Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 7/16/2024

New Business

Department: Planning   **Presenter(s):** William High

Contact(s):   William High, Lead Transportation Planner

Subject: FY 2025 FTA Section 5307 Funding Rescission

Brief Summary: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requests subrecipients expend expiring transit funding. Buncombe County, because of existing FTA CARES and ARPA funding that must be expended first, will be unable to expend expiring transit funding in advance of expiration. Recognizing these constraints, and in support of the City of Asheville's funding needs for its ART transit system, County transportation staff recommend the Board of Commissioners consider rescinding funds to the City of Asheville to support its FY2025 activities. The following funding amounts in the following funding categories are recommended to be rescinded:

- $512,430 in FY2018 Section 5307 annual allocations,
- $72,319 in FY2018 Section 5307 JARC (Job Access Reverse Commute),
- $763,168 in FY2019 Section 5307 annual allocations, and
- $26,880 in FY2019 Section 5307 JARC.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Motion to rescind $1,374,797 of suballocated FTA Section 5307 annual and JARC funds to support the ART transit system in FY 2025 conditional on the City of Asheville:

- Accepting the funds under the expectation that no additional funds will be requested for the continued operation of the New Leicester Highway Extension & Route 170 in FY2025;
- Rescinding $138,830 in FY2025 Section 5310 Traditional funds to Buncombe County to support County transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities;
- Evaluating WE2 Route changes to improve safer connection to Buncombe County's Enka-Candler Trailblazer Route; and
- Evaluating increased trip frequency for the S3 and S6 routes serving south Asheville.

County Manager's comments and Recommendations: County Manager recommends as presented.