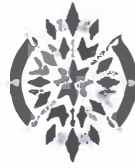




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Meeting: August 19, 2025 Board of Directors

Staff Contact: Jane Love, CTT Staff

Report Date: 8/13/2025

Agenda Item: 5.c

Action Item

Amendment to CTT Master Plan for Gaston County

Background:

As a result of an NCDOT grant, CTT and the City of Gastonia recently developed and finalized the Gastonia-Crowders Mountain Paved Pathways Feasibility Study. The study re-evaluated the CTT route between existing trail segments at Crowders Mountain State Park and downtown Gastonia, considering the opportunity to link to the City's new Linwood Springs Park in between those points.

Study Recommendation

Five route alternatives were ranked between Crowders Mountain State Park and Linwood Springs Park (western route) while four route alternatives were ranked between the latter park and the edge of downtown (eastern route). As a result of the process, the preferred western route remains along Crowders Creek, as in the adopted CTT Master Plan. The preferred eastern route uses some of the new trail in Linwood Springs Park, turns east to connect to the existing greenway along Blackwood Creek, and continues north through neighborhoods to reach the sidewalk/bikeway trail on W Second Ave, which is part of the downtown network. Please see the attached map of the entire recommended route.

Amendment of CTT Master Plan for Gaston County

Amending the CTT Master Plan to reflect the study recommendations would finalize the goal of the study. The amended plan would also support the City's ability to secure developer-led trail construction in the corridor, as growth increases in the area around the new city park.

Gastonia City Council adopted the final study on August 5, 2025. The Amendment to the CTT Master Plan requires Board approval as well as approval by the Gaston County Commission. CTT staff is coordinating with Gaston County staff who were involved in the study to request an item for consideration on a Commission meeting agenda.



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Financial:

There is no cost for the in-house amendment of the CTT Master Plan. Implementation of the trail is likely to occur in segments over time, with potential CTT grants to be considered in the future, if requested by implementers.

Attachments:

Map of recommended alternative from the Gastonia-Crowders Mountain Paved Pathways Feasibility Study.

Recommendation:

Staff requests the Board to approve an amendment to the CTT Master Plan for Gaston County, in order to reflect the route recommendation of the Gastonia-Crowders Mountain Paved Pathways Feasibility Study.

Resolved:

By majority vote of its members, the Board of Directors hereby approves an amendment to the CTT Master Plan for Gaston County that reflects the route recommendation of the Gastonia-Crowders Mountain Paved Pathways Feasibility Study.

This action is effective the 19th day of August, 2025.

Janet Hanson, Chair