5/28/2026
ART COA - Public Engagement Stakeholders/Organizations invited throughout the project to participate.

Project team:
City Staff Departments:
- Transportation Department - Lead
- Communications and Public Engagement Department - support
- Community and Economic Development Department - consult
- Planning and Urban Design Department - consult

Consultant Team:
- Jarrett Walker and Associates - Lead Project Manager
- Simon Resources, Inc. - Communications and Engagement Lead
- McAdams - Communications and Engagement support

Technical/Core Team (additional key stakeholders):
- William High (Buncombe County Mountain Mobility Transportation Planner)
- Paul Ballard (Outside Transit Expert)
- Daisy O'Connor (French Broad MPO Transportation Planner)

Project Working Group Members:
- Harvey Harold — Transit Committee Chair
- Kara Wheeler — Transit Committee Vice Chair
- Jack Igleman — Multimodal Committee Chair
- Joseph Chesler — Multimodal Committee Member and Transit Committee Member
- Vicky Meath — Just Economics Exec. Director and Better Buses Together Director
- Susan Bean — Housing and Transportation Director at Mountain True
- Adam Charnack — Business owner; former Transit Committee Member

Stakeholder Group Invitees:
The following organizations and/or groups were invited to participate in each of the three Stakeholder workshops that have thus far been held. City staff and the consultant team lead the workshops. Please note that not all organizations participated. Staff is working with the consultant to report which stakeholders attended each meeting and will provide that information as soon as possible.

Organization/Groups Invited	**Reason for Invitation**
Transit Committee	City advisory committee to the Multimodal commission
Multimodal Transportation Committee	City Council appointed Commission to advise on multimodal transportation policy and issues

Buncombe County Community Development Division	Oversees Mountain Mobility and other transit programs and funding
French Broad River MPO	Regional Transportation Planning body that distributes federal transportation funds, including transit funds; Two Council members sit on the MPO Board and two Transportation Department staff sit on the Technical Committee.
Mountain True	Long time transportation, transit and affordable housing interest group. Susan Bean is on Working Group and is City Council appointed member of French Broad River MPO.
Just Economics	Long time transportation, transit and affordable housing interest group. Started Better Buses Together. Vicky Meath is member of Working Group.
Hi-Wire Brewing	Adam Charnack is member of Working Group. Former Transit Committee Member. Business owner.
Asheville City Schools	Many school kids ride ART to and from school.
Buncombe County Schools	Many school kids ride ART to and from school.
AB Continuum of Care (ABCCM)	Many residents of ABCCM housing and users of ABCCM services use ART, including residents of VRQ, Transformation Village, Costello House, etc.
Black Mountain Swannanoa Chamber Foundation	Provides business support services in Black Mountain
Sunrise Community	Sunrise Community provides resources to ART riders
Asheville on Bikes	Long time multimodal transportation policy interest group
Land of Sky Regional Council	Houses French Broad River MPO as well as the Travel Demand Management program

	and Safe Routes to School Program
AARP	Serves Buncombe Co. and City seniors and advocates for safe and affordable transportation options for seniors
AB Tech	Major education destination for ART, serves AB Tech students
Manna Food Bank	Manna provides food resources to ART riders
Sustainability Advisory Committee	City committee that advises on sustainability policy; relates to multimodal transportation and reduction of VMT
Town of Woodfin	Adjacent jurisdiction with interest in transit expansion; ART serves the very southern boundary of Woodfin at Elkwood Dr. and Lakeshore.
Henderson County	ART connects to Henderson County's ApplCART system
WNC Sierra Club	Sustainability and environmental interest group
Behavioral Health Service Mission Hospital	Provides services to ART riders
Chamber of Commerce of Asheville	Business support group in Asheville
Housing Authority of the City of Asheville	ART serves all HACA communities
CIty of Asheville Affordable Housing Committee	Affordable Housing advisory group appointed by City Council
Coalition of Asheville Neighborhoods	Citizen neighborhood group
Homeward Bound	Homeless services provider; also provides contractual services to the City
Neighborhood Advisory Committee	Advisory committee to the City of Asheville on neighborhood issues
North Carolina Department of Transportation Division 13	State transportation department