

Resolution Offered to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

October 2, 2018

Whereas the health, education and wellbeing of our residents are of primary concern, the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners recognizes that educating children and adults to the benefits of clean water, forested land and protection of our natural resources advances all of these concerns,

Whereas Mountain Island is the water source for Mecklenburg and much of the surrounding area is protected land,

Whereas Mountain Island Educational State Forest consists of 2,000 acres leased to the North Carolina Forest Service where an environmental education center is currently funded to more than \$4,000,000 by the North Carolina Legislature,

Whereas the construction so funded will open this area to visitors, facilitate public awareness of our water source, wildlife, and forest land and be managed and maintained by the North Carolina Forest Service,

Whereas partners endorsing this project include the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the North Carolina Forest Service, Gaston and Lincoln counties, Gastonia, Charlotte City Council, the Carolina Land and Lakes Resource Development and Conservation Council, the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the North Carolina Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation and the Mecklenburg County Soil and Water Conservation District,

Therefore be it resolved that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners join with partners and its residents to endorse the proposed educational enhancement of the Mountain Island Education State Forest and its opening to the public.