City Council Agenda Item Request
Submit to Clerk's Office
No later than 30 days before proposed Council meeting

1. **Date submitted to Clerk's Office:** September 24, 2025

2. **Primary contact person and Department requesting agenda item:** Rachel Taylor, CED

3. **Requested Council meeting date:** October 14, 2025

4. **Subject:** Economic Development Administration Grants

5. **Action Requested:** Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit grant applications for two proposals, an Arts and Entertainment Facility and a fourth water treatment plant, to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and any related grants that support these applications, provided they do not require a match.

6. **Note if time sensitive, and why:** Awards are issued on a rolling basis, so there is a need to get authorization to apply. Staff will return to Council to seek authorization to enter into an agreement(s) if awarded.

7. **Potential fiscal impact(s) - if known by staff at time of request:** The maximum for both EDA proposals would be $10M if awarded. The EDA requires a 20% match, but if authorized, staff are seeking to apply to related grants to assist with securing matching funds.

8. **Identify all vendor outreach for Minority & Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).** N/A

9. **Identify all Boards, Commissions and Council Committees with tentative dates - add in the vote and recommendation from each Board:**
    - N/A

10. **Identify key issues:**
    - The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has issued a disaster supplemental notice of funding opportunity (NOFO).
    - This NOFO allows for proposals to support economic revitalization and related infrastructure projects.
    - The City of Asheville is seeking to secure funds to support two proposals:
        i. An Arts and Entertainment Facility
        ii. A Fourth Water Treatment Plant
    - The City recently engaged in a public-private partnership with ATG to conduct an economic and cultural impact study, which will be used to inform this grant proposal. If awarded, the Arts and Entertainment Facility grant will support the furtherance of this project.
    - The fourth water treatment plant proposal will focus on pre-development activities to support future planning and development for a fourth water treatment plant, adding capacity and resilience to the City's Water Resources Department.
    - If awarded, these funding opportunities will provide critically needed assistance to further economic revitalization in the arts and entertainment sector and increase the City's economic resilience with increased capacity and redundancy for water infrastructure.
    - If awarded funds, staff will return to Council to seek authorization to enter into agreements.