



Chatham County, NC

Legislation Text

File #: 24-5215, **Version:** 2

Vote to approve the application for Aging Services for the North Carolina Department of Transportation 5310 Grant - Capital Purchase of Service with a match of ten percent.

Introduction & Background:

Prior to the Chatham County Council on Aging becoming Chatham County Aging Services, the 5310 Capital Purchase of Service grant was essential to COA operations. It provides funding for transportation to our centers in Pittsboro and Siler City, medical transportation, and group trips.

As a nonprofit, the COA employed a medical transportation specialist that served as an intermediary between the Council and the Chatham Transit Network to schedule appointments. Prior to COVID-19, the Council entered into an annual contract with Chatham Transit that specified rates.

While we no longer coordinate medical transportation as Chatham County Aging Services, we wish to assist Chatham Transit by applying for the 5310 grants as a government entity, then serving as a pass through for the funds to Chatham Transit. Overall, the application process is more streamlined for a government entity as opposed to a nonprofit. This pass-through process is practiced with this grant in other counties throughout the state.

Discussion & Analysis:

Aging Services is seeking approval to apply for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's 5310 Capital Purchase of Service Grant, which requires a 10% local match and Board of Commissioners approval to apply.

Aging Services will request a total of \$310,000 for the grant, to begin in the 2026 fiscal year. This is consistent with what we requested as the COA. Eighty percent of this total will originate from federal sources, with 10 percent from NCDOT. The final 10 percent requires a local match, equaling \$31,000. Previously, as a nonprofit, the Council had access to United Way funding to help fund some of this local match. However, with our transition from the COA to Aging Services, this is no longer an option.

Due to the uncertainty of this funding, Chatham County has, in the past, worked with the Council to commit a recurring allocation for transportation. This amount was \$177,140 as of August 2021.

How does this relate to the Comprehensive Plan: This grant will provide equitable access to community options for all, while also fostering a healthy community.

Budgetary Impact: The budgetary impact would be \$31,000 to fund the required 10% local match for FY2026.

Recommendation/Motion: Motion to approve the application for Aging Services for the North Carolina Department of Transportation 5310 Grant - Capital Purchase of Service with a match of ten percent.