

**CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING  
300 WEST CROWELL STREET  
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112  
DECEMBER 9, 2025 – 4:30 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

**[www.monroenc.org](http://www.monroenc.org)**

1. On-Demand Microtransit Program Update
2. Police Department Overview
3. Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(3) *Lisa Metzger vs. City of Monroe, North Carolina and Robert Burns in Official Capacity as Mayor of City of Monroe, North Carolina*, (a)(4) and (a)(5)

- **All Phones/Pagers:** As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers while Meeting is in progress.



## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** City Council

**VIA:** Mark Watson, City Manager

**DATE:** December 9, 2025

**FROM:** Jeff Wells, Assistant City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Lisa Stiwinter, Director of Planning and Development

**SUBJECT:** On-Demand Microtransit Program Discussion

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### SUMMARY STATEMENT

City Council is requested to consider and discuss On-Demand Microtransit Program.

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### REVIEW

At the August 12<sup>th</sup> Strategic City Council meeting, planning staff provided a presentation on On-Demand Microtransit at the request of Mayor Pro Tem Anthony and Council Member McGee. The presentation provided background information on the definition of On-Demand Microtransit, why it is important, the benefits and challenges, and the need to conduct a feasibility study.

City Council voted to continue the Microtransit discussions at the September Special Planning Retreat and directed staff to seek partnerships with neighboring municipalities and Union County Transportation.

The September Special Planning Retreat, planning staff and Grady McCollum, Program and Project Management Branch Manager for the NC Department of Transportation and Integrated Mobility Division (NCDOT IMD) joined efforts in presenting additional research, findings and staff observations on microtransit. The presentation provided City Council with an overview of microtransit, funding opportunities, two example microtransit programs, an average time frame and cost for implementation. Prior to the September meeting, planning staff reached out to neighboring municipalities to seek interested parties to join Monroe's microtransit discussions and received a response from Union County Transportation, Town of Stallings and Town of Indian Trail.

At the September Special Planning meeting, City Council voted to put a hold on applying for planning funds to perform a feasibility study this budget year. City Council provided direction to

staff to seek partners from neighboring municipalities interested in contributing financially to a microtransit feasibility study.

A kick-off microtransit discussion meeting was held at the beginning of November with Union County Planning and Transportation, Town of Stallings, Town of Indian Trail and the City of Monroe. Cindy Forrester, Division Manager of Fleet Services with the City of Gastonia and Grady McCollum, Program and Project Branch Manager for the NCDOT IMD joined the kickoff meeting. An overview of microtransit was provided by planning staff, Ms. Forrester presented the GoGastonia microtransit system and Mr. McCollum assisted with answering any questions.

The kick-off meeting served as the first step in the microtransit discussions with neighboring municipalities that focused on education and building relationships. After the kick-off meeting, the following has taken place:

- The Town of Indian Trail Administration and Planning Director met to discuss the potential microtransit program concept. Due to the upcoming elections, Indian Trail decided to put a hold on discussing with elected officials until they have been seated into office and had an opportunity to determine their priorities.
- Union County planning and transportation have decided to take the microtransit program concept to their Transportation Advisory Board in January for feedback and Board of County Commissioners in February.

Steps moving forward include:

1. Hold additional meetings with the Town of Indian Trail, Town of Stallings and Union County Transportation that will consist of continuing to educate, raise awareness, build relationships and discuss next steps for microtransit for our community.
2. Planning staff will continue to seek additional partners beyond just neighboring municipalities.
3. Coordinate a meeting with Administration from neighboring municipalities along Hwy 74. The purpose of the meeting is to develop relationships with each municipality that touches Hwy 74 that will serve to build collaboration over various project and program initiatives.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff is requesting that City Council hold discussion on the On-Demand Microtransit Program and provide direction.



## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** City Council

**VIA:** Mark Watson, City Manager

**DATE:** November 25, 2025

**FROM:** Rhett Bolen, Chief of Police

**PREPARED BY:** TJ Goforth, Asst. Chief

**SUBJECT:** Monroe Police Department overview

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### SUMMARY STATEMENT

Staff will provide an update on the current status of the Monroe Police Department.

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### REVIEW

Staff wishes to provide information to Council regarding the performance and organization of the Monroe Police Department.

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### RECOMMENDATION

For informational purposes only.



## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** City Council

**VIA:** Mark Watson, City Manager

**DATE:** December 9, 2025

**FROM:** Richard Long, City Attorney

**PREPARED BY:** Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk

**SUBJECT:** Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(3) *Lisa Metzger vs. City of Monroe, North Carolina and Robert Burns in Official Capacity as Mayor of City of Monroe, North Carolina*, (a)(4) and (a)(5)

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### SUMMARY STATEMENT

City Council is asked to approve a motion to go into Closed Session.

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### REVIEW

City Council is permitted to hold a Closed Session in accordance with North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) Sections 143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the laws of the State of North Carolina, (a)(3) to consult with the City's attorneys *Lisa Metzger vs. City of Monroe, North Carolina and Robert Burns in Official Capacity as Mayor of City of Monroe, North Carolina*, (a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body and (a)(5) to establish or instruct Staff concerning the negotiation of the price and terms of a contract concerning the acquisition of real property.

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### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that City Council approve a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5).