

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG MEDIA RELEASE



Blacksburg, SC — October 6, 2026 — The Town of Blacksburg has been awarded an **\$890,092 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant** to help fund Phase 2 of the Town’s Streetscape & Placemaking Master Plan along North Shelby Street.

The grant represents a significant investment in downtown infrastructure, walkability, economic development and community revitalization. The ARC funding will complement the **\$851,952 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** awarded to the Town in December 2025 for the streetscape project.

The improvements are part of the Town’s Streetscape & Placemaking Master Plan, developed in 2024 by Blake Sanders of Studio Main LLC. The ARC award will provide approximately **43.98% of the funding for the North Shelby Street project**.

This latest award is part of a funding effort driven by Town Administrator Shane Childers and the Blacksburg Town Council. This recent funding award brings the Town’s total grant and other funding secured over the past three years for community infrastructure, downtown revitalization and related improvements to approximately **\$6.9 million**.

As previously stated by Town Administrator Shane Childers, the coordinated funding approach allows the Town to address infrastructure needs while advancing its long-term vision for downtown.

“These coordinated investments allow us to improve infrastructure while enhancing the look, safety and functionality of our streets. By aligning multiple funding sources with a single master plan, we are making smart, long-term improvements for our community. These funding awards demonstrate the Town’s commitment to strategic planning, fiscal responsibility and creating a more vibrant and accessible downtown.”

The Town of Blacksburg expressed its appreciation to the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG) and all local, state and federal partners who have contributed to the Town’s ongoing efforts to secure funding and advance these projects.

The Town looks forward to continuing the implementation of its Streetscape & Placemaking Master Plan and investing in the long-term future of downtown Blacksburg.

For more information, please contact:

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