

# FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## Prioritization Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

January 15, 2014 – 10:00 A.M.

### Agenda

1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (5 min)
  - A. Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda Marc Hunt
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. BUSINESS (15-30 min)
  - A. STP-DA Set-Aside Requests MPO Staff
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (3 min)
5. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING? (3 min)
6. PUBLIC COMMENT 2
7. ADJOURNMENT



# Item 3A:

## STP-DA Set-Aside Requests

The Transit Operators Workgroup met on January 6, 2015 and requested the French Broad River MPO Board to strategically set-aside STP-DA funds for two items:

### 1. 5307 Sub-Allocation Formula Study

The Transit Operators Workgroup feels it is necessary to set-aside the funds in order to be able to effectively leverage FTA 5307 funding coming into our region and to meet deadlines in order for the study to be implemented by FY 2016. As our area has urbanized, several transit providers have seen a decrease in rural funding and the necessity for them to begin applying for 5307 funding has become more important.

In FY 2013, the total amount of 5307 funding in our region was more than \$1.7 million and played a critical role in supporting transit. The current formula and agreement for 5307 funding was established to accommodate the City of Asheville and Henderson County, but accommodating new recipients will require a new study to establish a new formula. In order for the study to be completed and adopted for FY 2016, it is recommended the Board set-aside STP-DA funding to avoid the study having to go through the prioritization process.

### 2. NCDOT Travel Demand Management (TDM) Grant Matching Funds

The Transit Operators Workgroup also recommended the Board set-aside STP-DA funds to provide match for an NCDOT TDM grant that may make a part-time TDM Coordinator position available for our region. The grant is due on January 9<sup>th</sup>, but the grant can be accepted pending approval and matching funds.

While the request for these items circumvents the MPO's prioritization process, it should be noted that neither of these items benefit any one jurisdiction and that these are both regionally-significant items that affect the entire region.

