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**CAROLINA**  
THREAD TRAIL.

Staff Contact: Ashton Lamb, Trail Development Manager

Report Date: 3/17/2026

## George Poston Park Improvements by CTT

### **Background:**

The Carolina Thread Trail (CTT) obtained access to Spencer Mountain from WBTV via a Trail Easement agreement in 2024. Soon after, we began formalizing plans for trail improvements necessary to create an iconic and accessible outdoor destination at Spencer Mountain. Spencer Mountain is the third highest natural point in the greater Charlotte region at 1,250 ft. It is located just north of Gaston County's George Poston Park.

Gaston County has developed a 1.5-mile improved natural surface trail (dirt with recycled concrete surfacing) and a .5-mile sidewalk connector trail from the South Fork River to the base of Spencer Mountain in George Poston Park. CTT awarded Gaston County \$92,375 to develop this project. George Poston Park will be the primary trailhead area for the 1,000,000 anticipated users visiting Spencer Mountain.

CTT is leading the development of all trails and trail facilities for the Spencer Mountain Trail Project. Approximately \$1.8 million in improvements are planned for Spencer Mountain and George Poston Park. These improvements include 3 miles of highly accessible trail, overlooks, trailhead facilities, a small park at the summit of Spencer Mountain, and art sculptures. Gaston County will maintain and operate the trails and facilities post construction.

### **Poston Park Improvements:**

CTT is planning the following improvements for Poston Park specifically:

- Trailhead area near soccer fields
  - Base Area Kiosk
  - Sitting Boulders
  - Split Rail Fencing
  - Bench, trashcan, bike rackCost=\$60,050
- Base Camp Overlook near Déjà vu Loop trails
  - Base Camp Overlook
  - Small kiosk
  - BenchCost=\$94,000
- Thread Art
  - Single Thread Sculpture w/ Spool (Near park entrance)
  - Three Thread Sculpture (At Spencer Mtn. trailhead near soccer fields)Cost=\$87,100



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**Total investment by CTT=\$241,150**

Improvements also include various wayfinding, EMS, and interpretative signage adjacent to the Thread Trail through the park.

These improvements have been reviewed and approved by the Gaston County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism department. All improvements would be within a Temporary Construction Easement granted to CTT by Gaston County on December 2, 2025.

**Request:**

CTT asks that Gaston County allow them to develop improvements at George Poston Park as described in this report.

**Attachments:**

- Concepts of Poston Park improvements by CTT
- Map of improvement areas within George Poston Park



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## Concepts of Park Improvements by CTT

### Trailhead Area



### Base Camp Overlook



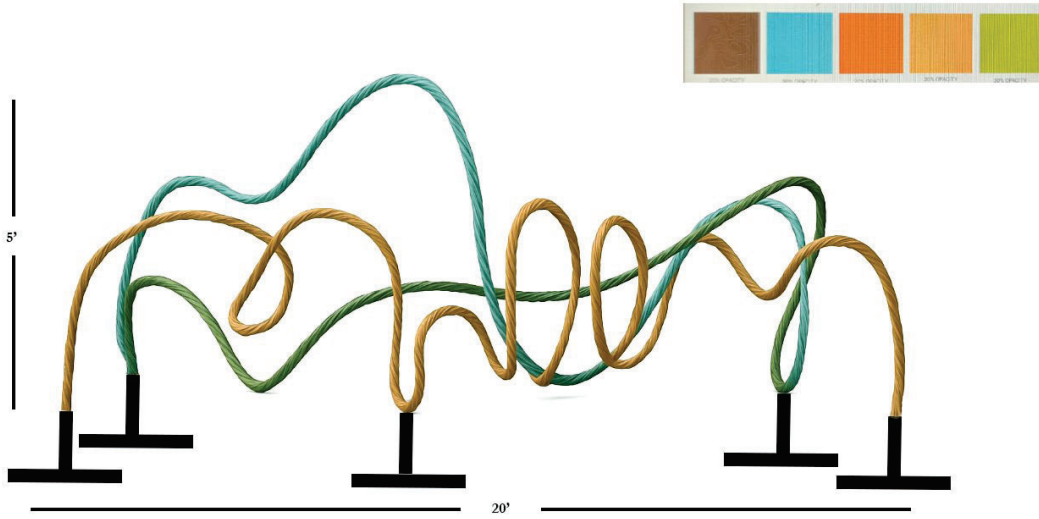


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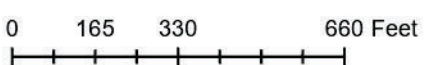


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## Thread Art



# George Poston Park Temporary Construction Easement



Spencer Mountain Construction  
Gaston County, NC  
Projection: NAD 1983  
Created by ACL 11/20/2025

### Legend

- Base Loop Trail (1.6 miles)
- Mountainside Trail (1.1 miles)
- ▨ Temporary Staging Areas
- ▭ George Poston Park