

JACKSON COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE

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MEMO

To: Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Cc: Don Adams, County Manager
From: Michael Poston, Planning Director
Date: February 24, 2022

RE: Resolution of Support the partial abandonment of SR 1537

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is requesting, Mr. Brian McMahan (applicant), to abandon approximately .08 miles of SR 1537, locally known as Willetts Road. Willetts Road is located off Skyland Drive in the Balsam/Willetts community. The portion of the road that is being considered for abandonment is the terminus point of the road just past the intersection of Dark Ridge Road. G.S. 136-63 states that Board of Commissioners, on their own motion or on a petition of a group of citizens, request the Board of Transportation to change or abandon any road in the secondary system when the best interest of the people of the County will be served. Chris Lee, NCDOT District 2 Engineer, has investigated the request and has found the request to be reasonable (attached). The applicant owns the property on both sides of this section of Willetts Road and is the only property owner that is required to sign the petition.

Staff finds the request to be in the best interest of the public as the abandonment of the last .08 miles of Willetts Road will not affect the ingress or egress of any adjacent properties and could improve public safety in the area. Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners consider approval of the attached Resolution supporting the abandonment of .08 miles of right-of-way for SR 1537 (Willetts Road) from the Secondary Road System.