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# Press Release

## **COMMISSIONER CHAIRS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY**

**March 2, 2006** - (*Hendersonville, NC*) - Henderson County Commissioner Chuck McGrady was recently elected Chairman of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). He will serve as chair for a term of one year. Mr. McGrady was appointed as one of Henderson County's representatives to that organization last year. The county's other representative is Commission Chairman Bill Moyer.

The French Broad River MPO is the transportation planning agency serving the urbanized areas of Henderson, Buncombe, and Haywood Counties and all of the municipalities in those counties. MPOs are part of a federal process to conduct local transportation planning in areas with populations over 50,000. The federal government requires urbanized areas to conduct a planning process that is comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative. The MPO process is a partnership between local and state government resulting in decisions about transportation planning. MPOs are charged with developing long-range transportation plans and setting priorities for transportation improvements. Plans and priorities cover all modes of transportation including highways, public transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. There are seven designated MPOs in North Carolina.

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