



Executive Committee

May 25, 2022

**Hybrid Meeting In-Person at Town of Weaverville Community Center, 60 Lakeshore Drive,
Weaverville NC 28787 and Remotely via Zoom**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order (11:00am)

2. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items are considered routine and noncontroversial in nature, and are considered and approved by a single motion and vote. If any member of the Executive Committee requests an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration and action that item will be placed under the Business, Updates and Discussion section of the agenda.

- A. April 27, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
- B. Budget Amendment #8

3. New Business

- A. Proposed Staff Salary Adjustments
- B. FY22-23 Budget update

4. Other Items

- A. Executive Director Report

6. Adjournment

**Land of Sky Regional Council
Executive Committee
Regular Meeting
April 27, 2022**

Minutes

Land of Sky Regional Council's Executive Committee held a meeting at the Hendersonville Police Department that included access through the Zoom platform on Wednesday, April 27, 2022. Executive Committee members participating in the meeting included Chair Barbara Volk, Matt Wechtel, Norris Gentry, Maureen Copelof, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Larry Harris, Preston Blakely, and Bob Tomasulo constituting a quorum.

Land of Sky staff participating in the meeting included Nathan Ramsey, Danna Stansbury, Charlotte Sullivan, Vicki Jennings, Tristan Winkler, and Zia Rifkin (Minutes). Land of Sky's Legal Counsel, Susan Russo-Klein was present, too.

Call to Order –Chair Volk called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 am.

Approval of Consent Agenda – The consent agenda composed of items A. March 2022, Executive Committee Minutes; and B. Budget Amendment #7, was presented for approval with no modification requested.

Preston Blakely moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Larry Harris seconded, and the motion carried unanimously upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.

New Business

Finance Staff Salary Adjustments

Nathan Ramsey shared that the LOS Finance Department has two-full time staff devoted 100% to finance. The proposed salary adjustment for the Payroll & Finance Specialist and Administrative & Finance Clerk are consistent with the Land of Sky Regional Council Pay and Classification Study. This proposal is in response to automation of the finance system, which includes staff taking on additional responsibilities and to remain competitive with similarly situated positions in the region.

Charlotte Sullivan shared that additional modules are being added to the finance system software and that a week-long training is planned for the first week in May to introduce the Finance Team to the new software, which will lead to many upgrades in the Finance Department.

Bob Tomasulo moved to approve the Finance Staff salary adjustment as presented and to make that effective May 7, 2022. Preston Blakely seconded, and the motion carried upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Nathan Ramsey reviewed proposed amendments to the LOSRC bylaws with the Executive Committee. The proposed bylaw amendments would establish a rotation schedule for the Executive Committee members (Article VI. Officers; A. Designation and Terms- page 15); clarify when the Executive Committee members take office (Article VII. Executive Committee; D. Term of Membership- page 17); and deletes Senior Volunteer Advisory Council representative references (pages 13 and 17), as that body no longer exists. Nathan Ramsey shared that a bylaws amendment requires a two-thirds vote of the Board of Delegates, should the decision be made to pursue the proposed changes. Nathan Ramsey noted that the way the bylaws are currently set up, there is not an established rotation for Executive Committee members and Officers. The Nominating Committee that was established for this year's Annual Meeting to develop the slate of Officers and Executive Committee members has recommended that more structure be added to the bylaws regarding this concern. He shared that currently, the bylaws provide for no term limits, and it is proposed that two-year term limits be instituted, along with a rotation schedule to move officers through the established roles of Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chair and Chair. Other positions on the Executive Committee could continue serving in their roles, if they were willing and the Executive Committee decided that it was in the best interest of the Board for those delegates to continue serving.

Discussion occurred regarding the proposed changes to the LOSRC bylaws. Executive Committee members shared that a rotation schedule might be difficult to implement and could present more difficulties than benefits. It was also noted that as most of the members are elected officials, there are differing schedules for local elections and members may not be serving any longer for the

purpose of the rotation. Nathan Ramsey suggested establishing the two-year term limit and not adding a rotation schedule. He noted that in practice, there have not been nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting. He noted that other changes to the bylaws included when the Executive Committee and Officers take office, which has traditionally been July 1, but that doesn't match the bylaws, which state that Executive Committee members and Officers take office at the meeting following the Annual meeting. He noted that there is some advantage to having the Executive Committee members and Officers assume their roles in alignment with the start of each fiscal year. The final proposed change to the bylaws is to delete reference to the Senior Volunteer Advisory Committee representative, which no longer exists due to the demise of that advisory board.

Patrick Fitzsimmons moved to place the bylaws amendment on the Board of Delegates' May agenda, to adopt the proposed term limit for Officers, and deletion of the slot for the Senior Volunteer Advisory Committee representative. Norris Gentry seconded, and the motion carried upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.

Current Local Dues and Population of Member Governments

Nathan Ramsey shared that local dues at LOSRC have not increased materially in about two decades and without great change in the past 30 years. The proposal presented at this meeting is to adjust local dues as the population changes in the respective jurisdictions. The dues would be reset with the decennial census and in five-year increments based on the latest data provided by the NC State Demographer and the NC Office of State Budget and Management (OSMB). If the Board of Delegates approves this change, local dues would not change until 2025. The purpose of a local dues change would be to address the increasing cost of grant match requirements. Currently over 77% of local dues are utilized for grant matching requirements for ARC, EDA, and Aging grants. That match number has been increasing over time. The remaining funds are utilized for those things that state and federal funding cannot support.

Nathan Ramsey noted that local dues are a critical component of Council's budget. As match numbers have increased, less local funding has been available to support other things. He noted too, that counties determine how dues are supported by their local jurisdictions. Currently, Buncombe County supports the dues for all its member jurisdictions.

Nathan Ramsey shared that tying dues to population could allow for the level of dues to increase or decrease over time.

Discussion occurred regarding bringing this topic to the Board of Delegates for a discussion and vote. It was also suggested to communicate to Buncombe County that dues have not been raised in many, many years and then to schedule the topic for a future Council meeting for a vote. The Executive Committee also discussed implementation of a schedule for local dues over a couple of years.

Patrick Fitzsimmons moved to refer the proposed schedule for local dues change to the Regional Council. Larry Harris seconded the motion, which carried upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.

FY 22-23 Budget Update

Work is underway on the FY22-23 budget. Tentatively, a 7% COLA is proposed for FY23. The top priority is to retain and recruit the most capable staff possible so the Council can effectively serve local governments and our region. The Council is facing the same personnel challenges as local governments and other employers, with less interest in job postings by job seekers, and an attempt to adjust salaries for certain positions to reflect market conditions. With significant funding from the State of North Carolina and Dogwood Health Trust as well as ample funding from programs we believe a 7% COLA is sustainable this year and in future years. Ultimately the determination of the appropriate level of staff salary increases is a Board decision.

Charlotte Sullivan shared that health insurance costs are increasing, and the LOS indirect rate has decreased for the next fiscal year. She explained the budget process, which includes the presentation of the proposed budget at Council's May meeting, publication of the legal notice to begin the public comment period and to advertise the date and location of the public hearing for the FY23 Budget Ordinance. After hearing any public comments, Council would vote on the Budget Ordinance for the upcoming fiscal year at their June meeting.

Information only. No action requested.

Other Items

Executive Director Report

Nathan Ramsey shared that his current report is included in the agenda packet, and he encouraged Executive Committee members to reach out with any questions or comments regarding the report.

Nathan Ramsey gave a shoutout to LOSRC staff as there is a lot of good work happening for the benefit of the region. He noted that additional jurisdictions have engaged the organization to provide assistance with management and compliance for their ARPA funds.

Susan Russ-Klein provided an update on the voting requirements for remote meetings, which require a roll call for each motion under consideration. Motions that pass unanimously do not require each individual's vote be recorded, but any nays must be recorded by person. In compliance with this requirement, the Executive Committee and Council have held roll call votes on orders of business since April 2020.

Nathan Ramsey shared appreciation to the Town of Weaverville for their willingness to host the May meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Volk adjourned the meeting, as there was no further business.

Respectfully submitted by Zia Rifkin

DRAFT



BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION #8

BE IT ORDAINED by the governing board of the Land of Sky Regional Council that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SECTION I. To amend the appropriations as follows:

Area Agency on Aging	\$	-
Workforce Development		-
Economic & Community Development		24,100.00
General Operations		-
Total Appropriations	\$	24,100.00

SECTION II. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Area Agency on Aging -Federal	\$	-
Area Agency on Aging- State		-
Area Agency on Aging – Local		-
Area Agency on Aging – Local Dues		-
Area Agency on Aging – Private		-
Area Agency on Aging – In Kind		-
Area Agency On Aging – Fees		-
Appropriated Fund Balance		-
Total Area Agency on Aging	\$	-

Workforce Development - Federal	\$	10,000.00
Workforce Development - State		5,000.00
Workforce Development - Local		9,100.00
Workforce Development - Local Dues		
Workforce Development - Private		
Workforce Development - In Kind		-
Workforce Development - Fees		
Total Workforce Development	\$	24,100.00
Economic & Community Development - Federal	\$	-
Economic & Community Development - State		-
Economic & Community Development - Local		-
Economic & Community Development - Local Dues		-
Economic & Community Development - Private		-
Economic & Community Development - In Kind		-
Economic & Community Development - Fees		
Appropriated Fund Balance		
Total Economic & Community Development	\$	-
General Operations -Local Dues		
General Operations - Appropriated Fund Balance		-
General Operations - Fees		
General Operations - Other		
Total General Operations		
Total General Operations		-
Total Estimated Revenues	\$	24,100.00

SECTION III. The finance officer is authorized to allocate the amounts of projects, programs and functions to appropriate objects of expenditures in accordance with the requirements of the contract concerning each project, program or function. The Finance Officer is authorized to reallocate departmental appropriations among various line item objects of expenditures and revenues as necessary during the budget year. However, any changes to salary or compensation of any employee for any reason shall be approved by the Executive Director and the Executive Committee before such changes takes effect.

SECTION IV. The Chairman and/or appropriate officers are authorized to execute all contracts or grants necessary to implement this budget, including federal and state grants, contracts for assistance to local governments and agencies, and subcontracts to local entities necessary to implement Council programs and activities.

SECTION V. Copies of this resolution shall be furnished to the finance/budget officer as directions in carrying out her official duties.

Adopted this 25th day of May, 2022.

Mayor Barbara Volk, Chair

Nathan Ramsey, Attest

Budget Amendment #8 - "ECD"

Grant #	Grant Description	Amount	Comments	Federal	State	Local	Dues	Private	In-Kind	Fees	Appropriated FB
350	WRP - NCDEQ - Solid Waste Management	5,000.00	Additional Funding		5,000.00						
458	Madison Co. Housing Coalition	8,500.00	Adjust to Actual			8,500.00					
41F	ARC Housing Assets	10,000.00	New Grant- Partial this FY	10,000.00							
41L	Town of Clyde - Zoning T/A	600.00	Adjust to Actual			600.00					
		24,100.00		10,000.00	5,000.00	9,100.00					

Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures



Fiscal Year → **FY22**
 Amendment → **Eight**

Amendment Date → **5/25/22**

Revenue and Expenditures

Program Area	Proposed Budget as of Current Amendment -- 'Eight'	Budget as of Previous Amendment -- 'Seven'	Increase or (Decrease) between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current Amendment Proposed Budget and FY Begin
AAA - Area Agency on Aging	\$8,806,215	\$8,806,215	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
ECD - Economic and Community Development	\$8,677,331	\$8,653,231	\$24,100	0.3%	0.6%
MAWD - Workforce Development	\$4,645,926	\$4,645,926	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
MNG - General Operations	\$251,880	\$251,880	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Land of Sky Regional Council	\$22,381,352	\$22,357,252	\$24,100	0.1%	0.2%

Revenue by Source

Funding Source	Proposed Budget as of Current Amendment -- 'Eight'	Budget as of Previous Amendment -- 'Seven'	Increase or (Decrease) between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current Amendment Proposed Budget and FY Begin
Federal	\$13,984,659	\$13,974,659	\$10,000	0.1%	0.2%
State	\$2,430,650	\$2,425,650	\$5,000	0.2%	0.3%
Local	\$2,046,689	\$2,037,589	\$9,100	0.4%	0.5%
Dues	\$805,632	\$805,632	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Private	\$1,993,953	\$1,993,953	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	\$130,877	\$130,877	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
In-Kind	\$339,306	\$339,306	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Fees	\$334,893	\$334,893	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$314,693	\$314,693	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Land of Sky Regional Council	\$22,381,352	\$22,357,252	\$24,100	0.1%	0.2%

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY22 Fiscal Year

Amendment Number
Amendment Date

Eight
5/25/22

FY22 Budget at Amendment Seven; Total for ECD	Amendment Eight; Total for LCD	FY22 Budget at Amendment Eight; Total for ECD
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ECD Economic and Community Development

\$8,653,231	\$24,100	\$8,677,331
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Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY22 Budget at Amendment Seven	Amendment Eight	FY22 Budget at Amendment Eight
ECD	350	WRP - NCDEQ - Solid Waste Management	\$75,000	\$80,630	\$5,000	\$85,630
ECD	458	Madison Co. Housing Coalition	\$0	\$11,500	\$8,500	\$20,000
ECD	41L	Town of Clyde -Zoning T/A	\$0	\$6,000	\$600	\$6,600
ECD	41F	ARC Housing Assets	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

- Item:** 3A – Staff Salary Adjustments
- Nature of Item:** Action
- Attachment(s):** Staff Salary Adjustments
- Background:** Proposed staff salary adjustments are intended to maintain pay rates competitive with the market. Leadership team has determined our team can be more effective with pay adjustments than retaining a firm for a pay study. Land of Sky Regional Council is struggling to attract and retain staff. We have lost several staff members who have received substantial pay increases with their new positions.
- Responsible Staff:** Nathan Ramsey, Executive Director
- Suggested Motion:** Motion to approve the staff salary adjustments as presented effective July 1, 2022. The staff listed will receive the staff COLA based on their new salary.



Land of Sky Regional Council Salary Adjustments

Name	Department	Current Position	Pay Grade	Current Salary	Proposed Position	Proposed Pay Grade	Proposed	Salary Increase
Charlotte Sullivan	Finance	Finance Director	34	101,088.26	Finance Director	34	106,088.26	\$5,000
Danna Stansbury	Administration	Deputy Director	36	98,011.42	Deputy Director	36	103,011.42	\$5,000
Erica Anderson	Economic & Community Development	Economic & Community Development Director	34	90,625.60	Economic & Community Development Director	34	95,625.60	\$5,000
LeeAnne Tucker	Area Agency on Aging	Area Agency on Aging Director	34	88,898.16	Area Agency on Aging Director	34	95,625.60	\$6,727.44
Barbara Darby	Workforce	Assistant Workforce Director	27	64,207.26	Assistant Workforce Director	27	69,207.26	\$5,000
Zia Rifkin	Workforce	Workforce and Accounting Specialist	24	56,649.84	Workforce and Accounting Specialist	24	61,649.84	\$5,000
Melissa Wright	Workforce	Workforce Operations Specialist	24	56,649.84	Workforce Operations Specialist	24	61,649.84	\$5,000
Tristan Winkler	Economic & Community Development	French Broad River MPO Director	33	\$87,211.02	French Broad River MPO	33	\$92,211.02	\$5,000
Jon Beck	Economic & Community Development	GIS Manager	26	\$66,476.80	GIS Manager	26	\$71,476.80	\$5,000

Executive Committee Meeting
May 25, 2022

Vicki Eastland	Economic & Community Development	Land of Sky RPO Director	28	\$61,799.92	Land of Sky RPO Director	28	\$66,799.92	\$5,000
Kayla DiCristina	Economic & Community Development	Planner I	24	\$49,899.98	Planner I	24	\$51,899.98	\$2,000
Scott Adams	Economic & Community Development	Planner I	24	\$47,899.89	Planner I	24	\$52,639.54	\$5,000
Paul Moon	Economic & Community Development	Planner I	24	\$47,639.54	Planner I	24	\$52,639.54	\$5,000
Dr. John Ridout	Economic & Community Development	Transportation Planner I	24	\$47,508.76	Transportation Planner I	24	\$52,508.76	\$5,000
Hannah Bagli	Economic & Community Development	TDM Coordinator I	24	\$45,567.34	Planner I	24	\$50,567.34	\$5,000
Stuart Bass	Economic & Community Development	Planner I	24	\$47,639.54	Planner I	24	\$52,639.54	\$5,000
Stacy Friesland	Aging	Foster Grandparent Program Manager	23	\$57,424.38	Foster Grandparent Program Manager	23	\$59,000	\$1,575.62
Nancy Hogan	Aging	Project CARE Manager	24	\$51,945.50	Project CARE Manager	24	\$56,000	\$4,054.50
Cori Search	Aging	Long-Term Care Ombudsman II/Program Manager	24	\$50,590.54	Ombudsman Program Manager	24	\$55,000	\$4,409.46
Donna Thomason	Aging	Long-Term Care Ombudsman I	23	\$44,509.40	Ombudsman	23	\$50,000	\$5,490.60
Donna Case	Aging	Long-Term Care Ombudsman I	23	\$44,482.10	Ombudsman	23	\$49,402	\$4,919.90

VII. Proposed Pay Plan

		<u>07.01.2021</u>	<u>07.01.2021</u>	<u>07.01.2021</u>	
		<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Midpoint</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>FLSA</u>
10	Not assigned	23,590	29,487	35,384	N
11	Not assigned	24,769	30,961	37,153	N
12	Not assigned	26,007	32,509	39,011	N
13	Not assigned	27,308	34,136	40,963	N
14	Transit Program Assistant	28,673	35,842	43,010	N
15	Not assigned	30,107	37,634	45,161	N
16	Senior Transit Program Assistant	31,612	39,516	47,418	N
17	Not Assigned	33,193	41,491	49,789	N
18	Mobility Specialist	34,853	43,566	52,278	N
19	Administrative Support Specialist	36,595	45,745	54,894	N
20	NEMT Specialist	38,425	48,032	57,639	N
20	Payroll Specialist	38,425	48,032	57,639	N
21	MIS Specialist	40,346	50,433	60,519	N
21	Transportation Accounting Specialist	40,346	50,433	60,519	N
22	Not Assigned	42,363	52,955	63,546	N
23	Aging Specialist/Contracts	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
23	Business Services Coordinator	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
23	Foster Grandparent Program Manager	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
23	Long-Term Care Ombudsman I	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
23	NEMT Lead Specialist	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
23	Senior Community Svcs Employ Prog Mgr 41,€	44,482	55,603	66,724	N
24	Aging Specialist/HPDP	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
24	Family Caregiver Specialist	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
24	Long-Term Care Ombudsman II	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
24	Planner I	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
24	Project C.A.R.E. Manager	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
24	Senior Companion Program Manager	46,707	58,384	70,060	N
25	Accounting Manager	49,042	61,303	73,564	N
25	Long-Term Care Ombudsman III	49,042	61,303	73,564	N
26	GIS Manager	51,494	64,369	77,242	N
26	Planner II	51,494	64,369	77,242	N
27	Communications and Admin Svcs Coord	54,069	67,587	81,104	N
28	Planner III	56,773	70,966	85,160	N
29	Not assigned	59,612	74,515	89,418	N
30	Not assigned	62,592	78,240	93,889	N
31	MPO Director	65,722	82,153	98,584	E
32	Mountain Mobility Manager	69,008	86,261	103,513	E
32	NEMT Manager	69,008	86,261	103,513	E
33	Not assigned	72,459	90,573	108,687	E
34	Aging and Volunteer Services Director	76,081	95,102	114,122	E
34	Economic and Community Dev. Director	76,081	95,102	114,122	E
34	Finance Director	76,081	95,102	114,122	E
34	Workforce Development Director	76,081	95,102	114,122	E
35	Not assigned	79,886	99,858	119,829	E
36	Deputy Director	83,880	104,851	125,820	E
37	Not assigned	88,075	110,094	132,112	E
38	Not assigned	92,479	115,599	138,718	E
39	Not assigned	97,103	121,379	145,655	E
40	Not assigned	101,958	127,448	152,937	E



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Item:	3B – FY22-23 Budget Presentation
Nature of Item:	Information
Attachment(s):	FY22-23 Draft Budget
Background:	Budget will be presented at the Board of Delegates meeting and the budget public hearing is scheduled for the June 22 board meeting. The budget includes a 7% COLA for staff.
Responsible Staff:	Charlotte Sullivan, Finance Director
Suggested Motion:	N/A



Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget Highlights

- **Proposed Budget totals \$17,230,951.**
- **First Budget Amendments will have actual amount of grants and carry-over.**
- **Proposed Budget includes a 7% pay increase for all Full-time employees. The retirement rate is increasing to 12.15% from 11.41%. The negotiated indirect rate is decreasing from 44.22% to 38.53%.**
- **No proposed increase in local government dues.**
- **Continue to use local dues to support matches for ARC, EDA, and Aging programs.**
- **Proposed budget is balanced and prepared in accordance with Nc Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.**

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PROPOSED BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

BE IT ORDAINED by the Land of Sky Regional Council (LOSRC):

SECTION I. The following amounts are appropriated in the General Fund for the operations of LOSRC and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.

General Fund:	
Area Agency on Aging	\$ 7,905,488
Workforce Development	2,591,980
Economic & Community Development	6,551,445
General Operations	<u>182,038</u>
Total Appropriations	\$ 17,230,951

SECTION II. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.

Federal	\$ 10,938,678
State	2,405,398
Local Dues	342,834
Local Government Contracts & Match	1,803,966
Private Grants, Contracts/Sponsors, Other	1,178,307
Fees	215,360
In-Kind	325,226
Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>21,182</u>
Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 17,230,951

SECTION III. The Finance Officer is authorized to allocate the amounts of projects, programs, and functions to appropriate objects of expenditures in accordance with the requirements of the contract concerning each project, program, or function. The Finance Officer is authorized to reallocate departmental appropriations among various line-item objects of expenditures and revenues as necessary during the budget year. However, any actual changes to salary or compensation of any employee, for any reason (except for salary adjustments made in this document) shall be approved by the Executive Director and the Executive Committee before such change takes effect.

SECTION IV. The Chairman and/or appropriate officers are authorized to execute all contracts or grants necessary to implement this budget, including federal and state grants, contracts for assistance to local governments and agencies, and subcontracts to local entities necessary to implement Council programs and activities.

SECTION V. Copies of this resolution shall be furnished to the finance/budget officer as directions in performing her official duties.

Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures



Fiscal Year → **FY23**
Amendment → **Start**

Amendment Date → **5/25/22**

Revenue and Expenditures

Program Area	Proposed Budget as of Current Amendment -- 'Start'	Increase or (Decrease) between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current Amendment Proposed Budget and FY Begin
AAA - Area Agency on Aging	\$7,905,488	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
ECD - Economic and Community Development	\$6,551,445	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
MAWD - Workforce Development	\$2,591,980	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
MNG - General Operations	\$182,038	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Land of Sky Regional Council	\$17,230,951	\$0	0.0%	0.0%

Revenue by Source

Funding Source	Proposed Budget as of Current Amendment -- 'Start'	Increase or (Decrease) between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current and Previous Amendment	Percent Change between Current Amendment Proposed Budget and FY Begin
Federal	\$10,938,678	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
State	\$2,405,398	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Local	\$1,803,966	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Dues	\$342,834	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Private	\$1,046,469	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	\$131,838	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
In-Kind	\$325,226	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Fees	\$215,360	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$21,182	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Land of Sky Regional Council	\$17,230,951	\$0	0.0%	0.0%

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for AAA

AAA Area Agency on Aging \$7,905,488

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
AAA	502	MFP- Transition Coordination Services	\$50,000	\$50,000
AAA	507	Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers (MIPPA)	\$31,305	\$31,305
AAA	510	Aging Planning & Administration	\$273,739	\$273,739
AAA	511	Aging Planning & Administration State	\$48,262	\$48,262
AAA	513	Health Promotion	\$43,959	\$43,959
AAA	520	Home & Community Care Block Grant (P/T)	\$3,293,888	\$3,293,888
AAA	521	Senior Center General Purpose Funding	\$66,529	\$66,529
AAA	522	Project Fan/Heat Relief	\$5,429	\$5,429
AAA	530	Family Caregiver Support	\$311,045	\$311,045
AAA	531	Family Caregiver Event	\$200	\$200
AAA	533	Project Care (Contributions)	\$7,363	\$7,363
AAA	534	Project Care (Administration)	\$125,360	\$125,360
AAA	541	Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Pilot	\$34,017	\$34,017

Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for AAA

AAA Area Agency on Aging

\$7,905,488

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
AAA	550	Ombudsman	\$363,897	\$363,897
AAA	551	Elder Abuse Prevention	\$7,273	\$7,273
AAA	586	Foster Grandparent Program	\$438,483	\$438,483
AAA	595	Senior Companion Program	\$441,932	\$441,932
AAA	51A	ARPA Planning & Administration	\$266,076	\$266,076
AAA	52A	ARPA Home & Community Block Grant	\$1,499,818	\$1,499,818
AAA	52V	Vaccine Outreach	\$50,000	\$50,000
AAA	53A	ARPA Family Caregiver Program	\$272,833	\$272,833
AAA	54A	ARPA Health Promotion	\$84,119	\$84,119
AAA	55A	ARPA Ombudsman	\$16,167	\$16,167
AAA	56i	MFP Community Inclusion Program	\$113,110	\$113,110
AAA	59A	SCP- PHF/Bridge Rural & Urban	\$60,684	\$60,684

Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for ECD

ECD Economic and Community Development

\$6,551,445

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
ECD	346	WRP - NCDEQ-State Energy Program	\$50,000	\$50,000
ECD	350	WRP - NCDEQ - Solid Waste Management	\$45,000	\$45,000
ECD	357	WRP-ECU Energy Assessments	\$5,000	\$5,000
ECD	380	NCDEQ-PS-10/1/22-9/30/23	\$23,000	\$23,000
ECD	382	WRP -USDA REAP REDA, 4-1-2022	\$73,500	\$73,500
ECD	419	DIT MOA ARC Power	\$50,000	\$50,000
ECD	420	Bunc Co Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation (NEMT)	\$999,408	\$999,408
ECD	428	DHT-WNC Broadband Mapping	\$60,000	\$60,000
ECD	431	EDA Planning Grant - 1/1/21 - 12/31/23	\$113,298	\$113,298
ECD	449	Mars Hill Water/Sewer T/A	\$29,000	\$29,000
ECD	458	Madison Co. Housing Coalition	\$12,000	\$12,000
ECD	463	Stormwater Services	\$12,000	\$12,000
ECD	464	WNC 205j Stormwater Partnership	\$30,000	\$30,000

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for ECD

ECD Economic and Community Development

\$6,551,445

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
ECD	465	Black Mountain Technical Assistance - GIS/GPS	\$5,000	\$5,000
ECD	467	319 Black Mtn	\$124,695	\$124,695
ECD	468	ARC Arts/ DHT	\$80,000	\$80,000
ECD	471	Town of Fletcher - GIS	\$4,000	\$4,000
ECD	497	Montreat Planning & Zoning	\$58,658	\$58,658
ECD	666	Black Mtn EDA Water & Sewer	\$11,069	\$11,069
ECD	695	DHT-IEI Digital Inclusion Project	\$175,000	\$175,000
ECD	800	Clean Air Campaign	\$14,000	\$14,000
ECD	812	CMAC	\$50,000	\$50,000
ECD	827	DOE-NETL Clean Cities 4/1/21	\$157,500	\$157,500
ECD	830	Mobile Education Center	\$15,000	\$15,000
ECD	900	Rural Planning Organization (RPO)	\$132,969	\$132,969
ECD	930	Bunc Co Mountain Mobility Administration	\$297,246	\$297,246

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for ECD

ECD Economic and Community Development

\$6,551,445

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
ECD	933	Bunc Co Transportation RIDE	\$175,000	\$175,000
ECD	938	Bunc Co Mountain Mobility Administration - RIDE	\$20,187	\$20,187
ECD	952	French Broad Metro. Planing Org. -- Special Studies	\$570,006	\$570,006
ECD	953	French Broad Metro. Planing Org. -- Special Studies	\$612,500	\$612,500
ECD	954	Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Coord	\$106,266	\$106,266
ECD	41A	Regional Resiliency Analysis-DHT	\$20,000	\$20,000
ECD	41C	DHT COG Capacity Building	\$307,998	\$307,998
ECD	41D	Buncombe Co. Covid 19 Connecting Communities	\$50,000	\$50,000
ECD	41E	NCARCOG T/A	\$593,750	\$593,750
ECD	41F	ARC Housing Assets	\$190,000	\$190,000
ECD	41G	NCARCOG Disaster & Recovery	\$356,250	\$356,250
ECD	41U	UNC - Building Capacity For Home & Community	\$149,122	\$149,122
ECD	46A	ARP- Black Mtn.	\$40,000	\$40,000

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for ECD

ECD Economic and Community Development

\$6,551,445

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
ECD	47A	ARC-TA Comm Dev. 10/1/21-9/30/22	\$6,875	\$6,875
ECD	47B	ARC T/A Com Dev. Ends 9/30/23	\$20,625	\$20,625
ECD	49A	ARC-LDD end 12/31/22	\$55,174	\$55,174
ECD	49B	ARC LDD ends 12/31/23	\$110,349	\$110,349
ECD	4A2	Mars Hill (ARP)	\$15,000	\$15,000
ECD	70A	Healthy Opportunities - Operations	\$525,000	\$525,000

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for MAWD

MAWD Workforce Development

\$2,591,980

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
MAWD	210	Administration	\$190,000	\$190,000
MAWD	211	Special Activities	\$3,979	\$3,979
MAWD	212	Education & Workforce Collaboration -Belk Foundation	\$105,000	\$105,000
MAWD	220	WIOA - Adult	\$530,000	\$530,000
MAWD	230	WIOA - Dislocated Worker	\$375,000	\$375,000
MAWD	240	Youth - Out of School	\$350,000	\$350,000
MAWD	241	Youth - In School	\$110,262	\$110,262
MAWD	242	FLG LineMountain Area -AB Tech	\$10,000	\$10,000
MAWD	243	FLG Finish Line- Blue Ridge CC	\$20,000	\$20,000
MAWD	276	NDWG	\$70,000	\$70,000
MAWD	278	NDWG Temp Emphy	\$52,739	\$52,739
MAWD	620	Inspire- ARC/DHT/MAHEC	\$385,000	\$385,000
MAWD	62E	ARC Power WNC Early Childhood Educator Workforce	\$390,000	\$390,000

**Land of Sky Region Council
Revenue and Expenditures**



FY23 Fiscal Year

FY23 Budget
at Start;
Total for MNG

MNG General Operations

\$182,038

Unit	Grant Number	Grant Name	FY Start	FY23 Budget at Start
MNG	403	Leicester Crossing Facility - Debt Service	\$131,838	\$131,838
MNG	410	Local	\$50,200	\$50,200



Member Government Assessments -- FY 22/23

Member Government	FY 22/23				FY 21/22				
	Total Dues	Regular Assessment		RPO Match	Total Dues	Regular Assessment	RPO Match		
		Amount	Percent						
Buncombe County	\$122,804	\$118,482	60.7%	\$4,322	\$122,804	\$118,482	\$4,322		
Henderson County	\$34,487	\$34,487	17.7%						
Flat Rock	\$1,558	\$1,558	0.8%						
Fletcher	\$3,595	\$3,595	1.8%						
Hendersonville	\$6,572	\$6,572	3.4%						
Laurel Park	\$1,091	\$1,091	0.6%						
Mills River	\$2,690	\$2,690	1.4%						
Madison County	\$15,114	\$10,137	5.2%		\$4,977	\$15,114		\$10,137	\$4,977
Transylvania County	\$26,690	\$12,502	6.4%		\$14,188	\$26,690		\$12,502	\$14,188
Brevard	\$3,806	\$3,806	2.0%			\$3,806		\$3,806	
Rosman	\$245	\$245	0.1%			\$245		\$245	
Haywood County	\$3,107		0.0%		\$3,107	\$3,107		\$0	\$3,107
Totals	\$221,759	\$195,165	100.0%		\$26,594	\$221,759		\$195,165	\$26,594

Projected Use of Member Government Assessments			
Grant #	Program	Dues	Purpose
410	Local Funding	\$8,521	Participation in Regular Activities not supported by grants Membership Dues Council Meetings & Other LOSRC sponsored events Annual Dinner & Annual Report Holiday Bonuses Travel & Training
		\$6,000	
	Other Sources	\$6,500	
		\$0	
	Other Sources	\$8,000	
		\$0	
		\$29,021	
49A/49B	ARC-LDD	\$121,384	
431	EDA Planning Grant	\$25,000	
510	Aging - Plan & Admin	\$19,760	
	Regular Assessment	\$195,165	
900	Rural Planning Org.	\$26,594	Match for DOT funding, allocation per capita
	Total	\$221,759	

1. Finance

- MIP (finance software) training was completed.
- We will add a finance software module for payroll and other accounting functions.
- FY 22/23 budget will be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Delegates at the May 25 board meeting. The public hearing on the budget has been noticed for the June board meeting.
- We will be proposing a 7% COLA for the FY22-23 budget. The Council's indirect rate will decline for the upcoming program year, health insurance and retirement rates will increase for FY22-23.
- We are working with Dr. Jim on budget spreadsheets for the upcoming fiscal year.

2. Economic & Community Development & Transportation Planning

a) Grants & Reporting.

- Congratulations to all our NEU's and Direct Recipients! All the ARPA reports in our region were successfully submitted by April 30. Staff are working with several jurisdictions to support ARPA projects and administration. Please connect with Erica if you would like to learn more: erica@landofsky.org ARPA information can be found here: <https://www.nc.gov/agencies/pandemic-recovery-office/american-rescue-plan-act-information-and-resources>
- Congratulations to Rosman and Mars Hill for their acceptance into the Rural Transformation Fund Grant – Community Capacity Building Program.
- LOSRC was awarded grants from Dogwood Health Trust and the Appalachian Regional Commission to create a WNC Housing Asset Inventory for the western 18 counties.
- LOSRC was awarded a grant from Cares at the UNC-CH School of Social Work in partnership with North Carolina Money Follows the Person (MFP), for the initiative titled *Building Capacity for Home and Community Based Services through Collective Impact*. The project is called *Remain at Home - Accessibility Assessment Program*, in partnership with the Institute for Preventative Care and Advocacy, Mountain Area Health Education Center, RL Mace Universal Design Institute.
- 2nd Round of DEQ grants for water/sewer infrastructure will be due in September. Please let us know if you have any projects you'd like to discuss. <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-need-funding>
- DEQ has a round of ARPA stormwater funding due in September. Please connect with us if you'd like to discuss project ideas.

b) Planning Services.

- Staff have been working with Sister Councils of Government on ARPA, Resilience and Multi-regional projects. Partnerships include sharing ARP policies, ordinances, and guidance; grant development; developing scopes of work and project delivery for ARPA State funds; budgeting and project development for housing, transportation and broadband tech assistance.
- We have begun the roundtable discussions with Bridgeway Capital for our regional Creative Manufacturing plan. First sessions included meetings with over 20 creative manufacturing businesses in WNC and regional roundtable sessions in three communities. WNC Arts and Riverbird Consulting have created creative economic impact sheets for each of the communities.
- The WNC Innovation Park was selected as a Duke Sanford School of Public Policy's Spring Consulting Project. The staff and students presented their final project report last week and the

final paper will be forthcoming. There will be several recommendations we can discuss to work toward a stronger high-tech workforce. Staff continues to seek funding for a feasibility study/strategy to develop the WNC Innovation Park with the coalition of 5 COGS, Dogwood Health Trust, WCU, Montreat College, Community College System, and many other partners. Applications have been submitted to several entities including ARC and Dogwood Health Trust.

- We have completed the three Business and Practitioner meetings for a Regional Economic Collaboration and Analysis led by the Region's Chambers of Commerce and business sector. Ernst and Young was selected as the Consultant for this effort and is being funded by the EDA and Dogwood Health Trust.
- Staff and partners have completed the analysis and final products with Outdoor/Recreation Sector manufacturers to determine opportunities in supply chains, workforce and economic diversity in cooperation with High Country Council, Southwestern Commission and Riverbird Research. The project will be discussed at Policy on Tap, hosted by the Asheville Buncombe Chamber of Commerce on May 19 at New Belgium Brewery. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/291e98f0291643c49a6462395ec3e6e5>
- Staff continues working with several local governments and partners on applications for economic development, community development, transportation, and infrastructure implementation with BRIC/FEMA, EDA, and foundations. These projects will support transportation connections, resilience, job growth, industry expansion, and place-based development.
- The NCGS 160D requires all Comprehensive Plans be updated to meet the new guidelines by July 1, 2022. (i.e. Municipalities and Counties must have a "reasonably-maintained" [updated within last 5-10 years] Comprehensive Plan in effect in order to legally continue having local zoning/development regulations. At minimum, a reasonably updated Land Use Plan must be in place by July 1, 2022 as a rational nexus to zoning/development regulations. (see Town of Canton's phased-approach, Phase 1: Land Use Plan by July 1, 2022; Phase 2: Other Comprehensive Plan elements to be included after July 1, 2022) Please contact erica@landofsky.org if you have questions or would like assistance updating your plans.
- Staff is working with the EPA's Office of Research & Development to explore future growth scenarios for the region through 2045 based on land use, transportation, population and employment using UrbanSim. Contact Mary for more information: mary@landofsky.org
- LOS has been awarded a 205j grant to support continued development of the WNC Stormwater Program. LOSRC has launched the Regional Stormwater Services Program to support small MS4s and interested communities with stormwater management and MS4 stormwater compliance. LOSRC is hosting rain barrel workshops in several communities and developing regional educational campaigns related to stormwater management. Contact Mary for more information: mary@landofsky.org.
- LOS partnered with NC DIT and the Division of Rural Health to distribute hotspots with 12 months service, for telehealth programs in WNC. To date 130 hotspots have been distributed to programs in three counties.
- LOS is partnering with the Institute of Emerging Issues and Dogwood Health Trust to assist develop and implement Digital Inclusion Plans in WNC.
- Clean Cities Program is assisting local governments prepare for VW Settlement projects. During the first round of settlement funding released in 2020, the Land of Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition helped the region bring in more than \$4.1 million in grant funding to support purchases of new clean vehicles and EV infrastructure. Please contact Sara Nichols with questions on how to apply for more than \$68 million in state funding available for clean fleets: sara@landofsky.org
- Staff are working with several communities for planning and zoning assistance including Hot Springs, Mars Hill, Montreat, Woodfin, Flat Rock, Maggie Valley, and Andrews. We are

partnering with Region A staff to assist with communities in their region, and recently signed a contract with the Town of Clyde.

- We continue to partner with the Chambers of Commerce, Small Business Support Agencies, nonprofits, and economic developers to assist small businesses through COVID-19 impacts.
- Staff continues to serve as a Steering Committee member for the statewide RISE project for NC Department of Public Safety, NC Office of Recovery and Resilience.
- The TDM Coordinator is working with Workforce, Inspire, and employers to develop a vanpool for under-resourced individuals to access job sites.
- LOSRC's Waste Reduction Partners program is providing free water-use management assessments for large customers of the City of Asheville's Water Resources Department. These on-site assessments help identify utility costs savings for the City.
- LOS received CMAQ funding to continue support of air quality outreach initiatives in WNC.
- Clean Vehicles has been participating in outreach events across the region including City of Asheville Parks and Recreation Truck City, Evergreen Charter School Better World Day, Careers on Wheels, Cherokee Electric Bus Ribbon Cutting.
- Cherokee Clean Vehicles participated in the first electric school bus in North Carolina ribbon cutting, including a visit from Governor Cooper and Administrator Reagan.
- Staff hosted the annual broadband leadership summit with national level speakers and nearly 200 registrants on April 20, 2022.

c) Transportation Services

- MPO & RPO staff continue to work with local partners and NCDOT on project design and development.
- Staff is assisting in TAB, STIP and CTP development and Board meetings.
- RPO staff serving as NCARPO Association President, the NCARPO is the statewide organization representing Rural Transportation Planning Organizations in NC.
- RPO staff is also serving on the new NCDOT EV/Clean Energy Committee.
- RPO, MPO and ECD staff are assisting several communities write grants for transportation projects, including RAISE, FLAP, and the IJJA Discretionary Funds.
- MPO and RPO staff are serving on the state's Prioritization Workgroup with other representatives from MPOs, RPOs, and NCDOT.
- The MPO is providing funding to several special studies in the region getting ready to being in FY 2023: Fonta Flora Trail Feasibility Study, Reed Creek Greenway Extension Feasibility Study (City of Asheville), Patton Avenue Corridor Study, and the Buncombe County Multimodal Master Plan.
- The MPO is managing the Haywood County Greenway Master Plan with public meetings planned for June 6th-June 8th
- The MPO has completed corridor studies on Hendersonville Road and Tunnel Road, in cooperation with the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, and NCDOT. The Studies can be found here: <http://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/local-plans/>
- The MPO is providing funding for on-going studies at the City of Asheville, including the Close the GAP Plan, the purchase of bicycle and pedestrian counters, and the Biltmore/McDowell study.
- MPO staff is serving on a Locally Administered Projects Program committee with NCDOT to provide policy recommendations to achieve better success rates and more on-time delivery of LAPP projects.
- MPO staff attended the NC Association of MPOs Conference in Wilmington April 20th-April 22nd and gave three presentations on studies completed throughout the region
- The MPO is considering providing an additional \$23 million in funding for projects across the region, including:
 - Ecusta Trail (US 64 to the Transylvania County Line)
 - Woodfin Greenways

- Swannanoa Greenway
- Riceville Road Sidewalks
- Texas Road Pedestrian Bridge

3. Aging

Events

Join aging providers and professionals from across the region as we come together to network, reconnect, and celebrate new beginnings. This will be a drop-in event with no program, agenda, or speakers. Bring business cards and program brochures to share at our resource table. Lunch provided and catered by Red Radish.

Wednesday, June 1, from 11:00am - 3:00pm

Boone Building at the [WNC Agriculture Center](#)

[RSVP HERE](#) no later than Friday, May 27

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- The Area Agency on Aging received from the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) a second draft of the ARPA Administrative Letter. Staff awaits release of the final Administrative Letter from DAAS before distribution of funds to regional providers.

COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach

- Successful partnership with Kepro Community Health Workers and Samaritan's Feet for the May 6th event. Distributed over 100 shoes to seniors and had 150 members of the community join us for a health fair.
- Continued work to get ads out into the community about vaccinations. Current ads running are in Henderson County with a newspaper and radio station.
- Staff is participating in Older Americans Month activities and events. Working with Buncombe County Council on Aging to present at each of the senior meal sites as well as other table events.
- Staff is working with partners to get out "swag bags" to older adults in the community.
- Staff is working on getting covid testing kits to community organizations that work with older adults.
- Continued monitoring of COVID within our area.
- Staff is working with Disability Partners of Asheville to plan a June vaccine clinic with Buncombe County Health Department.

Family Caregiver Support Program

- Staff is working with area providers to reach out to Kinship Caregivers (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren) to assist them with funds for summer camps and other needs.
- Staff attended *Swing into Spring* outreach event in Hendersonville.
- Staff participated in the Children and Families Resource Center's quarterly meeting that discussed mental health issues children are experiencing.
- Staff hosted the first in-person Family Caregiver Advisory Committee Meeting since COVID started.

Foster Grandparent Program

- Two volunteer stations welcomed back the Foster Grandparent Program in the past month: the YWCA Early Learning Center, one of our largest volunteer stations, and Johnston Elementary.
- The program has approximately one third of volunteers, 23 volunteers out of 65, serving special needs and at-risk children in the region.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

- Staff welcomes the return of fully in-person evidence-based programming. The first offering is Tai Chi being provided at the Senior Opportunity Center in Asheville. Additionally, Walk with Ease is currently available to older adults in the four-county region.
- Staff continues to facilitate training opportunities for evidence-based health programs including recertifications for former participants in A Matter of Balance and Living Healthy programs.
- Staff has been working with the Spanish-speaking community to try to bring evidence-based health programs to a diverse audience and marginalized communities.
- Staff hosted Rainbow Inspirations in partnership with AARP and Blue Ridge Pride Generations Plus.
- Staff kicked off Older Americans Month in partnership with Buncombe County Council on Aging to have Council on Aging takeover at a different dining site in Buncombe County each week of May.
- Staff is working with WNC Falls Prevention and MAHEC to bring a September Falls Prevention conference to the region on September 9, 2022.
- Staff is completing Senior Center reimbursements for FY22.
- Staff and Asheville Terrace Community Health Workers are hosting an Older Americans Month Celebration at Asheville Terrace Apartments on Wednesday, May 25.
- Staff and Asheville Terrace Community Health Workers continue to partner with MANNA and OLLI volunteers to bring nutrition to residents. In April, 107 bags of groceries were distributed to residents, and 307 “Neighbor Knock” visits were conducted.

Home and Community Care Block Grant: May 2022 Report of Services Provided

- Adult Day Care/Health Days = 3,317
- Meals – delivered/congregate = 160,855
- In-home Aide hours = 9,785
- Legal Services hours = 1,437
- Transportation trips = 40,096
- Home Improvement Projects = 41

Money Follows the Person (MFP) Community Inclusion:

- Staff serves 37 Counties including 172 Skilled Nursing Facilities.
- Staff participated in the Burke County Assistive Technologies Resource Fair in Morganton.
- Staff promoted MFP at Aging Projects *Swing into Spring* Senior Resource Fair hosted in Henderson County.
- Staff assisted in the Samaritan’s Feet Resource fair in Madison County.
- Staff hosted Professional Social Workers and Marketers in Long-term Care Group for first in-person meeting promoting Land of Sky Aging services as well as Money Follows the Person.
- Staff completed the Money Follows the Person Transitions Institute Week 1.
- Staff provided 42 In-person visits to Skilled Nursing facilities providing information and training on MFP to Social Workers and care plan team members.
- Provided support to social workers needing assistance with MFP Questions and navigating application process for new applicants.
- Staff scheduled Trainings for Long Term Medicaid Social Workers in Mecklenburg, Burke, and Anson Counties.
- Scheduled to present at the Buncombe Aging Services Alliance Meeting in July.

Money Follows the Person Transition Coordinator

- Western counties served: Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania, Polk, Madison, McDowell, Rutherford, Mitchell, Madison. The current caseload for the Western Region is 12 clients. The Western Region will have to transition home during the month of May.
- Central counties served: Forsyth, Davidson, Surry, Davie, Stokes, Yadkin. The current caseload for the Central Region is 10 clients.

Ombudsman Program

- Staff scheduled a Community Advisory Committee Appreciation Day gathering in June. This event will allow the Ombudsmen to personally thank each volunteer for their dedication and service to the long-term care residents in our region.
- Staff provided “What is an Ombudsman?” presentation to Holistic Aging Advocates.
- Staff will work with LOSRC admin staff to create and print a new and updated Long Term Care Handbook.

Project C.A.R.E. (Caregiver Alternatives to Running on Empty)

- 99.9% of the State respite funds (approximately \$47,000) have been utilized by 56 caregivers in the Western Project C.A.R.E. region (15 counties).
- As mentioned in last month’s report, Project C.A.R.E. received federal funding this fiscal year to supplement State funds. Initially the amount of federal funds allocated to the Western Project C.A.R.E. Office was \$11,000. This increased to \$20,000 and more may be on the way. 75% of the \$20,000 has been allocated to 20 caregivers and the balance will be allocated soon. Funds will need to be spent by August 15.
- The Project C.A.R.E. Family Consultant is making home visits again.
- Of special note: four of the caregivers receiving assistance through Project C.A.R.E. are young caregivers who are caring for parents. They range in age from 26 to 32 years old. Project C.A.R.E. serves dementia caregivers of all ages. The oldest one currently being served is 89 years old.

The Senior Companion Program

- Staff is working diligently in organizing recruitment opportunities for new volunteers in June and July targeting Madison and Transylvania County. The program had a recent decrease in volunteers of late. Many are not able to go back to work due to their health and continued hesitation due to the pandemic. Volunteers began to serve in October with 60 volunteers. Presently, 54 volunteers are active with two recent applications.
- The Veteran’s Administration has opened for volunteers and several volunteers are now back serving there. Three volunteers are also doing telephone support for clients in a more formal way. The Senior Companion Program is ever evolving in the wake of the pandemic.
- Our AmeriCorps-Seniors grant application was submitted for 2023. American Rescue Plan Act funds will continue to support our part time Support Specialist and recruit more volunteers.
- Staff seeks local grants to support the transportation program with our clients. Many clients are elderly and frail, and unable to use public transportation or afford private transportation. Volunteers provide transportation to/from medical appointments, needed errands, and groceries. Volunteers receive mileage reimbursement for their travel.
- Staff will partner with AARP to provide a safe driving course or volunteers in May and June. This program provides support to the cost of our insurance and possibly the insurance costs of our volunteers with their own insurance companies.

Federal funder, AmeriCorps Seniors, announced that on July 1, 2022, the stipend amount will increase to \$3.15 per hour.

4. Administration

- Nathan is scheduled to make a presentation to Buncombe County Board of Commissioners on July 5 with an update about LOSRC.
- We have experienced a substantial increase in COVID-19 cases among our staff in the past few weeks.
- We are in the final phase of planning Rebounding Stronger Summit on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 in partnership with Southwestern Commission and Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. The summit will take place at the Cherokee Convention Center in Cherokee, NC.
- Current phase of office renovations are complete. The purpose of the renovations are to align our office space to support the Healthy Opportunities project. It has taken time for Buncombe County to secure the construction supplies and contractors for this project. The renovation is being funded by a \$400,000 grant from Dogwood Health Trust. The March Board of Delegates and Executive Committee meetings will be virtual since we anticipate the first few days of the construction process to be very loud from demolition activities.
- We are working with EQV Strategic to secure \$2 million in funding for the Asheville Regional Airport to support construction of a space for US Customs and Border Patrol. This space will allow the airport to become a Port of Entry when the application is approved by the US FTZ Board.
- Nathan and Danna attended the Southeast Regional Directors Institute in Annapolis, Maryland.
- Dogwood Health Trust has indicated they may not be able to fund Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) activities as this effort will benefit private businesses. None of the funding from DHT would go to private firms. The funding will help pay for expenses related to establishing the FTZ in WNC. We are in an ongoing conversation with them regarding this matter.
- FTZ Port of Greer has indicated they can serve part of our region and we are grateful for their support. Currently working to submit the FTZ application to the US FTZ Board.
- Nathan and Erica met with High Country Council of Governments, Mitchell County and Yancey County on possible partnerships with LOSRC.
- Nathan and Danna attended the Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI) Annual Professional Development Conference in Annapolis, MD.
- Nathan, Danna and Charlotte attended the WNC Local Government Managers Budget Roundtable.
- Nathan attended the NC Employment & Training Association (NCETA) Conference in Wilmington.
- Hosted monthly LOSRC DEI and staff meetings.
- Philip Cooper, INspire project manager has been named Practitioner in Residence by the Institute of Emerging Issues at NC State University. Philip will continue to lead the INspire project for LOSRC.
- Nathan participated in the Land of Sky Education & Workforce Collaborative P-20 Council meeting on June 16.
- NC Association of Regional Councils of Governments Legislative Day is scheduled for June 8 in Raleigh.

5. Workforce

- Region's unemployment rate of 2.9% for March 2022, metro is the #2 lowest unemployment rate in NC. The April data will be released on June 1.
- We are working to increase the responses to the WNC Talent Survey covering 10-counties in Western North Carolina. The survey will be open until the end of May. The goal was 750 responses, so far we have received 600+ responses.
- Mountain Area Local Area Plan PY22-23 update has been released for public comment.

- The board released a Request for Proposals for WIOA Services and a Letter of Intent for Career Center One-Stop Operator. Proposals are being reviewed and recommendations will be presented to the board at the May meeting.
- Budget will be presented to the board at the June meeting.
- ApprenticeshipNC made a presentation at the NC Employment & Training Association (NCETA) conference in Wilmington on how MAWDB is working to expand work-based learning and registered apprenticeships in the region.
- NCWorks Commission approved a framework for workforce board consolidation. The framework encourages consolidation but does not indicate how many workforce boards NC should have. A link to the memorandum is following: [NC Commerce: NCWorks Commission Draft Memorandum on Workforce Development Board System Alignment Study](#)
- Transylvania County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution opposing Workforce Board consolidation and expressing their support for the current alignment of a four-county workforce region.
- We received preliminary notice that our workforce funding for PY22-23 will be just over \$2 million. That is higher than we anticipated and we are working on several strategies to increase capacity.
- Board staff are focused on meeting the 20% work experience mandate for our NCWorks NextGen Youth programs. Although we were very close the board failed to meet the 20% mandate last year.
- We are planning a job fair on Wednesday, June 29 at the WNC Agricultural Center in Fletcher.
- We are applied for the EDA Good Jobs Challenge in partnership with Dogwood Health Trust, AB Tech and Blue Ridge Community College. The focus will be on the advanced manufacturing and healthcare sectors, the request is for \$10 million.
- We are exploring the opportunity to apply for the ARC WORC grant in partnership with the INspire team.
- The board is supporting incumbent worker training (Business Accelerator Grants) with 12 (twelve) local employers.
- We are working with NC Department of Commerce to support incumbent worker training for multiple economic development projects in the region as part of the NC Job Ready grant.

6. Mountain Mobility

- Mountain Mobility saw modest growth in trip volume in April for our demand response service, completing more than 8,600 trips during the month. Our Enka-Candler Trailblazer had another strong month with close to 1,200 passenger trips during the Monday-Friday service. The service is still battling a shortage of vehicle operators, but Buncombe County has authorized higher wages for the Operations Contractor. We hope this move results in more interest in the community for employment.
- Because the federal mask mandate for public transit expired on April 18th, Mountain Mobility has proceeded with a “mask optional” policy for both vehicle operators and passengers.
- The system saw increased ridership during the month of March. Overall, Mountain Mobility provided 500 more trips than the month of February, with significantly higher numbers in our Enka-Candler Trailblazer service. Additionally, we provided three hundred more trips to medical appointments and grocery/shopping destinations for our senior population – an indication that the community has a more positive view of mass transit.

7. NEMT

- Our contract amount with Buncombe County Government will be unchanged for FY22-23. We appreciate the support from Buncombe County Government with this contract.

- We are submitting monthly reports to Buncombe County on the number of clients and caseload. It appears we did not lose as many Medicaid clients during the transition to managed care.
- Total trips scheduled and total trips taken have increased compared to one year ago but the total active cases have declined.

8. Healthy Opportunities (HOP) Program

- The Healthy Opportunities Pilot kicked off May 1, and we have had 5 referrals to date. We are still working to build the transportation network throughout the 18-county region and have had high interest among most of the community transit systems. Our goal is to have 80% of the region covered by transportation options by July 1.
- Land of Sky Regional Council is spearheading the transportation domain of the Healthy Opportunities Pilot (HOP) Program as part of Medicaid transformation in North Carolina.
- Thanks to a grant from Dogwood Health Trust, LOSRC will soon open a new call center that will house both our Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation department and the HOP transportation specialists. Under this program, LOSRC will assist with transportation in the 18 western-most counties in the state, building a network of both private and public transportation providers in each county. The transportation domain will begin services May 1st.
- As part of this process, we have hired Dalton Buckner as our Transportation Finance Specialist. Dalton is responsible for contracting with the transit providers in the LOSRC network and processing payments. We're excited about the launch of the HOP and to have Dalton on board for this program.