



## Legislation Text

File #: [22-0639], Version: 1

### Approve a Regional Bus Procurement Interlocal Agreement (ILA).

**Staff:**

Brian Litchfield, Transit Director  
Nick Pittman, Assistant Director

**Department:**

Transit  
Transit

**Overview:** In order to fulfill the expectations of its funding partners (the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Town of Carrboro), the Town of Chapel Hill must achieve its primary goal of providing the best and most reliable transit services possible to its customers. The Parties agree that the acquisition of buses, parts, and equipment to provide public transit service is generally more cost-effective when done jointly, as provided through the Interlocal Agreement (ILA). Over the past several months Chapel Hill Transit, City of Durham, and Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (d/b/a GoTriangle) staff members have been developing a regional bus procurement strategy allowing the agencies to potentially acquire heavy duty transit buses, bus equipment and parts. As there are several partners and other transit agencies in the state could purchase off this contract, we anticipate going out to bid for electric, hybrid, and diesel buses as agencies have different interests. This ILA is consistent with previously approved ILAs.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Manager to sign the Interlocal Agreement for the Procurement of Buses, Bus Equipment, and Parts between Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham, and the Town of Chapel Hill.

**Additional Background:**

- Chapel Hill Town Council reviewed and authorized the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Durham and GoTriangle in 2015 that expired in March 2021. This is an update to that agreement.
- The Transit Partner's Committee reviewed and endorsed the updated Interlocal Agreement at its August 25, 2022 meeting.
- The five-year contract that results from this Interlocal Agreement for joint procurement will allow the Town of Chapel Hill to purchase transit buses at competitive prices for the life of the contract.

**Key Issues:**

- To fulfill the expectations of the funding partners, the Town of Chapel Hill must achieve its primary goal of providing the best and most reliable transit services possible to its customers.
- In light of their physical proximity, close working relationships, and common service interests, staff of GoTriangle, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill have agreed that the acquisition of buses, bus parts, and bus equipment to provide transportation services can be more effectively and efficiently provided through an Interlocal Agreement that assigns certain procurement responsibilities to one Party acting as Lead Agency.
- Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (d/b/a GoTriangle) has agreed to be the Lead Agency and will coordinate the development of the procurement documents and

specifications.

- The Town of Chapel Hill's bus fleet continues to age, with over 25 heavy duty transit buses beyond their useful life as defined by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines and requires replacement at the quickest pace possible depending on funding availability to maintain its high customer service standards.
- State law authorizes Interlocal Agreements of this nature pursuant to N.C.G.S. Chapter 160A, Article 20.
- The Interlocal Agreement protects the business interests of the Town by ensuring that the procurement is carried out in compliance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements and N.C.G.S. §143-129, Procedure for Letting of Public Contracts.

**Fiscal Impact/Resources:** The agreement authorizes the issuance of an Invitation for Bid for buses, bus equipment, and parts and does not commit the Town to making any purchase(s). The Parties agree that the acquisition of buses, parts, and equipment to provide public transit service is generally more cost-effective when done jointly, as provided through the Interlocal Agreement.



**Attachments:**

- Resolution
- Interlocal Agreement for Procurement of Buses, Bus Equipment and Parts between City of Durham, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority and Town of Chapel Hill.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AMONG RESEARCH TRIANGLE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, CITY OF DURHAM, AND TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF BUSES, BUS EQUIPMENT AND PARTS. (2022-09-14/R-3)**

WHEREAS, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill each have responsibility for providing quality transportation services for a portion of their respective populations; and

WHEREAS, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill, in order to fulfill this common mission, must acquire a fleet of buses and the parts and equipment necessary to maintain those vehicles and keep them in service; and

WHEREAS, in light of their physical proximity, close working relationship and common service interests, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill have agreed that the acquisition of buses, bus parts and bus equipment to provide transportation services can be more effectively and efficiently provided through an Interlocal Agreement and the assignment of certain procurement responsibilities to one procuring agent; and

WHEREAS, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill have agreed to have the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority serve as the procuring agent for the buses, bus equipment and parts necessary to provide quality transportation services in their service areas; and

WHEREAS, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill have agreed to collaborate on certain aspects of the procurement process to ensure that their interests are represented; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted in Chapter 160A-461 et seq. of the North Carolina General Statutes, Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill are authorized to enter into an Interlocal Agreement to achieve the above stated goals.

WHEREAS, the Transit Partner's Committee reviewed and endorsed the updated Interlocal Agreement at its August 25, 2022 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council authorizes the Town Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Chapel Hill, the City of Durham and Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority delegating procurement authority to the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority to conduct procurement for buses, bus equipment and parts as described in the September 14, 2022 meeting materials.

This the 14th day of September, 2022.

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**The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.**

By adopting the resolution, the Council authorizes the Town Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement among Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority, City of Durham, and Town of Chapel Hill for the Procurement of Buses, Bus Equipment and parts.