

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.B2

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: January 29, 2013

**TITLE: Update on Chapel Hill Transit Budget and Activities for FY13-14**

<b>DEPARTMENT: Planning</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___NO__X__</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> A. Resolution B. Excerpt from December 18, 2012, Transit Partners' Committee	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> Jeff Brubaker – 918-7329 Brian Litchfield, CHT – 269-4908

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to report on the Chapel Hill Transit's (CHT) ongoing projects and financial information relevant to the preparation of the FY2013-14 budget, including:

- Long Term Financial Sustainability Plan
- Pay for Park and Ride
- Transit Sales Tax
- FY14 Budget Projections

Of particular interest to the Town of Carrboro is the proposal to begin charging fees at some public park-and-ride lots, concurrent with UNC's planned fees for its Commuter Alternatives Program (CAP) park-and-ride lots starting in August 2013.

### INFORMATION

Town of Carrboro, Town of Chapel Hill, and University of North Carolina collaborate on policymaking for Chapel Hill Transit via the Transit Partners' Committee. Chapel Hill Transit staff have proposed instituting a fee to park at Chapel Hill Transit park-and-ride lots. An excerpt from the December Transit Partners' Committee meeting is included as background (*Attachment B*).

Summary points regarding Carrboro's two Carrboro park-and-ride lots are outlined below.

#### **Jones Ferry Park-and-Ride**

- Ownership: University of North Carolina, includes all of University Lake property
- The 7.73 acres for the lot is leased to the Town of Chapel Hill at \$1 per year.
- Annexed and CUP granted by Town of Carrboro – October 23, 2001
- Constructed in 2002
- First day of use: October 28, 2002
- Number of spaces: 443
- Cost to build: \$1,134,000
- Construction funding: generally, 80% Federal Transit Administration grant, 10% state funding, 10% local funding

### **Carrboro Plaza Park-and-Ride**

- Ownership: Carrboro Shopping Center, LLC
- The 2.025 acres for the lot is leased to Town of Chapel Hill for \$1.00. ToCH is also required to pay a management fee of \$200.00 per month. These expenses appear to be covered by an FTA capital grant. At the beginning of the lease, ToCH paid a one-time reimbursement to the owner of \$34,727 for pre-development expenses incurred by the owner. It is a 20-year lease made January 21, 1999.
- Constructed in ~2000
- Park-and-ride service has operated in Carrboro Plaza since 1985. In 1999, the shopping center owner gave notice that the then-current parking lot would not be available for park-and-ride. The lot was located where there are now two outparcels containing a gas station and fast food restaurant.
- Number of spaces: 145
- Cost to build: construction budget was \$550,000
- Construction funding: generally, 80% Federal Transit Administration grant, 10% state funding, 10% local funding

The CHT proposal includes the Jones Ferry Park-and-Ride but not the Carrboro Plaza Park-and-Ride.

Some issues for the Board to consider include:

- Potential for increasing demand for unlawful, day-long park-and-ride at municipal lots near bus route.
- Carrboro Plaza is not included in the proposal. Sec. 11 – Assignability – in the Carrboro Plaza lease requires prior written consent from Carrboro Plaza before CHT can “assign, sublet, or license” the premises.
- CHT consideration of eliminating CPX express bus route to/from Carrboro Plaza if lot stays free.

### **FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT**

No fiscal impacts accrue from receiving the report.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

A resolution receiving the report is provided *Attachment A*. Space is provided for the Board to comment on the proposal, should it wish to do so.