



Board Action Report

File #: 21-227, **Version:** 1

Public Hearing RE: Commissioner Worley - Building & Development Services - To Approve Amendment to the Carolina Thread Trail Master Plan and Maps for Gaston County Communities, to Include the Blueway Trail

1. Receive Comment
2. Close Public Hearing
3. Accept Motion to Approve Resolution

STAFF CONTACT

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BACKGROUND

On February 28, 2008, the Board of County Commission approved a resolution to support the Carolina Thread Trail. This support allowed for the development of a Master Trail Plan facilitated by Catawba Lands Conservancy and Carolina Thread Trail Planning Team to work with the county, municipalities, and neighboring communities to design, plan, and build a system of connected trails in the 15 County Region, with the mission being to bring resources to Gaston County for trail planning and construction.

On March 26, 2009, the Board of County Commission approved a resolution to adopt the Carolina Thread Trail Master Plan for Gaston County Communities; an outline for a system of trails that will connect our communities, people and special regional points of interest for years to come. The plan does not allow for property condemnation, and property easements, including abandoned railway lines, will only be acquired from willing property owners. In addition, adoption of the plan does not imply a commitment of funding by Gaston County for implementation. The plan is a concept consisting of trail connections or lines on the Master Plan Map that are flexible and can be moved as necessary.

The Carolina Thread Trail has submitted a map amendment to include the Blueway Trail, which includes existing connections along the South Fork River through the Towns of Spencer Mountain, McAdenville, and Cramerton; and, a segment continuing south from Mountain Island Lake along the Catawba River through the City of Mount Holly; with proposed connections along the South Fork River from the Town of Cramerton heading south to Lake Wylie; and, from along the Catawba River through and from the City of Belmont heading south to Lake Wylie; and, along Dutchman's Creek heading south towards the City of Mount Holly; as shown on the attached map.

The Board is requested to consider recommendation for approval of the map amendment in support of this new trails corridor that is intended to provide better connectivity and outdoor recreation opportunities for Gaston County residents and visitors.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution, Map and Letters of Support