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Greater Prince William TRAILS COALITION

Proposed Trails Map - Now Available For Comment

Prince William County staff have sketched out a network of trails and bike paths for public review. Map was posted as part of the official public review process for completing the **Mobility Chapter** of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Map is a starting point. The county's first proposal is not the finish line.

The **county's initial draft** includes only a portion of the mobility connections recommended previously by the organizations that have joined the Greater Prince William Trails Coalition.

Everyone is encouraged to review the initial draft and propose a more-scenic, sustainable, and connected multi-modal trail system. *Feel free to compare the* ***Aspirational Trails Map*** *with the county's initial draft, then submit as many comments as you wish on the county site.*

Many steps remain in our efforts to upgrade bike/pedestrian mobility over the next 20 years. The trails plan - along with roads, transit, and transportation goals/action strategies - will be subject to public hearings by the Planning Commission and Board of County Supervisors. Final adoption of Mobility Chapter is expected in mid-2022.

Test the Trails - Get Out and Explore

Every week we are exploring places where new trails could be constructed. Join us in discovering the good - and lousy - locations in wet stream valleys and on dry hillsides.

Check out the **site reports**; you can use them to advocate for new trails. Next trip will be this Sunday at 1:00-4:00pm along Powell's Creek. Check the **calendar** for details and other scheduled expeditions.

No, Trails Ain't Free…

To get trails constructed and open for actual use, they need to be included in both plans and budgets.

The next county budget is in development now and will be adopted no later than June 2022. The 2019 bond funding will support development of some high-profile trails, but General Fund appropriations will be needed to create a network that makes Prince William walkable-bikeable and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Now is a good time to speak out and encourage **your county supervisors** to include multi-year funding in the next five years of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and commit to building trails in the real world as well as on paper.

Pedestrian Safety Bond?

After several recent fatalities, the Board of County Supervisors discussed proposing a Pedestrian Safety Bond for voter approval in 2022. You can see their support of the proposal on the **watch now video** of the November 9 meeting (starting at 2:57).

Safety needs to be designed into roads and trails from the beginning. A vision of zero deaths/injuries from “accidents” requires more than just Police Department enforcement.

Active Prince William is providing comments on safety concerns with the proposed **Route 234 Brentsville Road Interchange Project**, which will require bicycle and pedestrian users to cross four separate free-flowing, high-speed vehicle lanes. A **public information meeting** will be held December 8, 6:00pm at the Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Department (11310 Coles Drive, Manassas 20112)

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