

# Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Budget Amendment – Fund 27 (New Freedom Grant)	
<b>MEETING DATE:</b> June 20, 2017	
<b>REQUESTED BY:</b> Jon Creighton/Denise Braine	
<b>Background information</b> <p>The New Freedom Grant provides funding for the Ridership Independence for Disabled and Elderly (RIDE) voucher program operated by Mountain Mobility Administration at the Land-of-Sky Regional Council. The goal of the RIDE Program is to increase the independence, freedom of choice and transportation options for individuals with disabilities in Buncombe County. Under the RIDE Program, participants can purchase discounted vouchers in the form of \$10 off coupons from Mountain Mobility. The coupon/voucher would then be used to pay for the cost of a trip provided by a participating provider.</p> <p>Grant funds available under the New Freedom Program will be expended by June 30<sup>th</sup>. The budget amendment requested is to finalize program revenues, expenses, and adjustments needed to close out the grant program.</p> <p>The RIDE Program will continue to operate under a new Section 5310 grant for services that benefit elderly and disabled individuals.</p>	
<b>Pro's</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increases transportation options</li><li>• Increases individual choices and travel freedom</li><li>• Helps defray the higher cost of trips provided by taxi or other private providers</li></ul>	<b>Con's</b>
<b>Funds required in current budget:</b> No new county funds are required. Existing funds will be transferred from Fund 30.	
<b>Funds required in future budgets:</b> Funds will be provided for the new Section 5310 grant program within existing funding sources.	
<b>Alternatives</b> There are currently no similar transportation programs available in Buncombe County or the region.	
<b>Action recommended:</b> Amend budget as recommended.	