City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: July 28, 2026

Staff Resources: Amy Deyton, Public Works Department Director; Dylan Wingler, Interim Streets Division Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Inspection of Bridges on the Municipal Street System.

Background:

- Federal law requires that all publicly maintained bridges be inspected every two years. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) offers municipalities the option to have these inspections and analysis completed by NCDOT or a consultant retained by NCDOT.
- All work completed will be in compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBI), the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Manual for Bridge Evaluation, and the Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory (SNBI).
- The current proposed agreement would result in no cost to the City for inspections and analysis - that work would be paid for by 80% federal funds via the Federal Highway Administration, and the remaining 20% would be paid by the State.
- In the event that any repairs are identified during the course of said inspections and analysis, whether for bridge structures or regulatory signage, the City will be responsible for resolving those repair needs.
- This agreement would be for a term of ten (10) years.
- The City began participating in this program with NCDOT in 2009.

Vendor Outreach: Not applicable.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- A Clean, Safe, and Healthy Environment
- Transportation and Accessibility

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s): Not applicable.

Fiscal Impact: There is no cost to the City for the inspection and analysis services rendered under this agreement. In the event that any repairs are identified during the course of said inspections and analysis, whether for bridge structures or regulatory signage, the City will be responsible for resolving those repair needs.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Inspection of Bridges on the Municipal Street System.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the N.C. Dept. of Transportation for the Inspection of Bridges on the Municipal Street System

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-305, to enter into agreements with the State of North Carolina in aid of highway safety; and

Whereas, the City of Asheville has requested the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) or a Consultant retained by the Department to perform certain work under the Federal-Aid Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program; and

Whereas, said work will consist of the inspection and analysis of all public bridges on the Municipal Street System in the City of Asheville, in compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBI), the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Manual for Bridge Evaluation, and the Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory (SNBI); and

Whereas, the City of Asheville proposes to enter into a 10-year agreement with the NCDOT for said work wherein the NCDOT or a consultant retained by the NCDOT will inspect and prepare the necessary reports for all public bridges on the Municipal Street System in accordance with the above-noted standards and specifications; and

Whereas, under the proposed agreement the Federal Highway Administration shall reimburse the NCDOT for eighty (80) percent of the cost of the inspection and analysis work subject to compliance with all applicable federal policy and procedural rules and regulations, and all such costs not participated in by the Federal Highway Administration shall be borne by the NCDOT; and

Whereas, under the proposed agreement, the City of Asheville will bear no cost to participate in said agreement for the inspection and analysis work, but the City will be responsible for the costs of any repair needs identified for bridge structures or regulatory signage.

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

The agreement for the above referenced bridge inspection work is hereby formally approved by the City of Asheville and the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the required agreement and any documents related to the agreement between the City of Asheville and the NCDOT.

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