



A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth; and greatly enhance recreational services in Broadway;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including Broadway in Rockingham County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Broadway endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE the Town of Broadway resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Timothy S. Proctor, Mayor

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Edinburg and Shenandoah County, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including the Towns in Shenandoah County, offering an option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS the creation of the trail will further enhance Edinburg's efforts at the historic Edinburg Mill as well as the work being done by the U.S. Forest Service in partnership with the Camp Roosevelt CCC Legacy Foundation on the future CCC James R. Wilkins, Sr. Interpretive Center, both of which are directly adjacent to the trail's route;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Edinburg endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

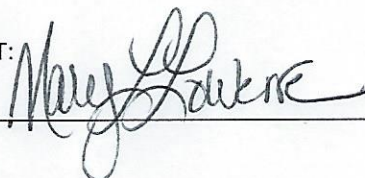
FURTHERMORE, Edinburg resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Adopted this 13th day of April, 2021

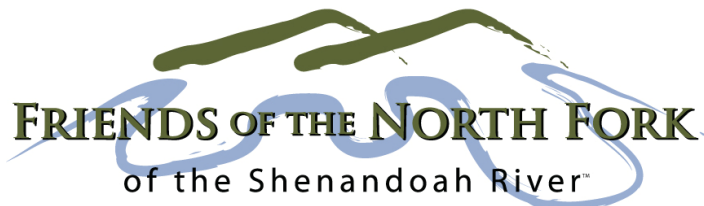


Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk



**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD
RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the service area of the nonprofit Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities in three counties, offering to a broad segment of the local population the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities, and for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS, such trail would greatly enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, public health, equitable transportation alternatives, local economic development, community richness, and connection to our region's historic resources;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River resolves to join with the other trail localities and nonprofits in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Signed on May 18, 2021

David V. Brotman
Executive Director, FNFSR
www.fnfsr.org

P.O. Box 746 Woodstock, VA 22664

540-459-8550

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE
RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Front Royal, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased; and,

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely; and,

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass; and,

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War Battlefields; and,

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth; and,

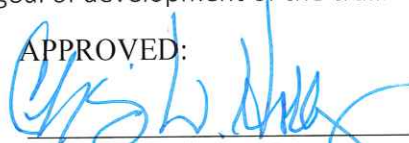
WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including the Town of Front Royal in Warren County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life; and,

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility; and,

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal endorse and support the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation; and join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

APPROVED:


Chris W. Holloway Mayor

ATTEST:


Tina L. Presley, Clerk of Council

This Resolution was approved at the Regular Meeting of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia Town Council conducted on June 28, 2021 upon the following recorded vote:

Lori A. Cockrell Yes No

Jacob L. Meza Yes No

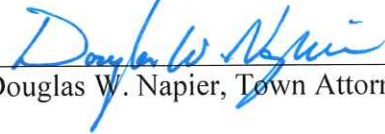
Gary L. Gillispie Yes No

Letasha T. Thompson Yes No

E. Scott Lloyd Yes No

Joseph E. McFadden Yes No Remote by Phone

Approved as to Form and Legality:


Douglas W. Napier, Town Attorney

Dated: 07-01-2021

**A Resolution of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce
In Support of the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail from the towns of Broadway to Front Royal**

- WHEREAS The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce represents hundreds of businesses, non-profit agencies and local governments in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County; and
- WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility; and
- WHEREAS The proposed location presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields; and
- WHEREAS such a trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth, not only within the participating localities, but surrounding communities as well; and
- WHEREAS the aforementioned trail would offer the option of safe alternative transportation within and between the communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life; and
- WHEREAS the Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Board of Directors of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce will advocate for the creation of the trail and to work with various coalitions to achieve this goal while seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies .

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of June, 2021.



Dr. Melissa Lubin, Chair
Board of Directors



Christopher Quinn, President



Quinton Callahan, Chair
Community Relations Committee

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD
RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Mount Jackson, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including Mount Jackson and communities in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS such a trail would connect to many area county roads to facilitate safer cycling circuit routes as utilized twice in recent years by Bike Virginia;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

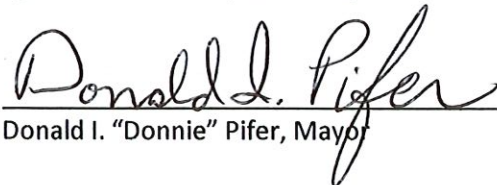
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Mount Jackson endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the Town of Mount Jackson resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

PASSED by the Council of the Town of Mount Jackson, Virginia on this 9th day of March, 2021.



Debbie A. Stover, Clerk



Donald I. "Donnie" Pifer, Mayor

RESOLUTION #: 238

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing near the Town of New Market, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is unattractive to our community;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS though such a trail will not directly run through the town, the trail will provide opportunities for the town to connect and provide access to the Town's historic landmarks, bringing in more foot traffic while also providing a walking trail to support a healthy community;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of New Market endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the Town of New Market resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Mayor and Clerk of the Town Council of the Town of New Market, Virginia hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Town of New Market's Resolution to Support the Acquisition and Conversion of Out-Of-Service Railroad Right-of-Way to a trail for alternative transportation and recreation adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held on April 19, 2021. A record of the roll-call vote by the Town Council is as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Larry Bompiani, Mayor*				
Doug Bradley				✓
Janice Hannah	✓			
Peggy Harkness	✓			
Bob King	✓			
Daryl Watkins	✓			
Scott Wymer	✓			

*Votes only in the event of a tie.

Date: April 19, 2021

ATTEST:


 Clerk, Town Council of the
 Town of New Market


 Mayor, Town of New Market, Virginia



NORTHERN SHENANDOAH VALLEY
REGIONAL COMMISSION

400E Kendrick Lane
Front Royal VA 22630
Phone: 540-636-8800
Fax: 540-635-4147
www.NSVregion.org

RESOLUTION 21-02

SUPPORT FOR THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the multiple Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission (NSVRC) member jurisdictions, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS NSVRC has worked to foster collaboration among affected jurisdictions, the Commonwealth, and Norfolk Southern Railroad to find a path forward for conversion of the rail line;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NSVRC endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multi-use trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the NSVRC resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Adopted this 15th day of April 2021.

ATTEST:

Brandon P. Davis

Brandon Davis
Executive Director



9386 SOUTH CONGRESS STREET
PO BOX 674
NEW MARKET, VA 22844

(540) 740-4500

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO
A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the service area of the nonprofit Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS, such trail would greatly enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, public health, equitable transportation alternatives, local economic development, community richness, and connection to our region's historic resources;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley resolves to join with the other trail localities and nonprofits in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Signed on March 10, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate G. Wofford".

Kate G. Wofford
Executive Director
Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEWEY L. RITCHIE

Election District No. 1

SALLIE WOLFE-GARRISON

Election District No. 2

RICK L. CHANDLER

Election District No. 3

WILLIAM B. KYGER, JR.

Election District No. 4

MICHAEL A. BREEDEN

Election District No. 5

STEPHEN G. KING
County Administrator

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS, 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County are in a state of disuse, with all freight and passenger service having ceased; and

WHEREAS, the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely; and

WHEREAS, the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass; and

WHEREAS, the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields; and

WHEREAS, such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth; and

WHEREAS, such trail would connect eleven communities, including Broadway and Timberville, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the trail would be characterized by sound, sustainable and safe design and link multiple parks, multiple businesses, and Civil War sites while paralleling the North Fork of the Shenandoah River along its route in Rockingham County; and

WHEREAS, an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS, the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the Virginia State Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1, 2021.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation; and

FURTHERMORE, Rockingham County resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state, and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Resolved this 24th day of March 2021.

Rick L. Chandler,
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

ATTESTE:

Stephen G. King,
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors



Resolution To Support The Development Of The Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail

WHEREAS, 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through Shenandoah Valley communities are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS, the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS, the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS, the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS, such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS, such trail would connect Shenandoah Valley communities including the towns of Broadway and Timberville in Rockingham County offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS, community amenity, health benefits, increased property value, increased tax revenue, compatible economic development, and historical preservation are benefits that a trail or greenway can provide to communities, including public health, economic and transportation benefits;

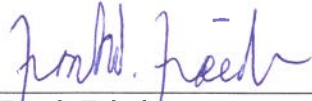
WHEREAS, an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS, the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

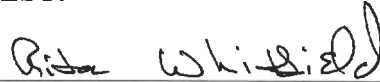
FURTHERMORE, the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

APPROVED ON THIS 19th DAY OF APRIL 2021.



Frank Friedman
CSPDC Chairman

ATTEST:



Rita Whitfield
Clerk to the Commission



A Resolution of the Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce In Support of the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail from the Towns of Broadway to Front Royal

WHEREAS The Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce represents hundreds of businesses, non-profit agencies and local governments within Shenandoah County; and

WHEREAS The Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility; and

WHEREAS The proposed location presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields; and

WHEREAS Such a trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth, not only within the participating localities, but surrounding communities as well; and

WHEREAS The aforementioned trail would offer the option of safe alternative transportation within and between the communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life; and

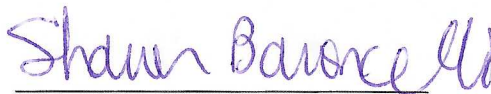
WHEREAS The Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Directors of the Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce supports the continued efforts to explore further feasibility of and opportunity to create the trail and will seek the support of regional, state, and federal agencies in the best interests of the members of the chamber.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of August, 2021.



David Hutton, Chair
Board of Directors



Sharon Baroncelli, President



June 18, 2021

Jennifer Wampler
Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
600 E Main Street, 24th floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Ms. Wampler

I am the President of the Shenandoah Valley Runners (SVR) club and I am writing to you to support the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail project. Our members would really enjoy this project and we want to support the effort.

SVR's mission is to promote and encourage running, regardless of age, gender or physical condition. To accomplish its mission, SVR hold races and social runs, awards scholarships, sponsors speakers, and coordinates with other agencies in the community advocating running and walking. SVR sponsors about 30 races a year, helping to bring outstanding community running events to Frederick, Warren, Clarke, and Shenandoah Counties and even a few in West Virginia. Although the primary club base is in Winchester, Virginia, our club membership and activities cover the greater northern Shenandoah Valley. We are also a proud member of the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA).

Last year we had 578 families with 1047 total members involved with our club. I am certain that many of our members would use the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail to run, walk, and bike, and we hope that the project will be completed soon.

Thank you for your work to make this project a reality.

Sincerely,

Vern Heavner
Shenandoah Valley Runners (svrunners.org)

Cc: Kim Woodwell
Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley
9386 South Congress Street
PO Box 674
New Market VA 22844

County of Shenandoah

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

600 N. Main Street, Ste 102
WOODSTOCK, VA 22664

OFFICE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT 1 – JOSH STEPHENS
DISTRICT 2 – STEVE BAKER
DISTRICT 3 – BRAD POLLACK
DISTRICT 4 – KARL ROULSTON
DISTRICT 5 – DENNIS MORRIS
DISTRICT 6 – TIM TAYLOR



EVAN L. VASS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

MANDY R. BELYEA
DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Tel: 540.459.6165 Fax: 540.459.6168
www.shenandoahcountyva.us

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the County of Shenandoah are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including communities in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Shenandoah endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the County of Shenandoah resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Adopted on a Motion and a Second by Supervisors Pollack and Stephens and a roll call vote of 6-0 at a regularly scheduled meeting on March 9, 2021.

ATTEST:


Evan Vass, Clerk of the Board


Steve Baker, Chairman
Board of Supervisors



**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD
RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS, 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Strasburg, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS, the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS, the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS, the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS, such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS, such trail would connect eleven communities including the Town of Strasburg and other Towns in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS, this transformative project would serve to advance the Strasburg Town Council's strategic plans and broader community goals in a wide variety of ways;

WHEREAS, an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS, the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

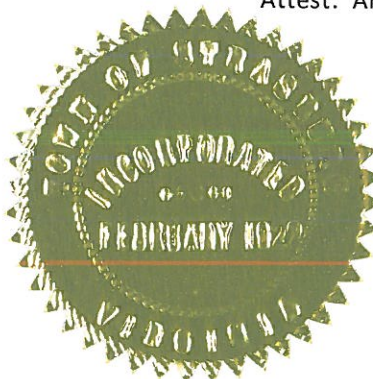
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Strasburg endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, The Town of Strasburg resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Signed this 9th day of March, 2021.

Brandy H. Boies, Mayor

Attest: Amy A. Keller, Clerk of Council





Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition
PO BOX 1014
Harrisonburg, VA 22803
571-277-8121
SVBCoalition.org

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF
OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of the restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, presents an obstruction and safety hazard to the community;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities, offering the option of safe active transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

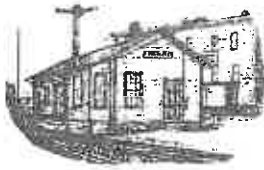
WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representatives of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a shared-use trail for active transportation and recreation;

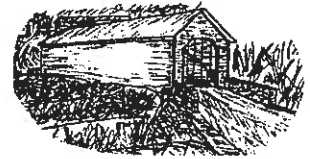
FURTHERMORE, The Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition resolves to join with the localities along the trail in seeking the support of regional, state, and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Scottie Pendleton
Chair of the Coalition Board of Directors



Town of Timberville

392 S. Main Street
Timberville, VA 22853
540-896-7058
Fax 540-896-7055
www.townoftimberville.com



A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Timberville, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including two communities in Rockingham County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS the trail section in and around Timberville would provide users the opportunity to experience the beauty and serenity of the scenic North Fork of the Shenandoah River;


WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Timberville endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the Town of Timberville resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state, and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Done in and for the Town of Timberville, Virginia this 13th day of May 2021.

By: 
Donald DeLaughter, Mayor

TIMBERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

Attest: 
Melinda Cleaver, Clerk

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD
RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION**

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town/County of Toms Brook, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including Toms Brook in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS such named trail will provide pedestrians access to Toms Brook community resources, historical sites, commerce, recreation, and various other benefits;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the town of Toms Brook endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, Toms Brook resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.



Mayor, Town of Toms Brook

LISA G. CURRIE

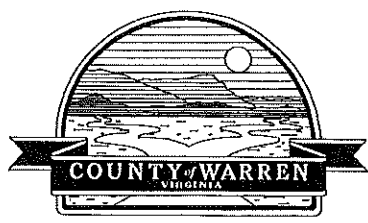
11 March 2021

Maggie O'Toole

Town clerk/treasurer

11 March 2021

COUNTY OF WARREN



County Administrator's Office
Warren County Government Center
220 North Commerce Avenue, Suite 100
Front Royal, Virginia 22630

Phone: (540) 636-4600
FAX: (540) 636-6066
Email: edaley@warrencountyva.net

Dr. Edwin C. Daley
Interim County Administrator

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CHAIR
Cheryl L. Cullers
South River District

VICE CHAIRMAN
Archie A. Fox
Fork District

Tony F. Carter
Happy Creek District

Walter J. Mabe
Shenandoah District

Delores R. Oates
North River District

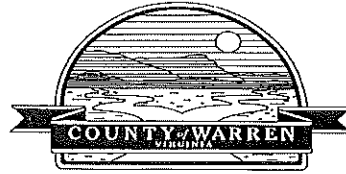
Dr. Edwin C. Daley
Interim County Administrator

MEMO TO: Ed Daley, Interim County Administrator
FROM: Emily M. Ciarrocchi, Deputy Clerk of the Board *EL*
SUBJECT: Resolution of Support for the Rail Trail
DATE: April 21, 2021

The Board of Supervisors, at its regular meeting of April 20, 2021, adopted the proposed resolution to support the acquisition and conversion of out-of-service railroad right-of-way to a trail for alternative transportation and recreation.

CC: Delores Oates, North River District Supervisor

RESOLUTION



*of the Board of Supervisors of Warren County to Support the
Acquisition and Conversion of Out-of-Service Railroad Right-of-Way
to a Trail for Alternative Transportation and Recreation*

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the County of Warren, Virginia are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having decreased significantly; and

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely; and

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass; and

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields; and

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth; and

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including Warren County and the Town of Front Royal, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life; and

WHEREAS such trail would provide the communities of Warren County and the Town of Front Royal opportunity for an outdoor experience not currently available, which promotes a healthy lifestyle for area residents and provides connections to other existing or planned bicycle infrastructure in Warren County; and

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility; and

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren, Virginia endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation; and

FURTHERMORE, the Board of Supervisors resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state, and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Adopted: April 20, 2021

Cheryl L. Cullers
Cheryl L. Cullers, Chair
Warren County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Edwin C. Daley
Edwin C. Daley, Interim Clerk
Warren County Board of Supervisors



February 24, 2021

Dear Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission,

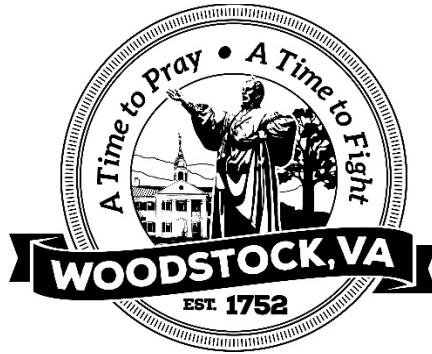
We have been contacted by Jennifer Wampler of the Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation regarding a proposed Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail from Broadway to Front Royal. She wished to know if our cycling club believed there was interest in such a rail trail, and for input if we had any.

I spoke with the Club at our last monthly meeting about the proposed trail, and there is very strong interest in the trail. The proposed trail would be popular not only with cyclists in our Club, but we believe with the boom in outdoor recreation that has occurred this past year that many user groups would be enthused for such a trail in our area.

The Winchester Wheelmen has been involved in numerous cycling projects over the years, from trail work at local mountain bike trails to working with the local Boys and Girls Club to provide kids with bikes to putting on organized rides utilizing roads and paths in the area. The community in the Shenandoah Valley continues to grow, and recreational facilities like the proposed trail is an important positive lifestyle addition. That the proposed facility is cycling-oriented makes it accessible to a large breadth of users. We would certainly do our part to spread the word about this addition to the community and help in any way we can to make the project a success.

Sincerely,

Josh Lewis
President
Winchester Wheelmen, Inc.



May 4, 2021

Jennifer Wampler
Virginia State Trails Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
203 Governors Street, Suite 2049
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Ms. Wampler,

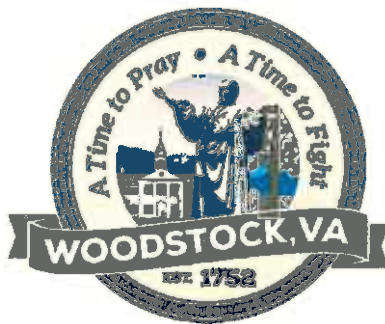
I am excited to transmit to you a copy of a Resolution of Support from the Woodstock Town Council for the Shenandoah Rail Trail concept. As an early advocate for this rail to trail conversion, our governing body is unanimously in favor of continuing to pursue this wonderful and unique opportunity. Please find a copy of this resolution attached to this letter.

If you require additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at aaron.grisdale@townofwoodsockva.gov or 540-459-3621.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Aaron M. Grisdale".

Aaron M. Grisdale
Town Manager



A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Woodstock, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including the Town of Woodstock and other towns in Shenandoah County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS such trail runs through Woodstock's historic downtown, provides a central connection to the Town's Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, close proximity to Seven Bends State Park, and serves as potential safe multimodal route to the Central campus of Shenandoah County Public Schools;

WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Woodstock endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the Town of Woodstock resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Dated this 6th day of April 2021.

Signed:



Jeremy D. McCleary, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk