

**Henderson County  
RAIL-TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025**

The RTAC held a regularly called meeting on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the King Street Meeting Room and via Microsoft Teams. Voting members present online are denoted with the letter “O”.

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Chris Burns, Chair	X	
Selena Einwechter, Vice Chair	O	
Douglas Moon, at-large	X	
Patrick Kennedy, at-large	X	
Bart Salvaggio, at-large		X
Ken Shelton, at-large	X	
Brent Detwiler, City of Hendersonville	X	
Nancy McKinley, Town of Laurel Park	O	
Mike Egan, Conserving Carolina	X	

Also present: Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; and Chris Todd, Assistant County Manager.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Chris Burns called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Mike Egan made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Doug Moon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Meeting Summary Approval**

Mr. Ken Shelton made a motion to approve the meeting summary as presented. Mr. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Updates**

**Friends of Ecusta Trail (FOET)**

Mr. Mark Tooley stated that he had no updates on behalf of FOET.

**City of Brevard**

There was no one in attendance for the City of Brevard.

**Henderson County**

Ms. Autumn Radcliff stated that the county had completed the storm recovery tasks on the Ecusta Trail, and construction is ongoing with a June completion date still the target. She said that the 30% design work on Phase II of the trail is nearly completed. It was stated that the adopted Trail Rules and Etiquette that the RTAC approved were posted on FOET website. It was also noted by those in attendance that the ETAB with the City

of Brevard had reviewed the rules and etiquette and suggested some minor changes. Staff noted that they were awaiting notification from the City of Brevard of the changes mentioned. If they changes were minor, they could be incorporated. If not, it would need to be reviewed by the RTAC.

### **WLA Update on Trail Amenities**

Ms. Sarah Schafer with WLA provided the RTAC with and updated on the trail amenities design which was 90% complete. She indicated that amenities included:

- orientation markers at 8 intersections (2 per intersection).
- approximately 13 location markers, one every 0.5 miles on the trail
- approximately 21 bench locations had been identified (not all would be installed initially, but could include the planning for future bench installments)
- approximately 5 waste/recycling receptacles located at: Yale Road, 5th Avenue, 3rd Avenue, Hunters Glen and Woodridge Drive
- approximately 5 bike parking areas with 5 hoops per location at Yale Road, 5th Avenue, 3rd Avenue, S. Main, and Hunters Glen
- approximately 3 bike repair stations located at 5th Avenue, Woodridge Drive, and Yale Road
- approximately 3 trail counters between Brevard Road and Hunters Glen, and between Dairy Street and Kanuga Road

She stated that there would be post and rail style fencing and Landscaping along the trail that is close to the road. She stated that this would help to frame amenity locations and provide buffer and security. She also said that approximately 4 parking locations had been identified with a total of 24 parking spaces at Wash Creek Drive, Woodridge Drive, Yale Road, and Hunters Glen. The location is proposed, and it would depend on if NCDOT will allow parking pull off areas. She also said that the trail partners may provide additional parking spaces.

### **Trail Events/Policy**

RTAC heard from Ty Houck with the Greenville County Parks and Recreation on how they deal with trail events on the Swamp Rabbit. He stated that the trail is never closed for events. Greenville county staff provide oversite of the events and charge \$5.00 per participant fee to the county. They currently do not have a limit on the number of events that can be held each year. Staff work with race directors to establish where the race is taking place, where signs are placed, intersection control, law enforcement, and overall guidelines for the race. He stated that they only permit the portion of the event that is on the trail in their jurisdiction. Race directors/event applicants are responsible for getting the required permits and fees in the other jurisdictions if the event is going into those areas. Mr. Houck stated that in 2024 there were 15 races with approximately 11,258 total racers (7,317 of those racers were from outside Greenville County). The county took in approximately \$60,040 direct revenues from these events.

### **Ecusta Trail Parking Amendments – Continued Discussion**

Ms. Autumn Radcliff stated the Board of Commissioners has requested a public hearing for April 7, 2025, to consider commercial parking options along the Ecusta Trail in the unincorporated areas. The Planning Board discussed options to accomplish this with staff and recommended adding a new use for Ecusta Trail Parking that would be permitted in specific zoning districts with SR (Supplemental Requirements) for parcels that were adjacent to the trail. The Planning Board noted that an Ecusta Overlay District could be incorporated in the LDC rewrite that could expand parking options and other related trail-oriented developments, but the draft amendment could address the parking concern initially for the first six (6) miles of the trail that will be completed summer of 2025. The RTAC had been discussing this item at the last couple of meetings as well.

After some discussion of the draft amendment, Mr. Mike Egan made a motion to send forward a favorable recommendation on the draft amendment for Ecusta Trail Parking. Mr. Ken Shelton seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

*This meeting was recorded, and the MP4 file can be made available upon request. Please contact County staff.*