

## RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 23-15

PATRON: Robert W. Lazaro, Jr  
Executive Director

DATE: February 23, 2023

### AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TASK AGREEMENT ON THE POTOMAC HERITAGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) provides coordination for the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) in Northern Virginia through a Cooperative Agreement P21AC12147-00 with the National Park Service;

WHEREAS, NVRC plays a key role coordinating and ensuring trail connectivity for alignments through Northern Virginia jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, the National Park Service and PHNST stakeholders have expressed an interest in working together to improve data, including documentation of amenities and wayfinding for the PHNST;

WHEREAS, NVRC looks to work with PHNST stakeholders to identify and record wayfinding and amenities along the trail;

WHEREAS, the National Park Service PHNST Superintendent, Loudoun County, and other western jurisdictions require an evaluation of connectivity for the trail west from the Town of Leesburg to Harpers Ferry National Historic Park's Northern Virginia Section with additional alignment options such as the Appalachian Trail and other park and crossing connections;

WHEREAS, NVRC represents the best option for convening and engaging diverse management partners to reach consensus on options for Trail access and alignments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to accept a Task Agreement from the National Park Service, in support of the PHNST in Northern Virginia, to continue regional support and coordination with local PHNST managers, advocates, and regional, state, and federal staff;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Task agreement includes a study to identify existing wayfinding and amenities along the trail through volunteer data collection activities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Task Agreement initiates a feasibility study administered and coordinated by NVRC staff of a multi-year feasibility study (depending on funding) for connection and alignment options from Balls Bluff Battlefield Park in the Town of Leesburg to the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park's Northern Virginia section, engaging a contractor and developing a methodology and feasibility options.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to enter the Task agreement with NPS, not to exceed \$275,000 for the funding period, with indirect funds covering up to 20 percent of the total not provided by other contributions.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on February 23, 2023.

  
ROBERT W. LAZARO, JR., CERTIFYING OFFICER

