



January 4, 2023

Tryon Downtown Development Association  
PO Box 182  
Tryon, NC 28782  
[www.downtowntryon.org](http://www.downtowntryon.org)  
[downtowndirector@tryonnc.gov](mailto:downtowndirector@tryonnc.gov)

Conserving Carolina  
847 Case Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28792  
Attention: Rebekah Robinson

Dear Ms. Robinson:

Tryon Downtown Development Association (TDDA) appreciates the opportunity to express our support for Conserving Carolina's application to the North Carolina Department of Transportation as a community partner in the development of the Saluda Grade Rail Trail (SGRT).

TDDA is 501 (c) 3 organization that works in a quasi-governmental/nonprofit partnership with the Town of Tryon on economic development initiatives. Our mission is to preserve and enhance the community of Tryon through a downtown revitalization program that focuses on economic vitality, excellent urban design and historic preservation.

TDDA is further charged with maintaining Tryon's status as a designated NC Main Street community. The NC Main Street organization, a branch of a national movement, works with rural towns like Tryon to inspire place making through asset-based development strategies. The development of the SGRT would provide the Town of Tryon with a unique asset for economic growth. We welcome the SGRT as an opportunity for new investment and business creation and expansion in Tryon.

Please accept TDDA's support for your application to NCDOT to support the development of the Saluda Grade Rail Trail. Feel free to reach out at any time for additional information on TDDA, or if there is anything we can do to support your efforts going forward.

Sincerely,

Rodger Walker  
President, Tryon Downtown Development Authority