

**RESOLUTION NO. 165**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK  
IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL RECREATIONAL  
GREENWAY ON THE NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAIL CORRIDOR LINKING  
HENDERSON AND TRANSYLVANIA COUNTIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Norfolk Southern rail corridor, which links Henderson and Transylvania counties, has played a critically important role in the history of development and economic growth in Henderson and Transylvania counties, particularly in support of the region's industrial economic base; and

**WHEREAS**, the Norfolk Southern Railway Company is considering discontinuation of service on the rail corridor between Henderson County and Transylvania County and may abandon the corridor in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Village of Flat Rock recognizes the importance of maintaining such rail corridor so that rail service may be reestablished in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council recognizes that rail corridors throughout the United States have been converted to regional recreational trails or greenways that contribute significantly to the tourism economy of the regions in which they are located and provide alternative means of transportation while preserving rail corridors for future rail traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, tourism is a critical component of the economy of Western North Carolina and Henderson County, and the Village Council desires to build upon the existing assets that attract tourists to the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council entered into an interlocal agreement with Henderson County to establish the Apple Country Greenway Commission, the purpose of which is to promote and facilitate coordinated direction and guidance in the planning, development and maintenance of a system of greenways throughout Henderson County by the participating governmental units . . ."; and


**WHEREAS**, the Village Council recognizes the economic and transportation benefits of a regional recreational greenway within Western North Carolina and desires that the aforementioned rail corridor be secured and developed as the foundation of a regional recreational greenway system in support of the region's tourism economy, and as an alternative means of transportation;

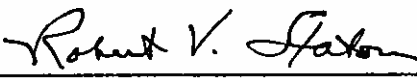
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Village of Flat Rock that:

1. The Village Council hereby supports a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

2. The Village Council respectfully invites the elected governments of Henderson and Transylvania counties and all municipalities within those counties, and other governmental entities and organizations that support economic development, to join in its endorsement of the development of a regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.
3. The Village Council respectfully requests the cooperation of the Norfolk Southern Corporation and its Norfolk Southern Railway Company subsidiary in the development of this regional recreational greenway along such rail corridor.
4. The Village Council hereby encourages the Apple Country Greenway Commission and other interested parties to take action as necessary to bring about the development of the aforementioned regional recreational greenway along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor linking Henderson and Transylvania counties.

**ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2009.

  
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Michelle Hill  
Village Clerk

  
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Robert V. Staton  
Mayor

