

Carolina Mountain Club

Asheville, North Carolina 28802 www.carolinamtnclub.org

November 15, 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:

Carolina Mountain Club has over 1200 members, most of whom live in or counties adjacent to Henderson County. We lead hikes year round and in the past year have led 177 hikes. The club also maintains over 450 miles of trails in Western North Carolina and is actively involved in conservation efforts in our state and national forests.

The club strongly encourages support for the Henderson County Greenway Master plan and the Oklawaha Greenway. With exercise being a major contributor to good health, greenways offer an important way for many residents to take part in outdoor activity. In addition, greenways provide a critical habitat for birds and other wildlife in a time when available habitat is shrinking. Moreover, greenways make communities more attractive and desirable for families which can have great economic benefits.

Carolina Mountain Club is excited about the proposed extension of the greenway and the leadership that Henderson County can take in providing a healthier, happier, and more prosperous community in Western North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Randy Fluharty CMC President

president@carolinamountainclub.org