

**RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE TO PURSUE A USDOT
RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT**

WHEREAS, the USDOT has issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program emphasizes developing transportation connections in areas where connections were previously severed through urban renewal program and the construction of major highways; and

WHEREAS, the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Programs offers planning grants to assist with further community engagement, project development, and cost estimations with an 80% federal share; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hendersonville's Comprehensive Plan has noted the need for additional connectivity between 7th Avenue and Downtown Hendersonville; and

WHEREAS, the area around 7th Avenue was disconnected from much of the rest of the City by the construction of US 64; and

WHEREAS, City staff has developed a preliminary project, "Above the Mud," to reconnect the 7th Avenue area through streetscaping, a new greenway connection to the Ecusta Trail, and flood mitigation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hendersonville, North Carolina that:

1. The City shall submit an application to USDOT for a Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Planning Grant to further study the Above the Mud project to engage the community, determine potential solutions, and develop cost estimates for project implementation; and
2. The City hopes that Secretary Pete Buttigieg and the US Department of Transportation will recognize the significance of this project and award funding to complete the planning effort.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Hendersonville, North Carolina on this 6th day of October 2022.

Attest:

Barbara G. Volk, Mayor, City of Hendersonville

Angela L. Reece, City Clerk

Approved as to form: _____ Angela S. Beeker, City Attorney