



**Resolution
Board of Supervisors
County of Columbia
New York**

RESOLUTION NO.: 186-2016

DATE: April 13, 2016

BY SUPERVISOR 
COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CHAIRMAN: JOHN REILLY

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HARLEM VALLEY RAIL TRAIL
ASSOCIATION TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT GENERATING ECONOMIC
RECOVERY GRANT APPLICATION.**

UPON, recommendation of the Economic Development Committee, at a meeting held on the 13th day of April, 2016;

WHEREAS, Columbia County has been asked to support the application of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, partnering with Dutchess County, for an approximate eight million dollar TIGER Grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery), and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the grant is to secure additional funding for the 8 mile trail connection between the Village of Millerton and Under Mountain Road in the Town of Ancram. In addition, grant funds will be used for the tunnel crossing of State Route 22 at the intersection of State Route 22 and Orphan Farm Rd (Copake Falls) and 3 pedestrian bridges to connect to the trail at Black Grocery Rd in Copake. The northern terminus of this section will be Anthony St. ext, at the base of Herrington's Parking lot in Hillsdale, which will be built later in 2016, and

WHEREAS, if the grant is successful, Columbia County will look to work with agencies such as Dutchess County, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association in the ongoing development of the trail system. This project could join two counties, NY State Parks, two Regional Economic Development Councils and a not for profit in a project which will become a destination for thousands of people from near and afar, and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant will connect Columbia and Dutchess Counties and will complete the integral section to finish approximately 28 miles of trail from Wassaic to Hillsdale, linking to New York City via Metro North Railroad. Upon completion the entire trail will be 46 miles in length with the end northern terminus in the Village of Chatham, and

WHEREAS, past trail user counts have shown the 4 mile section of trail in the Taconic State Park had 65,000 users a year. Since the count, another section of trail has been added increasing user ship. The Taconic State Park hosts between 200,000 and 300,000 visitors a year. Providing safe off road passage to Hillsdale will exponentially increase trail usage and will bring visitors into Hillsdale and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors supports the application of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, with Dutchess County, for an approximately eight million dollar TIGER Grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery), and

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Columbia County Attorney, the Columbia County Treasurer, Columbia County Economic Development Corporation, and the Columbia County Planning Commissioner.

Approved:


County Attorney

Resolution
Committee





STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA } ss:

This is to certify that I, undersigned Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Columbia, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original minutes therefore, now remaining on file of record in my office, and that the same is true and correct transcript there from and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, I have hereunto set me hand
and affixed the seal of said Board of Supervisors this 14th
day of April 2016.


Kelly S. Baccaro, Clerk