

EXPENDITURES

\$25,876,256

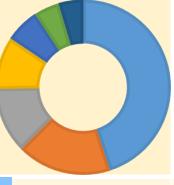
While expenditures can be broken out by function as seen on the right, amounts can also be viewed by type. Of the total General Fund amount expended in fiscal year 2023, \$13,046,436 or 50% of the total was spent on personnel services. This includes salary and benefits for full-time employees and limited service staff. Operating costs totaling \$6,921,271 or 27% was the next largest amount. These costs include utilities, fuel, general maintenance, and any other expense necessary for providing routine services to residents. The Town spent \$4,127,509 or 16% of total on capital items, which includes vehicles and large equipment. Debt service accounts for 7% or \$1,781,040 of the remaining amount.





GENERAL FUND REVENUES

Property Taxes	\$11,592,338	46%
Sales Taxes	\$6,252,534	25%
Grants/Aid	\$3,125,761	12%
Other Taxes	\$1,562,797	6%
Sales & Services	\$1,417,338	6%
Permits & Fees	\$568,893	2%
Other	\$616,760	3%
TOTAL	\$25,136,421	100%



GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

T	OTAL	\$25,876,256	100%
	Environmental Protection	\$1,302,169	5%
	Econ & Phys Development	\$1,448,120	5%
	Cultural & Recreation	\$1,764,851	7%
	Debt Service	\$1,781,040	7%
	Transportation	\$3,652,982	14%
	General Government	\$5,138,579	20%
	Public Safety	\$10,788,515	42%



Top 10 Taxpayers

BDPF Eastgate

Knightdale Multifamily Ownership LLC

Greystone WW Co LLC

CH Realty Ixpreiss Multifamily Raleigh

BRC Knightdale LLC

Triangle Palisades at Legacy Oaks

Wake Stone Property Company

The Cottages at Knightdale Station

BBK Midway Plantation LLC

Laurens Way Co LP

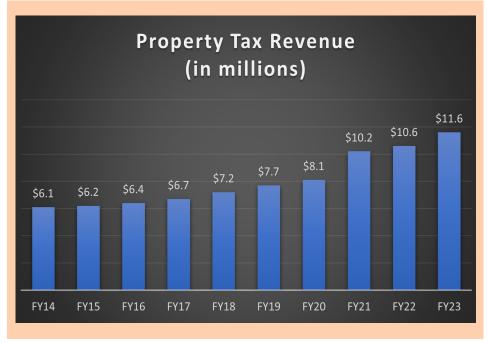




PROPERTYTAXES

For the Town to provide the many types of services for citizens, it needs to generate revenue. The main source of revenue is Ad Valorem (property) tax. Property taxes make up 46% of the General Fund revenues of the Town and are assessed and collected for things such as real estate, business and personal property, and motor vehicles. To equitably tax citizens, the Town relies on the Wake County Tax Department to review ownership and condition of taxable property as of January 1st of each year. A tax rate is set per \$100 assessed value. The total assessed value of property for Knight-dale in 2023 was \$2,570,361,556. The Town's property tax collection rate was 99.76% for 2023.

TAX RATE	TOWN	COUNTY
2023	0.45	0.6195
2022	0.42	0.6000
2021	0.42	0.6000
2020	0.43	0.7207
2019	0.43	0.6544
2018	0.43	0.6150
2017	0.43	0.6005
2016	0.43	0.6145
2015	0.43	0.5780
2014	0.43	0.5340



GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS

The government-wide financial statements look at the Town of Knightdale as a single, integrated unit and use the full-accrual basis of accounting. These statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances in a manner similar to a private sector business (balance sheet and income statement). They provide short and long-term information about the Town's financial status as a whole and can be found on Exhibits 1 and 2 of the ACFR. Information presented includes only governmental activities.

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021
Total Assets & Deferred Outflows	\$170,453,844	\$141,351,324	\$133,962,029
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows	43,222,652	31,320,062	29,041,933
Total Net Position	\$127,231,192	\$110,031,262	\$104,920,096



This information provides a snapshot of what the Town owns (its assets) and owes (its liabilities). Net Position represents the Town's investment in the assets it uses in providing services to its citizens.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021
Revenues	\$44,732,598	\$27,751,573	\$32,635,449
Expenses	27,532,668	22,681,107	20,924,555
Change in Net Position	\$17,199,930	\$5,111,166	\$11,710,894

Income Statement

This report provides a summary of amounts received (revenues) and amounts spent (expenses). The difference between revenues and expenses shows in the Town's net position. A positive change indicates the Town had enough revenues to cover its obligations and has the ability to save for the future.

CAPITAL ASSETS—NET OF DEPRECIATION (in millions)

Land
Streets & Infrastructure

\$129
Million
\$4.5

Vehicles & Equipment

\$23.5

Buildings & Improvements

Over time increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or weakening. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the net position increased \$17,199,930. The increase in net assets was due in large part to developers donated streets and sidewalks.

Over 90% of the Town's net position is capital infrastructure representing land, streets, buildings, vehicles and other major equipment that the Town uses to provide services to its citizen.





OUTSTANDINGDEBT

The Town of Knightdale sometimes issues debt to fund its general governmental and business-type capital needs. The total outstanding debt as of June 30, 2023 totals \$20,303,865. This is an increase of \$10,096,563 or 98.92% from the prior year. The Town has a policy which provides guidance and direction when considering the impact of debt and actively monitors and manages its debt capacity and affordability. The Town is operating within the parameters of this policy. The total amount spent—principal and interest—on debt service in FY2023 was \$1,781,040. This is a decrease of \$71,600 or 3.86% from the prior year.

BREAKDOWNOF**DEBT**

General Obligation Bonds \$1,200,200

Installment Purchase Agreements \$17,707,357

Leases and Subscription Based Technology Agreements

\$1,396,508

General Obligation Bonds are backed by the full faith, credit and taxing power of Knightdale. The collateral for installment purchase agreements are the assets purchased or constructed. Leases are defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset (the underlying asset) as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Subscription Based Information Technology Agreements provide governments with access to vendors' IT software and associated tangible capital assets for subscription payments without granting governments perpetual license or title to the IT software and associated tangible capital assets.



GENERALGOVERNMENT

General Government is the administrative function of the Town of Knightdale. These departments provide the necessary financial and human capital infrastructure to ensure Town services are carried out. Primary is the Administration Department led by the Town Manager, who is responsible for all municipal functions and ensures the Town operates in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. General Government expenditures represented 20% of the General Fund budget in FY2023 or \$5,138,579, of which \$2,097,035 was for personnel costs, \$1,631,408 spent on capital, and the balance of \$1,410,136 used for operations and maintenance costs.

STRATEGICPLANNING

Updated in 2023, the Town's **Strategic Plan** incorporates robust input from all of its stakeholders and was developed as a proactive strategy to augment its citizens' future quality of life. The plan's purpose is to communicate clearly the message of "who we are and what we want our Town to be in the future." It is built around five essential priority areas that are vital to ensuring Knightdale's future. Safe, Active & Healthy, Connected & Inclusive, Sustainable, and Organizational Excellence serve as the foundations for service delivery decisions, capital investments, and other initiatives for the Town.

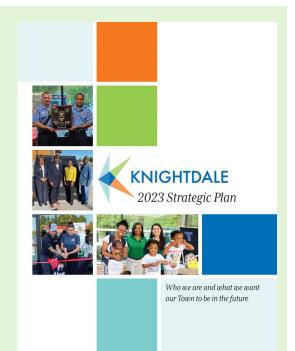














PUBLICSAFETYFIRE

The Knightdale Fire Department is responsible for protecting the lives, property, and the environment of the citizens and visitors to the Town of Knightdale. The department responds to calls of service out of three stations with 50 full-time positions. For the fiscal year 2023, the Fire Department spent \$5,981,526 of which \$4,913,972 was for personnel services, \$151,417 spent on capital and \$916,137 for operations and maintenance. Fire services extend outside of Town limits; and therefore, the Town participates in the County's Fire Cost-Share program. In fiscal year 2023, the Town received funding of \$2,411,761 from the County.

QUICKFACTS

TOTAL CALLS **4,127**

AVERAGE REPSONSE TIME **5 minutes, 51 seconds**

FIRE LOSS FOR THE YEAR \$2,279,112

VALUE OF PROPERTY SAVED \$6,726,259

PERCENTAGE OF PROPERTY LOSS 25.3%

Town Breaks Ground on New Fire Station

The Town of Knightdale initiated the construction of the Forestville Road Fire Station during fiscal year 2023 with an estimated completion date of early fiscal year 2025. The Forestville Road Fire Station will boast state-of-the-art infrastructure, incorporating advanced firefighting equipment and cutting-edge technology to enhance response capabilities.







PUBLICSAFETYPOLICE

The Police Department seeks to serve by ensuring the safety and security of all who live, work and visit the Town of Knightdale. It does this through its professional policing and community partnerships and an adherence to its Core Values known as PRIDE: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dedication and Ethical Conduct. The KPD is comprised of three separate divisions made up of 42 sworn and non-sworn personnel. In fiscal year 2023, the Town spent \$4,806,989 for police services, of which \$3,607,166 was for personnel services, \$309,242 was for capital, and \$890,581 was for operations and maintenance.

KPD Citizens Police Academy Returns

In fiscal year 2023, the Town's Citizens Police Academy (CPA) returned. The CPA is an excellent way for community members to become better informed about crime and public safety. It also gives Knightdale residents and other community stakeholders an opportunity to develop working relationships with Police Department members.







QUICKFACTS

AVERAGE REPSONSE TIME 4 minutes, 22 seconds

PART 1 CRIMES 604

REPORTS TAKEN 1,476

ARRESTS MADE 728

INVESTIGATION COMPLIANCE 99%

INVESTIGATION CLEARANCE RATE 54%

QUICKFACTS

RESIDENTAL DEVELOPMENT

Permits Issued: 207 Value: \$48.7 Million

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Permits Issued: 93 Value: \$66.5 Million

CORPORATE LIMITS **8.54 Square Miles**

EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ)

16.65 Square Miles

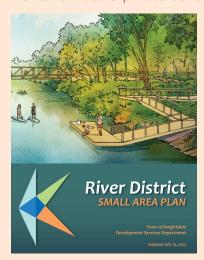


DEVELOPMENTSERVICES

The Development Services Department facilitates sustainable growth through regulations that promote a balance of the built and natural environments. It is the central point of contact for the Town for all development-related needs and oversees the entire development process from permit application submittals through the issuance of certificates of occupancy (CO). This department ensures that all development activities are conducted in accordance with the Knightdale Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) and North Carolina Building Code. Annual expenditures were \$1,448,120 of which \$733,837 was for personnel, \$439,614 was for capital, and \$274,669 was for operations and maintenance.

Town Adopts River District Small Area Plan

The River District Small Area Plan creates a clear vision for the district and provides guidelines and policy statements for future private development related to permitted land uses, architecture, infrastructure, and cohesive



signage and branding. The plan also helps the Town identify opportunities for future public projects, such as improving walkability and connectivity by filling in greenway and sidewalk gaps. Possible re-development opportunities and park/open space needs are also explored. The plan also:

- Created four new guiding principles to be used in addition to those in the KnightdaleNext 2035 Comprehensive Plan
- Emphasizes creating a walkable, connected community that provides ample destinations and recreational activities
- Revised the Town's Growth & Conservation Map to expand several mixed use centers, introduce a neighborhood node, and create a new Trail-Oriented Development place type



QUICKFACTS

HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

6,300

TOWN STREETS MAINTAINED

64 Miles

SOLID WASTE MATERIAL COLLECTED

5,400 Tons

RECYCLED MATERIAL

1,300 Tons

PUBLICWORKS

The Public Works Department maintains existing public infrastructure, plans and constructs capital improvements, and protects public health and safety and natural resources. In fiscal year 2023, it had \$3,652,982 in annual operating costs. Of this amount, \$1,571,639 was spent on general operations, \$854,586 was used for the upkeep of grounds and buildings, and \$1,226,757 was spent on streets and sidewalks. Like all NC municipalities, the Town receives funds from the State primarily for street resurfacing, but it can also be used for construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, sidewalks, and greenways. The Town had \$810,962 available at year end.

Knightdale Celebrates Creek Week 2023

Knightdale's Creek Week is a collaboration between the Town, NC Clean Water Education Partnership, and Wake County Public Libraries. A variety of events are hosted to celebrate and educate the community on the importance of clean and healthy waterways. During Creek Week 2023, Knightdale hosted a Story Walk, Arbor Day Tree Planting, Volunteer Litter Sweep, Tree Giveaway, and Shred-A-Thon.













PARKSRECREATION&CULTURE

The mission of the Town's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Programs Department is to enhance the quality of life for citizens of all ages by providing an experienced staff to plan, implement, and manage a wide variety of passive, active and cultural opportunities. Department expenditures for fiscal year 2023 were \$1,764,851, with \$717,680 spent on personnel costs, \$629,192 used for operations and \$417,979 spent on capital related items. Programming costs were offset by \$239,700 in recreation and service fees.

RECREATIONFACILITIES

Parks Total Acreage 241 **Playgrounds** 3 **Ball Diamonds** Soccer/Football Fields 9 **Community Centers** 1 Pool **Tennis Courts Pickleball Courts Basketball Courts** 2 **Greenway Miles** 3.3 **Splash Pad** 1

HARPERPARK

Harper Park and its all-inclusive playground at 207 Main St. features a zero-entry merry-go-round, inclusive swings, sensory play equipment and other structures children of varying abilities can enjoy. The park was made possible due to a donation from Wake Stone Corporation.



INFORMATION&AWARDS



Wake County Public Schools

AWARD

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR) to Knightdale for its Citizens' Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. This award is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The award is given to those organizations whose content conforms to program standards for creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal. It is only valid for one year. We believe this year's report continues to conform to the PAFR standards.



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for
Outstanding
Achievement in
Popular Annual
Financial Reporting

Presented to

Town of Knightdale North Carolina

For its Annual Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2022

Christopher P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

919-662-7100

TOWNOFKNIGHTDALE

USEFULNUMBERS

wcpss.net

Animal Control	919-212-7387	SERVICE DIRECTORY		
Dead Animal Removal (County)	919-733-4768	Customer Service	919-217-2200	
Dead Animal Removal (Town) City of Raleigh raleighnc.gov GORaleigh Bus Service	919-217-2250 919-996-3245 919-485-RIDE	Trash/Recycling Development Services Building Permits	919-217-2250 919-217-2244	
goraleigh.org	0.00	Code Enforcement		
East Wake Television Studio	919-868-5598	Finance	919-217-2212	
East Wake Regional Library	919-217-5300	Fire (Non-Emergency)	919-217-2270	
NC Dept of Transportation	877-368-4968	Human Resources	919-217-2221	
ncdot.gov Wake County Government		Parks, Recreation &		
		Cultural Programs	919-217-2232	
<u>wakegov.com</u>		Police (Non-Emergency)	919-217-2261	
Board of Elections	919-856-6240	Public Information Officer	919-217-2205	
Clerk of Court	919-792-4000	Public Works	919-217-2250	
Environmental Controls	919-856-7400	Town Clerk	919-217-2225	
Register of Deeds	919-856-5460	Town Manager	919-217-2200	
Sheriff's Office Tax Administration	919-856-6900 919-856-5400	Solid Waste - GFL		
taxhelp@wakegov.		Town Residents	919-217-2250	

919-431-7400

Non residents should call

GFL direct

MEMORIALDAY CEREMONY

On May 29, 2023, the Town of Knightdale paid tribute to the courageous soldiers who selflessly laid down their lives for our freedom. May we always remember their sacrifices and honor their legacies. We are grateful for their selflessness and unwavering devotion so that we can enjoy the liberties we hold dear.











