THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: March 28, 2023

Subject: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Grant

Staff Resource(s): Ken Putnam, PE, Transportation Department Director;
Jessica Morriss, AICP, Assistant Transportation Department Director
Amber Wagner, Transit Planning Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply to the North Carolina Department of Transportation - Integrated Mobility Division for FY 2023-24 Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Program annual funding to fund a portion of the existing Transit Planning Division personnel budget, and if successful, to accept the funds, sign all of the appropriate agreements, and include the funds in the FY 2023-24 Transit Operations Budget.

Background:

- Annually the City must apply to the North Carolina Department of Transportation - Integrated Mobility Division to receive Section 5303 funds (Metropolitan Planning Program).
- The City uses the Section 5303 funding to fund existing transit planning activities, such as grant management, administration, and reporting; short and long-range transit planning; analyses of transit operations; and required semi-annual DBE program preparation and reporting.
- The funds are used to supplement the Transit Planning Division personnel budget including the Transit Planning Manager and additional transit planning staff positions.
- The FTA grant will provide 80% of the anticipated funding ($151,900), with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the City of Asheville each providing 10% of the remaining amount at $15,190 respectively.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility
- Improve/Expand Core Services

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Supplements funding for multiple transit planning positions.
- Enables the City of Asheville to leverage $151,900 in Federal funds and $15,190 in State funds to support the City's transit planning activities.

Con(s):

- The City is responsible for 10% local match, which is $15,190.

Fiscal Impact:

- If awarded the grant funding ($151,900), 10% local matching funds ($15,190), and associated expenses will be included in the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget for the Transit Fund.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply to the North Carolina Department of Transportation - Integrated Mobility Division for FY 2024 Section 5303

Metropolitan Planning Program annual funding to fund a portion of the existing Transit Planning Division personnel budget, and if successful, to accept the funds, sign all of the appropriate agreements, and include the funds in the FY 2024 Transit Operations Budget.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 23 -_____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO FUND THE TRANSIT PLANNING PROGRAM, SECTION 5303 METROPOLITAN PLANNING PROGRAM OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the City has authority, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-17.1, to apply for and receive grants from the Federal government and to enter into contracts for the administration of said grants; and

WHEREAS, funds for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 are available from the N.C. Dept. of Transportation (NCDOT) through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has received financial assistance in the amount of $151,900 from the Federal Transit Administration for the cost of transit planning and $15,190 from the NCDOT; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville will comply with all applicable Federal and State requirements in accepting the grant; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville will provide a 10% local match in the amount of $15,190 which will be budgeted in the Transit Services Fund budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to apply for and accept a grant from the N.C. Dept. of Transportation to fund the transit planning program, Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Program of the Federal Transit Administration for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and to execute any and all documents necessary to give effect to this action.

Read, approved, and adopted this 28th day of March 2023.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney