



RESOLUTION TITLE: SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF THE SOUTH FORK PASSAGE STATE TRAIL AND ITS INCLUSION IN THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS SYSTEM

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2025, Senate Bill 329 was filed with the North Carolina General Assembly to authorize the creation of the South Fork Passage State Trail and add it to the State Parks System; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina's State Trails program offers abundant opportunities to experience some of the state's most magnificent landscapes; and,

WHEREAS, the South Fork Corridor, which runs from Catawba County through Lincoln County to Gaston County, uniquely ties our communities together; and,

WHEREAS, the South Fork of the Catawba River flows through Gaston County and is recognized for its significant historical, ecological, and recreational value, including its role in regional industrial history and proximity to landmarks such as Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, Goat Island Park, and George Poston Park; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed South Fork Passage State Trail would span approximately 60 miles of interconnected paddle, hiking, and biking trails, including sections already established within Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, the creation of the South Fork Passage State Trail would improve the quality of life for current residents and attract new economic opportunities to our community; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed trail project aligns with ongoing efforts in Gaston County to expand and improve outdoor recreation options for residents and visitors and supports the broader goals of the Carolina Thread Trail and local park initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners supports the creation and inclusion of the South Fork Passage State Trail in the North Carolina State Parks System, as it is intended to provide better connectivity and outdoor recreation opportunities for Gaston County residents and visitors.

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCloninger	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-202	06/24/2025	BH	JB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Building and Development Services Board Action

File #: 25-344

Commissioner Brown - Building and Development Services - To Support the Creation of the South Fork Passage State Trail and Its Inclusion in the North Carolina State Parks System Award

STAFF CONTACT

Peyton Wiggins - Planner II - 704-866-3530

BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2025, Senate Bill 329 was filed with the North Carolina General Assembly to authorize the creation of the South Fork Passage State Trail and add it to the State Parks System. The proposed South Fork Passage State Trail would span approximately 60 miles of interconnected paddle, hiking, and biking trails, including sections already established within Gaston County. The proposed trail project aligns with ongoing efforts in Gaston County to expand and improve outdoor recreation options for residents and visitors.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

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