

Greater Prince William TRAILS COALITION

Mid-February 2026 Newsletter

Check out blog posts, past newsletters, and calendar of events at gpwtrails.org.

Summary of FY2027 Capital Appropriations and Funding Sources



Project	Project Phase	FY27 Appropriation	Funding Source
Public Safety Communications Upgrades at Schools	Construction	\$4.0M	Capital Reserve
	Subtotal:	\$4.0M	
Countywide Space	Design	\$20.0M	Debt
F&R Station 3	Planning/Design	3.0M	Debt
Juvenile Services Center	Design	5.0M	Debt
Neabsco District Park	Construction	5.2M	Debt
	Subtotal:	\$33.2M	
Centralized Apparatus Replacement Program	Equipment Purchase	\$12.0M	Fire Levy
F&R Station Renovation Program	Construction	4.0M	Fire Levy
	Subtotal:	\$16.0M	
Building and Facility Capital Program	Construction	\$4.0M	General Fund
Judicial Center Renovation (Courtroom A/V Upgrades)	Construction	1.5M	General Fund
IT Infrastructure Hardware Replacement	Equipment Purchase	5.4M	General Fund
Mobility, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety	Construction	1.0M	General Fund
Parks & Recreation Capital Facility Maintenance	Construction	1.2M	General Fund
Parks & Recreation Existing Park Improvements	Construction	5.0M	General Fund
Parks & Recreation One-Time Cash to Capital Investments	Construction/Land	17.0M	General Fund
	Subtotal:	\$35.1M	
Devlin Road Widening	Design/Construction	\$28.7M	NVTA 30%
Old Bridge Rd/Gordon Blvd Intersection	Design/Construction	13.2M	NVTA 30%
	Subtotal:	\$41.9M	
TRIP Projects	Design/Construction	\$3.2M	Recordation Tax
	Subtotal:	\$3.2M	
Solid Waste Cell Liner and Infrastructure	Design/Construction	\$10.5M	Solid Waste Fees
	Subtotal:	\$10.5M	
County Watersheds	Construction	\$5.0M	Stormwater Fee
	Subtotal:	\$5.0M	
	Total:	\$148.9M	

Proposed FY2027-2032 Capital Improvement Program

15

(Amounts in millions) Project	Total Debt	Current Approp.	Remaining Total	FY27 Approp.	Project Phase During FY27
Fuller Heights Park	\$6.0	\$6.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Design/Construction
Neabsco District Park	6.0	0.8	5.2	5.2	Design
Neabsco Greenway	3.5	3.5	0.0	-	Design/Construction
Occoquan Greenway *	5.0	5.0	0.0	-	Design/Construction
Open Space	2.0	2.0	0.0	-	Land Acquisition
Powells Creek Crossing	9.5	9.5	0.0	-	Design
Total	\$32.0	\$26.8	\$5.2	\$5.2	
* Includes Ellicott Street Sidewalk (Occoquan Greenway Connection)					

Funding Trails in 2026: Status Report

The Prince William County Executive will release his proposed FY26 budget on **February 17**. The Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) will hold a community meeting to receive input on February 21.

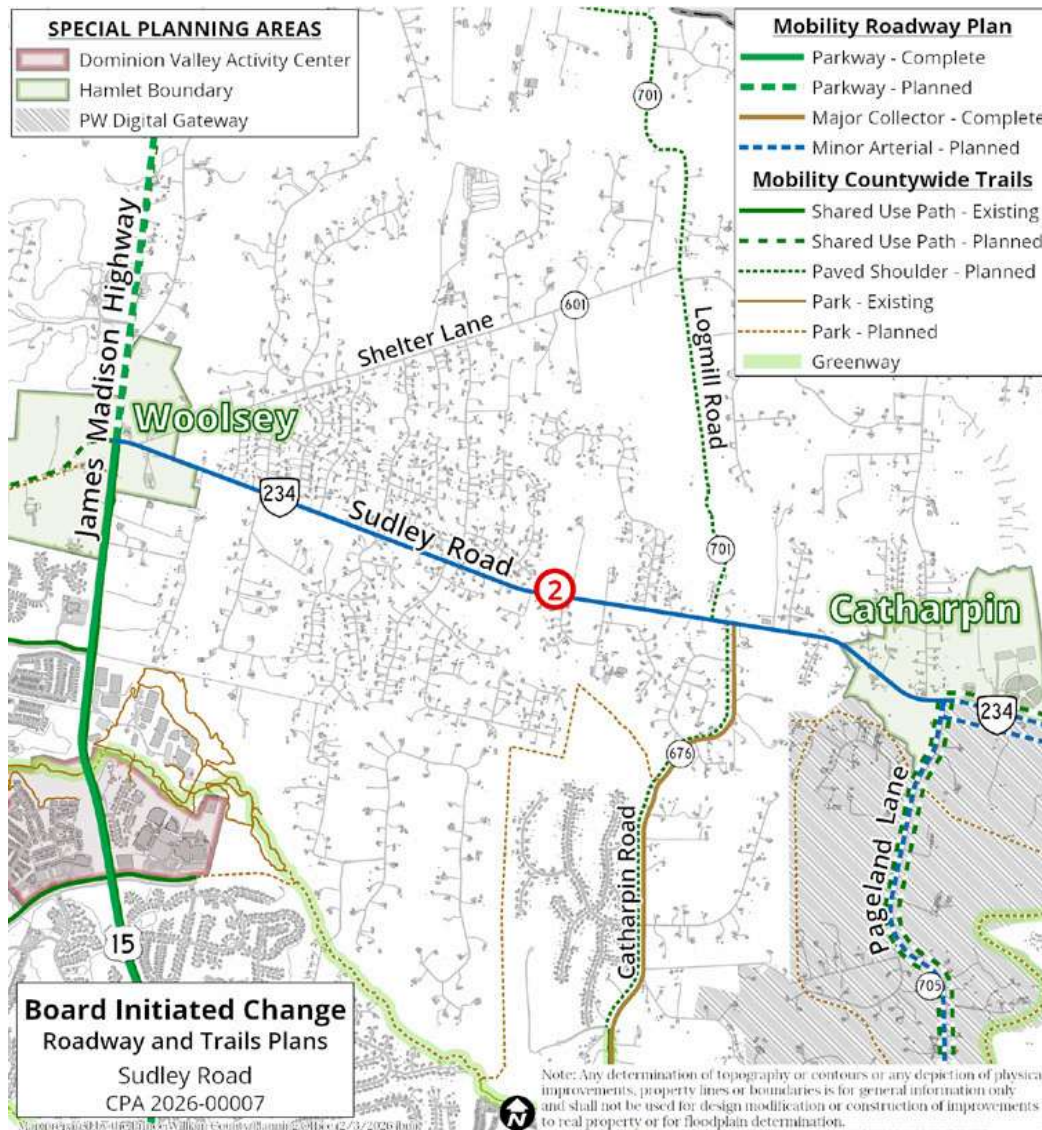
There will be opportunities for comments at **Citizens Time** for the next two months, plus public hearings on March 17, March 25, and April 7, before adoption of the final budget on April 21. E-mails regarding trails funding can be sent to bocs@pwcgov.org

At the February 10 BOCS meeting, staff previewed a \$1.6 billion Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY27-32. Of that total, 35% is for road projects.

Draft CIP includes an increase in annual funding for expanding park facilities to \$5 million/year. There was also an additional annual commitment of \$1.2 million to maintain capital projects within parks, such as bathrooms and ballfields.

\$17 million in "Parks & Recreation One-Time Cash to Capital Investments" included a \$4 million item for extending the Neabsco Boardwalk through the Metz Wetland. In contrast to annual funding for park facilities, however, no commitment was made to continue funding construction of trails at \$5 million/year after FY27.

County supervisors will continue to receive \$450,000 per district in Transportation Roadway Mobility Program (TRIP) funds. Supervisors have the option to use TRIP funding as well as leftover office expenses for relatively inexpensive "low hanging fruit" trail projects.



Mobility Chapter Comprehensive Plan Amendment: February 19

Prince William Transportation Department and Planning Office are hosting a virtual town hall to discuss potential changes to the roadway and trails maps for the Manassas Battlefield Bypass, Sudley Road, and Heathcote Boulevard. **Join** the WebEx event at 6:30pm on February 19.

The Board of County Supervisors has initiated a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to revise the **Mobility Chapter**. Proposed changes include removing two roads and associated shared use paths from the long-range plan:


- extension of Heathcote Boulevard to Antioch Road
- Manassas Battlefield Bypass

plus

- retain Sudley Road as a two-lane highway with no shared use path between Pageland Lane and Route 15 (*shown above*), rather than widen to four lanes and add a paved trail

The county could retain a planned shared use path on one or more segments to enhance bike/pedestrian infrastructure, independent from any road project designed to move cars/trucks

faster. The current Mobility Chapter includes “active mobility” projects to close gaps in sidewalks, for example.



T-1

Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure and Enhance Connectivity

<p>2030 GHG Reduction Strategy: Shift 5% of total trips from private vehicles to active or public transport</p> <p>Action GHG Reduction Potential: High</p> <p>Investment Levels: Very Large Cost</p>	<p>Co-Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Conservation: + • Local Employment: + • Savings to Residents and Business: + • Organizational Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: + <p>Lead Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Parks, Recreation and Tourism 	<p>County Goals Supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce GHG emissions county-wide to 50% below baseline 2005 levels by 2030 	<p>Primary Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Office • Watershed • Service Authority • Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)* • Schools
--	---	--	---

Sustainability and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment Starting February 26

The Prince William County Planning Office is **launching** the public engagement phase as it drafts a Sustainability and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA).

One objective is to incorporate the 2023 **Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan** (CESMP). That plan identified 25 high priority actions.

The #1 transportation-related action (see p.47) is:

T-1 Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure and Enhance Connectivity

Improve active transportation infrastructure, sidewalk and trail connectivity, and overall safety to support walking, biking, and rolling. Improvements could include providing bike lockers, installing curb ramps, or installing traffic-calming designs like crosswalk islands or speed humps. This action would involve developing a strategic Active Transportation Plan that includes recommendations for prioritizing infrastructure improvements and outlines new active transportation policies, processes, and infrastructure.

That is in alignment with policies and action strategies in the **Mobility Chapter** in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan including:

MOBILITY POLICY 3: *Promote sustainability and resiliency when proposing new infrastructure or upgrading existing facilities that impact environmental and cultural resources.*

and

Action Strategy G7.2: *Shift the focus from planning around vehicle accessibility to supporting more options for public transportation, ride sharing/hailing, biking, and walkable streets.*

The Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) can implement or ignore the policies and action steps already adopted in long-range plans. Planning the work does not guarantee that elected officials will work the plan.

Trail advocates interested in seeing the county actually fund and build the “active mobility” and “recreational” trails in the upcoming **Trails Master Plan** can participate **online** in the Sustainability

and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment discussion on February 18, 6:30-7:30pm.

In-person meetings will be held at the **Occoquan Elementary School** on February 26 from 7:30-:30pm and on March 4 at **Ellis Elementary School** from 6:30-:00pm.



General Assembly Update

The House of Delegates has approved the Bicyclist Safety bill (HB661). It is now being considered by the Senate Transportation Committee. Virginia Bicyclist Federation has **more details**.

The Virginia Great Outdoors Act (**HB641** and **SB393**) is dead for this year. This was the first time there was a bill in the State Senate as well as in the House of Delegates, and there was bipartisan sponsorship in both houses. (June is **Great Outdoors Month**; June 6 is **National Trails Day**.)

Legislators reported that e-mails in support and in-person advocacy on Conservation Lobby Day had an impact, and **Virginia Conservation Network** will prioritize getting a new bill passed in 2027. Bill proposes taxing data centers for new funding, and would allocate \$50 million in annual state funding for trails.

HB1402 to highlight the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail in the State Trails Plan has been **laid gently on the table**.

February 3 Trails and Blueways Council Meeting

- Hooes Run bridge on **Occoquan Greenway** has been advertised for contractor bids; see **Open Solicitations**
- Department of Parks and Recreation is negotiating to change the proffer for a fair-weather crossing at **Doves Landing Park** across Long Branch (connecting to Sinclair Mill waterfront). Proposal is to add county funding already allocated to the park and build an all-weather bridge

- Rocky Run **bridge installation** has been delayed by weather
- Public meeting is being scheduled in early march for review of **Powells Creek Crossing** design
- **Featherstone boardwalk** is still under construction. Bridges need to be installed, plus connection to VRE station needs to be improved. Virginia Department of Transportation has approved **planned connection** to Featherstone Road in Heritage Harbor community
- February 24 TBC meeting has been moved to March 3 to avoid conflict with **State of the Parks** event
- Plans to cross Catharpin Creek at Route 15 are affected by inability to acquire Burnside Farms property on east side at Route 15, \$2.9 million has already been allocated for new shared use path along Route 15
- Final review is underway for alignment of **Jefferson Park/Veterans Park Connector Trail**. Further design is required before construction can begin using FY25 funding.
- Prince William Transportation Department plans to use \$1 million in FY26 funding to build 500' of a 5' wide sidewalk; will substitute for Ray's Regard proffer which is stalled; a temporary less-expensive trail is not acceptable because it would not meet VDOT standards
- Prince William County will submit **Transportation and Land Use Connection** (TLC) grant applications for three trail projects:
 - 1) second submission for Fairgrounds trail, since Manassas has built a segment on Dumfries Road
 - 2) seeking more-detailed design for Gap 3 of Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST)
 - 3) plan shared use path for US Bike Route 1 on Minnieville Road from Old Bridge Road to Prince William Parkway, a problem area identified in the **Comprehensive Traffic Safety Action Plan**



Recent Blog Posts

- **Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Webinars on Mental Health and Economic Data (February 26, March 5)**

- **HB1402 "Laid Gently on the Table"**
- **Proposed Trails Funding in Initial FY27 Prince William County Budget**
- **Waiting for VDOT to Clear the Trail?**
- **Invitation to Bid (IFB) Posted for Segment 6 Bridge on Occoquan Greenway**
- **Route 234-Sudley Manor/Wellington Road Project**

In Other News...

- **Dominion Energy, NOVA Parks reach agreement on tree cutting along W&OD Trail** (WTOP, February 3) "*Dominion will replant select areas of the roughly four-mile stretch in the Vienna and Dunn Loring areas that was cut in 2024 and 2025.*" For the rest of the story, read the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) **blog post**.
- **Kids face danger crossing Northern Virginia streets. Our data shows where** (Greater Greater Washington, February 5) Experience a near miss? **Report it**.
- The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will hold an open **grant round** for up to \$1.45 million in Recreational Trails Program grants from March 10 through May 5, 2026. Nonprofit organizations with support from a governmental body are eligible to apply.
- The Northern Virginia Regional Commission has released its **Winter 2026 Regional Trails News & Updates**. Lots of news about the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) in particular, including completion of **Wayfinding and Amenities Study Phase II**, the **PHNST Climate Assessment Phase I**, and **updated map alignments**.

[View email in browser](#)

The Greater Prince William Trails Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

