Buncombe County Board of Commissioners



Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/19/2019

Consent Agenda

Department: Budget **Presenter(s):** Jennifer Barnette

Contact(s): Nate Pennington, Planning Gillian Phillips, Planning Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Subject: Fairfax Avenue, Dykeman, & Young Pisgah Mountain Conservation Easements

Brief Summary:

On September 11, 2019, the Buncombe County Land Conservation Advisory Board (LCAB) recommended approval of three funding requests for the establishments of conservation easements. These include:

1) Fairfax Avenue: \$6,460 in transaction costs for 1 acre located in West Asheville on Fairfax Ave. The easement will be established by Riverlink and will protect a riparian buffer and upland forest on an unnamed stream.

2) Dykeman: \$5,160 in transaction costs for 11.38 acres located on Lynn Cove Rd. The easement will be established by Riverlink and will protect the land surrounding author Wilma Dykeman's childhood home.

3) Young Pisgah Mountain: \$40,000 in transaction costs for 104 acres located on Rocky Cove Rd. in Upper Hominy Creek Valley. The easement will be established by Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC). The property currently contains the Sacred Mountain Sanctuary, a School of Living Arts, which provides education for pre-k through high school. No new county funding is required. These will be funded from already approved conservation easement funding from the FY20 adopted budget.

Funding Source:

Transfer from set aside Future Conservation Easements in prior-approved FY20 Budget

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented