

Virginia
Association *for* Parks

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*"Supporting the Commonwealth's parks,
natural resources, and historic sites"*

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RESOLUTION

**In support of creating a Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefields State Park
Passed unanimously at the VAFP Fall Conference
Business Meeting on October 1, 2016, at Bear Creek Lake State Park**

WHEREAS, the Civil War Trust has had prepared a feasibility study assessing the opportunities and economic advantages to creating a Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefields State Park; and

WHEREAS, that feasibility study clearly shows that these Battlefields present a turn-key opportunity to advance an already well-preserved and interpreted history; and

WHEREAS, preliminary projections suggest that park visitation would increase under the management of Virginia State Parks, and when fully established hold potential to bring visitor expenditures in excess of \$4 million annually to the local economy; and


WHEREAS, these Battlefields will provide passive and active recreation programs to an underserved region of Virginia's State Park System; and

WHEREAS, these Battlefields will provide a significantly broader and more comprehensive period of Civil War history and events than the State Park System's current battlefield holdings; and

WHEREAS, these Battlefields formed into a Virginia State Park will lend visibility to and make accessible the local area's historic and natural resources and will create significant opportunities for local public-private partnership and investment; and

WHEREAS, the Brandy Station Foundation and the Civil War Trust are both willing and able to transfer their respective landholdings at Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain to the Commonwealth of Virginia in such a manner as to accommodate the swift and sustainable launch of a new State Park encompassing these sites;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the members of the Virginia Association for Parks do hereby endorse and support the initiative to create a Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain State Park to be comprised of land now owned by the Brandy Station Foundation and the Civil War Trust and encourage the Commonwealth to take the necessary steps to make this exciting opportunity a reality.



Johnny Finch, President
Virginia Association for Parks