

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



MEETING DATE:	March 14, 2023
PROJECT:	Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of the 959.04 Sq. Ft. Easement Donation from Heritage at New Riverside Community Association to Complete the New River Linear Trail Project
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

REQUEST: Town Staff requests Town Council approve the Resolution (Attachment 1) authorizing the acceptance of a 959.04 sq. ft. donation easement in the Town of Bluffton for the purpose of completing a portion of the New Riverside Linear Trail.

BACKGROUND: With the approval of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 Strategic Plan and FY 2022 Consolidated Budget, Town staff continued with designing improvements to the New River Linear Trail. The acquisition of this easement is necessary to maintain the desired width of the trail in the areas where the Town must maneuver around designated wetlands.

NEXT STEPS: Pending a South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism grant award, construction of the trailhead amenities is scheduled to begin in May 2023 with anticipated completion in April 2024. Construction Documents and permitting for the first phase of the trail is planned to be complete in FY 2023. Construction is subject to the acquisition of future grant funding.

SUMMARY: Town Staff requests Town Council accepts the donation of the easement and authorizes the Town Manager and Town Staff to take such actions as are necessary to complete the acceptance of the easement donation.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution and Easement Exhibits
2. Recommended Motion