

**RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL
IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF BREVARD AND HENDERSON
COUNTY FOR NSFLTP GRANT FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT THE ECUSTA TRAIL IN
TRANSYLVANIA AND HENDERSON COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hendersonville considers bicycle and pedestrian transportation to be of utmost importance to the region by providing Western North Carolina with recreation and equitable transportation opportunities as well as increased economic viability and community development; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hendersonville adopted a resolution on April 5, 2012 supporting a regional recreational greenway along the Ecusta rail corridor to link the City of Hendersonville in Henderson County to the City of Brevard in Transylvania County and the Pisgah National Forest; and

WHEREAS, the City is investing in and pursuing further funding to reconnect the 7th Avenue community; an area where connections were previously severed through urban renewal programs and the construction of major highways; through streetscaping and a new greenway connection to the Ecusta Trail; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation has established the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects Program (NSFLTP) of The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) (Pub. L. 114-94, section 1123), providing funding for the construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of nationally-significant projects within, adjacent to, or accessing Federal and tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative effort between the City of Brevard, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Henderson County, Transylvania County, Friends of the Ecusta Trail, and other local stakeholders are producing a NSFLTP Grant Application to fund the construction of the Ecusta Trail in Transylvania and Henderson Counties; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hendersonville feels that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Hendersonville to support and endorse said grant application; and

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

1. The City hereby fully supports and endorses an application by the City of Brevard and Henderson County for NSFLTP grant funding to construct the Ecusta Trail: A Multimodal Gateway to the Pisgah National Forest and the Blue Ridge Parkway; and
2. The City hopes that Secretary Pete Buttigieg and the US Department of Transportation will recognize the significance of this project and award this funding to enhance access to Pisgah National Forest and other opportunities for historically marginalized communities, create an equitable and healthy transportation system that works for everyone, promote creation of jobs and

economic opportunity, and transition to a more environmentally conscience network that prioritizes non-motorized users.

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