

Item Title: Wake County Response to Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners authorizes a letter from Wake County to the Transit Planning Advisory Committee in response to the Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan.

Item Summary:

Wake County continues to work in partnership with transit stakeholders on implementation of the Wake County Transit Plan. On February 17th, the Transit Planning Advisory Committee released the Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan for public review and comment. The Annual Work Plan outlines projected revenue along with operating and capital expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year. On March 13, 2017, staff presented the Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan to the Board of Commissioners' Transit Committee.

Highlights of the Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan include the following:

- Increased weekend and evening bus service for Raleigh and Cary and more frequent service between downtown Raleigh and RDU;
- Continuation of express routes connecting Knightdale, Zebulon, Wendell, and Fuquay-Varina;
- Provides an additional 9,000 rides for County residents living in rural areas;
- Starts the planning process to determine best solutions for bus rapid transit (BRT) and commuter rail;
- Funds efforts for public engagement, communications and marketing;
- Establishes additional staff and administrative resources for administration of the Tax District and Transit Plan; and
- Builds capital reserves for future year expenditures/increases operating reserves.

Staff has prepared a letter in response to the Recommended FY18 Transit Work Plan. The letter, directed to the Chair of the Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC), includes comments prepared by staff and those provided by Commissioners. The comments include funding of additional upgrades to bus stops, requested policy studies to address environmental goals and the customer experience on all transit services, and a request to review elements in the FY 2018 draft work plan for cost sharing and reduction in costs. The TPAC, as authorized by the Transit Governance ILA, is a committee composed of technical staff from transit providers, CAMPO, Wake County, NCSU, and all twelve municipalities located in Wake County. The TPAC will review all public and agency comments and finalize the FY18 Transit Work Plan for consideration of adoption by CAMPO and GoTriangle in June.

Attachments:

1. Letter to the Transit Planning Advisory Committee