REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: Monday, June 3rd, 2024

SUBJECT: DEQ Water Resource Development Grant Award

PRESENTER: Betsy Gerwig, Conservation Engineer

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

Grant Award Letter

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District is requesting that the Board approve the Water Resources Development Grant awarded to the department for FernLeaf Charter School, Creek Campus – Cane Creek Restoration Project. The project will include stream bank stabilization, establishment of a riparian buffer and native vegetation, and the creation of an educational access point/outdoor learning lab. The school has also received a CCAP grant from the Division of Soil and Water in the amount of \$40,000 toward this project. The amount awarded in May 2024 to the department for this project is in the table below:

| Grant Funder | Award Amount |
|---|--------------|
| NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water | \$66,000 |
| Resources: Water Resources Development Grant | |

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve the Water Resources Development Grant which will allow for stream bank stabilization, establishment of riparian buffer and native vegetation, and an educational access point at the FernLeaf Charter School - Creek Campus.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board of Commissioners approve the Water Resources Development Grant for the stream restoration project at the FernLeaf Charter School – Creek Campus.

ROY COOPER Governor ELIZABETH S. BISER Secretary RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR. Director



May 17, 2024

Andrew Brannon, Chair Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District 61 Triple Springs Road Hendersonville, NC 28792

Dear Chairman Brannon,

The Division of Water Resources (DWR) of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) is pleased to announce that \$66,000 in financial assistance for a project located in your jurisdiction has been approved by the State of North Carolina.

We congratulate the Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District on its sponsorship of the Cane Creek FernLeaf School Restoration Project. This grant will provide financial assistance to restore approximately 900 linear feet of degraded stream, plant 0.6 acres of riparian buffer vegetation and create several educational access points along Cane Creek at the FernLeaf Charter School. Your ongoing efforts to improve the condition of water resources in your jurisdiction are to be commended.

DWR will be contacting your staff soon concerning the administrative requirements, including the signing of a grant contract with the State, for the use of state funds for this project. This award letter is not a guarantee of funding due to the COVID-19 pandemic or other unanticipated events that could reduce current appropriated state funding, any contracts shall be subject to availability of funding.

We look forward to working with you on this project. If you have questions, please contact Amin Davis at 919-707-9132 or via email at: amin.davis@deq.nc.gov.

Sincerely

Richard Rogers, Jr.

Director, Division of Water Resources

ECc: Betsy Gerwig, Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District

Michael Luplow, FernLeaf Community Charter School

Amin Davis, Division of Water Resources

Matthew Hanbury, Division of Water Resources

