



November 16, 2018

Henderson County Board of Commissioners
100 N King St
Hendersonville, NC 28792

RE: Greenway Master Plan: 30 Year Vision

To the Board of Commissioners:

Members of the Blue Ridge Bicycle Club enthusiastically support the adoption of the Henderson County Greenway Master Plan: 30 Year Vision.

Greenways and trails offer many benefits to communities and have the potential to save more than they cost. These benefits have been documented in the North Carolina Department of Transportation Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan:

- Health: \$3 saved in direct medical expenses for every \$1 spent.
- Economy: One mile of greenway has the potential to create 5 new jobs, increase annual visitor spending by \$226,000, increase property values by \$213,000, and reduce annual health care costs by \$253,000.
- Mobility: Allow citizens to choose alternate forms of transportation; 40% of all trips are two miles or less, 25% are less than one mile.
- Safety: Reduce the number of bicycle and pedestrian deaths by motor vehicles; 162 Pedestrians and 19 Bicyclists are killed every year in North Carolina!

The Greenway Master Plan provides an opportunity to create a network of widely available spaces dedicated to walking, jogging, and bicycling, which will help greenway users maintain a high quality of life. We believe that working together as a community, and through the vision of the Greenway Master Plan, Henderson County can be improved in a way that will benefit all county residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Joe Sanders'.

Joe Sanders