

AGENDA

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, August 6, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room
2nd Floor, Catawba County Justice Center
100 Government Drive, Newton, NC

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Invocation.
4. [Approval of the Minutes from the Board's Regular Meeting of July 23, 2018.](#)
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
6. Public Comments.
7. Presentation:
Presentation by Lauran Surratt, Catawba County Youth Council and 4-H Club Member, as well as Catawba County Youth Representative to the Youth Summit at the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Annual Conference.
8. Public Hearing:
[Public Hearing for Consideration of the Submission of a Grant for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities \(Federal Section 5310-Urban\). Presented by Social Services Director Karen Harrington.](#)
9. Appointments.
10. Other Items of Business.
11. Manager's Report.
[Budget Transfer.](#)
12. Attorneys' Report.
13. Adjournment.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, or disability.

CALENDAR: The next Board of Commissioners Meetings will take place on Monday, August 20, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the Catawba County Justice Center, 2nd Floor Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, Newton.

MEMORANDUM

To: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Karen Harrington, Director, Catawba County Social Services

DATE: August 6, 2018

RE: Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program
(Urban)

REQUEST

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners holds a public hearing in consideration of the submission of a grant for the enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities (Federal Section 5310) to the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization.

BACKGROUND

The goal of the Section 5310 program is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities, by removing barriers to transportation services. Catawba County has received 5310 grant funds since FY 13/14.

The 5310 program requires submission of two separate grants, one for trips originating in urban areas and one for trips originating in rural areas. The last request for urban funds was submitted to the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization in August 2016, and was approved for a total of \$300,000 for a two-year period (July 2017-June 2019). The grant application for trips originating in rural areas is submitted to the Department of Transportation annually. For FY 18/19, the 5310 rural grant was approved for a total of \$250,000. The two grant applications are not only submitted to two different agencies, but are also submitted at different times. The request currently before the Board of Commissioners is specific only to the urban grant.

Catawba County will continue to contract with Western Piedmont Regional Transportation Authority (WPRTA) to provide transportation funded by Section 5310. The transportation funds will allow seniors and individuals with disabilities to attend the congregate nutrition program, have access to essential shopping, pharmacy, and banking, attend medical appointments and other essential services. Additionally, as funds allow, transportation will be provided for individuals to access education and employment opportunities, volunteer activities, senior centers, and Adult Day Care/Day Health programs when no other transportation is available.

A total of \$300,000 will be requested for trips originating in urban areas in FY July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021, a two-year grant period. The grant requires a 20% local match. Social Services will provide the match utilizing current local funding allocated for senior transportation. There will be no increased cost to the County.

Approximately 22,000 one-way trips will be provided to an estimated 80-160 individuals for the period of the grant (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021). Many of the seniors will utilize transportation for multiple purposes and a large percentage of the target population will utilize transportation daily. Providing transportation will allow older adults the opportunity and the choice to remain active and involved in the community.

ANALYSIS/ALTERNATIVES

If the Federal 5310 grant funding is not available, the Catawba County Senior's Nutrition Program would not be able to transport seniors to the Seniors Morning Out program, which provides a lunch meal Monday thru Thursday, along with health and wellness activities, education and fellowship.

This program relies on the transportation provided by Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority, funded by the Federal 5310 Grant. Of the seniors who attend Seniors' Morning Out (SMO), approximately 65% rely on the transportation this grant provides to get to the SMO locations, as well as grocery shopping. In addition, 40% of seniors who attend Seniors' Morning Out are living at or below the Federal poverty level, and live alone. Annually, more than 600 seniors participate in the program, and 31,000 meals are served.

Catawba County Social Services does not currently have an alternative way to keep the Senior's Morning Out program active without the Federal 5310 Grant funding.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests the Board of Commissioners:

- a) Conducts a public hearing in consideration of submitting a Federal 5310 grant to the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization. The grant will be used to provide transportation assistance for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities residing in urban areas.
- b) Authorizes the submission of the grant.
- c) Adopts the Public Transportation Program Resolution regarding the Federal 5310 grant.
- d) Authorizes Karen Harrington, Director of Catawba County Social Services, to submit the grant application as outlined in the Resolution.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Article 2B of Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Status and the Governor of North Carolina have designated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) as the agency responsible for administering federal and state public transportation funds; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will apply for a grant from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration and receives funds from the North Carolina General Assembly to provide assistance for public transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Section 5310 program is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout the country, by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available. Toward this goal, FTA provides financial assistance for transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in all area.

WHEREAS, WPRTA has been designated as the agency with principle authority and responsibility for administering the Section 5310 Program for the Hickory Urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, Catawba County hereby assures and certifies that it will comply with the federal and state statutes, regulations, executive orders, and all small administrative requirements related to the applications made to and grants received from the Federal Transit Administration, as well as the provisions of Section 1001 of Title 18, U.S.C.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Karen Harrington, Director, Catawba County Social Services, on behalf of Catawba County Board of Commissioners, is hereby authorized to submit a grant for federal and state funding, provide the required local match, make the necessary assurances and certifications and be empowered to enter into an agreement with the NCDOT to provide public transportation services.

I, Barbara Morris, County Clerk, do hereby certify that the above is true and correct copy of an excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners duly held on the 6th day of August, 2018.

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

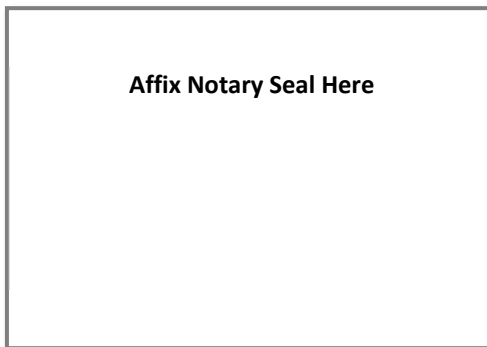
***Note that the authorized official, certifying official, and notary public should be three separate individuals.**

Seal Subscribed and sworn to me (date) _____

Notary Public Signature _____

Printed Name and Address

My commission expires (date) _____



Budget Transfers: Pursuant to Board authority granted to the County Manager, the following budget transfers have been completed:

Self-Insurance Special Contingency Transfers:

Social Services Transportation Vehicle

Transfer

From:

115-150120-994200	Self-Insurance Special Contingency Expense	\$11,500
115-150120-691500	Self-Insurance Special Contingency Revenue	\$11,500

To:

115-150120-995110	To General Fund from Self-Insurance	\$11,500
115-150120-680800	Self-Insurance Fund Insurance Settlements	\$11,500

Supplemental Appropriation

110-560510-984000	Other Miscellaneous Operating Supplies	\$11,500
110-560510-695115	From Self Insurance Fund	\$11,500

7/26/18 – Transfer from Self-insurance Special Contingency to assist Social Services in replacing a vehicle in transportation that was totaled 5/30/18.