

## Statement from Town of Weaverville 8/12/24

Our follow-up for the subcommittee, and a modification to our grant request is here:

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Update to the Weaverville Watershed Trails Application

Dear Subcommittee Members,

We feel that the Weaverville Watershed Trails and Nature Preserve project is important, and we don't want to make a design decision that would preclude us from this opportunity. Considering the ongoing conversations around project design, and the public feedback we have received around parking and safety, the Town of Weaverville would like to modify our proposal as follows:

### **Parking Area**

We want to install two separate parking areas, with the first parking area construction happening further East – see attached map. The benefits of this Eastern parking placement being that the road is less curvy. The cons being that the construction will be more expensive, with more disruption to mature trees, and the trail access point does not connect to the accessible trails available further West on Elk Mountain Scenic Highway. The ultimate parking plan and design is contingent upon approval from Southern Appalachians Highlands Conservancy and the NC Land and Water Fund.

Adding a second parking lot will help towards alleviating concerns about shoulder parking.

We are in communication with Christopher Medlin, NCDOT Division 13, District 2 Engineer, to assess what we need to be thinking about with our parking planning. Once we move into the next phase, an on-site pre-construction meeting will happen with Christopher Medlin and his NCDOT colleagues.

### **Total Funding Request**

We would like to increase our funding request to \$952,030 to account for the construction of an additional, more challenging parking lot installation, and for parking and safe driving signage. This will all be done in partnership with NCDOT during the Encroachment permit process. The costliest of the signs would be a solar powered speed feedback sign on Elk Mountain Scenic Highway.

We have notified Explore Asheville/Buncombe County TDA that we will not be moving forward and submitting our Phase 2 Application for the Watershed project for this year.

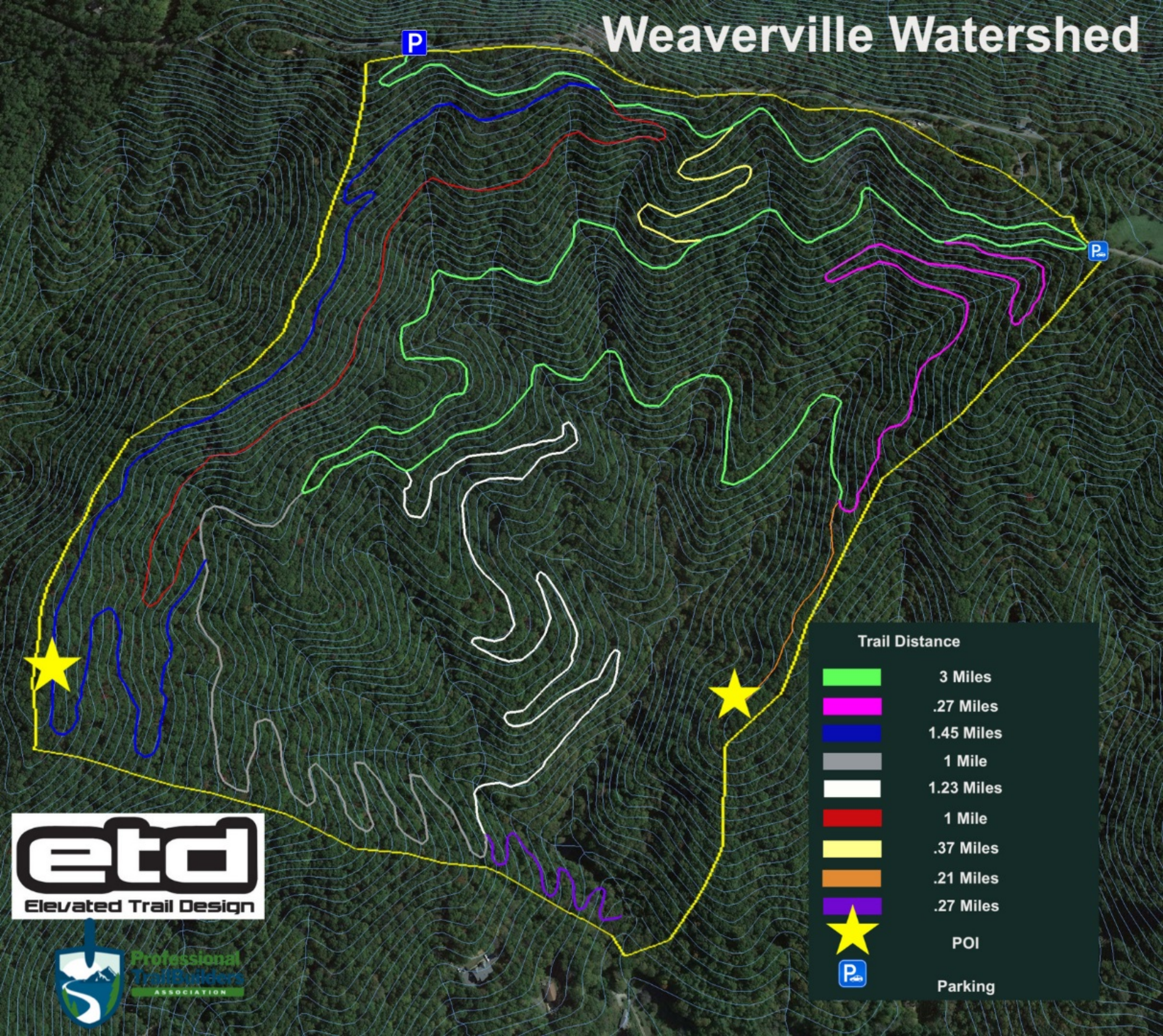
Thank you for your consideration of our project.

The Town of Weaverville and the Grant Team

#### **NOTES FROM COUNTY STAFF:**

- The Town of Weaverville originally submitted a request for \$1,072,030 for the Weaverville Watershed Trails and Wildlife Preserve project.
- In July, we received written notice from the Town reducing the request by \$220,000 to deduct ineligible maintenance costs, for a revised total request of \$852,030.
- This increase would increase that by \$100,000 to a new total of \$952,030 which is \$120,000 less than their initial request.

# Weaverville Watershed



## Trail Distance

-  3 Miles
-  .27 Miles
-  1.45 Miles
-  1 Mile
-  1.23 Miles
-  1 Mile
-  .37 Miles
-  .21 Miles
-  .27 Miles
-  POI
-  Parking

