

Mr. Danny Woodward, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Sarai Melendez, Councilwoman
Mr. Keith Pace, Councilman
Mr. Tyler Jordan, Councilman

Mr. Danny Edwards, Mayor

Mr. Grant Keehn, Councilman
Mr. David Underwood, Councilman
Mr. Michael Kozlarek, City Attorney
Mr. Timothy B. Burton, City Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WALHALLA UPDATES ON PROPOSED GREENWAY

(Walhalla, SC) April 27, 2022. Planning for the Walhalla Greenway was conceived several years ago as a way to tie downtown Walhalla to Stumphouse Mountain Bike Park/Palmetto Trail. The Greenway was planned to encircle downtown Walhalla along North and South Broad Streets. An application in late 2019 was made to Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for federal funding to begin the first phase of the Walhalla Greenway. Walhalla was notified in August of 2020 that a 50% matching grant was approved for \$500,000 and will be administered by Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG). The initial application proposed that a greenway (Phase 1) be constructed between Coffee Road and South Catherine Street with an estimated cost of \$1.15 million with the city matching \$651,000. The grant matches construction, as the city will be responsible for covering engineering costs.

Goodwyn Mills and Caewood was selected as project engineer in Feb 2021 and began design work for Phase 1. Pursuant to the grant agreement a fund (bank account) was established in June 2021 in order to make payments and receive grant funds as work progresses. An open house was held in October 2021 at Walhalla Depot to unveil the greenway conceptual plans and field comments and questions.

50% plans were submitted to the city late February 2022. A site visit was conducted in April 2022 to look at areas of concern, discuss options, and field verify drafting. The areas of concern were found to be at the Library parking, Agricultural Building parking, Magistrate Court parking, and Bensons Feed and

CITY OF WALHALLA

"MAIN STREET to the MOUNTAINS"

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Seed parking. The engineer was directed to explore options at the three county owned facilities and to hold off on finalizing anything at Bensons until we could meet and come to a solution.

Walhalla is working to meet with Oconee County to discuss the impacts the greenway may have on parking. On Friday, April 22, 2022 Walhalla administrator met with Bensons Feed and Seed to discuss the project and listen to concerns.

Today, Walhalla directed the engineer to re-route the greenway to the road and parcel directly behind Bensons and to terminate at Old St Johns as originally discussed. Additional direction will be given on the other areas after consultation with Oconee County. For more information, including concept and 50% drawings, please visit <https://www.cityofwalhalla.com/current-projects/walhalla-greenway/>

