



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 02/18/2020

New Business

Department:

Economic Development and Budget

Presenter(s):

Timothy Love and Jennifer Barnette

Contact(s):

Timothy Love
Jennifer Barnette

Subject:

Enka Commerce Park - Access Road Funding

Brief Summary:

History:

In 2015 the County arranged funding and the construction of a bridge over Hominy Creek from Smokey Park Highway with the intent of connecting to interior access roads within Enka Commerce Park. However, due to funding constraints the bridge was never connected to existing road infrastructure. The County has worked with public, private and nonprofit partners to identify funding sources to complete the road infrastructure project.

Authority:

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-11, the County has the authority to enter into agreements with other entities, and pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-449 a county may contract with and appropriate money to any person, association, or corporation, in order to carry out any public purpose that the county is authorized by law to engage in. Further, the completion of the road infrastructure provides a public purpose by increasing transportation access for Enka Intermediate School, the future Enka Fire Substation, existing industrial tenants (including Haakon Industries who announced construction of a facility in 2019), and promote further Economic Development in the area.

Funding Source:

To date, the County has secured \$1.3M from NC Department of Transportation ("DOT") and \$2M from Appalachian Regional Commission ("ARC") to complete this roadway connection and the DOT estimates that another \$1M in funding ("Additional Costs") is required. The County share is proposed to be 65% of the remaining "Additional Costs" and Fletcher Partners will provide 35% toward the "Additional Costs".

General Fund appropriation of fund balance (65% of costs up to \$650,000) and Fletcher partners to contribute 35% of costs up to \$350,000 for a total of \$1M.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve the resolution authorizing the following:

1. Approve the agreement with Fletcher Partners defining the cost share for the \$1M additional costs.
2. Approve the budget amendment allocating funding for the \$1M additional costs.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into a Reimbursable Agreement with DOT so that any unused funds will be returned to Buncombe County and/or Fletcher Partners

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented