



Transylvania County Bird Club

Brevard NC 28712

Email: tbcchipnotes@gmail.com

Established 1991

October 15, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Transylvania County Bird Club (TCBC) would like to offer our full support to the City of Brevard's Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) grant through the USDOT Federal Highway Administration. Brevard is the Transylvania County seat in rural southwestern North Carolina. The NSFLTP grant is greatly needed and will have a lasting positive impact by facilitating the construction of a new inter-county, Transylvania and Henderson counties, pedestrian/bicycle path, the Ecusta Trail. The health and economic benefits of this project will be significant for our community!

The TCBC is an organization with several hundred members. We conduct free bird walks regularly through-out the year for residents and visitors to educate them on birds and how they can help birds thrive. Representatives from the Carolina Birding Club and Audubon North Carolina also lead county bird walks and host events which generate revenue for the county. Data submitted from these walks is captured and used by scientists and researchers in the fields of ecology and conservation to understand what species live here and how abundant they are. This is how we learn how to better protect a species and the places they live. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could host a walk along the new Ecusta Trail?

We are hopeful that the U.S. Department of Transportation sees the importance and significance of awarding Brevard the NSFLTP grant. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Mary Freudenberg

TCBC President/Audubon North Carolina Ambassador

