



Carolina Thread Trail Grant Awards Pass \$1 Million Mark

August 2, 2010

Charlotte, NC – The Carolina Thread Trail Governing Board has awarded \$60,000 to Lancaster County, pushing community grant awards for trail development over \$1 million. Planning and implementation grants awarded by the Carolina Thread Trail (The Thread) provide catalytic funding to support communities in the 15-county region as they develop trails for their citizens to use and enjoy.

The planning grant awarded to Lancaster County will support the county and its municipalities as they create a county-wide greenway master plan. Local leadership will oversee an inclusive community engagement process to identify routes for the county's trail network. Lancaster's master plan will ultimately connect with the larger Carolina Thread Trail regional system.

"This is a monumental moment for the Carolina Thread Trail," said Michael Mabry, member of the Governing Board and Grants Committee Chair. "The Thread funding model is built on our ability to leverage private funding to attract public capital, which would not be possible without private capital donations. These catalytic grants give our communities critical financial support as they plan and implement trail systems."

Since the project's launch in November of 2007, The Thread has awarded the following in catalytic grant support to local communities:

Awards to Date

- \$651,523 in planning grants to twelve counties for the development of their master plans
- \$352,684 in implementation grants to two counties to support segment design, land acquisition or trail construction
- \$1,004,207 awarded to local communities to advance The Thread

Additional Awards to be Announced in September, 2010

Seven counties have completed master plans, making them eligible for implementation grants in this year's cycle. Eighteen projects have been submitted and are currently under review by The Thread's Grants Committee. The Governing Board will announce the 2010 grant awards in September.

For more information on Carolina Thread Trail grant opportunities, visit www.carolinathreadtrail.org or call 704-376-2556.

<http://www.lincolntribune.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=18741>