

Land of Sky Regional Council

Update for Buncombe County Board of Commissioners



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



About Us

Members

Land of Sky Regional Council's members include Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania counties and their municipalities.

Purpose

Land of Sky Regional Council is a multi-county, local government planning and development organization. We reach across county and municipal borders providing technical assistance to local governments and administer projects and programs which benefit our region's citizens.

Departments

Area Agency on Aging
Economic & Community Development (including MPO & RPO)
Mountain Area Workforce Development
Transportation Resource Center



Accomplishments

- Positive Return on Investment - Using every dollar of member dues, we leveraged over \$11.8M. That's \$60 in return investment for every \$1 you contributed.
- Mills River is now a member of the Council, which means we serve all municipalities and counties in our region.
- Administered over \$1.6M in CARES Act funds.
- MPO awarded \$11,984,000 to greenway projects administered by Buncombe County, Hellbender Regional Trail plan incorporates Buncombe County's Greenway Master Plan
- Served over 159,000 meals in our region, over 50,000 in Buncombe County.
- Surveyed 8,551 individuals regarding internet access.
- Served 5,470 job seekers and provided 11,279 services to employers.
- Provided over 200,000 trips through Mountain Mobility and Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation.
- Provided zoning, stormwater and/or GIS services to 10 of our local municipalities.

Visit landofsky.org to view our FY20 Annual Report for more details on our accomplishments.



Activities

- The Area Agency on Aging manages over 75 state and federal contracts, 5300 nursing home beds, hundreds of volunteers, and is accountable for over 6 million dollars on an annual basis.
- Since 2011, Mountain Mobility's administrative functions have been carried out under a contract with Buncombe County. On average, we process close to 100 new applicants each month and manage the information and needs of more than 2500 active clients.
- The Economic & Community Development department is working on the Regional Housing Plan and Analysis, Broadband, Regional Resilience Project, Economic Development Support, Small Business support and much more!
- Mountain Area Workforce Development served over 800 employers last year and supported over 400 job seekers and youth in short-term and long-term training programs. Served 2,298 individuals with staff assisted services generating over \$64,481,008 in wages through our region's NCWorks Career Centers and NCWorks NextGen Youth Program.
- The French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization is working on the Hellbender Regional Trail (which incorporates Buncombe County's Greenway Master Plan), Hendersonville Road and Tunnel Road Corridor Studies, and developed the 25 Year Transportation Plan.



Financial Update

Land of Sky is primarily grant-funded, with additional support from dues from our 19 local governments. With an annual budget of almost \$12M, we manage over 100 grants, 63% Federal, 17% State and the balance from Local Government Dues and Contracts, Private Grants, Donations and In-Kind contracts. For every \$1 local governments contribute, we leverage \$60 for our region.

Land of Sky uses local government dues for:

- Grant matching requirements
- Council meeting expenses and operations
- Dues for state/national organizations



Other Items

We are here to serve you!

- Awards from National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Impact Awards for Aging, Workforce Development and Waste Reduction Partners, NC State University Economic Development Partnership Award, Aging Project's President's Award and Work-Based Learning Champion Award from NC Business Committee for Education (NCBCE)
- Broadband WestNGN to increase broadband access in our region.
- Aging Partnerships to support older adults.
- myFuture NC – the Land of Sky Educational Attainment and Workforce Collaborative is the regional pilot for North Carolina to increase postsecondary credential attainment.
- “Racial Disparity in the Land of Sky Region” Report
- Contracted Services to support our local governments.
- Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation - Medicaid Transformation

