

**TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**  
**Meeting Date: February 11, 2011**

**SUBJECT:** Transit System Funding and Schedule Update

**AGENDA INFORMATION**

**Agenda Location:** Communications from Boards and Agencies  
**Item Number:** 5-A  
**Department:** Planning and Development Services  
**Contact:** Elizabeth Teague, Planning & Development Services Director  
Marcy Onieal, Town Manager  
**Presenters:** Mariate Echeverry, Transportation Planning Manager, City of Asheville  
Lori Hembree, Administrator, Buncombe County Mountain Mobility

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Asheville Transit and Mountain Mobility have both received funding through the federal “Job Access Reverse Commute” (or JARC) Program to continue provision of transit services to and around Black Mountain for two years (through December, 2012). This program was established to address the unique transportation challenges faced by low-income persons and to connect suburban and rural areas to job opportunities. This grant was made available with assistance, cooperation and coordination of participating partners: the Town of Black Mountain, Warren Wilson College, the City of Asheville, Buncombe County Mountain Mobility and the French Broad Metropolitan Planning Organization. The funding will extend service to Black Mountain for another two years, but due to reduced level of funding and different program requirements under JARC guidelines, will require schedule and route changes. ATA Routes 28 (formerly serving Black Mountain) and 29 (formerly serving Warren Wilson College) have been combined into a single new Route 170, with different fixed stops and schedule.

On a related matter, Lori Hembree will report on Buncombe County’s proposal to pursue privatization of senior transit services, currently provided by the County through Mountain Mobility, due to anticipated budget constraints.

**MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:** N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE:** Federal Transit Administration and local partner agencies. The Town contributed \$18,000 in matching funds from the General Fund (dedicated Motor Vehicle Registration fees), as previously authorized by the Board in the FY2011 Adopted Budget.

**ATTACHMENTS:** New transit routes and schedules for Asheville Transit & Mountain Mobility

**MANAGER’S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Information only; no action required.