

## Technical Coordinating Committee

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January 12, 2023 – 11:00 A.M., Hybrid Meeting via Zoom or at Land of Sky Regional  
Council

Login: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88289308321>

Meeting ID: 88289308321

Call-In: (301)715-8592

### Agenda

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (10 min)**
    - A. Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda Autumn Radcliff
  2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
  3. **CONSENT AGENDA** Autumn Radcliff
    - A. November, 2022 TCC Minutes
    - B. Resolution of Support- Swannanoa Greenway Feasibility Study (Asheville)
    - C. Resolution of Support- NC 251 Sidewalks Feasibility Study (Woodfin)
    - D. Resolution of Support- Gabriel Creek and Banjo Branch Greenway Feasibility Study (Mars Hill)
    - E. Resolution of Support- NC 215 Greenway Extension Feasibility Study (Canton)
    - F. Resolution of Support- Above the Mud Greenway Feasibility Study (Hendersonville)
    - G. Resolution of Support- Fonta Flora Trail Feasibility Study (Friends of Fonta Flora)
  4. **BUSINESS (20-30 min)**
    - A. TCC Chair and Vice-Chair Elections MPO Staff
    - B. 5310 Project Selection MPO Staff
    - C. Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Call for Projects MPO Staff
    - D. Application to NCDOT for TAP Non-Infrastructure Funds MPO Staff
  5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (20-30 min)**
    - A. Performance Targets MPO Staff
    - B. 2020 Urbanized Area MPO Staff
  6. **REGULAR UPDATES (15 min)**
    - A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates Mark Gibbs/Wanda Austin or Designee
    - B. Transportation Planning Branch Daniel Sellers
    - C. FHWA/FTA Updates Michael Dawson
    - D. Subcommittee/Workgroup Reports, Staff Updates, and Housekeeping MPO Staff
    - E. Legislative Updates MPO Staff
  7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (5 min)**
  8. **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING (February 9th)**
  9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
  10. **ADJOURNMENT**
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## Technical Coordinating Committee

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# Item 3:

## Consent Agenda

**Item 3A:** November, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Item 3B:** Resolution of Support- Swannanoa Greenway Feasibility Study Application (City of Asheville)

**Item 3C:** Resolution of Support- NC 251 Sidewalks Feasibility Study Application (Town of Woodfin)

**Item 3D:** Resolution of Support- Gabriel Creek and Banjo Branch Greenway Feasibility Study Application (Town of Mars Hill)

**Item 3E:** Resolution of Support- NC 215 Greenway Extension Feasibility Study Application (Town of Canton)

**Item 3F:** Resolution of Support- Above the Mud Greenway Feasibility Study Application (City of Hendersonville)

**Item 3G:** Resolution of Support- Fonta Flora Trail Feasibility Study Application (Friends of Fonta Flora)

# **FRENCH BROAD RIVER**

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## **Staff Report & Recommendations**

# Item 3A:

**November, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**(NEXT PAGE)**



## French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes from the TCC Hybrid Meeting on November 17, 2022

### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### In-person and remote via Zoom:

Autumn Radcliff	Tristan Winkler	Eric Rufa
Chris Lee	Jane Pies (minutes)	Hannah Bagli
Steve Williams	Jodie Ferguson	Joy Garland
Daniel Sellers	Matthew Cable	Jessica Trotman
Stephen Sparks	Troy Wilson	Scott Adams
Jessica Morriss	Harry Buckner	Sam Cullen
Pat Christie	Logan DiGiacomo	Ricky Hurley
William High	Janna Bianculli	Bill Marley

### **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Autumn Radcliff called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 12:46PM. A roll call followed, and quorum was established to conduct the business before the meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Autumn Radcliff opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

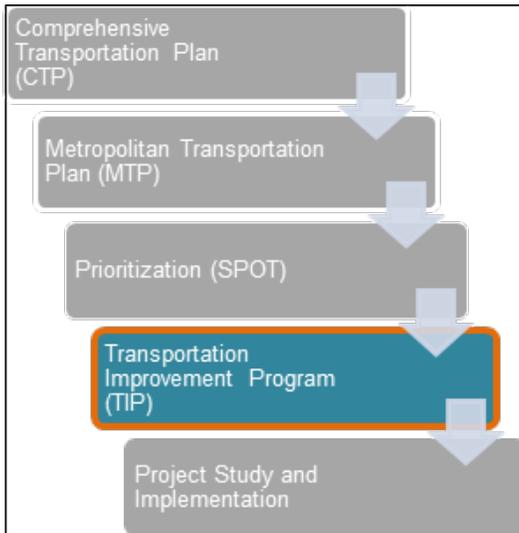
### **CONSENT AGENDA**

***Janna Bianculli moved to accept the consent agenda consisting of approval of the minutes from the October 2022 meeting, the TAC agenda. Jessica Morriss seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.***

Tristan Winkler noted that Item 6A: *City of Asheville Close the GAP Plan* from the agenda has been removed.

## BUSINESS

### Amendments to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)



#### *What is the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?*

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is our region's document that reflects planned transportation investments over a ten-year period. The TIP describes each project, a schedule for implementation, funding sources, and estimated costs. Current items are for modification of existing projects. No new projects or amendments are included for August, 2022.

#### *Modifications Summary*

The modifications to the TIP largely include updating costs and schedules for LAPP projects that require TIP amendments in order to move forward. EB-5547A/B is moving forward with a modified scope to include more on-street facilities and less multi-use path. EB-5830 (Lexington Avenue) is being removed from the TIP in order to provide additional funding to the City of Asheville's EB-5831 (Coxe Avenue); additional funding is also being moved to EB- 5822 (North RAD Greenway.) Other amendments include modifications at the request of NCDOT.

A full table of the proposed modifications to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program is below.

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# FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
EB-5547B	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Into the Oak Trail)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Reduce PE by \$13,000; Reduce ROW by \$104,000; Reduce construction by \$857,000 & move to fy 24	BGDA	Engineering	\$147,200	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$36,800	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$16,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$4,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,412,800	2024
				Local Match	Construction	\$353,200	2024
EB-5822	North RAD Greenway (Hill St - US 19/23/70 at Broadway)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Add preliminary engineering funding	Local Match	Engineering	\$120,000	2023
				TAANY	Engineering	\$480,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$26,000	2023
				TAANY	Right-of-Way	\$103,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,000,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$800,000	2025
				TAANY	Construction	\$2,200,000	2025
EB-5830	Buncombe County Lexington Ave - Improve bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure (Patton Ave - Southside Ave)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Remove from TIP; Move funding to EB-5831	BGDA	Engineering	\$0	2022
				Local Match	Engineering	\$0	2022



# FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
B-5953	SR 1002 (OLD LEICESTER HWY) - Replace Birgde over French Broad & Southern Railroad	Bridge Project	PROJECT TO BE FUNDED UNDER STATE BRIDGE PROGRAM.	HFB	Right-of-Way	\$250,000	2023
				HFB	Right-of-Way	\$500,000	2024
				HFB	Construction	\$2,719,000	2024
				HFB	Right-of-Way	\$250,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$8,109,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$6,380,000	2026
				HFB	Construction	\$2,972,000	2027
B-5982	US 74 - Replace bridge over Southern railroad	Bridge Project	PROJECT TO BE FUNDED UNDER STATE BRIDGE PROGRAM.	HFB	Construction	\$1,940,000	2024
				HFB	Construction	\$5,548,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$3,212,000	2026
EB-5547A	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Sutton Ave)		Increase PE by \$96,000; Reduce ROW by \$43,000; Increase Construction by \$479,000; Schedule Needs Revision	BGDA	Engineering	\$231,851	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$57,962	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$32,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$8,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,151,200	2024
				Local Match	Construction	\$287,800	2024



# FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
EB-5831	Coxe Ave - Improve bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure (Patton Ave - Short Coxe Ave)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Increase funding for preliminary engineering; Funds added from EB-5830 (to be removed from TIP)	BGDA	Engineering	\$720,000	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$180,000	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$240,000	2024
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$60,000	2024
				BGDA	Construction	\$624,000	2025
				BGDANY	Construction	\$3,776,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$944,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$156,000	2025
				BGDA	Construction	\$624,000	2026
				BGDANY	Construction	\$3,776,000	2026
				Local Match	Construction	\$156,000	2026
Local Match	Construction	\$944,000	2026				
EB-5926	US 19 (SOCO ROAD) - Construct bicycle & pedestrian improvements (US 276 - Fie Top Rd)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Increase federal construction funding by \$80,000	BGANY	Right-of-Way	\$14,000	2022
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$4,000	2022
				BGANY	Construction	\$1,506,000	2023
				Local Match	Construction	\$376,000	2023
HB-0024	SR 1876 (MAX THOMPSON ROAD) - Replace bridge over East Fork Pigeon River	Bridge Project	ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF STRUCTURES MANAGEMENT UNIT.	BGOFF	Right-of-Way	\$80,000	2024
				BGOFF	Utilities	\$80,000	2024
				BGOFF	Construction	\$1,600,000	2025



# FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
HL-0012	US 70 - Construct Pedestion improvements + right turn lane on I-240 Eastbound oof-ramp	Highway & Intersection	TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 22 TO FY 23.	BGDA	Construction	\$668,000	2023
				S(M)	Construction	\$1,012,000	2023
HS-2014Q	UPGRADE SIGNAL SYSTEM AT 33 INTERSECTIONS ALONG US 64 AND US 25 BUSINESS.	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	\$225,000	2023
HS-2014R	INSTALL LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS ALONG VARIOUS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES.	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	\$1,225,000	2023



# FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
I-5889B	I-40 - Rehabilitate Pavement & Preserve Bridges (Mile Marker 45.25 - Mile Marker 50)		TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 22 TO FY 23.	NHPIM	Construction	\$204,000	2023
			NHPIM	Construction	\$11,220,000	2024	
			NHPIM	Construction	\$7,600,000	2025	
			NHPIM	Construction	\$1,385,000	2026	
R-5793	Various. Division 13 program to upgrade intersections to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) using Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.	Highway & Intersection	ADD FUNDING IN FY 23 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED.	S	Construction	\$200,000	2022
			TA	Construction	\$800,000	2022	
			S	Construction	\$200,000	2023	
			TA	Construction	\$800,000	2023	
R-5794	Various. Division 14 program to upgrade intersections to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) using Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.	Highway & Intersection	ADD FUNDING IN FY 23 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED.	S	Construction	\$200,000	2022
			TA	Construction	\$800,000	2022	
			S	Construction	\$200,000	2023	
			TA	Construction	\$800,000	2023	

**William High moved to recommend approval of the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments. Janna Bianculli seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.**

**2023 Meeting Schedule**

The 2023 meeting schedule is on the following page. The TCC meetings are scheduled the same as previous years- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays at 11:00 AM. The exceptions are:

- No meetings in July
- No meetings in December
- Joint meeting in November on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

One change being proposed is for Board meetings. Those meetings are currently held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 1:00 PM. It is being proposed to move those to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 1:00 PM.

<b>Public Meetings Schedule</b>		
<i>Agendas, Materials, &amp; Minutes are located on the FBRMPO website <a href="http://frenchbroadrivermpo.org">frenchbroadrivermpo.org</a></i>		
Prioritization Subcommittee	TCC Subcommittee	Board (TAC)
January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 9:00 am	January 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	January 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2023 9:00 am	February 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	February 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2023 9:00 am	March 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
April 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 9:00 am	April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	April 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	June 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	June 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
July 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	NO MEETING	-----

August 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	August 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	August 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
September 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	September 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	September 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	October 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 11:00 am	October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm
November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	November 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 1:00 pm <i>**Joint w/ Board Meeting</i>	
December 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 9:00 am	NO MEETING	NO MEETING

***William High moved to recommend approval of the 2023 Meeting Schedule. Janna Bianculli seconded the motion which passed upon a roll call vote.***

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **7.0 Update**

#### **P 7.0 Update**

MPO staff provided an update on the P 7.0 workgroup. The Prioritization Workgroup, now the P7.0 Workgroup is made up of representatives from NCDOT, MPOs, RPOs, the League of Municipalities, Metro Mayors, NC Rural Center, and others, to make recommendations to the Board of Transportation on the use of weights and measures to determine project scores.

Consensus Points:

**Workgroup Meeting Calendar-** the workgroup is planning to meet twice a month through May, 2023 with one virtual meeting on the fourth Tuesday focusing on informational items and one in- person meeting on the second Tuesday focusing on consensus points.

**P7 Schedule-** see attached. The planning organizations primarily advocated for longer windows for local input points. Two months were initially proposed for each window- that was pushed to three, though that also resulted in shortening the initially proposed submittal window.

**COVID Impacts to Safety Data-** five years of safety data is used in the prioritization process. The workgroup was asked about whether or not the inclusion of data from 2020 was appropriate due to the somewhat anomalous decrease in crashes but increase in fatalities. The workgroup agreed that the 2020 data should be used.

**COVID Impacts to Volume Data-** volume data used in prioritization is generally collected across the state over two years- half the state's count locations are done in odd years, the other half in even years. The volume data available for P7 will be 2018, 2019, and 2021 (2022 data will not be ready in time for P7.) The general options were to utilize 2018 & 2019 (recommended by the traffic survey unit) or 2018 & 2021. Other variations were discussed. This item was discussed over three meetings and the workgroup agreed to use 2018 & 2019 data.

**Rail Modernization SIT-** the Rail Unit requested an additional SIT for Rail Modernization projects to provide the ability to better evaluate projects making operational improvements to rail infrastructure that are not adding capacity. The request to add the SIT was needed to be done sooner rather than later due to SPOT Online! deadlines but more information on potential weights and measures will come back to the workgroup in the near future. The workgroup agreed to add the rail modernization SIT.

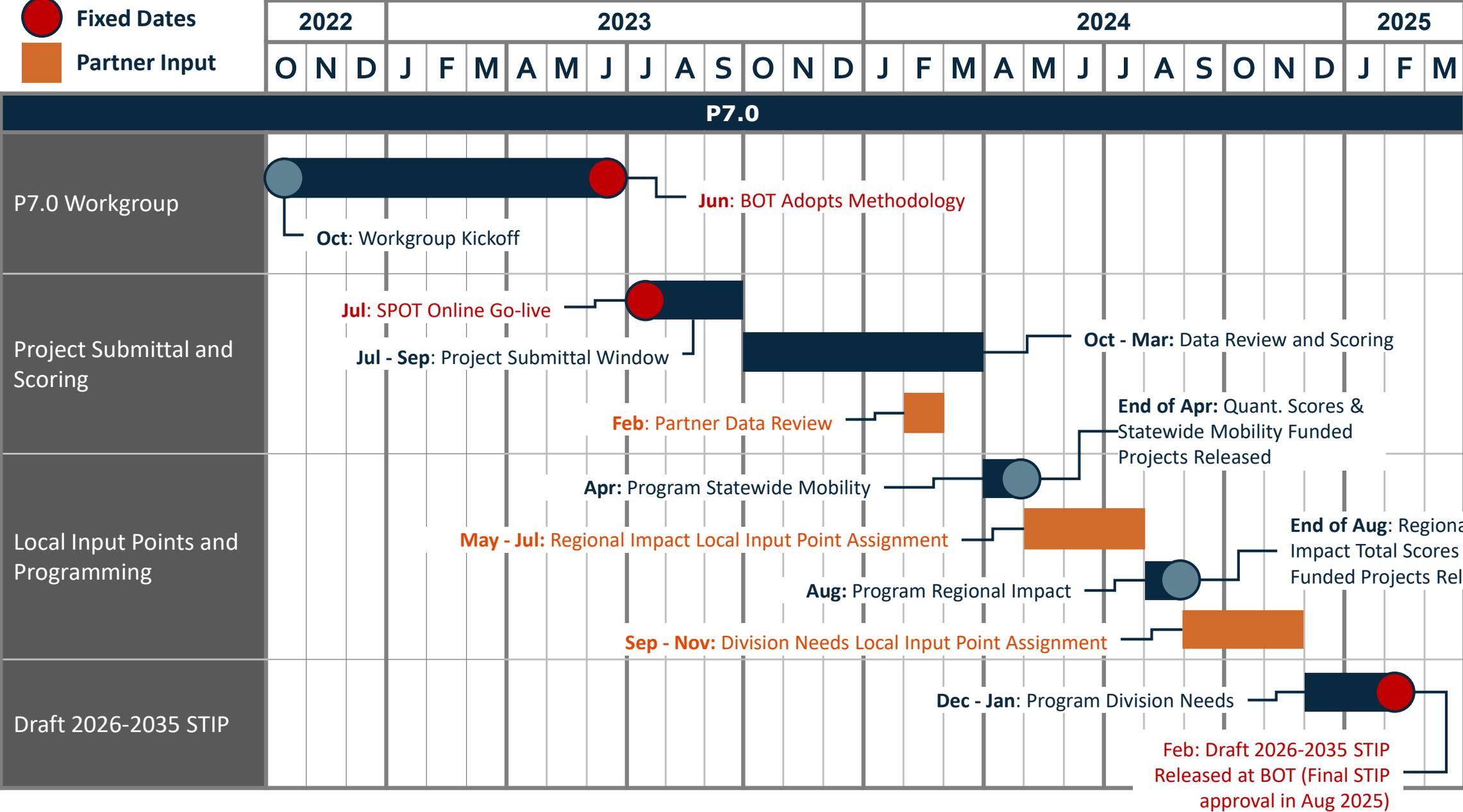
*Information only. No Action Required*

\*\* Insert P7 Schedule chart for minutes.

# P7 Schedule

Updated October 11, 2022

- Fixed Dates
- Partner Input



## REGULAR UPDATES

**Division 13 Updates:** [https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Nov\\_Div13.pdf](https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Nov_Div13.pdf)

**Division 14 Updates:** [https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/102022\\_Div14\\_FBRMPO-Const\\_Update-combined.pdf](https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/102022_Div14_FBRMPO-Const_Update-combined.pdf)

**NCDOT Transportation Planning Division:** Updates provided

### **Committee & Workgroup Updates:**

**Prioritization Subcommittee**— met November 2<sup>nd</sup>; next meeting January 4<sup>th</sup>

**Transit Operators' Workgroup**— next meeting being scheduled

**5307 Subrecipient Workgroup**- last meeting October 18<sup>th</sup>; next meeting TBD

**Citizens' Advisory Committee**- last meeting July; next meeting TBD

**Hellbender Trail Stakeholder Group**- last meeting October 6<sup>th</sup>; putting together a workgroup to develop a Regional Greenway Forum in the Spring

**Legislative Updates:** Updates provided

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Autumn Radcliff opened the second public comment period. No public comments were received.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Autumn Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 1:37PM.

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3B:

RESOLUTION #23-\_\_\_\_\_

### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the expanding of the multimodal improvements from Short McDowell Street through the Biltmore Avenue intersection to connect to Swannanoa River Road is identified in the City of Asheville's Biltmore Avenue and McDowell Street Corridor Study and the Swannanoa River Greenway Corridor Study,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the City of Asheville submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT.

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3C:

RESOLUTION #23-\_\_\_\_\_

### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TOWN OF WOODFIN TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the addition of sidewalks along Riverside Drive to Elk Mountain Road is identified in the Town of Woodfin's Comprehensive Plan,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the Town of Woodfin submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT.

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3D:

RESOLUTION #23-\_\_\_\_\_

### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TOWN OF MARS HILL TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the extension of the W. Otis Duck Greenway is identified in the French Broad River MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the Town of Mars Hill submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT.

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3E:

RESOLUTION #23-\_\_\_\_\_

### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TOWN OF CANTON TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the extension of the Canton River Walk Trail to the Canton Middle and Pisgah High School baseball fields is identified in the draft Haywood County Greenway Masterplan,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby support the Town of Canton submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT.

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3F:

### RESOLUTION #23-\_\_\_\_\_

#### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Above the Mud connection between the Oklawaha Greenway and the Ecusta Trail is identified in the City of Hendersonville's Comprehensive Plan and the draft Pedestrian Master Plan,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby support the City of Hendersonville submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT.

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 3G:

### RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDS OF FONTA FLORA TO PERSUE AN IMD FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD FEASIBILITY STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has developed a new discretionary grant program to aid in bridging the gap between conceptual planning and programming of projects through the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDOT has appropriated \$2.5 million for the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant for FY24;

**WHEREAS**, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the project to be identified in a locally or regionally adopted plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Friends of Fonta Flora plan to submit an application to study a section of the proposed Fonta Flora State Trail from the Town of Black Mountain Limits to Point Lookout Trail;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that be it resolved that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the Friends of Fonta Flora submitting a grant application for an IMD Feasibility Studies Grant through NCDOT

**ADOPTED and approved this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 4A:

## TCC Chair and Vice-Chair Elections

Per the [MPO TCC bylaws](#), the TCC is required to elect leadership positions (a chair and vice-chair) every two years. Positions may be held for no more than two consecutive terms. The current TCC chair, Autumn Radcliff (Henderson County) has served one term as Chair. The current TCC vice-chair, William High (Buncombe County), has served one term as well.

For the most part, the responsibilities of the chair and vice-chair are to lead and facilitate the TCC meetings. In recent years, the chairs and vice-chairs of the TCC and Board have been requested to attend what we've been calling "leadership" meetings to discuss planned meeting items, general strategy, and more internal items.

Both Autumn and William have noted they'd be willing to serve another term in their positions.

**Action: Appoint a TCC Chair and Vice-Chair**

# Item 4B:

## 5310 Project Selection

### Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities – Section 5310

#### What is this program?

This program provides formula funding to states for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. Some of these funds are suballocated to urbanized areas and are programmed through MPOs and FTA Direct Recipients.

#### What are eligible projects under this program?

**Traditional Section 5310** project examples include:

- buses and vans
- wheelchair lifts, ramps, and securement devices
- transit-related information technology systems, including scheduling/routing/one-call systems
- mobility management programs
- acquisition of transportation services under a contract, lease, or other arrangement

**Nontraditional Section 5310** project examples include:

- travel training
- volunteer driver programs
- building an accessible path to a bus stop, including curb-cuts, sidewalks, accessible pedestrian signals or other accessible features
- improving signage, or way-finding technology
- incremental cost of providing same day service or door-to-door service
- purchasing vehicles to support new accessible taxi, rides sharing and/or vanpooling programs
- mobility management programs

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### What is an example of a recent local 5310 project?

Haywood Public Transit/Mountain Projects has used 5310 funding to provide transportation for human service agencies, the elderly, people with disabilities, and the general public of Haywood County. Specific services have included expanded Nutrition Access and paratransit with the service area.

*5310 information continued on next page*

### 5310 Funding Available

FY 2022's Section 5310 Allocation	
FY 2022 FTA Section 5310 Funds Available to Asheville UZA	\$511,257
Section 5310 Admin at 10%	\$51,125
Remaining Section 5310 after Admin	\$460,132
55% of 5310 Funds (Traditional)	\$253,072
35% of 5310 Funds (Other)	\$161,045

### 1/10/23 Update

MPO Staff (Scott Adams) incorrectly listed 55% / 35% amounts on table above, listing these percentage splits from the \$460,132 amount (90% of funding). The table below reflects 55% / 35% amounts resulting from the overall \$511,257 of funding available.

FY 2022's Section 5310 Allocation	
FY 2022 FTA Section 5310 Funds Available to Asheville UZA	\$511,257
Section 5310 Admin at 10%	\$51,125
Remaining Section 5310 after Admin	\$460,132
55% of 5310 Total Funds (Traditional)	\$281,191
35% of 5310 Total Funds (Other)	\$178,940

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### 5310 Matching Requirements

Project Type	Federal Funds	Local Funds
Capital Projects	80%	20%
Operating Projects	50%	50%
ADA (equipment on vehicles)	90%	10%

*5310 information continued on next page*

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### 5310 Current Project Descriptions

Current project submittals are summarized below.

	<b>Project Description</b>
<b>Buncombe County, RIDE (Other)</b>	Ridership Independence for the Disabled and Elderly (RIDE) Program, is a curb-to-curb, user-side subsidy transportation alternative for eligible County residents (individuals who are elderly and/or who have disabilities) that increases independence, freedom of choice, and transportation options. The program is intended to offer same-day trips, unforeseen trips, and trips unavailable through public transit. Service hours in Buncombe County are 24/7/365.
<b>Buncombe County, SEDTAP (Traditional)</b>	Door-to-door service for seniors/disabled on ADA compliant vans. Provides funds to support medical trips for elderly adults; demand response for customers with disabilities. 5310 funds allow more state and local funds to extend across all programs to cover transportation needs. Service hours in Buncombe County are M - Sa, 5:30 to 7:30, plus holidays.
<b>City of Asheville, Paratransit (Traditional)</b>	ADA complementary paratransit service that allows COA to offer service citywide in Asheville and within 1 mile on routes traveling outside of the City of Asheville. Service hours in the City of Asheville and some areas of Buncombe County are M-Sa, 5:26 to 11:55; Su, 7:30 to 6:35, plus holidays.
<b>LOSRC Senior Companions (Other)</b>	The Senior Companion Program provides transportation and other needed services at no charge to keep frail and elderly senior adults living independently at home. Senior adult volunteers are paired with clients who may not meet the income criteria of traditional transportation providers and seniors who lack a diagnosis/illness that makes them eligible for service. Service hours in Buncombe and Henderson Counties are M-Su, 8 to 5, plus holidays.
<b>Madison County Transportation Authority (Other)</b>	Expand transportation services for elderly and disabled residents of Madison County within the FBRMPO planning area to meal sites, medical appointments, etc. Funds cover the cost of driver and operations. Service hours in Madison County, with connecting service to Buncombe County (medical, etc.) are M-F 8 to 4:30, no current County holiday service.

***5310 information continued on next page***

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### 5310 Current Funding Requests

**NOTE: MPO Staff (Scott Adams) wrote the summary of funds available (immediately below) based on a 55% / 35% split of \$460,132. A corrected 55% / 35% of \$511,257, in total 5310 funds, is shown on the next page.**

**There are currently more funds being requested than are available.** Assuming a 55/35% split, there's a \$14,647 shortfall for Traditional Projects and \$51,469 for Other Projects, shown below.

The 55% allotment for Traditional Projects is a "floor", not a "ceiling", so if the two Traditional Projects (Buncombe County SEDTAP and City of Asheville Paratransit) are funded at 100% of their funding requests, this requires a 58/32% split. Current funding availability is shown as a percentage of current funding requests (94.53% capacity for Traditional Requests, 75.78% capacity for Other Requests under the 55/35% scenario; 100% and 68.89% under the 58/32% scenario).

	Total Funds Available	Total Funds Requested	Total Funds DIFF	Percent of Funds Available out of Funds Requested
55% of 5310 Funds (Traditional)	\$253,072	\$267,720	(\$14,648)	94.53%
58% of 5310 Funds (Trad), Transfer of \$14,648 for 100% funding	\$267,720	\$267,720		100.00%
35% of 5310 Funds (Other)	\$161,046	\$212,516	(\$51,470)	75.78%
32% of 5310 Funds (Other), Reduced by \$14,648	\$146,398	\$212,516	(\$66,118)	68.89%

**5310 information continued on next page**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

Under a 55% / 35% split of total 5310 funds available (\$511,257) and assuming a 10% administrative set-aside for the City of Asheville, 5310 Other projects faced a \$33,576 shortfall. (see below)

	Total Funds Available	Total Funds Requested	Total Funds DIFF	Percent of Funds Available out of Funds Requested
55% of 5310 Funds (Traditional)	\$281,191	\$267,720	\$13,471	105.03%
35% of 5310 Funds (Other)**	\$178,940	\$212,516	(\$33,576)	84.20%

Under a 55% / 45% split of total 5310 funds available (\$511,257) (with no 10% administrative set-aside for the City of Asheville), a \$31,021 surplus (6% of total 5310 funding) remains. (see below) On 1/10/23, the 5307 Transit Sub-Recipients Group (plus Madison County Transportation Authority and Land of Sky Regional Council – Senior Companions) members met to discuss the funding shortfall. The City of Asheville agreed to forgo its 10% administrative set-aside for FY 2022 in order to fully fund all 5310 projects.

	Total Funds Available	Total Funds Requested	Total Funds DIFF	Percent of Funds Available out of Funds Requested
Total 5310 Funds	\$511,257			
10% Admin* (City of Asheville)	\$51,126			
55% of 5310 Funds (Traditional)	\$281,191	\$267,720	\$13,471	105.03%
45% of 5310 Funds (Other)	\$230,066	\$212,516	\$17,550	108.26%
Remaining Funds After Meeting 100% of Project Funding Requests (i.e. sum of \$13,471 and \$17,550)		\$31,021		
Remaining Funds After Meeting 100% of Project Funding Requests, Percentage of Total Funds**		6%		

\* Up to 10% of a Designated Recipient's Fiscal Year Apportionment *may* be used to fund administration costs. The 10% admin. share for City of Asheville is not an FTA requirement. (Source: FTA Circular C 9070.1 G, Ch. 3, Sec. 12, RECIPIENT ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES)

\*\* City of Asheville can still be allocated 6% Admin. set-aside

**5310 information continued on next page**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

		Buncombe County RIDE (Other)	Buncombe County SEDTAP (Trad)	City of Asheville Paratransit (Trad)	LOSRC Senior Companions (Other)	Madison County Transportation Authority (Other)
	Score (out of 100 points)	90	95	95	83	85
1/10/23 Alt. - City of Asheville forgoes 10% Admin. set-aside (gets 6% instead); all projects 100% funded	Requested Amount	\$42,482	\$57,720	\$210,000	\$136,620	\$33,414
	Funded Amount	\$42,482	\$57,720	\$210,000	\$136,620	\$33,414
	Funded Amount, Percent of Total Funding Available	18.47%	20.53%	74.68%	59.38%	14.52%

**Recommendation:** Fund the 5310 projects at their requested funding levels and allocate the remaining 5310 funds (\$31,021, or 6% of total funds) to the City of Asheville for administration of 5310 funds to sub-recipients.

**Action:** MPO TCC needs to recommend the funding alternative listed above (or a newly created one, based on TCC input) for approval by the MPO Board.

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SELECTED PROJECTS FOR SECTION 5310 FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE FBRMPO URBANIZED AREA

**WHEREAS**, the City of Asheville is the designated recipient for Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) funds in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, the FBRMPO held a call for projects to program FY 2022 Section 5310 funds allocated to the urbanized areas of our region in the Fall of 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, these projects were selected with the help of the MPO Prioritization Subcommittee and 5307 Sub-Recipients Work Group made up of representatives from the MPO TCC and Board;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby approves the following projects for Section 5310 funding;

Project Sponsor	Project Description	Federal Funding Approved
City of Asheville	ADA Paratransit acquisition of services	\$ 210,000
Buncombe County	Buncombe County Additional Elderly and Disabled Transportation	\$ 57,720
Buncombe County	RIDE Vouchers Program-Support for Taxi Services for Individuals with Disabilities	\$ 42,482
Land of Sky Regional Council Senior Companions Program (SCP)	Maintenance of Senior Companion Program in Buncombe and Henderson	\$ 136,620
Madison County	Madison County Senior Transportation to Meal Sites	\$ 33,414
City of Asheville	5310 Administrative Fee at 6%	\$ 31,021

**ADOPTED:** This the 19th day of January, 2023

Anthony Sutton, FBRMPO Board Chair

Attest, Tristan Winkler, Director  
French Broad River MPO

# Item 4C:

## JARC Project Selection

### Urbanized Area Formula Grants (JARC) – Section 5307

#### What is this program?

The Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning. Specifically, the **Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC)** grant program is intended to fund the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment. The FBRMPO has a local resolution to use 10% of Section 5307 funds for **Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC)** eligible projects.

#### What are eligible projects under this program?

JARC funds may be used for planning, capital or operating costs of providing access to jobs and employment training for low-income individuals. The City of Asheville, as the Designated Recipient of 5307 and JARC funds in our region, reserves the right to use up to 10 percent of the JARC funding to support program administrative costs. Eligible projects could include:

- Late-night and weekend service;
- Guaranteed ride home service;
- Shuttle service;
- Expanding fixed route public transit routes, including hours of service or coverage;
- Demand-responsive van service;
- Ridesharing and carpooling activities;
- Transit-related aspects of bicycling (e.g., adding bicycle racks to vehicles, providing secure bicycle parking at transit stations, or support for bicycle sharing programs in the vicinity of transit stations).

***5307/JARC information continued on next page***

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### What is an example of a recent local JARC project?

Asheville Rides Transit (ART), the City of Asheville's bus transit system, has used JARC funding for Route 170 which connects downtown Black Mountain to downtown Asheville. The service provides 8 trips per day, Mon. - Sat., 5:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. The route offers service to the general public, and also connects to the Black Mountain Trailblazer deviated fixed route service provided by Buncombe County and operated by Mountain Mobility.

### 5307 (JARC) Funding Available

#### FY 2022's Section 5307 (JARC) Allocation

Regional JARC - FY 2022 at 10% of FTA 5307 Amount allocated to Asheville Urbanized Area	\$408,394
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### 5307 (JARC) Matching Requirements

Project Type	Federal Funds	Local Funds
Capital Projects	80%	20%
Operating Projects	50%	50%

***5307/JARC information continued on next page***

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### City of Asheville (COA) Request

The City is requesting continued funding of Asheville Rides Transit (ART) Bus Route 170, which connects downtown Black Mountain to downtown Asheville. The service provides 8 trips per day, Mon. - Sat., 5:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. The route offers service to the general public, and also connects to the Black Mountain Trailblazer deviated fixed route service provided by Buncombe County and operated by Mountain Mobility.

This is an Operating Project, so the City is providing 50% matching Local Funds (\$254,720 total; ~~\$205,720 from City of Asheville, \$49,000 from Town of Black Mountain~~) for a total project cost of \$509,440.

**1/3/23 correction:** City of Asheville and Buncombe County are contributing to \$205,720 amount; Town of Black Mountain contributing \$25,000.

	Total Funds Available	Total Funds Requested (COA)	Total Funds DIFF
Total 5307/JARC Funds	\$408,394	\$254,720	\$153,674

**Staff Recommendation: Approve JARC funding request from City of Asheville. Additionally, coordinate with other potential partners (eg. Friends of Land of Sky, Recovery to Work Vanpool) for programming of remaining JARC funds (\$153,674).**

**Action: Approve the current JARC funding request from City of Asheville.**

### 1/10/23 Update

At a 1/10/23 meeting of the 5307 Transit Sub-Recipients Group (plus Madison County Transportation Authority and Land of Sky Regional Council – Senior Companions), the City of Asheville agreed to the following:

- Forgoing its 10% administrative set-aside of 5310 funds, putting the funds (\$51,126) back into the overall 5310 fund balance.
- Submitting a second 5307/JARC application to request 100% of 5307/JARC funding, for use on other bus routes in the ART system serving JARC functions (i.e. WE1 route to Leicester, S3 route to Asheville Regional Airport, S6 route to Biltmore Town Square, W2 route from Asheville Outlets, W1 route from Pisgah View Rd./Deaverview Rd. area).

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

### RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SELECTED PROJECTS FOR JARC FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE FBRMPO URBANIZED AREA

**WHEREAS**, the City of Asheville is the designated recipient for FTA Section 5307 (Urbanized Area) funds in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, the FBRMPO has approved setting aside 10% of FTA Section 5307 funding as JARC (Jobs Access Reverse Commute) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the FBRMPO held a call for projects to program FY 2022 JARC funds allocated to the urbanized areas of our region in the Fall of 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, these projects were selected with the help of the MPO prioritization subcommittee and 5307 Sub-Recipients Work Group made up of representatives from the MPO TCC and Board;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby approves the following projects for JARC funding;

Project Sponsor	Project Description	Federal Approved	Funding
City of Asheville	City of Asheville Black Mountain Transit Route 170-Continued Support for Operations	\$	254,720

**ADOPTED:** This the 19th day of January, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Sutton, FBRMPO Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest, Tristan Winkler, Director FBRMPO

# Item 4D:

## Safe Routes to School Application

NCDOT released a Non-Infrastructure Transportation Alternatives Program Call for Proposals in late December, 2022 with applications due February 6, 2023.

### The purpose of this program:

- Enable and encourage K-12 children and teens, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school
- Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools

### Ineligible Activities:

Although funding for SRTS is flexible to allow for creative partnerships and solutions, there are certain activities and projects that are ineligible for funding. Ineligible expenses include:

- Programs and activities that do not specifically serve the stated purposes of the SRTS Program (see Purpose of SRTS).
- Projects that focus on pick-up and drop-off areas or procedures in order to make it more convenient for the drivers rather than to improve child safety and/or walking and bicycling access.
- Education programs that primarily focus on bus safety.
- Purchases of promotional or incentive materials that do not serve a training purpose.
- Purchases of bicycles, bike trailers or other equipment that does not comply with the Buy America Act

**Local Match Requirements:** 0% match is required but may be requested if the amount of funding requested throughout the state exceeds what is available.

**Regional Background:** the region used to have two Safe Routes to School Coordinators- one that covered Buncombe, Henderson, and Madison counties (in addition to others); another that covered Haywood and Transylvania counties (in addition to others.) The position that coordinated activities in Buncombe, Henderson, and Madison has been vacant since 2018. The position that covered Haywood and Transylvania expired in 2022 and was out of the Jackson County Health Department. Both positions helped to coordinate Walk to School activities, Bike Rodeos, and Safety Audits, among other activities.

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

**Application Proposal:** the Land of Sky Regional Council proposes to apply for a new Safe Routes to School Coordinator position that would provide Education, Encouragement, and Evaluation activities to help improve student biking and walking safety in the French Broad River MPO and Land of Sky RPO Planning Areas. This would include Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties. The application would include a request for three years of funding with additional funding to provide for the purchase of materials and attendance at trainings, workshops, and conferences.

Action: Consider Recommending a Safe Routes to School Coordinator application to NCDOT from Land of Sky Regional Council

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 5A:

## Performance Targets

Effective April 14, 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established five highway safety performance measures in accord with regulations set forth in the Federal MAP-21 and FAST Act transportation funding bills. These performance measures are:

1. Number of fatalities;
2. Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled;
3. Number of serious injuries;
4. Rate of serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled; and
5. Number of combined non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries.

*Table 1: North Carolina Safety Performance Target Achievement Determination Summary for CY 2020*

Performance Measures	5-year Rolling Averages			Target Achieved?	(Actual) Better than Baseline?	Met or Made Significant Progress?
	Target	Actual	Baseline			
	2016 - 2020	2016 - 2020	2014 - 2018			
Fatalities (5 Year Average)	1,227.8	1,458.6	1,392.2	No	No	No
Fatality Rate (5 Year Average)	1.084	1.250	1.206	No	No	
Serious Injuries (5 Year Average)	2,812.8	4,410.2	3,362.4	No	No	
Serious Injury Rate (5 Year Average)	2.462	3.776	2.884	No	No	
Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (5 Year Average)	426.6	583.0	491.0	No	No	

(More information next page)

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

Table 2 below shows what this determination would look like if the state’s methodology for establishing the CY 2020 goal was applied to crash data specific to French Broad River MPO.

Table 2: French Broad River MPO Safety Performance Target Achievement Determination Summary for CY 2020

Performance Measures	5-year Rolling Averages			Target Achieved?	(Actual) Better than Baseline?	Met or Made Significant Progress?
	Target	Actual	Baseline			
	2016 - 2020	2016 - 2020	2014 - 2018			
Fatalities (5 Year Average)	45.9	49.4	52.2	No	Yes	No
Fatality Rate (5 Year Average)	0.961	0.999	1.076	No	Yes	
Serious Injuries (5 Year Average)	91.1	128.4	102.0	No	No	
Serious Injury Rate (5 Year Average)	1.879	2.593	2.067	No	No	
Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (5 Year Average)	13.7	18.6	17.2	No	No	

### FBRMPO’s 2023 Safety Performance Targets

	Fatalities (5-year Average)	Fatality Rate (5-Year Average)	Serious Injuries (5-Year Average)	Serious Injury Rate (5-Year Average)	Non-Motorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries (5-Year Average)
2022	50.2	1.006	136.8	2.743	19.2
2023	<b>43.7</b>	<b>0.876</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>2.096</b>	<b>15.1</b>

**NO ACTION REQUIRED IN JANUARY**

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 5B:

## 2020 Urbanized Area

After every decennial census, the US Census Bureau releases data that determines Urbanized and Non-Urbanized areas in the country. This data plays a role in determining a number of things, but to keep it to transportation:

**MPO Boundaries-** the urbanized area is used as a base for what is part of the MPO and what is not. The MPO Boundary is required to consist of the urbanized area as well as the area that is expected to urbanize in the next 20 years.

**Transit Funding-** several FTA funding grants determine eligibility and distribution amounts based on the Urbanized Area population. These include 5303, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5339, and 5340. More information from FTA is available here: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/census>

**MPO Planning Funds-** The MPO's planning funds are distributed through North Carolina by a base amount of \$130,000 per MPO with the remainder distributed based on the pro-rata share of Urbanized Area Population per the most recent census.

**Direct Allotment Funds-** Urbanized Areas with a population greater than 200,000 receive Direct Allotment (DA) funds. These include Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP.)

### Changes to the Urbanized Area Criteria Between 2010 and 2020

The US Census Bureau has adopted a number of changes to determine urban areas in 2020. Some of these include:

	2010	2020
<b>Identification of Urban Cores</b>	Census tract and block population density, count, and size thresholds. Use of National Land Cover Database to identify territory with a high degree of impervious land cover.	Aggregation of census blocks with a housing unit density of 425. Use of land cover data to identify territory with a high degree of imperviousness; An area will qualify as urban if it contains at least 2,000 housing units or has a

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

		population of at least 5,000.
<b>Inclusion of Non-Contiguous Urbanized Area via Jumps or Hops</b>	Maximum hop distance 0.5 miles, maximum jump distance 2.5 miles, and no hops after jumps.	Maximum hop distance 0.5 miles, maximum jump distance 1.5 miles, and no hops after jumps. Intervening, low density blocks are not included in the urban area.
<b>Additional Nonresidential Urban Territory</b>	Inclusion of groups of census blocks with a high degree of impervious surface and are within 0.25 miles of an urban area.	Inclusion of groups of census blocks with a high degree of imperviousness and that are within 0.5 miles of an urban area, and have a total area of at least 0.15 square miles. Inclusion of groups of census blocks with at least 1,000 jobs (per Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) data) and that are within 0.5 miles of an urban area.
<b>Low-Density Fill</b>	-	Contiguous census blocks added to already qualifying territory with a housing unit density of 200.

Other criteria have changed as well, but what's shown are the items most likely to impact the "Asheville Urbanized Area" and its boundaries.

Some of the initial information on urbanized areas was released on December 29<sup>th</sup> but, unfortunately, did not include maps. All the information released so far can be found here:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>

What we know so far:

- the country's urbanized population was reduced from 80.7% to 80.0% of the population, largely as a result of the change in UZA criteria
- 4.2 million US residents formerly classified as "urban" are now "rural"
- Waynesville, NC is a new urbanized area in the region (though not large enough to require its own MPO- that would require an urbanized population of 50,000)

339 New Leicester Highway, Suite 140 • Asheville, NC 28806 • [www.fbrmpo.org](http://www.fbrmpo.org)

Long-Range Transportation Plan • Transportation Improvement Program

Highway Planning • Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning • Transit Planning • Air Quality

Public Involvement

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## Staff Report & Recommendations

-Canton, NC is new urbanized area in the region (though also not large enough to require its own MPO)

Urbanized Area	Population (2020)	Population (2010)	Square Miles (2020)	Square Miles (2010)
Asheville, NC	285,776	280,648	248.58	264.88
Brevard, NC	13,059	13,121	13.82	12.03
Waynesville, NC	24,285	-	27.60	-
Canton, NC	8,812	-	8.87	-

Maps are expected to be released in January, 2023.

### **Potential Impacts:**

**Transit Funding-** Haywood County transit will likely see a shift in its funding from large-urban 5307 through the City of Asheville to small-urban 5307 through NCDOT. The MPO's 5307 Suballocation Formula Study will require revisions if Haywood is no longer a subrecipient to the Asheville UZA's 5307 allocation.

**MPO Dues-** the dues structure of the MPO will be updated whether or not MPO membership changes to reflect 2020 census figures (2010 census figures are currently used.)

**MPO Memorandum of Understanding-** should the MPO's membership change, the [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) will need to be updated to reflect the new membership roster. Updating the MOU requires approval of every member government's council.

### **1/11/23 Update:**

The US Census Bureau released maps of the Urbanized Area.

Maps are available here: <https://tigerweb.geo.census.gov/tigerweb/>

The MPO developed a map that shows where the urbanized area grew, shrank, or stayed the same between 2010 and 2020:

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=bd0e7dcb4bf44f8694e1f100bc044ff9&extent=-83.7275,35.0026,-81.6992,36.0964>

No Action Required at this time

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 6A:

## Division Project Updates

Division 13 Updates:

- [Project Development Updates](#)
- [Construction Updates](#)

Division 14 Updates:

- [Project Development Updates](#)
- [Construction Updates](#)

# Item 6B:

## TPD Updates

# Item 6C:

## FHWA/FTA Updates

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Staff Report & Recommendations

# Item 6D:

### Committee & Workgroup Updates

**Prioritization Subcommittee**— met January 4<sup>th</sup>; next meeting February 1<sup>st</sup>

Points of Business/Discussion:

- 2020 Urbanized Area
- 5310/JARC Funding-> Recommended to the 5307 Subrecipients Workgroup
- Call for Planning Projects; approved two projects for inclusion in the FY 2024 UPWP
  - Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Connection Study
  - Fletcher Cane Creek Greenway Study

**Transit Operators' Workgroup**—met on November 29, 2022

Points of Business/Discussion:

- FTA 5310/JARC funding applications were due by 12/15/22
- NCDOT/IMD (Integrated Mobility Division) will be working with FBRMPO and Land of Sky RPO on a Coordinated Regional Transit Plan
  - MPO Staff's current understanding of this process is that these documents can act as an update of the existing Locally Coordinated Plan (LCP, required for use of FTA 5310 Program – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities
- NCDOT/IMD will post a Call for Applications for their Multimodal Planning Grant Program, date as of 11/29/22 was "January 2023"; as of 1/4/23, no current info on NCDOT/IMD website, MPO Staff will check for updates
- Next Transit Operator's Workgroup meeting: March 2023

**5307 Subrecipient Workgroup**- met on October 18, 2023

MPO Staff noted:

- Updated Urbanized Areas (UZAs) from US Census, statistics released end of December 2022, maps planned for release end of January 2023
- Discussion of 5307 Sub-Recipients allocation formula; MPO staff and Work Group members noted this could be reexamined once new UZA data and maps are finalized.

**Citizens' Advisory Committee**- met June 24<sup>th</sup>; next meeting TBD

**Hellbender Trail Stakeholder Group**- last meeting October 6<sup>th</sup>; next meeting TBD

- Regional Trail Forum meeting held on January 4<sup>th</sup> to continue with the aim of planning for an event in May, 2023.

**Additional Items:**

**Recommended Actions: Accept the reports.**

# **FRENCH BROAD RIVER**

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## **Staff Report & Recommendations**

# Item 6E:

## **Legislative Updates**