



H. Wayne Carter III
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Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors

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April 27, 2023

Jimmy Walters
Roanoke River Rails to Trails, Inc.

Subject: Recreational Trails Program Grant Application Endorsement

Mecklenburg County is pleased to endorse the application made by the Roanoke River Rails to Trails, Inc. (RRRTT) to the Virginia Department of Recreation and Conservation for funds from the Virginia Recreational Trails Program's 2023 Trail Maintenance and Amenity Grant to support the Tobacco Heritage Trail.

The Tobacco Heritage Trail is an essential asset to Southside Virginia and Mecklenburg County. This Trail provides regional connectiveness between Mecklenburg and Brunswick Counties; functions as a critical outdoor space, whereby residents and visitors can safely obtain positive health benefits and recreational merriment, while screened from competition with on road vehicular traffic; is an important component of the region's tourism pitch; and is used as a forum for civic events such as the Crush Cancer 5K & Costume Contest, which is a part of Boydton Day, and the Feet in Your Shoes 5K in La Crosse. Therefore, a well-kept trail is a necessary component towards Mecklenburg County's quality of life.

Funds from this grant will replenish dated core aspects of the existing trail in Mecklenburg County and will also extend additional benefits, such as kiosks, to this space. These components of the grant application are quite desired and welcomed by Mecklenburg County. Accordingly, the County stands in full support of this application and thanks RRRTT for pursuing further enhancements to the Trail's condition, in order for the Trail to remain a solidly used asset within the County and Southside Virginia.

We hope that the Virginia Recreational Trails Advisory Committee finds favor in this application and recognizes the value this Trail has for our region of the Commonwealth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Gottschalk".

Alex Gottschalk
Deputy County Administrator
Mecklenburg County