NETAR Secures NAR Grant to Improve Accessibility at Laurel Run Park – Hawkins County, TN

Northeast Tennessee Association of REALTORS® (NETAR) is proud to announce that it has secured grant funding provided by the **National Association of REALTORS® (NAR)** to support accessibility improvements at **Laurel Run Park in Hawkins County**.

The grant will provide funding for the purchase and installation of **wheelchair-accessible picnic tables** at several of the park's picnic shelters, helping ensure that individuals who use wheelchairs can participate more comfortably in family gatherings, community events, and other activities alongside their friends and loved ones.

Laurel Run Park attracts thousands of visitors each year and features more than 30 miles of trails, scenic views of the surrounding mountains and Holston River, and 11 reservable picnic shelters used for weddings, family gatherings, birthday celebrations, and community events. While much of the main park area is relatively flat and accessible to visitors with limited mobility, the park currently lacks adequate picnic accommodations for individuals who use wheelchairs.

"This grant is an opportunity to make one of Hawkins County's most beautiful public spaces more welcoming and inclusive for everyone," said **NETAR**. "Accessibility improvements such as these picnic tables can make a meaningful difference by allowing individuals with disabilities to participate fully in gatherings and enjoy the park with their families and friends."

Grant funding is expected to provide **ADA-accessible picnic tables**, allowing Hawkins County to install accessible tables at several shelters, with the potential for additional tables depending on final costs and available funding.

According to U.S. Census Bureau data, more than **16% of adults under the age of 65 in Hawkins County have a disability**, underscoring the importance of creating accessible public spaces throughout the community.
This is not NETAR's first investment in community improvement through grant funding. In **2024, NETAR provided $7,500 in grant funding to Sullivan County, Tennessee, to support a new Veterans Park in Blountville**. These investments reflect NETAR's continued commitment to giving back to the communities where its REALTORS® live, work, and serve.
Through its partnership with the National Association of REALTORS®, NETAR is proud to help bring resources to Northeast Tennessee communities and support projects that make a lasting difference.

About NETAR
The Northeast Tennessee Association of REALTORS® represents 1,850 +

real estate professionals throughout Northeast Tennessee
and is committed to **Advocating, Connecting and Educating**
its members and the communities they serve.