

Friends and Neighbors of Swannanoa (FANS)  
PO Box 697  
Swannanoa, NC 28778

September 10, 2024

Passive Recreation Lands Subcommittee  
200 College Street, Room 310  
Asheville, NC 28801

Re: Woodmen Trailhead and Educational Park Grant Application

Dear members of the Passive Recreation Lands Subcommittee,

We are writing to thank you for the time and consideration you have given the Woodmen Trailhead project thus far, and to ask you for one additional consideration as you cast your final votes.

We noted in the last sub-committee meeting that many members expressed an interest in limiting acquisition expenditures to the appraised value of the pertinent parcels. We absolutely understand the reasoning behind this limitation, and will proceed under those terms if that is what the review committee decides. In that case, we ask the review committee to consider additional terms for the grant award.

If there are additional funds that remain after the purchase of the properties described in the project application, we ask that the award be structured so that those funds may be spent on additional acquisitions that serve the spirit and intent of the original project. In the case of the Woodmen Trailhead project, those funds would likely be used for acquisition of additional properties or easements in the project vicinity along the future greenway alignment. The purpose of these additional terms is to ensure that the funds allocated are used to their fullest extent, and that we best serve the intent of the grant award: making new lands available to the public for passive recreation use. In our eyes, it would be a shame to have funds remaining, if those funds could serve the very purpose that the committee has deemed worthy of support.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Megan McCreary, FANS  
Carol Groben, FANS  
RJ Taylor, FANS  
Brad Spiegel, FANS  
Rachel Sudnik, Greybeard Realty  
Julia Weatherford, Friends of Fonta Flora State Trail & Black Mountain Greenways & Trails Committee