



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Parks & Recreation

Board Action

File #: 23-272

Commissioner Cloninger - Parks and Recreation - To Accept and Appropriate Carolina Thread Trail Grant Funds (\$92,375)

STAFF CONTACT

Cathy Hart - Parks and Recreation - 704-922-2162

BUDGET IMPACT

Appropriate Local Grant revenues. No additional County funds.

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

Increase Local Grant revenues by \$92,375 and appropriate \$92,375 into Capital Outlay account.

BACKGROUND

The trail project will include three segments that are included in the South Fork River Trail Corridor Gap Design. Segment A of the project begins on the far eastern edge of Poston Park, and it will use a pre-existing roadbed for much of the footprint of the trail. Segment A trail will connect to Segment B via a crosswalk over Lowell-Spencer Mountain Road. Segment B will include a multi-use path through George Poston Park. The Segment B trail will be located along the shoulder and islands of Mountainside Lane. This segment of trail will improve bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the busy park. Segment C will connect George Poston Park to the base of Spencer Mountain. Future trails are planned for Spencer Mountain. This section of trail will include a trailhead at Poston Park's northern most parking lot.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Budget Change Request (BCR), Grant Award Letter and Contract

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	CBrown	CCloninger	AFrale	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	RWorley	Vote
2023-203	06/13/2023	RW	AF	A	A	A	A	A	AB	A	U

DISTRIBUTION:

Laserfiche Users

A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS

BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST (BCR)

TO: Dr. Kim S. Eagle, County Manager

Date _____

*Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

[illegible]

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** Decreases in expenditures and increases in revenue accounts require brackets. Increases in expenditures and decreases in revenue do not require brackets. Please note that transfers between funds require inter-fund transfer accounts.

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

The purpose of this transfer is to accept and appropriate funds from the Carolina Thread Trail Grant revenue account into the Carolina Thread Trail Other Improvement expense account for trails construction.

May 5, 2023

Cathy Hart, Director
Gaston County Parks & Recreation
1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy
Dallas, NC 28034

RE: Carolina Thread Trail Grant Agreement 2023-04

Dear Mrs. Hart,

Please find enclosed the Grant Agreement for your awarded 2023 Implementation Grant from the Carolina Thread Trail. Again, congratulations! We look forward to working with you and your community partners on this exciting project.

Please sign and have notarized where indicated. Once signed, please return the original to me. Once the agreement is fully executed, you will receive a final copy for your files. Please note that the line for "Effective Date" will be filled in by the party who is last to sign the agreement, at the time of execution.

Also enclosed is a form on which to provide your organization's ACH banking information. Please return the completed form along with the signed agreement. The transfer of funds will be through ACH payment once the conditions specified in the agreement are met (Sec. 2. Disbursement of Grant Proceeds).

The Carolina Thread Trail has issued a press release on the award. We encourage the County to publicize the award through a number of the following communication channels, as applicable: Press releases; e-newsletter or e-alerts; printed newsletters; website articles or posts; social media posts, photograph captions/social posts; email messages; broadcast interviews; newspaper articles; posters, flyers, or direct mail for events or meetings; advertisements, etc.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 704.342.3330, Ext. 2216, or bret@carolinathreadtrail.org.

Sincerely,



Bret Baronak
Senior Project Director
Carolina Thread Trail

Enclosures



CATAWBA
LANDS CONSERVANCY
LAND | WATER | FARMS | NATURE



CAROLINA
THREAD TRAIL

CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AGREEMENT

Grant Number: 2023-04

Grantor: Catawba Lands Conservancy, a non-profit Section 501(3)(c) organization doing business as Carolina Thread Trail

Project Director: Bret Baronak
bret@carolinathreadtrail.org
(704) 342-3330, ext. 2216
2400 Park Road, Suite 1
Charlotte, NC 28203

Grant Recipient: Gaston County Parks & Recreation

Federal Tax ID Number: _____

Chief Executive: Cathy Hart _____

Primary Contact: Cathy Hart, Director
Cathy.hart@gastongov.com
704-922-2162
1303 Dallas-Cherryville Highway
Dallas, NC 28034

Award Date: March 21, 2023

Effective Date: _____, 2023

Grant Amount: \$92,375

THIS GRANT AGREEMENT (the "Grant Agreement") is made and entered into, as of the Effective Date by and between the Grantor and the Grant Recipient.

Acceptance of this grant, as evidenced by the authorized signature of this Grant Agreement, signifies that Gaston County Parks & Recreation is a local government entity or non-profit Section 501(c)(3) organization.

- 1. Grant Purpose.** Grant 2023-04 shall be used for Trail Construction of South Fork River Trail Corridor Design-Segments A, B, C, located in Gaston County, NC, as described in the Grant Recipient's Fall 2022 Trail Implementation Grant Program application.

The Grant Recipient understands that uses of grant funds for purposes other than those described above (the "project"), must be authorized in advance in writing by the Grantor.

2. **Disbursement of Grant Proceeds.** The Grantor will send proceeds by ACH payment to the Grant Recipient within thirty (30) days of completion of the following conditions:
 - a. receipt of an executed copy of this Grant Agreement, and
 - b. evidence that all additional funding has been awarded or budgeted to complete the project.
3. **Project Timetable.** The project funded by the grant shall be completed within three (3) years of this grant award. Any requests to extend this time period shall be submitted in writing to the Project Director of the Grantor no less than sixty (60) days prior to the original project completion deadline.
4. **Grant Recipient Responsibilities.** The Grant Recipient is responsible for administering the grant by receiving the grant funds, disbursing funds to project vendors and partners and submitting required grant reports (see below). The Grantor will not be responsible for any agreements between the Grant Recipient and any project vendors. The Grant Recipient will lead the project described in the Grant Purpose.
5. **Remaining and Unused Funds.** Any remaining and unused funds shall be returned to the Grantor within sixty (60) days after either the completion of the project or notification from the Grant Recipient to the Project Director of the Grantor that the project is cancelled or indefinitely postponed.
6. **Reporting Requirements.** If, after one (1) year from receipt of the grant funds, the project is not complete, the Grant Recipient shall submit at that time an interim progress report providing a description of project activities, accomplishments and any setbacks encountered. The report shall also include an updated summary of funds expended, a budget for completion, and a description of actual funding sources, as well as prospective funding sources in the event that any setbacks are of financial nature (see Exhibit A). A final report shall be submitted within sixty (60) days of project completion, but no later than three (3) years of receipt of grant funds, outlining the outcome of the project and a final accounting of funds expended (see Exhibit B). The Grantor reserves the right to conduct an independent evaluation of the progress of the project and all expenditures. The Grant Recipient will cooperate fully by providing information requested.
7. **Project Requirements.** Funding for trail construction must be used on land that has been acquired from willing landowners. Funding from this grant may not be used for any construction related documents or actual trail construction on land that has been acquired through condemnation. If funds are used in an unauthorized manner, all grant funds must be returned to the Grantor.

Funding for land acquisition must be used for properties from willing landowners. Funding from this grant may not be used for any transaction on land that has been acquired through condemnation. If funds are used in an unauthorized manner, all grant funds must be returned to the Grantor.

8. **Post-Implementation Requirements.**
 - a. **Public Access.** All projects supported by grant funding from the Grantor are required to be accessible to the general public. Should, at a future date, the project become permanently unavailable for public access, the Grant Recipient is required to return the full awarded amount of the Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant to the Grantor within sixty (60) days of its closure to the public.

- b. **Maintenance.** The Grant Recipient and project partners are responsible for maintaining the project supported by the Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant. Should, at a future date, the trail become permanently unavailable for public access due to the project not being properly maintained, the Grant Recipient is required to return the entire awarded amount of the Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant to the Grantor within sixty (60) days of its closure to the public.
 - c. **Signage.** The Grant Recipient, when ready to consider branding signage for the funded segment, will coordinate with the Grantor to ensure conformance with the branding standards adopted by the Grantor.
9. **Indemnification.** The Grantor is not responsible for any actions of the Grant Recipient, and furthermore, to the extent permitted by law, the Grant Recipient agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Grantor and their agents and employees from any liability, loss, cost, injury, damage or other expense that may be incurred by the Grant Recipient or claimed by any third person against it as a result of funding of the project or any action or non-action taken in connection with the project.

SIGNATURES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Grant Agreement on the date set forth above.

GRANTOR:

CATAWBA LANDS CONSERVANCY,
a North Carolina nonprofit corporation doing business
as **CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL**

By: _____
Name

Title

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

I, _____, a Notary Public of the County and State aforesaid, certify
that _____ personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged that s/he
is _____ of the Catawba Lands Conservancy, a nonprofit corporation
doing business as the Carolina Thread Trail, and that s/he, as _____, being
authorized to do so, executed the foregoing on behalf of the entity.

Witness my hand and notarial seal this the ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

GRANT RECIPIENT:

By: _____
Name

Title

Organization

ATTEST:

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

I, _____, a Notary Public of the County and State aforesaid, certify that
_____ personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged that s/he
is _____ of the _____, and that s/he, as
_____, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing on behalf of the entity.

Witness my hand and notarial seal this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

EXHIBIT A



Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant

INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT

Grant # _____

Grant Recipient _____

Project Name _____

Covers the period from _____ to _____

1. Please summarize your primary project activities for the period covered by this report. Include a description of accomplishments and setbacks. How have you addressed any setbacks you have encountered?(500 words or less)
2. Are you on track to accomplish the grant purpose described in your application and Grant Agreement? If not, please explain. Include a discussion of any required adjustments to the anticipated timetable.
3. Please provide an updated list of funding sources and the amount of funding from each. In the event that any project setbacks are of a financial nature, include prospective funding sources and status.
4. Please complete the attached budget worksheet.

EXHIBIT A



- CATAWBA -
LANDS CONSERVANCY
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CAROLINA
THREAD TRAIL

Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant

INTERIM REPORT

Budget Worksheet

For period from _____ to _____

Interim Project Expense Report				
Itemized Expenses	Thread Grant	Other Funding	Original Budget	Project Expenses to date
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTALS	\$	\$	\$	\$

EXHIBIT B



-CATAWBA-
LANDS CONSERVANCY
LAND | WATER | FARMS | NATURE



CAROLINA
THREAD TRAIL

Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

Grant # _____

Grant Recipient _____

Project Name _____

Covers the period from _____ to _____

1. Please summarize your primary project activities and the outcome of your efforts. Include a description of accomplishments and setbacks. How did you address any setbacks you encountered? Did you accomplish the grant purpose described in your application and Grant Agreement? (500 words or less)
2. Please provide an updated list of funding sources and the amount of funding from each.
3. Please complete the attached budget worksheet for the appropriate grant type (Detailed Corridor Planning, Land Acquisition, Trail Project Design, Trail Construction, Canoe/Kayak Launch Construction). **Attach all invoices associated with grant expenditures.**
4. For Detailed Corridor Planning Grants, please provide a copy of plan documents.
5. For Land Acquisition Grants, please provide a copy of the deed.
6. For Trail Project Design Grants, please provide a copy of design documents.
7. For Trail Construction Grants or Canoe/Kayak Launch Construction Grants, please provide a description of the completed project and digital images.

EXHIBIT B



- CATAWBA -
LANDS CONSERVANCY
LAND | WATER | FARM | NATURE



CAROLINA
THREAD TRAIL

Carolina Thread Trail Implementation Grant

FINAL REPORT

Budget Worksheet

For period from _____ to _____

Trail Construction				
	Thread Grant	Other Funding*	Final Project Cost	Original Budgeted Project Cost**
Construction Drawings	\$	\$	\$	\$
Permit Acquisition	\$	\$	\$	\$
Site Preparation	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trail Construction	\$	\$	\$	\$
Amenities (list)	\$	\$	\$	\$
Construction Mgmt.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTALS	\$	\$	\$	\$

Please attach all invoices associated with Thread Trail Grant expenditures.

* List other funding sources with amounts.

**Please attach a description of significant variances to the original budget.