

Board of Directors

Chair

Cindy Causby

December 14, 2018

Vice-Chair

Bill McKibbin

Henderson County Commission

Attn: Mr. John Mitchell, Business and Community Development Director

100 North King Street

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Treasurer

David Marshall

Secretary

Shirley McGee

Past Chair

Les Boyd, III

President/CEO

McCray Benson

Dear Henderson County Commission:

Community Foundation of Henderson County's Board of Directors is grateful for receiving a personalized presentation on Henderson County's Greenway Master Plan and related work by Chris Burns, Greenway Committee Chair. The work of the committee provides an excellent overview of the multiple trail and greenway efforts to date and an open planning process for those wishing to be involved. Our Board of Directors discussed a broad range of community interests and views after having the presentation and expresses strong endorsement for the overall concept, goals and benefits of the greenway objectives. We support and encourage continued focus on:

- Improving access to recreation for health,
- Increasing connectivity and transportation options within and across our communities,
- Encouraging economic support of local businesses, and
- Promoting the natural beauty and environmental diversity in our communities.

One of the greatest strengths across all of Henderson County and our region comes from engaged participation and sharing neighbor to neighbor with better outcomes for all. We believe that the Greenway Master Plan is on the right path. We also encourage more communication by actively engaging neighbor to neighbor conversations on individual and community issues. Many of these conversations may need some extra effort to bridge long-standing concerns that require thoughtful and civil discourse on topics such as:

- Privacy concerns for personal space that would connect to the public space,
- Public and private access both on, near and around trails/greenways
- Addressing concerns of trespass, including mischief to crops, homes and businesses
- Standards of up-keep and care to the physical properties,



- Safety in and around the spaces being used, and
- Taxation equities

Details and solutions may have many turns with varying levels of satisfaction. We firmly believe that these discussions can continue with thoughtful and compassionate inclusion during each phase of the project's process so community members know that their concerns are included and their participation is valued at every step from planning to implementation to on-going operations.

We strongly agree with the concepts of this plan, especially the benefits it can achieve for our broader community:

- Strengthening our local economy,
- Increasing opportunity and ease of access for fitness and healthy lifestyles,
- Providing safe, alternative methods of transportation
- Providing new recreational opportunities for all ages,
- Actively facilitating preservation of natural, historical, and cultural environments with low impact to the environment,
- Providing for attractive ways to assist mitigating flood damage, preventing erosion, and
- Allowing for more future benefits that are yet to be learned with the proposed greenway space.

We applaud your efforts to date and eagerly share interest in further development of this plan and having our community lift up the greater good promised within this plan while finding inclusive means for hearing all voices and being respectful of individual as well as group concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy D. Causby".

Cindy D. Causby
CFHC Board Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "McCray Benson".

McCray Benson
CFHC President/CEO

MB/td

cc: Chris Burns, Greenway Committee Chair