

Huntersville Greenway, Trail, and Bikeways Commission



Summary Minutes: January 14, 2025

Members Present: Ken Stuart, Geoffrey Locke, Maria Reese, Randy Suggs, Tim Turton, Michael Griffin, Christianna Beirne

Members Absent: Leif Stormo, Elaine Kerns

Town Staff Present: Tracy Houk, David Peete, Heather Maloney

County Staff Present:

Town Board Present: Alisia Bergsman

Public Present:

Call To Order: Tracy Houk – 6:02 pm

Approval of Minutes: November 2024 – Approved unanimously

Agenda Changes: Add under Updates/Comments: Presentation to Town Board and Fieldtrip to Hickory

PUBLIC COMMENTS, REQUESTS, OR PRESENTATIONS

BUSINESS:

- 2024 Recap
 - See attached
 - 2025 Goals will be discussed in the February meeting
- Appoint 2025 Chair
 - *Nomination made by Maria Reese to appoint Ken Stuart as Chair for 2025.*
 - Ken Accepted
 - *Nomination made by Ken Stuart to appoint Geoffrey Locke as Chair for 2025.*
 - Geoffrey accepted
 - 1 vote for Ken to 6 votes for Geoffrey – Geoffrey Locke wins Chair for 2025
- Appoint 2025 Co-Chair
 - *Nomination made by Ken Stuart to appoint Randy Suggs as Co-Chair for 2025.*
 - Randy Accepted
 - Unanimous votes for Randy as Co-Chair
- SPCC/Huntersville-Concord Rd.
 - See attached map for reference
 - Plans for the SPCC Greenway/surrounding sidewalks/crossings for Huntersville-Concord Rd. have been planned, but this little section along Huntersville-Concord Rd. has not.
 - Maria Reese made the recommendation to Town Board to move forward with a plan/design for a connection between Hill St. and Cinnabar Pl. connecting the SPCC Greenway to the east side of Cinnabar Pl. – Recommendation Second by Michale Griffin / All Approve the recommendation unaimously
 - GTBC wants to continue to make sure the connections within the downtown area are not forgotten as new road projects are designed and new developments are approved.
- Fundraising Idea
 - Commissioner Hunt visited South Carolina and came across the Legacy Leaves in Conestee Nature Preserve. Wanted to pass it along for the group to look into and possibly doing on one of our greenways. <https://www.conesteepreserve.org/legacy-leaves>

Updates/Comments

- Request to extend an urban trail along Babe Stillwell Farm Rd. from Birkdale Commons Pkwy. To NC 73/Blythe Landing Park
 - A Huntersville resident reached out to Mecklenburg County on adding a sidepath (urban trail) to Babe Stillwell Farm Rd. – This will be on the Town and is not part of the McDowell Creek Greenway project.
 - Our 2020 Bike Plan does show a Sidepath in this section
 - Babe Stillwell will be right in / right out with the new NC 73 improvements.
 - Construction on the greenway should start February 2025
 - Staff will ask engineer dept. to give a rough estimate on project cost.
- NC21 Tunnel Connection to Torrence Trib II
 - Staff is working on extending a greenway connection between Torrence Trib II and the NC 21 Tunnel greenway
- Present to Town Board
 - Goal of presentation is to keep greenway, trail, and bikeway projects on the radar of Town Board.
 - Highlight of current goals of the GTBC and what we want to recommend the Town Board considers when planning for the next fiscal year's budget.
 - See if a county rep can come to a meeting and update us on their priorities and see how the town can line up with them in the near future.
 - Possible presentation dates: March 4 or 18 meeting
- Fieldtrip to Hickory to see Aviation Walk Pedestrian Bridge
 - [Aviation Walk](#) - Pedestrian Bridge Hickory, NC
 - Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/fh9UUE9GNF5ptUzTA>

Motion to Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned – 7:45 pm



Introduction

This commission serves as an advisory body to the Town Board of Commissioners and provides insight and direction regarding the overall planning and development of a Greenway, Trail and Bikeway System for the Town of Huntersville.





2024 Accomplishments

SPRING EVENT

- Continues to be popular
- Great way to bring awareness of The Vine to residents and see where they may need connections



NEW FALL EVENT

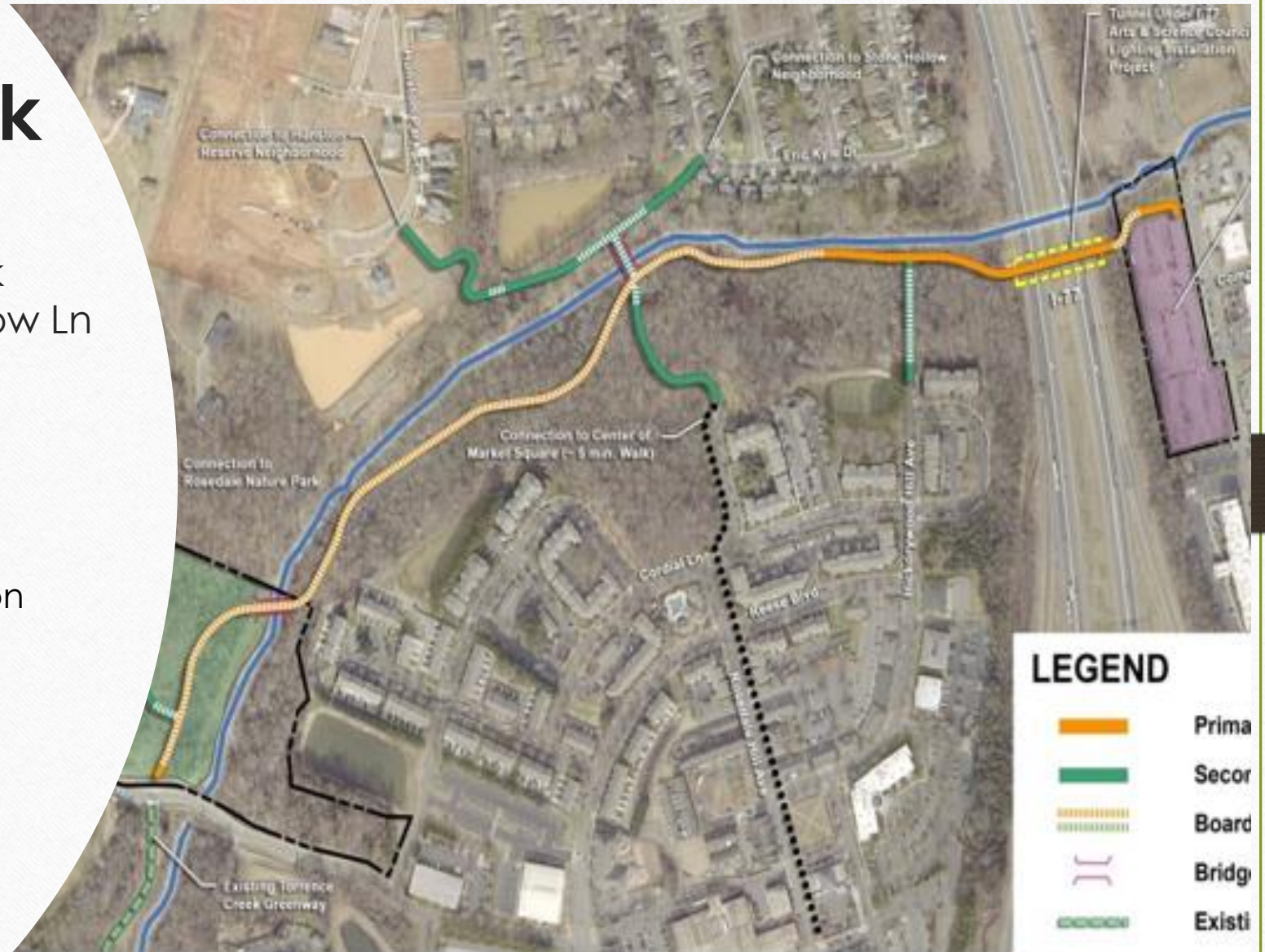
- Reached different demographic
- New Partnership with 760 Craft Works
- Sponsors: Blue Oak Realty, Trek of CLT, CTT



Torrence Creek Trib #2

Huntersville Gateway Park
and Ride to Rosewood Meadow Ln
COMPLETED.

- Town committed \$425,000 towards the design of this project
- County is paid for construction approximately \$7 million
- Approx. 1.2 miles





Projects in the works

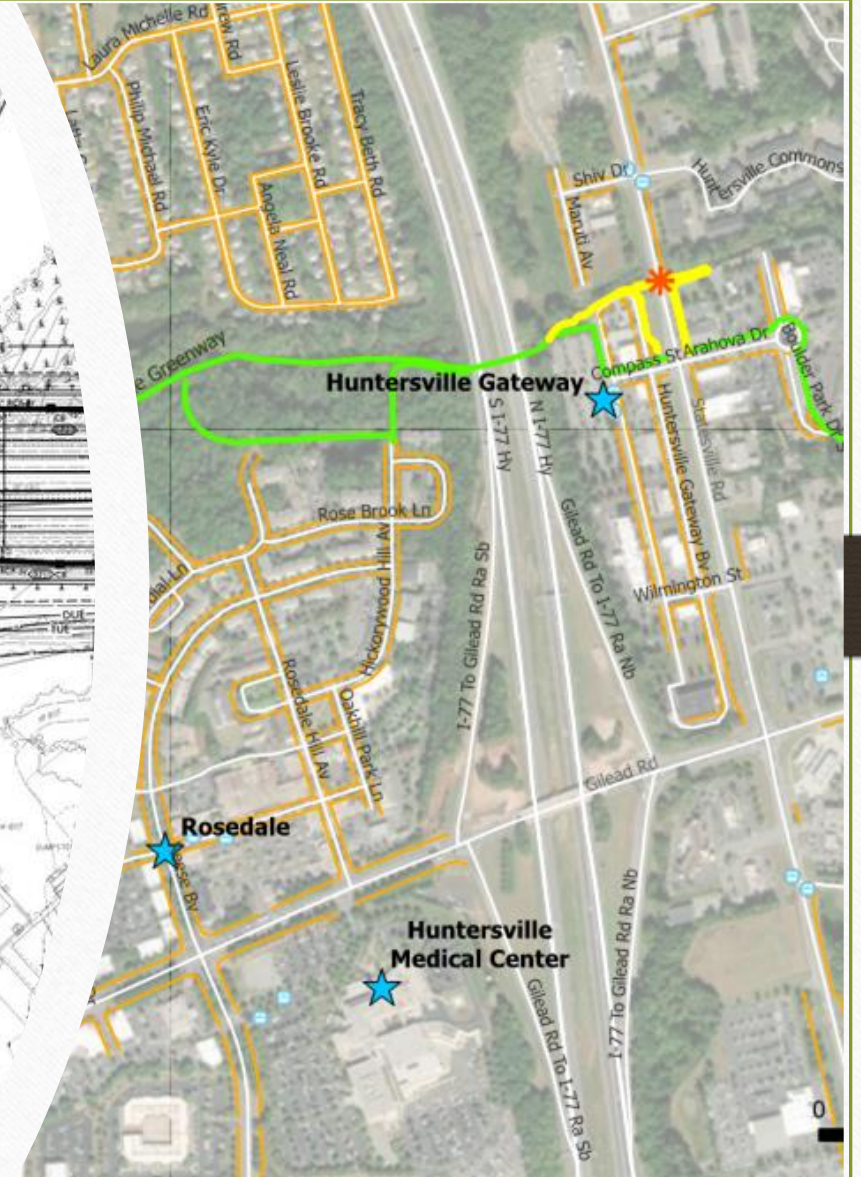
NCDOT Grants

Pedestrian Bridge over NC 73

- \$3.1 million
- Working with Meck Co. on design
- Meck Co. committed to \$1.2 million in matching dollars

NC 21 Tunnel

- \$2.6 million
- Currently securing easements
- Town is looking into connecting greenway directly to the bridge.



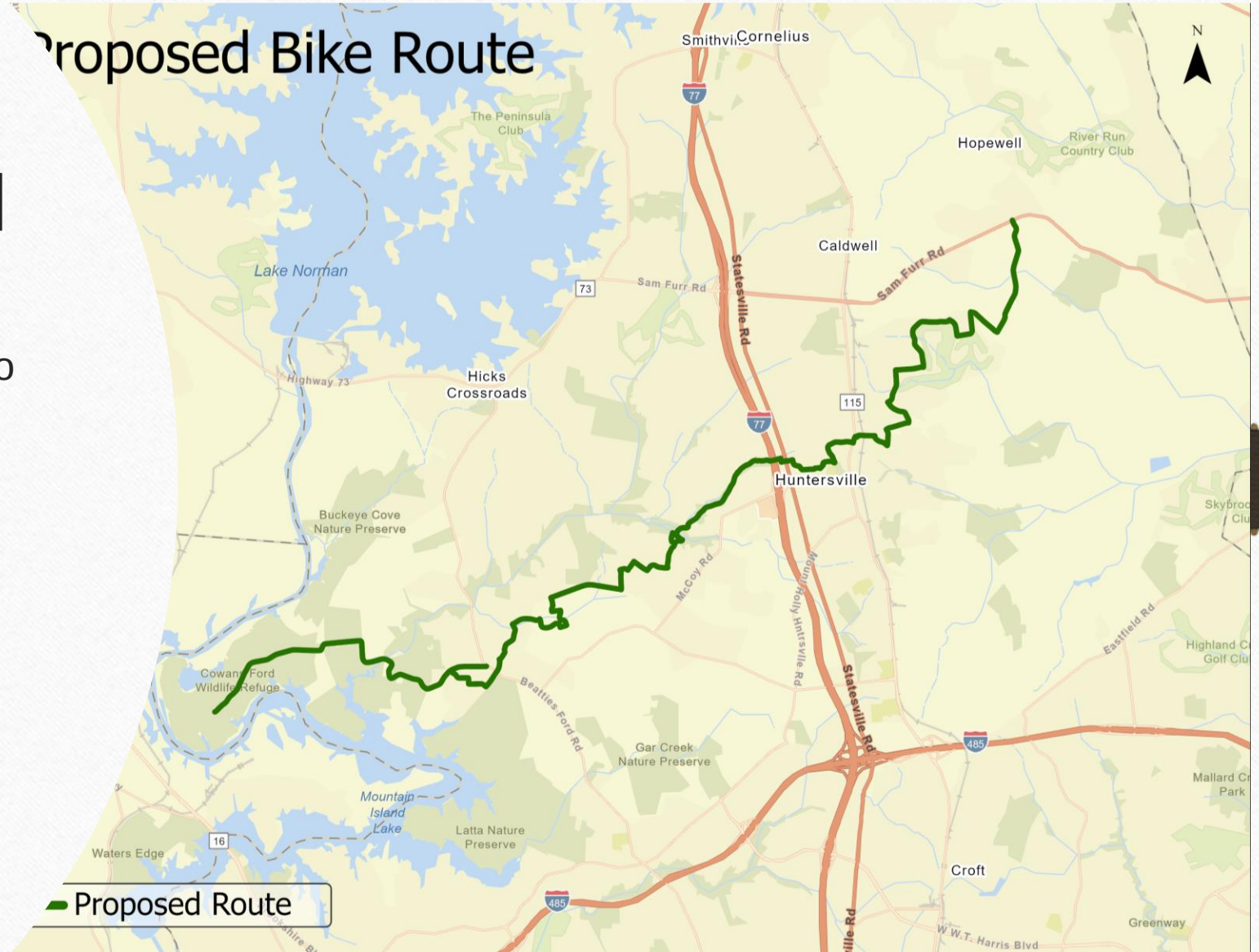
New Bike Blvd in the works

Cowans Ford Wildlife Refuge to
Sam Furr Rd.

- Staff working on cost estimates for signage



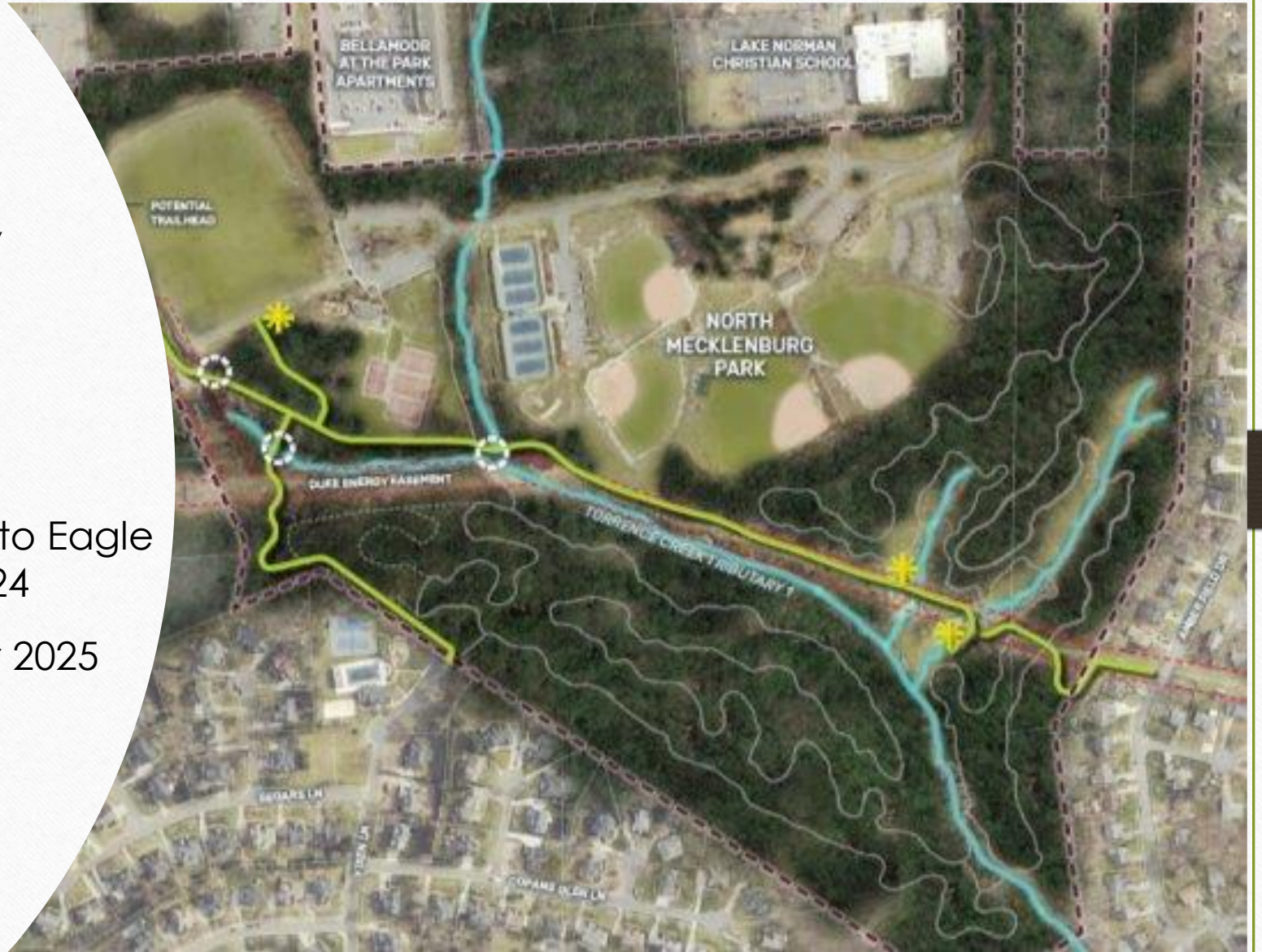
Proposed Bike Route



North Meck Park Greenway

Huntersville Crossing Dr to
Amberfield Dr.

- 100% Plans
- Construction Bid awarded to Eagle Wood Inc. – December 2024
- Construction to start Winter 2025
- Approx. 0.8 miles



The Park – Huntersville Greenway

Existing Torrence Creek Greenway to
Reese Blvd

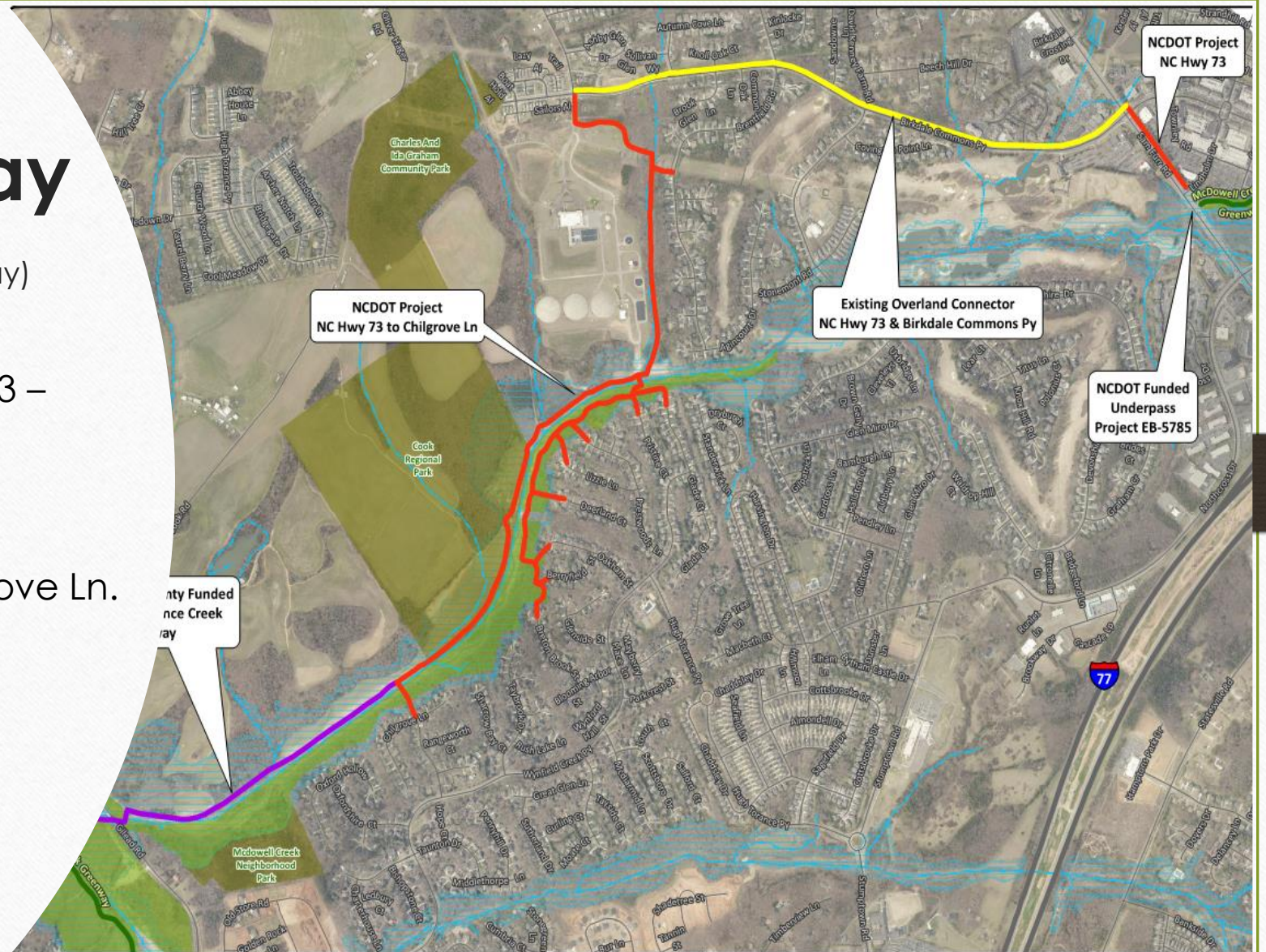
- CRTPO Discretionary Grant Project
- Currently in design
- Current Funding Timeline
 - CE 3/24/25
 - ROW Plan Approved 5/23/25
 - ROW Auth 6/23/25
 - ROW Cert 12/01/25
 - Let 2/2/26
- Approx. 0.6 miles



McDowell Creek Greenway

Mecklenburg County Project
Gilead Rd (Torrence Creek Greenway)
to NC 73 (Sam Furr Rd)

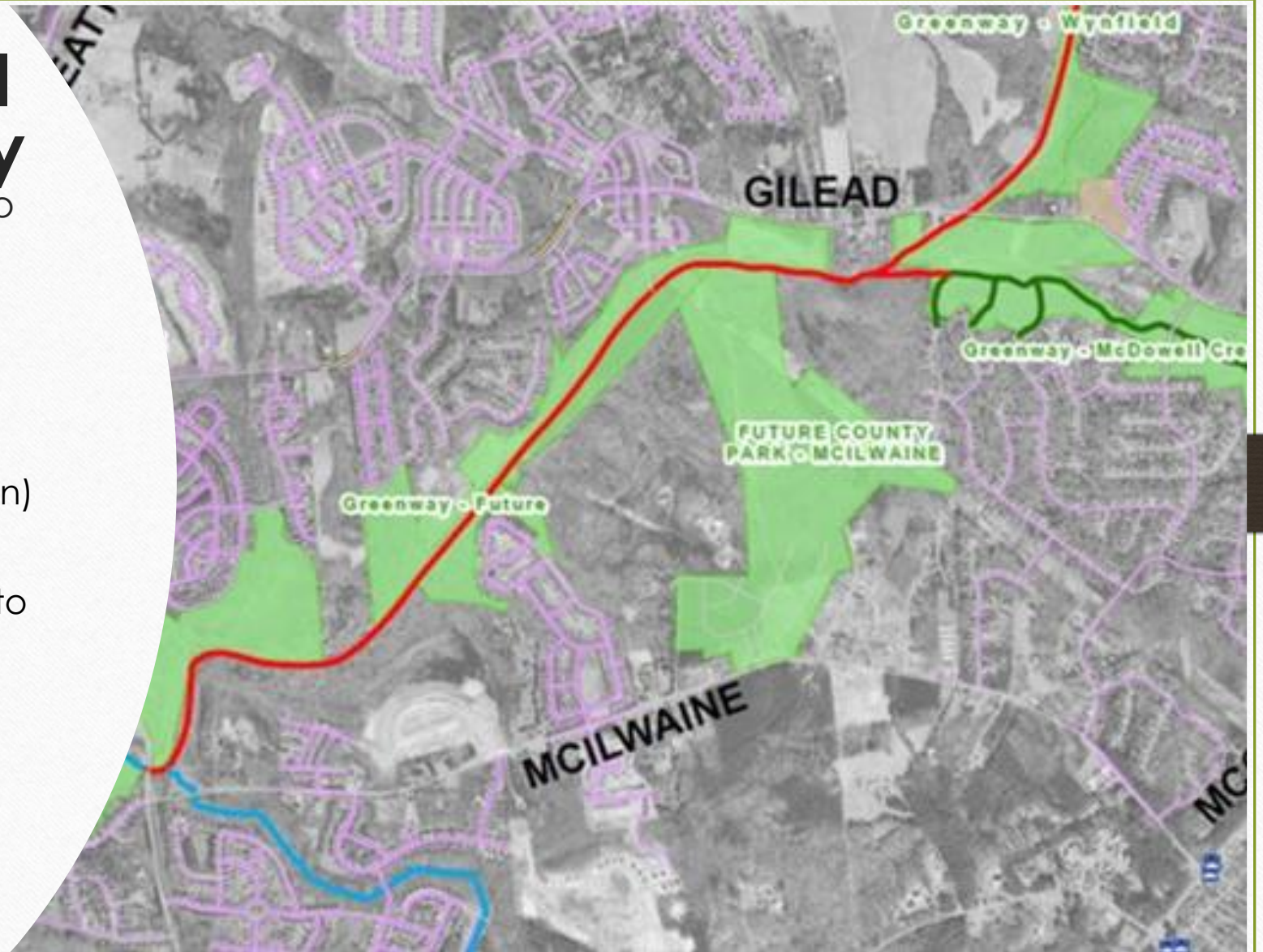
- Phase 2: Chilgrove Ln to NC 73 – Design, Funded by NCDOT
 - NTP January 2025
- Phase 1B: Gilead Rd to Chilgrove Ln. – Under construction
 - Completion Winter 25



Lower McDowell Creek Greenway

Gilead Rd. Parking / trailhead to Beatties Ford Rd.

- Town committed \$1.8 million towards the design of this project
- County will be paying for construction (est. \$14.1 million)
- Currently in design
- Real estate efforts continue to move forward.
- Approx. 1.5 miles



South Prong of Clarke Creek Greenway

N Church St. Southeast to
Asbury Chapel Rd.

- Town committed \$1,500,000 towards the design of this project
- County has committed to funding construction for this project (est. \$10.1 million)
- Currently in design
- Approx. 3.025 miles





What's Next?

Goals for 2025

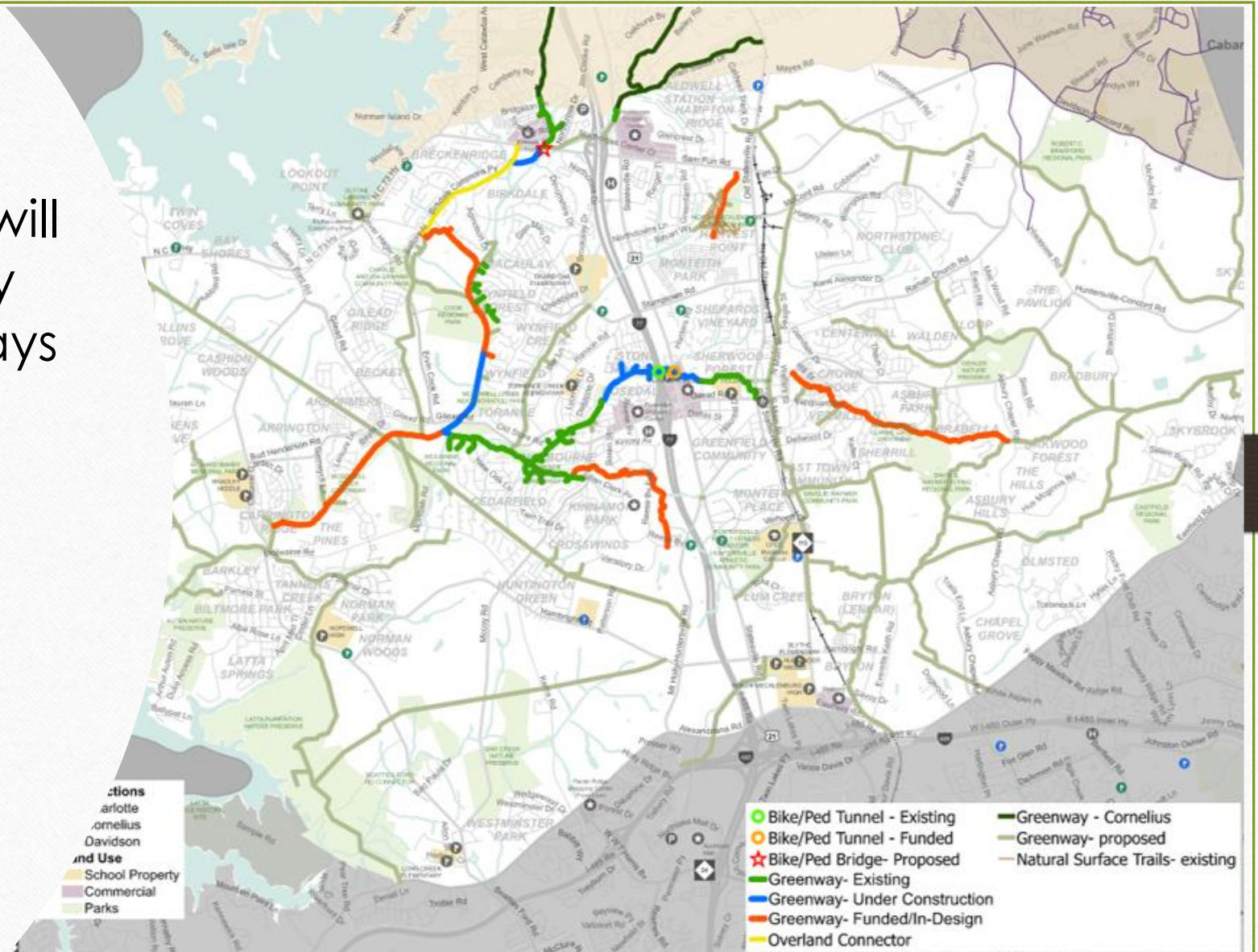


Continue to Focus on Connectivity

- **Our goal is to make Huntersville a connected, walkable, bikeable town by 2030.**
 - **30 x 30 Vision** – Connect 30,000 residents to the greenway by 2030
 - Create a Greenway corridor that CONNECTS Huntersville East to West and also North, creating ‘The Spine of the Vine’
- **Connectivity means non-motorized access to:**
 - Town events, e.g., Wine on The Vine, Farmer’s Market, concerts
 - Town destinations, e.g., Discovery Place, Birkdale Village, Veterans Park, North Meck Park
 - Nearby towns, e.g., Cornelius, Davidson, Mooresville, Charlotte
 - Neighbors to neighbors, townspeople to amenities – creating a CONNECTED Town of Huntersville

The Huntersville Vine will grow approximately 12.3 miles of greenways over the next 5 yrs.

Total of 15+ miles



SPCC/Huntersville-Concord Rd.

