

FY 2023

**French Broad River MPO
Unified Planning Work Program**

**FRENCH
BROAD
RIVER**

METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

**Fiscal Year 2023 Unified Planning Work Program
for the
French Broad River Metropolitan Planning
Organization**

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INTRODUCTION

In compliance with Federal law and guidelines, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO) has developed a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Fiscal Year 2023 that will help to carry out a cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous transportation planning process for the FBRMPO Planning Area.

In general, the UPWP is the FBRMPO's budget for personnel tasks and planning studies, either carried out by the MPO or studies using MPO planning funds carried out by member governments. The UPWP is largely funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), with reimbursements managed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. UPWP's can have six general funding sources:

-Statewide Planning and Research Program (SPR)- These are federal planning funds used by NCDOT to conduct work for the French Broad River MPO. A 20% local match is required. (No SPR funds are programmed in FY 2023 UPWP)

-FHWA Section 104(f) Funds- These funds are dedicated to MPO planning areas to perform metropolitan transportation planning tasks. A 20% local match is required.

-FTA Section 5303 Funds- These funds are used for transit planning in the MPO planning area by the region's 5303 Direct Recipient, the City of Asheville. The FTA provides 80% of these funds, NCDOT provides 10%, and the City of Asheville provides the 10% local match

-FTA Section 5307 Funds- These funds are distributed to the region and are eligible for transit capital, operations, and planning. Planning tasks carried out with these funds by 5307 (sub)recipients or the MPO are required to be documented in the UPWP.

-FHWA Surface Transportation Block Grant Program- Direct Attributable Funds- The funds are dedicated to Transportation Management Areas and these funds can be used for transportation planning. A 20% local match is required.

-Local Match- the match required to utilize federal planning funds is charged to MPO member governments in direct proportion to proportion of population within

the MPO, per the most recent decennial census. The 2010 US Census will be utilized to calculate local dues for FY 22.

NARRATIVE OF SECTION 104(f) WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-1	Networks and Support Systems	<p>MPO staff will maintain spatial data related to the planning area including roadway network changes, bike/ped infrastructure network changes, parking inventory changes, traffic volumes, crashes, bike/ped counts, environmental data, and other data related to Vehicle Miles Traveled and roadway capacity deficiencies.</p> <p><u>WORK PRODUCT:</u> Updated Catalogue of GIS shapefiles, biennial congestion report</p>
II-A-2	Travelers and Behavior	<p>MPO staff will maintain data on the region's VMT, travel-time reliability, crashes, vehicular volumes, base-year population and employment data, and bicycle and pedestrian counts.</p> <p><u>WORK PRODUCTS:</u> Verification of 2020 employment data for the five-county area</p>
II-A-3	Transportation Modeling	<p>MPO staff will work with NCDOT TPD staff to maintain and update the region's travel demand model, finalize changes to the model's TAZs, and coordinate model outputs with socio-economic projections.</p> <p><u>WORK PRODUCT:</u> Final 2020-2050 Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs)</p>
II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	Targeted Planning	<p>MPO staff will continue coordination activities with the region's Clean Air Campaign, Clean Vehicle Coalition, WNC Rail Committee, and Land of Sky Resiliency efforts; participate in continued FAST Act and other planning training and workshop efforts.</p> <p><u>WORK PRODUCT:</u> Document existing and planned charging stations for electric vehicles, work with Divisions and Local Governments on</p>

		Complete Streets and Streetscaping Opportunities with NCDOT Resurfacing projects
II-B-2	Regional Planning	<p>Amend the 2045 MTP, Finalize the region’s Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Continue Documentation of 2020 Existing Conditions for the 2050 MTP, Finalize Changes to the 5307 Suballocation Formula, Finalize the Updated Locally Coordinated Human Services and Public Transportation Plan.</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Amendments to the 2045 MTP as needed, Finalized CTP, Existing Conditions for the 2050 MTP, Follow-Up Items from the Regional Transit Study, Continued Coordination for the Hellbender Regional Trail, Facilitated Discussions and Potential Modifications to the 5307 Suballocation Formula</p>
II-B-3A	Special Studies Operations	<p>MPO staff will continue to provide support, contracting, invoicing, and oversight of on-going special studies in the region, including special studies managed in-house (TDM)</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Staff assistance and administration of the Buncombe County Pedestrian Plan, Haywood County Greenway Plan, Asheville Reed Creek Greenway Feasibility Study, and 2050 Socio-Economic Projections</p>
II-B-3C	Special Studies Pass-Through	No Special Studies Utilizing PL Pass-Through Dollars for FY 2023.
III-A Planning Work Program		
III-A-1	Planning Work Program	<p>The MPO will develop a Planning Work Program in accordance with Federal requirements, with the guidance of the Technical Coordination Committee and MPO Board, a 5-year work plan, and maintain MPO certification.</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: FY 2024 UPWP</p>
III-A-2	Metrics and Performance Measures	<p>MPO staff will prepare quarterly reports to NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Quarterly Reports</p>
III-B Transportation Improvement Program		

III-B-1	Prioritization	<p>The MPO will continue to participate in the Statewide Prioritization Process as mandated by the Strategic Transportation Investments Act of 2012. In FY 2023, the MPO expects to work on developing the 2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Draft 2024-2033 TIP</p>
III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	<p>The MPO will maintain the TIP in coordination with NCDOT, transit providers, and local governments, and provide any remaining work tasks for the programming of STBGDA, TAPDA, 5310, and JARC funds.</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Amendments to the 2020-2029 TIP and required public input and documentation, LAPP Call for Projects, 5310 Call for Project, JARC Call for Projects, adoption of the 2024-2033 TIP</p>
III-B-3	Merger/Project Development	<p>The MPO will continue to participate in project development meetings, including major projects in the Merger Process as well as local projects, as needed.</p>
III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements		
III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	<p>The MPO will maintain Civil Rights statistics to maintain compliance with FTA and other agency requirements and work to improve current documents and processes related to Title VI Compliance.</p>
III-C-2	Environmental Justice	<p>The MPO will continue to provide analysis of projects to assure compliance with Environmental Justice requirements to work towards having historically underrepresented populations more aware and involved in the transportation planning process and to provide a planning overview of benefits and burdens from planned transportation projects.</p> <p>WORK PRODUCT: Identification of base-year (2020) environmental justice communities</p>

III-C-3	Minority Business Enterprise Planning	Nothing programmed for FY 2023.
III-C-4	Planning for Elderly	Coordinate with the Area Agency on Aging, AARP, County Agencies on Aging, and other stakeholders to identify and further engage on topics relevant to the aging/transportation nexus. WORK PRODUCTS: Coffee with a Transportation Planner events
III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control Planning	Research potential grants or planning activities involving transit and substance abuse.
III-C-6	Public Involvement	Work to involve the public at all stages of the transportation planning process, including long-range and more immediate transportation planning efforts; coordinate the Citizens Advisory Committee to advise on public participation efforts at the MPO and work on amending and updating the MPO's Public Involvement Plan, as needed. Continue to utilize remote meeting accessibility as an option, even if in-person meetings become safe and accessible again.
III-C-7	Private Sector Participation	Nothing programmed for FY 2023.
III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning		
III-D	Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning	Continue to coordinate with other regional, state, and federal agencies involved in transportation planning activities; monitor legislation relevant to the transportation planning process; coordinate activities with the Land of Sky RPO and local transit agencies; participate in the North Carolina Association of MPOs; participate in working groups and committees at the state including, but not limited to the SPOT Working Group, Non-Motorized Statewide Planning Group, Freight and Freight Parking Planning Groups, and the Complete Streets Working Group; attend professional conferences and other training opportunities as appropriate for professional development and peer-exchanges. Host educational event in conjunction with Clean Cities on Autonomous and Electric Vehicles.
III-E Management and Operations		
III-E	Management, Operations, Program	Provide direct support to the MPO Board, TCC, Prioritization Subcommittee, Citizens Advisory

	Support Administration	<p>Committee, Transit Operators Workgroup, 5307 Sub-Recipients Workgroup, Freight Stakeholders Group, and any other group requiring MPO staff for agenda, minutes, and meeting logistics; procure supplies related to planning activities; any direct costs associated with MPO administration; maintain files and records for the MPO; maintain the MPO website; support staff training and development. Purchase new TIP software.</p> <p><u>WORK PRODUCT:</u> Meeting Agendas, Website Updates</p>
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TABLES OF UPWP FTA SECTION 5303 & FTA SECTION 5307 WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-1	Networks and Support Systems	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division collects and analyzes various data pertaining to the operation and maintenance of the transit system. This includes ridership data compiled from the Automatic Passenger Counters, fare data collected from the fareboxes, performance data collected from the real-time GPS and AVL system, etc. Data will be used in reporting current system functions, analyze impact of system service changes, and plan for future service improvements to increase system-wide ridership.</p> <p>Work Product: Monthly ridership reports, on-time-performance reports, fare revenue reports, etc.</p>
II-A-2	Travelers and Behavior	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division uses land use and demographic data in partnership with the MPO and the City’s Planning and Urban Design department to coordinate land use and transportation decision-making on proposed new developments. This enables the Transit Planning staff to evaluate and plan improvements to the transit system, as well as work on bus stop enhancements. This ensures connectivity among ART’s fixed-route service and to other regional modes of transportation.</p> <p>Work Program: Continue to review demographic data based on the 2020 census and use the information to improve service. Conduct survey to collect ridership data and other demographic information.</p>
II-A-3	Transportation Modeling	
II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	Targeted Planning	<p>Work with various community organizations on targeted transit service planning for specific routes as needed.</p> <p>Work Product: Information received will be used</p>
II-B-2	Regional Planning	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division continues to implement recommended service improvements in the transit master plan, as well as Implement the vision/long range plan outlined in the Multimodal Transportation Plan. Participate in the Regional Transit Operators’ meetings to discuss prioritization of regional transit projects.</p>

		<p>Participate in the MPO's regional planning studies conducted over the next two fiscal years. Attend TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee), and other transit advisory board meetings.</p> <p>Work Product: Implementation of new service per the Transit Master Plan. MPO Regional Transit Study and other Planning studies.</p>
II-B-3A	Special Studies Operations	
II-B-3B	Corridor Studies Operations	
II-B-3C	Special Studies Pass-Through	
III-A Planning Work Program		
III-A-1	Planning Work Program	<p>Program Administration entails working on multiple reporting and managerial functions. Program administration includes monitoring subrecipients planning and grant activities, and reporting requirements for (drug/alcohol, NTD, FTA, etc.), work with the MPO to develop the UPWP per federal and state requirements, manage and administer the City's FTA and State grants, and manage FTA compliance/reporting, monitor and oversee the operations and maintenance contract for fixed-route and paratransit services.</p> <p>Work Products: Quarterly and Annual FTA financial and milestone progress reports; complete annual NTD reporting; work on Subrecipient Grant Agreements and reports; complete and submit annual FTA Drug and Alcohol Reports; and complete and submit the FY 22 to FY 24 DBE Goals to FTA, etc.</p>
III-A-2	Metrics and Performance Measures	
III-B Transportation Improvement Program		
III-B-1	Prioritization	
III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	<p>Work with MPO on programming transit projects and funding in the M/STIP.</p> <p>Work Program: Include STIP ID information in grant applications for the City and subrecipients.</p>

III-B-3	Merger/Project Development	
III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements		
III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	<p>Title VI analysis will be conducted for route and fare changes. The City's Title VI plan will be updated in 2020. The City will continue to implement the DBE plan, which includes closely coordinating with the Small and Minority-Owned Business Program. Individual projects involving land use and site design evaluated along with public mobility issues in mind. Conduct Equity Analysis for related service and/or changes.</p> <p>Work Product: Submit DBE bi-annual reports to the FTA.</p>
III-C-2	Environmental Justice	
III-C-3	Minority Business Enterprise Planning	
III-C-4	Planning for Elderly	
III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control Planning	
III-C-6	Public Involvement	
III-C-7	Private Sector Participation	
III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning		
III-D	Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning	
III-E Management and Operations		
III-E	Management, Operations, Program Support Administration	<p>Conduct meetings as part of the City's oversight responsibilities as part of grants management and administration. Meet quarterly with all subrecipients and work with subrecipients to address issues and/or concerns related to federal grants.</p> <p>5307: Henderson County staff will provide program support and planning for Henderson County urban transit services.</p> <p>Work Product: Complete quarterly meetings and submit reports to subrecipients on items to follow-up during meetings.</p>

LOCAL MATCH FOR FY 2023 UPWP

Local match for federal Metropolitan Planning funds (either PL or STBGDA flexed to PL) is required in order to access these funds. The French Broad River MPO's budget for FY 2023 consists of a total of \$570,008, necessitating a 20% local match of \$114,002. This local match is split between paying entities of the region (some counties pay on behalf of some of their municipalities), based on the jurisdiction proportion of the MPO's population from the 2010 Decennial Census. The estimated dues for FY 2023 are estimated to be the same as FY 2021 and are distributed by each dues-paying member below

	FY 2023 Amount
Total	\$570,008
Federal Share	\$456,006
Local Share	\$ 114,002
Buncombe County (36.56%)	\$41,678.98
Henderson County (23.64%)	\$26,949.98
City of Asheville (21.07%)	\$24,020.14
Haywood County (10.60%)	\$12,084.17
City of Hendersonville (3.32%)	\$3,784.85
Town of Waynesville (2.49%)	\$2,838.64
Madison County (2.32%)	\$2,644.84

RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL
a program of Land of Sky
FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FY 2023

WHEREAS, the French Broad River MPO Governing Board has found that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive manner in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C 1607; and

WHEREAS, the region has an adopted a 25-year Metropolitan Transportation Plan to the year 2045 that is fiscally constrained and meets federal requirements for metropolitan transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive and continuing transportation planning program must be carried out cooperatively in order to ensure that funds for transportation projects are effectively allocated to the urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has been designated as the recipient of Federal Transit Administration Metropolitan Planning Program funds; and

WHEREAS, members of the French Broad River MPO Board agree that the Planning Work Program will effectively advance transportation planning for FY 2023;

WHEREAS, members of the French Broad River MPO Board agree that the Federal Transit Administration Narrative related to the 5303 and 5307 provides for an accurate overview of transit planning work to be undertaken with 5303 and 5307 funding in our region during FY 2023;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby adopts the Unified Planning Work Program for fiscal year 2023.

ADOPTED: This the 24th day of March, 2023.

Larry B. Harris, FBRMPO Board Chair

Attest: Tristan Winkler, Director

MPO CERTIFICATION

To be updated in March, 2022.

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL STUDIES

Title	Study Sponsor	Managing Entity	Summary
Buncombe County Multimodal Plan	Buncombe County	Buncombe County	Provide a multimodal master plan for Buncombe County to examine bicycle and pedestrian needs, potential bicycle and pedestrian capital projects, planning projects, and other changes.
2050 Regional Socio-Economic Projections	French Broad River MPO	French Broad River MPO	Develop socio-economic projections for Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties for 2050. These projections will be utilized for updating the region's Travel Demand Model, serve as a tool for updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and provide a reference for regional and local projections for population, employment, and other data points.
Reed Creek Greenway Extension Study	City of Asheville	City of Asheville	Study potential alignments and opportunities for extending the Reed Creek Greenway south to connect to Isaac Dickson School and north to Riverside Drive.
Haywood County Greenway Master Plan (continuing from FY 22)	Haywood County	French Broad River MPO	Develop a greenway master plan for Haywood County to determine opportunities and priorities for developing the County's greenway system.
Fonta Flora Trail Feasibility Study	Town of Black Mountain	Town of Black Mountain	Determine the preliminary alignment and feasibility for a portion of the Fonta Flora Trail from the Eastern Town Limits of Black Mountain to NC 9.

Patton Avenue Corridor Study	City of Asheville	City of Asheville	Study potential improvements, future roadway connections, redevelopment potential, and streetscape plans for Patton Avenue from the Jeff Bowen Bridge to South Sutton Avenue to better prepare for changes to be made as part of I-2513.
Biltmore Feasibility Study (cont. from FY 2020)	City of Asheville	City of Asheville	Study potential improvements to Biltmore Avenue, McDowell Street, and other surface streets in the area to determine the potential for adding multimodal facilities while improving safety and addressing congestion as needed.