

Appendix J

Letters of Resolution

The proposed Ecusta Rail Trail is supported by many of the municipalities located along and near the Ecusta corridor. The following agencies submitted letters of support for the project:

- The Council of the Village of Flat Rock
- The Fletcher Town Council
- The City Council of the City of Hendersonville
- The Town Council of the Town of Laurel Park
- The Henderson County Chamber of Commerce



Contents:

Resolution of the Council of the Village of Flat Rock

Resolution of the Fletcher Town Council

Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hendersonville

Resolution of the Town of Laurel Park

Henderson County Chamber of Commerce Statement of Support

RESOLUTION NO. 165

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK
IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL RECREATIONAL
GREENWAY ON THE NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAIL CORRIDOR LINKING
HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, the Norfolk Southern rail corridor, which links Henderson and Transylvania counties, has played a critically important role in the history of development and economic growth in Henderson and Transylvania counties, particularly in support of the region's industrial economic base; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk Southern Railway Company is considering discontinuation of service on the rail corridor between Henderson County and Transylvania County and may abandon the corridor in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of Flat Rock recognizes the importance of maintaining such rail corridor so that rail service may be reestablished in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council recognizes that rail corridors throughout the United States have been converted to regional recreational trails or greenways that contribute significantly to the tourism economy of the regions in which they are located and provide alternative means of transportation while preserving rail corridors for future rail traffic; and

WHEREAS, tourism is a critical component of the economy of Western North Carolina and Henderson County, and the Village Council desires to build upon the existing assets that attract tourists to the region; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council entered into an interlocal agreement with Henderson County to establish the Apple Country Greenway Commission, the purpose of which is to promote and facilitate coordinated direction and guidance in the planning, development and maintenance of a system of greenways throughout Henderson County by the participating governmental units . . ."; and

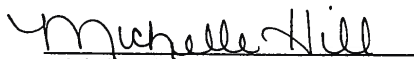
WHEREAS, the Village Council recognizes the economic and transportation benefits of a regional recreational greenway within Western North Carolina and desires that the aforementioned rail corridor be secured and developed as the foundation of a regional recreational greenway system in support of the region's tourism economy, and as an alternative means of transportation;

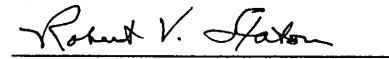
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Flat Rock that:

1. The Village Council hereby supports a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

2. The Village Council respectfully invites the elected governments of Henderson and Transylvania counties and all municipalities within those counties, and other governmental entities and organizations that support economic development, to join in its endorsement of the development of a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.
3. The Village Council respectfully requests the cooperation of the Norfolk Southern Corporation and its Norfolk Southern Railway Company subsidiary in the development of this regional recreational greenway along such rail corridor.
4. The Village Council hereby encourages the Apple Country Greenway Commission and other interested parties to take action as necessary to bring about the development of the aforementioned regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

ADOPTED this 14th day of May 2009.


Michelle Hill
Village Clerk


Robert V. Staton
Mayor



R-09-12

A Resolution in Support of the Development of a Regional Recreational Greenway on The Norfolk & Southern Rail Corridor Linking Henderson and Transylvania Counties.

WHEREAS, the Northern & Southern rail corridor, which links Henderson and Transylvania counties has played a critically important role in the history of development and economic growth in Henderson and Transylvania Counties, particularly in support of the region's industrial economic base; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk & Southern Railroad is considering discontinuation of service on the rail corridor between Henderson County and Transylvania and may abandon the corridor in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Fletcher Town Council recognizes the importance of maintaining the aforementioned rail corridor so that rail service may be re-established in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Fletcher Town Council recognizes the rail corridors throughout the United States have been converted to regional recreational trails or greenways that contribute significantly to the tourism economy of the regions in which they are located and provide alternative means of transportation while preserving rail corridors for future rail traffic; and

WHEREAS, tourism is a critical component of the economy of Western North Carolina and Fletcher and the Town Council desires to build upon the existing assets that attract tourists to the region; and

WHEREAS, the Fletcher Town Council recognizes the economic and transportation benefits of a regional recreational greenway within western North Carolina and desires the aforementioned rail corridor be secured and developed as the foundation of a regional recreational greenway system in support of the region's tourism economy, and as an alternative means of transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLETCHER TOWN COUNCIL THAT:

Section 1. The Fletcher Town Council hereby supports a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties:

Section 2. The Town Council respectively invites the elected governments of Henderson and Transylvania Counties and all municipalities within those counties, and other governmental entities and organizations that support economic development, to join

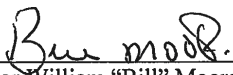
in our endorsement of the development of a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

Section 3. The Fletcher Town Council respectfully requests that cooperation of Norfolk & Southern Corporation in the development of this regional recreational greenway along its rail corridor.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption and approval.

Adopted this the 8th day of June 2009





Mayor William "Bill" Moore



Christine Thompson
Town Clerk

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL RECREATIONAL GREENWAY ON THE NORFOLK & SOUTHERN RAIL CORRIDOR LINKING HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor, which links Henderson and Transylvania counties, has played a critically important role in the history of development and economic growth in Henderson and Transylvania Counties, particularly in support of the region's industrial economic base; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk & Southern Railroad is considering discontinuation of service on the rail corridor between Henderson County and Transylvania and may abandon the corridor in the future; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Hendersonville recognizes the importance of maintaining the aforementioned rail corridor so that rail service may be re-established in the future; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Hendersonville recognizes that rail corridors throughout the United States have been converted to regional recreational trails or greenways that contribute significantly to the tourism economy of the regions in which they are located and provide alternative means of transportation while preserving rail corridors for future rail traffic; and

WHEREAS, tourism is a critical component of the economy of Western North Carolina and Hendersonville and the City Council desires to build upon the existing assets that attract tourists to the region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hendersonville Comprehensive Land Use Plan, adopted by the City Council on April 9, 2009, recommends the establishment of "... Continuous, regionally connected recreational greenways," and

WHEREAS, the Southside Development Initiative, adopted by the City Council on June 10, 2004, calls for the creation of "... a greenway trail along the existing Norfolk-Southern rail spur should the rail line be discontinued" and "If abandoned, the City of Hendersonville should actively pursue the feasibility of incorporating this line into the North Carolina Rails-Trails program as a greenway corridor", and

WHEREAS, the City Council entered into an interlocal agreement with Henderson County to establish the Apple Country Greenway Commission, the purpose of which is to promote and facilitate coordinated direction and guidance in the planning, development, and maintenance of a system of greenways throughout Henderson County by the participating governmental units...", and

WHEREAS, the Vision Statement of the City of Hendersonville Pedestrian Plan, adopted by the City Council on March 8, 2007, states "Hendersonville will develop and maintain a pedestrian network that includes sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, and greenways ...", and

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Hendersonville recognizes the economic and transportation benefits of a regional recreational greenway within western North Carolina and desires the aforementioned rail corridor be secured and developed as the foundation of a regional recreational greenway system in support of the region's tourism economy, and as an alternative means of transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE THAT:

Section 1. The City Council hereby supports a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.


Section 2. The City Council respectively invites the elected governments of Henderson and Transylvania Counties and all municipalities within those counties, and other governmental entities and organizations that support economic development, to join in our endorsement of the development of a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

Section 3. The City Council of the City of Hendersonville respectfully requests the cooperation of the Norfolk & Southern Corporation in the development of this regional recreational greenway along its rail corridor.

Section 4. The City Council hereby encourages staff, the Apple Country Greenway Commission and other interested parties, to take action as necessary to bring about the development of the aforementioned regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties and direct staff to cooperate with all relevant Federal, State, and local agencies to implement the goals stated in this resolution.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption and approval.

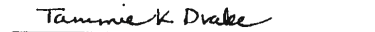
Adopted the seventh day of May, 2008.



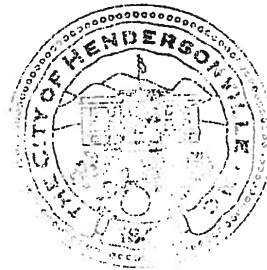
Greg Newman, Mayor

G:\Clerk\Resolutions\Res 09\Railstotrails res.doc

ATTEST:



Tammie K. Drake, CMC, City Clerk



Town of Laurel Park

HENRY T. JOHNSON, Mayor
RICHARD P. COOKE, Commissioner
KEITH A. MADDOX, Commissioner
DONA M. MENNELLA, Commissioner
ROBERT O. VICKERY, Commissioner
and Mayor Pro Tem

441 White Pine Drive
Laurel Park, NC 28739-0910
(828) 693-4840
FAX (828) 696-4948

JAMES W. BALL, JR., Town Manager
DONALD N. FISHER, Chief of Police
KIMBERLY B. HENSLEY, CMC, Town Clerk
MARC R. LANDRETH, Public Works
D. SAMUEL NEILL, Town Attorney

RESOLUTION TOWN OF LAUREL PARK IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL RECREATIONAL GREENWAY ON THE NORFOLK & SOUTHERN RAIL CORRIDOR LINKING HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor, which links Henderson and Transylvania counties, has played a critically important role in the history of development and economic growth in Henderson and Transylvania Counties, particularly in support of the region's industrial economic base; and,

WHEREAS, the Norfolk & Southern Railroad is considering discontinuation of service on the rail corridor between Henderson County and Transylvania and may abandon the corridor in the near future; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Laurel Park recognizes the importance of maintaining the aforementioned rail corridor so that rail service may be re-established in the future; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Laurel Park recognizes that rail corridors throughout the United States have been converted to regional recreational trails or greenways that contribute significantly to the tourism economy of the regions in which they are located and provide alternative means of transportation while preserving rail corridors for future rail traffic; and,

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Laurel Park recognizes the economic and transportation benefits of a regional recreational trail within western North Carolina and desires that the aforementioned rail corridor be secured and developed as the foundation of a regional recreational greenway system in support of the region's tourism economy, and as an alternative means of transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LAUREL PARK THAT:

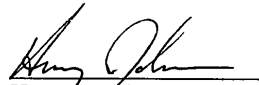
Section 1. The Town Council hereby supports a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

Section 2. The Town Council respectively invites the elected governments of Henderson and Transylvania Counties and all municipalities within these counties, and other governmental entities and organizations that support economic development, to join in our endorsement of the development of a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk & Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

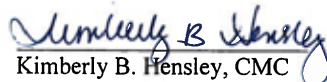
Section 3. The Town Council of the Town of Laurel Park respectfully requests the cooperation of the Norfolk & Southern Corporation in the development of this regional recreational greenway along its rail corridor.

Section 4. The Town Council hereby encourages the Apple Country Greenway Commission and other interested parties, to take action as necessary to bring about the development of the aforementioned regional recreational greenway.

Adopted this the 19th day of May, 2009.


Henry T. Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:


Kimberly B. Hensley, CMC
Town Clerk

Henderson County Chamber of Commerce

Statement of Support

For the

Hendersonville to Brevard Greenway

The Board of Directors of the 1,000+ member Henderson County Chamber of Commerce endorse efforts to create a Greenway corridor from Hendersonville to Brevard. We specifically support the work of the Friends of the Hendersonville to Brevard Greenway group that is attempting to create this greenway along the discontinued Norfolk & Southern railway line. This “rails to trails” initiative will positively impact both Henderson and Transylvania counties.

- The proposed rails to trails route is a discontinued railway spur that no longer serves industry in Henderson or Transylvania counties.
- The economic benefits resulting from this greenway include tourist service businesses as well bicycle repair & sales facilities.
- The project will add to Henderson and Transylvania County Eco-Tourism offerings, helping to create the critical mass needed to exponentially boost tourism in our area.
- The project will create employment opportunities in Henderson and Transylvania Counties.
- The project will increase tax revenues for Henderson and Transylvania counties.
- The project creates an alternative transportation opportunity for commuters who prefer walking, running, or bicycling.
- The project promotes healthier lifestyles for residents of Henderson & Transylvania counties.

For the reasons cited above we encourage the City of Hendersonville, the City of Brevard, Henderson County, Transylvania County and the State of North Carolina to support and endorse this project.