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## Total \$785,038

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The recommended appropriations to the Master Plan Improvements projects are for oversizing and reimbursement agreements with developers so that water lines are built to sizing recommended by the Master Plan. There is additional funding of \$191,117 already budgeted in this budget line item. This transfer will result in total funding for oversizing of \$291,117. The Critical Needs Improvements includes water line improvement projects totaling \$685,038 defined as follows:

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Grove Park Area Improvements \$500,000

North Fork/Right Fork Rd and Walkertown Rd 39,000

Eloise Street 39,000

King Street 71,038

Cub St/Trade St/Rector St (50% cost share) 36,000

\$685,038

The Grove Park Area Improvements will create a new intermediate pressure zone (HGL=2700) between the North Fork Water Treatment Plan to West Asheville Reservoir pressure zone and the Patton Mountain pressure zone. Currently there is a long and narrow area along the west slope of the Patton Mountain/Beaucatcher Mountain range from the Grovewood Park subdivision to near the Beaucatcher Cut and from the Grove Park Inn to Sunset Drive and Old Toll Road which is subject to low pressures anytime a major transmission line between Haw Creek and Beaucatcher Mountain is reduced for maintenance. The new pressure zone will add needed reliability to this described area.

The North Fork Road and Eloise Street projects are sections of the water system that need to be upgraded to 6" and 8" lines to avoid low pressure problems and during peak times. The King Street project will replace an old galvanized water main, which causes frequent maintenance and repair.

The Cub Street/Trade Street/Rector Street project will replace old water lines with new lines sized for adequate fire protection. This project is being moved up on the priority list to coincide with other infrastructure and housing improvements by Mountain Housing Opportunities (MHO) and will be funded 50% by Community Development Block Grant funds allocated to MHO.

Staff is recommending the approval of an amendment to the 35 Fund to reflect the transfer of \$785,038 from the Fiscal Year 2001-02 Water Fund Budget for the project recommendations identified above. This transfer will become effective July 1, 2001.

The Regional Water Authority approved the amending of Capital Project Ordinance 82-25 (35 Fund) at their May 22, 2001, meeting.

Staff recommends approval of the a budget amendment to the 35 Fund to reflect the changes identified above.

## **Amendment to Water 29 Fund**

Summary: The consideration of a budget amendment (29 Fund - Water Bond Capital Improvements Fund) to reflect the transfer of \$2 million in N. C. Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources Grant Funds from the 35 Fund (Water Major Capital Improvements Fund).

By Resolution 92-17 dated May 19, 1992, the Regional Water Authority (Authority) authorized and budgeted for various capital projects to be funded by City Water Bond Proceeds in the 29 Fund. By Resolution 82-25 dated October 5, 1982, the Authority authorized and budgeted for various capital projects to be funded by Investment Earnings, Contributions From Other Funds and Appropriated Fund Balance in the 35 Fund.

On August 15, 2000, the Authority approved an amendment to the 35 Fund (Water Major Capital Improvements Fund) to reflect funding from the \$2 Million High Unit Cost Grant received from the State for Critical Needs Phase II. On December 19, 2000, the Authority approved a \$1 million increase in the 29 Fund (Water Bond Capital Projects Fund) for Critical Needs Phase II to be funded with a portion of \$13.3 million 2001 Revenue Bond Issue. Both of these budget amendments were also approved by City Council. Staff is recommending transferring the grant

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funds of \$2 million from the 35 Fund to the 29 Fund, so that the total funding for the Critical Needs Phase II projects in the amount of \$3 million can be managed in one fund. Staff recommends increasing revenues for State Grant DEH-087 in the amount of \$2 million and increasing the appropriations for Critical Needs Improvements from \$1 million to \$3 million.

The Regional Water Authority approved the amending Capital Project Ordinance 92-17 (29 Fund) at their May 22, 2001, meeting.

Staff recommends approval of a budget amendment to the 29 Fund to reflect the changes identified above.

## **Revisions to Standard Specifications & Details Manual**

Summary: The consideration of a resolution amending the Asheville Standard Specifications and Details Manual to include fire flow and fire hydrant requirements for buildings.

On May 15, 2001, Mayor Sitnick sent a letter to the State Fire Marshal's office, on behalf of City Council, requesting that they remove fire protection water supply requirements from the Asheville amendments to the North Carolina Building Code – Volume V – Fire Prevention. The letter also stated that the City planned to place fire protection water supply requirements in the Asheville Standards and Specifications Manual. The State Building Code Council will be holding its semi-annual meeting from June 11 through June 13, 2001. It is anticipated that they will act on this request at this meeting.

Staff will be requesting additional changes to the Asheville Standards and Specifications Manual in July of this year.

City staff recommends that City Council adopt the addition to the Asheville Standard Specifications and Details Manual to include fire flow and fire hydrant requirements for buildings.

## **Donation to Mounted Patrol**

Summary: The consideration of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept on behalf of the City a donation from The Susanne Marcus Collins Foundation, Inc., and to adopt a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$7,500 to add the donation to the police operating budget.

The Susanne Marcus Collins Foundation, Inc., has donated \$7,500 to support the Asheville Police Department's Mounted Patrol . The funds are intended to purchase one Bay American Quarter Horse, which will enable the Police Department provide better police services to the citizens of downtown Asheville.

City staff recommends City Council adopt a (1) resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept the donation; and (2) budget amendment, in the amount of \$7,500, to appropriate funds in the police operating budget.

### **Establishment of Clean Air Community Trust**

Summary: The consideration of a resolution authorizing establishment of a clean air community trust.

Last year, the City and Buncombe County agreed to establish a clean air community trust for the purpose of seeking and administering grants and undertaking other programs in furtherance of local air quality.

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Since then, we have been working with the County's attorneys and members of the air quality agency to develop a trust agreement and by-laws for this purpose. Our progress has been affected by the pendency of a lawsuit regarding the distribution of funds collected by the air quality agency. However, the trust documents specify that the funding for the trust is to be from money from private sources or that is not restricted by law.

To this end, the Buncombe County Medical Society and Alliance Endowment has made a significant contribution to the County for purposes of the initial funding for the trust, and other members of the community have expressed their desire to help get it started.

Currently under review are the by-laws for the trust. A recommended draft of that document should be available by your June 5 worksession.

The Buncombe County Commissioners are planning to act on June 5 to authorize establishment of the trust, and may appoint the County's three initial trustees. Following adoption of the resolution authorizing the trust and approving the by-laws, Council should act to appoint its initial two trustees.

If Council wishes to establish the Clean Air Community Trust, adoption of the resolution is recommended.

Mayor Sitnick asked that the record show that City Council has received this information and instructs the City Manager to place these items on the next formal City Council agenda.

### **AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Airport Director Mike Armour updated City Council on the Airport's Master Plan. He reviewed the short-term, intermediate and long-term development projects, along with costs associated with the projects.

### **BENCHMARK – COMMUNITY PROGRESS REPORT**

Mr. Bob Burgin presented City Council with their third set of benchmarks "Your Community Progress Report." He said our community and its leaders have come to rely on this set of objective measurements that track our achievement and bring light to our shortcomings.

He explained the VISION's achievements this year include: (1) aggressive leadership to assure we will have an education system that is number one for MSAs our size – our efforts to increase graduation rates resulted in a diverse, community-owned Education Coalition between school systems, 30 community organizations, and colleges that has developed strategies for all students to succeed and graduate on time; (2) county-wide

community dialogues among diverse groups of citizens on the future of our transportation system – a consensus-building strategy that will inform the Dept. of Transportation's financial priorities for our area; and (3) building partnerships and spotlighting opportunities to assure a viable future – outcomes like creating an extension policy for our sewer system, reinstating bus service along US 70 to Black Mountain, building strategies to retain and recruit local 18 to 34 year olds, and renewing Woodfin's agreement with Asheville Water Authority .

Soon the VISION will implement another long-term leadership initiative to spotlight our economic goals. Our goals in health, quality of life, housing, infrastructure, and government

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hinge on our economic benchmarks. We plan to use our success in focusing the whole community on our educational vision as a template to engage every partner and the voice of citizens.

VISION needs City Council's commitment in three ways. First, they asked for Council's continued financial commitment for Fiscal Year 2000-01 to maintain their broad base of community support. Second, they asked for Council's input as they provide diverse, citizen-driven leadership to make our VISION a reality. Last, they asked Council to review the Community Progress Report and institute the VISION goals into local planning.

Councilwoman Field said that she has undertaken the task of putting City Council's Code of Ethics in written form.

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Sitnick thanked Asheville-Buncombe VISION Inc. for their work.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY BUDGET**

Mr. Jack Tate, Chairman of the Regional Water Authority of Asheville, Buncombe and Henderson, presented City Council with the request for approval of the Fiscal year 2001-02 Water Fund Budget in the amount of \$21,917,801.

He said that this budget is based on an overall 3.1% rate increase across the board for residential and non-residential customers as recommended and approved by the Regional Water Authority on May 22, 2001. This rate increase will provide for adequate debt service coverage and essential operations and maintenance programs. It will also provide for contributions to the capital improvements fund to meet the Authority's long-term capital improvements needs. This budget also assumes growth in billing revenues that vary according to projected demand patterns for each customer class. The average growth rate for all customer classes is estimated to be approximately 1.275% in Fiscal Year 2001-02.

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