THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: December 9, 2025

Subject: Expending and disbursing Fiscal Year 2017 and Fiscal Year 2018 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant funds

Staff Resource(s): Ashley Haire, Transportation Department Director
Jessica Morriss, Transportation Department Assistant Director
Christopher Whitlock, Transit Division Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept, expend, and disburse previously apportioned Section 5307 and 5310 Federal Transit Administration Grants from FY 2017 and 2018; and to execute all necessary agreements between the City of Asheville and applicable transit subrecipients for the disbursement of these funds.

Background:

- This action seeks to authorize the disbursement of federal transit grant funds from FY 2017 and FY 2018 that subrecipients have recently requested reimbursement for, but for which a Council resolution authorizing the City to disburse the funds was not previously brought forward to Council.
- The City's purchasing division has requested that a resolution be recorded and that specific amounts for each subrecipient from these grants be included in the resolution, as well as authorization to accept the grant funds from FTA and execute agreements with the subrecipients.
- Therefore, this action will allow the City to process requests for reimbursement from the subrecipients from the following three annual programs:
    - *Section 5307 Urban Transit Funds* - these funds are allocated annually to the Asheville Urbanized Area (AUZA) and are split between the City and Subrecipients based on a formula determined by the French Broad River MPO (FBRMPO).
    - *Section 5307 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC)* - the total amount of funds for this program originates from a 10% set-aside of Section 5307 Urban Transit funds. Each year, agencies must apply to the FBRMPO for JARC Funds. The City typically receives JARC funds to offset some of the cost of the Route 170, and more recently the S3.
    - *Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities* - these funds are allocated annually to the AUZA. Each year, agencies must apply to the FBRMPO for 5310 funds.
- The following tables outline the amounts disbursed to each entity by program for FY 2017 and FY 2018.

Section 5307 Urban Transit Funds

FY17 Section 5307 Urban Transit Funding	
Subrecipient	**Allocation Amount**
JARC Set-Aside	$266,999
City of Asheville	$1,312,887
Buncombe County	$461,131
Haywood County	$165,207
Henderson County	$463,767
Total	**$2,669,991**

FY18 Section 5307 Urban Transit Funding	
Subrecipient	**Allocation Amount**
JARC Set-Aside	$277,732
City of Asheville	$1,065,620
Buncombe County	$715,414
Haywood County	$208,482
Henderson County	$510,067
Total	**$2,777,315**

Section 5307 Job Access Reverse Commute Funds

FY17 & 18 Section 5307 JARC Funds			
Subrecipient	**Project**	**Amount Funded**	**Local Match (Varies)**
City of Asheville	City of Asheville Black Mountain Transit Route 170-Continued Support for Operations, two years of operations, starting in January 2019	$128,276	$128,276
Buncombe County	Buncombe County Black Mountain Trailblazer Operating Assistance - 15 months of operating expenses, starting in December of 2018	$190,515	$190,515
Mountain Projects (Haywood County)	Mountain Projects (Haywood County) New Deviated Fixed Route-Capital	$68,236	$17,059
Mountain Projects (Haywood County)	Mountain Projects (Haywood County) New Deviated Fixed Route - Operations	$80,450	$80,450
City of Asheville	JARC Administrative of Mountain Projects at 10%	$14,869	$0
City of Asheville	JARC Administrative Fee at 10%	$35,421	$0
	Total	**$517,767**	**$416,300**

Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

FY17 Section 5310 Funds			
Subrecipient	**Project**	**Amount Funded**	**Local Match (varies)**
City of Asheville	ADA Paratransit acquisition of services	$135,000	$33,750
Buncombe County	Buncombe County Additional Elderly and Disabled Transportation	$46,575	$11,644
Buncombe County	RIDE Vouchers Program-Support for Taxi Services for Individuals with Disabilities	$60,053	$60,053
Council on Aging-Buncombe County	Council on Aging CAR Volunteer Driver Program for Older Adults	$16,311	$16,311
Land of Sky Regional Council	Expansion of Senior Companion Program in Buncombe and Henderson	$33,426	$33,426
Madison County	Madison County Senior Transportation to Meal Sites	$5,000	$5,000
City of Asheville	5310 Program Administration Fee at 10%	$32,929	$0
	Total	**$329,294**	**$160,184**

FY18 Section 5310 Funds			
Subrecipient	**Project**	**Amount Funded**	**Local Match (varies)**
City of Asheville	ADA Paratransit acquisition of services	$99,156	$24,789
Buncombe County	Buncombe County Additional Elderly and Disabled Transportation	$73,036	$18,259
Buncombe County	RIDE Vouchers Program-Support for Taxi Services for	$52,337	$52,337

FY18 Section 5310 Funds			
	Individuals with Disabilities		
Council on Aging-Buncombe County	Council on Aging CAR Volunteer Driver Program for Older Adults	$13,690	$13,690
Land of Sky Regional Council	Expansion of Senior Companion Program in Buncombe and Henderson	$32,340	$32,340
Madison County	Madison County Senior Transportation to Meal Sites	$7,920	$7,920
Vocational Solutions-Henderson County	Henderson County Vocation and Life Skills Training Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities	$15,996	$3,999
Vocational Solutions-Henderson County	Henderson County Vocation and Life Skills Training Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities	$4,950	$4,950
City of Asheville	Program Administration	$33,269	$0
	Total	**$332,694.00**	**$158,284.00**

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- N/A. These funds are apportioned to the Asheville Urbanized Area (AUZA) annually by the Federal Transit Administration and are disbursed by the City of Asheville, as the Designated Recipient, to the regional transit agencies (Subrecipients), including Buncombe County, Henderson County, Haywood County, etc.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and accessibility

Committee(s):

- N/A

Pro(s):

- This action would authorize the acceptance, expenditure and disbursement of City and subrecipient transit grant funds for FY 2017 and FY 2018 from three annual programs that support *existing* transit services.
- The authorization will allow the City to process reimbursement requests for the City's Transit Subrecipients.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- This action seeks to authorize the disbursement of federal transit grant funds from FY 2017 and FY 2018 that transit subrecipients have recently requested reimbursement for, but for which a Council resolution authorizing the City to disburse the funds was not previously brought to Council.
- The City “passes through” funding to each subrecipient and is not responsible for their local match.
- This action may require a budget amendment at a later date as staff reviews the existing grant budget. It will be submitted at a later date if needed.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept, expend, and disburse previously apportioned Section 5307 and 5310 Federal Transit Administration Grants from FY 2017 and 2018; and to execute all necessary agreements between the City of Asheville and applicable transit subrecipients for the disbursement of these funds.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION 25- ____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT, EXPEND, AND DISBURSE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION GRANTS APPORTIONED TO THE ASHEVILLE URBANIZED AREA FOR FY 2017 AND FY 2018 FROM THE SECTION 5307 URBAN TRANSIT FUNDING, SECTION 5307 JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE, AND SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAMS; AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE AND APPLICABLE TRANSIT SUBRECIPIENTS FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF APPROVED FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the City has the authority, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-17.1, to apply for and receive grants from other governmental entities and to enter into contracts for the administration of said grants; and

WHEREAS, the City receives annual apportionments from the Federal Transit Administration. As the Designated Recipient, the City disburses these funds to the regional transit agencies (Subrecipients), including Buncombe County, Henderson County, Haywood County, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the City is allocated Section 5307 Urban Transit funds annually for the Asheville Urbanized Area (AUZA) and these funds are split between the City and Subrecipients based on a formula determined by the French Broad River MPO (FBRMPO). The FY 2017 and FY 2018 funding allocations to the City and Subrecipients have been established; and

WHEREAS, each year there is a 10% set-aside of the Section 5307 Urban Transit funds for the Section 5307 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) program. Each year, agencies must apply to the FBRMPO for JARC Funds; and

WHEREAS, the City is allocated Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funds annually for the Asheville Urbanized Area (AUZA). Each year, agencies must apply to the FBRMPO for 5310 funds; and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO) holds a competitive annual call for project applications for the 5307 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) funds and for Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funds and has awarded the FY 2017 and FY 2018 projects; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing the disbursement of the three annual funding programs to each Subrecipient, the amount being disbursed to each, and the execution of agreements, is necessary in order to provide reimbursements to Subrecipients.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT;

The City Manager is authorized to accept, expend, and disburse Federal Transit Administration Grants apportioned to the Asheville Urbanized Area for FY 2017 and FY 2018 from the Section 5307 Urban Transit Funding, Section 5307 Job Access Reverse Commute, and Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Programs; and to execute all necessary agreements between the City of Asheville and applicable transit Subrecipients for the disbursement of approved funds.

The following tables outline the funding amounts being disbursed to each entity by program for FY 2017 and FY 2018:

Cont. below

Section 5307 Urban Transit Funds

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Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

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Read, approved and adopted this 9th day of December, 2025.

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City Clerk

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Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney