## STATE OF GEORGIA EFFINGHAM COUNTY

## **RESOLUTION TO ADOPT**

A RESOLUTION OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GEORGIA OUTDOOR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (GOSP) FOR THE TREUTLEN REEGIONAL TRAIL PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Effingham County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation, conservation, and promoting the well-being of its citizens through enhanced access to green spaces; and

WHEREAS, Effingham County is committed to advancing the expansion of the Treutlen Regional Trail, a vital segment of the Georgia Hi-Lo Trail, by extending the trail by 10.8 mile Treutlen Regional Trail and its three trailheads, including Atlas Park Trailhead, which provides opportunities for camping, boating, fishing, swimming, and wildlife viewing, in a manner that ensures long-term public benefit, safety, and environmental stewardship.

WHEREAS, the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) provides grants to support projects that improve parks and trails, protect critical conservation areas, and enhance outdoor recreational infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost for the Treutlen Regional Trail Project will be supported through a combination of GOSP funding and a 50% match of TSPLOST funds allocated for the trail's development by Effingham County; and

WHEREAS, the Treutlen Regional Trail Project aligns with state conservation goals, enhances regional connectivity, and is expected to boost local economic development by attracting ecotourism and increasing community engagement in outdoor activities; and

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WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of Effingham County to pursue this funding opportunity to improve the quality of life, provide access to recreational resources, and preserve natural areas for future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners that submitting a grant application to the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for the Treutlen Regional Trail Expansion Project is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, Damon Rahn, and/or his designee is authorized to execute all necessary documents related to the grant application and to take any additional actions necessary to fulfill the requirements of the grant application process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Effingham County agrees to assume responsibility for the ongoing maintenance, management, and stewardship of the Treutlen Regional Trail, ensuring its accessibility, safety, and usability for the community, and to allocate the necessary resources to support these efforts as required.

This resolution has been adopted on this 21st day of October, 2025.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

Damon Rahn, Chaiman

Effingham County Board of Commissioners

Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk