

#### MINUTES

June 26, 2024

SECOND MONTHLY MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OPERATIONS CENTER | 305 WILLIAMS ST. | 4:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Barbara Volk, and Council Members: Jeff Miller, Jennifer Hensley and Melinda

Lowrance

Absent:

Council Member Mayor Pro Tem Lyndsey Simpson

Staff Present:

City Manager John Connet, Assistant City Manager Brian Pahle, City Clerk Jill Murray, City

Attorney Angela Beeker, Communications Manager Allison Justus, Budget Manager Adam

Murr, and others.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barbara Volk called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was established with all members in attendance.

#### 2. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

Council Member Jeff Miller moved that City Council approve the agenda as presented. A unanimous vote of the Council followed. Motion carried.

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Henderson County Transit Study - Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner

Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner for Henderson County talked about Apple Country Public Transit which the county owns. They did a feasibility study and she gave an update on that and showed the following PowerPoint presentation. Weekend service, longer hours and improved frequency are some of the things they hope to implement along with more buses in the future.

## Henderson County Transit Feasibility Study



June 26, 2024 Henderson County Planning Department

#### Agenda

01

Transit Study Overview



02

Hendersonville Existing Conditions



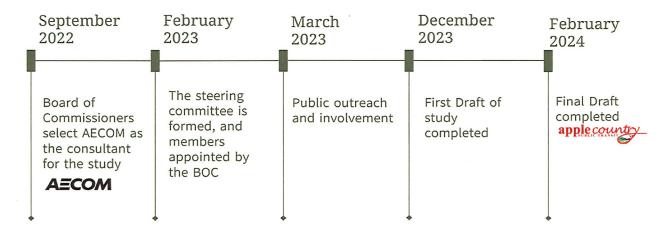
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Hendersonville Reccomendations



# 01Transit StudyBackground & Overview

#### Study Process



#### Public Involvement

#### Steering Committee

- TDA
- Sheriff's Office
- Health Department
- Police DepartmentThe Partnership
- BRCC
- Pardee Hospital

#### **Driver Interviews**

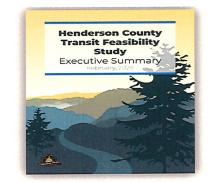
- Two sessions on March 3, 2023
  Focus Groups
  - Two sessions on March 8 & 9, 2023
     Social Services/Community Leaders
    - Businesses

#### Surveys

- Community Survey
- Rider Survey







#### Where we are now...

- Presented study to the TAC in February
- Presented study to the Town of Fletcher in April
- · Gathering final feedback before BOC presentation

## City of Hendersonville -**Existing Conditions**

#### **Existing Conditions**

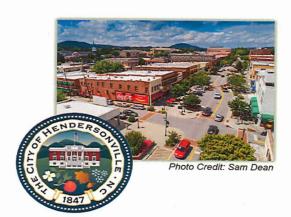
#### Demographics

- Population ~ 15,102 (13% of County total)
- Higher population density than most of the County
- Higher population of people 65 and older

#### Route Performance

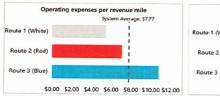
- All 3 routes have stops in Hendersonville city limits, plus 7 in the ETJ

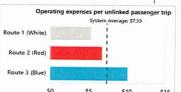
  - Route 1: 29 out of 35 stopsRoute 2: 28 out of 40 stops
  - Route 3: 13 out of 40 stops
- Route 1 is the most productive route in the system

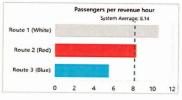


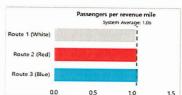
## Existing Conditions – Routes

- Route 1 Highest Performance
  - Largest presence in City
  - 14.82 miles
- Route 2
  - 15.34 miles
- Route 3 Poorest Performance
  - 27.67 miles
  - Lowest number of passengers / revenue hour
  - Highest operating expenses / revenue mile
  - Highest operating expenses / passenger trip
  - Most often delayed (11 delays in FY24)









## Existing Conditions - Ridership

- Route 3 ridership is consistently about half of Route 1 ridership and has lowest number of boardings
- There were 1,856 paratransit pickups in Hendersonville in FY23, 64% of all paratransit
- Ridership has not fully recovered since the drop from Covid-19

1.	April '24	FY24	FY23	FY22	Average Ridership
R1	2806	28,446	30,286	23,264	28,446
R2	1986	20,663	22,930	14,536	20,663
R3	970	13,157	16,972	11.707	13,157



## 03

## City of Hendersonville Recommendations

#### Recommendations

Short-term (Phase I): Saturday Service Added

Route 1 & 2 to include hourly Saturday service

Route 2 to serve fewer stops in downtown, direct service to Blue Ridge Mall

Route 3 change from hourly service to 90-minute loop on weekdays

New route added, Route 4 to serve Downtown with 20-minute loop service weekdays & Saturdays

Mid-term (Phase 2): Sunday Service Added

Route 1 to run every half hour, weekdays & Saturdays, and hourly on Sundays

Route 2 to include hourly service on Sundays

Route 4 to run every 20 minutes on Sundays

Route 3 change to express route to AVL Regional Airport / ART Bus Transfer

- Two, one-hour loops during both AM & PM peak periods on weekdays

#### Recommendations Cont'd

Mid-term (Phase 3): Longer Operational Hours

Route 1 to extend operation to 7:30 PM weekdays & weekends with half hour service daily

Route 2 & 4 to extend operation to 7:30 PM weekdays & weekends

Long-term (Phase 4): Improved Frequency

Route 2 to run every half hour on weekdays, hourly on weekends

Route 4 to run every 10 minutes weekdays & weekends

If all recommendations are implemented, 7 buses will be needed during peak service periods

#### Recommendations Table

Modification	Pha	se 1	Pha	se 2	Phase 3		Phase 4*	
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Yea 8
PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	Weekday	FESCHED.		A SUST			9730	0000
Route 1 every half hour	25.000							
Realignment of Route 2 to Blue Ridge Mall	EXC. State							
Route 4 downtown circulator shuttle implementation								
Conversion of Route 3 to commuter express route to Asheville Regional Airport								
Route 1 extension to 7:30 PM					ROSSIN	NO WE		
Route 2 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 4 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 2 every half hour							STEEL ST	
Route 4 every 10 minutes								
Saturday		No. of the last	to billion	PAVIDE.		HEAR TO	THE PARTY	Market Ann
Route 1 hourly service to 6:30 PM	TO THE							
Route 2 hourly service to 6:30 PM								
Route 1 every half hour								
Route 1 extension to 7:30 PM					2000			
Route 2 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 4 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 4 every 10 minutes								
Sunday			THE REAL PROPERTY.		Anteles e		THE PERSON	
Route 1 hourly service to 6:30 PM								
Route 2 hourly service to 6:30 PM								
Route 4 service every twenty minutes to 6:30 PM								
Route 1 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 1 every half hour								
Route 2 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 4 extension to 7:30 PM								
Route 4 every 10 minutes								

#### Phase 1:

- Route 4 added
- · Saturday Service (1, 2, & 4)
- · Route 3 shift to 90-minute loop

#### Phase 2:

- Sunday Service (1, 2, & 4)
- Route 3 becomes Airport Express

#### Phase 3:

 Extend service hours and frequency (1, 2, & 4)

#### Phase 4:

• Increase frequency (1, 2, & 4)

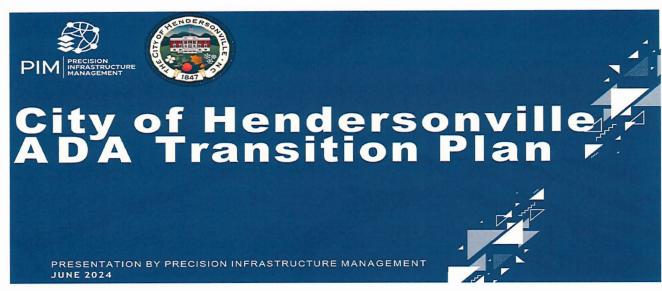
## Thanks!

#### Do you have any questions?

Janna Bianculli Senior Planner jbianculli@hendersoncountync.gov

B. ADA Transition Plan Presentation - Tom Wooten, Director of Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Wooten introduced Casey Penland from Precision Infrastructure Management (PMI) who gave the following PowerPoint presentation regarding the City's ADA Transition Plan to upgrade our current infrastructure to be ADA compliant.







## WHAT IS AN ADA TRANSITION PLAN

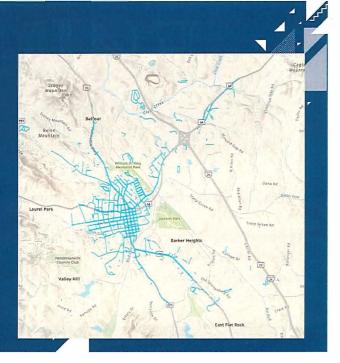
- A Federal requirement that DOJ and NCDOT policy mandates municipalities to develop and implement
- A roadmap that inventories and prioritizes what and when improvements to existing infrastructure should occur to bring infrastructure up to ADA and PROWAG standards
- Full development includes a comprehensive self assessment of right of way, facilities, parks, programs, policies, services, and communications





#### INTRODUCTION

- 15,137 total population
- 6.12% population increase/year in 2021
- 72.02 Miles of Sidewalk







#### PLAN GOALS

- City Wide Engagement Process
- Condition Assessment of Sidewalks and Curb Ramps
- Identify ADA Barriers
- Develop Sidewalk Asset Management Plan
- Risk Based and Data Driven
- Set Annual Budget for Accessibility Improvements

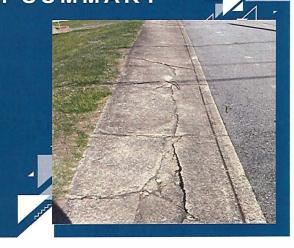


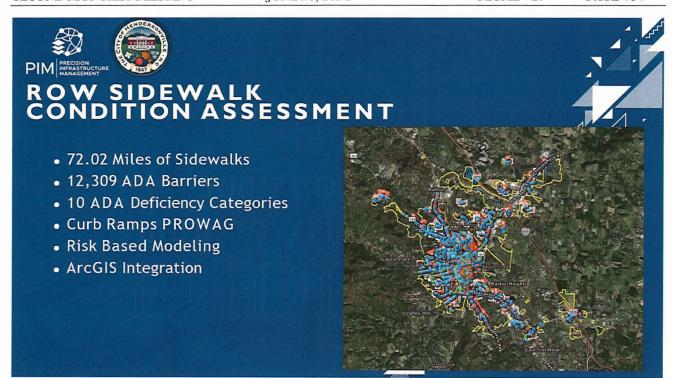


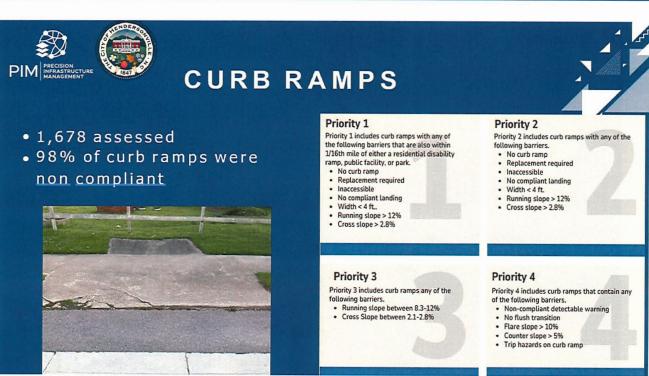
#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY**

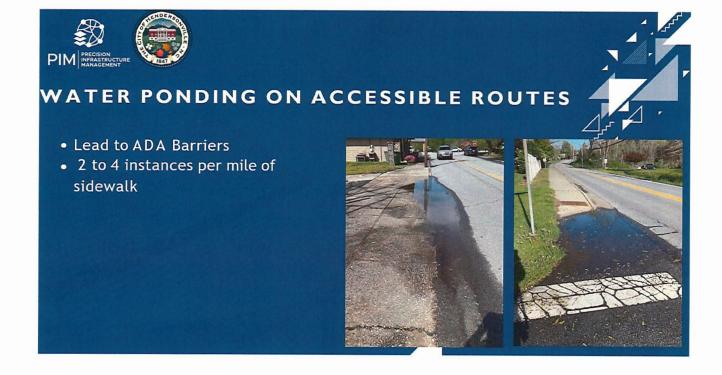
Key takeaways from the engagement survey include:

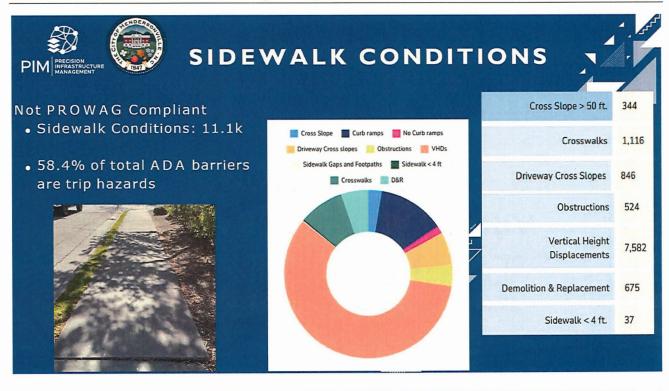
- 37% use walking/wheeling for transportation
- 38% sidewalk highest priority improvements
- 48% regularly participate in programs & services offered by the City



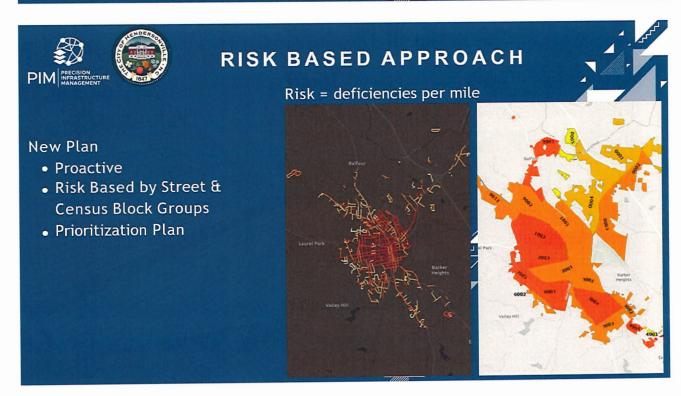


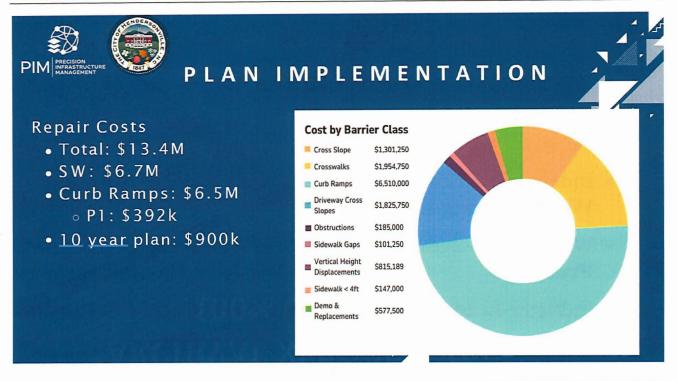


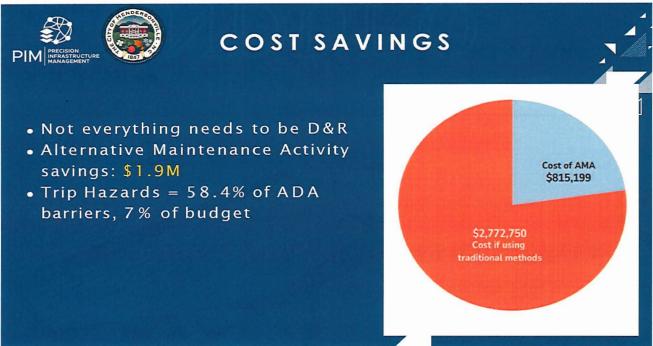






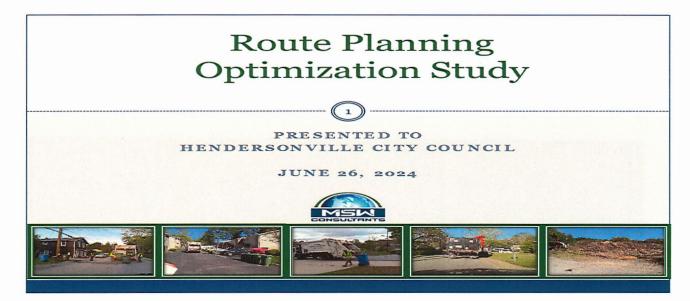






C. Environmental Services Route Study Presentation – Tom Wooten, Director of Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Wooten introduced John Culberston and Cynthia Mormile of MSW Consultants, who presented the results of the route study with the following PowerPoint presentation.



#### Introduction



- Independent Consultants Specializing in the Municipal Waste Management Sector
- Wide Knowledge of National Waste Management Best Practices
- Industry-Leading Solid Waste Operational Evaluation &
   Performance Modeling
- Specialization in Solid Waste Utility Cost-of-Service & Rate Analysis



## **Project Overview**



- Compile & Review Existing System Information
  - o Data request & review
  - Kick-off meeting
- Residential Program Review
  - Field observations baseline modeling
  - Interviews and focus group
  - Asset Review
  - Benchmarking of 10 other community programs
  - Working Meetings with City Staff
  - o Alternative Analysis
- Recommendations

"Materials Management 101"

#### Vertically Integrated Solid Waste Management

(5) Processing of Recyclables Collection Management/ Administration Processing of Compostables Disposal

#### **Collection Technologies**





Semi-Automated Garbage



Knuckleboom YW/Brush



**Semi-Automated Recycling** 



Manual



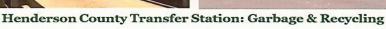
Automated



**Dual Stream Manual** 

#### Facilities Managing Hendersonville Materials













Henderson County Convenience Center: Food Scraps, Recyclables, HHW

## **Accounts Served**



- Garbage ~6,000
  - Single family Residential
  - Multi-family 5-units or less
  - Commercial locations using carts
- Recycling (Opt-in) ~5,600
  - Single family Residential
  - Multi-family 5-units or less
  - Commercial locations using carts

#### **Current Routes**

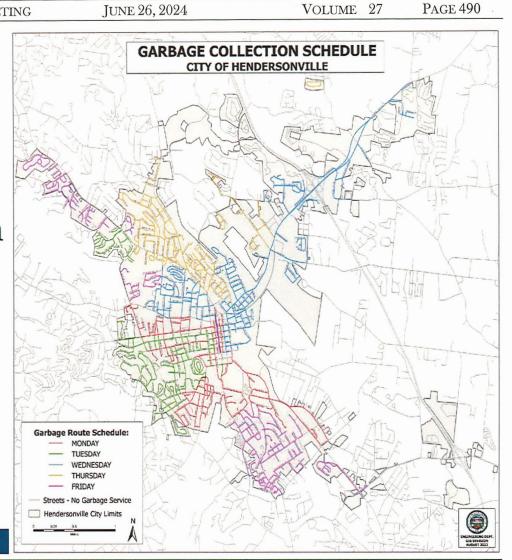


Type of Service	Positions per Truck	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Total
Garbage	3	2	2	2	2	2	10.0
Recycling	2	2	2	2	2	2	10.0
Bulky*	2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5
Yard Waste/Brush**	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5
	8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	23

<sup>\*</sup> called in, ~200/yr

<sup>\*\*</sup> garbage operators piloting a yard waste setout notification system

## Current Collection Map



## **Route Observations**

#### **Curbside Refuse Route Observations**



## **Curbside Recycling Route**











## Yard Waste/Brush



1 of 3 "Large" Piles Out of 76 Setouts



"Tiny" & "Small" Setouts Most Common



of 5 Mapped Pages for the Day – Locations Noted by Garbage Routes on the Previous Day

## Route Metrics – Garbage & Recycling



Material	Crew Size	Total # Passbys	Setout Rate	Lbs. per Stop	Total Hrs.
Garbage	3	642	82%	26.7	7.1
Recycling	2	457	73%	11.3	7.1

## Route Metrics – Garbage & Recycling cont.



Containers/ Carts	18-Gal Bin	32-Gallon	64-96-Gallon
Garbage		48%	52%
Recycling	9%	8%	83%

Balance/Size of Garbage vs. Recycling containers indicates high level of recycling

## Route Metrics – Yard Waste/Brush



Percent of YW/Brush Stops						
Very Small	Small	Med	<u>Lg</u>			
38.2%	32.9%	25.0%	3.9%			





#### Technology



- ArcGIS in use for daily operations
  - o On route
    - ▼ Yard Waste/Brush setouts
    - Carts not out
    - ★ Carts needing repair
    - ➤ Problems with stop
  - o Website: Track a Truck
- On-truck camera system planned
- No current routing software



#### Baseline System Model



Material Stream	HH/Route/Day	Annual Tons	Pounds per Customer/Wk.
Garbage	593	3,455	22
Recycling	558	924	6

Daily Yard Waste/Brush route is covering setouts observed by two Garbage routes with hours to spare. Crew leader or supervisor assists in 2<sup>nd</sup> vehicle on heaviest days. YW/Brush loads are not scaled, so weights are estimated by truck volume.

Our baseline model shows existing routes have room, which aligns with the observations on the heaviest route days.

## Alternative Analysis

#### **Alternatives Analyzed**



	Garbage	Recycling	Yard Waste/Brush
Technology	Semi-Automated vs. Automated	Semi-Automated vs. Automated	Knuckleboom
Collection Frequency	Weekly vs. Every Other Week	Weekly vs. Every Other Week	Weekly vs. Every Other Week
Workweek	5 Days vs. 4 Days	5 Days vs. 4 Days	5 Days vs. 4 Days

#### Service Metrics by Material and/or Method



Service	Households
Garbage	5,926
Recycling (opt-in)	5,577
Brush	5,502

	Crew Size				
Technology	Garbage	Recycling	YW/Brush		
Semi-auto	3	2			
Automated	1	1			
Knuckleboom			1		

	Productivity (Seconds per stop)					
Technology	Garbage	Recycling	YW/Brush			
Semi-automated	30	50	)			
Automated	30	30	)			
Knuckleboom			170			

"Hybrid" Alternatives refer to Automated Garbage, Semi-Automated Recycling, and Knuckleboom Brush

#### **Cost Factors**



#### Cost Factors

- o Crew Size
- Labor Rates
  - **▼** Salary
  - **x** Benefits
- o Equipment
  - **x** Capital Expenditure
  - **x** Useful Life
  - ➤ Annual Operation & Maintenance
  - \* Annual Fuel



#### Recycling & Brush Every Other Week Method Comparison



- Method 1 =
  - Recycling for half the city each week
  - o Brush for half the city each week
  - Saves one recycling route weekly
- Method 2 =
  - o Recycling citywide Week A
  - o Brush citywide Week B

	Staff Demand				
	Week A	Week B	WeekA	Week B	
Current	13	13	13	13	
EOW Brush & Recycling- Method 1 Difference from Current	11 -2	11 -2	11 -2	11 -2	
EOW Brush & Recycling- Method 2 Difference from Current	12 -1	9 -4	12 -1	9 -4	

#### Results of Alternative Analysis

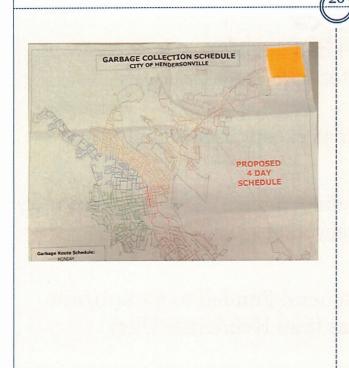


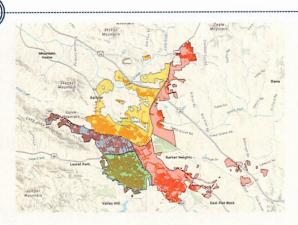
Scenario	Service Level	Days/Hours	Technology	Annual Cost Estimated Difference from Baseline	Percentage Difference
Baseline	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Five 8's	Semi-auto	\$0	0.0%
Alt. A	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Four 10's	Semi-auto	\$133,015	12.4%
Alt. B	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Four 10's	Full-auto	(\$150,296)	(14.0%)
Alt. C	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Four 10's	Hybrid	(\$57,815)	(5.4%
Alt. D	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Five 8's	Full-auto	(\$248,646)	(23.2%)
Alt. E	Wkly Garbage, Recycling, & Brush	Five 8's	Hybrid	(\$190,830)	(17.8%
Alt. F	Wkly Garbage, EOW Recycling & Brush*	Five 8's	Semi-auto	(\$204,248)	(19.0%)
Alt. G	Wkly Garbage, EOW Recycling & Brush*	Four 10's	Full-auto	(\$423,987)	(39.5%)
Alt. H	Wkly Garbage, EOW Recycling & Brush*	Four 10's	Hybrid	(\$328,571)	(30.6%
Alt. I	Wkly Garbage, EOW Recycling & Brush*	Five 8's	Full-auto	(\$423,987)	(39.5%
Alt. J	Wkly Garbage, EOW Recycling & Brush*	Five 8's	Hybrid	(\$395,079)	(36.8%)

Alternatives including EOW Garbage were also evaluated but are not recommended for further consideration.

\*Assumes Method 1 of EOW Recycling & Brush (1/2 city each week)

## 4-Day Routes using County GIS addresses/units





City Quadrant	Color	Unit Count
Upper West	Blue	1,350
Upper East	Gold	1,484
Lower West	Green	1,781
Lower East	Red	1,596
	×	6,211

Benchmark Findings

#### Cities Researched



City	2022 Population Estimate
Newton, NC	13,337
Hendersonville, NC	15,321
Davidson, NC	15,771
Morganton, NC	17,602
Clemson, SC	17,843
Mount Holly, NC	18,170
Boone, NC	19,756
Shelby, NC	21,855
Mauldin, SC	26,918
Spartanburg, SC	38,584
Asheville, NC	93,776

#### **Benchmark Findings**



- Publicly provided service in 8 out of 10
  - o Boone (NC) and Davidson (NC) have contracted haulers
- Carted setouts are standard except in Morganton
- Only 2 offer weekly recycling, 3 have EOW, 1 has 2x/mo.,
   4 do not offer curbside recycling
- Rates range from fully General Funded to \$20.90/mo. (for lower level of services than Hendersonville)

# Observations & Recommendations

## Observations - Current System



- Staff shortage occurs daily
  - o Safety concern using fill-ins from other divisions
  - Restricts usage of accrued leave by dedicated staff
  - Lowers team morale and engagement
- Two-sided street collection with semi-automated collection results in increased efficiency but also safety hazard due to aggressive drivers passing
- Equipment is in good condition, with regular replacement schedule being followed (Best Management Practice)

VOLUME 27

#### Observations - Current System cont.



- Carts are a significant investment for most programs transitioning to automation. The City benefits by already having them in place.
- Semi-automatic reduces workers compensation risk compared to manual collection; Automated collection is lowest risk
- Primary takeaways from crew focus group meeting
  - o Current (early) work schedule is a "perk"
  - Salary compression is happening when new hires are brought

#### **Observations - Future Considerations**



- To maintain current service level, spend more to keep more staff on board
- To minimize cost increases, reduce service frequency
  - Collecting Recycling & YW/Brush every other week is common in the industry and results in annual operational savings
    - \* Reduces one daily route if using Method 1 (serving half the city every week)
    - ▼ Maintain current staffing level to eliminate shortages
    - Every other week Garbage collection would save money but is rare due to the nature (putrescible waste)
- Current collection method extended to 10-hour days is not recommended for semi-automated systems
- 10-hour days make sense with automated garbage and recycling
  - Automating recycling requires citizens to put all materials in cart

#### Observations - Future Considerations cont.



- Converting to Automated collection:
  - Requires higher skilled operators (potentially higher wage)
  - Reduction in crew size eliminates current staff shortages assuming staff are skilled operators or can be trained to be. Allows for regular "floaters/fill-ins."
  - Increases road miles/fuel/ghg emissions slightly to cover streets that are now covered 2-sided. Estimated 40% for Hendersonville.

#### **Consultant Recommendations**



- Transition Recycling and YW/Brush collection to Every Other Week
- Convert Garbage collection vehicles over to Automated as vehicle replacements come up
- Consider setting a minimum volume for YW/Brush setout, example:
  - o accumulate a minimum 20-gallon container equivalent, or
  - o require citizen to bundle or place in kraft bags\*

\*staff suggestion, consultant agrees

#### Consultant Recommendations cont.



 Investigate and implement routing software when budgets allow. This option assists current and fill-in drivers in ensuring collection to all accounts on route in the most efficient manner.

## Thank you



John Culbertson, Principal jculbertson@mswconsultants.com

Cynthia Mormile, Sr. Project Manager cmormile@mswconsultants.com

City Manager Connet added that looking at our routes will be the low hanging fruit as well as improving our GIS technology so we'll be coming back to council with this at some point.

#### 5. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. Presentation by UNC School of Government Development Finance Initiative – Angie Beeker, City Attorney and DFI Staff

City Attorney Angela Beeker introduced Marcia Machado Perritt Director of the Development Finance Initiative at the UNC School of Government who spoke via Zoom and has put together a proposal for City Council in conjunction with our Strategic Housing Plan and presented the following PowerPoint presentation.

City of Hendersonville

DFI Introduction and Scope of Services Overview

## **UNC School of Government**

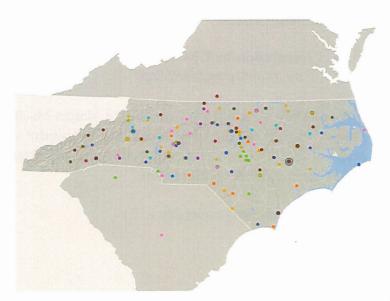


UNC Chapel Hill's School of Government is the largest university-based local government training, advisory, and research organization in the United States, and serves more than 12,000 public officials each year.

DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

## **Development Finance Initiative (DFI)**

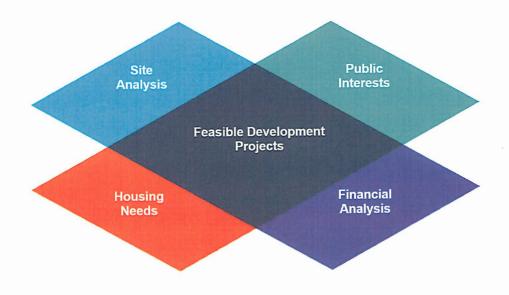
DFI is a program of UNC Chapel Hill's School of Government that advises communities in NC to attract private investment for transformative projects by providing specialized real estate development and finance expertise.



## **DFI Projects**



## **Pre-Development Feasibility Assessment**



DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

#### Scope Review: Scan & Stakeholder Conversations

#### Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement

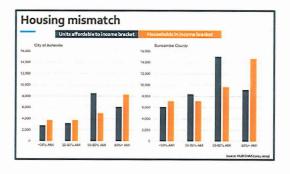
- Review current and historic plans, notes from public input sessions and other materials relevant to the redevelopment of the hospital campus
- · Evaluate demographic and economic projections
- Engage with City staff, steering committee, and elected officials
- Meet 1-on-1 or small groups with other key stakeholders (advocates, interest groups, developers, property owners, etc.)
- · Establish affordable housing priorities

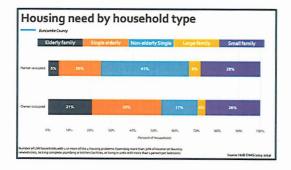




#### Scope Review: Housing Needs Assessment

- · Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- Housing Needs Assessment
  - Identify the scale of demand for specific housing types at various income levels.





## Scope Review: Identify Suitable Sites

- Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- · Housing Needs Assessment
- · Identify Suitable Sites
  - Criteria: Size, LIHTC-competitive, public and "friendly" ownership, zoning/surroundings



## LIHTC consistently funds new units in NC every year



DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

2

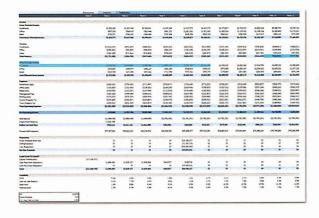
#### Scope Review: High-Level Site Analysis

- · Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- Housing Needs Assessment
- · Identify Suitable Sites
- · High-Level Site Analysis



## Scope Review: High-Level Financial Analysis

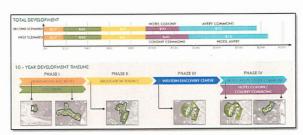
- Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- · Housing Needs Assessment
- Identify Suitable Sites
- High-Level Site Analysis
- · High-Level Financial Analysis



#### Scope Review: Prioritize & Make Recommendations

- Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- Housing Needs Assessment
- · Identify Suitable Sites
- · High-Level Site Analysis
- · High-Level Financial Analysis
- · Final Recommendations
  - · Prioritize 2 Sites
  - · Advise on strategy & next steps





DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

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VOLUME 27

#### DFI Affordable Housing Opportunity Site Identification Services

- Community Scan and Stakeholder Engagement
- Housing Needs Assessment
- Identify Suitable Sites
- High-Level Site Analysis
- High-Level Financial Analysis
- Final Recommendations

## dfi.sog.unc.edu

Marcia Perritt, Director mperritt@sog.unc.edu Sarah Odio, Associate Director odio@sog.unc.edu



City Manager Connet added that this presentation was made to our Strategic Housing Committee and they unanimously recommended that we move forward with DFI's scope of work and contract and we have worked very well with DFI in the past and although City Council doesn't normally vote at this meeting, he asked that they vote on this item so we can get in line and get on DFI's schedule as it first come first served. Also, the scope of work is funded through the grant we have with Dogwood Trust.

Council Member Jennifer Hensley moved that the City Council authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to enter into a contract with the UNC School of Government Development Finance Initiative. A unanimous vote of the Council followed. Motion carried.

B. Resolution Appointing Crystal Cauley as an Honorary Member of the Diversity and **Inclusion Committee** – Melinda Lowrance City Council Member

Mayor Barbara Volk read the resolution aloud.

Resolution R-24-54

#### RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL IN APPRECIATION OF AND NAMING CRYSTAL CAULEY AS AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the City of Hendersonville recognizes the life and legacy of community leader and advocate Crystal Cauley who unexpectedly passed away on June 16, 2024, at the age of 44; and

WHEREAS, Crystal was an activist and member of the City's Hendersonville Historic Preservation Commission. She collaborated with City Council and City departments to improve public parks and spaces and inspire the celebration of important milestones and contributions of the Black community; and

WHEREAS, a Henderson County native and graduate of Hendersonville High School, Crystal was the Founder and Director of the Black History Collective of Henderson County and the Founder of the Black Business Network of WNC. She was a leader in the Green Meadows Community and a dedicated advocate and volunteer for the 7th Avenue/Brooklyn Community Garden. She spearheaded the creation of the Brooklyn Creek Bird Sanctuary, connecting park visitors with nature, and served on The People's Museum Advisory Team and the boards of Safelight and the Arts

Council of Henderson County. She received a Certificate of Commendation from the City of Hendersonville, along with Diamond Cash, for organizing the City's first Black Art & Craft Exhibition; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Crystal organized art and cultural exhibits, workshops and community events in the area. She was an Athena Award nominee and winner of the Wilma Dykeman Writers of Color Award, among other recognitions. She requested mayoral proclamations for the recognition of Black History Month, Kwanzaa, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, and Juneteenth to spread awareness and recognition of culturally significant events; and

**WHEREAS**, we, the Hendersonville City Council, express our gratitude to Crystal Cauley for creating spaces for the underrepresented to be heard and for her collaboration with the City and other local organizations to improve the quality of life for Hendersonville and Henderson County residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Hendersonville's Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee prioritizes equity and inclusion, creating a culture of belonging, and focusing on making the City a welcoming and accepting place for all people;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Hendersonville, North Carolina that in recognition of her tireless efforts promoting change and equality, Crystal Cauley is posthumously appointed as an honorary member of the Hendersonville Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Hendersonville, North Carolina, on this 26th day of June, 2024.

/s/Barbara G. Volk, Mayor Attest: /s/Jill Murray, City Clerk

Approved as to form: /s/Angela S. Beeker, City Attorney

Council Member Melinda Lowrance moved that the City Council adopt the resolution posthumously appointing Crystal Cauley as an honorary member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. A unanimous vote of the Council followed. Motion carried.

#### 6. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m. upon unanimous assent of the Council. 6:12 p.m.

Barbara Volk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jill Murray, City Clerk