

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: October 20, 2021
SUBJECT: Lease agreement
PRESENTER: Charles Russell Burrell
ATTACHMENT(S): Proposed lease

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Attached is a proposed lease with Ecusta Rails2Trails, LLC, for the former property of Blue Ridge Southern Railroad LLC, starting near the rail line's crossing of Main Street in Hendersonville, and running th the line's crossing of the Henderson/Transylvania County line.

The lease is drafted with the perspective of the County operating a "linear park" on the property leased, and of very long duration (150 years), in order to justify any improvements in the property during that operation. It also attempts to leave open to the County all options permitted under the railbanking agreement executed between Blue Ridge Southern Railroad, LLC, and Ecusta Rails2Trails, LLC, as it is impossible to foresee what the future could bring for such a park over the term of the lease.

County staff will be present and prepared if requested to give further information on this matter.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of the proposed lease

If the Board is so inclined, the following motion is suggested:

I move that the Board approve the proposed lease with Ecusta Rails2Trails, LLC.