

RESOLUTION #2022-18

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
UNITED STATES BICYCLE ROUTE 251 (USBR 251) THROUGH BENTON COUNTY, AR
AND THE STATE OF MISSOURI FROM UNITED STATES BICYCLE ROUTE 51 (USBR 51) IN
BENTONVILLE, AR TO UNITED STATES BICYCLE ROUTE 66 (USBR 66) IN SPRINGFIELD, MO**

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC), as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), is responsible for the coordination of transportation planning activities in Benton and Washington Counties in Arkansas and a portion of McDonald County in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, bicycle tourism is a growing industry in North America, that contributes to the economies of communities that provide facilities for such tourists; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has designated corridors crossing Arkansas to be developed as United States Bicycle Routes (USBR); and

WHEREAS, the Cities, Counties, Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) and Adventure Cycling, and other stakeholders, have proposed a specific route to be designated as USBR 251, a map of which is herein incorporated into this resolution by reference; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route for USBR 251 is beginning at USBR 51 Razorback Greenway at Bentonville, following Blowing Springs Greenway Trail, Commonwealth Road, Looney Road, Andy Buck Road, Eddie Bone Road, AR-94, Don McAllister Road, Gates Lane, AR-265 to Missouri KK and other roads to USBR 66 Springfield, Missouri connecting multiple cities and counties and can therefore provide benefits to residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, NWARPC has reviewed the proposed route and found it to be suitable, and desires that the route be designated so that it can be mapped and signed, thereby promoting bicycling tourism in our area.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

That the NWARPC Policy Committee hereby approves and supports the development of USBR 251 through Benton County, Arkansas utilizing the Blowing Springs Greenway and multiple city/county roads, and requests that the appropriate officials ensure that the route is officially approved by AASHTO as soon as this can be achieved.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

Chris Keeney, Chair, NWARPC

ATTEST: _____

PROPOSED USBR 251 Bentonville, AR(USBR51) to Springfield, MO(USBR66)

