



December 9, 2016

To whom it may concern,

The Children & Family Resource Center is in support of expanding our greenway from Jackson Park to Blue Ridge Community College.

Besides the opportunities greenways offer for recreation, exercise and a healthy environment, greenways offer an alternative transportation route for citizens. Greenways are safe for citizens who need to (and/or who want to) walk or ride their bikes as a mode of transportation.

In Henderson County, the need for transportation is continually at the top of a list of needs and priorities in various community needs assessments conducted by our local human service agencies. Many Henderson County residents would benefit from a safe way to travel by foot or bike and greenways offer that opportunity. The expansion of the Ocklahawa Greenway from Jackson Park to Blue Ridge Community College is one of many opportunities Henderson County has to connect citizens to opportunity for connection to education and cultural activities.

The state of North Carolina recently completed at *Community Transportation Assessment for Henderson County* and one of the solutions the study recognized as working well in other communities, is the expansion of sidewalks and greenways that connect the community and create a place where people can walk or bike safely and would be a step in providing a community-wide network of trails connecting work, play, school, shopping, outdoor enjoyment and the rich cultural life offered by our town.

Sincerely,

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We improve children's lives through parent education, quality child care resources, and leadership in children's issues throughout the community.

