



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 6/1/2021

Public Hearings

Department: Budget, Strategic Partnerships, Economic Development

Presenter(s): Jennifer Barnette, Rachael Nygaard, Timothy Love

Contact(s): Jennifer Barnette, Rachael Nygaard, Timothy Love

Subject: FY2022 Budget and Economic Development Appropriations –

Brief Summary:

A public hearing is required after the budget is presented to the board. The general statutes also require a public hearing for any proposed appropriation or expenditure for economic development purposes prior to approval. This hearing is allowable as part of the public hearing on the annual budget. The purpose is to allow public comment on any budget appropriations, including requested appropriations for strategic partnership grants as recommended during this year’s Strategic Partnerships grant award process, and requested appropriations for economic development partners included in the proposed budget. Contracts for requested appropriations of Strategic Partnership grants and Economic Development partners will be established in July. The requested economic development hearings are as follows.

Requested Appropriations for Strategic Partnerships

Organization	Appropriation not to exceed	Description
Asheville Grown Business Alliance (Fiscal Agent: Mountain BizWorks)	\$10,000	To grow the Go Local Movement to build a sustainable and equitable regional economy
Carolina Small Business Development Fund	\$29,500	To support small businesses through one-on-one coaching and workshops tailored to the needs of local entrepreneurs through the Western Women’s Business Center;
Mountain BizWorks	\$40,000	To grow diverse small businesses and jobs in Buncombe County through an Opportunity Entrepreneur in Residence program

Requested Appropriations for Economic Development Partners

Organization	Appropriation not to exceed	Description
Asheville Buncombe Regional Sports Commission	\$45,000	Activities related to the expansion of recruitment of regional sports tourism events and tournaments
Asheville-Buncombe County Economic Development Coalition	\$400,000	Activities related to the expansion of industry and recruitment of new industry in Buncombe County

Staff also wishes to acknowledge previously approved economic development grants included in the proposed FY22 Budget. These grants are supported by economic development agreements (EDA).

Appropriations and expected expenditures for previously approved economic development agreements

Organization	Annual economic development grant	Description
BorgWarner Turbo Systems, LLC	\$80,000	Creation and maintenance of 600 jobs and capital investment of \$62M by 2026
General Electric Company and Unison Engine Components, Inc	\$496,333	Creation and maintenance of 183 new jobs and capital investment of \$230M by 2021
Ingles Markets, Inc	\$170,000	Creation and maintenance of 160 new jobs and capital investment of \$85M by 2021
Linamar North Carolina, Inc	\$1,000,000	Creation and maintenance of 800 new jobs and capital investment of \$315M by 2024
New Belgium Brewing Company, Inc.	\$650,000	Creation and maintenance of 154 new jobs and capital investment of \$175M by 2028
Pratt & Whitney	\$2,700,000	Creation and maintenance of 750 new jobs and capital investment of \$650M by 2029

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Hold public hearing and receive public comment.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented.