FTA SECTION 5307 TRANSIT FUNDING DISCUSSION

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AGENDA

1. 5307 Funding Overview
2. Transit Budget Comparison
3. Triennial Review: FTA Direction to the City of Asheville
4. County Grants Impact
5. Options for “At-Risk” Funds
6. Discussion
Funding for urban area transit and which can support:
- Capital
- Operating
- Planning

Funding allocations are divided from the annual apportionment:
- Buncombe County 32%
- City of Asheville 47%
- Henderson County 21%

Buncombe County’s Mountain Mobility operates in the urban area but also in the rural area. Section 5307 funds can only support transit activities in urban areas. Section 5307 eligible activities are, as a result, a relatively small portion of Mountain Mobility operations and a relatively limited portion of eligible activity and expenses.
5307 SPEND RATE

• Allocations > Eligible Operating Expenses
  • Allocations Currently >$1M Annually
  • Eligible Operating Expenses Currently ≈ $450K Annually

• Allocation amount increases > Eligible Operating Expenses amount increases
City of Asheville has the capacity to absorb Section 5307 funding to offset local budget commitment. Buncombe County is, at present, fully leveraging urban transit grant funding given other grants received.
TRIENNIAL REVIEW: FTA DIRECTION
TO THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

1. Reduce Open Grants
   • Spend funds in older grants and close those grants
   • Close older grants and rescind funds to FTA

2. Program Unallocated Funds
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR RECISSION

ANNUAL = $1,275,598
JARC = $99,199
TOTAL = $1,374,797
FUND RESCISSION REQUESTS

Rescind at-risk funds directly to the City of Asheville, representative of transit partnership and to the mutual benefit of City and County residents. Funds could support ART capital/operating needs, reduce City local funding to transit, etc. with the following requests from the County to the City:

- The rescission amount includes the cost of the New Leicester Hwy Extension & Rt 170; no additional funds would be requested in FY25;
- Rescind FY25 Section 5310 traditional funds to Buncombe County to support eligible services; and
- Evaluate WE2 Route changes to improve safer connection to the Enka-Candler Trailblazer.
DISCUSSION