

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH CAROLINA
MOUNTAINS TO SEA TRAIL ALTERNATIVE ROUTE LINKS IN ORANGE COUNTY
Resolution No. 132/2009-10**

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro is committed to providing diverse and excellent recreational opportunities for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro has participated in intergovernmental planning for recreation and parks with Orange County, Hillsborough, and Chapel Hill for some time; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina plans for a Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) that will traverse the state; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Parks Work Group (IPWG) has reviewed the proposed route of the MST through Orange County; and

WHEREAS, the IPWG has recommended that the MST include trail connections to planned or existing trails and greenways in Orange County, including the Bolin and Morgan Creek greenways in Carrboro.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CARRBORO:

Section 1. The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Carrboro recommends that the Orange County Board of County Commissioners approve the recommendations of the IPWG regarding the proposed route and trail links in Orange County.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

March 5, 2010

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARKS WORK GROUP
PROPOSED CHANGES
TO THE
MOUNTAINS-TO-SEA TRAIL THROUGH ORANGE COUNTY

On February 10 the Intergovernmental Parks Work Group (IPWG) discussed ways to link the NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail with some of the existing and future trails planned for the residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

The Eastern Piedmont Section of the Mountains to Sea Trail (MST) includes an "Alternative Route" that would link Eno River State Park with Jordan Lake via existing trails along New Hope Creek in Duke Forest. The IPWG recognizes that it would be beneficial to show how the planned Chapel Hill-Carrboro greenway network might someday link to the MST.

The following are three potential trail links:

Trail Link #1 would connect Carrboro's planned Bolin Creek Greenway system with the MST. The link would begin at the future Twin Creeks (*Moniese Nomp*) Park and Morris Grove Elementary School, then travel east along the north side of Eubanks Road through Duke Forest and the abandoned Orange County Landfill, then through the future Millhouse Road Park and Chapel Hill Town Operation Center, then along Millhouse Road (under Interstate 40) to Blackwood Station, then along Mount Sinai Road to the Johnston Mill Preserve and Duke Forest (Korstian Division), where it would enter an existing trail network managed by Triangle Land Conservancy and Duke University. Running the trail through Duke Forest parallel with Eubanks Road would avoid sensitive research.

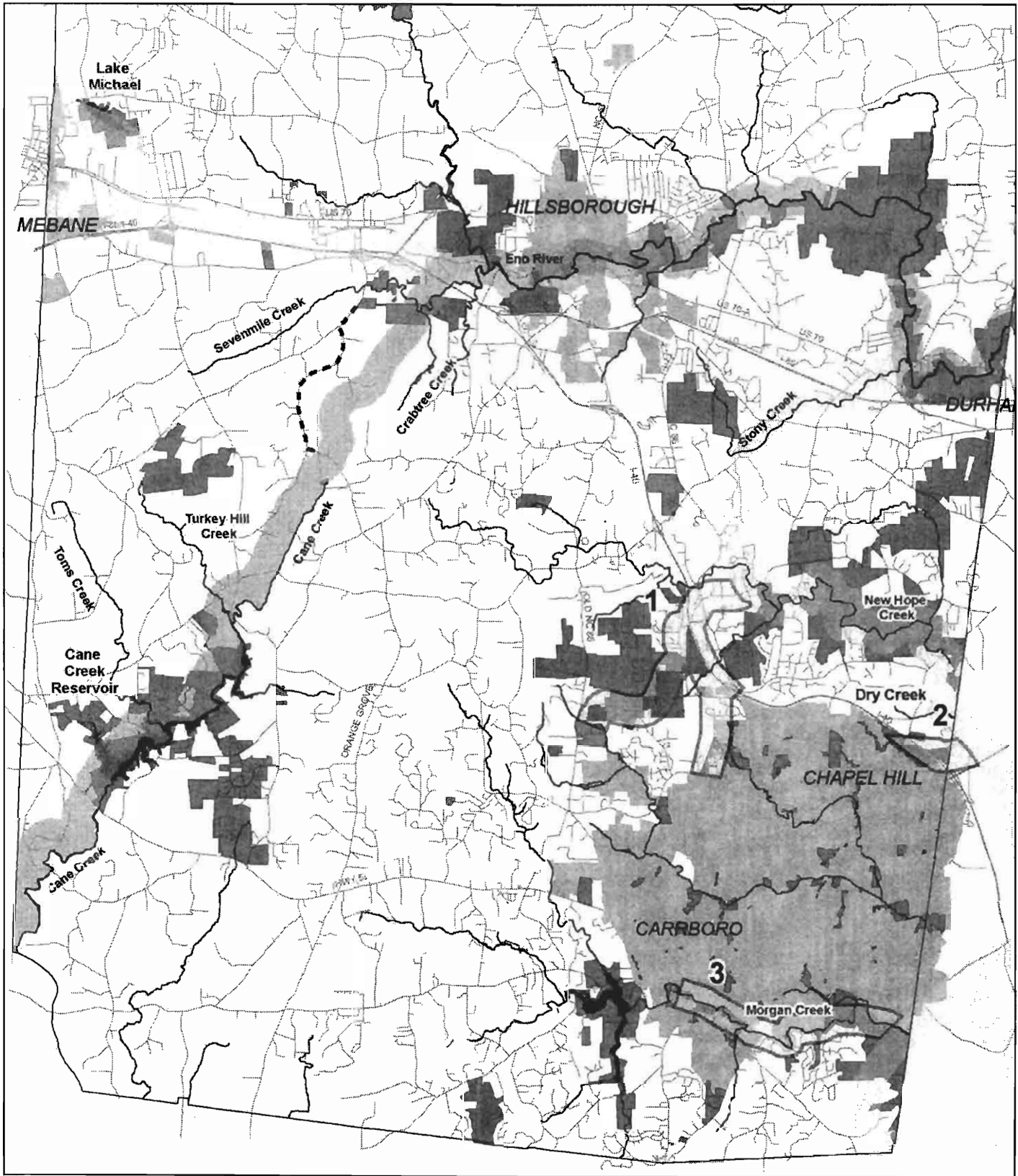
This proposed Trail Link #1 would also connect with Chapel Hill's greenway system via the planned "North Trail" and "Horace Williams Trail," which will link Carolina North and the Booker Creek greenway network to the Town Operation Center.

Trail Link #2 would connect Chapel Hill's planned "Dry Creek Trail" with the planned MST corridor along New Hope Creek. The trail would travel through open space lands acquired by the Town of Chapel Hill for this future Dry Creek Trail connection to Durham County open space lands. The Town's Greenways Master Plan shows two potential trails crossing under and parallel with Interstate 40. The Dry Creek Trail would link Chapel Hill to New Hope Creek and Jordan Lake, consistent with the *New Hope Corridor Open Space Master Plan*.

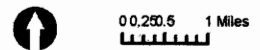
Trail Link #3 would connect to another segment of the planned MTS "Alternate Route" that runs south of Chapel Hill and connects to Jordan Lake and the American Tobacco Trail in Durham and Chatham counties. This connection would be made via existing and planned trails along Morgan Creek through the Mason Farm Biological Reserve and other State-owned open lands that could link into Durham County and eventually to Jordan Lake.

The IPWG proposal is for all three of these trail links to be shown on future maps of the NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail corridors through Orange County.

Proposed NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail



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| NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) | Non-county parkland & open space |
| MST Primary route | Orange County parkland & open space |
| MST Alternative route | Other public land |
| Proposed new MST Alternative route | Reservoirs |
| Proposed roadside MST Alternative route | Major Streams |
| Towns | Streets |



Orange County
ERCD
2/22/2010

