City of Brevard 2024 Legislative Requests

Earmark Requests		
Project	Amount	Description
Brevard Wastewater Treatment Plan Replacement	$52,000,000	Brevard appreciates the $13M we received in last year's budget. Thought it was earmarked for general "water and wastewater infrastructure projects" we intend to use it for our WWTP, specifically for preliminary expenses like needs analysis, study of alternatives, preliminary engineering and, eventually, design. We request additional consideration in future budgets for actual construction costs.
Stormwater Master Plan: Jumping Branch Watershed Improvements	$18,000,000	Brevard conducted a stormwater masterplan study in 2007 and in the intervening years has constructed some of its proposed improvements. However, the plan's most significant project has been out of reach. The proposed six-phase improvements for Brevard's Jumping Creek Watershed total $9.2M in 2007 dollars. The project will improve stormwater conveyance and minimize nuisance flooding in downtown Brevard and near Transylvania County's library, daycare center, and park on Broad Street.
Brevard Recreation Complex Restrooms and Paving	$400,000	The last three years have seen a number of improvements to the Brevard Recreation Complex. Home to the Transylvania Little League and Transylvania Youth Soccer Association, this facility serves families from throughout the region. In 2023 a generous private donation funded the construction of a competition-grade lighted turf soccer field, making the facility eligible to host region-wide tournaments. The park's existing restroom facilities are on the opposite end of the property across a gravel parking lot, thus making access challenging for those with mobility limitations. The City of Brevard requests funds to construct new restroom facilities on the soccer side of the property and pave the gravel parking lot, thus improving the accessibility of the entire facility.
Inflow and Infiltration Improvements in upper Brushy Creek Watershed	$2,000,000	Infiltration of rainwater into Brevard's sanitary sewer system taxes the capacity of our WWTP. City crews have been making slow but steady progress using city fund, but a direct allocation would accelerate repairs and protect the new WWTP into the future.
Brevard Fire Depart Engine Replacement	$1,000,000	Brevard Fire Dept. has two sister Engines that were purchased in 2005 that are next on the department's Apparatus Replacement Schedule.

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		Most manufactures are currently quoting a 3 year build time, and current pricing for a custom Engine is just under $1M. The City of Brevard requests assistance in the purchase of this equipment to order before prices increase further.
City of Brevard Facility Study	$100,000	The City of Brevard municipal building is aging, and its square footage inadequate for efficient operations. The city is exploring relocating Brevard Police Department from city hall to leased space. We request state assistance to study our overall facility needs.

Policy Requests	
Permit public support of workforce housing	Support legislation that updates all relevant statutes and codes so as to permit public entities to financially support workforce housing serving beneficiaries having incomes up to 120% of AMI
Amend SL 2005-88 "An Act to Allow Transylvania County to Increase the Occupancy Tax Rate in That County"	Support an update to the TC Tourism Development Authority enabling legislation that specifically recognizes "support for low-to-moderate income and workforce housing" as an eligible tourism-related expenditure. The lack of housing units accessible to service-industry workers is inhibiting the growth of the tourism sector in Transylvania County. This change would permit tourism revenue to be used to help underwrite the creation of housing units for households with incomes up to 120% of AMI
Defend local zoning authority	Oppose legislation that limits local authority over planning and zoning. Statewide development standards can't accommodate specific local circumstances. Brevard is voluntarily reviewing its ordinances to make sure none unduly inhibit the creation of housing, and in 2023 Brevard lifted a long-established ban on certain types of development.
Oppose SB675	Brevard's irregular corporate boundaries mean that built-up areas exist in unincorporated areas immediately adjacent to incorporated ones. Extraterritorial jurisdiction gives us the ability to ensure that incompatible land uses aren't placed next to each other, and that property values, health, and safety are protected.
Oppose HB589/SB534 (Corbin introduced)	These bills, intended to protect law enforcement officers from retaliation from whistleblowers, have the unintended potential of protecting officers involved in actual wrongdoing from firing by invoking whistleblower protections. NCLM has also opposed this bill.
Oppose SB515	Brevard appreciates the amendments that have been made to this proposal during its deliberations, particularly the clause applying it only to new connections made after its enactment. However, we remain opposed to the bill because of the effect it may have on our Utility's finances, and because of the complications of having multiple classes of customers.

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