

Property Disposal Options For North Carolina Local Governments

General Disposal Methods	Personal Property UNDER \$30,000	Personal Property OVER \$30,000	ALL Real Property
Sale			
Competitive sale by public auction (G.S. 160A-270); sealed bid (G.S. 160A -268), or upset bid (G.S. 160A-269)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Private negotiated sale with governing board approval (G.S. 160A-266(b) and 160A-277), or by local policy (160A-266(c))	Yes	No	No
Exchange			
Exchange with public and private entities (G.S. 160A-271)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lease			
Lease with term over 10 years treated as sale of real property (G.S. 160A-272)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Discard			
Discard because has no value, unable to sell, or poses threat to public health or safety (G.S. 160A-266(d))	Yes	Yes	No
Raffle surplus property (G.S. 14-309.15)	Yes	Yes (\$125,000 limit)	Yes (\$500,000 limit)
Convey without Monetary Consideration ("donate")			
Convey to non-profits, sister cities, and other units of government – does not apply to schools (G.S. 160A-280)	Yes	Yes	No
Convey or sell to public and private entities for continued public use – cities and counties only (G.S. 160A-279)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Convey to other units of government			
Convey to other units of government in NC under conditions "deemed wise" by governing boards (G.S. 160A-274)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Trade-In			
Trade-in included as part of bidding process for purchases of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment (G.S. 143-129.7)	Yes	Yes	No



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Special Conveyances	Personal Property UNDER \$30,000	Personal Property OVER \$30,000	All Real Property
Sell artistic, historic, or scenic property to non-profit or trust for conservation or preservation (G.S. 160A-266(b))	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lease property for affordable housing (G.S. 160A-278)	No	No	Yes
 Sell property for affordable housing Counties (G.S. 153A-378) Cities (G.S. 160A-279) 	No	No	Yes
Lease or sell property for economic development projects (G.S. 158-7.1)	No	No	Yes
Sell, exchange, or transfer property for community development projects – cities only (G.S. 160A-457)	No	No	Yes
Lease, sell or convey property to fire department & rescue squad for facilities (G.S. 160A-277)	No	No	Yes
Retiring law enforcement officer's weapon and badge (G.S. 20-187.2)	Yes	No	No
Retiring firefighter's helmet (G.S. 160A-294.1-cities; G.S. 153A-236-counties)	Yes	No	No

Special Considerations for Public School Property (real and personal):

- Must be sold for valuable consideration (cannot be donated)
- Real property must be offered first to county board of commissioners for fair market price or negotiated price; if county does not purchase, can be sold using property disposal procedures under Article 12 of Chapter 160A (G.S. 115C-518)
- Real property can be leased to another governmental unit for one dollar (\$1) per year (G.S. 160A-274(c))

Special Considerations for Seized and Abandoned Property (personal):

• Seized or abandoned personal property held by law enforcement must be disposed of according to procedures set out in Article 2 of Chapter 15 (G.S. 15-11 through 15-17)