

CERTIFIED STATEMENT
FY2026
RURAL OPERATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
County of **Union**

WHEREAS, the state-funded, formula-based Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) administered by the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Integrated Mobility Division provides funding for the operating cost of passenger trips for counties within the state;

WHEREAS, the county uses the most recent transportation plans (i.e., CCP, CTIP, LCP) available and other public involvement strategies to learn about the transportation needs of agencies and individuals in the county before determining the sub-allocation of these ROAP funds;

WHEREAS, the county government or regional public transportation authorities created pursuant to Article 25 or Article 26 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes (upon written agreement with the municipalities or counties served) are the only eligible recipients of Rural Operating Assistance Program funds which are allocated to the counties based on a formula as described in the Program Guidelines included in the ROAP State Management Plan. NCDOT will disburse the ROAP funds only to counties and eligible transportation authorities and not to any sub-recipients selected by the county;

WHEREAS, the county finance officer will be considered the county official accountable for the administration of the Rural Operating Assistance Program in the county, unless otherwise designated by the Board of County Commissioners;

WHEREAS, the passenger trips provided with ROAP funds must be accessible to individuals with disabilities and be provided without discrimination on the basis of national origin, creed, age, race, or gender (FTA C 4702.1B, FTA C 4704.1A, Americans with Disabilities Act 1990); and

WHEREAS, the period of performance for these funds will be July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 regardless of the date on which ROAP funds are disbursed to the county.

NOW, THEREFORE, by signing below, the duly authorized representatives of the County of Union North Carolina certify that the following statements are true and accurate:

- The county employed a documented methodology for sub-allocating ROAP funds that involved the participation of eligible agencies and citizens. Outreach efforts to include the participation of the elderly and individuals with disabilities, persons with limited English proficiency, minorities and low-income persons in the county's sub-allocation decision have been documented.
- The county will advise any sub-recipients about the source of the ROAP funds, specific program requirements and restrictions, eligible program expenses and reporting requirements. The county will be responsible for invoicing any sub-recipients for unexpended ROAP funds as needed.
- The county will monitor ROAP funded services routinely to verify that ROAP funds are being spent on allowable activities and that the eligibility of service recipients is being properly documented. The county will maintain records of trips for at least five years that prove that an eligible citizen was provided an eligible transportation service on the billed date, by whatever conveyance at the specified cost.
- The county will be responsible for monitoring the safety, quality, and cost of ROAP funded services and assures that any procurements by subrecipients for contracted services will follow state and federal guidelines.
- The county will conduct regular evaluations of ROAP funded passenger trips provided throughout the period of performance.
- The county will only use the ROAP funds to provide trips when other funding sources are not available for the same purpose or the other funding sources for the same purpose have been completely exhausted.

- The county will notify the Regional Grant Specialist assigned to the county if any ROAP funded services are discontinued before the end of the period of performance due to the lack of funding. No additional ROAP funds will be available.
- The county will provide an accounting of trips and expenditures in monthly reports to NCDOT – Integrated Mobility Division or its designee. **Back-up documentation is required to support the monthly reports, failure to provide documentation will affect future disbursements. The June report will be considered the annual report.**
- Any interest earned on the ROAP funds will be expended for eligible program uses as specified in the ROAP application. The County will include ROAP funds received and expended in its annual independent audit on the schedule of federal and state financial assistance. Funds passed through to other agencies will be identified as such.
- The county is applying for the following amount of FY2026 Rural Operating Assistance Program funds: *The total amount of allocated funds are identified in the Total Disbursement (columns L-O) on the allocation table. The amount of requested funds cannot exceed the amount of allocated (disbursed) funds listed in the application table. Funds are allowed to be transferred to ROAP programs as needed, according to transfer criteria. Transfers must be recorded in the monthly ROAP report in the month transferred.

State-Funded Rural Operating Assistance Program	Allocated*(Disbursed)	Requested
Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (EDTAP)	\$125,890	<u>\$125,890</u>
Employment Transportation Assistance Program (EMPL)	\$46,526	<u>\$46,526</u>
Rural General Public Program (RGP)	\$106,367	<u>\$106,367</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$278,783</u>	<u>\$278,783</u>

WITNESS my hand and county seal, this 20 day of October, 2025.

Signature of County Manager/Administrator

Brian W. Matthews

Printed Name of County Manager/Administrator

Signature of County Finance Officer

Beverly L. Liles

Printed Name of County Finance Officer

State of North Carolina County of Union

County Seal Here