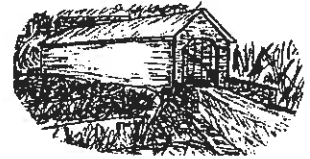


Town of Timberville

392 S. Main Street
Timberville, VA 22853
540-896-7058
Fax 540-896-7055
www.townoftimberville.com



A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION AND CONVERSION OF OUT-OF-SERVICE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A TRAIL FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

WHEREAS 48 miles of the former Manassas Gap Railroad which lie between Riverton Junction, in Warren County, and the Town of Broadway, in Rockingham County, and passing through the Town of Timberville, are in a state of disuse, all freight and passenger service having ceased;

WHEREAS the prospect of restoration of freight or passenger service along the aforementioned section of railroad is very unlikely;

WHEREAS the railroad, in its current state of disuse, is a blight on our community, and a danger to youth who may be tempted to trespass;

WHEREAS the railroad presents an opportunity to create a world-class trail providing bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access to extraordinary landscape views and several important Civil War battlefields;

WHEREAS such trail would catalyze tourism-related economic growth;

WHEREAS such trail would connect eleven communities including two communities in Rockingham County, offering the option of safe alternative transportation within and between these communities to a broad segment of the local population, for commuting to work and school, thereby improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS the trail section in and around Timberville would provide users the opportunity to experience the beauty and serenity of the scenic North Fork of the Shenandoah River;


WHEREAS an organization known as the Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail Exploratory Partnership, whose membership includes representation of each locality through which the trail would pass, has been formed to explore trail feasibility;

WHEREAS the 2020 Virginia General Assembly directed the state Department of Conservation and Recreation to study trail feasibility and deliver a report no later than November 1st, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Timberville endorses the conversion of the aforementioned 48-mile discontinued railroad to a multiuse trail for alternative transportation and recreation;

FURTHERMORE, the Town of Timberville resolves to join with the other trail localities in seeking the support of regional, state, and federal agencies and the railroad's owner, Norfolk Southern Corporation, toward the goal of development of the trail.

Done in and for the Town of Timberville, Virginia this 13th day of May 2021.

By: 
Donald DeLaughter, Mayor

TIMBERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

Attest: 
Melinda Cleaver, Clerk