

**Land of Sky Regional Council
October 26, 2022
Regular Meeting**



When joining the virtual meeting, Delegates are requested to mute themselves and to un-mute for discussion or moving on orders of business.

Delegates are requested to state their names when moving on orders of business. Thank you!

AGENDA

I. Call to Order (12:30pm)

II. Invocation

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Modification/Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of the Previous Minutes (September 2022)

VI. Comments by the Chair and Delegates Roundtable

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Presentations/Recognition

- A. Sarah Grymes, Vice President of Impact for Housing, Dogwood Health Trust
- B. Will Parry-Hill, Manager of Government and Industry Relations, NC Housing Finance Agency
- C. NC-11 Congressional Candidates

IX. Executive Director's Report

X. Important Dates

- A. Next regularly scheduled Board meeting is planned for November 30, 2022. Just a reminder, this is the annual awards presentation meeting!

XI. Adjournment

The Council is accepting nominations for the Charles H. Campbell Leadership Award, the Robert G. Parrish Intergovernmental Relations Award, and the Robert E. Shepherd Excellence in Local Government Award. These awards will be presented at the November 30, 2022, Board of Delegates meeting.



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** Consent Agenda
- Item Number:** V. Consent Agenda:
A. Modification/Approval of the Board's Agenda for October 26, 2022
B. Approval of Minutes from the September 28, 2022, Regular Meeting
- Responsible Party:** Zia Rifkin, Administrative Services
- Attachment(s):** Minutes from the September 2022 Regular Meeting
- Background:** Item B. September 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes Recap:
Quorum was present to conduct business at the September 2022 meeting and the minutes provide a recap of the Delegates' updates from around the region. Presentations included an update from the Asheville Regional Airport by Lew Bleiweis; a Dogwood Health Trust Update provided by Dr. Susan Mims; and Land of Sky Regional Council's Regional Resiliency and Strategic Alignment Report provided by Economic and Community Development Director Erica Anderson.
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend approval of the Consent Agenda
- Suggested Motion(s):** Move to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

**Land of Sky Regional Council
Board of Delegates
Regular Meeting**

September 28, 2022

Minutes

- I. Call to Order – Chair Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at approximately 12:30pm.
- II. Silent Invocation – A moment of silence was observed, and an invocation provided by Mayor Harris.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance –Chair Fitzsimmons led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call – Erica Anderson called the roll. The following members were present: William Lapsley, Michael Garrison, Sandra Kilgore, Jonathan Kanipe, Larry Harris, Maureen Copelof, Barbara Jeter, Preston Blakely, John Connet, Deb Bridges, Daniel Cobb, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Elisabeth Ervin, Hunter Jones (for Burton Hodges), Brad Guth, and Bob Tomasulo

Guests Present – Freddie Harrill, Town Commissioner Hazel Thornton, Shawn Slome (resident Town of Black Mountain), Wilson Hooper, Lew Bleiweis, Christian Smith, and Dr. Susan Mims

A quorum was present to conduct business.

- V. Consent Agenda – The consent agenda, consisting of the Board’s September agenda, and the minutes of the August 24, 2022, meeting was presented for approval.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September agenda as presented and the August 2022 minutes as submitted. The motion carried upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.

- VI. Chair’s Comments and Delegates Roundtable

Chair Fitzsimmons requested that Delegates share updates and news of interest in their jurisdictions. He requested that jurisdictions respond to the LOSRC external survey designed to assist in development of the strategic plan for the organization. Over 100 responses have been received, but additional responses would be greatly appreciated. He noted too, that during the roundtable, jurisdictions would be asked to share what their jurisdictions are doing around a particular issue in their community beginning with the October meeting.

Delegates Roundtable

Commission Chair Williams Lapsley– Shared that Henderson County is in good shape, and everything is just wonderful.

Economic Development Representative Brad Guth – Shared that Madison County just had the ribbon cutting for Spark Robotics and he expressed appreciation to Sara Nichols for helping to get funding for that project.

Council Member Sandra Kilgore – Shared that the City of Asheville voted unanimously adopting a resolution to enter into an interlocal agreement with the school system regarding the repair and maintenance of Jones Park. She noted that close to half a million dollars has been raised to support this effort. The City is not responsible for the site, but moving forward, the agreement between four different partners will allow for the park to become usable again. Community members will actually provide the labor to rebuild the park and the County will provide liability insurance. This could hopefully be an example to the region of collaboration moving forward.

Town Manager Jonathan Kanipe – Shared that the Town of Biltmore Forest thanks the City of Hendersonville for hosting the listening session for the NCLM Legislative Goals Forum.

Mayor Larry Harris – Shared that the Town of Black Mountain is continuing along with the projects that have been ongoing (UDO, etc.) and during these processes, other things will come up. Getting ready for the storm to guard against damage from flooding.

Mayor Maureen Copelof – Shared that the City of Brevard has a lot going on. The City is officially opening the new community center on October 22. This center is in the heart of Rosenwald, the historically black part of the City and the community center has traditionally been the heart of the area and it will be a community and arts center. A marker is going up commemorating the 1963 Brevard High football team, which was the first integrated team in the County's history. A festival in the new community garden is also coming up. The City is continuing to work on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan including additional public input. Council approved moving forward with the first part of implementing the Downtown Master Plan. This coming year, the first section of the plan will be implemented supported with ARPA funding and includes addresses for stormwater issues, repaving, and landscaping. Partnering with Henderson County and the City of Hendersonville on the Ecusta Trail project. Mayor Copelof also shared that she was very excited to announce a new City Manager- Wilson Hooper.

Manager Wilson Hopper – Shared that he is the new Manager for the City of Brevard. He shared that he comes to Brevard from the Town of Wilkesboro and before that, the City of Charlotte. Happy to be part of the group.

Town Commissioner Barbara Jeter – Shared that the Village of Flat Rock had a public hearing on the Rescue Act plan and coming up on October 15 is the Fall Shred Day, which is always extremely popular. Mayor Preston Blakely – Shared that the Town of Fletcher recently announced that INtel would be locating its first US facility in the Town, creating up to 200 jobs with significant investments in equipment and the facility.

Town Commissioner Deb Bridges – Shared that the Town of Laurel Park is having business as usual and moving forward on some major projects including the new Town Hall and stormwater and working on the roads. The Town Commission is also discussing how the Town might have enabled some comfort facilities on the Ecusta Trail as it comes through Laurel Park.

Mayor Patrick Fitzsimmons – Shared that the Town of Weaverville is working with a for-profit company using HUD incentives to develop affordable housing. The fountain at Lake Louise Park is now repaired and working again.

Town Commissioner Elisabeth Ervin – Shared that the Town of Woodfin is excited about the Blueway/Greenway project moving forward with 90% of the plan complete and 100% of the funding achieved. A new Stormwater Director is on board and a consultant to work with the Town on the Comprehensive Plan. Working on getting all the safety ordinances up to date.

Economic Development Representative Hunter Jones – Shared that there is a lot going on in Transylvania County including a fun day with school kids and a partnership with LOSRC.

Regional Aging Advisory Council Chair Bob Tomasulo – Shared that the RAAC meeting on September 8 in Mills River was an in person meeting warmly welcomed by the Town.

VII. Public Comment -

Chair Fitzsimmons called for public comments. No public comments were made.

VIII. Presentations/Recognition –

A. Asheville Regional Airport Update -

Lew Bleiweis, Executive Director shared that the Airport is busy with many carriers and many direct flights, and he shared a current route map with the Board. The Airport saw a 43 percent increase in passengers in 2019 to 1.6 million total. Anticipating that 2022 will break passenger records at the Airport. Major milestones including 2018 a million passengers recorded, record year for passengers in 2019 (1.6 million), which was and in 2020, before the pandemic hit, slated to reach 2 million passengers. 2021 saw an 88% recovery of passengers and the passenger count is on an elevated pathway of continuing growth. Direct flights at the Airport include Asheville to Boston (Jet Blue), nonstop to Miami (American) and a nonstop to Minneapolis with Delta. Service has been added back in by the airways that serve the region. A shortage of pilots has caused regional operations of the major carriers to suffer. When looking at the Asheville market, it is mainly leisure with some business. Many visitors coming into the marketplace. Purpose of travel is 77% leisure and 23% business based on a survey of over 150 thousand travelers. The Airport has brought back many of the programs discontinued during covid and therapy dogs are back to provide tension relief. The 5k came back

last year and will run again this year with over 1000 runners planned to be on the runway. Another program that is underway is a Welcoming Committee to assist folks who have some form of disability. The hope is to organically grow the program. He provided a master plan update including what is currently underway, noting that this information is on the Airport's website (<https://flyavl.com/>) to keep the community informed including public comments. He reported the South apron expansion in preparation for the terminal construction project. Terminal project- the design is nearly complete and financing plan underway the preliminary work is also underway. He shared pictures of the design concept for the new terminal including the curbside view and the airside of the structure looking down at the perspective of what flyers would see coming into the Airport on their planes. The new terminal also includes a grand lobby, new ticketing, security, and baggage claim areas, making areas larger including a living wall that addresses social responsibility and livability. Highlights include the new artwork for the security check point area of the new terminal. A big open concession area is included in the design and will be on the second story of the structure, which also includes boarding and deplaning facilities. In conjunction with the new terminal is a new air traffic control tower on the west side of the airport that falls within the Mills River Township. Mr. Bleiweis shared about the land development plan because of proximity to I-26 and that includes lodging, industrial, and retail space on various sites. This includes a development for the first conferencing facility in Henderson County . Riverside Airpark includes approximately 100 acres that Henderson County may use for economic development projects.

Discussion occurred regarding the current expansion and financing, especially where the financing is coming from and does that include governmental funding. The Airport is quasi-governmental. Some of the funding is coming from federal and state grants and \$185 million in bonds has been issued by the Airport. Another \$90 million in bonds is planned to be released. The Airport is solely supported by user fees and no public tax dollars go into the operation of the facility. There are 10 commercial service airports in the State and the Asheville Airport has a commercial service fund currently holding \$7.5 million. Funding comes from fees and the fund is part of the State's annual budget.

Discussion occurred regarding the level of employees at the Airport (600 total staff) and a comprehensive salary study was just completed. The Airport provides wages well above the living wage for the community.

Discussion occurred regarding the runway capacity, which is sufficient to handle traffic well into the future. Parking space was also discussed and included that parking is not sufficient and currently, a contract was just let to increase the number of parking spaces by repurposing areas that can accommodate parking. A new parking structure is planned after the terminal is completed. Mr. Bleiweis noted that some car rental businesses do rent electric vehicles and the Airport does provide chargers in the hourly parking area. He shared that the weight of the cables required to support electric charging is very heavy and construction has to include that and existing areas cannot be renovated to include electric charging. He noted that Asheville is the third busiest airport in the State just behind Charlotte and Raleigh.

B. Dogwood Health Trust Update –

Dr. Susan Mims, CEO shared an update with the Board. She presented information regarding the collaborative work accomplished in partnership with LOSRC. She reviewed the origins of DHT including that it is a private foundation dedicated to managing and growing the endowment for the 18-county region including the Qualla boundary. The Foundation is governed by a volunteer board and regulated by the IRS. Investment in the community include 5% of assets each year. The Foundation is very young and is growing every year. Dr. Mims noted that it is wonderful for the DHT staff to be back out in the community. She shared about some of the programs and initiatives currently underway including the broad, strategic planning objectives. She mentioned the upcoming on October 6, which will provide an opportunity to examine strategic priorities. Regarding the social determinants of health, these are the conditions that allow people to live their best lives and health includes more than physical health. By focusing on the social determinants of health, the goal is to provide better outcomes by addressing the causes of the causes of chronic disease. Exposure to toxic stress, lack of access to healthy food, lack of adequate housing, limited

transportation, and social isolation can all lead to increased mortality. The social determinants are real, tangible things that can be addressed to increase the health of the community. Health equity means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. DHT Strategic priorities include housing, education, economic opportunity and health and wellness. Dr. Mims noted the importance of using creative thinking to work outside of silos. Dr. Mims highlighted the work being done around housing, which is a top priority for every jurisdiction in the region. The goal of DHT is to catalyze support for adequate housing, especially affordable housing. The goals are to grow housing stock and maintain what is currently available. Supportive housing and senior housing are also given a strong focus. Education opens the door to robust opportunities in work that support housing and health. This includes access to quality early care and education, excellent K12 learning experiences and post-secondary opportunities for career readiness. DHT has some active funding opportunities in early childhood education. Economic opportunity means a good job allows for greater access to housing stability, economic security, and health. This includes work readiness, economic ecosystems, and entrepreneurship. DHT is working a lot with employers. Full-person, integrated care provides a cornerstone to success in education and work. DHT is working closely with communities to revitalize those, and provide healthy, engaged communities providing integrated, whole-person care, leading to reduced health disparities and the availability of behavioral health and SUD. Dr. Mims noted the increase in overdose deaths during the pandemic and that the region's increase was less than increases in other areas; however, the effect on the region is great. She mentioned how funding can be utilized to connect and collaborate with communities including helping to develop community health workers, who are from the community and who often are those who can connect to other community members. The Healthy Opportunities Pilot is funded through the State with additional funding contributed by DHT. LOSRC has a Healthy Opportunities Pilot program in operation that focuses on the transportation aspect of the social determinants of health. The goal of the pilot program is to provide those services that could allow Medicaid recipients to have better health thereby reducing healthcare costs including the cost of emergency room visits.

Dr. Mims shared about the Leverage Fund which is a program to build capacity of Dogwood's partners, and which attracts national dollars from public and private sources by providing grant writers to assist organizations to submit grant applications. Dr. Mims reviewed the leveraged funding used by the INspire program that includes ARC and DHT funding to provide support for Recovery to Work services in the western region. This program is housed at LOSRC, which is the fiscal entity for the funding. Another task undertaken by DHT is research and data assessment. This allows DHT to determine where funding could be focused and increases the chance of leveraged grants being funded. More studies will be forthcoming for the benefit of the region. Dr. Mims invited everyone to the upcoming Annual Community Meeting (10/6/22 from 1-3pm). Virtual seats are still available for this event which plans to share the strategic work that DHT is doing in the region. She encouraged everyone to connect with DHT by joining their newsletter at www.dogwoodhealthtrust.org and to find them on social media @DogwoodWNC.

Discussion occurred regarding whether DHT has looked at recidivism and what underlies the issues of the prison population. Dr. Mims noted that currently, DHT is focusing on recovery work that includes the re-entry piece.

Discussion occurred regarding the focus of the DHT Board and whether there was concern about spreading the organization too thin, to which Dr. Mims shared that the goal is to listen, learn and do no harm. Last year, the four strategic priority areas were narrowed somewhat but it will take many more years to transition to strategic deployment of funding. The data is available and is being reviewed. The goal is to identify the bigger metrics to focus, course correct, and redirect funding. The goal is to be bold while thinking about the investments that have already been made. Dr. Mims noted that the Foundation has good funding but the goal is to access diversified funding streams to bring in additional funding for the region.

C. Land of Sky Regional Council Regional Resiliency and Strategic Alignment Report –

Erica Anderson, Director of Economic and Community Development for LOSRC shared information regarding the regional resiliency and strategic plan alignment for the four-county LOSRC region plus Haywood County. Erica reviewed the project timeline that began with the hiring of Ernst & Young (EY) to design a plan review and alignment. Aligning regional plans and studies includes a review of vision statements strategic priorities, goals, etc. Business leaders and practitioners were included in regional opportunities to understand the most urgent issues for the region's development growth. The strategic priorities include housing, workforce development, and transportation, and she noted the importance of having adequate housing stock for the community to live and work in the area. The region has above average number of wisdom workers (over 45 years old) and a higher attainment of advanced educational degrees. She noted that more automation, rather than less is going to be needed in future. The takeaway regarding automation is that the Hospitality Sector is the most at risk for automation. The region has a large Hospitality Sector. More opportunities for less automation could be found in mass communications and engineering/design. She also noted the large remote workforce in the region, which exceeds the US average for remote work. Industry clusters is where opportunity for growth lies including automotive, aerospace, bio-medical, etc. Erica noted that plans will be shared soon. She reviewed the top three strategic framework that includes housing expansion and diversification, transportation and infrastructure and workforce development.

IX. Executive Director's Report

Delegates and guests were encouraged to reach out to Nathan Ramsey with any questions or comments regarding the report, which is available in the meeting packet.

X. Important Dates –

A. The next Board of Delegates is October 26, 2022 in-person at the Land of Sky Offices and through Zoom.

XI. Adjournment –

Chair Fitzsimmons adjourned the meeting upon a motion and second of the Delegates as there was no further business.

Respectfully submitted by Zia Rifkin



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** Executive Director's Report
- Item Number:** IX. Executive Director's Report
- Responsible Party:** Nathan Ramsey, Executive Director
- Attachment(s):** Executive Director's Report for October 26, 2022
- Background:** The Executive Director's Report provides updates and relevant information regarding projects and initiatives for LOSRC Departments/Agencies.
- Staff Recommendation:** N/A.
- Suggested Motion(s):** N/A

1. Finance

- FY21-22 audit process is underway.
- Final numbers on unrestricted fund balance appropriation should be available soon. This number is key for the Council as the larger the amount, the more flexibility available to the organization.

2. Economic & Community Development & Transportation Planning

Kudos!

- Congratulations to Rosman and Mars Hill for reaching completion of the RC2 program through NC Commerce! The graduation ceremony will be held in Boone on October 26.
- Congratulations to Brevard for receiving a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant for engineering and design for Ecusta Trail in Transylvania County.
- Congratulations to Madison County for Building Reuse for Highland Metalworks.
- Congratulations to French Broad Electric Co-Operative for their GREAT grant in Madison County
- Congratulations to Zitel Broadband for their GREAT grant in Transylvania County
- Congratulations to City of Asheville for their \$4.2M Low-No grant to support clean transportation fleet technologies, and \$150K award from GoldenLEAF for the Swannanoa River Rd. Flood Mitigation and Damage Reduction Feasibility Study.
- Congratulations to VW Grant Awardees in the region:
 - Transylvania Economic Alliance L2 Charger
 - Transylvania Habitat for Humanity L2 Charger
 - Town of Waynesville L2 Charger
 - Town of Hayesville L2 Charger
 - Madison Schools- new diesel school bus
 - Henderson Schools- new diesel school bus
 - Buncombe Schools- new diesel school bus
 - Transylvania Schools- new electric school bus
- ECD Director, Erica Anderson presented on Digital Inclusion Planning at the NADO Annual Training Conference October 15-18 in Pittsburgh, PA
- New Land of Sky grant awards:
 - U.S. Department of Energy's Technology Integration Program, Phase 3 of the Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative
 - Partnership with Asheville-Buncombe County Chamber on Accelerate Buncombe

Upcoming Events

- National Adaptation Forum – Oct 24-27
- Clean Cities/Transpo - How do we get people out of cars? – Oct. 31
- Transportation Summit – January 17-19
- NC Environment Stewardship Initiative Annual Conference Oct 24-25 LOS is a partner.

Transportation

1. MPO & RPO staff continue to work with local partners and NCDOT on project design and development.
2. MPO staff provided technical assistance to the City of Hendersonville for a USDOT Reconnecting Communities grant application
3. MPO and RPO staff have been assisting NCDOT with a USDOT Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Program (NSFLTP) grant application for the Ecusta Trail
4. Staff is assisting in TAB, STIP and CTP development and Board meetings.
5. RPO staff serving as NCARPO Association President, the NCARPO is the statewide organization representing Rural Transportation Planning Organizations in NC.
6. RPO staff is also serving on the new NCDOT EV/Clean Energy Committee.
7. RPO, MPO and ECD staff are assisting several communities write grants for transportation projects, including RAISE, FLAP, and the IJA Discretionary Funds.
8. MPO and RPO staff are serving on the state's Prioritization Workgroup with other representatives from MPOs, RPOs, and NCDOT.
9. 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.
10. The MPO is managing the Haywood County Greenway Master Plan with public meetings completed in September and meetings with the County commissioners planned for November.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. The MPO awarded 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

Broadband

1. LOS partnered with NC DIT and the Division of Rural Health to distribute hotspots with 12 months service and digital literacy training for telehealth programs in WNC. To date 146 hotspots have been distributed to programs in three counties.
2. LOS is partnering with the Institute of Emerging Issues and Dogwood Health Trust to assist development and implement Digital Inclusion Plans in WNC with COGS across the region.
3. LOS received funding from Buncombe County to provide Wi-Fi in several Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA) residential buildings. Staff received an update from the sub-consultant, Elawuit, that installation has begun in the first residential building.
4. LOS is working with NEMAC to develop a broadband planning tool. The tool is aimed to consolidate many of the various data sources into a project planning catalyst for future broadband projects in the region.
5. LOS staff worked to set up public WIFI in the Broad River area of Buncombe County. Staff partnered with fire department and Skyrunner to implement this project.
6. LOS staff supported providers in the region with GREAT grant assistance leading to 21 applications across the region. To date award announcements in Madison, Transylvania, Buncombe, and Henderson have been made. We are hopeful to gain additional awards in the coming weeks. If your community wants to start working on CAB please get in touch with Sara Nichols.

7. LOS is supporting hot spot access to 325 individuals across WNC through Student Connect program thanks to the support of Dogwood Health Trust.
8. Staff presented at Leadership Asheville's senior economic development day on digital inclusion and broadband strategies.
9. Staff worked to add an additional community center into the ARC downtown wifi project, and successfully helped Cedar Mountain in Transylvania County improve services for their community. This project is now coming to a close and staff will be working on closeout reports.

Community Development/Water, Sewer, Stormwater Infrastructure

1. Staff is attending the RC2 training with Mars Hill and Rosman sponsored by NC Commerce's Rural Transformation Fund. The training is being held in Boone and remotely by Appalachian State. The towns will be identifying a vision and priorities for economic and community development.
2. Staff is developing RTFG applications for Rosman, Mars Hill, and Buncombe for parks and recreation, trails, parking and community revitalization.
3. Staff are assisting several communities find funding for water, sewer and flood mitigation implementation throughout the region.
4. LOSRC will be submitting a full application NCLWF (Land and Water Fund) Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program on behalf of COH, and is continuing to support project development, including an associated DEQ LASII stormwater construction grant submitted in September.
5. Staff organized a session at the APA-NC on several projects occurring in the Central Asheville Watershed, including the EPA-funded Greening America's Communities design assistance (\$60k) provided for A-B Tech green infrastructure planning for stormwater management, stream restoration and associated campus amenities. Riverlink was able to utilize the work to subsequently secure 319 and NCLWF grant funding for the implementation of the stormwater control measures and Haith Branch restoration.

Housing

1. LOSRC was awarded a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission, matched with a grant to Southwestern Commission from the Dogwood Health Trust, to create a WNC Housing Asset Inventory for the western 18 counties. This project will be completed through a multi-COG effort.
2. LOSRC is advertising to hire a Housing Planner. Information is posted here: <http://www.landofsky.org/employment.html>
3. 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.

Economic Development/Workforce

1. Draft planning documents for the Creative Manufacturing Sector Development plan are currently being reviewed by the core steering committee. A presentation of findings occurred at the Creative Manufacturing Summit on September 26th in Waynesville.
2. The Draft report for the Regional Economic Collaboration and Analysis led by the Region's Chambers of Commerce and business sector is under review by the Advisory Committee. Ernst and Young was selected as the Consultant for this effort and is being funded by the EDA and Dogwood Health Trust. Full results will be shared broadly.
3. Staff are working on several economic development applications for communities and partners in the region. These will be submitted to EDA, ARC, NC Commerce and other entities.
4. Staff have submitted applications to several entities for support of the FTZ.
5. 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.
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/291e98f0291643c49a6462395ec3e6e5>

6. 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.
7. The TDM Coordinator is working with Workforce, Inspire, and employers to develop a vanpool for under-resourced individuals to access job sites.
8. 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.

Resilience/Hazard Mitigation

1. Staff is serving as a Steering Committee member for the statewide RISE project and for the NC Resilience Clearinghouse, both for NC Department of Public Safety, NC Office of Recovery and Resilience.
2. LOSRC has developed a work plan for the COG Disaster Recovery Grant, and will be reaching out to communities to provide a range of hazard recovery and resilience services over the next two years.
3. Staff presented LOSRC's resilience work at a plenary session of the NCAFM Fall Floodplain Institute.
4. Staff presented the keynote session at Leadership Asheville Senior's Environment Day on October 18th focused on global climate change and local implications.

Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles

1. 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. During the second round of funding, all of the applications that LOS staff assisted with under the Level 2 Public Access Program were funded. Staff also assisted with applications for the DC Fast Chargers and Level 2 Multi-Unit Dwelling programs. 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
2. LOS received CMAQ funding to continue support of air quality outreach initiatives in WNC.
3. Staff supported applications for the EPA school bus rebate for Buncombe and Madison County Schools.
4. Clean Vehicles participated in the first electric school bus in North Carolina ribbon cutting, including a visit from Governor Cooper and Administrator Reagan. Staff recently helped with a training for school leadership including a school bus drag race.
5. Staff are partnering with the Blue Ridge Electric Vehicle Club to host an electric vehicle car show for National Drive Electric Week.
6. CVC staff, Paul Moon, applied for and was accepted into the DOE national equity program to deep dive into equity in alternative fuel conversations with leading experts. Paul has been attending national level training over the last few months to gain perspective on how our work can incorporate DEI priorities in our region. Staff have applied to continue this work to expand our programming.
7. Staff held the first listening session on economic development in electric vehicles for WNC.
8. Staff are working on a First Responder training for electric and hybrid vehicles.
9. Staff are working on a Clean Cities Annual Dinner.

Waste Reduction Partners

1. Staff is working with the American Red Cross to perform ESG sustainability assessments at pilot sites in North Carolina, beginning with the Asheville in November, WNC Chapter.
2. WRP engineers are working with Eaton's Avery Creek manufacturing site to identify energy projects to address corporate carbon emission reduction goals.

3. Staff will be assisting the City of Hendersonville with energy assessments of City Hall and Operations Center to advance the City’s strategic energy management plan.
4. WRP staff will be conducting a water use efficiency assessment of Owen High School in Buncombe County as part of the City of Asheville Water Resources program.

Planning Services

1. Staff continue to work with area communities providing land use planning and zoning assistance. Towns include Hot Springs, Mars Hill, Marshall, Montreat, Woodfin, Flat Rock, Maggie Valley, Montreat, Clyde, Canton, and Andrews. Note that we are partnering with Southwestern Commission, Region A staff to assist with communities in their region as well.

Grants & Project Development

1. 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>
2. Staff are working with neighboring Sister Councils to develop the Centers of Excellence (I.e. WNC Innovation Park) concept for a joint, multi-state project.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

3. Aging

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – The Area Agency on Aging ARPA plan has been approved by the Regional Aging Advisory Council and award letter have been sent out to providers. Awards are as follows:

Buncombe County		
	Purchase incontinence supplies items for in-home aide clients. Information assistance for clients. Information and Options Counseling for clients. Chore and chore enhanced services (pilot program).	
Council on Aging of Buncombe County		\$40,000

Meals on Wheels of Asheville and Buncombe County	Funding for a grocery shopping & errand assistance program (pilot program).	\$45,000
MountainCare	Expand Day Health and Day Care services to individuals with financial need.	\$25,000
		\$110,000
Henderson County		
Council on Aging for Henderson County	Funding for Information and Options Counseling Services. Funding for volunteer program development.	\$50,000
MountainCare	Expand Day Health and Day Care services to individuals with financial need.	\$15,000
Premier Home Health Care Services	Expand In Home Aide Level 1 and Level 2 services.	\$8,000
		\$73,000
Transylvania County		
The Housing Assistance Corporation	Expand home repairs to older adults.	\$15,000
WNCSource	LunchPlus with Us transportation funding. Senior Information and Options Counseling. Supportive hygiene program.	\$31,410
		\$46,410
Buncombe/Henderson/Madison/Transylvania		
Jewish Family Services WNC	Expand critical clinical mental health counseling services (Henderson, Madison and Transylvania). Increase outreach and educational efforts (all counties).	\$20,000
Land of Sky - AAA	Chore services (Henderson, Madison, and/or Transylvania).	\$30,000
Land of Sky - AAA	Funding for volunteer program development and transportation - Senior Companion Program (all counties).	\$96,123

Land of Sky - AAA	Long Term Services and Supports - Outreach to underserved targeted populations (Aal counties).	\$250,000
Pisgah Legal Services	Expand free legal assistance to low-income seniors (All counties). Outreach to older adults to educate them about their legal rights, how to avoid scams, and protect their limited income and assets (all counties).	\$50,000
		\$446,123
Buncombe/Madison/Transylvania		
Mountain Mobility	Expand ART bus passes to 60 to 64-year-old older adults (Buncombe). Taxi voucher program (Madison and Transylvania).	\$15,000
		\$15,000
		Total Supportive Services: \$690,533
Family Caregiver Support Program		
Buncombe		
Council on Aging of Buncombe County	Hire a new part-time Family Caregiver Specialist to work with existing Family Caregiver Specialist. Expand current respite. Plan and facilitate Zoom and in person support groups. Copying/printing of materials; social media and program promotion.	\$58,891
MountainCare	Support groups for caregivers.	\$4,000
		\$62,891
Henderson		
Council on Aging for Henderson County	Expand Family Caregiver Support Program through information, access, support groups, and respite services.	\$65,000
		\$65,000
Madison		
Council on Aging of Buncombe County	Hire a new part-time Family Caregiver Specialist and work with existing FCS.	\$23,473

Expand current respite. Plan and facilitate Zoom and in person support groups.

		\$23,473
Transylvania		
Land of Sky - AAA (Direct Service)	Respite care services.	\$50,000
Land of Sky - AAA (Direct Service)	Supplemental Services.	\$9469
		\$59,469
Buncombe/Henderson/Madison/ Transylvania		
Jewish Family Services WNC	Launch a caregiver support group.	\$10,000
Land of Sky AAA - Project C.A.R.E.	Respite care services.	\$52,000
		\$62,000
		Total FCSP: \$272,833

Evidence Based Health Promotion

Buncombe/Henderson/Madison/Transylvania		
Land of Sky - AAA	Land of Sky staff salary, fringe, indirect (SFI)	\$62,869
Land of Sky - AAA	Land of Sky staff travel	\$750
Land of Sky - AAA	EBHP Program training	\$8,500
Land of Sky – AAA	Programmatic expenses and volunteer honorariums	\$12,000
		Total EBHP: \$84,119

COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach December 2021-September 2022 -During the Covid-19 Outreach, the AAA was able to reach over 550,000 older adults in the Land of Sky region. Around 400,000 was through radio ads throughout the region, thank you Nathan Ramsey for recording the most popular Covid ad! Other outreach methods included newspaper ads, email newsletters, presentations, Facebook posts, tabling events to name a few. A great effort was made to reach home bound older adults in which we partnered with Buncombe County Meals on Wheel providing over 1,500 placemats with Covid-19 information throughout the 10 months. Along with another 2,000 of placemats going to Henderson County Meals on Wheels, Transylvania County Meals on Wheels, Transylvania senior centers/ senior plus lunches, Sammy Williams Center in Hendersonville, and to both the nutritional sites and home delivery meals in Madison County. We were able to give out around 900 reusable bags of Covid “goodies” to Buncombe County Council on Aging meal sites, Madison County nutritional sites, Sammy Williams Center Hendersonville, Henderson County Meals on Wheels, Transylvania

County Meals on Wheels, and Transylvania senior centers (Silvermont and Quebec Center). We gave away 250 shoes to seniors that came Covid-19 testing kits and information. Gave out over 1,000 Covid-19 rapid at home testing kits. Also helped DisAbility Partners of Asheville set up a vaccine clinic in Buncombe County.

Family Caregiver Support Program

- Staff presented with Ombudsman on the services Land of Sky Area Agency on Aging provides to a women's group at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Brevard
- Staff worked with providers on Requests for Funding for Family Caregiver American Rescue Plan funds
- Staff sent out American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Award Letters. ARPA funds awarded to providers totaling \$213,364.
- Staff participated in the Friends of Transylvania County Adult Day Care meeting and discussed assistance that will be available from American Rescue Plan Act funds for family caregivers in Transylvania County
- Staff helped facilitate in-person caregiver and care receiver support groups in Hendersonville. There were 2 caregivers and 2 care receivers who participated.

Foster Grandparent Program

- Number of active volunteers: 25 volunteers are working one-on-one with children ages infant to 13 years old.
- Number of volunteers waiting on paperwork, placement, etc.: 20 volunteers wait for their schools to reopen to volunteers so that they can return to service. Three potential volunteers are in the process of enrolling in the program.
- Number of active stations (schools, day cares, etc.): 9
- Number of stations waiting to sign MOU, volunteer placement, etc.: 7 of the schools, Head Start Centers, and childcare centers have not yet allowed volunteers to return to service.
- Recruitment efforts (press releases, presentations, etc.): Volunteer recruitment efforts are currently on pause until we have schools open to be able to place them. We are currently looking for new stations in Henderson County.
- In-service/training update: On October 13th Foster Grandparent volunteers attended in-person in-service training at Land of Sky Regional Council. Volunteers learned more about Autism through a presentation from Michael LaPage from Autism Society of NC. WNC Fall Coalition will be presenting and doing fall screenings for volunteers at our November 15 in-service training.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

- Staff is partnering with Nicole Hiegl of Healthy Aging NC to provide a Statewide virtual Training for Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention that will be hosted at Land of Sky Regional Council on December 15th.
- Staff continues partnership with Blue Ridge Pride Generation Plus to deliver virtual programming including "Rainbow Inspirations" and educational offerings, with Monkeypox being for the segment.
- Staff continues working with Senior Centers to increase evidence-based program offerings, including monthly Tai Chi classes.
- Staff was nominated and will represent WNC Fall Prevention Coalition as Chairperson and Advisor.
- AAA will have a new Master Trainer for A Matter of Balance, training will be completed in November.
- Staff will be hosting a Health Fair at Asheville Terrace Apartments on October 27th. The Theme is "Treasure Your Health" and will feature 20 community partners.
- Staff and Asheville Terrace Community Health Workers continue to partner with MANNA, Trader Joe, and OLLI volunteers to bring nutrition to residents. In September, 92 bags of groceries were distributed to residents, and 201 "Neighbor Knock" visits were conducted.

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

- Adult Day Care/Health Days = 788
- Meals – delivered/congregate = 53,984
- In-home Aide hours = 3,982
- Legal Services hours = 494
- Transportation trips = 12,834
- Home Improvement Projects = 11

Money Follows the Person (MFP) Community Inclusion (serves 37 Western Counties):

- Staff participated in the Blue Ridge Pride event providing information on AAA programs to attendees.
- Staff facilitated monthly meeting for the Professional Social Workers in long-term Care organization.
- Staff provided in person training at Skilled Nursing Facilities including Buncombe, Rowan, and Haywood counties.
- Staff participated in the statewide Money Follows the Person Staff Development and education sessions held in Raleigh, NC
- Close out of Quarter 3 for 2022. All facilities for each of the 37 counties were provided with outreach and education via phone, email, and/or in person. Completed workbook entries and submitted documentation to MFP director.

Money Follows the Person Transition Coordinator

Money Follows the Person – Western counties:

Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania, Polk, Madison, McDowell, Rutherford, Mitchell, Madison

- The current caseload for the Western counties is seven.
- One person transitioned in September 2022.
- All seven clients on the Western caseload are waiting for housing.

Money Follows the Person – Central counties being served: Forsyth, Davidson, Surry, Davie, Stokes, Yadkin

- The current caseload for the Central counties is eight.
- One person has transitioned in October 2022.
- Half of the clients on the Central caseload are waiting for housing.

FY 23:

- Money Follows the Person has added a total of six new clients for this fiscal year to date.
- Four clients have withdrawn in this fiscal year.
- Five clients have transitioned in the FY 23.

Ombudsman Program

- Ombudsman led two Resident Rights in-services to facilities in Henderson and Transylvania Counties.
- Ombudsmen attended the Centralina Area Agency on Aging Annual Aging Conference.
- Ombudsman participated in outreach to provide information on the Ombudsman Program as well as the Community Advisory Committee.
- Ombudsman met with Community Advisory Committee Chairpersons to discuss recruitment and training mandates.

- Ombudsmen participate in monthly North Carolina Ombudsman meeting to discuss case reviews and questions.

Outreach and Assistance - The AAA has received additional ARPA funding to help increase outreach throughout the region as well as resources and assistance. Through these funds we hope to reach more older adults in the region who can benefit from knowing about the programs we provide as well as build stronger partnerships throughout the region to better serve our older adults. Our starting goals include but are not limited to:

- Create a yearly on-going plan for AAA outreach opportunities and events
- Track outreach efforts as well as coordinate with staff on attendance at regional outreach events
- Update AAA brochures, handouts, and other printed material as needed
- Create outreach and educational videos as well as other social media content
- Respond to questions and enquiries on programs and services sent to the AAA
- Maintain list of aging and caregiver resources
- Utilize NCCARE360 as the regional web-based hub for referrals

We hope we will grow and be better able to serve the community as well as older adults in the region.

Senior Companion Program: Staff continues to work in the community to provide companionship to older adult both in their homes and with local agencies. We have volunteers working with the VA, CarePartners, Mountain Care, Council on Aging-Buncombe County, Silvermont, Madison County Marshall Senior Center. LOSRC appreciates these agency partnerships that server our elder communities.

- Number of active volunteers: 55
- Number of volunteers waiting on paperwork, placement, etc.: 3
- Number of active stations (schools, day cares, etc.): 7
- Number of stations waiting to sign MOU, volunteer placement, etc.: 0
- Recruitment efforts (press releases, presentations, etc.): Henderson County, Regal Oaks outreach.
- In-service/training update:
October: SHIP program
December: Luncheon and celebration.

4. Administration

- Nathan and Erica accepted three NADO Impact Awards at the NADO Annual Training Conference in Pittsburgh. The three awards were for the Council's work on Livable Appalachia Summit, WNC Digital Inclusion Plan and Tunnel Road Corridor Study.
- Erica attended the COG Directors meeting in October hosted by Albermarle Commission on behalf of the Council. On the same date Nathan was a moderator at the Dogwood Health Trust Partner Convening.
- Nathan and several staff supported a LOSRC table at the Asheville Pride Festival.
- Nathan attended Western Carolina University Steam Plant ribbon cutting.
- Hosted all-staff strategic plan meeting on September 23 and next all-staff meeting scheduled for November 16.
- We are increasing the general liability coverage for LOSRC from \$5 million to \$10 million.
- Hosted monthly LOSRC DEI meetings and lunch & learn featuring Inclusive Hiring Partners.
- Christina designed the FY22 Buncombe County report which shares the Council's impact on the county in the past year. We plan on preparing reports for each county in the region.
- Christina designed the Above the Mud grant application report to the City of Hendersonville.

- Christina built the Hellbender regional trails website at hellbenderwnc.org.
- Christina completed the two-week training “Introduction to Public Employment Law” from the UNC School of Government.

5. Workforce

- Region’s unemployment rate of 3.2% for August 2022, metro has the #1 lowest unemployment rate in NC. Our region now has more people working, more jobs and more people in our labor force than at any time pre-pandemic. There are 6,970 more people working in the region compared to August 2021.
- Philip Cooper, Coordinator of the Land of Sky INspire program was the closing speaker for the NCWorks Partnership Conference in Greensboro, NC.
- NC Association of Workforce Development Boards (NCAWDB) Annual Meeting held in Greensboro, NC on October 12. Workforce Board Chair Graham Fields attended along with Nathan and Barbara.
- Board staff are continuing to support workers at Continental Automotive and Coats North America which are both closing later this year.
- We are awaiting word on application for a \$4 million USDOL grant to serve youth in 11-counties in NC and 10-counties in TN.
- We submitted multiple grant applications to the NC Department of Commerce: \$200,000 for substance use disorders, \$200,000 for reentry, and \$904,080 for small business training support. The small business grant application was submitted in partnership with NC IDEA and NC Community College System.
- We hosted the WNC Career Expo on October 11 in partnership with the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce at the WNC Agricultural Center in Fletcher. Over 100 employers participated and around 350 job seekers attended.
- Several workforce staff supported MFG Day event at Borg Warner hosted by the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce. Over 300 middle school students attended the event.
- Nathan met with GE staff in Greenville SC as well as other sites around the nation on best practices for workforce development.

5. Strategic Initiatives

- **Mountain Mobility** – Buncombe County’s community transportation service saw a decline in trips from August to September of almost 5%. While the exact cause of the decrease cannot be pinpointed, Mountain Mobility experienced higher-than-usual cancellations toward the end of the month. One theory could point to weather warnings brought on by Hurricane Ian which devastated Florida and was forecasted to bring heavy rain to our area. Trailblazer services also saw a heavy decline, particularly in the Black Mountain area.
- **Healthy Opportunities** – September brought 12 new referrals for transportation assistance in the 18-county pilot region. Of these referrals, 8 were for Buncombe County, three for Henderson County, and one for McDowell County. We continue to work to add more providers to our network of subcontractors and are exploring how Land of Sky could be involved in housing efforts as well.
- **ARC INspire** – The team continues to serve individuals recovering from Substance Use Disorder and/or those returning from prison to find successful, long-term employment and supports in the community. In September, two individuals were placed in OJT contracts with local employers, while others were assisted with wraparound supports such as work shoes/clothing, assistance with obtaining employment documents (ID, driver’s license, etc.) and transportation to job interviews and other appointments. Amanda Layton, our newest FT team member, recently completed her Peer Support Specialist certification and is now helping others in the community.

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Announcement: October 20, 2022

Nominations are now being accepted for three awards to be presented at Land of Sky Regional Council's Board Meeting on November 30, 2022.

THE CHARLES H. CAMPBELL REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award may be given **only** by the Council's Executive Committee. The award was established in 1983 in the name of the four-time Council Chairman and long-time Brevard Mayor, who received a national award for regional leadership in 1977. It may be given annually to one Council member who has made a major long-term contribution to the Council and its governance.

THE ROBERT G. PARRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AWARD

This award, also presented at the discretion of the Council's Executive Committee, is to an elected or appointed official who has made significant contributions to improve intergovernmental cooperation within the region. This award honors the memory of the late Council Chairman and long-time Fletcher Mayor Robert Parrish, who received the 2000 NC Intergovernmental Relations Award.

THE ROBERT E. SHEPHERD EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

This award is presented at the Council's discretion to a local government professional who has shown great leadership in improving governance and service delivery, especially in the areas of regional cooperation and collaboration. This awards honors Land of Sky Regional Council's first Executive Director of 30 years.

Q: When is the deadline?

A: Nominations must be received by Wednesday, November 16, 2022.

Q: Where do I send my nomination?

A: Please email nomination forms to christina@landofsky.org or fax to 828.251.6353.

You may also mail nomination packets to:

Regional Award Nominations
Land of Sky Regional Council
339 New Leicester Hwy, Suite 140, Asheville, NC 28806

**NOMINATION FORM
LAND OF SKY REGIONAL COUNCIL AWARDS**

Deadline for submission is **Wednesday, November 16, 2022**. Awards will be presented at Land of Sky Regional Council's Board Meeting on November 30, 2022.

Please check the award for which you are submitting a nomination:

- Robert Parrish Award
- Charles Campbell Award
- Robert Shepherd Award

Note: Before completing, please refer to the attached document for award criteria.

Name of Nominee (individual or organization):

Address:

Phone Number(s):

Describe major area(s) of accomplishment for person or organization:

List of leadership/responsibilities for the nominee as they relate to their accomplishments:

Describe traits of leadership exhibited by the nominee which were instrumental in his/her regional accomplishments:

Describe obstacles (if any) which nominee faced in this accomplishment and how these were overcome:

Describe importance or impact of the above to the Region (Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania Counties) or the multiple jurisdictions involved (for Parrish award):

Additional Comments:

Note: You may enclose no more than two newspaper articles, supportive letters or other documentation to support the nominee's credentials for this award.

Name of person making nomination:

Signature:

Address:

Phone Number:

THE CHARLES H. CAMPBELL REGIONAL AWARDS

1984	Roy M. Trantham, Asheville
1985	William M. Ives, Transylvania County
1986	James T. Ledford, Madison County
1987	John J. Carter, Laurel Park
1988	Norma T. Price, Asheville
1990	Cornellus Hunt, Brevard
1992	Fran Waser, Transylvania County
1993	Gene Rainey, Buncombe County
1995	Vollie G. Good, Henderson County
2000	Robert F. Parrish, Sr.
2001	Fred H. Niehoff, Jr.
2003	Jerry Plemmons
2004	David Gantt
10/2004	Eliza Graue
2005	Raymond D. Miller, Transylvania County
2007	Charles "Pal" Grimes – Biltmore Forest Rodney
2008	Locks, Councilman for City of Brevard
2009	Eddie Fox
2010	Chuck McGrady
2012	Joe McKinney
2015	Phil Monk
2016	George Goosmann
2017	Dr. Charles Dickens
2018	Jack Cecil
2019	Larry Harris
2020	Mark Biberdorf
2021	Albert Gooch

ROBERT E. SHEPHERD EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

2016	Robert E. Shepherd
2017	Susan Frady
2018	John Connet
2019	Forrest Gilliam
2019	Jonathan Kanipe
2020	Jaime Laughter
2021	Dr. Jim Meyer

ROBERT G. PARRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AWARD

2001 Fred H. Niehoff, Jr.
2002 C. Thomas Sobol, Jr.
2003 James Westbrook
2004 Arthur "Artie" Wilson
2005 NC Representative Raymond Rapp, Madison County
2006 NC Representative Wilma Sherrill, Buncombe County
2007 Chris Carter
2008 David Young
2009 Trudi Walend
2010 Mark Burrows
2012 Letta Jean Taylor
2015 Bob Davy
2018 Mike Hawkins
2019 Jerry VeHaun
2020 William Lapsley
2021 Avril Pinder