



# FY 2026 DRAFT Unified Planning Work Program

*a program of Land of Sky*

## **FRENCH BROAD RIVER**

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

# MPO Vision & Goals



## Contents

Common Acronyms .....	3
Overview .....	4
FBRMPO Planning Area.....	5
Funding Sources and Summary.....	6
Key Initiatives.....	8
Detailed Task Code List .....	10
Special Studies .....	16
FTA Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Activities .....	18

# Common Acronyms

**AMPO**

Association of MPOs

**ART**

Asheville Rides Transit

**BOT**

Board of Transportation

**CAV**

Connected and  
Autonomous Vehicles

**CMP**

Congestion Management  
Process

**CRP**

Carbon Reduction  
Program

**CTP**

Comprehensive  
Transportation Plan

**EJ**

Environmental Justice

**EPA**

Environmental Protection  
Agency

**FHWA**

Federal Highway  
Administration

**FTA**

Federal Transit  
Administration

**GIS**

Geographic Information  
System

**IJA**

Infrastructure Investment  
and Jobs Act

**ITS**

Intelligent Transportation  
Systems

**LAP**

Locally Administered  
Projects

**MOU**

Memorandum of  
Understanding

**MPO**

Metropolitan Planning  
Organization

**MTP**

Metropolitan  
Transportation Plan

**NCAMPO**

North Carolina  
Association of MPOs

**NCDOT**

North Carolina  
Department of  
Transportation

**NCDOT- IMD**

NCDOT Integrated  
Mobility Division

**NCDOT- TPD**

NCDOT Transportation  
Planning Division

**P 7.0**

Prioritization 7.0

**PIP**

Public Involvement Policy

**PL**

Planning Funds

**SOV**

Single Occupancy  
Vehicle

**SPOT**

Strategic Prioritization  
Office of Transportation

**STBG-DA**

Surface Transportation  
Block Grant- Direct  
Allotment

**STIP**

State Transportation  
Improvement Program

**TAP**

Transportation  
Alternatives Program

**TCC**

Technical Coordinating  
Committee

**TOD**

Transit Oriented  
Development

**TDM**

Transportation Demand  
Management

**TIP**

Transportation  
Improvement Program

**TMA**

Transportation  
Management Area

**UPWP**

Unified Planning Work  
Program

## Overview

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 2026 that will help to carry out a cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous transportation planning process for the FBRMPO Planning Area.

FY 2026 promises to be a busy and significant year for transportation planning in the FBRMPO with significant infrastructure repairs continuing from Hurricane Helene, major projects underway along I-26 and numerous plans being undertaken to address future regional and local needs.

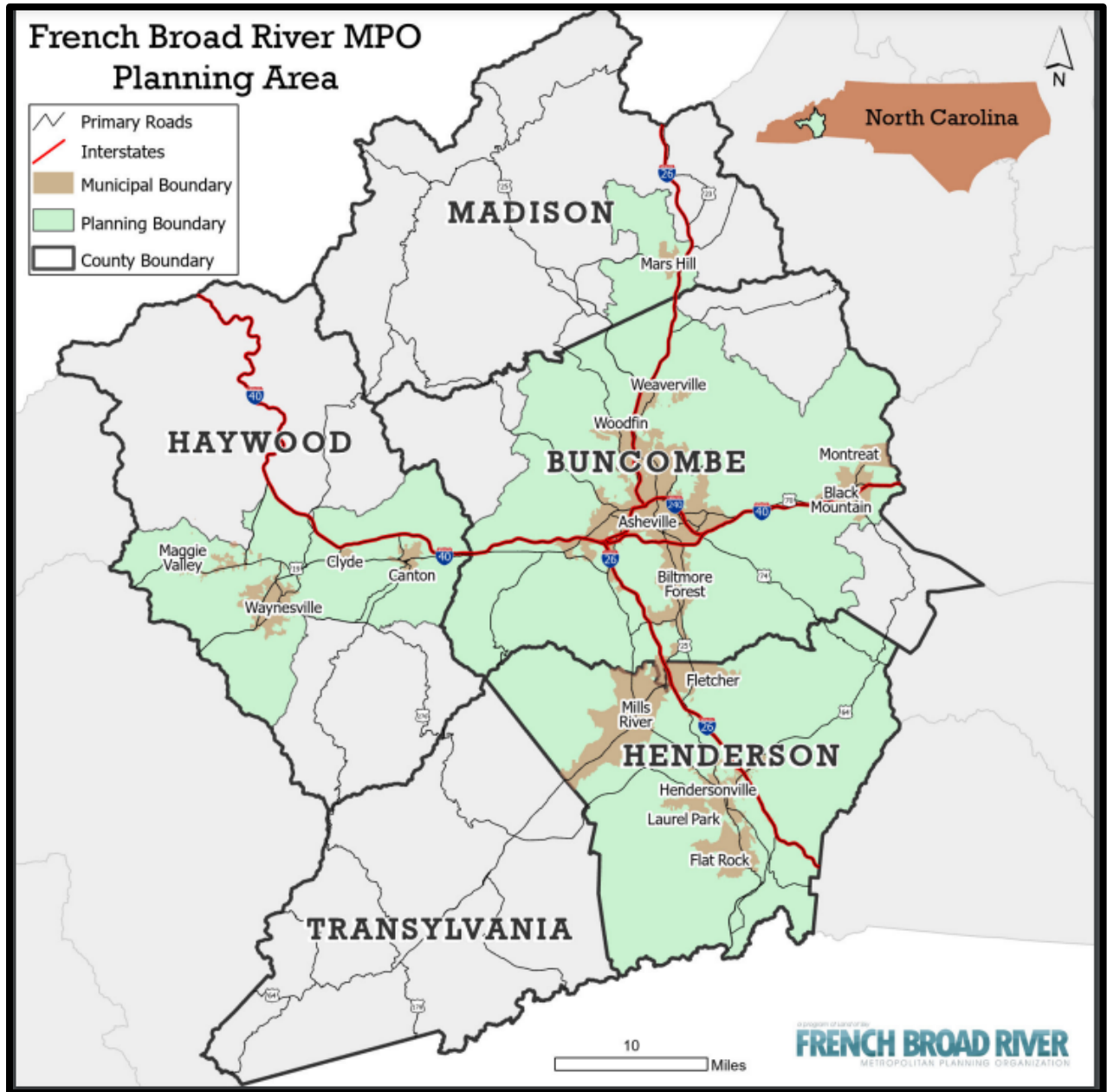
The FY 2026 UPWP lays out the various tasks planned for MPO staff to be completed to maintain federal requirements for the metropolitan planning process as well as address local needs to better prepare our region for the next round of projects either in the TIP or further out for implementation.

The UPWP reflects funding priorities for planning activities in the FBRMPO Planning Area, with the majority of funding utilizing an 80% federal share and a 20% federal share from project sponsors or MPO member governments.



# FBRMPO Planning Area

The MPO Planning Area was updated in 2023 to incorporate changes from the 2020 Urbanized Area Boundary in accordance with federal planning requirements.



## Funding Sources and Summary

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 the FY 2026 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.

**-Safe and Accountable Transportation Options Set-Aside-** a required set-aside of 104(f) funds to be used for safety planning for vulnerable users. No match is required.

**-Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)-** funds that can be used for various transportation and planning activities with 0% match 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 2020 US Census will be utilized to calculate local dues for FY 26.

For MPO funding, PL funds and Surface Transportation Block Grant (flexed to PL) are utilized to cover 80% of MPO expenses with 20% of the funding coming from member government match. Match is determined by the percentage of population within the MPO for each dues paying member. For FY 2026, the total budget for the MPO (not including 5303 activities covered by the City of Asheville) is \$700,000, which requires a local match match of \$140,000. The match responsibilities break out to the following:

	<b>Percent of MPO Population</b>	<b>FY 2026 Proposed Match</b>
<b>Buncombe County</b>	37.94%	\$ 53,122.90
<b>Henderson County</b>	23.39%	\$ 32,741.62
<b>City of Asheville</b>	21.87%	\$ 30,619.68
<b>Haywood County</b>	9.96%	\$ 13,444.77
<b>City of Hendersonville</b>	3.45%	\$ 4,900.04
<b>Town of Waynesville</b>	2.34%	\$ 3,282.45
<b>Madison County</b>	1.35%	\$ 1,888.54

# Key Initiatives

## 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

The MTP is the guiding document for transportation planning in the French Broad River MPO Planning Area. The MTP develops goals, objectives, and outlines key projects to accommodate growth and other challenges expected to face the region over the next 25 years.



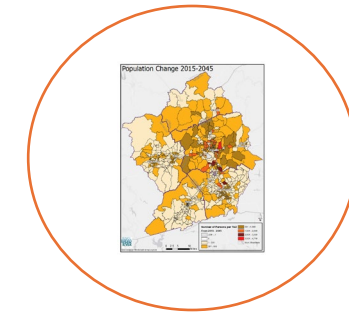
## Hellbender Regional Trail Network

The MPO adopted the Hellbender Regional Trail Plan in 2020. Work continues on assisting local governments plan and apply for projects that will become key connections to the overall regional trail network as well as educating the public and stakeholders on the need for regional connectivity.



## WNC Regional Travel Demand Model

The MPO helps to maintain the Regional Travel Demand Model that forecasts how anticipated growth will utilize and impact our region's transportation network and can be utilized to evaluate the potential effectiveness of proposed transportation projects. NCDOT provides technical model runs and utilizes the model for traffic forecasting.



## Prioritization 8.0

The Prioritization Process in North Carolina helps to determine the majority of capital expenses for transportation projects across the State. The MPO will consider the application of local input points for various projects in the process to help develop the 2028-2037 Transportation Improvement Program and determine what priority projects will be funded or not.



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### **WNC Passenger Rail**

NCDOT was recently awarded funding to begin environmental documentation for the proposed return of passenger rail service to Western North Carolina. The MPO will continue to advocate, coordinate, and educate in cooperation with regional and extra-regional efforts to bring back passenger rail service.



# Detailed Task Code List

## Data & Planning Support

### **NETWORKS AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS (\$10,000)**

The MPO will continue to update and provide up-to-date data on traffic counts, street system changes, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), crash data, fixed-route transit, and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure changes. This also includes bicycle and pedestrian counts done around the region by MPO and TDM staff. This data is expected to be utilized as part of the MTP, P 8.0, and Safety Planning.

### **TRAVELERS AND BEHAVIORS (\$60,000)**

The MPO anticipates considerable work on beginning to work on developing base year land use, employment, and demographic data for the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP.)

### **TRANSPORTATION MODELING (\$15,000)**

Work is anticipated on any potential updates to the Travel Demand Model as a result of amendments to the MTP in addition to scoping the Travel Demand Model update RFLOI.



## Planning Process

### **TARGETED PLANNING (\$10,000)**

The MPO will continue engagement and coordination with the clean cities coalition, Regional Resilience efforts, Strive Not to Drive, WNC Rail Committee, and Regional Freight Providers (amongst other groups.) This work task will also include developing reports on EV Infrastructure Gaps, Freight Detour Planning, and Managed Lanes.

### **REGIONAL PLANNING (\$10,000)**

The MPO anticipates wrapping up the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) early in FY 2026. Additional work on potential amendments to the 2050 MTP as well as beginning work on the 2055 MTP is planned to occur as well.

### **SPECIAL STUDIES (\$150,000)**

The MPO will continue work on managing and coordinating with various special studies throughout the region. This includes management of the 2050 MTP, 2050 Socio-Economic Projections, the Buncombe County Pedestrian Plan, Regional ITS Plan, updates to the Regional Travel Demand Model, WNC Complete Streets Plan, and the Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Study. This also includes coordination with local governments on local planning efforts..

### **COMPLETE STREETS (\$9,200)**

The MPO will continue efforts with the Hellbender Regional Trail and the Regional Trail workgroup to continue coordination efforts with local governments and stakeholders around the Hellbender Regional Trail.

## Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

### **UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (\$20,000)**

The MPO will maintain and amend the FY 2026 UPWP as needed as well as develop a UPWP for FY 2027. The development of the FY 2027 UPWP will include a Call for Planning Projects to enable local governments to utilize planning funds for the development of feasibility studies, corridor studies, or small area plans; or provide support for regional planning efforts. The MPO will also discuss the use of FTA Section 5303 funds for Metropolitan Planning purposes.

### **METRICS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES (\$10,000)**

The MPO will continue coordination with NCDOT on the consideration and adoption of federal performance measures and targets, including new targets for greenhouse gas emissions. This item also includes quarterly reports to NCDOT on MPO planning efforts.



### Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

#### **PRIORITIZATION (\$50,000)**

The MPO anticipates the consideration of submittals and local input points for Regional Impact and Division Needs projects as part of P 8.0 in FY 2026. This includes the scoring of projects and dissemination of information for decision-makers, stakeholders, and the public.

#### **METROPOLITAN TIP (\$25,000)**

The MPO anticipates the adoption of the 2026-2035 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) early in FY 2026 with continued amendments to the 2026-2035 TIP.

## **MERGER AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT (\$25,000)**

The MPO anticipates continued coordination on express designs administered during the course of P 8.0, continued meetings on I-2513, continued updates on I-4400/I-4700, and additional merger meetings as required.



## Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements

### **TITLE VI (\$5,000)**

The MPO will ensure compliance with its Title VI Plan.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (\$10,000)**

The MPO will enhance coordination with environmental justice communities and groups in the MPO's Planning Area.

### **MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PLANNING (\$0)**

No work planned for FY 2026

### **PLANNING FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED (\$0)**

No work planned for FY 2026

### **SAFETY/DRUG-CONTROL PLANNING (\$0)**

No work planned for FY 2026

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (\$57,750)**

The MPO plans to continue best practices for public participation as part of P 8.0 and the development of the Draft 2028-2037 TIP, the development of the 2050 MTP, amendments to the existing TIP and MTP, and any other tasks where public input is beneficial. The MPO will also continue to engage the public in routine meetings and reach out to community stakeholders and groups to promote equitable input and awareness of MPO activities.

### **PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION (\$0)**

No work planned for FY 2026

## Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning (\$75,000)

MPO staff will continue to participate in a number of Statewide efforts. These include collaborations with the North Carolina Association of MPOs (NCAMPO.) NCAMPO holds quarterly meetings that are attended by FBRMPO staff as well as an annual conference, planned to be hosted by FBRMPO in 2026. The conference is expected to require significant staff time to prepare.

MPO staff will also participate in educational webinars and workshops hosted by FHWA, FTA, NCDOT, AMPO, and other groups that may be hosting webinars and workshops relevant to MPO work. This includes AMPO membership fees and dues.

MPO staff also plans to continue participating in a number of workgroups and committees, including the Prioritization Workgroup, various subcommittees of the workgroup, the Locally Administered Project Workgroup, and others as assigned by NCAMPO, NCDOT, and FHWA.

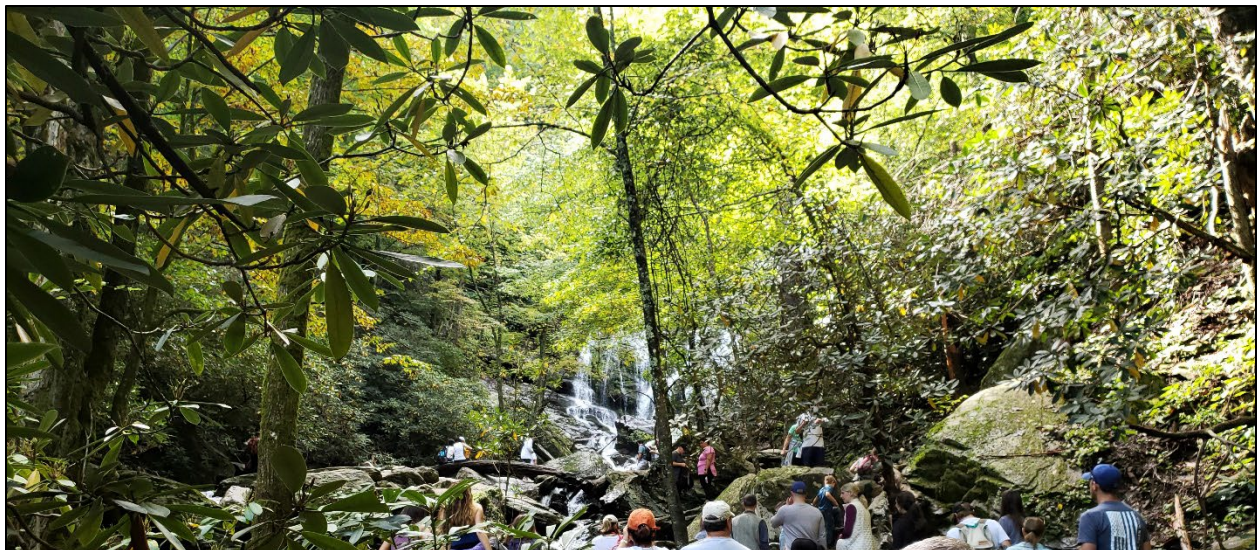
MPO staff will also continue coordination on a number of extra-regional efforts including coordination on the WNC Passenger Rail project and coordination with neighboring MPOs and RPOs, including the Land of Sky RPO, Southwestern RPO, Isothermal RPO, and Hickory MPO.

Conferences & Trainings Staff Plans to Attend: NCAMPO, NC-APA, NC Bike Walk Summit, AMPO

## Management, Operations, and Program Support Administration (\$155,750)

MPO staff will continue to maintain the MPO Board, TCC, Prioritization Subcommittee, Citizens Advisory Committee, 5307 Subrecipient Workgroup, Regional Transit Operators Workgroup, and the Hellbender Trail Workgroup. This includes the maintenance of minutes, website and agenda materials, providing meeting settings, social media maintenance, internal meetings for preparations, and other meetings and coordination as required by the LPA (Land of Sky Regional Council.)

This task also includes routine travel throughout the region, administrative responsibilities, and purchase and upkeep of software necessary for MPO work, including (but not limited to) GIS, Microsoft Office, Canva, and software that assists with TIP management.



# Special Studies

Special studies are initiatives that are either a part of the metropolitan planning process or assist with local aspects of the planning process to help determine the feasibility of projects or treatments or provide a more comprehensive planning perspective to a corridor or small area. The special studies planned to begin or continue through FY 2026 include:

Study	Managing Entity	Year Programmed	Description
CTP/MTP Update (CRRSSA Funded)	FBRMPO	2024	The MPO will hire a consultant to develop the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) that will incorporate a CTP update into the workflow. Expected to finish in early FY 2026.
Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Study	FBRMPO	2025	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations on potential alignments to connect the Woodfin Greenway project (EB-5547) to the planned Reems Creek Greenway in Weaverville. The study will look at potential alignments including along Future I-26, NC 251, and any other alignment deemed reasonable that would provide a safe, accessible route for bicyclists and pedestrians between the two identified greenway corridors. Preliminary cost estimates and public engagement will be included as well.
Complete Streets & Hellbender Implementation Plan (CRRSSA Funded)	FBRMPO	Future	The MPO will hire a consultant to develop a Complete Streets & Hellbender Trail Implementation Plan that will provide a prioritization of trail segments, implementation strategies, and recommendations to boost awareness.

<b>Study</b>	<b>Managing Entity</b>	<b>Year Programmed</b>	<b>Description</b>
Regional ITS Plan (CRRSSA Funded)	FBRMPO	Future	The MPO will hire a consultant to develop a Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Plan that covers the MPO Planning Area.
Travel Survey/Model Upgrades (CRRSSA Funded)	FBRMPO	Future	The MPO will hire a consultant to update the region's travel survey and provide updates to the Travel Demand Model.
Staffing & Compensation Study	Land of Sky RC	2026	The Regional Council will hire a consultant to review and make recommendations on MPO compensation and staffing levels.
Buncombe County Pedestrian plan	FBRMPO	2025	The MPO will hire a consultant to develop a pedestrian plan for Buncombe County to provide priority projects and policy recommendations to improve pedestrian safety and access.

FTA CODE	TASK CODE	TASK DESCRIPTION	MPO Planning and Admin - PL104			Safe and Accountable Transportation Options PL 104 Set-Aside (Program Code Y410)	STBGDA (Flexed to PL)			CRRSSA	Total			
			Local	Federal	TOTAL		Local	Federal	Total		Federal	Local	Federal	Total
			20%	80%			20%	80%			100%			
	II-A	Data and Planning Support	\$ 17,000	\$68,000	\$ 85,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 17,000	\$68,000	\$ 85,000	
44.24.00	II-A-1	Networks and Support Systems	\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000	
44.23.01	II-A-2	Travelers and Behavior	\$ 12,000	\$48,000	\$ 60,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 12,000	\$48,000	\$ 60,000	
44.23.02	II-A-3	Transportation Modeling	\$ 3,000	\$12,000	\$ 15,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 3,000	\$12,000	\$ 15,000	
	II-B	Planning Process	\$ 34,000	\$ 136,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 9,200	\$ 21,800	\$ 87,200	\$ 109,000		\$ 55,800	\$223,200	\$ 279,000	
44.23.02	II-B-1	Targeted Planning	\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000	
44.22.00	II-B-2A	Regional Planning	\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000	
44.22.00	II-B-2B	Complete Streets Planning				\$ 9,200	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
44.27.00	II-B-3A	Special Studies Operations	\$ 30,000	\$120,000	\$ 150,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 30,000	\$120,000	\$ 150,000	
44.27.00	II-B-3B	TDM Coordination					\$ 21,100	\$84,400	\$ 105,500		\$ 21,100	\$84,400	\$ 105,500	
44.27.00	II-B-3E	Staffing and Compensation Study					\$ 700	\$2,800	\$ 3,500		\$ 700	\$2,800	\$ 3,500	
	III-A	Planning Work Program	\$ 6,000	\$24,000	\$ 30,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 6,000	\$24,000	\$ 30,000	
44.23.02	III-A-1	Planning Work Program	\$ 4,000	\$16,000	\$ 20,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 4,000	\$16,000	\$ 20,000	
44.24.00	III-A-2	Metrics and Performance Measures	\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 2,000	\$8,000	\$ 10,000	
	III-B	Transp. Improvement Plan	\$ 20,000	\$80,000	\$ 100,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 20,000	\$80,000	\$ 100,000	
44.25.00	III-B-1	Prioritization	\$ 10,000	\$40,000	\$ 50,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 10,000	\$40,000	\$ 50,000	
44.25.00	III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	\$ 5,000	\$20,000	\$ 25,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 5,000	\$20,000	\$ 25,000	
44.25.00	III-B-3	Merger/Project Development	\$ 5,000	\$20,000	\$ 25,000		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 5,000	\$20,000	\$ 25,000	
	III-C	Cvl Rgts. Cmp./Otr. Reg. Reqs.	\$ 13,000	\$52,000	\$ 65,000		\$ 1,550	\$6,200	\$ 7,750		\$ 14,550	\$58,200	\$ 72,750	
44.27.00	III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	\$ 3,000	\$12,000	\$ 15,000		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ 3,000	\$12,000	\$ 15,000	
44.27.00	III-C-2	Environmental Justice	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
44.27.00	III-C-3	Minority Business Enterprise Planning	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
44.27.00	III-C-4	Planning for the Elderly	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
44.27.00	III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control Planning	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
44.27.00	III-C-6	Public Involvement	\$ 10,000	\$40,000	\$ 50,000		\$1,550	\$6,200	\$ 7,750		\$ 11,550	\$46,200	\$ 57,750	
44.27.00	III-C-7	Private Sector Participation	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$0	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
	III-D	Statewide & Extra-Regional Planning	\$ 9,550	\$38,200	\$ 47,750		\$ 7,750	\$31,000	\$ 38,750		\$ 17,300	\$69,200	\$ 86,500	
44.27.00	III-D-1	Statewide & Extra-Regional Planning	\$ 9,550	\$38,200	\$ 47,750		\$7,750	\$31,000	\$38,750		\$ 17,300	\$69,200	\$ 86,500	
	III-E	Management Ops, Program Suppt Admin	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 31,150	\$124,600	\$ 155,750		\$ 31,150	\$124,600	\$ 155,750	
44.27.00		Management Operations	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ 31,150	\$124,600	\$ 155,750		\$ 31,150	\$124,600	\$ 155,750	
44.27.00		Program Support Administration	\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -		\$ -	\$0	\$ -	
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$99,550</b>	<b>\$398,200</b>	<b>\$ 497,750</b>	<b>\$ 9,200</b>	<b>\$ 62,250</b>	<b>\$249,000</b>	<b>\$311,250</b>		<b>\$ 161,800</b>	<b>\$647,200</b>	<b>\$ 809,000</b>	
			<b>Continuing Studies</b>											
<b>FY Acct</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>MPO Planning &amp; Admin- PL 104</b>				<b>STBGDA (Flexed to PL)</b>			<b>CRRSAA</b>	<b>Total</b>				
		<b>Local</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Local</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Total</b>		
		<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>			<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>		<b>100%</b>					
2023	CTP/MTP Update (CRSSA)								\$400,000		\$400,000	\$400,000		
2023	Regional ITS Plan (CRSSA)								\$300,000		\$300,000	\$300,000		
2023	Travel Demand Model Updates (CRSSA)								\$800,000		\$800,000	\$800,000		
2023	Regional Multimodal Plan (CRSSA)								\$325,000		\$325,000	\$325,000		
2023	Staff Oversight (CRSSA)								\$64,846		\$64,846	\$64,846		
2024	Patton Avenue Corridor Study					\$44,400	\$177,600	\$222,000		\$ 44,400	\$177,600	\$222,000		
2025	Buncombe County Pedestrian Plan					\$25,000	\$100,000	\$125,000		\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000		
2025	Woodfin Weaverville Greenway Study					\$24,000	\$96,000	\$120,000		\$ 24,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 120,000		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$93,400</b>	<b>\$373,600</b>	<b>\$467,000</b>	<b>\$1,889,846</b>	<b>\$ 93,400</b>	<b>\$2,263,446</b>	<b>\$2,356,846</b>		

# FTA Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Activities

TABLES OF FY 25 UPWP FTA SECTION 5303 WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-1	<b>Networks and Support Systems</b>	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division collects and analyzes various data related 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. The data is used in reporting current system functions, as well as analyze the impact of system service changes, and to plan for future service improvements to increase system-wide ridership.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Monthly ridership reports, on-time-performance reports, fare revenue reports, etc.</p>
II-A-2	<b>Travelers and Behavior</b>	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division utilizes 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. In addition, the information is used in planning improvements to the transit system to ensure connectivity among ART’s fixed-route service and to other regional modes of transportation.</p>
II-A-3	<b>Transportation Modeling</b>	
II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	<b>Targeted Planning</b>	<p>The City will be beginning a planning process for the development of a new/expanded downtown transit center - The ART Place Project. Preliminary planning activities will be performed in FY 24 and FY25 and will include an analysis of the operational needs for ingress/egress of the site, as well as a space needs analysis for passengers and staff portions of a new transit center space.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Deliverables will consist of public involvement and visioning for the future project, space</p>

		needs diagrams and quantities and a report regarding ingress/egress and staging needs for the new transit center.
<b>II-B-2</b>	<b>Regional Planning</b>	<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. Attend TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee), and other transit advisory board meetings. In FY24 and FY25 the City of Asheville plans to conduct a Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Financial plan that will analyze base level service after 2020 service improvements and recommend operational service efficiencies and existing and future financial investments needed to implement the phases of the transit master plan.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Deliverables associated with Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Financial Implementation plan will be developed by the City of Asheville.</p>
<b>II-B-3A</b>	<b>Special Studies Operations</b>	
<b>II-B-3B</b>	<b>Corridor Studies Operations</b>	
<b>II-B-3C</b>	<b>Special Studies Pass-Through</b>	
<b>III-A Planning Work Program</b>		
<b>III-A-1</b>	<b>Planning Work Program</b>	Program Administration entails working on multiple reporting and managerial functions. Program administration includes monitoring subrecipients planning and grant activities, and reporting

		<p>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, manage FTA compliance program, monitor and oversee the operations and maintenance contracts for the fixed-route and paratransit services. In FY25, the City of Asheville, as the designated recipient will be conducting routine oversight and monitoring meetings of the City of Asheville subrecipients.</p> <p><b>Work Products:</b> Routine monitoring reviews of the subrecipients. Quarterly and Annual FTA Reports, Complete annual NTD reporting; work on Subrecipient Agreements and reports; Drug and Alcohol Reports, etc.</p>
<b>III-A-2</b>	<b>Metrics and Performance Measures</b>	
<b>III-B Transportation Improvement Program</b>		
<b>III-B-1</b>	<b>Prioritization</b>	
<b>III-B-2</b>	<b>Metropolitan TIP</b>	
<b>III-B-3</b>	<b>Merger/Project Development</b>	
<b>III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements</b>		
<b>III-C-1</b>	<b>Title VI Compliance</b>	<p>The City will continue conducting Title VI analysis for any future route and/or fare changes and will monitor Title VI programs and plans of the region's subrecipients.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> FY 23-25 City of Asheville Title VI Plan Update.</p>
<b>III-C-2</b>	<b>Environmental Justice</b>	
<b>III-C-3</b>	<b>Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Planning</b>	<p>The FTA Region IV Office approved the City and urbanized area subrecipient FY 23-25 DBE Goals in August 2022, which includes closely coordinating with the City's Small and Minority-Owned Business Program and working with the City's subrecipients and evaluating individual transit projects and procurements to ensure adherence to the regions DBE Goals and federal DBE requirements.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Quarterly DBE reports for FTA.</p>
<b>III-C-4</b>	<b>Planning for Elderly</b>	

<b>III-C-5</b>	<b>Safety/Drug Control Planning</b>	<p>The City and subrecipients have approved Public Transportation Safety Plans. Required meetings and monitoring of performance measures will take place. Monitoring of Drug and alcohol reporting will also take place.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> PTSP Committee meetings notes, performance measures, reports and submissions for FTA.</p>
<b>III-C-6</b>	<b>Public Involvement</b>	<p>The City will be conducting public involvement as part of the Art Place Project planning and visioning phase and also for the City's Comprehensive Operational Analysis. n that will be prepared by the City with Buncombe County in FY 24 and FY 25.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Public meetings and survey results.</p>
<b>III-C-7</b>	<b>Private Sector Participation</b>	
<b>III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning</b>		
<b>III-D</b>	<b>Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning</b>	
<b>III-E Management and Operations</b>		
<b>III-E</b>	<b>Management, Operations, Program Support Administration</b>	

# FTA Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning Activities

TABLES OF FY 25 UPWP FTA SECTION 5303 WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-1	<b>Networks and Support Systems</b>	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division collects and analyzes various data related 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. The data is used in reporting current system functions, as well as analyze the impact of system service changes, and to plan for future service improvements to increase system-wide ridership.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Monthly ridership reports, on-time-performance reports, fare revenue reports, etc.</p>
II-A-2	<b>Travelers and Behavior</b>	<p>The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division utilizes 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. In addition, the information is used in planning improvements to the transit system to ensure connectivity among ART’s fixed-route service and to other regional modes of transportation.</p>
II-A-3	<b>Transportation Modeling</b>	
II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	<b>Targeted Planning</b>	<p>The City will be beginning a planning process for the development of a new/expanded downtown transit center - The ART Place Project. Preliminary planning activities will be performed in FY 24 and FY25 and will include an analysis of the operational needs for ingress/egress of the site, as well as a space needs analysis for passengers and staff portions of a new transit center space.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Deliverables will consist of public involvement and visioning for the future project, space</p>

		needs diagrams and quantities and a report regarding ingress/egress and staging needs for the new transit center.
<b>II-B-2</b>	<b>Regional Planning</b>	<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. Attend TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee), and other transit advisory board meetings. In FY24 and FY25 the City of Asheville plans to conduct a Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Financial plan that will analyze base level service after 2020 service improvements and recommend operational service efficiencies and existing and future financial investments needed to implement the phases of the transit master plan.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Deliverables associated with Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Financial Implementation plan will be developed by the City of Asheville.</p>
<b>II-B-3A</b>	<b>Special Studies Operations</b>	
<b>II-B-3B</b>	<b>Corridor Studies Operations</b>	
<b>II-B-3C</b>	<b>Special Studies Pass-Through</b>	
<b>III-A Planning Work Program</b>		
<b>III-A-1</b>	<b>Planning Work Program</b>	Program Administration entails working on multiple reporting and managerial functions. Program administration includes monitoring subrecipients planning and grant activities, and reporting

		<p>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, manage FTA compliance program, monitor and oversee the operations and maintenance contracts for the fixed-route and paratransit services. In FY25, the City of Asheville, as the designated recipient will be conducting routine oversight and monitoring meetings of the City of Asheville subrecipients.</p> <p><b>Work Products:</b> Routine monitoring reviews of the subrecipients. Quarterly and Annual FTA Reports, Complete annual NTD reporting; work on Subrecipient Agreements and reports; Drug and Alcohol Reports, etc.</p>
<b>III-A-2</b>	<b>Metrics and Performance Measures</b>	
<b>III-B Transportation Improvement Program</b>		
<b>III-B-1</b>	<b>Prioritization</b>	
<b>III-B-2</b>	<b>Metropolitan TIP</b>	
<b>III-B-3</b>	<b>Merger/Project Development</b>	
<b>III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements</b>		
<b>III-C-1</b>	<b>Title VI Compliance</b>	<p>The City will continue conducting Title VI analysis for any future route and/or fare changes and will monitor Title VI programs and plans of the region's subrecipients.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> FY 23-25 City of Asheville Title VI Plan Update.</p>
<b>III-C-2</b>	<b>Environmental Justice</b>	
<b>III-C-3</b>	<b>Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Planning</b>	<p>The FTA Region IV Office approved the City and urbanized area subrecipient FY 23-25 DBE Goals in August 2022, which includes closely coordinating with the City's Small and Minority-Owned Business Program and working with the City's subrecipients and evaluating individual transit projects and procurements to ensure adherence to the regions DBE Goals and federal DBE requirements.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Quarterly DBE reports for FTA.</p>
<b>III-C-4</b>	<b>Planning for Elderly</b>	

<b>III-C-5</b>	<b>Safety/Drug Control Planning</b>	<p>The City and subrecipients have approved Public Transportation Safety Plans. Required meetings and monitoring of performance measures will take place. Monitoring of Drug and alcohol reporting will also take place.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> PTSP Committee meetings notes, performance measures, reports and submissions for FTA.</p>
<b>III-C-6</b>	<b>Public Involvement</b>	<p>The City will be conducting public involvement as part of the Art Place Project planning and visioning phase and also for the City's Comprehensive Operational Analysis. n that will be prepared by the City with Buncombe County in FY 24 and FY 25.</p> <p><b>Work Product:</b> Public meetings and survey results.</p>
<b>III-C-7</b>	<b>Private Sector Participation</b>	
<b>III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning</b>		
<b>III-D</b>	<b>Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning</b>	
<b>III-E Management and Operations</b>		
<b>III-E</b>	<b>Management, Operations, Program Support Administration</b>	

City of Asheville FY 26 UPWP 5303 Table

			Transit Planning - 5303			
FTA	TASK	TASK	Local	State	Federal	Total
CODE	CODE	DESCRIPTION	10%	10%	80%	
	<b>II-A</b>	<b>Data and Planning Support</b>				
44.24.00	II-A-1	Networks and Support Systems	\$1,591	\$1,591	\$12,724	\$15,905
44.23.01	II-A-2	Travelers and Behavior	\$398	\$398	\$3,181	\$3,976
44.23.02	II-A-3	Transportation Modeling				
	<b>II-B</b>	<b>Planning Process</b>				
44.23.02	II-B-1	Targeted Planning	\$2,386	\$2,386	\$19,086	\$23,858
44.23.01	II-B-2	Regional Planning	\$1,591	\$1,591	\$12,724	\$15,905
44.27.00	II-B-3	Special Studies				
	<b>III-A</b>	<b>Planning Work Program</b>				
44.21.00	III-A-1	Planning Work Program	\$6,362	\$6,362	\$50,896	\$63,620
44.24.00	III-A-2	Metrics and Performance Measures				
	<b>III-B</b>	<b>Transp. Improvement Plan</b>				
44.25.00	III-B-1	Prioritization				
44.25.00	III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	\$795	\$795	\$6,362	\$7,953
44.25.00	III-B-3	Merger/Project Development				
	<b>III-C</b>	<b>Cvl Rgts. Cmp./Otr .Reg. Reqs.</b>				
44.27.00	III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	\$795	\$795	\$6,362	\$7,953
44.27.00	III-C-2	Environmental Justice				
44.27.00	III-C-3	Minority Business Enterprise Planning	\$795	\$795	\$6,362	\$7,953
44.27.00	III-C-4	Planning for the Elderly				
44.27.00	III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control Planning	\$398	\$398	\$3,181	\$3,976
44.27.00	III-C-6	Public Involvement	\$795	\$795	\$6,362	\$7,953
44.27.00	III-C-7	Private Sector Participation				
	<b>III-D</b>	<b>Statewide &amp; Extra-Regional Planning</b>				
44.27.00	III-D-1	Statewide & Extra-Regional Planning				
	<b>III-E</b>	<b>Management Ops, Program Suppt Admin</b>				
44.27.00		Management Operations				
	<b>TOTALS</b>		\$15,905	\$15,905	\$127,241	\$159,051



## RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FY 2026

**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 2026;

**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 2026;

**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 2026.

**ADOPTED:** This the 20th day of March, 2025.

  
Anthony Sutton FBRMPO Board Chair

  
Attest: Tristan Winkler, Director

a program of Land of Sky

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

**WHEREAS**, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization's Governing Board has adopted the FY 2026 UPWP on March 20th, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the FBRMPO Board (formerly known as the Transportation Advisory Committee) has reviewed the proposed amendment in the May, 2025 Board agenda and finds them satisfactory for modification to the UPWP; and

**WHEREAS**, the amendment moves the Patton Avenue Corridor Study into FY 2026, adjusts 5303 funding in coordination with the City of Asheville, and adjusts PL & STBGDA-Flex funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the amendment does not alter the amount of local match required by the MPO's member governments;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby adopts the following amendment to the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program:

**ADOPTED:** This the 15th day of May, 2025

Jennifer Hensley

Digitally signed by Jennifer Hensley  
Date: 2025.05.23 10:20:09 -04'00'

Jennifer Hensley, FBRMPO Board Vice-Chair



Attest, Tristan Winkler, Director  
French Broad River MPO