

**Carrboro Greenways Commission  
Minutes  
January 12, 2022**

**Members Present**

\*Alyson West  
\*Mahin Manley  
\*Meredith Morovati  
\*Jeff Summerlin-Long

\*Indicates voting member

**Absent**

\*Satya Kallepalli

**Staff Present**

Tina Moon -- Carrboro Planning  
Ben Berolzheimer – Carrboro Planning

Randee Haven-O'Donnell – Town Council Member

I. **Call to Order:** Summerlin-Long, called the meeting to order at 6:35PM.

II. **Carrboro Connects – Review of Carrboro Connects Public Hearing Draft**

Staff introduced the item and reviewed the summary sheet that outlined the changes in the Carrboro Connects document from the preliminary draft plan to the public hearing draft.

Greenways Commission members discussed the document and noted the following:

- There's not a lot about greenways in the plan.
- The sections on greenways are a bit spread out in the different chapters, which makes it seem dilute, it's hard to see the total vision.
- Greenways should be defined at first mention in the main document not just in the appendix.
- The most extensive discussion of greenways seems to be part of Strategy 2.5 in the Recreation and Parks section.
- The plan should include/develop a comprehensive vision for greenways, a map with a connected trail network, and more specific language relating to greenways and short connections.
- Should there be a separate map that just shows greenways, existing and proposed greenways, or should greenways be added to other maps in the plan such as the ones on pages 139 and 146?
- The map on page 77 would be more readable with more contrast, and the Chapel Hill information should be omitted.
- Explore opportunities for trail oriented development—developments around greenways, including mixed-use developments with ADA access to greenways.
- When drafting changes to the land use section consider the first/last mile with regard to destinations and transit/multimodal options.
- Plan for future greenways/trails routes and identify/acquire land for easements in advance, and explore opportunities for collaboration with utilities.

After discussion, the following language was agreed upon.

The Greenways Commission supports a safe and connected off-road biking, walking, and multi-use path network for everyone in Carrboro. As such, initiatives will be found in the Town of Carrboro's Comprehensive Plan throughout, and especially in the areas of Affordable Housing; Climate Action & Environment; Transportation & Mobility; Recreating, Parks, & Culture; and Land Use.

Motion was made by West and seconded by Manley that the Greenways Commission of the Town of Carrboro recommends that the Town Council adopt *Carrboro Connects*, as the comprehensive plan for the Town of Carrboro.

**VOTE:**

AYES: (4) Manley, Morovati, Summerlin-Long, West

NOES: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: (1) Kallepalli

The Greenways Commission supports the following changes:

- The addition of language regarding the role of Greenways in connecting affordable housing to public transit, land use, and in zoning decisions.
- Reserving land for future Greenways when identifying opportunities and priorities in zoning and land use processes.
- Adding Greenways to the maps on pages 77 and 139 and indicate the differences between planned and future Greenways and existing path and trails. In addition, exploring an opportunity to add them to the map on page 146.
- Cutting the last sentence in strategy 2.5a “Throughout the engagement process, there was a common vision for a comprehensive greenway system with connected paths and greenways to facilitate car-free access to parks and natural areas in the Carrboro area.” And place it in the main paragraph under strategy 2.5.
- Clarify and provide more context on the Sidebar feature regarding moving forward with the planning process for the Bolin Creek Greenway.
- Insert the Greenways Commission under implementation 2.5a as a body that can help set priorities and provide feedback. Ensure the Greenways Commission’s role is clear and noted in appropriate similar areas in the implementation sections.
- Consider adding a definition of a Greenway at either first mention, or under all appropriate sections when Greenways are mentioned. Suggest that design of the document be taken into account for best practice.

Associated Findings

By a unanimous show of hands, the Greenways Commission membership indicated that no members have any financial interests that would pose a conflict of interest to the adoption of *Carrboro Connects*.

Furthermore, the Greenways Commission of the Town of Carrboro finds the adoption of the proposed document, *Carrboro Connects* is reasonable and in the public interest because of the Town’s deliberate commitment to developing plans and policies through extensive engagement and public input.

**VOTE:**

AYES: (4) Manley, Morovati, Summerlin-Long, West

NOES: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: (1) Kallepalli

**III. Adjourn** - Morovati made a motion to adjourn the meeting; West seconded the meeting. Ayes – all. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm. The next meeting will be on March 14, 2022.