



November 29, 2018

Henderson County Board of Commissioners
1 Historic Courthouse Square, Suite 1
Hendersonville, NC 28792

RE: Greenway Master Plan: 30 Year Vision

Board of Commissioners,

MountainTrue strongly believes in the value of a well-connected community via greenway trails. The newly proposed Greenways Master Plan, presented to you by the thoughtful and well-represented Greenways Planning Committee, is a great start to building on that goal.

Over the last 3 years MountainTrue staff and volunteers have participated in the Friends of the Oklawaha Greenway, an advocacy group whose mission is to protect, promote, and expand the Oklawaha Greenway.

Their work has been based on the many proven values of greenway trails: Greenways improve our health by providing off-road trails for exercise and recreation; greenways promote economic development by attracting new businesses, jobs, and tourists; greenways provide a safe place for all ages to enjoy, from grandmothers to babies in strollers; greenways create community by providing a place for events, where neighbors connect with each other; and, greenways help people bond with the natural world.

Overall, greenways help create livable, vibrant, healthy communities, which is part of the mission and vision of MountainTrue. We encourage you to vote yes to adopt the new Greenways Master Plan and engage in the necessary next steps to put more greenway trails on the ground in Henderson County.

We look forward to working with you in this regard.

Sincerely,

Gray Jernigan
MountainTrue Southern Regional Director

Katie Breckheimer
MountainTrue Board Chair