

Attachment C: FY 2026 Community Funding Area Program

Selection Process and Results

The Wake County Transit Plan's Community Funding Area Program (CFAP) was envisioned as a competitive program providing an opportunity for 10 Wake County municipalities and Research Triangle Park (RTP) as eligible recipients to receive match funding for planning, capital, operating, or combined capital/operating transit projects. The CFAP was created as part of the Wake Transit Plan's Four Big Moves, Big Move #4: Access to Transit, to provide an opportunity for areas in Wake County that would otherwise have limited fixed-route transit services to create or accelerate public transportation services and programs.

During the FY26 Application cycle, CAMPO staff received a total of four (4) applications from four different applicants. The Town of Apex submitted two projects – A capital application for bus stop improvements and an operating application to improve the frequency of the GoApex Route 1 Circulator to 30-minute all-day service. The Town of Holly Springs applied for funding to launch a new microtransit service for the town. This would be the Town of Holly Springs' first all-day transit service. The town of Wake Forest submitted an operating application to continue the Go Wake Forest Microtransit Service. This service was launched in October 2024 and is being self-funded until June 2025. This service replaces the underperforming fixed-route Wake Forest Circulator. The Town had applied for funding last fiscal year to realign their circulators; however, they withdrew that application to pursue a microtransit service instead.

Project scoring was done by CAMPO staff during the month of January and in accordance with the scoring rubric outlined in the CFA Program Management Plan. The Town of Wake Forest's operating project was the highest scoring application with 70 points out of a possible 100 points. The Town of Apex's capital application scored 69 points, while their operating application and the Town of Holly Springs' application scored 64 points.

	Geographic Balance	Local / Regional Benefits	Transit Need	Cost Effectiveness	Project Readiness	Total Score
FY20 Wake Forest Reverse Circulator (Reference)	20	5	20	5	14	64
FY21 GoApex Route 1 (Reference)	20	15	20	0	28	83
FY21 Morrisville Smart Shuttle (Reference)	20	16	20	0	25	81
FY24 Apex – Bus Stop Improvements (Reference)	0	19	20	5	23	67
FY25 GoWake SmartRide	20	2	20	0*	25	67
FY25 Apex- Bus Stop Improvements	0	19	20	5	23	67
FY26 Apex – Bus Stop Improvements	0	19	20	5	25	69
FY26 GoApex Route 1 Frequency Improvements	0	19	20	0	25	64
Holly Springs Microtransit Service	20	5	16	5	18	64

Figure 1. Scoring for Submitted Capital and Operating Applications in FY26

The selection committee convened twice- once during the month of February and once in March. The first meeting was on Friday, February 21st. The committee consisted of planning staff from the City of Raleigh, Central Pines Regional Council, CAMPO, Town of Morrisville, and Wake Forest. Upon review of the applications, the committee provided CAMPO staff with several questions and comments. The committee expressed concerns over the Town of Wake Forest’s application’s high cost as well as their plans to double their service given their current demand. There was also an issue with how the town was being billed for their service by Via. Despite these concerns, the committee was impressed overall with this application. The committee was satisfied overall with the two applications from the Town of Apex but requested more specific information regarding their bus stop improvements as well as potential opportunities to experiment with 30-minute service before moving to all-day service. The committee was also satisfied with the Town of Holly Springs’ operating application but was concerned that the Town may need to request more funding at some point in the fiscal year based on the ridership numbers they provided. These comments were sent to the applicants who subsequently provided responses

The selection committee reconvened on February 23rd and made their final recommendations. Based on the responses from the applicants, the committee was comfortable recommending all four projects for funding in the FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan.

There was a total of \$1,879,487 available in this cycle for new projects. After the final recommendations, a total of \$331,135 remains in the fund balance, leaving \$920,059 available for new project funding in FY27 based on the information in the FY26 Draft Wake Transit Work Plan.

Total Funds in CFA Program	\$3,911,116	
Total Available Funds for New Projects in FY26	\$1,879,487	
Geographic Balance Cap (30% of funds in the CFA Program)	\$1,173,334.80	
	Funding Request	10% Contingency
Apex Bus Stop Improvements (Capital)	\$100,000	\$110,000
GoApex Route 1 Frequency Improvements	\$61,143	\$67,257.30
Holly Springs Microtransit Service	\$257,000	\$282,700
Go Wake Forest Microtransit Service	\$989,449.76	\$1,088,395
TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING IN TO005-Z (Reserve)	\$471,894.24	\$331,135
Total Funds in FY26 Requested by Apex	\$161,143	\$177,257.30
Total Funds in FY26 Requested by Holly Springs	\$257,000	\$282,700
Total Funds in FY26 Requested by Wake Forest	\$989,449.76	\$1,088,395

Figure 2. CFA Funding Requests for FY26

Request	FY26 Request	Total Cost	Request	Context
Apex-Capital	\$110,000	\$110,000	~12 stops identified for potential improvements	Town has total of 45 bus stops, some requiring additional ROW acquisition for improvements
Apex- Operating	\$67,257.30	\$569,003	All-day 30-minute service for GoApex Route 1	Improves reliability in Apex, which is the 3 rd largest municipality in Wake County
Wake Forest	\$1,088,395	\$1,088,395	Continuation and expansion of all-day microtransit service	Replaced the underperforming WF loop, circulator had a cost/rider of \$74/boarding and 1.5 Pax/Revenue Hour. Current Service operating at \$19/boarding and over 11 Pax/Revenue Hour. CFA cost of circulator in FY25 was \$425,180
Holly Springs	\$282,700	\$282,700	Implementation of all-day microtransit service	First all-day service for Holly Springs, 6 th largest municipality in Wake County

Figure 3. Summary of FY26 Requests + Expansion