

**TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Meeting Date:** October 12, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Resolution to support and participate in a regional collaboration of county and city governments to address regional fuel planning through the Department of Energy's Local Energy Assurance Planning (LEAP) Initiative

**AGENDA INFORMATION**

**Agenda Location:** Consent Agenda  
**Item Number:** 5-D  
**Department:** Administration  
**Contact:** Steve Jones  
**Presenter:** Marcy Onieal

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** During the summer/fall of 2008, Western North Carolina experienced severe commercial fuel (gasoline) shortages, due to failure in the oil/gasoline distribution system, and lack of redundant infrastructure in our area, which is served by Colonial Pipeline. Although the Town of Black Mountain was able to maintain virtually full operational capacity during the 2-3 week crisis because of our own healthy fuel stores, the routine operations of many area governments and employers were adversely affected by the ongoing crisis, and many local area residents had difficulty commuting to work and other obligations due to lack of available gasoline for transportation.

Land of Sky Regional Council and the City of Asheville have agreed to serve as lead agencies to apply for ARRA (stimulus funding) to provide a grant through the US Department of Energy's Local Energy Assurance Planning (LEAP) Initiative that will support the development of a regionally-based, integrated strategic fuels plan, which will hopefully avert similar crises in the future. The attached resolution requires no specific commitment on the part of the Town other than support of the City of Asheville and Land of Sky Regional Council and participation in regional discussions to devise an effective regional fuel shortage plan.

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** To support and participate in a regional collaboration of city and county governments to address regional fuel planning through the Department of Energy's Local Energy Assurance Planning (LEAP) initiative.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** ARRA stimulus funds through the US Department of Energy will support the regional planning effort; no Town funds required.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Resolution R-09-23

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Approve as presented.