City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: September 8, 2026

Staff Resources: Lee Morrison, Interim Streets Division Manager; Amy Deyton, Public Works Director

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution ratifying the grant application and award acceptance from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program for the Barricade Trailer Project, and adoption of a budget amendment in the amount of $25,000.

Background:

- Public Works previously applied for and was awarded $25,000 via the US Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Fiscal Year 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which is administered by the State of North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM): Grant #EMW-2023-SS-00034. A Memorandum of Agreement, MOA #24HSGP034, was executed by NCEM.
- Shortly after the grant was awarded, a state of emergency went into effect in Asheville on September 25, 2024 related to Tropical Storm Helene. Due to the focus on emergency response and recovery work, the grant funds were not utilized at that time.
- NCEM provided confirmation that the grant period of performance extends through February 28, 2027. Grant funds must be expended no later than that date, and requests for reimbursement must be submitted no later than March 31, 2027.
- Public Works intends to use the funds for the Barricade Trailer Project, which entails the purchase of a Multiple Event Response Trailer (MERT) and barricades for emergency management purposes - to close off roads, delineate/divert traffic, and establish perimeters to protect people, property, and the environment.
- The internal process for applying for and accepting grant funds has changed since the application was originally submitted and the grant funds were awarded. Therefore, to ensure compliance with all current policies and any applicable statutes and regulations, Public Works is requesting ratification of the grant application and award acceptance prior to utilizing the grant funds.
- A budget amendment is requested to add the $25,000 grant award to the Special Revenue Fund so that those funds may be utilized.

Vendor Outreach: Not applicable.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- A Clean, Safe, and Healthy Environment

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s): Not applicable.

Fiscal Impact: Expenditures will be paid upfront by the City, then reimbursed through the grant. Public Works is currently pending the bid process for final price details of the MERT trailer and barricades, but preliminary estimates show that costs for the trailer and 25 barricades should come in below the $25,000 grant award amount. The bid specifications will be written to allow flexibility in the amount of barricades that can be purchased to ensure the cost is as close to the grant award as possible. In the event of a minor overage, Public Works will absorb the additional cost within their existing operating budget.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution ratifying the grant application and award acceptance from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program for the Barricade Trailer Project, authorizing the City Manager to execute any related documents, and motion to adopt a budget amendment in the amount of $25,000.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution ratifying the grant application for and award acceptance of $25,000 from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program, authorizing the City Manager to execute any related documents

Whereas, the City has authority, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute section 160A-17.1, to accept grants-in-aid from governmental entities; and

Whereas, the City's Public Works Department applied for the US Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Fiscal Year 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which is administered by the State of North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM), and was awarded $25,000; and

Whereas, Public Works intends to utilize the awarded grant funds for the Barricade Trailer Project for emergency management purposes.

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

The City Council of the City of Asheville hereby ratifies Public Works' grant application and award acceptance of $25,000 from the DHS 2024 HSGP program, authorizes the City Manager to execute any documents related to said grant.

Read, approved and adopted this 8th day of September, 2026.

_____
Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk

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 $25,000 to the Special Revenue Fund for the Barricade Trailer Project. Costs will be fully reimbursed by the US Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Fiscal Year 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) as follows:

Special Revenue Fund

Revenues:

State-Administered Federal Grants - NCEM - DHS 2024 HSGP - $25,000

Expenditures:

Machinery/Equipment - $25,000

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

Read, approved and adopted this 8th day of September, 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