Western Piedmont Council of Governments

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To: **Honorable Randy T. Church, Chairman**
Members of the Board of Commissioners

From: **Alison Adams, WPCOG Director of Community and Regional Planning**

Re: **Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP)**

Date: **May 2, 2024**

This memo is to address the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) planning grant application to develop a feasibility study that will explore the potential of creating a bicycle/pedestrian trail along the existing Caldwell Railroad line, extending from Lenoir to Hudson, Sawmills, Granite Falls, Rhodhiss and Hickory.

The ATIIP planning grant program is designed to support the development of plans that study potential routes that could serve as backbones to connect two or more communities with bicycle/pedestrian facilities. The following local governments in Caldwell County have each agreed to provide $3,575 in matching funds for the grant application:

- Lenoir
- Hudson
- Sawmills
- Granite Falls
- Rhodhiss
- Hickory

The grant study area will extend from the Valmead area along the railroad south to the Caldwell County side of the U.S. 321 bridge, including a section of the abandoned rail spur leading to Rhodhiss. The area will also include the end of the City of Hickory's Riverwalk trail at Alex Lee Boulevard on U.S. 321 to the Shoppes at Rivercrest. The study area would then continue to downtown Granite Falls via U.S. 321A.

The grant application will be for $100,000. Matching funds totaling $25,000 were determined by dividing $25,000 by the number of local governments in the study area (7) by $25,000, for an amount of $3,575 each.

Should you have questions please feel free to contact me. We are happy to serve all of the local governments in Caldwell County.

Respectfully,
Alison H. Adams
WPCOG Director of Community and Regional Planning

Cc. Donald Duncan, County Manager

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