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:** May 5, 2025.

2. **Primary contact person and Department requesting agenda item:** Bara Zambelli, Legal Department.

3. **Requested Council meeting date:** June 10, 2025.

4. **Subject:** Contract with The Ferguson Group, LLC for Federal lobbying services.

5. **Action Requested:** Approval of a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to enter into a contract for two years with The Ferguson Group, LLC for federal lobbying services, with two additional one year optional renewal periods.

6. **Note if time sensitive, and why:** Time sensitive. The City's current lobbying contract expires at the end of the current fiscal year.

7. **Potential fiscal impact(s) - if known by staff at time of request:** The City of Asheville will pay The Ferguson Group, LLC $72,000.00 for contract year one, with a five percent increase for each subsequent year - $75,600.00 for contract year two, $79,380 for the first optional renewal year, and $83,349 for the second optional renewal year. Funding for the contract's initial year is included in the General Fund Budget.

8. **Identify all vendor outreach for Minority & Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).** Vendor is self performing - not applicable.

9. **Identify all Boards, Commissions and Council Committees with tentative dates - add in the vote and recommendation from each Board:** Not applicable.

10. **Identify key issues:**

    - The Ferguson Group, LLC, has been providing the City with federal lobbying services since July 2024.
    - The City Council wishes to continue these efforts.
    - In order to maintain federal lobbying services, it is necessary to initiate a new contract by July 1, 2025.