



January 12th, 2026

Mayor Kelly Girtz and
Athens-Clarke County Commission Members
301 College Ave.
Athens, GA 30601

RE: Appointments of Brittney Waldheim, Melora Purell and Malin Dartnell to fill vacant positions on the Oconee Rivers Greenway Commission.

Dear Mayor and Commission:

On behalf of the Oconee Rivers Greenway Commission (“ORG C”), I am pleased to announce we have selected candidates to fill three open seats on the Commission. I am sending this letter to request their approval and appointment. At our general meeting on November 18th, 2025 the quorum vote was unanimous for these three appointments.

First, Brittney Waldheim is appointed to serve out the remaining year of a vacant position and will be eligible for reappointment to two additional five-year terms beginning in 2027. We, at ORGC, know Ms. Waldheim well because, as an undergraduate student at UGA’s College of Environmental Design, she assisted ORGC in revising and updating the Greenway Network Plan. Throughout that process she showed a dedication and enthusiasm for the work that made the process run efficiently and helped to create a professional and informative final product. She has now graduated and works full time for Carter Engineering, a civil engineering and landscape design firm. We are confident she will be an excellent addition to our Commission.

Second, Melora Purell is appointed to serve out the remaining two years of a vacant position and will be eligible for reappointment to two additional five-year terms beginning in 2028. Ms. Purell has a background in environmental education and conservation, having served 9 years as the coordinator of a large watershed conservation organization in Hawai’i. She also has extensive experience in grant writing for environmental programs. This background and skill set is uniquely fitting for the work of ORGC, and we look forward to her contributions to this organization.

Third, Malin Dartnell is appointed to serve out the remaining two years of a vacant position and will be eligible for reappointment to two additional five-year terms beginning in 2028. Ms. Dartnell has both a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering from Georgia

Tech and has worked in the field of Environmental Engineering for the past ten years. While at Georgia Tech she served on a bicycle infrastructure improvement committee, which helped develop a more sustainable and functional bicycle transportation network on campus. Her commitment to the conservation of greenspaces along with her professional engineering skills make her an excellent fit for ORGC.

We appreciate your recognition and appointment of these three excellent candidates to the ORGC.

Thank you,

/s/ Charlie Barrow

Charlie Barrow, Chair
Oconee Rivers Greenway Commission