



**Resolution No. 2017-09**  
**RESOLUTION APPROVING REOPENING OF FACILITIES AT DOUGHTON PARK**  
**ON THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY**

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Parkway is the most visited unit in the National Park Service, attracting over 15 million visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact on gateway communities from visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway is over \$1.3 billion annually, supporting over 15,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Parkway contains 8 concession facilities along its 469 miles, intended to enhance and support visitor experience; and

WHEREAS, Doughton Park, located at milepost 241, is the largest recreation facility along the Blue Ridge Parkway, covering 7,000 acres and containing 30 miles of hiking trails; and

WHEREAS, Doughton Park honors Robert L. Doughton of Laurel Springs, who served in the US House of Representatives continuously from 1911 until 1953, and who was instrumental in the development and location of the Blue Ridge Parkway in northwestern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Doughton Park contains Bluffs Lodge, a restaurant, and gift shop which have been closed since 2010 and have fallen into disrepair; and

WHEREAS, necessary repairs to the facilities at Doughton Park are estimated to cost \$3,688,461; and

WHEREAS, availability of the concession facilities at Doughton Park are important for attracting visitors to the relatively-remote section of the Blue Ridge Parkway, located between the more popular Blue Ridge Music Center to the north and Moses Cone and Julian Price Parks to the south; and

WHEREAS, the reopening of Doughton Park concession facilities will have direct positive economic impact on the surrounding businesses, workforce, and Town and County governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Town of Blowing Rock supports efforts of local governments and the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation to reopen the facilities at Doughton Park.

THIS the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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J. B. Lawrence, Mayor

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Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk