

STANDING OUT:

Weaving Art into the Fabric of your Trail

May Barger, Moderator: Creative Placement and Public Art Consultant

Dabney Sanders: Project Manager, Downtown Greenway, Greensboro, NC

Shane Prisby: Trails Program Director, Foothills Conservancy of NC

Michael Applegate: Director, Gaston County Tourism Development

**What is the purpose of public art,
specifically along a trail?**



Public Art connects people to place.

**It often becomes the signature
symbol of a particular place, giving it
the “WOW” factor!**

One of Thomas Dambo's Trolls



Public Art

- *Encourages conversation, inspiration and thought*
- *Intersects the past, present and future*
- *Changes opinions, instills values and translates experiences*

Public Art impacts:

- *Economic development*
- *Education quality*
- *Community morale, unity, and pride*
- *Culture*



Flourish by Bree Stallings, Gastonia

Public Art is most effective when:

- *it is planned with intention.*
- *the community is involved.*
- *and there is government support.*

“Public Art makes people feel
like something
positive is happening,
like something
is awakening.”

Hugh McColl

The Fonta Flora State Trail

STANDING OUT: WEAVING ART INTO THE FABRIC OF YOUR TRAIL



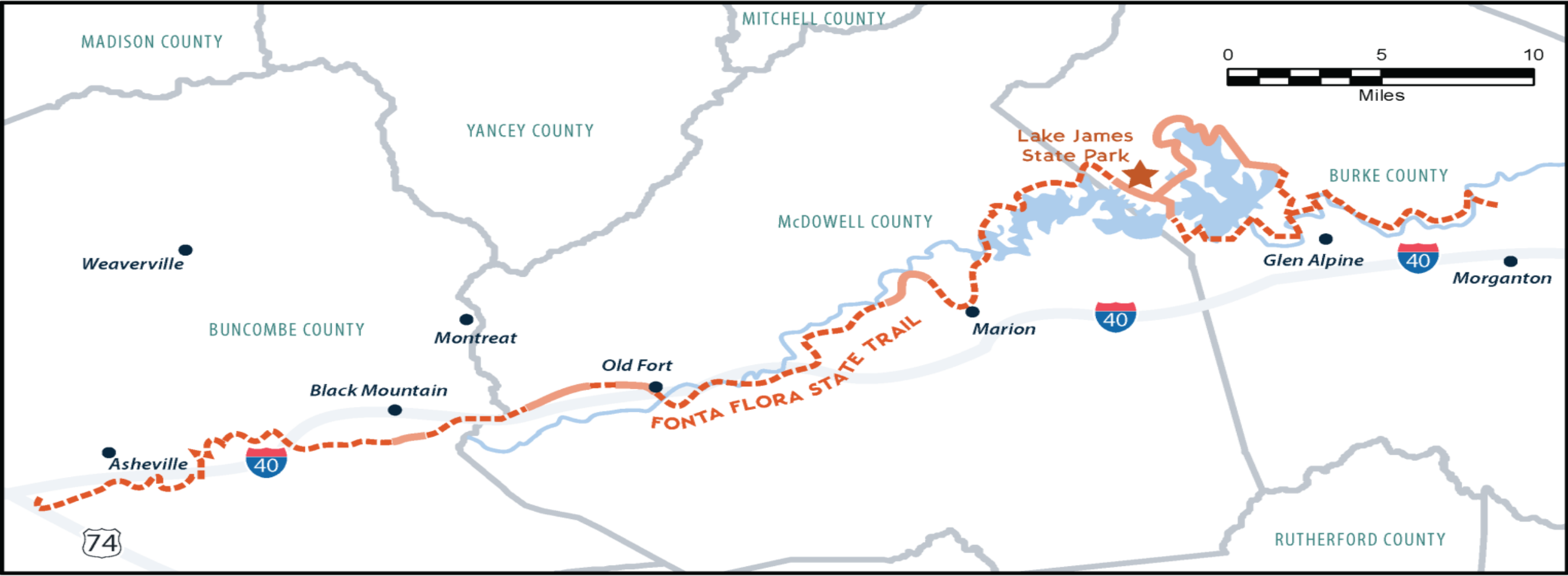
**FOOTHILLS
CONSERVANCY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE 12-5-23 THREAD TRAIL FORUM



FONTA FLORA STATE TRAIL



LEGEND

 Existing Trail

 Planned Trail

 County Line

 City

 State Park

 Water





So, who are you anyway?

- ***SHANE PRISBY***
- ***TRAILS PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR
FOOTHILLS CONSERVANCY OF NORTH
CAROLINA***
- ***I HAVE 13 YEARS EXPERIENCE OF
MANAGING AND DEVELOPING TRAIL
PROJECTS IN VERMONT AND NORTH
CAROLINA***



PLANNING SECTIONS:

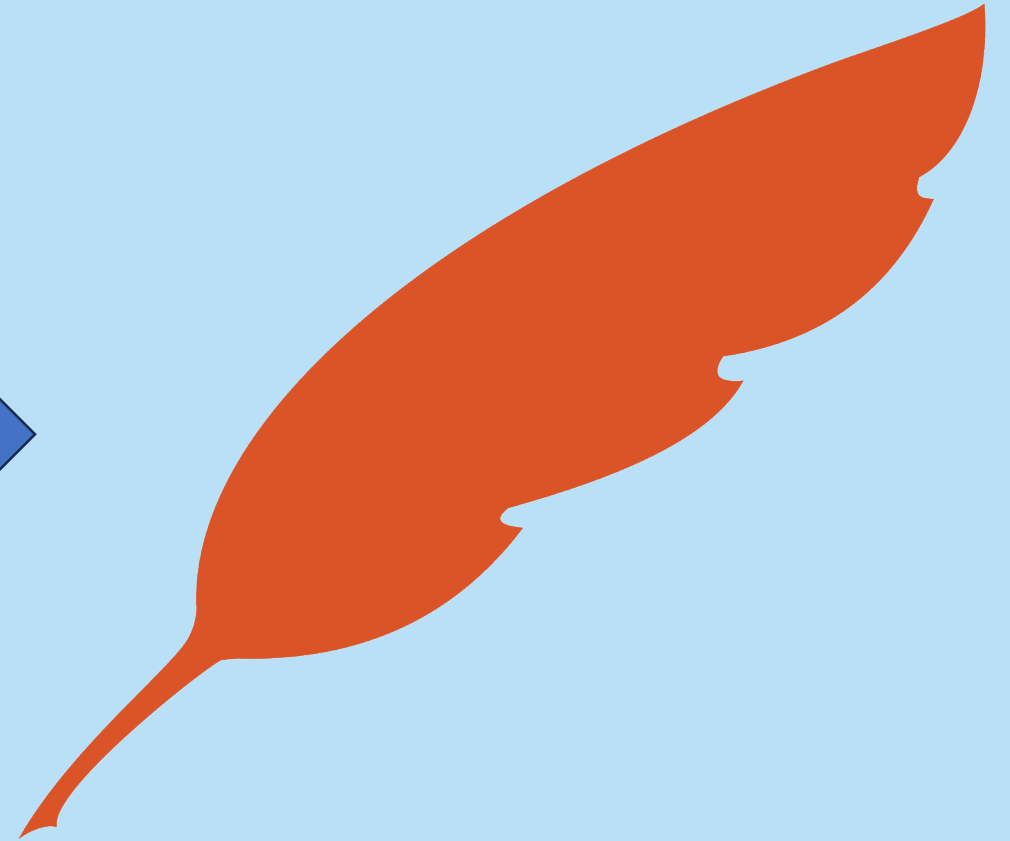
The 29 mile study area forms a loop around the eastern half of Lake James and consists of six (6) planning sections. The geographic extent of each section includes a beginning and ending terminus that features a key asset or significant connectivity point for the trail. Many of the planning sections represent project areas that can be developed independently over time, providing a logical method for implementation as funding and other opportunities arise.

The planning sections include:

- 1 FONTA FLORA COUNTY PARK >> LAKE JAMES STATE PARK
- 2 LAKE JAMES STATE PARK
- 3 CANAL BRIDGE >> BENFIELDS LANDING
- 4 BENFIELDS LANDING >> N. POWERHOUSE
- 5 N. POWERHOUSE >> HARRIS WHISNANT
- 6 HARRIS WHISNANT >> COUNTY PARK



THE 29 MILE STUDY AREA FORMS A LOOP AROUND THE EASTERN HALF OF LAKE JAMES AND CONSISTS OF SIX (6) PLANNING SECTIONS; THIS CHAPTER IS ORGANIZED ACCORDINGLY.



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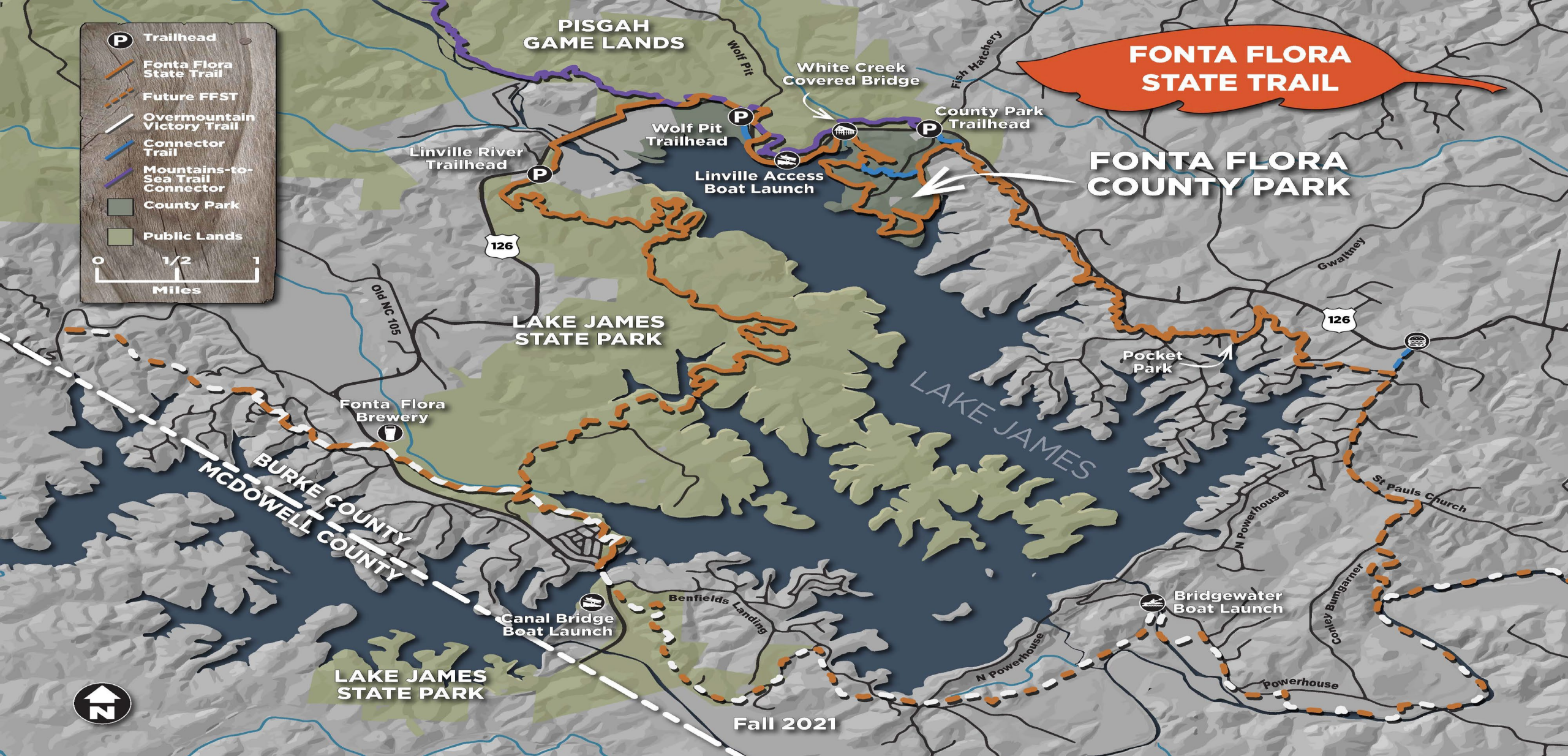


FONTA FLORA STATE TRAIL











A photograph of a park featuring a winding concrete path, colorful playground equipment with vertical poles in shades of green, yellow, orange, and blue, and a dense bed of pink grasses. In the background, there are large green trees and a tall utility pole with many power lines. The scene is captured in bright daylight.

**PUBLIC ART
TELLING COMMUNITY STORIES IN
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

**PROJECT MANAGER, DABNEY SANDERS
DECEMBER 5, 2023
CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL TRAILS FORUM**









































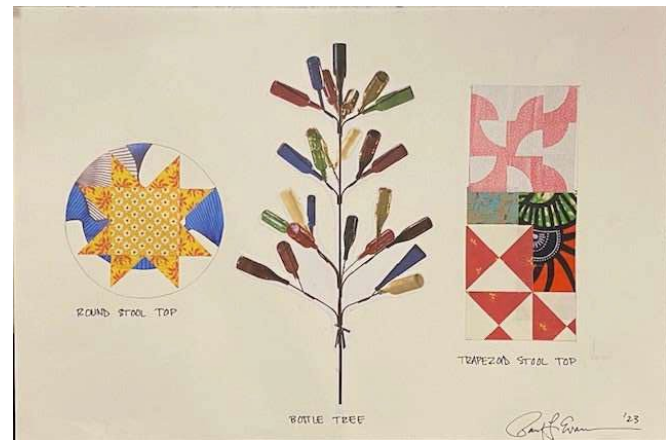
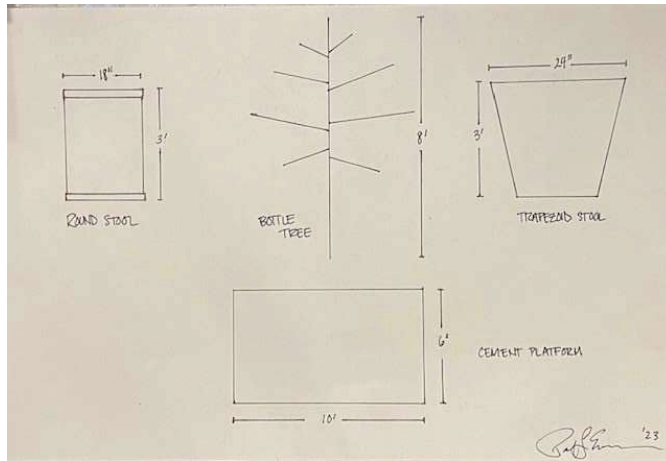


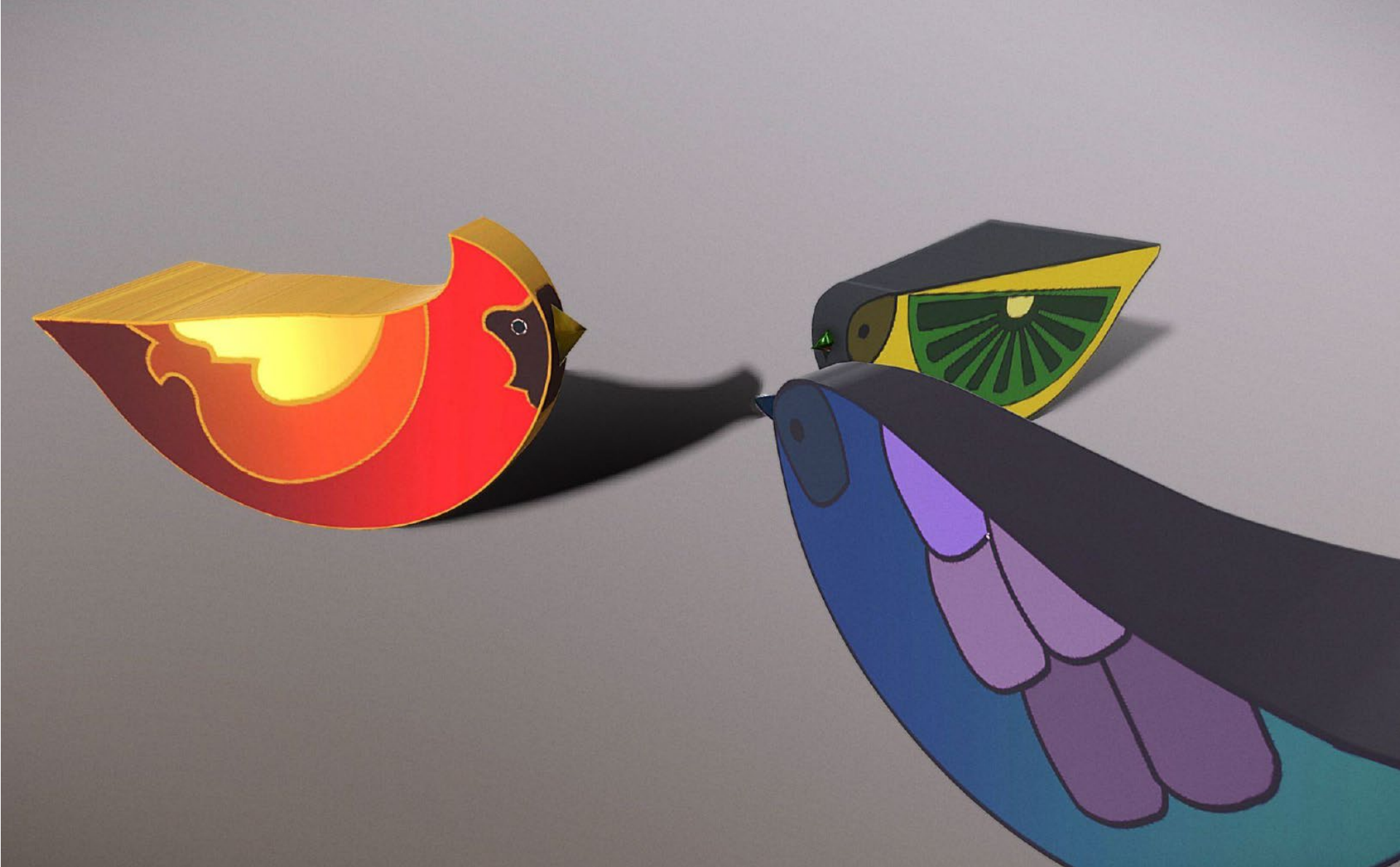




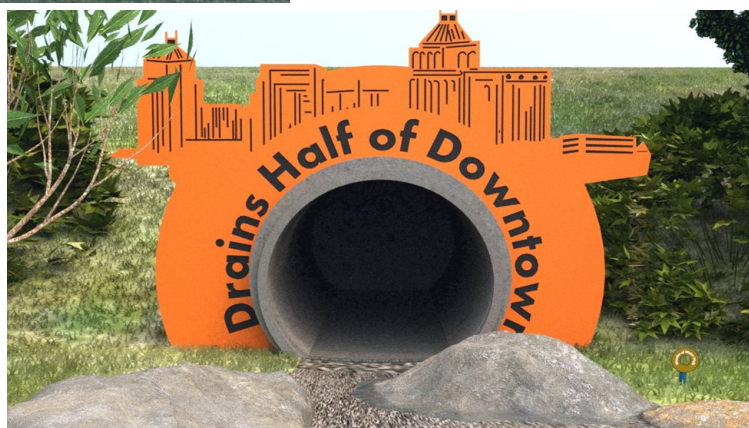
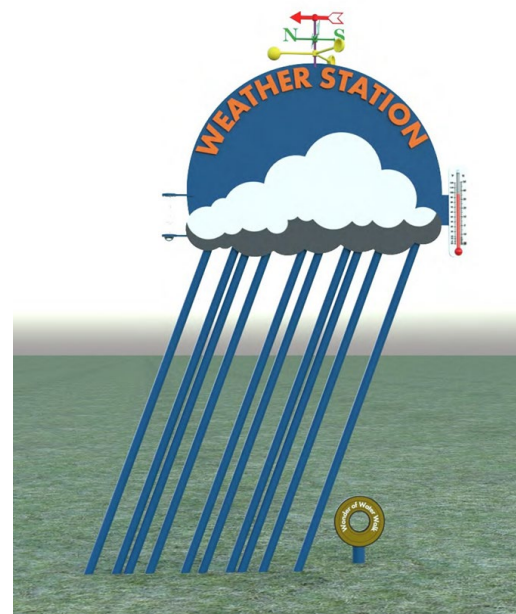
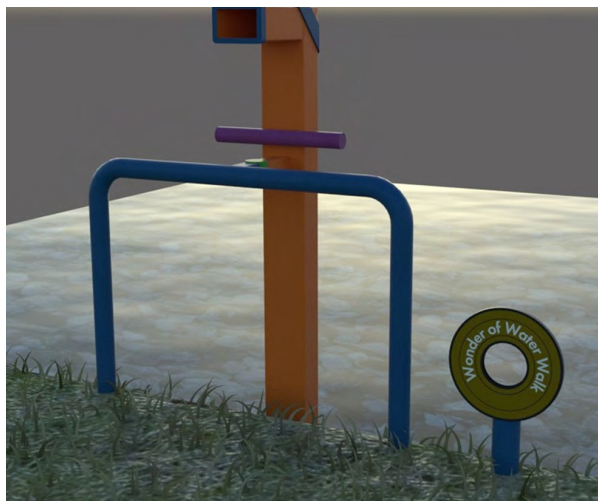
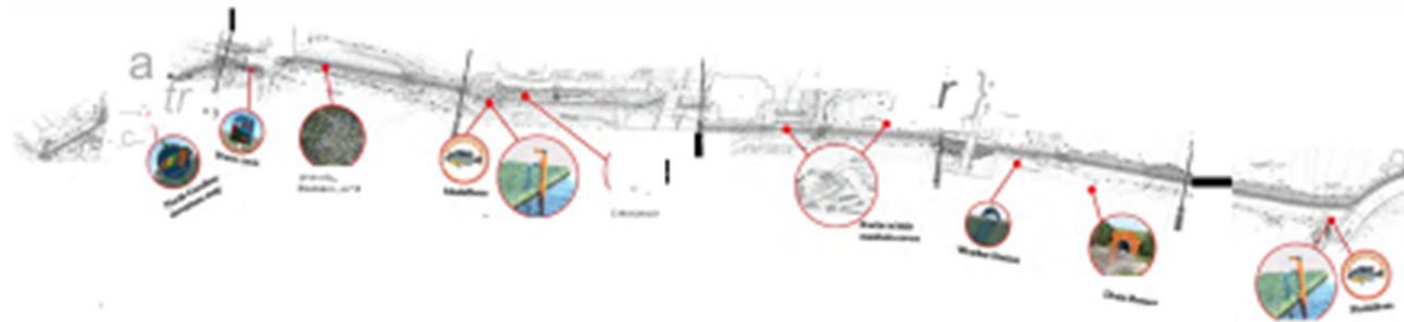




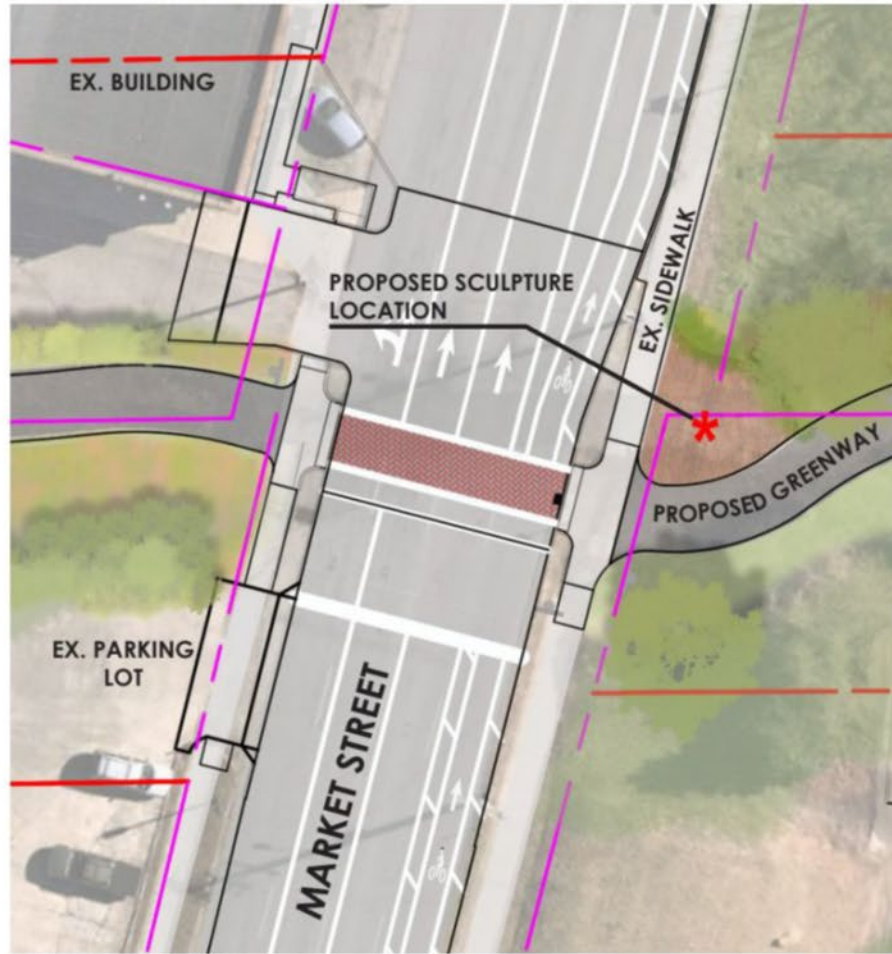








A&Y GREENWAY PHASE 4 | PROPOSED CONDITIONS



PLAN VIEW | NOT TO SCALE



PERSPECTIVE VIEW SOUTHEAST





Standing Out – Weaving art into the fabric of your trail




Michael Applegate CDME, Director
Gaston County Tourism Development


Contents


- I. Existing public art on the Carolina Thread Trail in Gaston County
- II. Planned public art locations on the Carolina Thread Trail in Gaston County
- III. Recent Gaston County Tourism Development public art acquisitions


I. Existing public art on the Carolina Thread Trail in Gaston County

Tuckaseege Park, Mount Holly

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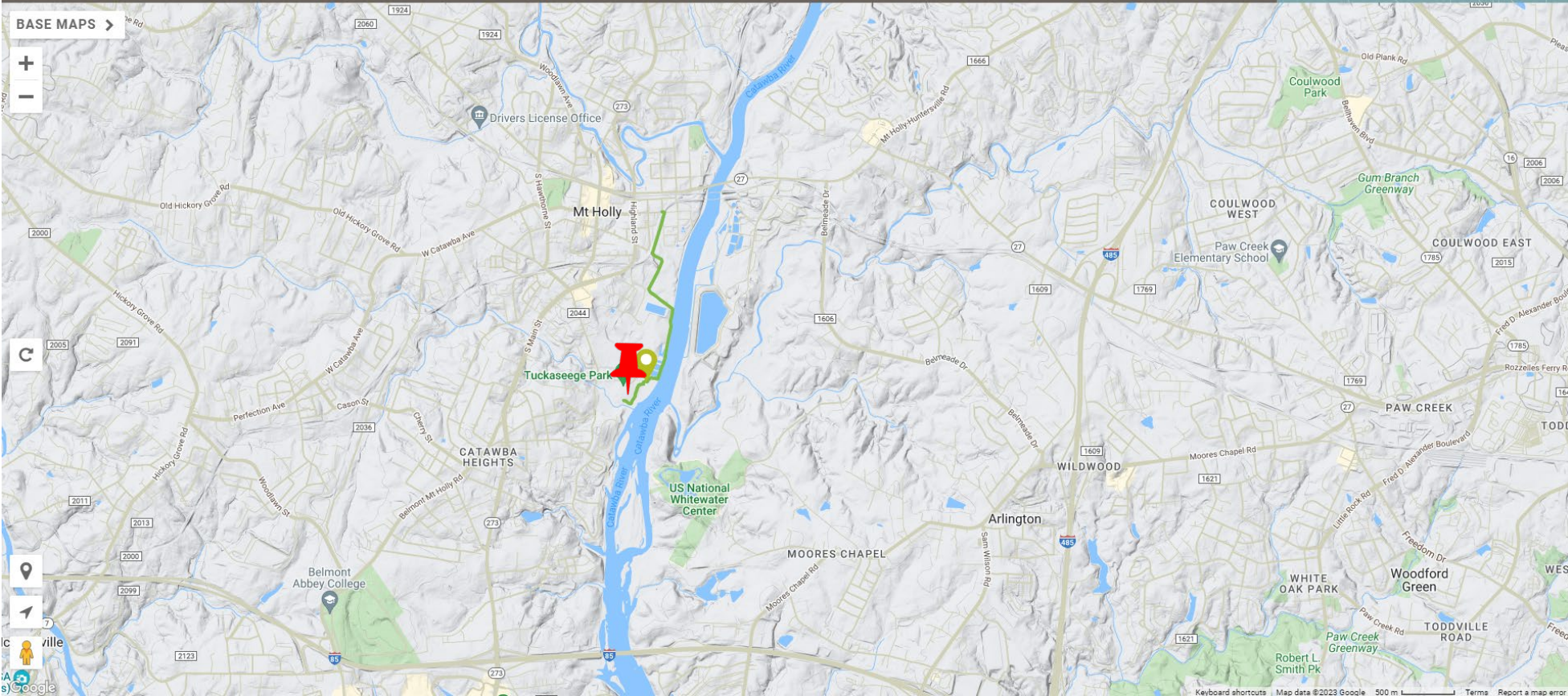
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Tuckaseege Park, Mount Holly

A&E Riverfront Trail




“Spirit of the River”


Emily Andress


A nearly six-foot steel sculpture symbolic of the history of the area and Native American tribes who inhabited it. Native American representations reminded the artist of Mount Holly as it is today.




Lineberger Park, Gastonia

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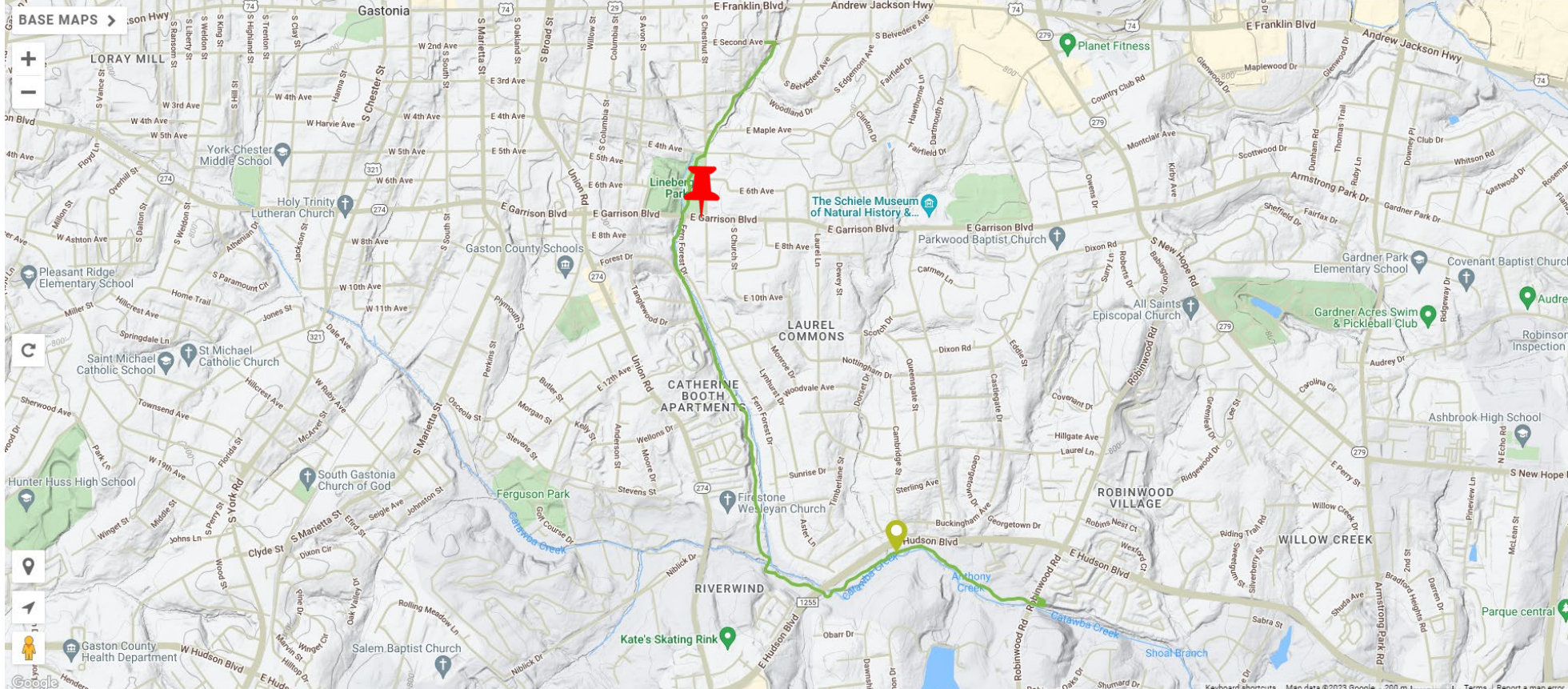
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 **CAROLINA**
THREAD TRAIL


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Lineberger Park, Gastonia

Avon-Catawba Creeks Greenway

“Ghillie Dhu’s Enchantment Spirit Tree”
Harry McDaniel

A brushed aluminum kinetic sculpture. The movement is completely wind-induced. At full extension, the sculpture stands 20-feet tall.



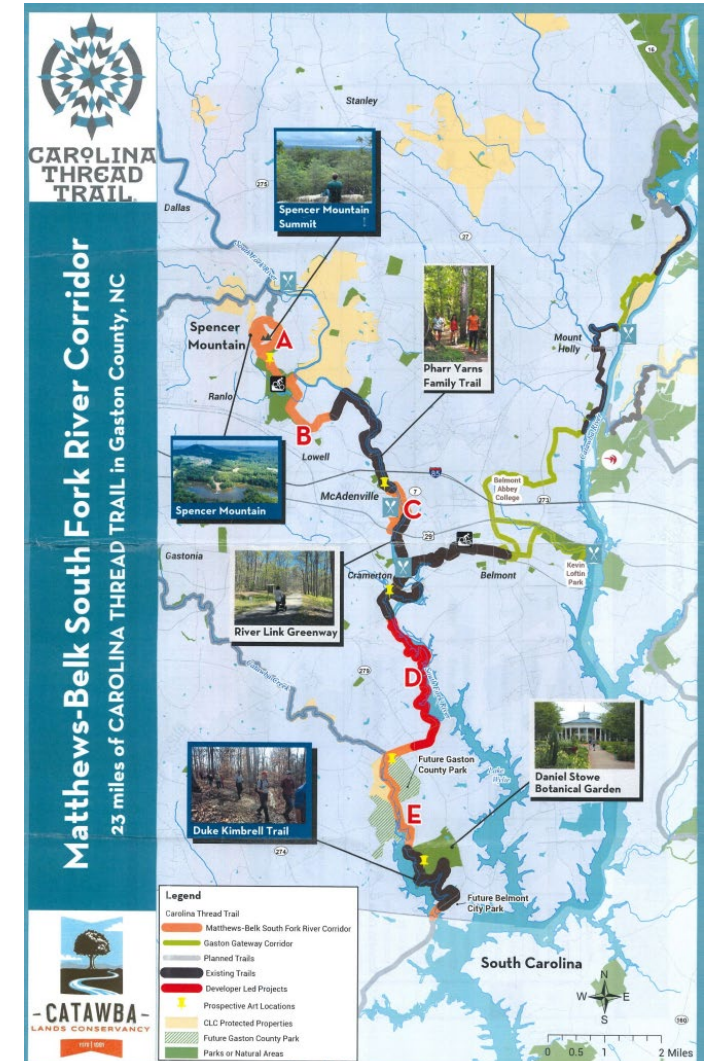
II. Planned public art locations on the Carolina Thread Trail in Gaston County

Matthews-Belk South Fork River Corridor




25-mile trail connecting Spencer Mountain to Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden.


5 locations identified for “iconic” public art pieces:


- ✦ Spencer Mountain, Lowell
- ✦ Pharr Yarns Family Trail, McAdenville
- ✦ River Side Greenway, Cramerton
- ✦ Future County Park, Belmont
- ✦ Duke Kimbrell Trail, Belmont




River Side Greenway, Cramerton

 HOME

 LOGIN

 **CAROLINA**
THREAD TRAIL

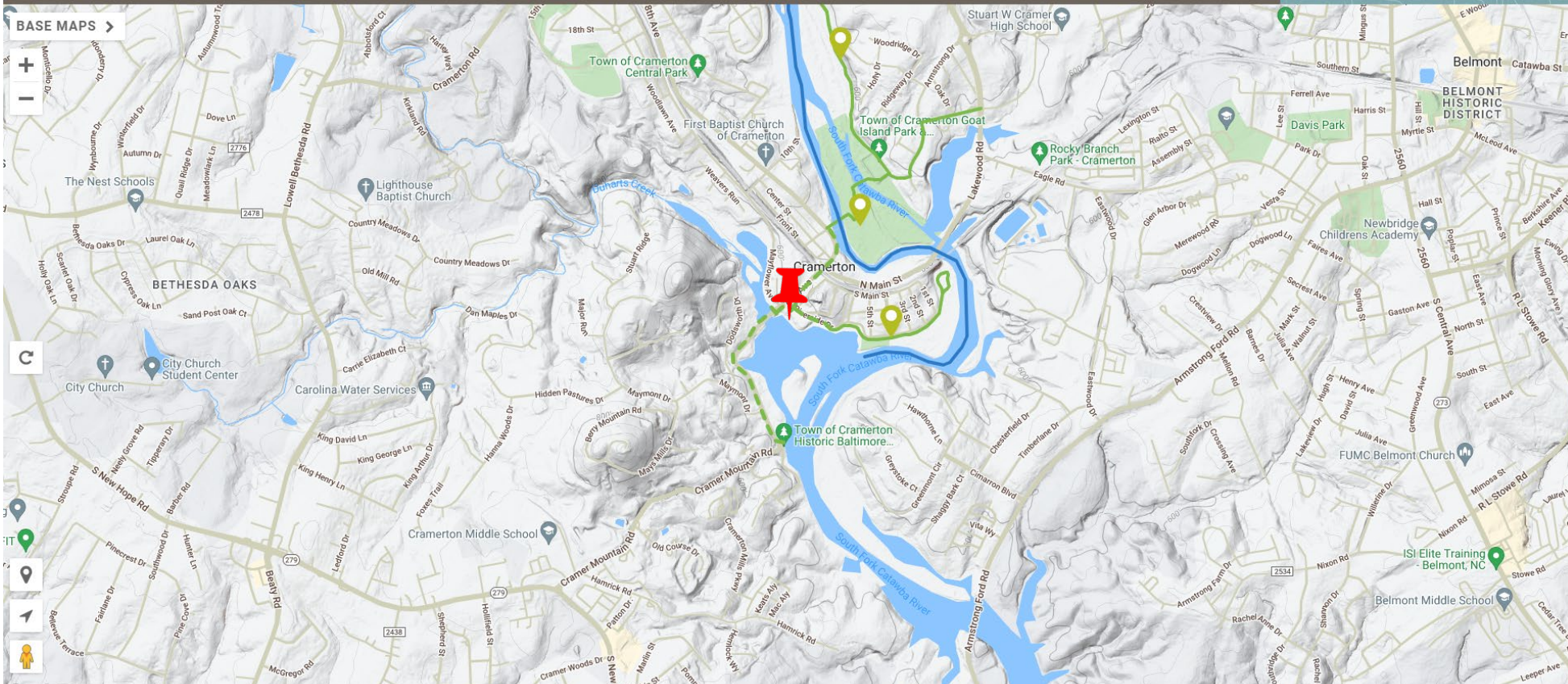
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23 TRAILS FOUND

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River Side Greenway, Cramerton

River Side Greenway, Cramerton

“HELIX/R”

John Rietta

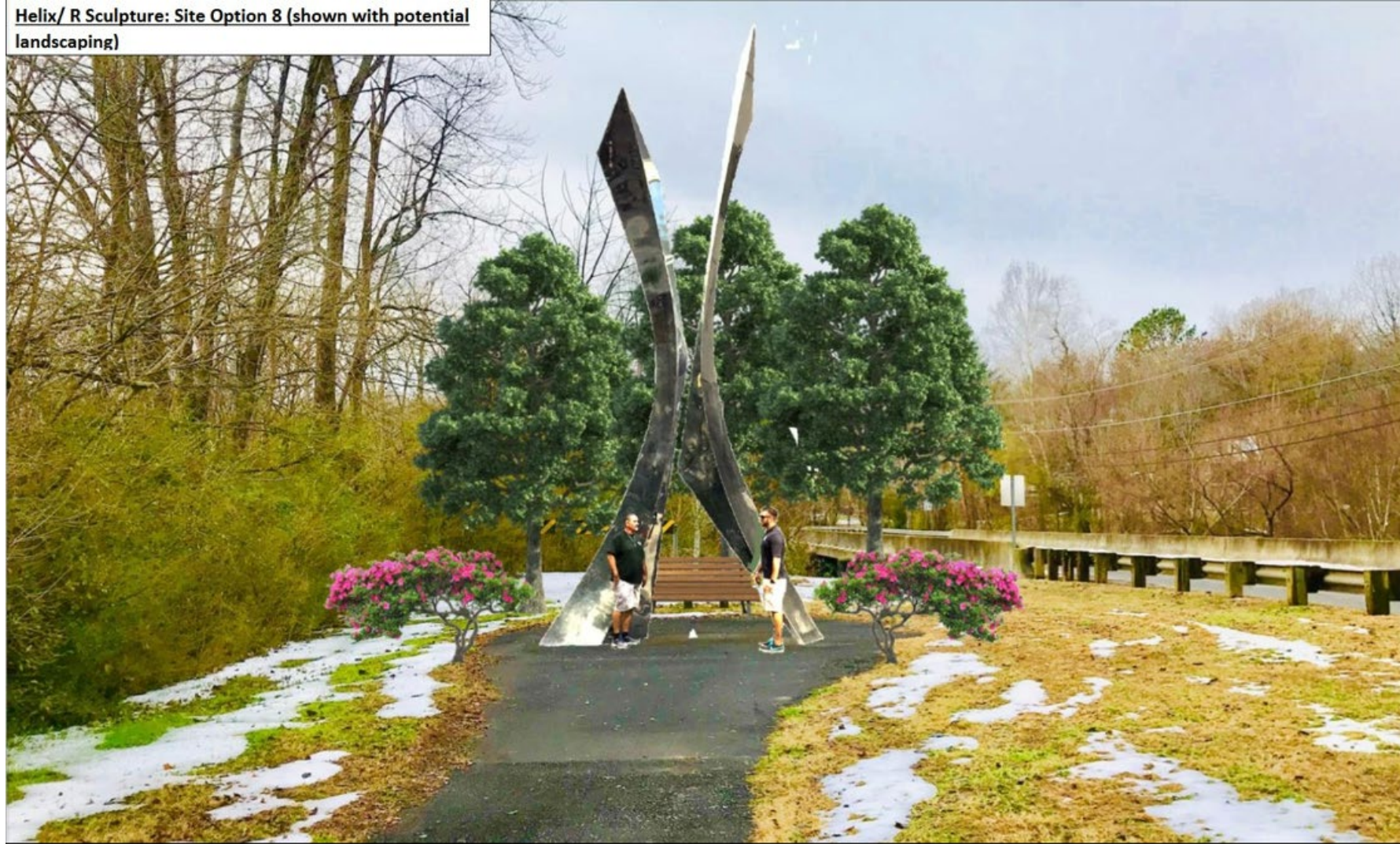
The abstract sculpture is polished stainless steel the stands about 20 x 6 x 3 feet . Two separate concave columns of steel set in concrete on granite stone plaza.

Acquired by the Town of Cramerton in 2018



River Side Greenway, Cramerton

Helix/ R Sculpture: Site Option 8 (shown with potential landscaping)



III. Recent Gaston County Tourism Development public art acquisitions

“Spot”

“Spot”

Elizabeth Laul Healey

These are "Watch Dogs" because they all contain at least one watch, which is the artist's signature mark. “Spot” is the first “bigger than life” version, standing 8-feet tall with a 5-foot x 6-foot base.



Prototypical “Watch Dog”

“Lloyd”

Elizabeth Laul Healey

Pacific Design Center in
Hollywood, CA



“Iconostars” Mosaic Sculptures

Iconostars represent strong, beautiful, badass women. They are made with the artist's signature "Circles of Life" motif representing loved ones, animals, and our precious Mother Earth.



Iconostar “Silhouette Series”

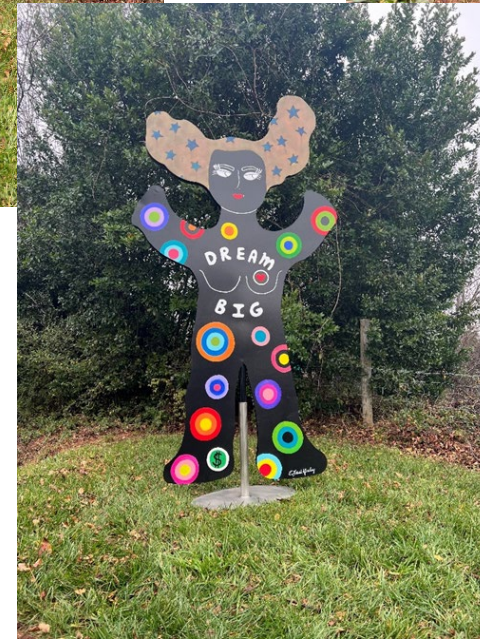
Currently on Display at Gaston
County Museum of Art & History

“Gloria” and “Fire Goddess”

“Sugar” and “Athena”

Elizabeth Laul Healey

7-foot tall, two-sided stainless
steel on a rotating base



“Come Together” for Mount Holly

“Come Together”
Elizabeth Laul Healey

Iconostar Silhouette Series

A high school student, Lilyan Helms, won an art contest to paint the silver side.



Gaston County Tourism Development's Mission:

Optimizing Gaston County's brand experiences to drive visitation and partner economic growth.

Thank You!

Questions?

