

Transportation Matters



photo from Hayley Burton

International Winter Bike to Work Day was celebrated on Friday, February 13th at three different stations across Asheville, providing free breakfast and hot beverages to cyclists who braved the cold. Organized by Go Mountain Commuting and sponsored by the Asheville Downtown Association, City of Asheville, Asheville on Bikes, and McAdams. Thanks to all the volunteers and site hosts who made it possible!

5310

The MPO awarded funding to four projects through the Federal Transit Administration’s Section 5310 program, which supports mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Selected through a competitive call held October 2025–January 2026, the MPO Board approved \$219,864 for Buncombe County’s Supplemental Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program, \$54,146 for Buncombe County’s Ridership Independence for the Disabled and Elderly program, \$134,457 for accessible pedestrian signals in Hendersonville, and \$29,070 for the Council on Aging of Buncombe County’s Call-A-Ride program.

JARC

The MPO concluded its JARC call for projects awarding \$420,732 to the City of Asheville to support Asheville Ride Transit (ART) routes 170, S3, and S6. JARC, or Job Access and Reverse Commute, funding improves access to employment and employment-related services for low-income individuals. The funding will sustain commuting opportunities extending beyond the City of Asheville. Route 170 serves Swannanoa and Black Mountain, Route S3 serves the Asheville Airport with connections to Henderson County, and Route S6 serves Biltmore Park.



CHARTING OUR COURSE
 PLANNING FOR CHANGE, BUILDING FOR PEOPLE
 MAY 6-8, 2026 | ASHEVILLE, NC

NCAMPO Annual Conference

The North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations annual conference is being hosted by FBRMPO in Asheville this year, May 6-8 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. NCAMPO is the premiere transportation conference in the state each year. Predicted to have nearly 600 attendees, the conference includes panel discussions, presentations from professionals across the state, and engaging mobile tours. The keynote speaker this year is Gabe Klein. [See the agenda and register here.](#)



School Zone Safety Art Competition

Our Safe Routes to School program is searching for our flag designer for the 2026-2027 school year. Students in K-5th grade are invited to submit their original artwork for a chance to have their piece displayed across the region at our events. Submissions are due by April 17th. Learn more [here](#).

WNC Rail Committee Conference

The Western North Carolina Rail Committee is hosting the Railroads and Regional Economic Development Conference on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at the Morganton Community House. The event will focus on rail’s role in strengthening communities and advancing regional economic development, including discussion of efforts to restore passenger rail service between Asheville and Salisbury. More information on the event is available [here](#).

Save the date! Strive Not to Drive

Planning for this year’s Strive Not to Drive week is already underway! This year is going to be the biggest one yet, with events happening in all five counties across the region! (That’s Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania).

The goal of Strive Not to Drive is to foster long-term behavior change in how people move around our region, to celebrate sustainable transportation, and to create a culture in which driving alone is not the default option.

It’s not too late to jump on the bandwagon! If you or your organization want to host a Strive Not to Drive event, reach out to sandy@landofsky.org. Finalized event details are needed by Friday, March 27.

March Events

- 3/10 Confident Road Riding for Families Class**
 Black Mountain Library, 6 pm - 7:30 pm
- 3/14 Rising Strong: Greenways for Connection & Resilience**
- 3/17 FBRMPO New Member Orientation**
 Land of Sky Regional Council, 3 pm - 5 pm
- 3/24 & 3/27 UNCA Greenfest** Go Mountain Commuting will be tabling at UNCA’s Sustainability Fair on Tues and leading a bike ride on Friday that highlights pollinator conservation
- 3/28 Spring Out Bike Ride**

Public Meetings

- Prioritization**
 March 4th 9:30 am
- TCC**
 March 12th 11 am- 1 pm
- Board**
 March 19th RPO: 11 am
 MPO: 1 pm

Get involved & stay connected



MPO: mpo@landofsky.org
 RPO: rpo@landofsky.org
 Safe Routes to School: ada@landofsky.org
 Go Mountain Commuting: sandy@landofsky.org



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