



Blount County Government

TO: Blount County Commissioners

FROM: Randy Vineyard

RE: Eagleton Ballpark Renovation Project Mitigation Agreement and Credits

DATE: May 25, 2023

As part of the Eagleton Ballpark Renovation Project the county had an obligation to conduct a review of the project site for impacts to natural resources, cultural resources and threatened & endangered species to ensure that the project was in compliance with all federal, state and local regulations. A Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination was performed and jurisdictional waters were identified on the site. Any impacts to jurisdictional waters, such as those that will take place during construction, require permits from both state and federal regulatory agencies and an approved mitigation plan. S&ME, the county's project consultant, has recommended that the county purchase mitigation credits for all regulated jurisdictional waters impacts at the ballfield site. Credits are sold by a third party under contract with the United States Corp of Engineers (USACE) and are distributed through a mitigation bank associated with a specific watershed. The arrangement operates under a system of credits and debits devised to ensure that ecological loss resulting from development is compensated by the preservation and restoration of natural features in other areas so there is not net loss to the environment.

This request is to fund up to \$274,500 for the purchase of stream mitigation credits and authorize the Mayor to sign an Agreement of Purchase and Sale of Stream Mitigation Credits with Mitigate Tennessee, LLC to reserve the credits and ultimately purchase the credits when available and approved by the regulatory permitting agencies.