

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Keep America Beautiful Affiliation

**PRESENTER:** Christine Wittmeier

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
**1. KAB Letter of Support**

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Litter is more than just a blight on our landscape. Litter is costly to clean up, impacts our quality of life and economic development, and eventually ends up in our waterways and oceans. In fact, over 51 billion pieces of litter appear on U.S. roadways each year. Henderson County Environmental Programs is requesting to become a Keep American Beautiful (KAB) Affiliate to help end littering, improve recycling and beautify Henderson County.

The KAB affiliation offers networking opportunities, training/educational materials and community impact grants. The affiliation process starts by obtaining a letter of support from the Chairman of the Board, submitting their application and a one-time certification fee of \$4,500. The annual fee after certification is \$345 for our population.

The one-time certification fee listed above supports the initial development of Keep Henderson County Beautiful including:

- Training materials and step-by-step instructions on developing Keep Henderson County Beautiful.
- Travel expenses for the Keep America Beautiful Trainer to visit Henderson County as well as ongoing mentoring and support by the Trainer throughout the process.
- Attending a goal-setting session to develop an action plan for the first year.
- Stipend for affiliate to travel to the Keep America Beautiful National Office (Stamford, CT) for in-depth 1½-day training workshop.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

It is requested that the Board approve Henderson County becoming a Keep America Beautiful affiliate and sign the letter of support required for the application.

#### **Suggested Motion:**

*I move that the Board approve Henderson County becoming a Keep America Beautiful Affiliate and the sign the letter of support required for the application.*

# HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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March 4th, 2020

Keep America Beautiful  
ATTN: Mr. Isaac Nicholson  
Affiliate Operations Regional Director, East

1010 Washington Blvd.  
Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Mr. Nicholson,

This letter is in support of Henderson County's application to participate in the Keep America Beautiful affiliation program to establish Keep Henderson County Beautiful. We are committed to completing the designation process with the aim in reducing litter, improving recycling and beautifying Henderson County.

We support staff participating in Keep America Beautiful Programs including America Recycles Day, the Great American Cleanup and Cigarette Litter Prevention. Our staff will work to educate and empower generations of environmental stewards with KAB curricula and real-world experiences that teach the essentials of proactive community citizenship, including the preservation of our natural resources.

Through the Keep America Beautiful program, Henderson County will focus on opportunities to engage volunteers and promote a collective local action here in Western North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Grady Hawkins, Chairman  
Henderson County Board of Commissioners