

W Y C H E

Attorneys at Law

March 25, 2014

Planning and Development Committee
County of Greenville

RE: Conservation Easements on Poinsett and Westside Parks

To Chairman Dill, Vice Chairwoman Gibson, and Councilmen Cates, Meadows, and Payne:

The documents that follow relate to a project to amend and restate two conservation easements that cover two County properties, Poinsett Park and Westside Park. Copies of both the original conservation easements and the proposed amended and restated easements are included. This project has been negotiated among the County's Legal Department and Parks and Recreation Department, Friends of the Reedy River (which currently holds the conservation easements), and Upstate Forever. In addition, as required by state law, this project has received approval from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resource's Heritage Trust Advisory Board.

The Greenville County Recreation District entered into the original conservation easements around fifteen years ago. The amended and restated easements clarify what is and is not permitted under the easements, and prioritize the use of the land subject to the easements as County parks. The hope of all the parties involved in this project is that once the easements are amended and restated, they will be transferred from Friends of the Reedy River to Upstate Forever. Friends of the Reedy no longer has a paid staff or the administrative support that enabled it to function as the original holder of the easements, whereas Upstate Forever specializes in this type of work.

Yours sincerely,



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