

Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES PLAN (CTSP)

MEETING DATE:

June 3, 2014

REQUESTED BY:

Jon Creighton, Assistant County Manager/Planning Director and Denise Braine, Planner

Background information

To receive state and/or federal funding through the NCDOT-Public Transportation Division, counties must have an adopted Community Transportation Services Plan (CTSP). The purpose of the CTSP is to describe the current performance and organizational direction of Buncombe County's Community Transportation System, Mountain Mobility, and to recommend strategies that increase mobility options for passengers and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization and transportation services.

This five-year community transportation plan must be developed through a public education and involvement process that includes the general public, private and non-profit transportation providers, human service providers and targeted populations that include individuals with disabilities, low incomes and limited English proficiency. The result of this planning effort should produce overall growth and expansion goals that the community can support.

Buncombe County's last CTSP was adopted in June 1999. The NCDOT conducted a Regional Feasibility Study in 2010 for Buncombe County, Henderson County, and the City of Asheville to assess the existing transit services being provided in the region and to determine the desirability of regionalized system of services within the transit service area. Buncombe County also must complete a five-year CTSP. The resolution is required by the NCDOT to express Buncombe County's intent to undertake the CTSP and meet the local 10% match requirement, estimated to be \$7,000-\$8,000.

Pro's

- Promotion of transit options that provide meaningful alternatives to citizens and connectivity of transportation services throughout the state;
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal/state funded transportation programs
- Support the provision of dependable mobility transportation options to the general public, low income individuals, elderly persons, and/or persons with disabilities within the guidelines and funding levels provided by NCDOT and FTA
- Support and encourage defensible, results-based budget requests and submissions from systems to NCDOT for funding system growth and expansion projects.

Con's

Funds required

The County has already set aside local match funds in Fund 27 for the five-year Community Transportation Services Plan.

Alternatives

None advisable.

Action recommended:

Adoption of the resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with the NCDOT .