

## REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

### HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**MEETING DATE:** August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

**SUBJECT:** VW Settlement Grant Award

**PRESENTER:** Christine Wittmeier

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
1. VW Settlement Grant Award Letter

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

In 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency cited Volkswagen (VW) with a Notice of Violation for manufacturing and installing emissions defeat devices in diesel engine vehicles. This \$2.9 billion settlement will be used to fund U.S. projects that reduce emissions, and North Carolina received about \$92 million. The settlement divided the funding into three phases over the next five years. At the Board's September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 meeting, the Board approved staff to apply for both the Diesel Bus and Vehicle program, and the DC Fast Charger program.

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Henderson County was awarded \$111,989.53 for the DC Fast Charger Program that funds 100% of the equipment for a DC Fast Electric Vehicle charging station on government owned property available to the public. The location is in the 95 Courthouse overflow lot on 4th Avenue and is within a priority corridor that received funding preference. The location also met other station requirements including filling in charging station gaps, accessibility to the general public and being within a short walking distance to retail or service establishments. The charging station requires two parking spots and if interested, the County could expand to four with additional funding opportunities coming soon for Level 2 chargers.

The DC Fast Charging Station provides various benefits to the County including supplying 80% of the vehicle's charge in less than 30 minutes, diversifying fuel options for citizens, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting the expansion of green infrastructure that could also support the County's motor fleet, and providing a highly visible example of the county's environmental values. It also includes an additional feature of a solar canopy that will supply power to the charging station, lessening the environmental impact. The solar power generated can be sold to the grid, sent into a building to offset grid electricity, or stored in an on-site battery for emergency situations.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to accept the grant and authorize executing the award letter for the Department of Environmental Quality's VW Settlement grant award of \$111,989.53 for a DC Fast Charging station at the 95 Courthouse overflow parking lot.

#### **Suggested Motion:**

*I move that the Board accept the grant and authorize executing the award letter for the Department of Environmental Quality's VW Settlement grant award of \$111,989.53 for a DC Fast Charging station at the 95 Courthouse overflow parking lot.*



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER  
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
Secretary

July 24, 2020

Christine Brown  
Henderson County  
1 Historic Courthouse Sq  
Hendersonville NC 28792  
Application Number: DCP0032  
DAQ Grant Management System Number: 1000009700

Dear Christine Brown:

I am pleased to inform you that the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality is awarding your proposed Volkswagen Settlement DC Fast ZEV Infrastructure Program project in the amount of \$111,989.53. We are excited about your project entitled Courthouse Overflow.

Project Details:

<b>Project Location</b>	Courthouse Overflow 200 N Grove St #163, Hendersonville, NC 28792	
<b>Number of Ports</b>	<b>Charging kW</b>	<b>Number of Parking Spaces</b>
1	50	2

Thank you for your interest in reducing emissions in North Carolina. We look forward to working with you on this worthwhile endeavor and receiving reports on the success of this project so that we may learn how to best use funding in future phases.

Dave Willis from my staff will contact you once the VW funds have been distributed to DAQ to begin the State contract process. **Please do not start any work on this project until there is a fully executed (signed by representatives of both organizations) contract in place.** We cannot reimburse for work performed or items purchased before a contract is in place. Should you have any questions or need further information, you may contact Dave Willis via telephone at 919-733-1482 or email at [dave.willis@ncdenr.gov](mailto:dave.willis@ncdenr.gov).



Christine Brown  
Henderson County  
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**Applicants must log into the NC DAQ Grant Management System to view application and claim status, submit invoices and documents for reimbursement. Completed Access Authorization Forms (attached) for your organization must be returned with your acceptance of this award.**

Sincerely,



Michael S. Regan, Secretary  
Department of Environmental Quality

MSR/WDW

Enclosures

cc: Dave Willis



Henderson County  
1 Historic Courthouse Sq  
Hendersonville NC 28792  
Application Number: DCP0032  
DAQ Grant Management System Number: 1000009700

Please check the corresponding box if you accept or decline the award. Email a signed and dated copy to [svc.NCVWApplication@ncdenr.gov](mailto:svc.NCVWApplication@ncdenr.gov) within **15 business days of letter receipt**. **If NCDEQ does not receive your acceptance of the award within that time, your award will be forfeited.** This acceptance is non-binding until such time as the contract is fully executed.

Accept

Decline

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Authorized Representative Name

Date

**Please include completed Access Authorization Forms (attached) for your organization. Each organization is allowed up to 3 authorized users.**

