

RAIL-TRAIL PROGRAM - PROJECT CRITERIA EVALUATION

Project Location		
	Point x Weight=Range	Rating
1. Site Demographic		
A. Urban	(0-1) _____ (1x)	
B. Rural Non-Distressed	(0-3) _____ (2x)	
C. Rural Distressed	(0-5) _____ (3x)	
2. Abandonment Status and Legal Retrievability		
A. STB Rail Service Abandonment Anticipated		
1. National Trails System Act railbanking and/or Public Use Condition under 4R Act	(0-15) _____ (2x)	
B. NC DOT Railbanking		
1. Fee Simple Absolute Purchase (immediate local leasing)	(0-15) _____ (2x)	
2. ROW Charter, Easement or Determinable (steel in place; AG opinion needed) (steel removed; statutory amendment needed)	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
C. Fee Simple Abandonment (Railroad or Privately Owned)		
1. Received Deeded Gift	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
2. Recreational Easement	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
3. Recreational Leasing	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
4. Deeded Purchase	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
D. Charter, Easement or Determinable Abandoned		
1. Reopen and Reverse ICC Abandonment (steel still in place; NTSA Section 8(d))	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
2. Less than 7 Years Since Steel Removal (state abandonment presumption not ripened)	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
E. Trail with Operational Rail		
1. Fee Simple Corridor	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
2. ROW Charter, Easement or Determinable	(0-5) _____ (2x)	
3. Physical Retrievability		
A. Bridges and Tressles Intact	(0-3) _____ (1x)	
B. No Structural Obstructions	(0-3) _____ (1x)	
C. No Conflicting Encroachments	(0-3) _____ (1x)	
D. Useable Roadbed	(0-3) _____ (1x)	

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4. Community Criteria		
A. Identifiable Local Project Leadership	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
B. Supportive Local User Groups	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
C. Non-governmental Community Leadership	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
1. Civic Groups		
2. Church Groups		
3. Local Conservancy or Land Trust		
4. Other		
D. Local Government Receptivity (elected officials)	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
E. Local Agency(s) Receptivity	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
1. Parks and Recreation		
2. Planning Commission		
3. Development Commission		
4. Other		
F. Local Business Receptivity	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
1. Chamber of Commerce		
2. Economic Development		
3. Travel and Tourism Program		
4. Other		
G. Corporate Resident(s) Receptivity	(0-3)_____ (2x)	
5. Site Marketability		
A. Proximity to User Markets	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
B. Location, Appeal and Accessibility	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
C. Accessibility to Markets	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
D. Connectivity to Attractions and Facilities	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
E. Corridor Length	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
F. Unusual Features	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
(long bridge, tunnel, terrain, historic site, depot, etc)	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
6. Funding		
A. State		
1. Department of Transportation	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. Board of Transportation Discretionary		
b. Rail Division		
c. Bicycle/Pedestrian Program		
d. Transportation Enhancement		

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6. Funding – A. State cont'd		
2. Department of Commerce	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. Community Assistance		
b. Economic Development		
c. Travel and Tourism		
3. Department of ENR	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. State Parks and Trails		
b. Environmental Protection		
4. Department of HHS	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. Public Health Programs		
5. Wildlife Commission	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. Habitat Protection		
6. Department of Cultural Resources	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
a. Historic Preservation		
B. Local Government	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Recreation Funds or Bonds		
2. General Funds		
3. Utility Funds		
4. Economic Development Funds		
C. Local Private Sector	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Chamber of Commerce		
2. Community Campaigns		
3. Foundation Grants		
4. Major Donations		
D. Federal Programs	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Corps of Engineers		
2. Land, Water Conservation		
3. National Park/Forest Service		
7. Development and Operation Costs		
A. Bridge/tressel useability	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
B. Roadbed condition/suitability	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
C. Number of grade crossings	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
D. Access and Facilities	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
E. Management, Maintenance and Security	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
F. Marketing Costs	(0-3)_____ (1x)	

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8. Benefits		
A. Economic	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Tourism		
2. Small Business Opportunities		
3. Infrastructure Improvements (utilities, transportation, communications, etc)		
B. Community Quality of Life Enhancement	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Beautification, open spaces		
2. Recreation Facilities		
3. Education Programs		
C. Environmental Sustainability	(0-3)_____ (1x)	
1. Flood Control		
2. Land Use Buffer/Boundary		
3. Wild Life Habitat/Migration		
9. Serendipity	(0-3)_____ (? x)	

TOTAL EVALUATION_____

Evaluation Performed By:_____ Date:_____

NOTES:

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