City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: August 25, 2026

Staff Resources: Ashley Haire, Transportation Director; Anna Sexton, Interim Transportation Planning Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a budget amendment to add $584,124 to the General Capital Projects Fund to reflect revenue collected within the City's Sidewalk Fee-in-Lieu project, to be used for future design and construction of pedestrian improvements.

Background:

- Pedestrian facilities are fundamental public infrastructure that promotes safety, accessibility, and community vitality.
- Section 7-11-8 (e) of the City of Asheville's Unified Development Ordinance enables the City to accept a proportional fee from a developer instead of requiring sidewalk construction on-site when such construction is impractical or disproportionately costly.
- Section 7-11-8 (f) of the City of Asheville's Unified Development Ordinance requires that all fees collected by the City shall be expended only for the construction or rehabilitation of sidewalks or other pedestrian improvements in the city.
- These funds will be prioritized for pedestrian and sidewalk improvements at intersections with complex geometry, pedestrian facilities in school zones, and to supplement pedestrian improvements administered by NC Department of Transportation.
- Projects will consist of discrete, small-scale spot improvements potentially including, but not limited to, ADA-compliant curb ramps, crosswalks, traffic control devices such as signs or pavement markings, and short sections of sidewalk.

Vendor Outreach: N/A

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- Transportation and accessibility
- A well-planned and livable community

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s):

- N/A

Fiscal Impact:

- $584,124 in revenue has been collected within the project but requires a budget amendment to add spending authority.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a budget amendment to add $584,124 to the General Capital Projects Fund to reflect revenue collected within the City's Sidewalk Fee-in-Lieu project, to be used for future design and construction of pedestrian improvements.

Attachment(s):

- Budget Amendment

City of Asheville Budget Amendment Ordinance Number ____

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Asheville:

That Section 2 of the City of Asheville Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $584,124 to the General Capital Projects Fund to reflect existing collected revenue:

General Capital Projects Fund

Revenues:

Charges for Service - $391,298
Other Misc In Lieu of Sidewalk - $192,826

Total Revenues: $584,124

Expenditures:

Sidewalk Design & Construction - $584,124

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this 25th day of August, 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