



Hendersonville Kennel Club, Inc.

November 20, 2016

RE: Oklawaha Greenway Extension

To whom it may concern,

This letter of support for the ***Oklawaha Greenway Extension*** comes to you with the recommendation of the Hendersonville Kennel Club, Incorporated membership. Our club has been a member of the American Kennel Club since 1977; presently, we are more than **fifty** members strong.

Over the years, we have funded and/or participated in many local dog related projects:

- We purchased a trained German Shepherd for the Hendersonville Police Department and a Boxer for the Henderson County Sheriff's Department.
- We have sponsored two AKC shows a year as well as puppy matches; all are open to the public.
- More recently, we have sponsored CGC (Canine Good Citizen) Obedience testing at the Henderson County Animal Shelter.
- We hold Handling Classes for those hoping to improve their dogs performance in the conformation ring.
- Members have brought their dogs to visit with the Salvation Army seniors and the boys and girls enrolled in their Summer Camp and After School programs. *We stress safety around dogs and a pets' care needs.*
- We have helped sponsor various spay and neuter programs serving Henderson County.
- The HKC donated Pet Oxygen Masks to each station of the Henderson County Fire & Rescue Squad.
- This year we funded a kennel insert for HPD's patrol vehicle to safely transport, release and protect a K-9. HKC volunteers have worked the *Kids Safe Event* and *Police K9 Fundraisers*.
- Other members provide Therapy Dog visits and programs for area nursing homes.

All of the above has stressed what we have done for the community. *I would like to address what the ***Oklawaha Greenway Extension*** could do for the community at large and the Hendersonville Kennel Club in particular. You would be providing a venue where residents and guests could **SAFELY** walk their beloved pets on leash. Walking is an activity that can be enjoyed by the entire family, not just one on one in the conformation, obedience, rally, herding or agility ring. Exercise is good for all of us including the family dog. Retirement from work or a sport does not have to create a couch potato.*

Sincerely,
Corliss L. Bakanas – Corresponding Secretary
Hendersonville Kennel Club, Inc.