



**EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY**

FY 2025 BUILD GRANT APPLICATION

HENDERSONVILLE, NC ABOVE THE MUD

Promoting Small-Town Economic Development
Creating Safe Connections • Strengthening Flood Resiliency



ABOVE THE MUD HENDERSONVILLE, NC

LEGEND

- Above the Mud Greenway
- - - 7th Ave Streetscape Improvements
- - - Festival Street (South Main St.)
- - - Oklawaha Greenway Resiliency Upgrades
- Existing Streetscape Improvements
- Oklawaha Greenway
- Ecusta Trail
- - - Proposed Saluda Grade Rail Trail
- - - Other Proposed Greenways
- - - NCDOT Projects
- Future Streetscape Improvements

- Buildings
- Water Bodies
- Wetlands
- ▨ 100-Year Floodplain
- Parks, Open Space, & Conserved Land
- +— Railroad
- Hendersonville Municipal Boundaries
- Downtown Hendersonville

COMPONENT 2
7th Ave. Streetscape
Improvements

Funded sidewalk
improvements

COMPONENT 4
Oklawaha Greenway
Resiliency Upgrades

Future streetscape
improvements

**DOWNTOWN
HENDERSONVILLE**

COMPONENT 1
'Above the Mud'
Trail

COMPONENT 3
Festival Street

City match: Existing cycle track,
improved ADA + sidewalks

Roundabout/trail
crossing improvements
NCDOT U-6049

Sidewalk improvements
NCDOT EB-5963

NCDOT U-5886



PROJECT SUMMARY

The City of Hendersonville is seeking a federal BUILD grant for the Above the Mud project. This project will provide multimodal infrastructure that will spur small-town economic development, jobs, and tourism while rebuilding a trail segment damaged by recurring flooding and Hurricane Helene. The project will extend the 19-mile regional Ecusta Trail that is expected to generate significant rural economic impact, bringing residents and tourists safely into Downtown Hendersonville. It will also reconnect to working class neighborhoods, improving safety and access.

This project focuses on creating a loop of multimodal transportation access, ultimately connecting three major developing regional trail systems. The infrastructure effort will make Hendersonville a hub and beacon of tourism and economic activity. The project will reconnect historic neighborhoods, build new connections, improve existing greenway impacted by recent flooding, and rebuild an aging three-block stretch of South Main Street, near the Ecusta Trail, as a regional activity hub and Festival Street that directly connects Downtown Hendersonville with the regional trail network.

Components of this project include:



Project Location
Hendersonville, NC



Project Length
2 miles of improvements
Including improved safety, increased accessibility, multi-use paths, sidewalks, streetscape improvements, pedestrian-friendly streets, and strengthened flood resiliency.



Estimated Completion Date
2029



COMPONENT 1

'Above the Mud' Trail

A .97-mile separated shared use pathway for bicyclists and pedestrians through natural areas, connecting the Oklawaha Greenway to the regional Ecusta Trail, future Saluda Grade Trail, and downtown Hendersonville.



COMPONENT 2

7th Avenue Streetscape Improvements

A safe and walkable .41-mile connection between northeastern neighborhoods and downtown with improved sidewalks, lighting, green infrastructure, pedestrian amenities, and ADA compliance.



COMPONENT 3

Festival Street

A .27-mile pedestrian-focused street and flexible event space catalyzing economic development for businesses, with limited automobile access, connecting downtown to three regional trails.



COMPONENT 4

Oklawaha Greenway Resiliency Upgrades

A .33-mile elevated boardwalk, retrofitting the current trail to be a safer and stormwater resilient trail connection for pedestrians and bicyclists along the Oklawaha Greenway.

To learn more, visit the project website:

www.hvlnc.gov/AboveTheMud

FUNDING SNAPSHOT

Project Cost:	\$25,536,000
Local Match:	\$1,600,000
BUILD Funding Request:	\$23,936,000

7TH AVE. STREETSCAPE

Downtown Hendersonville
Photo courtesy of NCTripping.com



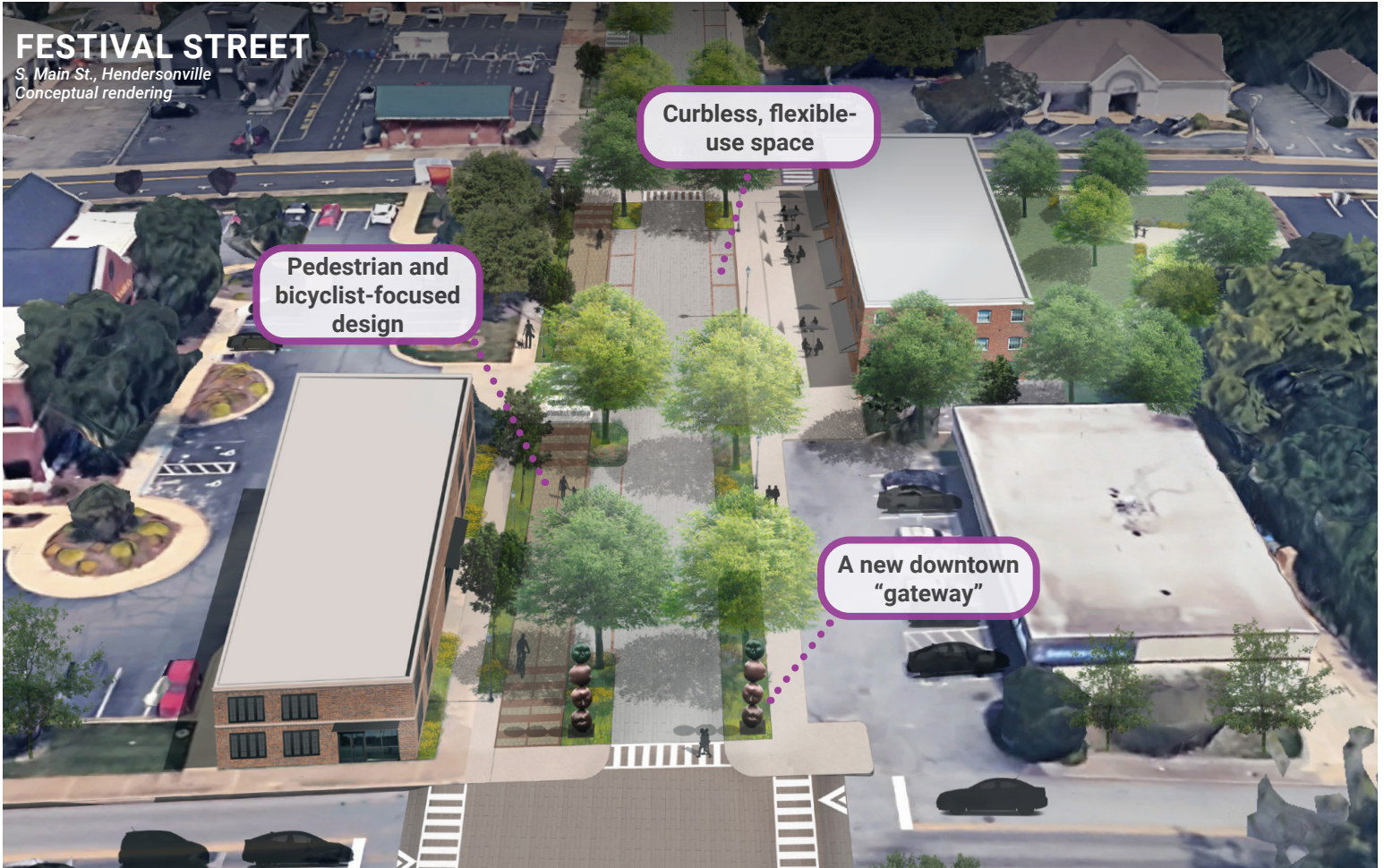
ABOVE THE MUD TRAIL & OKLAWAHA BOARDWALK

Northwest Arkansas Razorback Regional Greenway
Photo courtesy of Experience Fayetteville



FESTIVAL STREET

S. Main St., Hendersonville
Conceptual rendering



Curbless, flexible-use space

Pedestrian and bicyclist-focused design

A new downtown "gateway"

Led by:



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In partnership with:

