



# Town of Blowing Rock

Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Remote Meeting

## Agenda

<i>Item</i>		<i>Present &amp; Participants</i>
<b>I.</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE</b>	Mayor Charles Sellers
<b>II.</b>	<b>PLEDGE OF ALIGENANCE</b>	Mayor Charlie Sellers
<b>III.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES – By Roll Call</b> <b>1. August 11, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes</b> <b>2. August 11, 2020 – Closed Session Meeting Minutes</b>  <b>REGULAR AGENDA ADOPTION – Vote by Roll Call</b>  <b>CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION</b> <b>1. Patricia Aiken Annexation Request – 252 Heather Ridge Lane</b> <b>2. Wonderland Drive Speed Limit Consent - NCDOT</b> <b>3. Budget Amendment - #2020-09</b>	Mayor & Council  Mayor  Mayor & Council
<b>IV.</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS – emailed or mailed to the Town Clerk prior to 4:00pm on September 8<sup>h</sup>.</b>	
<b>V.</b>	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <b>1. Middle Fork Greenway</b>	Keith Pugh, WithersRavenel
<b>VI.</b>	<b>BUSINESS MATTERS:</b> <b>1. Chetola Lake – Dredging Request</b>  <b>2. 321 Valley Blvd. Update</b>	Shane Fox, Town Manager/ Kent Tarbutton, Chetola  Planning Director Kevin Rothrock
<b>VII.</b>	<b>OFFICIALS REPORTS &amp; COMMENTS:</b> <b>1. Mayor</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Council Members</li> <li>3. Town Attorney</li> <li>4. Town Manager</li> </ul>	
VIII.	<b>CLOSED SESSION – NCGS 143-318.11. (a)(3) –</b> Attorney/Client update on current litigation	
IX.	<b>ADJOURNMENT/RECESS...</b> <i>Mayor Charles Sellers entertains a motion and second to adjourn or recess the meeting.</i>	

**Draft**  
**MINUTES**  
**Town of Blowing Rock**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**August 11, 2020**

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting took place at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street Blowing Rock, NC. Present were Mayor Charlie Sellers, Mayor Pro-Tem Sue Sweeting and Council Members Albert Yount, David Harwood, Doug Matheson, Virginia Powell, Town Manager Shane Fox, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock and Town Clerk Hilari Hubner who recorded the minutes. Others in attendance via Zoom virtual/phone session were Town Attorney Allen Moseley, Town Engineer Doug Chapman, Fire Chief Kent Graham, Police Chief Aaron Miller and Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Brown. Finance Officer Nicole Norman and Public Works and Utilities Director Matt Blackburn were unable to attend the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sellers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Mayor verified attendance via roll call.

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGINANCE**

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2020 regular session minutes, seconded by Council Member Matheson. Unanimously approved.

Council Member Powell made a motion to approve the July 14, 2020 closed session meeting, seconded by Council Member Harwood. Unanimously approved.

**REGULAR AGENDA ADOPTION**

Mayor Sellers advised Mr. Kent Tarbutton had requested to pull the Chetola Lake Dredging request off the agenda due to a recent illness. He advised the item will likely be back on the September agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to adopt the agenda with the change, seconded by Council Member Matheson. Unanimously approved.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Town of Blowing Rock – Ice House Lease – Permission to advertise for bids**

Request to allow Town Staff to proceed with the advertisement for soliciting bids for lease of the Historic Town-owned Ice-House. Once bids are received, a public hearing will be conducted in accordance with NCGS and lease awarded by Town Council at the October Town Council Meeting.

## **2. Water Treatment Plant Bulk Chemical Tanks – Permission to advertise for bids**

Request is to allow for Town Staff and McGill to prepare a schematic bid package to solicit informal bids to complete the removal of the old bulk chemical tanks at the Water Plant. Bids will be received and reviewed to possibly award at the October 2020 Town Council meeting. Potential funding would be derived from current Water Plant Reserves.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to approve consent as presented, seconded by Council Member Yount. Unanimously approved.

### **SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mayor Sellers and Town Manager Fox each read letter from Citizens; Morris Street Sidewalk (John Aldridge), Art and the Park (Emily Brinker, John Aldridge and Deborah McDowell), Speeding on 321 (Earnest Long, Laura Bingham/Rhonda Smith), Police enforcing masks (Lee Rocamora) and EMS Service (William Miller).

Comments in response to some of the citizens letters:

Mayor Sellers advised Mr. Cullie Tarleton contacted NC DOT and they will be providing additional signage to the Town of Blowing Rock. In addition, he contacted the secretary of the Department of Transportation and a formal letter is going to be sent to request the Highway Patrol to make more visits on Highway 321. Mayor Sellers further advised he, Manager Fox, Police Chief Aaron Miller and Council have all made it a effort to address this issue and resolve the problem as it is a safety issue.

Council Member Yount advised there is a “myth” among some people that the Blowing Rock Police aren’t doing anything about the speeding issue. He wanted these numbers to go on record; in 2019 Blowing Rock Police stopped 2,153 vehicles and during that same time frame NC Highway Patrol stopped 1,566 vehicles in the county. He further advised in July 2020 Blowing Rock Police stopped 238 vehicles and during the same time frame Boone Police Department stopped 196 vehicles. Council Member Yount stated Boone is three times bigger than Blowing Rock, so he just wanted to say these numbers show our officers are working.

Manager Fox advised he wanted to clarify a few things about the letter from Mr. William Miller. The Fire Department’s issue with the phone line was fixed that day as they weren’t aware the line was out. He advised it’s important for people to remember to always call 911 in a case of an emergency. The Fire Department phone number is more of an administrative number. He explained in years past Blowing Rock Fire and Rescue has always responded to all calls. During the COVID Pandemic, Watauga County Emergency Management Department along with a lot of other counties in North Carolina put a process in place for the most non-critical calls not to be dispatched to certain responders and instead only go to the EMS Service. The reason being is to limit the number of responders to a call due to COVID. Manager Fox further explained if the call is a life-threatening call the Blowing Rock Fire and Rescue as well as EMS will both be dispatched to the call.



## **BUSINESS MATTERS:**

### **1. Chestnut Drive/Morris Street Drainage Project**

Manager Fox advised for Council consideration, a change order to current Paving and Stormwater Project 2020 to include a more substantial drainage project along Chestnut Drive and Morris Street. Funds to be utilized from current paving budget, possible contingency funds and remaining funds from the Sunset Project close-out. The Town currently has approximately \$62,000 in current drainage budget, approximately \$50,000 in contingency and approximately \$300,000 in monies available from the Sunset Drive Project finalization reconciliation under the budget.

Town Engineer Doug Chapman from McGill advised as part of the 2014 General Obligation bond package, the Town set a goal of paving all its streets that had not been paved in the preceding few years. During the fall of 2019, the development of a final paving bid package was developed, which included Chestnut Drive. During the heavy rains of late 2019 and construction in the area, repeated stormwater problems were identified along Chestnut Drive generally from Main Street to Chestnut Circle was included as a bid alternate. The low bid amount for that alternate was \$220,180. With a limited amount of funds available at award, only a limited scope of the project was awarded, to include a portion of stormwater facilities near the east side of St. Mary's, and a section east and south of Morris Street along Chestnut.

As construction along Chestnut is nearing, repeated heavy rains in spring and early summer has intensified the need to complete a more expanded scope of drainage improvements along Chestnut. To that end, they have met with the Town Staff and the Contractor to develop a series of comprehensive stormwater steps to manage rainwater along this section of Chestnut (Main Street to Chestnut Circle).

The proposed stormwater improvements have been segregated into five (5) segments, as outlined in differing colors on the map. Those sections have differing functions, benefits, and costs:

1. Segment 1 – just east of St. Mary's – collects water coming overland (from the former hospital site) and distributes to piping flowing under Main Street. Cost \$22,000
2. Segment 2 – Morris St to south Henkle – collects water along Chestnut from Morris to the north entrance of the former hospital site (reducing the flow in ditch lines) and conveys to the drainage ditch along Morris St. Cost- \$83,000
3. Segment 3 – Chestnut to BRES – conveys water along the east side of Morris from the piping the ditch in this area and paving back a small ditch. Cost - \$60,000
4. Segment 4 – Henkle to Chestnut Circle – collects water along Chestnut to Chestnut Circle, including capturing water routed to the west side of Chestnut, north of Grandfather, after the road is regraded and paved. Cost - \$80,000
5. Segment 5 – St. Mary's to Morris St – allows Town staff to direct water south and east of Morris along Chestnut from discharging to Morris St., to discharging to Main

Street. A junction box with an overflow weir would be installed at the connection point. Cost - \$38,000

Total project costs for all these segments of storm drainage improvements is \$277,000. The project contracted as awarded, including \$62,560 in storm drainage improvements (segment 1 and portions of segment 2).

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked if segment five (5) was in the original bid.

Mr. Chapman advised it was included, segments one (1), two (2), four (4) and five (5) were all included in the original bid.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked if the culvert going down Morris Street on the right was going to be fixed would the sidewalk be able to be done on top of that at some point.

Mr. Chapman advised it would be possible and explained in detail how it could be done.

Mayor Sellers advised he had the understanding the cost is estimate for the sidewalk is around \$130,000 and asked if the cost could be reduced if the sidewalk was done in conjunction with the Morris Street drainage. Mr. Chapman advised it could be.

Mayor Sellers further asked what the time frame for the work to be completed would be. Mr. Chapman advised it could take up to six (6) months.

Council Member Matheson advised he personally felt with all the problems the Town has had over the years with issues on Chestnut using a twenty-four (24) inch pipe was under sizing. He explained he didn't think the cost would be much more to go up to a thirty (30) inch pipe.

Mr. Chapman advised he didn't think a larger pipe was necessary in that area and explained in detail the reasoning for his thoughts.

Council Member Matheson stated the water flow was increasing going down Morris Street and asked if that was not going to increase the problem that has been on Ransom Street at First Baptist Church.

Mr. Chapman advised it wouldn't be increasing water since the water was already there now.

Manager Fox reviewed the funding source, part from the original bond amount and the remining would be from the remaining funds from the Sunset Street Scape.

Manager Fox advised each time staff and the engineers had walked the project they were stopped by a number of residents who have all had a number of issues over the years. He explained this was good so those homeowners could show them just where the problems were occurring, show drain patterns etc.

Council Members discussed in detail different scenarios with Mr. Chapman and staff about drainage and what could happen and what would be done to help with those issues.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked Mr. Chapman if he felt comfortable in saying the new flow amount going down to the Baptist Church is not going to affect the new drain the Town just put in.

Mr. Chapman advised if all five of the segments were able to be met and the ability to direct some of the water flow to Main Street instead of Morris Street that would give the ability to lessen the impacts to Ransom Street near the Baptist Church.

Council discussed further the drainage and details of the project.

Council Member Yount asked if this project would give any resolution to the problem Richard Trexler has been dealing with for years. Manager Fox advised this would be an attempt to help improve that area but could guarantee it would completely fix the problem.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to approve the Chestnut Drive drainage paving project as presented and to fund using the funds from the original bond as well as what funds were left over from Sunset Drive, seconded by Council Member Yount. Unanimously approved.

Council took a 15-minute recess at 7:30 p.m. They resumed the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

## **2. Blowing Rock Chamber – Art and the Park Contract**

The Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce is requesting a renewal of their current Art in the Park contract for an additional five years.

Executive Director of the Blowing Rock Chamber Charles Hardin advised the request was for a simple five (5) year renewal of the current lease. He advised this would be the Chamber's third consecutive five (5) year renewal request and there have been no problems in the past that he was aware of.

Mr. Hardin reminded Council that several years ago Council had asked that the Chamber move Art in the Park off of the parking deck and move it onto Park Avenue. He explained this had proved to work out very well for the Chamber, the event, the Town, the artist and the.

Mr. Hardin advised there had been some question as to the need of a five-year lease. He explained that it's really important from a marketing, promotion and the biggest being a talent recruitment standpoint. He advised on any normal Art in the Park year it attracts 30,000 to 35,000 visitors a year. Mr. Hardin advised approximately \$8,000 to \$8,500 goes back to the Town's general fund from the show.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised if there were any staff comments regarding the request.

Manager Fox advised Chief Miller had requested that spot 84 on the map be relocated from in front of the police station near the handicap ramp, Chief Graham requested that access be allowed to each resident's home driveway and Ms. Brown needs to know dates in advance for scheduling weddings and events.

Council Member Harwood made a motion to renew the lease as is, seconded by Council Member Powell. Further discussion:

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised she thought Council needed to think about parking as hopefully in December the parking on Hwy 221 will be going away when the Bass Lake Sidewalk is completed. She further advised Council has been criticized as a whole for the lack of parking.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised Art in the Park takes up roughly ninety (90) to one hundred (100) parking spots. She felt Council needed to be aware of that and perhaps five (5) years is too long. In addition, this year the residences had requested that the Town have dispatch back at the Police Department, in which the Town has spent \$140,000 to have dispatching 12 hours a day, seven days a week and that area is being blocked.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised what she would like the Chamber to look at the parking situation and where else they could have Art in the Park that wouldn't affect our parking situation so much seven times a year. She felt there were other areas in Town that would be possible areas interested in having Art in the Park; the Horse Show Grounds, Appalachian Ski Mountain or Tanger Outlets.

Mr. Hardin advised he wanted to make sure Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting was aware that the Chamber pays \$1,200 a month to a shuttle service to run people from Tanger parking into downtown. He further advised they are already offsetting their forty (40) parking spaces and this is a huge partnership for the Town.

Council Member Matheson advised one of the things he hoped that would help with the parking is when COVID is over the Council get back to their discussion of the shuttle with AppalCart and help relieve some of the parking issue.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked if this lease agreement was something that could wait a year to see what COVID does and then re-visit next August. She advised there were no dates on their application. Council Member Matheson stated he was sure the dates would be around the same time that it has been for the last ten years. Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised she would feel better with actual dates that have been accepted by Parks and Rec staff.

Mr. Hardin advised for clarification of the lease agreement the Chamber is required to bring dates yearly before Council for approval for the next five years. He advised he has done that every year for fifteen (15) years. He further advised in all those years he can only recall one date that was in question and that was years ago when Rita Wiseman was on Council and there was concern the Art in the Park date was on Mother's Day weekend. Otherwise there has been no issues and the dates are around the same time each year.

Council Member Harwood asked if it would be unreasonable to ask for dates to be locked in for two years. Mr. Hardin advised he could provide that and further advised he could probably provide the whole five years if need be. Council Member Harwood stated he felt having those dates at least two years out could help Parks and Rec staff with scheduling weddings and events.

Council Member Yount asked Mr. Hardin if he had given any thought as to a good place for the vendors to park. Mr. Hardin advised the Chamber has looked at options and will continue to seek other options for the vendors to park.

Council Member Powell advised perhaps the Town could get permission to do a drone to gather some data from the next Art in the Park to see where people are parking and get information on where our parking problem is etc.

Council Member Matheson advised he had a friend that was going to be taking some drone footage that would help gather information for how to move forward with Public transportation.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked if Council would be willing to table this request until data can be gathered on what the parking situation is. Council Member Matheson advised he didn't think that was going to change Art in the Parks parking. He felt it was just going to only help with how to go forward with the public transportation aspect. The parking is still going to be an issue.

After further discussion. Council Member Harwood amended his motion to approve the five-year request and asked the Chamber to include Art in the Park dates for two years to Parks and Recreation for planning purposes, seconded by Council Member Powell. Unanimously approved.

### **3. 321 Valley Blvd. Update**

Planning Director Kevin Rothrock gave an update of the Hwy 321 Valley Blvd. and provided a summary list for Council.

Council Member Harwood asked for enlightenment on the BRCA's contract with Mosaic Design. Manager Fox advised that Mr. Tim Gupton with the BRCA approached him about the funding and then reached out to Mr. Rothrock and Planning Board Chairman Pete Gherini to discuss what the plans were from the Planning Board perspective. He advised they took it upon themselves to raise to funds and hire this firm without any

Town input. The plan is to work with the Planning Board and the request of the Planning Board Chair is to potentially form a subcommittee once they have some data and information and present that to the Planning Board subcommittee.

Council Member Yount asked if this was a push for the New River.

Manager Fox advised he believed there was a push of storm water quality management, a potential Greenway that was discussed during the 2014 Comprehensive Plan. He explained there is about four (4) or five (5) points they are looking at accomplishing.

Mr. Rothrock advised they are also consulting with the New River Conservancy with the restoration of the New River.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked if BRCA could also be added to the stormwater management with the New River Conservancy because they have access to grants. She further asked if Mr. Rothrock had a timeline for these issues to be addressed as there were about seven (7) and she felt that was going to be difficult for Planning Board to do. She further asked if he had looked at which one's staff could do.

Mr. Rothrock advised there were some ideas they could present but would like to have the input of a subcommittee. He further advised once they get to a point as far as building heights, setbacks etc. he wanted to be able to take that to a public group for public input from ones who own property on Hwy 321.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting asked Mr. Rothrock if staff could initiate 11-2 and 11-3 and under supplementary number 2 on the report provided to Council. She explained one of the things discussed in the Ad Hoc Committee meetings was asking DOT if there were areas owned by them that couldn't be developed if they would allow the Town to put some sort of landscaping or wall work in. She felt that was something staff could work on and felt something of that nature there might be people in Town that would donate to a project like that.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting re-stated she felt there were things staff could start working on as she felt that Planning Board was going to be "slammed" with the list that has been created.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting advised the color pallet was actually a recommendation by the public. Mr. Rothrock advised the color pallet was sent to Planning Board per Council's request and they felt it was fine as it is. Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting stated she was trying to balance input public because the committee asked for public comments.

Council thanked Mr. Rothrock for all his hard work.

#### **4. Watauga County Schools – Plan B – Town Assistance Discussion**

Manager Fox advised due to COVID-19 issues, the Watauga County School System including Blowing Rock Elementary, are reopening utilizing a combination of a virtual academy and online learning for the first nine weeks. It is the goal of the Watauga County School System to return those who have chosen to return, to in-person instruction as early as mid-October 2020. It has been resources that the Town of Blowing Rock may assist the school system during this time.

Manager Fox advised he has heard from several Council Members regarding what the Town of Blowing Rock can do to help out in any way needs families may need. Chief Graham has created a special code where students and safely connect to a WiFi location for students to access in Town.

Council discussed some options. The consensus was for Parks and Rec staff to offer a space and people could go online and register a time to use the space to access the public WiFi

#### **5. Top 13 Retreat List Update and Next Steps**

Manager Fox gave an update of the Top 13 list from the January 2020 Retreat and discussed next steps via Power Point.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mayor Sellers – No Comments
- Council Member Yount – advised regarding speeding he suggested if big trucks speeding call the company and report them to the safety director.
- Council Member Harwood – No comments
- Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting – thanked all of staff for their hard work. She has had people give her compliments on how kind and wonderful the Town Employees are.
- Council Member Matheson – wanted to thank Manager Fox for reaching out to the Town of Sparta after the earthquake to let them know if they needed any help our staff would be willing to help. Asked for everyone to please remember Tammy in your thoughts and prayers.
- Council Member Powell – No comments
- Manager Fox: Recognized Barry Ford for 30 years of service to the Town. Virtual Manager meeting on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. GIS work has recently gone through an update and is now complete. Now about six (6) weeks into our dispatch change and it's going very well. The Town of Boone Mr. Rothrock has worked with their Planning Department to begin helping each other out with needs and demands as far as needs arise. Middle Fork Greenway did have a twenty-minute public input session prior to the meeting tonight. Will be coming before Council in September to provide the same presentation.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:45 p.m. Council Member Harwood made a motion to go into executive session *NCGS 143-3 18.11. (a)(3) – Attorney/Client update on current litigation*, seconded by Council Member Powell. Unanimously approved. No action was taken.



**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:00 p.m. Council returned to open session, with no further business Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Matheson. Unanimously approved.

**MAYOR** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Charlie Sellers**

**ATTEST** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk**

**Attachments**

**Art and the Park Agreement/Lease – Attachment A**  
**Highway 321 Update – Attachment B**  
**Top 13 Retreat List Update – Attachment C**



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Charlie Sellers and Blowing Rock Town Council

FROM: Kevin Rothrock, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Patricia Aiken Annexation – 252 Heather Ridge Lane

DATE: September 1, 2020

Patricia Aiken has submitted a petition of voluntary satellite annexation for Council consideration. The 0.732acre subject property is located in the ETJ at 252 Heather Ridge Lane just outside of the Town corporate limits. The property is zoned R-15, Single-family and further identified by Watauga County PIN 2817-77-3145-000.

### **Key points**

- The applicant has submitted a petition for satellite annexation with the intention of connecting to Town sewer utilities. Consistent with Town policy, any property that desires connection to Town utilities must be located within the corporate limits.
- Ms. Aiken is responsible for the costs of extending sewer service to her property and for the availability fees for any buildings connected to the system. A low pressure system was installed by neighbors on Heather Ridge Lane a few years ago, and any extension to connect to that system would be the responsibility of Ms. Aiken.

Since the boundaries of the subject property are not contiguous with the Town's corporate limits, the rules for satellite annexation have to be followed. The five basic rules for satellite annexation in North Carolina found in G.S. 160A-58.1(b) are:

- 1) The nearest point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is not more than three (3) miles from the corporate limits of the Town of Blowing Rock;
- 2) No point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is closer to another municipality than to the Town of Blowing Rock;
- 3) The area described is so situated that the Town of Blowing Rock will be able to provide the same services within the proposed satellite corporate limits that it provides within the primary corporate limits;
- 4) No subdivision, as defined in G.S. 160A-376, will be fragmented by this proposed annexation, and
- 5) The area within the proposed satellite corporate limits, when added to the area within all other satellite corporate limits, does not exceed ten percent (10%) of the area within the primary corporate limits of the Town of Blowing Rock.

Through staff review of the annexation petition, it appears that all requirements of satellite annexation will be satisfied.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

To pursue annexation, staff recommends that Council approve resolutions No. 2020-03 and 2020-04 which initiates the annexation process and establishes a public hearing for October 13, 2020 for consideration of the annexation petition.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Annexation Petition submitted by Patricia Aiken
- Resolution 2020-03 – directing the Town Clerk to investigate the annexation petition
- Resolution 2020-04 – setting date of public hearing
- Survey of Aiken property
- Map of Aiken property with proposed annexation boundary

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03**

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO INVESTIGATE A PETITION  
RECEIVED UNDER G.S. 160A-31**

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of an area described in said petition was received on August 31, 2020 by the Town of Blowing Rock; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-31 provides that the sufficiency of the petition shall be investigated by the Town Clerk before further annexation procedures take place; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Blowing Rock deems it advisable to proceed in response to this request for annexation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, that:

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above-described petition and to certify as soon as possible to the Board of Commissioners the result of her investigation.

Adopted this the 9th day of September, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Sellers, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hilari H. Hubner, Town Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04****RESOLUTION FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON QUESTION OF  
ANNEXATION PURSUANT TO G.S. 160A-31**

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of the area described herein has been received;  
and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Blowing Rock has by resolution  
directed the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition; and

WHEREAS, certification by the Town Clerk as to the sufficiency of the petition has been  
made; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of  
Blowing Rock, North Carolina, that:

Section 1. A public hearing on the question of annexation of the area described herein will  
be held at the Blowing Rock Town Hall Council Chambers at 1036 Main Street at 6:00 P.M.  
on October 13, 2020.

Section 2. The area proposed for annexation is described as follows:

A certain tract of land containing 0.732 acres , located in the Blowing Rock Township,  
Watauga County, North Carolina, and being described in Deed Book 2072, Page 315, also  
being Lot 10 in Plat Book 3, Page 30, and being bounded by the lands of, formerly of or in  
possession of: on the North by Wayne Vason & James Addison of the Mary Anna Banks  
Sherlander Trust (Deed Book 2064, Page 599); on the East by Conservation Trust for North  
Carolina (Deed Book 2064, Page 714); on the South by James and Judith Allison (Deed Book  
1477, Page 736)(also Lot 9 in previously mentioned plat); and on the West by the Eastern  
Right-of-Way of Heather Ridge Lane (see Plat 3, Page 30); and being more particularly  
described as follows:

BEGINNING on an Existing 1/2" Rebar in the eastern Right-of-Way of Heather Ridge Lane,  
said pin being the northern-most point of the James and Judy Allison property, said pin also  
having North Carolina Grid Coordinates of N= 877198.06' and E= 1217332.60'; thence with  
the northern Allison line S 55°49'47" E a distance of 56.03' to an existing iron pipe; thence S  
55°46'31" E a distance of 30.30' to an existing iron pipe; thence S 55°55'44" E a distance of  
33.21' to an existing 1/2" rebar; thence S 55°47'02" E a distance of 35.83' to an existing iron  
pipe; thence S 55°52'00" E a distance of 159.21' to an existing 1/2" rebar; thence with the  
Conservation Trust for N.C. Line N 10°02'36" E a distance of 107.69' to an existing iron  
pipe; thence with the Sherlander Trust line N 54°56'24" W a distance of 152.96' to an existing  
1/2" rebar; thence N 55°40'48" W a distance of 42.32' to an existing iron pipe; thence N  
60°09'14" W a distance of 26.25' to an existing iron pipe; thence N 60°01'52" W a distance of  
83.11' to an existing iron pipe; thence N 59°20'37" W a distance of 29.14' to an existing iron  
pipe in the right-of-way of Heather Ridge Lane; thence with the right-of-way the following  
two calls; (1) thence S 02°46'47" E a distance of 66.03' to a point; and (2) thence S 02°58'13"

W a distance of 44.72' to the point of BEGINNING.

Surveyed in June 2020, using NC Grid North for the Bearing Reference. For source of title see that certain deed in Deed Book 2072, Page 315, in the Watauga County Register of Deeds Office. Job Number 200604.

Section 3. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in The Blowing Rocket, a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Blowing Rock, at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

Adopted this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Sellers, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hilari H. Hubner, Town Clerk

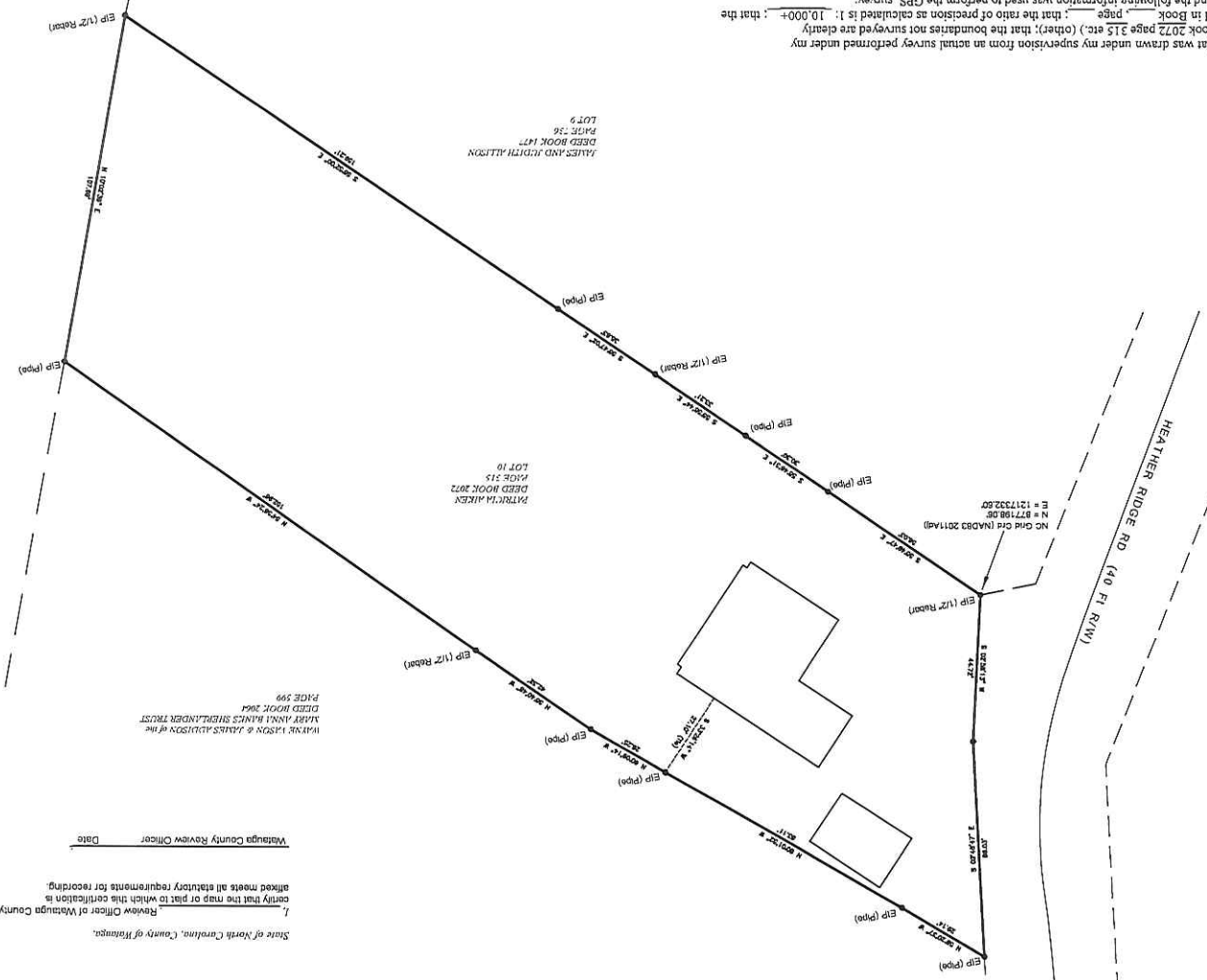


1. Randy G. Rhodes certifies that this plat was drawn under my supervision from an actual survey performed under my supervision (deed description recorded in Book 2072 page 215 etc.) (other); that the boundaries not surveyed are clearly indicated as drawn from information found in Book \_\_\_\_\_ page \_\_\_\_\_; that the ratio of precision as calculated is 1:10,000+; that the Global Positioning System (GPS) survey and the following information was used to perform the GPS survey:

Class of survey: A  
 Positional accuracy: 0.03 US FT.  
 Type of GPS field procedure: Real-Time Kinematic  
 Dates of survey: 6/8/2020  
 Datum/EPOCH: NAD 83(2011 Adjustment) Epoch 2010.000  
 Published/Fixed-control use: OPUS  
 Geoid model: GEOID12B  
 Combined gnd factor(s): 0.99997906  
 Units: U.S. SURVEY FT.  
 Witness my hand and seal this 8TH day of JUNE, 2020.



SCALE 1" = 25'  
 PATRICIA AIKEN  
 ANNEXATION MAP FOR  
 SURVEY FOR:  
 BLOWING ROCK TOWNSHIP, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
 DATE: JUNE 8TH, 2020  
 JOB NUMBER: 200004  
 RANDI G. RHODES & ASSOCIATES, P.A.  
 C-0800  
 PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR L-3094  
 P.O. BOX 270, LEFFERSON NC, 28640  
 (336) 846-5416



0.732 ACRES

NOTES  
 1. Bearings relative to N<sup>o</sup> Grid North.  
 2. For Source of Title see those certain deeds shown on the plat.  
 3. Area by Coordinate Computation.  
 4. This is a survey of an existing tract of land.  
 Review Officer of Watauga County certifies that the map or plat to which this certification is affixed meets all statutory requirements for recording.  
 Watauga County Review Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Legend  
 NTP = Located from Pin  
 X-X-X = Fence Line  
 C-C-C = Creek, Stream  
 P-P-P = Overhead Power



# Aiken Satellite Annexation

September 2020



Subject  
Property

## Consent Agenda - Staff Report

**To: Mayor Charlie Sellers and the Blowing Rock Town Council**

**From: Shane Fox, Town Manager**

**Subject: Wonderland Drive – Speed Limit Consent - NCDOT**

**Date: September 8, 2020**

**Request:** At the request of local residents on Wonderland Drive (SR 1535), the NCDOT is requesting permission from the Town of Blowing Rock to enact a 25 mile-per-hour municipal speed limit.

**Background:** SR 1535 or Wonderland Drive is a NCDOT owned and maintained road between SR 1532 (Goforth Road) and SR 1536 (Green Hill Road). Currently, there is no posted speed limit on Wonderland Drive. Once approved, the NCDOT would place 25 mile-per-hour speed limit signs along Wonderland Drive. The Town of Blowing Rock Police Department would then be charged with the enforcement of the posted speed limit. Chief Aaron Miller has reviewed this request and approved in-house.

The Town Council must approve this request and it become a part of the Town's current Town Code section 6A-12 Speed Limits.

### **Attachments:**

1. Certification of Municipal Declaration to Enact Speed Limits and Request for Concurrence



**Certification of Municipal Declaration  
To Enact Speed Limits and Request for Concurrence**

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**Concurring State Ordinance Number:** 1050954

**Division:** 11    **County:** WATAUGA

**Municipality:** BLOWING ROCK

**Type:** Municipal Speed Zones

**Road:** SR 1535

**Car:** 25 MPH

**Truck:** 25 MPH

**Description:** Between 0.115 mile northwest of SR 1534 and SR 1536.

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**Municipal Certification**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby certify that the municipal governing body, pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-141(f), determined upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation and duly declared, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, the speed limits as set forth above on the designated portion of the State Highway System, which shall become effective when the Department of Transportation has passed a concurring ordinance and signs are erected giving notice of the authorized speed limit.

The said municipal declaration is recorded as follows:

Minute Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_ Ordinance Number: \_\_\_\_\_

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the municipal seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(municipal seal)

---

**Department of Transportation Approval**

Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Region: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---



# Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

To: Mr. Shane Fox, Mayor Sellers, and Members of Town Council  
From: Nicole Norman, Finance Officer  
Subject: Budget Amendment Ordinance to Account for Various Items  
(Ordinance #2020-09)  
Date: September 8, 2020

---

Enclosed please find a Budget Amendment Ordinance for the fiscal year 2020-2021 for your consideration.

**Section 1 (General Capital Projects Fund)** reallocates exiting budget funds as follows:

-Reallocates GO Bond Sunset Drive Project Funding (\$283,000) remaining after the close of the project towards the Chestnut Drive Drainage Project.

**Section 2 (Water/Sewer Capital Projects Fund)** reallocates exiting budget funds as follows:

-Transfers funds remaining at the end of the year for Waterline Replacements (\$6,335) and Sewerline I&I Repair/Replacements (\$18,873) that would be transferred to a reserve instead to fund the Pine Street Force Main Sewer project.

-Transfers Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects funds (\$74,306) and Water Plant Projects funds (\$140,417) towards the Water Treatment Plant Chemical Storage Tank Rehab. Project.

Please let me know if you need further details on the proposed amendment.

**2020-2021  
Budget Amendment Ordinance 2020-09**

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021:

**Section 1. To amend the General Capital Projects Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:**

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
20-20-5002-418	GO Sunset Dr. Streetscape- Issue 3- Contingency	\$ 86,626	\$ 86,626	\$ -	\$ -
20-20-5002-417	GO Sunset Dr. Streetscape- Issue 3- Construction	\$ 1,732,151	\$ 196,374	\$ -	\$ 1,535,777
20-20-5002-425	GO Issue 3- Chestnut Dr. Drainage- Construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 238,000	\$ 238,000
20-20-5002-426	GO Issue 3- Chestnut Dr. Drainage- Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
			<u>\$ 283,000</u>	<u>\$ 283,000</u>	

This will result in a net increase of \$0 in the appropriations of the General Capital Projects Fund. As a result, the following revenue will be increased.

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

**Section 2. To amend the Water/Sewer Capital Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:**

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
50-91-5000-550	Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects	\$ 74,306.00	\$ 74,306.00		\$ -
50-91-5000-525	Water Plant Projects	\$ 140,417.00	\$ 25,694.00		\$ 114,723.00
50-91-5000-526	Water Treatment Plant Chemical Storage Tank Rehab.	\$ -		\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
50-91-5000-546	Pine Street Force Main Sewer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,208	\$ 25,208
			<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>\$ 125,208</u>	

This will result in a net increase of \$0 in the appropriations of the Water/Sewer Capital Fund. As a result, the following revenue will be increased.

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
50-91-3400-332	Transfer from Water/Sewer Fund	\$ 1,114,145	\$ -	\$ 25,208	\$ 1,139,353
			<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 25,208</u>	

**Section 3. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Town Council and to the Finance Officer for their implementation.**

Adopted this 8th day of September, 2020.

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Sellers, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk

## **Presentation Agenda - Staff Report**

**To: Mayor Charlie Sellers and the Blowing Rock Town Council**

**From: Shane Fox, Town Manager**

**Subject: Middle Fork Greenway – Presentation**

**Date: September 8, 2020**

**Request:** WithersRavenel (WR) is requesting the opportunity to provide a comprehensive update of the progress and timeline for the Middle Fork Greenway Project.

**Background:** During the month of August 2020, WR conducted an online zoom meeting for public input/comments on the Middle Fork Greenway Project. The public comment process is part of the EFLAP funding mechanism and achieves environmental requirements as well. Tonight, WR will present to the Town Council a comprehensive update on the project, next steps, and overall timeline for completion, along with review of the public input session and provided answers.

### **Attachments:**

1. Middle Fork Greenway Public Comments
2. Middle Fork Greenway Presentation for Town Council





# Middle Fork Greenway

## PRESENTATION FOR TOWN COUNCIL

*Town of Blowing Rock*

Presented by:

B. Keith Pugh, PE, PWLF  
Sr. Technical Client Advisor

25



# PROJECT STATUS

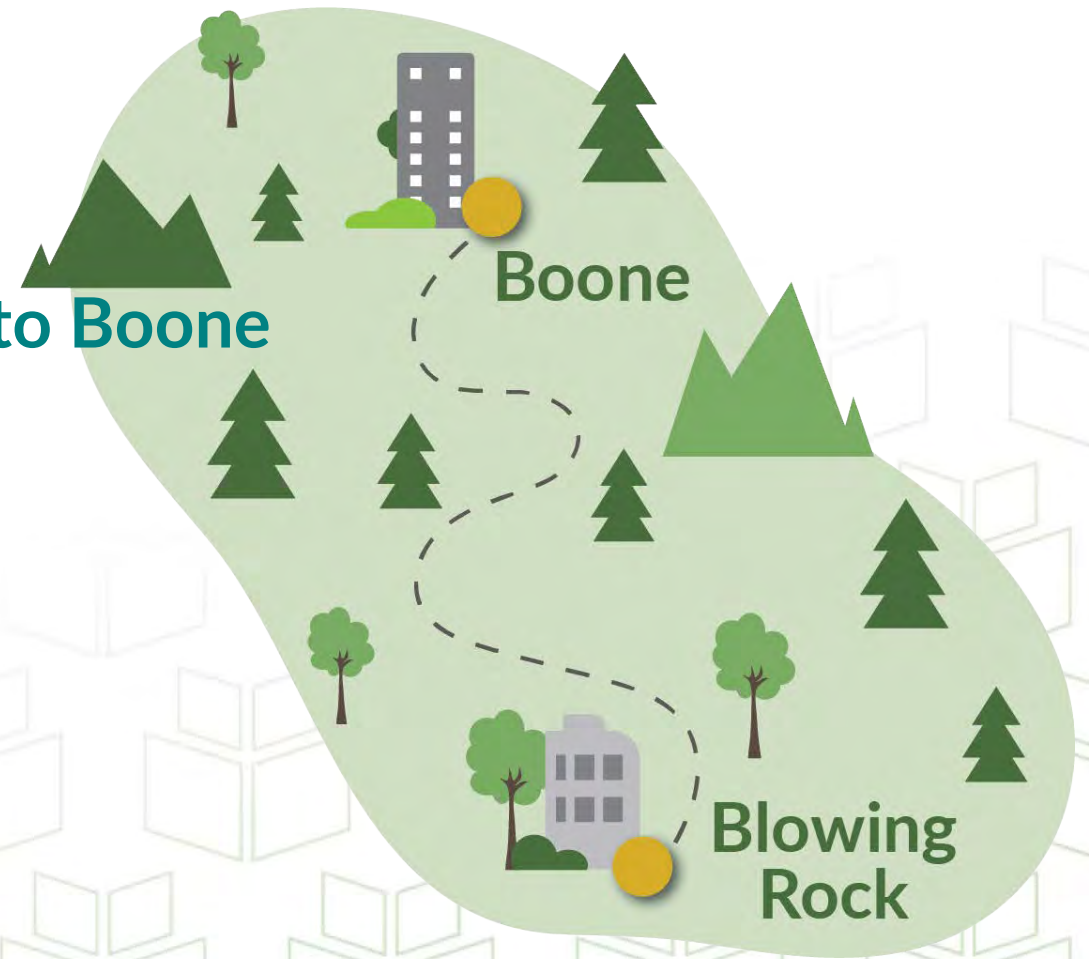
- **Greenway will connect Blowing Rock to Boone**

- Approximately 6.5 miles
- 6 Sections of the greenway
  - Section 1: Blowing Rock
  - Section 2: Firethorne
  - Section 3: Three Rivers
  - Section 4: Tweetsie Railroad
  - Section 5: Cook to Cook
  - Section 6: Boone

- **Presentation is for Section 1**

- **Questions/Comments**

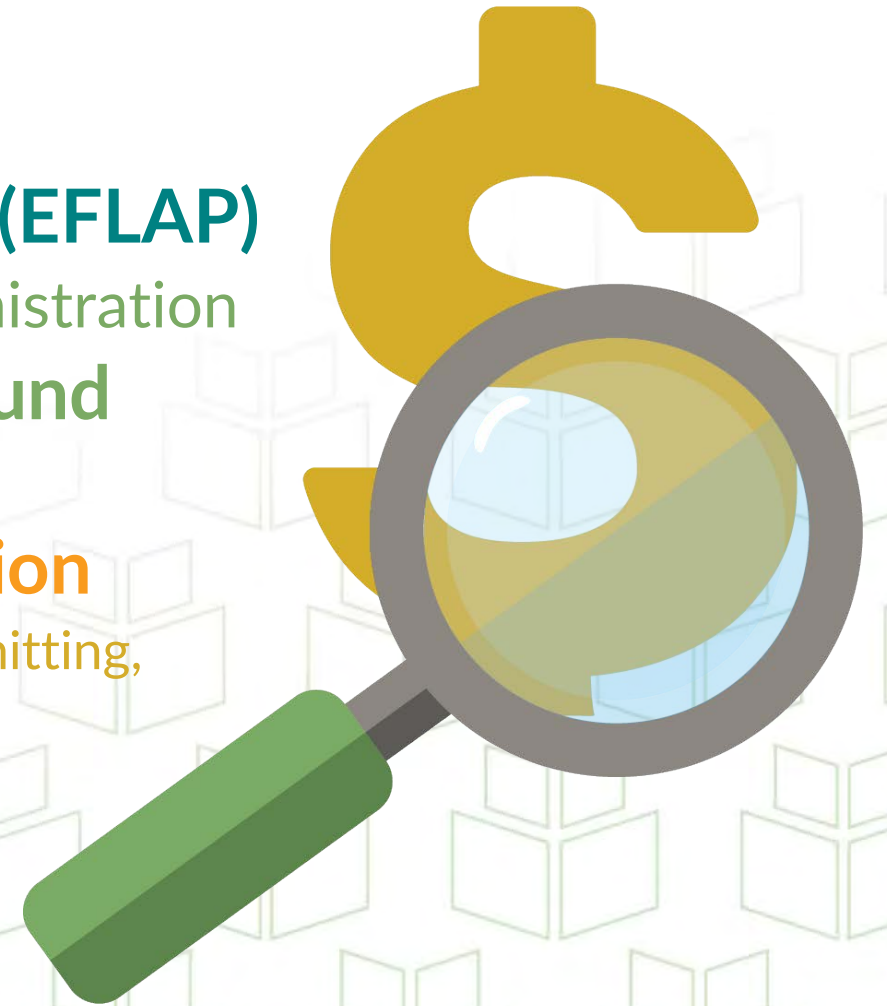
- **Email to [middleforkgreenway@withersravenel.com](mailto:middleforkgreenway@withersravenel.com) (no longer valid)**





# FUNDING

- **Eastern Federal Lands Access Program (EFLAP)**
  - Funds provided by Federal Highway Administration
  - **80% Federal funds** with a **20% local fund match**
  - Estimate construction costs of **\$2.57 million**
    - Preliminary Engineering (Planning, Design, Permitting, and Bid Letting)
    - Right of way and easement acquisition
    - Construction



# PARTNER AGENCIES

- National Park Service
- Federal Highway Administration
- Blue Ridge Conservancy
- Town of Blowing Rock
- NC General Assembly
- NC Department of Transportation





# FUNDING



# PLANNING

- **National Environmental Policy Act**

- Federal and State project requires evaluation of impacts to the environment from a construction project
- Types of Documents
  - Environmental Impact Assessment and Statement (EIS)
  - FONSI-Finding of No Significant Impact
  - Categorical Exclusion Determination (CATEX)

- **Categorical Exclusion**

- Excludes certain projects from full EIS
- Includes a review and evaluation of environmental, natural, and physical impacts
- Used for projects with limited impacts to the environment

# ENVIRONMENTAL, NATURAL, & PHYSICAL REVIEW

- **Natural and Cultural Resources review by North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**
  - No Natural and Cultural Resources identified within project area
- **Threatened and Endangered Species review by US Fish and Wildlife Services**
  - Elements observed within one-mile radius on next slide
  - No Elements observed within project area



Natural Heritage Element Occurrences, Natural Areas, and Managed Areas Within a One-mile Radius of the Project Area  
 US Hwy 321 - Multi-Use Trail  
 Project No. 09180160.00  
 August 10, 2019  
 NCNHDE-10011

Element Occurrences Documented Within a One-mile Radius of the Project Area

Taxonomic Group	EO ID	Scientific Name	Common Name	Last Observation Date	Element Occurrence Rank	Accuracy	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank
Butterfly	28790	Polygonia progne	Gray Comma	2008-09-13	E	5-Very Low	---	Significantly Rare	G5	S1
Moss	22915	Tortula papillosa	Papillose Tortula	1998-09-29	E	3-Medium	---	Significantly Rare Peripheral	G5	S1
Sawfly, Wasp, Bee, or Ant	37109	Bombus affinis	Rusty-patched Bumble Bee	1921-08-17	H	4-Low	Endangered	Significantly Rare	G2	S1
Vascular Plant	4414	Caltha palustris var. palustris	Marsh-marigold	1979-05-01	H	4-Low	---	Endangered	G5T5	S1
Vascular Plant	17198	Filipendula rubra	Queen-of-the-prairie	1978-06-25	F	3-Medium	---	Endangered	G4G5	S1

No Natural Areas are Documented Within a One-mile Radius of the Project Area

Managed Areas Documented Within a One-mile Radius of the Project Area

Managed Area Name	Owner	Owner Type
Blue Ridge Parkway	US National Park Service	Federal
Conservation Trust for North Carolina Easement	Conservation Trust for North Carolina	Private
Blue Ridge Conservancy Easement	Blue Ridge Conservancy	Private
Blue Ridge Parkway Easement	US National Park Service	Federal
Watauga County Open Space	Watauga County: multiple local government	Local Government
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund Easement	NC DNCR, Clean Water Management Trust Fund	State
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund Easement	NC DNCR, Clean Water Management Trust Fund	State
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund Easement	NC DNCR, Clean Water Management Trust Fund	State

# ARCHEAOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

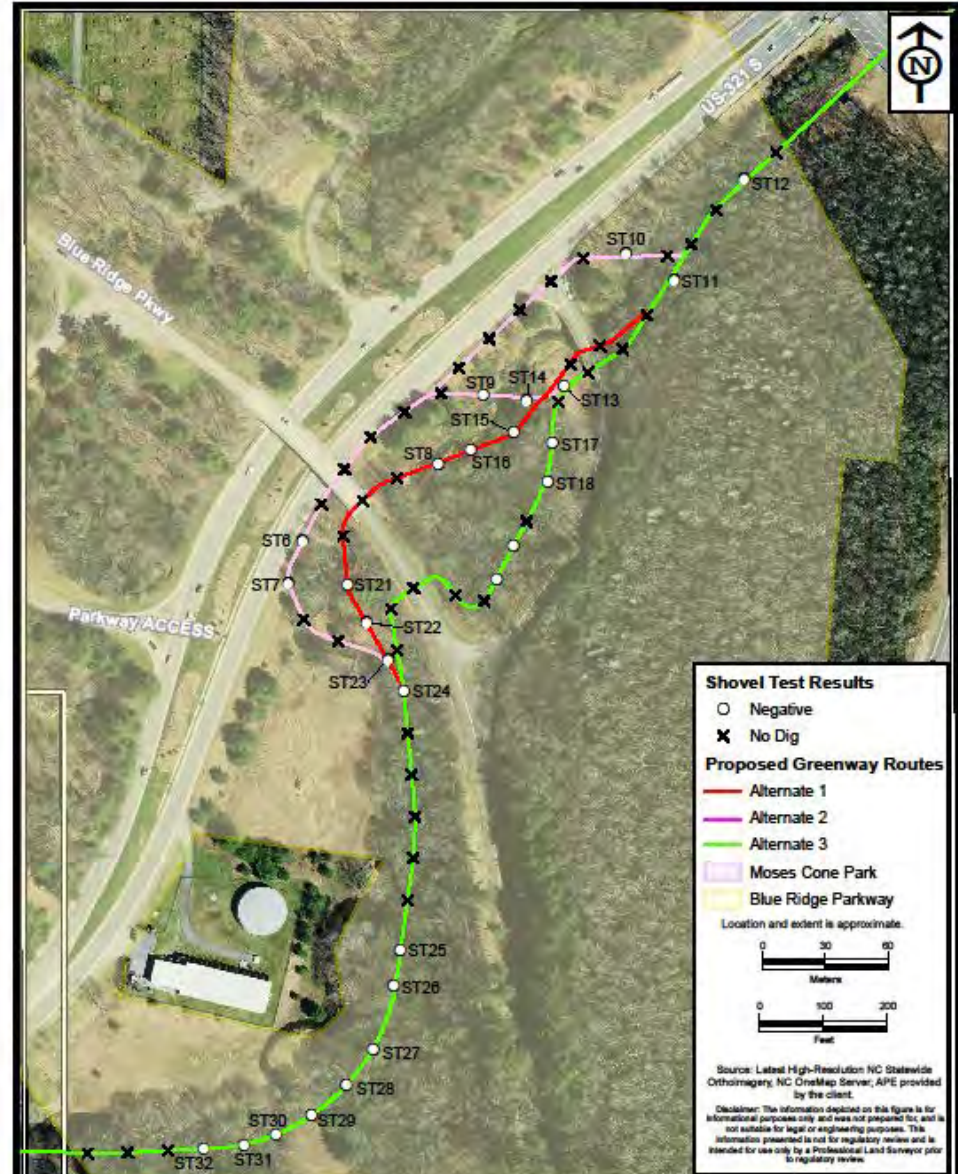
- **Required by National Park Service-Southeast Archaeological Center**
  - Work Performed under an Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) Permit
  - 31 Shovel Tests performed along the greenway corridor
  - No new sites were recorded
  - Maps of the shovel tests





Shovel Test Locations  
**Middle Fork Greenway - Section 1**  
 Watauga County, North Carolina

Project: HL197127  
 Date: Mar 2020  
 Drwn/Chkd: CW/MM  
 Figure: 6.1b



Shovel Test Locations  
**Middle Fork Greenway - Section 1**  
 Watauga County, North Carolina

Project: HL197127  
 Date: Mar 2020  
 Drwn/Chkd: CW/MM  
 Figure: 6.1a



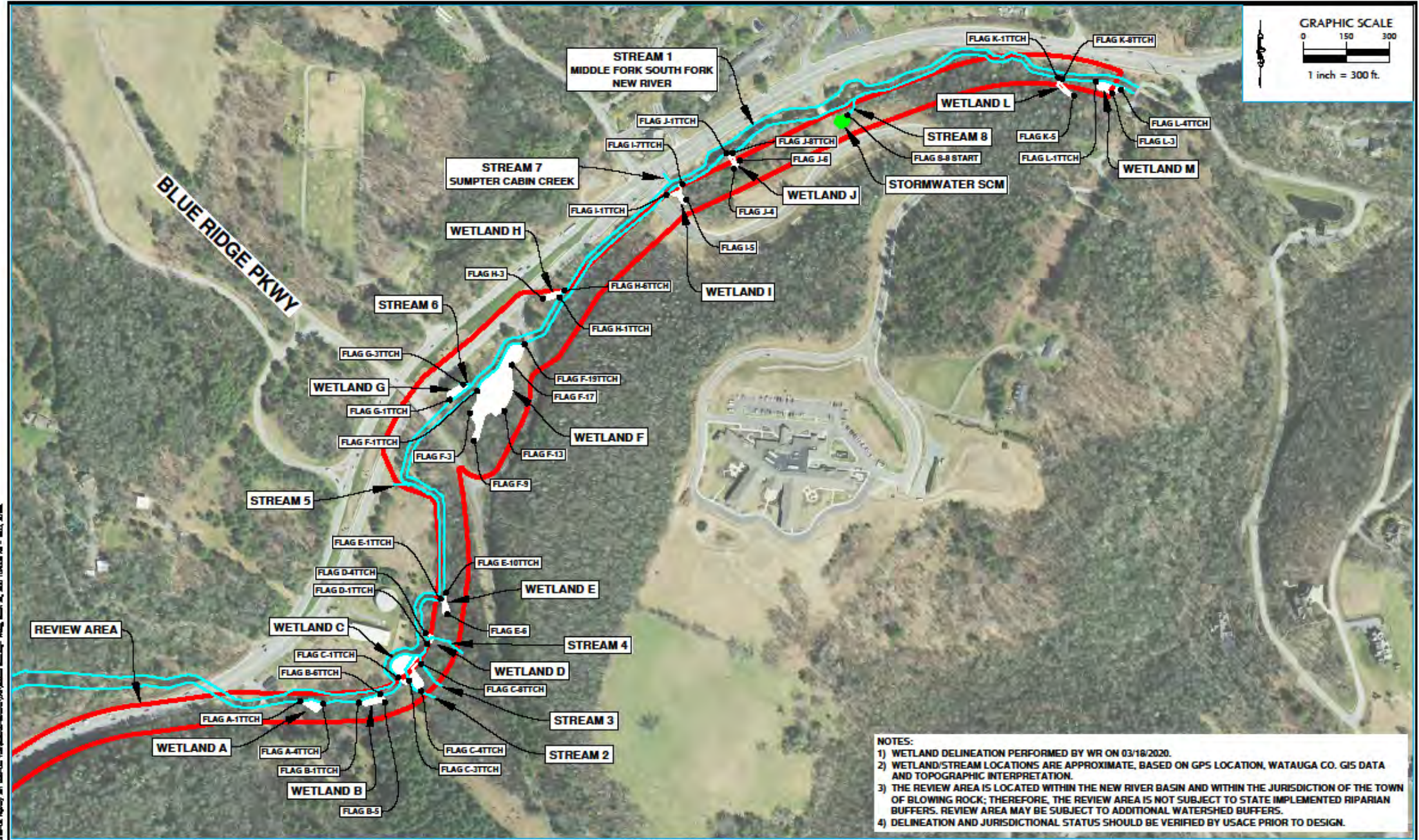
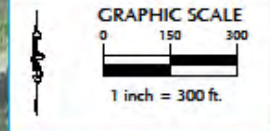
# WETLANDS & STREAM DELINEATIONS

- Identified **8 streams** along the Middle Fork of the New River
- Located **13 wetland areas** along the greenway corridor
- Identified and located stormwater control measures (**SCM**)









- NOTES:**
- 1) WETLAND DELINEATION PERFORMED BY WR ON 03/18/2020.
  - 2) WETLAND/STREAM LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE, BASED ON GPS LOCATION, WATAUGA CO. GIS DATA AND TOPOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION.
  - 3) THE REVIEW AREA IS LOCATED WITHIN THE NEW RIVER BASIN AND WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK; THEREFORE, THE REVIEW AREA IS NOT SUBJECT TO STATE IMPLEMENTED RIPARIAN BUFFERS. REVIEW AREA MAY BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL WATERSHED BUFFERS.
  - 4) DELINEATION AND JURISDICTIONAL STATUS SHOULD BE VERIFIED BY USAGE PRIOR TO DESIGN.

Designer	WR	Date	7/1/2021
Drawn By	WR	Date	08/10/2021
Checked By	WR	Date	07/10/2021

US HWY 321 - MULTI-USE TRAIL  
 BLOWING ROCK WATAUGA COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

**37** WETLAND DELINEATION EXHIBIT - SURVEY



US HWY 321 - MULTI-USE TRAIL - BLOWING ROCK, NC - 08/10/2021



# NEXT STEPS

- **Next Steps in Planning Process**
  - Allow for public input on greenway alignment (public comment period ended 20200818)
  - Present an initial alignment for comment and input
  - Review comments
  - Prepare CATEX for submittal to NCDOT and NPS for their review and concurrence
- **Initial Alignment Presentation**



# SCHEDULING

STAGE IN PROJECT	SCHEDULE <i>Start to Finish Estimates</i>
Information Gathering (surveying, permits)	July 19-April 2020
NEPA Document	April 2020-August 2020
Design (60%, 90%, Final)	July 2020-October 2020
Right of Way Acquisition (start at 60% design)	September 2020-December 2020
Park Service and DOT Approvals	August 2020-December 2020
Bid Advertisement & Construction Contract Approval	September 2020-December 2020
Construction	Begin Spring 2021

*\* Approval dates subject to agency review time.*







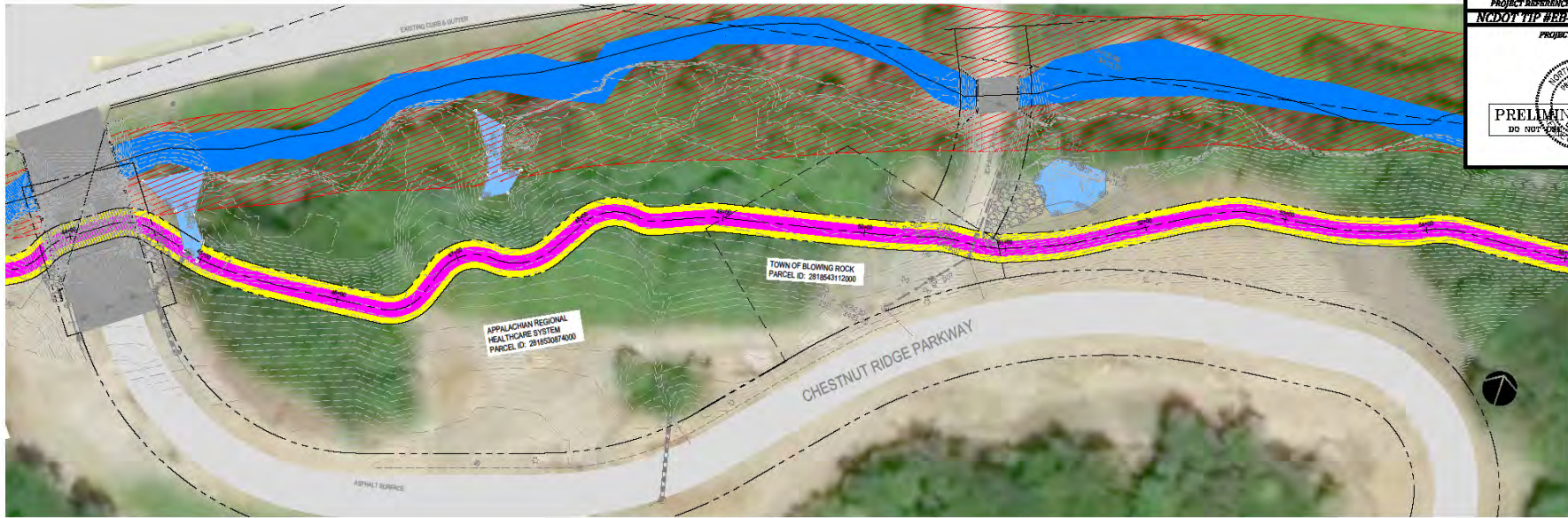




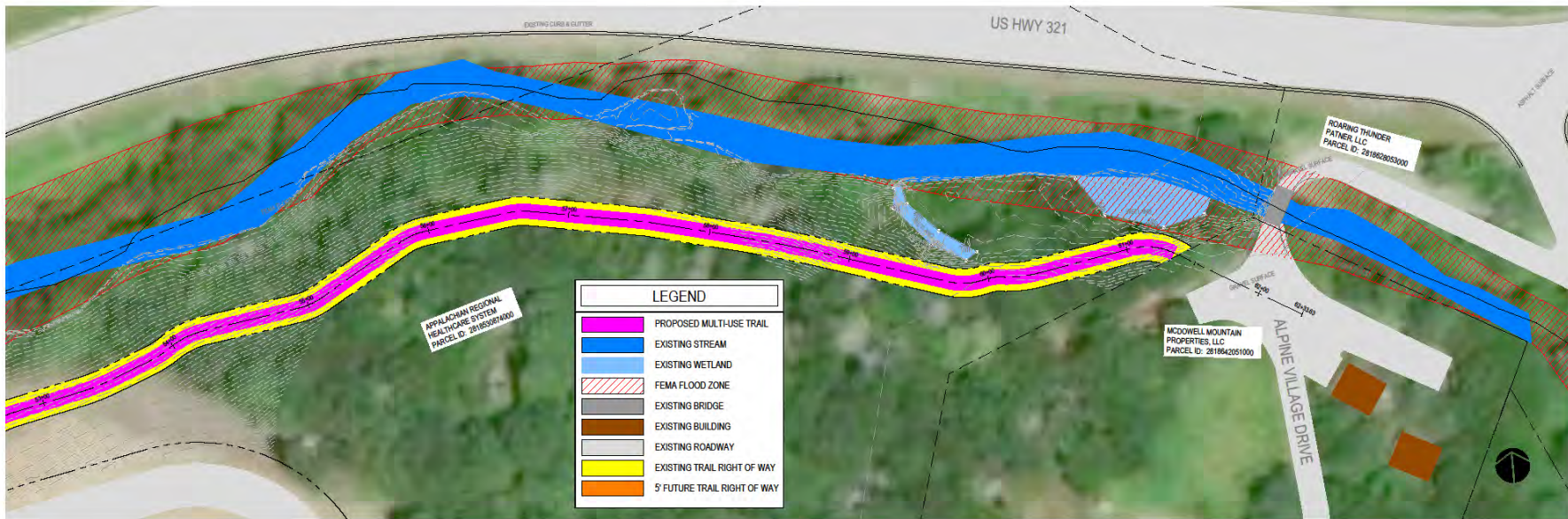
PROJECT ENGINEER



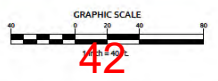
**PRELIMINARY PLANS**  
 DO NOT CONSTRUCT



REVISIONS



LEGEND	
	PROPOSED MULTI-USE TRAIL
	EXISTING STREAM
	EXISTING WETLAND
	FEMA FLOOD ZONE
	EXISTING BRIDGE
	EXISTING BUILDING
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING TRAIL RIGHT OF WAY
	5' FUTURE TRAIL RIGHT OF WAY



UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, ALL DIMENSIONS SHALL BE IN FEET AND INCHES. DIMENSIONS SHALL BE TO FACE UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

# SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

- **No** cultural resources
- **No** threatened and endangered species
- **No** archaeological evidence
- **One area** of potential wetland impact
- **3 streams** to be crossed





# REACH OUT

- Ken Jesnick, PE  
[kjesnick@withersravenel.com](mailto:kjesnick@withersravenel.com)
- Keith Pugh, PE  
[kpugh@withersravenel.com](mailto:kpugh@withersravenel.com)
- Presentation – Public Input Session and this Session on Youtube
- Presentation - available on Town of Blowing Rock's webpage



## Middle Fork Greenway Public Comments Condensed Town of Blowing Rock, NC

### Public Comment period open from August 11-18, 2020. Multiple comments received from 8 individuals

Need for cooperation and access between the Middle Fork Greenway (MFG) and the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST). We understand the need to provide access between the two facilities. With the point of intersection within the Blue Ridge Parkway, we will work with the National Parks Service (NPS) to seek a solution for access between the two facilities.

Need for a tunnel/culvert under the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) specifically designed for hikers and bikers on the MFG. If possible, construct one tunnel/culvert to get under BRP and avoid second crossing on BRP access ramp. Our intentions are to avoid an at grade cross between the BRP and the MFG at all locations. We will evaluate the environmental impacts of each alternative as well as the financial impact of grade separated crossings. As these locations are within the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, we will work with the NPS on the final solution.

Need for an access or spur trail that would allow hikers to enter the MST from the MFG. Discourage bikes on the MST. Perhaps create a separate spur to the BRP for bikes. Ensure adequate funding for the spur trail (s) and adequate signage for both. Unfortunately, the funding for the MFG does not specifically call-out for a spur between the two trail systems. However, the two facilities are in close proximity and could possibly be included in the design.

The MST should remain open throughout construction. (Friends of the MST can assist): We understand the need to have the MST open throughout construction. Construction of the MFG at the BRP will most likely occur in the winter months when the BRP is closed due to weather. A detour, if required, will be mutually agreed to by all parties, the NPS, MFG construction, and the MST.

The MFG should respect all wetlands while crossing all streams and aquatic habitats sustainably. The design of the trail will respect wetlands and stream crossings while being capable of allowing all users of the trail equal opportunity of usage. As with any construction project, the balance to maintain ADA requirements and the environmental impacts is delicate, especially along a stream. The goal is to minimize both wetlands and stream impacts, but if they are necessary, then they will be in compliance with applicable federal and state regulations.

The MFG should include educational signage throughout the trail to highlight natural resources and unique features. There will be signage along the trail, however, we must be respectful of the underlying property owners and the message that is being conveyed in any educational signage that would be allowed.

Provide a connection (trailhead) and parking access at the Foley Center site. While this concept has been discussed, the funding for the MFG did not include parking and access. Should sufficient funds be available and land available within a reasonable cost, this is a feature that will be considered.

Pocket Parks should be added along the trail. Similar to the previous comment and response, the funding does not include pocket parks along the trail. However, the inclusion of pocket parks could be contemplated after the trail has been constructed unless additional funding is identified earlier.

Enhance the Middle Fork River as practical including restoration and native plants. The design and construction of the MFG is not intended to affect the Middle Fork River. The ribbon for the trail will be narrow with grass shoulders for maintenance.

Provide a push button and crosswalks at 321 and Possum Hollow Road as well as secure guardrails for all 321 highway sections. Safety of the user of the MFG is paramount. The scope of the MFG project has its beginning where the existing concrete walks on US321 end. However, we will evaluate the use of barriers between US321 and the MFG during the design.

The MFG will have a long-standing significant impact on the physical and economic health of our community. As such, it should be a first class, integral part of the 'High Country' adding to quality of life to residents and visitors. The trail should be appealing and sensitive to our natural resources. Create an information website for users of the greenway. The MFG will be constructed along the Middle Fork River and in a very natural area and the disturbance limited to the physical needs of construction. We would encourage the Blue Ridge Conservancy and, possibly, the Town to determine the best method for disseminating information concerning the MFG.

General Support and Thank You's: and praise for all working on the project: I would like to thank the Town of Blowing Rock and its TDA, the Town Manager; the Planning Director WithersRavenel, and the Blue Ridge Conservancy MFG Director for their advocacy and support for this important project. The design and ultimate construction of the MFG is truly a team effort of the groups mentioned and we thank you for your support.

The Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail ("Friends") fully supports the Middle Fork Greenway project and looks forward to working with its sponsors and land managers in coordinating the intersection of our two trails. As the design proceeds, we look forward for the input for the intersection of the two trails.



## Regular Agenda - Staff Report

**To: Mayor Charlie Sellers and the Blowing Rock Town Council**

**From: Shane Fox, Town Manager**

**Subject: Chetola Request for Financial Assistance for Dredging**

**Date: September 8, 2020**

**Request:** Mr. Tarbutton is coming before the Town Council to respectfully request assistance in removing the soil and other debris that has collected in the stream and cofferdam area at the Chetola Resort.

**Background:** Please see the attached letter and documents from Mr. Tarbutton.

**Attachments:**

1. Letter and packet of information from Kent Tarbutton, Chetola Resort



Gather Here.

To: Honorable Members of the Blowing Rock Town Council  
Subject: Chetola Storm Water Management & Emergency Water Supply  
Date: June 26, 2020

I come before the Council to respectfully request assistance in removing the soil and other debris that has collected in the stream that enters the property. The stream before the cofferdam by our entrance security hut is full and has reached the surface in several areas and no longer prevents soil from filling the Chetola Lake.

There is a good bit of history in the Town's use of this private lake that several of you may not know. I thought it might help to realize the value of Chetola Lake in assisting in your final decision.

In 1998 during a severe 3-year drought, JB Lawrence, as the Mayor, contacted me with an urgent request to pump water from our lake to provide for the Town's immediate need. At that time, I signed a one-year contract to remove all the water that they needed to get us all through the crisis without any remuneration.

Though that contract expired the following year, we continued to allow the Town to take water as needed for the next two decades. A large pump was placed at our dam and we had our own construction team fence around it to hide its presence and sound from our guest fishing on the lake.

In 1999 the Town attempted to get the State's approval for a new water source and ask Chetola to join in the request. I wrote the letter dated June 23, 1999 (attachment 1.)

Many years later, I had to have a full breach dam study done to prove that our lake was not a high-risk dam to the State. In the data collected for that study, the army corps determined that 84% of the Town's stormwater runoff came through Chetola Lake, where the soil and other debris settled before the water continued downstream over the dam.

Over many years the lake filled with debris and eventually got to an average depth of 2 to 3 feet. On November 29, 2013, I wrote to the Mayor and Council (Attachment #2) and gave an estimate for the cost of the dredging and removal of the debris (\$175,000) that later proved to be far less than the actual price would be. In that letter, I proposed seven terms to be considered.

Wisely, the Town Manager asked that I get actual bids for the Town to consider. I met with him after receiving two formal bids from JW Hamptons and USAqua Vac, Inc. with Darren Moretz Backhoe Service doing the hauling (\$632,305 and \$578,014 respectively) Stunned by the cost he asked that I try to find a third bidder in hopes of reducing the cost. As I researched, I did not find a lesser bidder but eventually concluded that Chetola could buy a small dredge and train a team of our staff to operate it. That allowed us to reduce the price of dredging Chetola Lake while increasing the amount of soil removed from three to an average of seven feet.



Gather Here.

On June 5, 2014, I wrote to Town Manager Scott Fogleman (attachment #3) with the two outside estimates we had received along with our proposal. I asked the Town to contribute 84% of the estimated cost (\$229,929) to help with removing the soil and then hauling it off. I recall telling the Council that I felt that they should help us since the soil came in from the Town, and our lake removed it, and then without charge gave all the water needed back to the Town.

The Town Council decided they would expend \$200,000 to help. Chetola (and its homeowners) paid the additional \$73,725. No profit was made by Chetola on the project, but the lake was dredged successfully under the contract the Council and Alan Mosely prepared, and Chetola agreed to. I believe it was the right thing to do, and I appreciate the Town negotiating with us on three separate occasions to come to an equitable agreement.

When considering Johnnie Lentz (then Blowing Rock Public Works Director) stated that over the twenty-plus years, the Town drew over 750,000,000 gallons from Chetola Lake. At the current posted Town of Boone water consumption rates of 20,000 gallons outside city limits at \$14.30, that equates to a savings of around \$536,250 without connection and pipeline fees. We believe it was a win for all concerned

Now that the stream coming from the Town into Chetola Lake has been filled with debris again, new incoming soil has nowhere else to be collected before it spills over the cofferdam into the lake. As it fills the lake, it is much more difficult and expensive to remove. As Chetola Lake fills with the stormwater sent from Blowing Rock, it reduces the amount of stormwater detention area as well as the emergency water supply that we can all count on in the future. I have attached a couple of photos of that area (Attachment #4.)

One hundred percent of this fill is coming from the Town's stormwater. As general runoff increases from construction, and the increase of buildings and paved areas in the village, it further diminishes the capacity for remaining areas to absorb the water. Today Chetola Lake handles more and more of the Town's stormwater needs.

On May 26, 2020, our Maintenance & Dredge Manager Charles Taylor sent me the cost of removing the soil that has accumulated in the stream bed before the cofferdam (attachment #5.) I ask that the Town Council contribute the \$19,431.60 so that Chetola Lake will continue to provide the necessary depth to provide good stormwater retention and be an adequate source for future emergency water supply needs.

I appreciate your responsible and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent Tarbutton  
Managing Member



Attachment  
# 1

6/23/99

Region D Council of Governments  
Appalachian Regional Commission

To Whom It May Concern,

As a business and homeowner in the town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, I wanted to express my concerns for the current and future need for an adequate new water supply for our community.

I am the proprietor of Chetola Resort, which is a 78 acre complex with 204 condominiums, a 42 unit hotel, two restaurants, a pub and a recreation center. Chetola employees 156 individuals from this area, not including numerous independent contractors and firms that lend support services.

We currently are building 18 pre-sold condominiums, with another 56 units already approved for development by the town. In addition, we will shortly be proposing an addition of 50 more hotel rooms and a new conference center.

Chetola's growth is very representative of what is occurring in this area of Watauga County. With well over 2,000,000 visitors per year, the county commissioner stated in 1997 that on any given day the county host 20,000 visitors. Blowing Rock is one of the prime communities in this area experiencing tremendous growth by both vacationers and business groups. Added to this, is the tremendous surge of secondary and retirement home buyers. This has been a determining factor in the achieving one of the lowest unemployment rates in the Western Carolina Mountain Region.

Starting in the mid 80's through 1997, Chetola Resort sold on average four to five new condominium units per year. Last year we sold 22 units and have sold 18 more in the first six months of 1999.

This growth does not happen without taxing the infrastructure of the township. This was easily seen during the drought last year, which appears to be coming around again to haunt us this summer. As I write this letter, our water table is down one foot and we have yet to see the great surge of tourist and homeowners that are just now beginning to arrive. Their arrival coincides with this areas warmest weather and time of least rainfall.

In 1997 the situation became critical and Mayor J.B. Lawrence informed me that we were within ten days of completely running out of water. This was merely a temporary solution, as we continue to grow at a robust rate. The township wisely considered the growth and the need for a new reliable and adequate supply of water. Their efforts have led the town to request a grant to make it possible to divert water from the Middle Fork of the New River.

I write to you today to encourage your support for this grant. Without proper funding for this proposal, our present water system will not be capable of fulfilling current demand. With the placement of a new water intake in the Middle Fork of the New River, Blowing Rock will have a reliable source of water for years to come.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Kent Tarbutton



ATA Chment  
#2



P.O. Box 17, 500 Main Street, Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605, [www.chetola.com](http://www.chetola.com)

November 29, 2013

To The Honorable Mayor J.B. Lawrence and Blowing Rock Town Council,

I appreciate the time you have devoted to evaluate the long standing partnership between the Town of Blowing Rock and RSK Mountain Resort, L.L.C. d/b/a Chetola regarding Chetola Lake serving as an emergency water supply source for the water customers of the Town of Blowing Rock.

In the year 2000, Chetola Lake became the Town's back up water supply during three years of severe drought and has remained a water source ever since. The Town of Blowing Rock approved a one year agreement with Chetola allowing for the Town to install a large pump at the dam site and add a telephone pole to carry the power. Though the contract was never renewed, the need persisted and so the pump has remained.

Nine years later on September 6, 2009, I sent the Town Manager and Council a letter regarding the cost of retaining and cleaning the storm water and then providing the water to the town. In that letter I talked about Chetola removing 240 dump truck loads of silt at a cost of \$9,280.00 . I called Don Hollycross and told him that we intended to cover the entire cost of the removal, but needed assistance in finding a place to apply all this wet topsoil. Don said he would check around, but he never responded back.

I also wrote about the erosion that had occurred along the Lake's banks from where storm water was pouring into the lake during heavy rains. The erosion had also occurred from the Town's pump, which by draining water away from the banks and allowing it to refill and repeating the cycle over and over again had destabilized the banks. The Town staff is aware of the project we did in 2007 to shore up the most damaged areas where some eight feet of shore line had been lost over the last seven years. This project added back three to five feet of shoreline using large boulders, matting and soil at a cost of approximately \$15,250.58.

I asked for assistance with both the removal of the silt and finding a suitable place to put it back then and now some four years later we need to remove a minimum of 3 feet of sediment to get back to an average depth of a bit more than 5 feet. We estimate that to be somewhere around 3,600 dump truck loads. The estimated cost of the removal is \$175,000 (\$165,000 for dredging and an estimated \$10,000 for silt disposition).

The Town Council and Staff have made two offers of financial assistance over the last two years and I appreciate the effort to be fair for the Town and it's residents using the resources the lake provides. After discovering the real cost of the endeavor, I have come back to ask that you might reconsider the benefits provided to the Town of Blowing Rock and its utility customers over the years.

In order for Chetola Lake to continue performing satisfactorily as an emergency water supply source, the depth of the lake must be restored to a minimum depth of 5 feet. In recognition of the extremely strong community partnership between the Town of Blowing Rock and Chetola in the past and its continuance, Chetola proposes the following seven items, that if agreed to by the Blowing Rock Town Council, would be incorporated into an official agreement between the Town of Blowing Rock and RSK.

- 1) That the Town of Blowing Rock compensate RSK for the availability and use of Chetola Lake in the past as an emergency water supply source. The availability has been in place since the year 2000 when the Town installed a pump for the purpose of transferring water to the Town's reservoir in times of drought. The



amount proposed is \$175,000.00 (one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars). When looking at the cost that the Town would have had to pay through the previously unavailable interconnected water line with the City of Boone, utilizing Chetola Lake was a less expensive solution. By our calculations, just one hundred million gallons of water from Boone, had it been available, would have cost around \$281,692. As it turns out, Chetola Lake has provided the Town with far more than that. With over 500 million gallons provided to date, the Town of Blowing Rock utility customers have saved around \$1.4 million. Chetola is not trying to make a profit from any of this. The \$175,000 figure represents the estimated costs of dredging Chetola Lake to an average depth of five feet and the related silt disposition so Chetola Lake can remain a viable emergency water supply source for the Town of Blowing Rock.

- 2) That RSK be responsible for completing the dredging of Chetola Lake and related silt disposal within twelve months of the date of this agreement such that an average depth of five feet is provided in Chetola Lake to extend the life of Chetola Lake as an emergency water supply source for the Town of Blowing Rock.
- 3) That the Town of Blowing Rock and RSK agree to determine within one year of the date of this agreement a mutually agreeable annual payment to be made from the Town of Blowing Rock to RSK to be determined based on the actual costs to dredge Chetola Lake, remove and dispose of the resulting silt from Chetola Lake, and to clean the debris from the entrance to coffer dam near the entrance to Chetola . This dredging, silt removal, and coffer dam clearing of debris will occur within twelve months of the date of this agreement. This annual payment, proposed to be amortized equally over the projected life of the newly completed dredging and to include the annual costs of clearing the entrance to the coffer dam, will first be paid before the end of fiscal year 2015 (the fiscal year ending June 20, 2015). This amount will compensate RSK for its ongoing responsibility to maintain Chetola Lake at an average annual depth of four feet so that it will continue to have capacity to serve as an emergency water supply for the Town of Blowing Rock. This amount will also include the annual costs necessary to clear the headworks of the coffer dam leading into Chetola Lake. This clearing of debris has been deemed an integral part of reducing the amount of silt and debris entering the lake, thus reducing the frequency needed for dredging.
- 4) That the Town of Blowing Rock will assist RSK in determining a location for the disposition of silt removed from Chetola Lake that will allow it to continue serving satisfactorily as an emergency water supply source. The financial responsibility for silt disposition will rest with RSK.
- 5) That RSK grant a perpetual right-of-way and easement to the Town of Blowing Rock to operate, use, maintain, repair and replace an existing water intake line from Chetola Lake used to transfer water to the Town Reservoir
- 6) That the Town of Blowing Rock shall have the right to utilize the supply line upon an "as needed" basis as determined solely by the Town of Blowing Rock.
- 7) That agreement on the above points does not interfere with RSK's ability to use the Lake for storm water management for other properties.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our offer to reach an equitable agreement.

Sincerely,



Kent Tarbutton  
Managing Member RSK Mountain Resort, L.L.C.



Attachment  
#3



P.O. Box 17, 500 Main Street, Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605, 1-800-Chetola, www.chetola.com

Mr. Scout Fogleman  
Blowing Rock Town Manager  
P.O. Box 47  
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

06/05/2014

Dear Mr. Fogleman,

I appreciate the time you and the Council Members have devoted to consider the emergency water supply and storm water management for the Town of Blowing Rock and its impact on Chetola Lake.

As you know Chetola Lake receives 84% of all the storm water runoff from the Towns many streets (according to the engineering study done by William Smith PE of Subsurface Engineering, Charlotte, NC and the Army Corps of Engineers). As Blowing Rock has continued to grow over the last couple decades the buildings and roadways permitted have decreased the amount of water absorbed by the earth, and so the lake sees a lot more of the water, top soil, leaves and debris that flows through Town. Now the average depth is a little shy of two feet and so we must consider digging out all that silt that has accumulated over many years.

Erosion has also impacted the Lake's banks as storm water races into the lake during heavy rains. As the Town's water pump is turned on to relieve drought situations over the years, the quick draining and then gradual refilling of the lake has also eroded the shoreline. Kevin Rothrock and the Town staff are aware of the project we did in 2007 to shore up the most damaged areas where some eight feet of shore line had been lost over the last seven years. This project added back around five feet of shoreline using large boulders, matting and soil at a cost to Chetola of \$15,250.58.

Last year the town saw an unusually large amount of rain in two 'hundred year floods' that taxed the various storm water retention areas of our community and as many systems failed the lake at Chetola saw much more soil and debris than is typical. As you are aware the small coffer dam near our entrance welcome center captures a lot of the soil when the water is flowing slowly, but during periods of heavy rain the water is moving so quickly for much soil to drop out at this catch basin.

Since the year 1998 Chetola Resort has voluntarily been the Town of Blowing Rocks emergency water supplier. It began in three terrible years of drought when the Mayor called to inform us that in less than a week's time the town reservoir would be completely empty. For the last 14 years Chetola Lake has been used to assure the citizens of Blowing Rock that an uninterrupted supply of good clean water would always be available.

We have had several conversations with the members of the Council individually and two of them have requested that Chetola give assurances to the Town of our willingness to continue offering this lake for future emergency water needs. We are amenable to entering into an arrangement with the Town of Blowing Rock to make this happen.

*Creating Great Appalachian Memories With Southern Hospitality & Superior Care.*



In looking towards the Town's future I am pleased that you and the Council have been considering various methods and approaches to maintaining a good storm water management system as well as a reliable emergency water supply.

I write today on behalf of RSK Mountain Resort, L.L.C. (dba Chetola Resort), to ask for assistance with removal of the many years of the silt that has accumulated. At its current shallow depth it will not be able to serve much longer as either a back up water supply or a storm water retention area.

In this regard we have attached three bids for the work.

The first from J.W. Hampton Company is the quickest, but most expensive coming in at \$632,305.00. This involves draining the lake down and shoveling out the wet mud with a large Cat 315 and hauling away approximately 40,000 cubic yards of mud in ten dump trucks.

The second bid from U.S. Aqua Vac would take about 5 months to complete but came in at \$508,289.00 for the dredging and another \$69,725.00 for Darren Moretz Backhoe Service to haul it off. This total of \$578,014.00 was still a lot more than we ever expected the cost to be. This service uses a floating dredge to pump the mud into hundred foot long silt retaining fabric bags that would slowly filter the released water and over several months dry the soil, reducing the amount that would need to be hauled off.

After much investigation we have created a much more economical solution, by using our own maintenance staff at Chetola Resort to do this work and cut out the middle man profits. We have found a receiving site for the dry soil and indentified a hauler and find that we can do this job saving a great deal of money. We will remove the required 3 feet of soil from the eight acre Chetola Lake for \$273,725.00.

So with due respect, I am requesting that the town consider the following;

1. Reimburse RSK Mountain Resort for 84% of the cost (\$229,929.00) of removing approximately 3 feet of silt from the lake to attain an average depth of 5 feet. Though we would like to see this paid in full, we would be willing to front the funds and ask for half the payment this year and would finance the other half into 2015 at 5% interest.
2. Annually reimburse RSK Mountain Resort for 100% of the cost (typically \$15,000) of soil removal from the stream bed above the coffer dam by the entrance to the Resort which all comes from the Town's storm water runoff.
3. Agree to start an annual fund indexed to inflation to assure the Lake at Chetola remains at a depth no less than 5 feet. Currently we believe that the work will need to be done again in approximately 3-4 years since the DOT project is adding so much sediment currently. After the roadway expansion project is complete, we believe that it will likely only be done once ever 8-10 years.

In order for Chetola Lake to continue being a great emergency water supply, storm water retention area for the Town of Blowing Rock and maintain a healthy lake environment, this work must be done this year.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our request.

Sincerely,







3632 Old 421 South  
 Boone, NC 28607  
 Phone: (828) 264-7103  
 Fax: (828) 264-7107

3/5/2014

Chetola Lake Excavation Wasted at Eco-Ventures

Bid Sitework Items:

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Sub Total</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
1 Mobilization	1	ls			\$7,000.00
2 Erosion Control					\$50,305.00
a silt fence	6,000	ft			
b wattles	100	ft			
c construction entrance	4	ls			
d Non-woven Fabric	2	rolls			
e Class A Stone (3" Clean)	320	tn			
f Class B Rip Rap	85	tn			
g ABC non-spec Stone	320	tn			
h 57 Stone	64	tn			
i daily roadway cleanup	1	ls			
3 Grading					\$557,000.00
Lake Excavation Area					
a. Cat 315	430	hrs			
b. Ten Dump Trucks	4,300	hrs			
c. 1 laborer	430	hrs			
d. Long Boom	50	hrs			
e. Skid Steer	30	hrs			
f. JD 700 Dozer	300	hrs			
Waste Pit					
a. JD 700 Dozer	430	hrs			
b. Waste Pit Permit Extention	1	ls			
4 Reclaiming Access Roads on Chetola Property					\$7,000.00
Lake Excavation Area					
a. Cat 315	20	hrs			
b. One Dump Truck	20	hrs			
c. 1 laborer	20	hrs			
d. JD 700 Dozer	20	hrs			
5 Seeding and Mulching					\$10,000.00
a. Seeding and Mulching	5	ac			
TOTAL =					\$631,305.00



**U.S. Aqua Vac, Inc.**

16067 Colorado St  
 BLDG # 2  
 Hebron, IN 46341

# Estimate

**Phone:** 866-989-6825      info@usaquavac.com  
**Fax:** 708-887-5521      www.usaquavac.com

**Estimate Date:** 3/27/2014  
**Estimate #:** 923078

**Bill To:**

Chetola Lake Resort  
 Kent Tarbutton  
 500 Main St.  
 Blowing Rock, NC 28605

REP	TH
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Project:	
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Item	Description	Est. Days/Qty.	Rate	Total
Survey	Before sediment removal bathametric survey	1	3,500.00	3,500.00
(B) Lake / Pond Cleaning	Removing muck, sludge, & silt from waterway with small boat	37,000	11.85	438,450.00
USAV 60100 Muck Bag	28 x 100 Muck / Silt Bag	11	5,349.00	58,839.00
Survey	After sediment removal bathametric survey	1	3,500.00	3,500.00
Silt fence / Curtain	Type 1 heavy duty silt curtain to ensure sedpended solids do not move into sediment removal area while pumping  Based on a per cubic yds	8	500.00	4,000.00

Estimate is to remove muck / sludge / silt / sediment. No heavy sands.

	\$508,289.00
<b>(0.0%)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Work will be done with a high volume U.S. Aqua Vac Vacuum or Pump removing muck, sludge, silt, and sediment over 1600 gallons of muck per minute.

Estimates are valid for 30 days, unless indicated otherwise.

**Total** \$508,289.00

Darren Moretz Backhoe Service

225 Tom Jackson Road  
Boone NC 28607

**Bid**

Date	Bid #
3/25/2014	1

Name / Address
Chetola Resort Kent Tarbutton

			Project
Description	Rate	Qty	Total
Load and haul away silt, muck, etc. from 12 100' x 28' x 6' bags filled by dredging Chetola Lake. Dispose of used bags. Clean up area where bags are filled.	69,725.00	1	69,725.00
<b>Total</b>			\$69,725.00

Phone #
828-964-1006



ATTACHMENT  
# 4

# Stream Leading to the Coffe Dam at Chetola Resort







Attachment  
#5

**kentt@chetola.com**

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**From:** Charles Taylor <charles@chetola.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** kentt@chetola.com  
**Subject:** Sediment Removal Need for Stream Coming from Blowing Rock

Kent,

As we discussed on the phone this morning we need to consider doing some dredging right here at Chetola. The area I am most concerned with is the forebay area by Security. That area has washed full and is almost up to the level of the dam all the way across. There are parts of that area that are already above the water.

I looked at this and feel that we can get our dredge in the water. Using our dredge we will be able to get much farther up the stream, go all the way across to the other side and remove more material than we could with an excavator. We would have to use a bag for the project. Placement of the bag would be on the point about 40 yards behind the aerator controls. The bag would actually be at a lower elevation than the work which would mean no booster pump and will be a change from past projects. One bag would allow us to remove roughly 1,000 yards of material. After looking at it I am pretty sure there is more than 1,000 yards to be removed from that area. The per yard price for dredging based on our most recent calculations is \$15. That would put the cost of dredging approximately 1,000 yards at \$15,000 and the bag at \$4,431.60. The total would be \$19,431.60.

I have not done any measurements or estimates on the second area I am concerned about. That is the area immediately downstream of the dam by security. You can probably see what I am referring to from your office. Dredging that before the area above the dam is addressed would, however, be a waste of time and money.

Thank you,

Charles Taylor

Maintenance & Property Management Director  
[charles@chetola.com](mailto:charles@chetola.com)  
(828)295-5518





TO: Mayor Charlie Sellers and Blowing Rock Town Council  
FROM: Kevin Rothrock, Planning Director  
SUBJECT: 321 Visioning - Valley Blvd Study - Implementation Strategies  
DATE: September 2, 2020

I will provide an update during the September 8, 2020 Town Council meeting on progress from our Planning Board zoning subcommittee dealing with the 321 Visioning recommendations.