



**CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Franklin Gomez Flores, Vice Chair  
Mike Dasher  
Diana Hales  
Robert Logan

**COUNTY MANAGER**

Dan LaMontagne

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**Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners**

Established 1771

**SUPPORTING STATE TRAIL DESIGNATION FOR THE HAW RIVER TRAIL**

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), has proposed multi-use trail development and natural resource preservation efforts within a defined area along the Haw River (hereinafter referred to as "the Trail Corridor"); and

**WHEREAS**, the State has proposed a paddle, hiking and/or multi-use trail connecting the Haw River State Park to Jordan Lake State Recreation Area, (hereinafter referred to as "the Trail"), as a component of the State Trails System, to make efficient use of public dollars and provide the greatest benefit by linking key resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of resources within the Trail Corridor provides a wide range of outstanding existing and potential recreational and economic development opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Haw River and its tributaries flow through multiple municipalities, counties, and four multi-county planning regions; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County government has signed the Haw River Trail Governmental Agency Partnership Memorandum of Understanding between Alamance County, Guilford County, Chatham County, Orange County, Rockingham County, and the City of Burlington, the City of Graham, the City of Greensboro, the Town of Haw River, the Town of Pittsboro, the Town of Swepsonville, and the State of North Carolina, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources concerning the Haw River Trail corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the listed governmental agencies desire to represent a unified vision for the Trail Corridor when sharing information both internally within their respective agencies and externally on matters relating to the planning, development, signage, public information, maintenance, and management of the Trail Corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, adding the Trail Corridor as a component of the State Trails System, which is part of the NC State Parks System, means the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources "shall support, promote, encourage, and facilitate the establishment of trail segments on State park land and on lands of other federal, State, local, and private landowners" and State Parks staff can aid in the development of the Trail Corridor and the State can hold easements or purchase land from willing landowners that is needed to complete the Trail Corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, all State Trails must be authorized by the NC General Assembly; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners supports authorizing State Trail designation by the NC General Assembly for the Haw River Trail Corridor in Rockingham, Guilford, Alamance, Orange, and Chatham Counties and urges the NC General Assembly to authorize the Haw River Trail as a State Trail to be added to the NC State Parks System.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be forwarded to the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, the NC General Assembly leadership, our local legislative delegation, and Governor Roy Cooper.

Adopted, this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

Karen Howard, Chair  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lindsay K. Ray, NCMCC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

