

JACKSON COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE

401 Grindstaff Cove Road
Suite A-258
Sylva, N.C. 28779



Michael Poston
Planning Director
michaelposton@jacksonnc.org
Phone: (828) 631-2255

MEMO

To: Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Cc: Don Adams, County Manager
From: Michael Poston, Planning Director
Date: July 9, 2020

RE: Resolution of Support the Relocation of Dr. Killian Road

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is requesting, in conjunction with Western Carolina University (applicant), to relocate 1350 feet of the maintained right-of-way for SR 1331, locally known as Dr. Killian Road. Dr. Killian Road is located off Blackhawk Road in the Cullowhee community. 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 provided a summary of the request along with the petitions to abandon the existing right-of-way and add the new right-of-way alignment to NCDOT's Secondary Road System (attached).

The road provides access to the Briar Patch Road subdivision and property owned by Western Carolina University, including the location of the new Millennial Campus Apartments. The new road alignment was included in the concept subdivision plan approved by the Planning Board during the subdivision review process. The relocation of 1350 feet of the right-of-way of Dr. Killian Road does not negatively impact the access to Briar Patch Road or to the additional property owned by Western Carolina University. No property owners will be deprived of access, ingress, or egress to their property if the Board supports this request.

The relocation of the 1350 feet of right-of-way requires that the existing right-of-way be abandoned and the new right-of-way accepted. The request before the Board of Commissioners is that they consider adopting a resolution to abandon 1350 feet of the existing right-of-way of Dr. Killian Road and add the new road alignment to the NCDOT Secondary Road System.

Staff finds the request to be in the best interest of the public as the relocation of Dr. Killian Road provides Western Carolina University with greater land development opportunities and continues to serve all existing

property owners that rely on it to access their property. Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners consider approval of the attached Resolution supporting the abandonment of 1350 feet of the existing right-of-way for SR 1331 (Dr. Killian Road) and add the new alignment to the Secondary Road System.