

MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Historic Courthouse on Main Street, Hendersonville.

Those present were Chairman William Lapsley, Vice-Chair Rebecca McCall, Commissioner Mike Edney, Commissioner Daniel Andreotta, Commissioner David Hill, Interim County Manager John Mitchell, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley, Attorney Russ Burrell, and Clerk to the Board Denisa Lauffer.

Also present were: Finance Director Samantha Reynolds, County Engineer Marcus Jones, Planning Director Autumn Radcliff, Emergency Management/Rescue Coordinator Jimmy Brissie, Budget Manager Sonya Flynn, Social Services Director Jerrie McFalls, Code Enforcement Director Matt Champion, Recreation Director Carleen Dixon, Emergency Services Director Mike Barnett, Construction Projects Manager David Berry, Assistant Engineer Deb Johnston & PIO Kathy Finotti – videotaping, and Deputy Jeff Corn as security.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Lapsley called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Commissioner Andreotta

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Chairman Lapsley

INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

The Board made the following revisions to the agenda. Chairman Lapsley removed the Item J. - Approval of the lease with Ecusta Rails2Trail LLC and the consent agenda, Vice-Chair McCall moved the COVID Update to the first item of Old Business, Commissioner Andreotta moved the Housing Assistance Corporation to the second item of Old Business, and Commissioner Edney added an additional Closed Session for Economic Development. Addition of Item N. by Chairman Lapsley – Request by Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority to Acquire One Acre in Henderson County.

Motion:

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to accept the agenda with revisions discussed. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

MINUTES

Draft minutes were presented for board review and approval of the following meeting(s):
September 7, 2021 - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Motion:

I move the Board approve the minutes of September 7, 2021.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

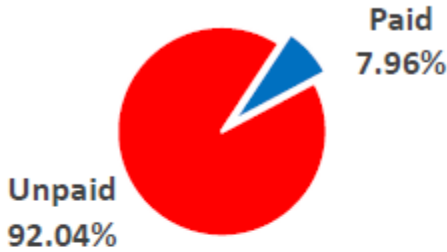
The September 8, 2021, report from the office of the Tax Collector was provided for the Board's information.

APPROVED:

Please find outlined below collections information through September 7, 2021 for 2021 real and personal property bills mailed on August 27th. Vehicles taxes are billed monthly by NC DMV.

Henderson County Annual Bills (Real and Personal Property):

2021 Beginning Charge:	\$86,246,810.46
Discoveries & Imm. Irreg.:	\$903,073.55
Releases & Refunds:	(\$60,377.61)
<u>Net Charge:</u>	<u>\$87,089,506.40</u>
Unpaid Taxes:	\$80,156,706.98
Amount Collected:	\$6,932,799.42



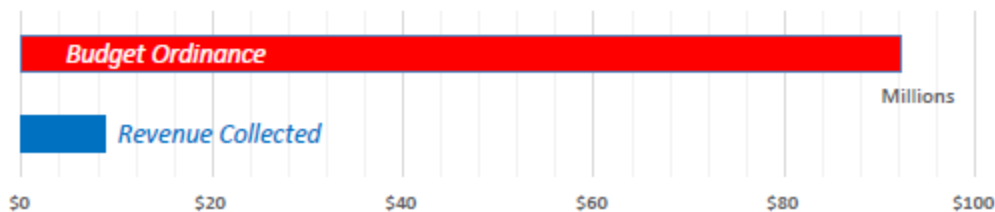
Henderson County Registered Motor Vehicles (As Collected by NC DMV):

Net Charge:	\$1,527,407.44
Unpaid Taxes:	\$3,450.54
Amount Collected:	\$1,523,956.90

99.77%

Henderson County FY22 Budget Analysis:

	<u>Budget Ordinance</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>
Ad Valorem:	\$91,127,728.00	\$8,456,756.32
Prior Years:	\$980,000.00	\$239,827.92
Budget Total:	\$92,107,728.00	YTD Revenue: \$8,696,584.24



COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORT/CASH BALANCE REPORT – JULY 2021

The following are explanations for departments/programs with higher budget to actual percentages for the month of July:

- Non-profit contributions – Payment of 1st quarter Board approved appropriations
- County Manager – Timing of leave payout for retiring county manager
- Information Technology – Timing of payment for annual subscriptions
- Emergency Management – Timing of Board approved purchases
- Rescue Squad – Timing of 1st quarter Board approved appropriation
- Economic Development – Time of 1st quarter board approved appropriations to NPOs
- Mental Health – Payment of 1st quarter Board approved maintenance of effort (MOE)
- Public Education – Payment of 1st of 10 annual appropriations made to the public school system

Motion:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the July 2021 County Financial Report and Cash Balance Report as presented.

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FINANCIAL REPORTS – JULY 2021

Henderson County Public Schools July 2021 Local Current Expense Fund / Other Restricted Funds Report was provided for the Board’s information.

**HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE/OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS
as of July 31, 2021**

	LOCAL CURRENT EXPENSE FUND	OTHER RESTRICTED FUND		
REVENUES:				
	YTD Activity	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
3200 State Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,000
3700 Federal Sources-Restricted	-	25,717	25,717	35,923
3800 Other Federal-ROTC	-	-	-	-
4100 County Appropriation	2,992,800	-	2,992,800	2,832,800
4200 Local -Tuition/Fees	-	-	-	-
4400 Local-Unrestricted	37,599	2,316	39,915	30,135
4800 Local-Restricted	-	19,634	19,634	22,813
4900 Fund Balance Appropriated/Transfer From school	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUND REVENUES	\$ 3,030,399	\$ 47,667	\$ 3,078,066	\$ 2,930,671
EXPENDITURES:				
Instructional Services:	YTD Activity	YTD Activity	Combined Total	Prior YTD
5100 Regular Instructional Services	\$ 74,649	\$ 20,883	\$ 95,532	\$ 246,762
5200 Special Populations Services	11,781	8,759	20,539	40,203
5300 Alternative Programs and Services	3,156	14,062	17,218	16,842
5400 School Leadership Services	161,462	-	161,462	180,158
5500 Co-Curricular Services	3,499	-	3,499	56,244
5800 School-Based Support Services	85,856	-	85,856	83,619
Total Instructional Services	\$ 340,405	\$ 43,703	\$ 384,108	\$ 623,828
System-Wide Support Services:				
6100 Support and Development Services	\$ 21,082	\$ 3,009	\$ 24,091	\$ 14,181
6200 Special Population Support	16,293	548	16,841	17,129
6300 Alternative Programs	5,115	-	5,115	7,580
6400 Technology Support Services	83,963	-	83,963	79,011
6500 Operational Support Services	482,609	8,749	491,359	509,065
6600 Financial and Human Resource Services	988,644	672	989,316	909,562
6700 Accountability Services	15,307	-	15,307	13,897
6800 System-Wide Pupil Support Services	33,497	-	33,497	22,627
6900 Policy, Leadership and Public Relations	111,287	9,990	121,277	93,429
Total System-Wide Support Services	\$ 1,757,796	\$ 22,969	\$ 1,780,765	\$ 1,666,482
Ancillary Services:				
7100 Community Services	\$ -	\$ 12,812	\$ 12,812	\$ 12,704
7200 Nutrition Services	-	-	-	107
Total Ancillary Services	\$ -	\$ 12,812	\$ 12,812	\$ 12,811
Non-Programmed Charges:				
8600 Educational Foundations	\$ -	\$ 6,700	\$ 6,700	\$ 6,581
Total Non-Programmed Charges	\$ -	\$ 6,700	\$ 6,700	\$ 6,581
TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,098,201	\$ 86,184	\$ 2,184,385	\$ 2,309,702

Motion:

I move that the Board of Commissioners approve the Henderson County Public Schools July 2021 Financial Reports as presented.

2022 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The proposed 2022 Holiday Schedule for Henderson County Local Government agencies follows.

HOLIDAY	DATE(S)	WEEKDAY(S)
New Year's Day	December 31, 2021	Friday
ML King, Jr.'s Birthday	January 17, 2022	Monday
Good Friday	April 15, 2022	Friday
Memorial Day	May 30, 2022	Monday
Independence Day	July 4, 2022	Monday
Labor Day	September 5, 2022	Monday

Veteran's Day	November 11, 2022	Friday
Thanksgiving	November 24 & 25, 2022	Thursday & Friday
Christmas	December 23, 26 & 27, 2022	Friday, Monday & Tuesday

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the 2022 Holiday Schedule as presented.

2022 ANIMAL SERVICES (SHELTER) CLOSING SCHEDULE

The proposed 2022 Operating Schedule for the Animal Services Center follows:

New Year's Day	December 31, 2021	Friday
ML King, Jr.'s Birthday	January 17, 2022	Monday
Good Friday	April 15 & 16, 2022	Friday & Saturday
Memorial Day	May 30, 2022	Monday
Independence Day	July 4, 2022	Monday
Labor Day	September 5, 2022	Monday
Veteran's Day	November 11 & 12, 2022	Friday & Saturday
Thanksgiving	November 24, 25 & 26, 2022	Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Christmas	December 24 & 26, 2022	Saturday & Monday

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the 2022 Animal Services Operating Schedule as presented.

2022 SOLID WASTE CLOSING SCHEDULE

The proposed 2022 Operating Schedule for Solid Waste follows:

New Year's Day	January 1, 2022	Saturday
ML King, Jr.'s Birthday	January 17, 2022	Monday
Good Friday	April 16, 2022	Saturday
Memorial Day	May 30, 2022	Monday
Independence Day	July 4, 2022	Monday
Labor Day	September 5, 2022	Monday
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2022	Friday
Thanksgiving	November 24, 2022	Thursday
Christmas	December 23 & 24, 2022	Friday & Saturday

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the 2022 Solid Waste Schedule as presented.

2022 LIBRARY CLOSING SCHEDULE

The proposed 2022 Library Closing Schedule was presented for Board approval.

PROPOSED LIBRARY SCHEDULE 2022		
Holiday	Date(s)	
New Year	Friday, December 31, 2021	Closed
	Saturday, January 1, 2022	Closed
ML King, Jr.'s Birthday	Monday, January 17, 2022	Closed
Good Friday	Thursday, April 14, 2022	Main Library closes early @ 5:00 PM
	Friday, April 15, 2022	Closed
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30, 2022	Closed
Independence Day	Monday, July 4, 2022	Closed
Labor Day	Monday, September 5, 2022	Closed
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10, 2022	Closed- Staff Development Day
Veterans Day	Friday, November 11, 2022	Closed
Thanksgiving	Wednesday, November 23, 2022	Main Library closes early @ 5:00 PM
	Thursday, November 24, 2022	Closed
	Friday, November 25, 2022	Closed
Christmas	Friday, December 23, 2022	Closed
	Saturday, December 24, 2022	Closed
	Monday, December 26, 2022	Closed
	Tuesday, December 27, 2022	Closed

Motion:

I move the Board approve the 2022 Library Closing Schedule as proposed by staff.

2021.68 SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – GRANT AWARDS

The Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District is requesting that the Board approve two grants to be awarded to the department for two separate projects, one at the Edneyville Community Center and one within the Bat Fork watershed. The Edneyville Community Center grant will include stream restoration, establishment of a riparian buffer and native vegetation, and the creation of an educational access point/outdoor learning lab. The Bat Fork Study, in partnership with local non-profit Conserving Carolina, will determine the feasibility of a stream restoration project at the Dodd Meadows Community Center in East Flat Rock. The department will receive a \$1,000 administrative fee from the total \$6,000 award for the Bat Fork project. The amounts awarded to the department for the two projects are in the table below:

Project Site	Grant Funder	Award Amount
Edneyville Community Center in Edneyville	NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources: Water Resources Development Grant	\$68,500
Bat Fork Stream at Dodd Meadows Community Center in East Flat Rock	NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources: Water Resources Development Grant	\$6,000

Motion:

I move the Board of Commissioners approve the grants for the stream restoration projects at the Edneyville Community Center and the Dodd Meadows Community Center, and the associated Budget Amendment

2021.70 (95) COURTHOUSE CONCEPTUAL PLAN CONTRACT

At the Board's January 20, 2021 Budget Workshop, the Board was presented with the results of Space Allocation Studies that had been conducted on the 95 Courthouse, and the Detention Center. These studies were conducted by two separate firms. At the March 1, 2021 meeting, the Board directed Staff to request proposals from qualified firms to provide a Conceptual Plan for the Henderson County Courthouse (95 Courthouse) and Detention Center additions, renovations, or new construction. It was the consensus of the Board to utilize one architectural firm for both projects.

Staff subsequently developed a Request for Qualifications for the facilities, which was approved by the Board of Commissioners at the April 5, 2021 meeting. The Request for Qualifications for the Detention Center Needs Assessment was posted on April 6, 2021. Proposals were due on April 28, 2021.

Proposals were received and reviewed by representatives from the 95 Courthouse and Detention Center. Following that review, the firm of Fentress Architects was selected as the most qualified firm to conduct the assessment.

At the Board's August 2, 2021 meeting Staff was directed to negotiate an agreement with Fentress Architects for the 95 Courthouse/Detention Center Conceptual Plan, to be brought back to the Board for final approval.

Motion:

I move that the Board approve the proposal from Fentress Architects and authorize Staff to execute the necessary contracts and budget amendment t appropriating fund balance for the development of the Conceptual Plan.

REVISIONS TO STANDARDS BOARD AGENDA

In December 2020, the Board adopted the format for the standard board agenda. To allow Staff latitude in scheduling items for discussion, the Board was requested to combine discussion items currently defined as either old business or new business, into a single "Discussion Items" section.

Motion:

I move the Board adopt the changes to the standard Board Agenda as presented.

2021.71 NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners is requested to adopt the attached Resolution declaring the month of September as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month in Henderson County.

Motion:

I move that the Board adopt the attached Resolution declaring the month of September as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month in Henderson County.

RESOLUTION**DECLARING SEPTEMBER SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, September has been designated as National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month, and is intended to affirm the need for suicide prevention awareness, to increase the community's awareness about suicide's warning signs, to reduce the stigma associated with suicide, and to advocate for the availability of mental health services to all; and

WHEREAS, suicide is a complex, but preventable, health issue that requires compassion, empathy, trust, understanding, and access to professional services; and

WHEREAS, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide rates increased 33% between 1999 and 2019 and suicide was responsible for more than 47,500 deaths in 2019; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death for people ages 10-34, the fourth leading cause among people ages 35-44, and the fifth leading cause among people ages 45-54; and

WHEREAS, suicide and suicide attempts affect the health and well-being of friends, loved ones, co-workers, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners and its many partners are committed to caring for our community by sharing resources and advocating for each other;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners does hereby declare the month of September as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month in Henderson County, and encourages our community to work toward creating healthy and strong individuals, families, and communities to help prevent suicide and save lives.

Adopted this the 15th day of September 2021.

WILLIAM G. LAPSLEY, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: _____
DENISA A. LAUFFER, CLERK TO THE BOARD

REQUEST BY GREATER ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE ONE ACRE IN HENDERSON COUNTY

The Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority requested the Board’s permission to acquire one acre in Henderson County. The property is REID 1006761, currently owned by Jai Prabhu Restaurant LLC.

The Authority would receive this property from the current owner in a swap for other adjacent property currently owned by the Authority, in order that the property owned currently by the Authority could be leased on a long-term basis to Electrolux, which already leases the next-door property.

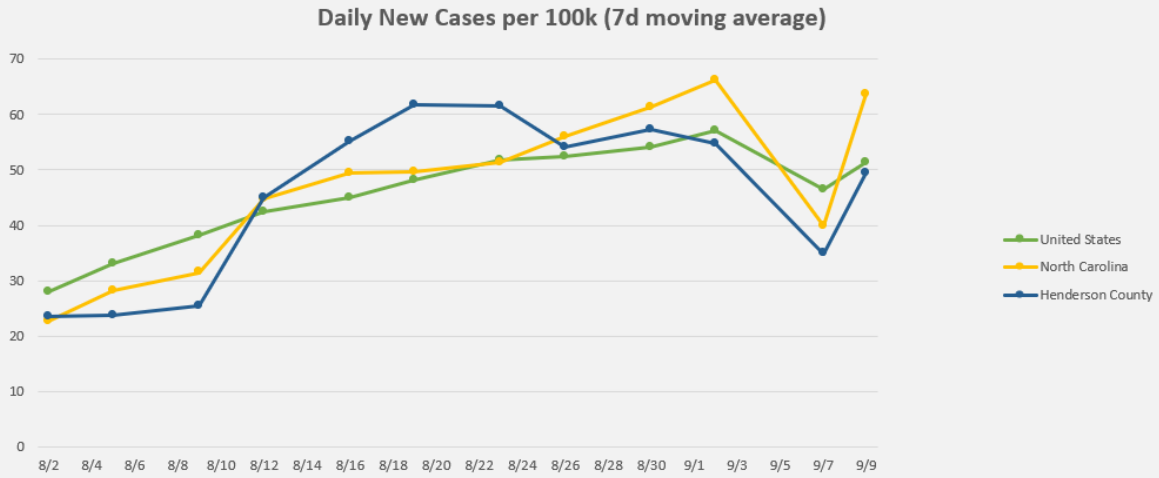
Motion: *I move that the Board approve the acquisition by the Greater Asheville Regional Airport authority of REID 1006761 in Henderson County.*

Motion: *Chairman Lapsley made the motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.*

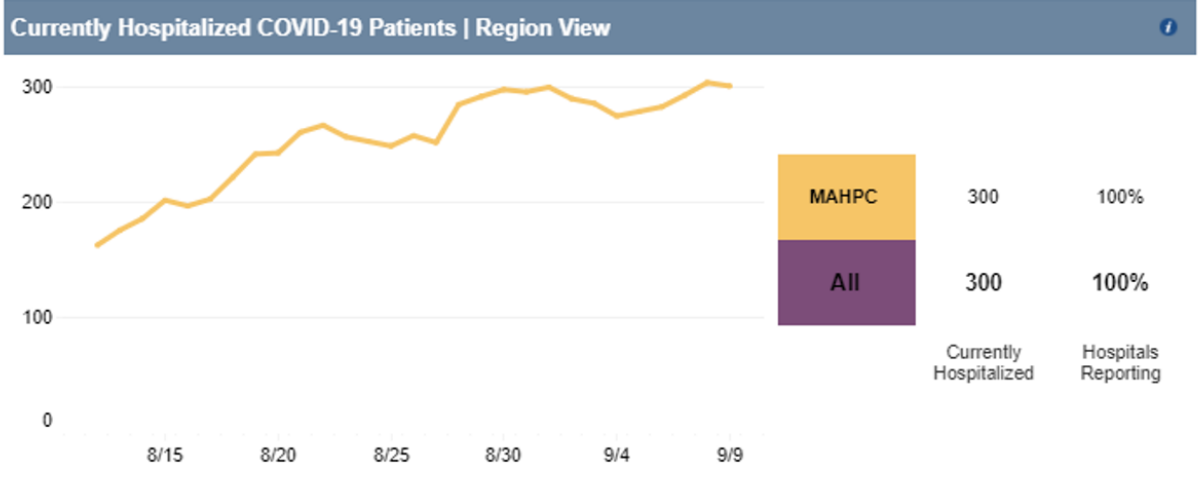
**DISCUSSION – OLD BUSINESS ITEMS
COVID UPDATE**

Jimmy Brissie provided the Board with the most current information pertaining to COVID-19 in Henderson County. The presentation provided follows.

CASE RATES TREND



REGIONAL HOSPITALIZATIONS



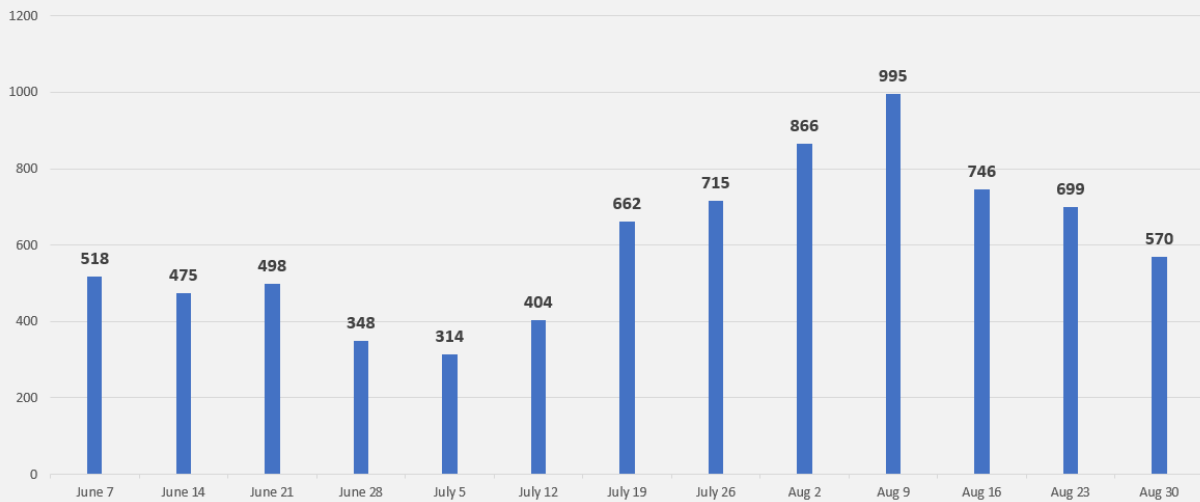
HENDERSON COUNTY VACCINATION RATES

	12 & up	18 & up	65 & up	Total Population
At Least One Dose	59%	61%	79%	52%
Fully Vaccinated	56%	58%	77%	49%

Source: NCDHHS Vaccination Dashboard

WEEKLY VACCINATION TOTALS

HENDERSON CO. RESIDENTS VACCINATED WEEKLY WITH AT LEAST ONE DOSE



ADDITIONAL DOSES VS. BOOSTER

If you received a two-dose vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna vaccines), here's what you should know:

ADDITIONAL DOSES

are for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.



Additional doses are authorized to give **28 days** after the 2nd dose of an initial mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine.



The CDC and FDA **have provided** guidance. Doctors and pharmacists must follow CDC guidance.



Providers **can give** additional doses to moderately or severely immunocompromised patients.

BOOSTER DOSES

are to provide continued protection.



Booster doses may be authorized to give a certain period after the 2nd dose of an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine. Likely around **8 months**.



The CDC and FDA **have NOT provided** guidance. Doctors and pharmacists must wait for guidance.



Providers **cannot give** booster doses yet. We expect boosters might be available starting September 20.

There is currently no recommendation for additional doses or booster doses for patients who received the J&J vaccine. Evidence is being reviewed for recommendations.

Visit [MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.myspot.nc.gov)

COVID-19 STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

- Case Investigation (avg. 50 cases / day)
- Long-Term Care Facility Liaison
- NCEDSS Data Entry
- School Case Investigation
- Testing (capacity for 80 each day, typically seeing 40-60, 48-72 hour turnaround times)
- Hotline/Call Center
- Vaccine Clinics (HD & EM Staff)
- Homebound/Hub Management

CURRENT COVID-19 INITIATIVES

- Both local hospitals are increasing Outpatient Monoclonal Antibody Clinic capacity (MAB)
 - Clinics are being supported by off-duty EMS & Rescue Squad staff
- Blue Ridge Community Health is working with NC DHHS to standup additional MAB delivery capacity in WNC
- Health Department vaccine operations have transitioned back to the J.C. Penney location at the Blue Ridge Mall in partnership with the Hull Property Group

In closing, Jimmy Brissie stated that Henderson County is now the vaccine “Hub” for the WNC region.

Advent Health Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Teresa Herbert, stated that as of 9/14/2021, Advent had 25 COVID patients, 10 of which are in the Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Herbert explained “the Monoclonal Antibody Treatment is a great treatment for stopping COVID in its tracks”. Patients begin to feel better immediately and most importantly if the infusion is given in a timely manner, it can prevent patients from being admitted to the hospital. She stated it is imperative that Advent “ramp up” the monoclonal infusions. The challenge is staffing; they have the space, the supplies, the equipment, the skills, and the will to provide the infusions they just do not currently have the staff. Dr. Herbert asked for support from the County to help with this issue.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to offer AdventHealth Hendersonville a grant reimbursing their costs for operation of a Monoclonal Infusion COVID-19 treatment program, with total reimbursements of up to \$250,000, on the same terms and conditions as offered to Henderson County Hospital Corporation. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Commissioner Andreotta introduced Housing Assistance Executive Director Ashland McCoy. Ms. McCoy explained that Housing Assistance is a local non-profit in Henderson County whose mission it to provide safe and affordable housing to persons of limited income. There are four types of programs offered:

- A Home Repair Program which serves Henderson, Polk, & Transylvania Counties.
- Housing Counseling Services which are administered by two certified Housing Counselors that provide Homebuyer Education and Credit Counseling Services. These Certified Counselors also package USDA loans for all 100 counties in the state of NC.
- Single Family Development Program which provides home ownership opportunities to Henderson, Polk, and Transylvania Counties.
- Construction of Multi-Family Apartment Units

According to HUD, housing is considered affordable when it comprises no more than 30% of household income. Henderson County's median income is \$55,945 and in the second quarter of 2021, the County's median sale price was \$350,000, a 17% increase from the same period in 2020.

Market Rate Rentals have a vacancy rate of approximately 4% with the median rent averaging from \$668 to \$1400. Subsidized and Tax Credit rentals, which are Housing Assistance Units, have a 0% vacancy rate and a long waiting list. The Housing Assistance Elderly units have a waiting list of up to two years.

Vice-Chair McCall stated that Housing Assistance helps not only the underprivileged or the unemployed population, but they also help the working community such as law enforcement officers, teachers, etc.

Commissioner Hill asked what the average size and cost would be for a single-family home constructed by Housing Assistance. Ms. McCoy stated the average home is 1,300 square feet and costs approximately \$195,000 including home and property.

Commissioner Andreotta noted that 60% of the employed population of this county meet the criteria for Housing Assistance.

Chairman Lapsley asked Ms. McCoy to explain the difference between Housing Assistance and the Hendersonville Housing Authority. Ms. McCoy said Housing Authority is a federal program that has housing they currently own that may be rented and can use the Section-8 Voucher. Housing Assistance is separate as they are a private non-profit that have rental housing through USDA, Tax Credit, and HUD projects that are not subsidized in the same way as Housing Authority. Two completely different programs. In closing, Chairman Lapsley asked the Board to consider fostering affordable housing through the Housing Assistance Program in January 2022 when budget discussions begin in January.

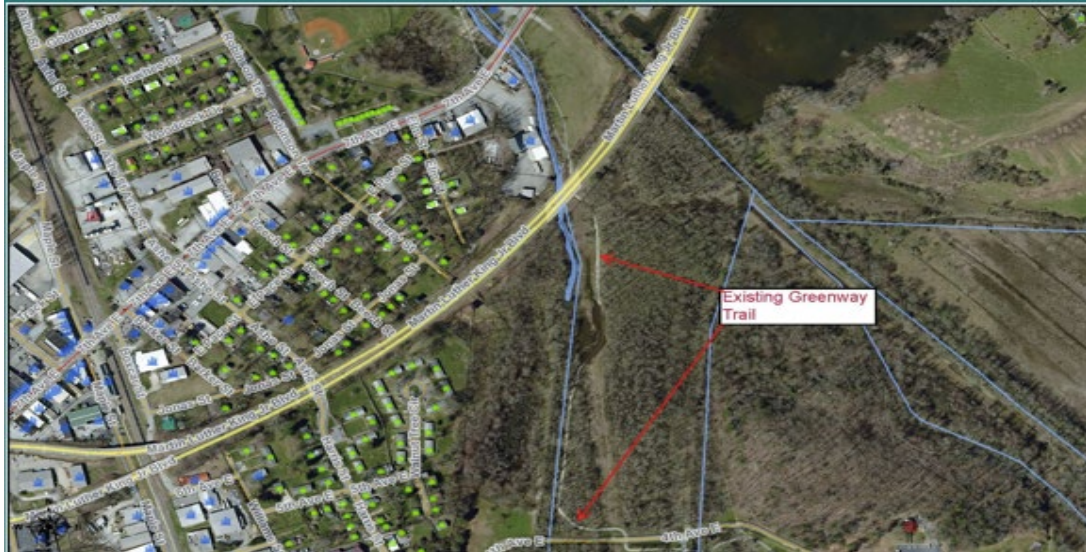
OKLAWAHA GREENWAY FLOODING REMEDIATION

During the Board's February 17, 2021 meeting, staff was directed to perform a preliminary design for a boardwalk to replace the flood prone section of the Oklawaha greenway. In addition to the preliminary design, staff was directed to apply for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to fund the project. The grant requires a 50% match and would use the \$173,000 committed by the city for a portion of the local match. The grant application is due October 1, 2021, and more information can be found at the link: <https://rrs.cnr.ncsu.edu/lwcf/>. From the link, "A local government can request up to \$500,000 with each application. The matching grants can be used to acquire new park properties or renovate/replace amenities at an existing park."

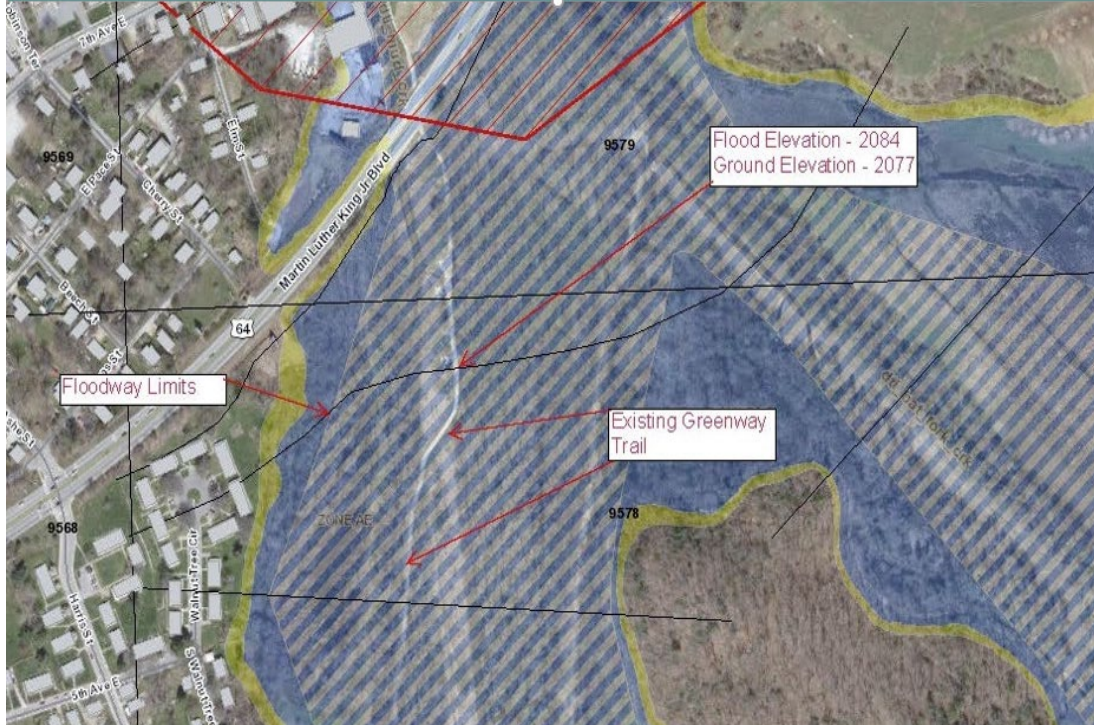
Will Buie of WGLA Engineering presented the Board the preliminary design which concluded that raising the trail on the existing alignment was the best option. Based on this design and cost estimate of \$645,750, the LWCF grant would be allocated as follows:

Land and Water Conservation Fund grant:	\$322,875
City of Hendersonville	\$173,000
County of Henderson	<u>\$149,875</u>
	\$645,750

Oklawaha Greenway Trail Jackson Park



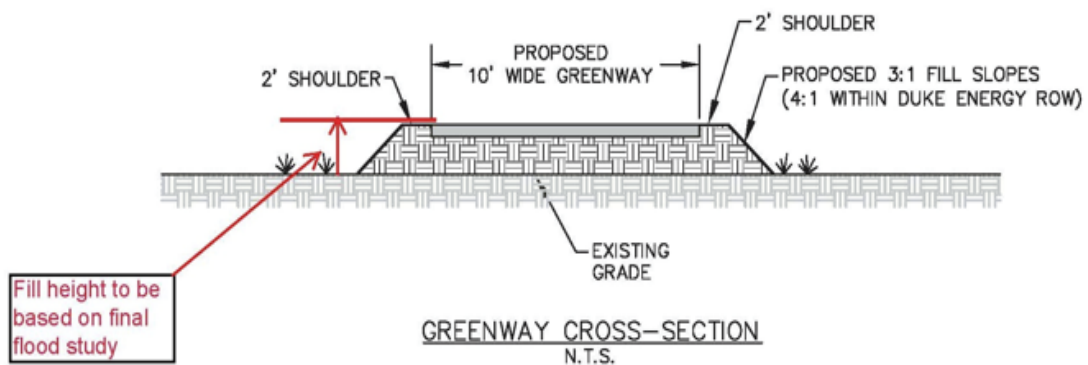
Oklawaha Greenway Trail Jackson Park



Oklawaha Greenway Trail Sections of Trail to be Raised



Oklawaha Greenway Trail Proposed Trail Section in Area to be Raised



Oklawaha Greenway Trail Estimated Cost for Improvements



WGLA Engineering, PLLC
Consulting Engineers and Land Planners

Preliminary Cost Estimate
Oklawaha Greenway Improvements

Date: 04/26/21

Project #: 21119

Item	Quan.	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Import Fill Material	3,500	CY	\$35.00	\$122,500.00
Stone Base	600	TN	\$35.00	\$21,000.00
Asphalt Pavement (2" S9.5B)	1,350	SY	\$25.00	\$33,750.00
Repair and Overlay Existing Greenway	850	SY	\$25.00	\$21,250.00
Storm Drainage Piping (elliptical Cross Pipes)	400	LF	\$110.00	\$44,000.00
Geogrid for Stabilization	1,000	SY	\$15.00	\$15,000.00
Stone for Stabilization	1,500	TN	\$35.00	\$52,500.00
Erosion Control Measures	1	LS	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Matting and Final Stabilization	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Interpretive Signage	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Haul Off of Unsuitable Materials	1,000	CY	\$20.00	\$20,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST				\$455,000.00
Contingency (5%)				\$22,750.00
Surveying				\$5,000.00
Engineering, Design & Permitting				\$25,500.00
Bidding Assistance & Construction Observation				\$12,500.00
401/404 Permitting				\$40,000.00
Mitigation for Wetland Impacts				\$65,000.00
Hydraulic & Flood Studies				\$20,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST				\$645,750.00

Summary/Wrap Up

- ◆ Greenway will always flood based on location in flood way.
- ◆ Goal should be to improve Greenway so that it is not the lowest point.
- ◆ Flood hazard areas and wetlands limit ability to relocate trail.
- ◆ Raising trail along existing alignment appears to be most reasonable option.
- ◆ Project will require through NC Floodplain Mapping/FEMA.
- ◆ Project will likely require Corps/NCDEQ permitting.
- ◆ Improvements will allow for use of Greenway more often following heavy rain events.

Vice-Chair McCall asked staff to reach out to Duke Energy to inquire if they would like to participate in this project.

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to authorize staff to apply for the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, allocating \$149,875 to add to the City's \$173,000 for the local match. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UPDATE

Construction Project Manager David Berry provided an update on current construction projects in process throughout the County. A School System Facilities Assessment Update was provided for the Board's information. Assessment Update is attached to these minutes.



Interior of Stillwell Building at Hendersonville High School.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board is requested to go into Closed Session for the following reason(s):

1. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.
2. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(5) To establish, or to instruct staff or negotiating agents, concerning the position to be taken in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract; N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(5)
3. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body.

Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.11(a)(3) & (5), for the reasons set out in the Request for Board Action in the Board's agenda packet. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner McCall made the motion to go out of closed session and reconvene into open session. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lapsley reconvened the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Autumn Radcliff provided the Board with an update regarding the 2045 Comprehensive Plan. Planning Department staff participated in the Apple Festival and visited Dana Park in efforts to inform the public

and encourage community participation. There have been six Stakeholder Meetings held along with several other events scheduled, including open house events in October and November, and two Public Workshops in November. There were 64,000 surveys included with the Real and Property Tax bills that were mailed this summer. As of today, the Planning Department has received 3,360 completed surveys, 1,864 of which were paper submittals. The survey will remain open for citizens to complete through December of this year.



HENDERSON COUNTY 2045

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

PHASE 1

The comprehensive plan is a detailed plan that will take 18 months to complete. The process is broken into three phases. Phase 1 is anticipated to run through the end of 2021.

SEPTEMBER 2021 UPDATES

COMMUNITY SURVEY

- Over 64,000 surveys were mailed with the real and personal property tax bills.
- As of September 2, we've received over 1,000 responses from community members.
 - 31 paper surveys
 - 976 online surveys
- Blue Ridge Literacy Council volunteered their services and translated the survey into Spanish, which is available online. Paper versions will be given to anyone who requests it.

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

- Stewart consultants and staff facilitated 6 stakeholder meetings on August 25th and 26th.
- Over 50 participants were able to meet. A make-up meeting was held via Microsoft Teams.
- Four members of the Planning Board attended these meetings.

APPLE FESTIVAL

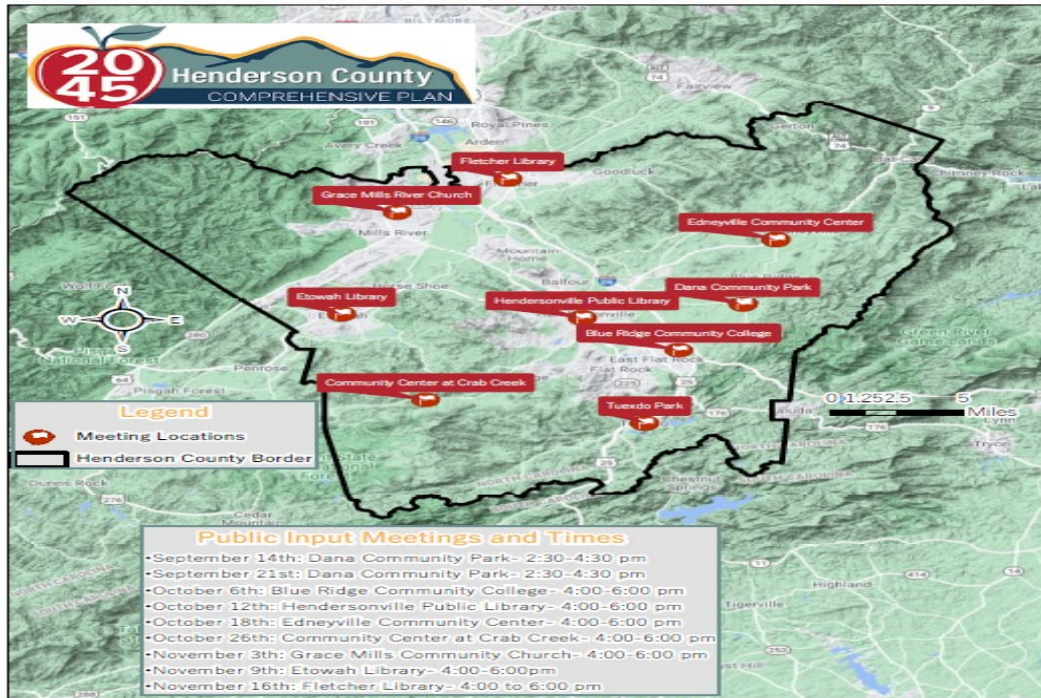
- In partnership with the County Environmental Coordinator, staff manned a booth on Friday at the festival. Volunteers continued to tell folks about the comprehensive plan throughout the weekend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS

- In addition to the two public meetings the consultants will facilitate, staff are holding 7 open-house style meetings and 2 outreach events across the county.
- A schedule of the meetings as well as a map with directions to each location are on the County's website. Community members are encouraged to attend whichever meeting is most convenient for them.
- A virtual meeting option will be available later this year.

2045 Comprehensive Plan Public Input Meetings



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN UPDATE

Amy Brantley and Jimmy Brissie provided the Board with an update regarding the American Rescue Plan. Jimmy informed the Board of emerging issues within EMS regarding staffing shortages and increased strains on supervisory staff. The following PowerPoint was presented:

EMS Emerging Issues

- **Immediate Needs (within 6-8 months)**
 - Staffing shortage – Increased frequency of fewer ambulances available
 - Continued increase in strain on supervisory staff impacting oversight and support of ambulance crews
 - Increased competition in region for staff recruitment (EMS & Hosp)
- **Strategic Needs (24-36 months)**
 - Continued system growth to meet demand and response time priorities

Staffing Gap

- Henderson County EMS has been experiencing increasing impacts to the immediate ability to provide a consistent level of service to the community. Impacts include:
 - Increases in absences due to COVID-19 and injuries
 - Increased staff stress and decreased willingness to cover overtime shifts

These factors have led to the following:

- Increases in frequency of trucks being placed out of service for a shift due to staffing challenges. Results in increased response times. *(87 days in the past 4 1/2 months)*
- Forcing staff to work beyond their scheduled shift 16 times in July and August. Often resulting in working a staff member a 24-hour or 36-hour shift.

Staffing Gap - Solution

- Immediately hire two additional vacation / sick relief paramedics. This will place two on each shift.

- Annual Cost - \$128,000

Supervisory Needs

- Henderson County has increased the operational staff by 21 personnel over the past eight years without growing the overhead staff to support the day-to-day management of the ambulance crews.
 - The National Incident Management System recommends a span of control of one supervisor to three resources (1:3) to (1:7) (in this case: ambulances); with the optimum number being 1:5. (They supervise 18+ staff daily)
 - The assistant supervisor is currently serving on an operational ambulance drastically increases the strain on their workload resulting in increased staff dissatisfaction and turnover.
 - Also results in increased on-scene time for ambulances and the on-duty shift supervisor (*results in increased response times*).

The frontline of the battle cannot outrun the overhead and logistics staff who support their mission.

Supervisory Needs - Solution

- Hire five (5) additional paramedics to allow the Field Training Officer (FTO) to staff a second Quick Response Vehicle (QRV)
 - Supports the Shift Supervisor with direct operational support, provides relief during absence
 - Provides an additional “paramedic intercept” for Rescue Squad ambulances and incidents where an additional paramedic is needed
 - Responds to high acuity calls such as cardiac arrests, critical care transfers and multiple victim accidents
- No equipment is needed immediately (funded by CARES purchases)
- Evaluate future administrative support needs as part of a strategic plan

▪ Annual Cost - \$327,421

Staff Turnover

Increased competition from the region and private sector has made recruitment and retention more difficult.

- 23 fulltime staff have left the County recently
 - Air Medical & Increased Pay 2
 - Career Change 4
 - Career Change & Increased Pay 4
 - Family Commitment 6
 - Further Education & Increased Pay 2
 - Hospital Service & Increased Pay 3
 - Retirement / other 2



Approximately 50% of staff have less than 5 years of experience due to turnover rate.

Staff Turnover Solution

- Conduct comprehensive salary study for all Emergency Services divisions and market adjustment as needed
- Develop Senior Paramedic position classification (additional step for retention)

- Annual Cost – Based on study

Additional Points

- Modification of the FY22 fee structure will likely result in an estimated \$500,000 increase in revenue. This is not reflected in the FY22 budget.
- Consider developing a comprehensive Public Safety Strategic Plan with a third-party consultant to address EMS & Rescue. This process was last completed during the mid 2000's.

Mitigation Strategies		
Issue	Solution	Impacts
Staffing gap / ambulances out of service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire two additional full-time vacation / sick relief staff • Consider shift bonus to encourage staffing 	\$128,000 annually*
Supervisory support needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire five paramedics allowing the FTO to staff the second QRV 	\$327,421 annually*
Increased staff turnover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct comprehensive salary study and market adjustment • Develop Senior Paramedic position classification. • Provide essential worker bonus 	Varies Varies Varies
Need for EMS & Public Safety Strategic Plan	-Hire a consultant to help develop a comprehensive plan which would address EMS, Rescue emerging issues.	\$50,000 est.
		* Indicates an expense eligible for ARP

Motion:

Commissioner Edney made the motion to approve the addition of (2) additional vacation/sick relief paramedics and (5) additional paramedics to allow the Field Training Officer to staff a second Quick Response Vehicle. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS ITEM

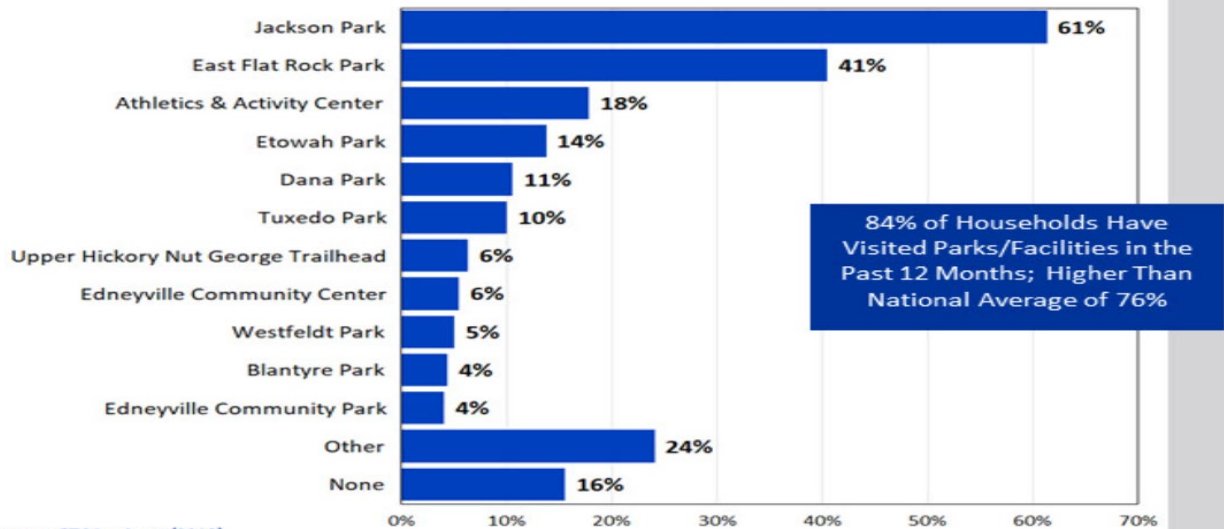
PARKS AND RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Carleen Dixon introduced Jason Morato with ETC Institute who presented findings of the Henderson County Parks and Recreation Community Needs Assessment that was conducted in 2019. The purpose of the survey was to get an objective assessment of the usage, satisfaction, needs, and priorities for a wide

range of parks and recreation facilities and programs, and to also identify opportunities for the County to better serve the leisure and recreation needs of the community. A survey was administered by a combination of mail and online to randomly select the households throughout the county which is a standard methodology for statistically valid surveys. The goal was to receive at least 400 surveys, they exceeded that number and received 435 surveys. Findings showed that Park usage is high in Henderson County and respondents gave high satisfaction ratings to parks, facilities, and programs they have used. The highest priorities for facilities were greenway trails, multi-purpose natural trails. The highest priorities for programs included adult fitness and wellness programs, community festivals, and senior wellness and fitness programs. Below are some of the findings.

Q1. Henderson County Parks and Recreation Department parks and facilities households have visited over the past 12 months

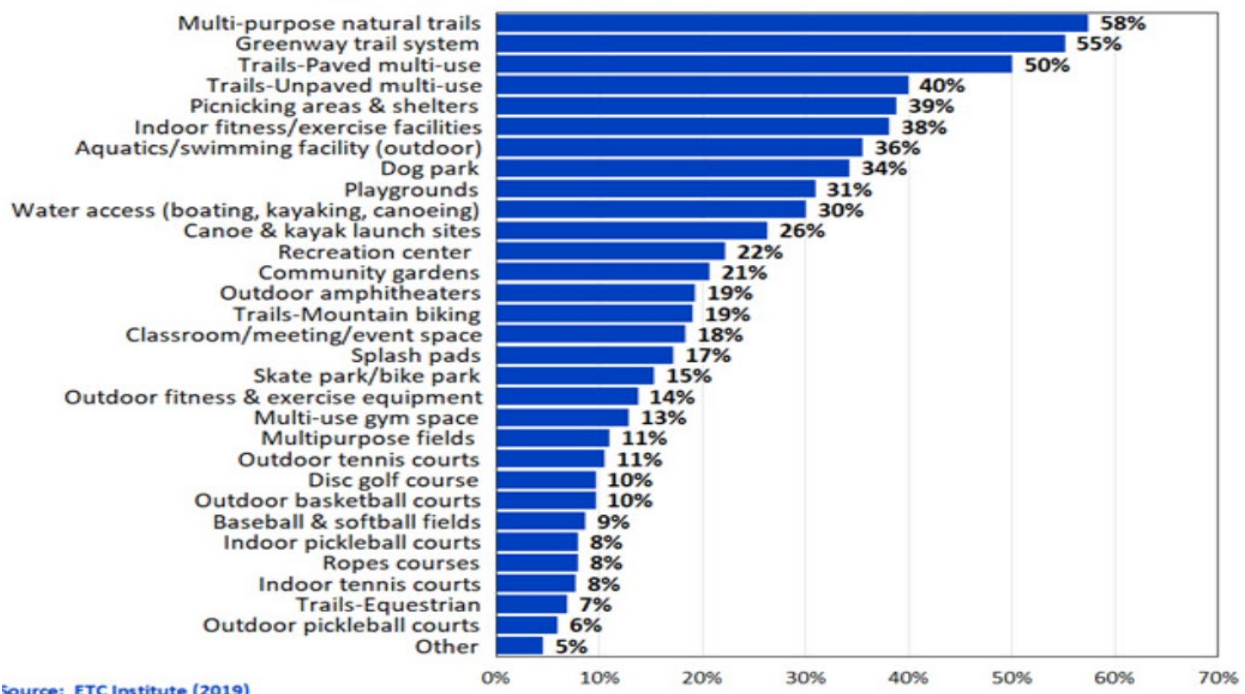
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2019)

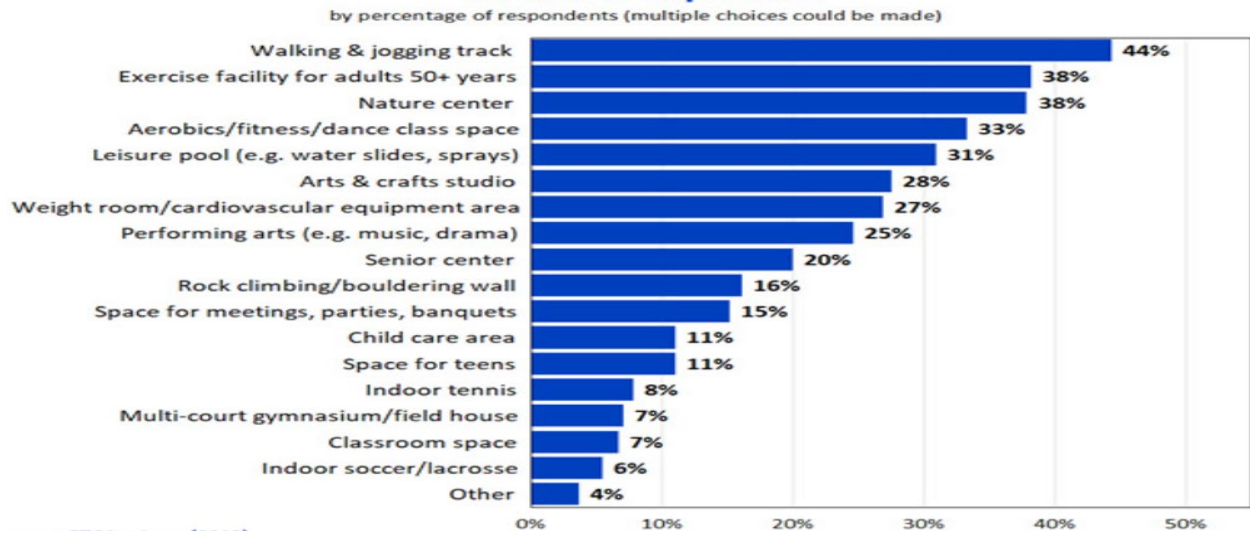
Q14. Facilities That Households Have a Need For

by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2019)

Q20. Indoor Programming Spaces That Household Would Use if Added or Expanded



Summary

- **Park Usage Is High**
- **High Satisfaction Ratings for Parks, Facilities and Programs**
- **Highest Priorities for Facilities:**
 - Greenway Trail System
 - Multi-Purpose Natural Trails
 - Paved Multi-Use Trails
 - Indoor Fitness/Exercise Facilities
 - Aquatics/Swimming Facility (Outdoor)
- **Highest Priorities for Programs:**
 - Adult Fitness and Wellness Programs
 - Community Festivals
 - Senior Wellness and Fitness Programs
- **Strong Support for Making Improvements Throughout the System**

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Lapsley opened the floor for nominations.

1. Cemetery Advisory Committee – 2 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.
2. Hendersonville City Zoning Board of Adjustment – 1 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.
3. Historic Resources Commission – 1 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.
4. Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee – 1 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.
5. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – 3 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.
6. Laurel Park Planning Board – 1 vac.

There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

7. Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation and Development Program – 1 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

8. Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee – 12 vac.
There were no nominations at this time and this item was rolled to the next meeting.

Chairman Lapsley shared that Robert Pierce, the Chairman for the Board of Equalization and Review, passed away last week. The Board will need to appoint a new Chairman in this meeting.

Motion:

Chairman Lapsley nominated Joseph Sherman for Chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review. All voted in favor and the nomination passed by acclamation.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Vice-Chair McCall shared that she had been invited to become a member of the My Future NC Advisory Board of Commissioners. She is honored to serve as this issue is near and dear to her heart and goes along with the Pathways to Disconnected youth that she continues to work on.

Commissioner Hill thanked staff for securing historical items from the VFW Building.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

John Mitchell has been in contact with legislators regarding the end of the budget process and was encouraged this would be wrapping up by October.

IMPORTANT DATES

ADJOURN

Chairman Lapsley made the motion to adjourn at 2:05 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

Attest:

Denisa A. Lauffer, Clerk to the Board

William Lapsley, Chairman