City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date:

- July 28, 2026

Staff Resources:

- Bill Hart, Water Resources Director and Chad Pierce PE, Engineering Services Manager

Action Requested:

- Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Utility Agreement with the N.C. Dept. of Transportation (NCDOT) for an amount not to exceed $2,526,361.73 for the NCDOT I-2513AC Connector Projects

Background:

- NCDOT I-2513AC projects will provide roadway modifications and improvements along I-240 and I-26 between the I-40 / I-240 interchange and I-26 Exit 2.
- I-2513AC represents one project phase of the NCDOT's overall I-26 widening effort.
- The City of Asheville owns and maintains municipal water lines within the right-of-way of the project area that will be impacted by the NCDOT improvements.
- The improvements will impact and require relocating approximately 4,200 ft of 24" waterline, 600 ft of 12" waterline and 500' of 6" and 8" waterlines throughout the project area.
- As a condition of the installation, operation and maintenance of said waterlines within the NCDOT right-of-way, the City of Asheville Water Resources Department is responsible for 50% of the engineering and construction cost associated with relocation of said waterlines should the need arise.
- For the purpose of construction coordination and efficiencies, the City of Asheville Water Resources Department wishes to enter into this Utility Construction Agreement with NCDOT, which allows the waterline utility work to be performed as part of the NCDOT's construction contract.
- NCDOT has estimated that the cost to the City of Asheville for the relocation and adjustment of municipally owned water lines for this project will be $2,526,361.73.
- This project will become part of the Water Resources Department's ongoing Capital Improvement Program.

Vendor Outreach:

- No vendor outreach was performed for this Municipal Agreement for reimbursement, as it is to provide reimbursement for a NCDOT contract, and they are responsible for all vendor or contractor selection.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- A Clean, Safe and Healthy Environment

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s):

- N/A

Fiscal Impact:

- The required funding of $2,526,361.73 for this Municipal Utility Agreement was previously budgeted and is available in the Water Resources Capital Projects Fund.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Utility Construction Agreement with the N.C. Dept. of Transportation for an amount not to exceed $2,526,361.73 for the NCDOT I-2513 AC Connector Project.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Utility Agreement with the North.Carolina.Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for the I-2513 AC Connector Project

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-312, the City of Asheville has authority to operate a public enterprise; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-17.1, the City of Asheville is authorized to make contracts for and accept grants in aid and loans from federal and state governments and their agencies for constructing, expanding, monitoring and operating any project or facility or performing any function, which such city may be authorized by law to provide or perform; and

Whereas, the NCDOT plans to make highway modifications and improvements along I-240 and I-26 between the I-40 / I-240 interchange and I-26 Exit 2, which constitutes the need for adjustment or relocation of City of Asheville municipal waterlines within the NCDOT right-of-way; and

Whereas, as a condition of the installation, operation and maintenance of waterlines within the NCDOT right-of-way, the City of Asheville Water Resources Department is responsible for 50% of the cost associated with adjustment or relocation of said waterlines at NCDOT's estimate of $2,526,361.73; and

Whereas, execution of the Municipal Utility Agreement with NCDOT to include the adjustment or relocation of City of Asheville municipal waterlines in NCDOT's contract provides the best possible means to cause the required adjustment or relocation of said waterlines; and

Whereas, the funding needed for this agreement is currently allocated within the NCDOT Project lines in the Water Resources Capital Improvement Projects Fund;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Asheville that:

The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Asheville, is hereby authorized to execute a Municipal Utility Agreement with the NCDOT for an amount not to exceed $2,526,361.73 for the I-2513 AC Connector Projects.

Read, approved and adopted this 28th day of July, 2026.

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Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk