Exhibit- D

TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK

1036 Main Street • Post Office Box 47 • Blowing Rock, NC 28605

TO: Mayor Lawrence and Members of the Town Council

FROM: Scott Fogleman, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Support for Middle Fork Greenway Grant Application

DATE: January 13, 2015

The Middle Fork Greenway Association (MFGA) is spearheading a project that includes in total a 6.5 mile pedestrian and cycling path that will run from the Town of Blowing Rock to the Town of Boone. It is planned to generally be constructed along the corridor of Highway 321 and the Middle Fork of the South Fork of the New River.

The MFGA has identified a possible grant offered through the North Carolina Clean Water Resources Division of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) to assist with construction of the greenway along the frontage of the property currently being developed for the Chestnut Ridge Post Acute Care Facility. This portion of the greenway is approximately 1,935 feet long. The amount of grant funds being requested is $171,300 and the estimated total project costs are $687,000.

The MFGA has agreed to raise the funds necessary to provide the matching requirement and to do the majority of the detailed work should this grant request be approved by the State. A local government agency is required to sponsor grant requests. This particular section of the greenway runs through the corporate limits of the Town of Blowing Rock along the property owned by Appalachian Regional Healthcare System which is being developed for the Chestnut Ridge Post Acute Care Facility.

The attached grant application documentation includes additional details including maps of the overall greenway and a resolution in support of the grant.

Water Resources Development Grant Resolution for Middle Fork Greenway

WHEREAS, the Town of Blowing Rock desires to sponsor the construction of a section of the Middle Fork Greenway crossing the property owned by Appalachian Regional Healthcare Systems (ARHS); and whereas, this 1,935 foot section of the greenway will follow the river within an easement provided by ARHS, the easement area providing a buffer for filtering water runoff from the hospital development and highway 321; and whereas, the Middle Fork Greenway is a developing 6.5 mile pedestrian/cycling path connecting Blowing Rock and Boone which, in addition to preserving natural areas and stream buffers along the river, will provide safe and accessible avenues for better health and recreation; and whereas, the greenway will enhance the local economy by providing tourists a pedestrian and cycling experience connecting to interesting destinations and attracting businesses that are in keeping with the vision for development of the corridor; and whereas, this particular section is a critical link in connecting the new Post-Acute Care Facility (PACF) site to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Mountains-to-Sea Trail, as well as to the entrance of the Town of Blowing Rock; and whereas, there is a window of opportunity to construct this section of the greenway more cost effectively while construction of the new PACF infrastructure is underway,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1) The Town of Blowing Rock requests the State of North Carolina provide financial assistance to the Town of Blowing Rock in the amount of $171,300 or 50 percent of the construction costs (or non-federal portion), whichever is the lesser amount;

2) The Town of Blowing Rock assumes full obligation for payment of the balance of the construction costs (or non-federal portion);

3) The Town of Blowing Rock will obtain all necessary State and Federal permits;

4) The Town of Blowing Rock will comply with all applicable laws governing the award of contracts and the expenditure of public funds by local governments;

5) The Town of Blowing Rock will supervise construction of the project to assure compliance with permit conditions and to assure safe and proper construction according to approved plans and specifications;

6) The Town of Blowing Rock will obtain suitable spoil disposal areas as needed and all other easements or rights-of-way that may be necessary for the construction and operation of the project without cost or obligation to the State;

7) The Town of Blowing Rock will assure that the project is open for use by the public on an equal basis with no restrictions;

8) The Town of Blowing Rock will hold the State harmless from any damages that may result from the construction, operation and maintenance of the project;

9) The Town of Blowing Rock accepts responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Adopted by the Blowing Rock Town Council this 13th day of January, 2015.

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Clerk to the Council Mayor