

From: Brent Jackson
To: daisy@columbusnc.com
Subject: Fwd: Saluda Grade Trail Public Meetings - October 17 and 19
Date: Monday, February 26, 2024 10:05:36 AM
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kristin Cozza** <kristine@conservingcarolina.org>
Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2023, 12:14 PM
Subject: Saluda Grade Trail Public Meetings - October 17 and 19
To:
Cc: Kieran Roe <kieran@conservingcarolina.org>, Laura Ringo <lringo@palspartanburg.org>, Andrea Cooper <acooper@upstateforever.org>, Glenn Hilliard <glenn@hilliardgrp.com>, Rose Jenkins Lane <rose@conservingcarolina.org>, Rebekah Robinson <rebekah@conservingcarolina.org>

Hello Saluda Grade Trail Stakeholders and Partners,

A feasibility study is currently underway for converting the historic Saluda Grade rail line into a 31-mile greenway trail extending from Inman, South Carolina to Zirconia, North Carolina. This study includes a community engagement component. I want to make you aware of two community engagement sessions scheduled for next month (details listed below) that are open to anyone in the community to share their ideas and concerns about the project. I hope you will attend one of these meetings and will also share the information about these sessions with your constituents and members. If you have any questions about [the public meetings](#) or the Saluda Grade Trail project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,



Kristin Cozza *(she,her,hers)*

Trails and Greenways Coordinator

Conserving Carolina

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When and Where

SC Public Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 17 5:30-7:30 PM (drop-in)
Inman Library 50 Mill Street Inman, SC 29349

NC Public Meeting

Polk County High School 1681 NC-108 Columbus, NC 28722
Thursday, Oct. 19 5:30-7:30 PM (drop-in)

Please RSVP so that we can plan this event and communicate with you about any changes or updates. Your RSVP info will only be used to communicate with you about these meetings.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

Background on the Saluda Grade Trail

The Saluda Grade Trail is a proposed 31-mile rail trail that would follow the route of the historic Saluda Grade rail line. Along the way, it would run through Campobello, Inman, Landrum, Tryon, Saluda, and Zirconia. It would be a linear park where people of all ages can walk, run, bike, and play. The trail would be accessible to people of all abilities. In addition to recreation, it would improve transportation options, so people can get around safely without driving. The Saluda Grade Trail is being spearheaded by a coalition of nonprofits in NC and SC — [Conserving Carolina](#); [PAL: Play, Advocate, Live Well](#); and [Upstate Forever](#).

We see potential for the Saluda Grade as both a destination rail trail and a treasured asset for local communities. We believe that the trail could grow our local economies, expand opportunities for outdoor recreation, and improve people's health. Now we want to know what you think.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAIL](#)

Share Your Vision

At the public meetings, we'd love to learn more about your vision for the trail. For example:

- In ten years who will be using the trail and how will they be using it?
- In ten years, how has the trail changed your community?
- How has the development of the trail helped to preserve rural character?

Study and Upcoming Survey

The proposed Saluda Grade Trail is still in very early stages and there are still a lot of questions to explore. The Saluda Grade Trail coalition has engaged the firm [Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.](#) to conduct an economic impact and feasibility study, which began this summer. As part of this study, we are seeking public input about the proposed trail.

After the public meetings, there will also be an online survey. To make sure you get the survey and future updates about the trail, sign up for the Saluda Grade Trail email list (if you are not already.)

[SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES HERE](#)

Join Us on Oct. 17 or 19

We hope to see you at the public meetings! Please RSVP to let us know you are coming.

[RSVP HERE](#)

