

TOWN OF TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA
RESOLUTION REQUESTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SALUDA GRADE TRAIL

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon Board of Commissioners has been a strong supporter for the Saluda Grade Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Saluda Grade Trail Conservancy purchased the 31.5-mile rail corridor from Norfolk Southern on June 17, 2025 and is transferring North Carolina's portion of the corridor to a fully owned subsidiary of Conserving Carolina, to have and to hold in the interim for the benefit of the citizens of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon hosted the "Saluda Grade Trail Celebration" on July 31, 2025, a well-attended event held at the historic Tryon Depot attended by elected officials and representatives from Inman SC, Campobello SC, Landrum SC, Town of Tryon NC, Saluda NC, Polk County NC, Conserving Carolina, and PAL (Play. Advocate. Live Well.), our South Carolina non-profit partner; and

WHEREAS, Conserving Carolina and PAL have applied grant monies to retain BLUE ION and TOURISM IMPACT SERVICES to collaborate across communities, counties, and state lines to align public and private partners around planning, implementation, and promotion of the Saluda Grade Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon Board of Commissioners established a Town of Tryon Saluda Grade Advisory Committee on May 16, 2023 consisting of business owners and citizens with the sole purpose of preparing Downtown Tryon for the opening of the Saluda Grade Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon has appointed two officials to serve on the North Carolina Saluda Grade Trail Steering Committee;

AND WHEREAS, PAL has completed its request for quotation and selection process for design consulting and engineering services for the Saluda Grade Trail in South Carolina with a provision to include a North Carolina section from the North Carolina state line into the Town of Tryon, contingent upon the Town of Tryon and Conserving Carolina obtaining funding for such services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF TRYON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, IN FURTHERANCE OF OUR COMMUNITY'S BROAD EFFORTS TO DEVELOP THE SALUDA GRADE TRAIL, WILL REQUEST FEDERAL CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTED APPROPRIATIONS FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NORTH CAROLINA PORTION OF THE SALUDA GRADE TRAIL.

ADOPTED THIS 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

APPROVED:


J. Alan Peoples,
Mayor

ATTEST:


Emily Dale,
Town Clerk