

cc. Boc

December 6, 2018

Henderson County Board of Commissioners 1 Historic Courthouse Square, Ste. 1 Hendersonville, NC 29792

Dear Chairman Hawkins:

The Henderson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Public Policy Committee endorse the Greenways Master Plan submitted by the Henderson County Greenways Commission. We encourage you to accept the plan and actively engage in its development.

Greenways are important assets that add to Henderson County's already attractive Quality of Life. Bicycle riders, runners and walkers all would benefit from an enhanced greenway system. Adding more access to greenways increases the health of our citizens and to their safety.

Greenways are also important to our economic development efforts related to industry, tourism and retirement. Quality of life is an ever increasing factor in recruiting and retaining industry as manufacturers are looking for communities that they, and their employees, will be happy to live in.

Henderson County and much of Western North Carolina enjoy a growing reputation as an outdoor recreation destination. The addition of new greenways will serve to enhance this reputation and add to our growing tourism economy.

The retirement industry is also an important economic driver in Henderson County. Additional greenways will add to our community's attractiveness for retirees as well as provide them with more opportunities for leading healthy lifestyles.

We thank you for the work of your Greenways Commission and encourage you to adopt their recommendations and continue to enhance Henderson County's Quality of Life.

Sincerely,

Michael Thompson

Chairman

Bob Williford President