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Greater Prince William TRAILS COALITION

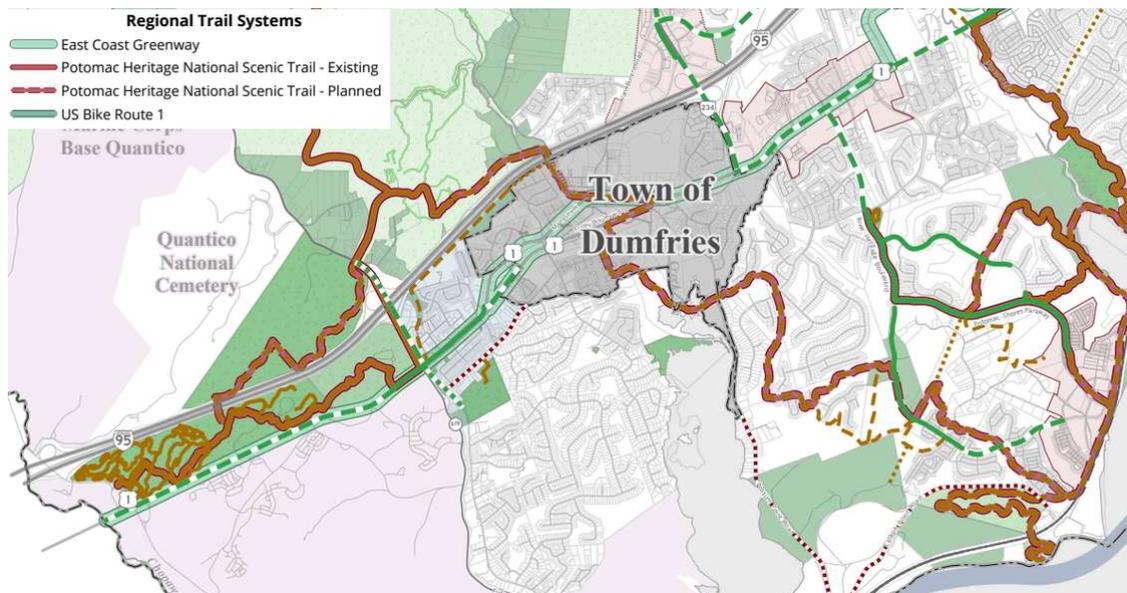
November 1 - Fairfax County Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Access (PROSA) Strategy Meeting

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) will complete the PROSA Strategy in 2023. Strategy will:

- Identify 10-minute walk access gaps to FCPA parks
- Evaluate complete park experiences
- Analyze habitat connectivity between environmental corridors
- Analyze and prioritize recreation needs and projects with an equity lens

The extensive Fairfax County trails network across Bull Run/Occoquan River could be linked by bridges/fords to Manassas Park/Prince William County. If the [2040 Trails Map](#) and [Active Fairfax](#) plan for bridges/fords to close the gaps, then trails will not stop at political boundaries.

Next virtual engagement workshop for PROSA will be **this Tuesday**, November 1, 2022, starting at 6:30pm. (Earlier session on October 25 in on [YouTube](#).) You can [register](#) for November 1 session now and also [complete the community survey](#).



November 9 - Trails Map for Prince William County

Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to approve the Mobility Chapter of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, with Trails Map identifying where new trails could be built over next 20 years.

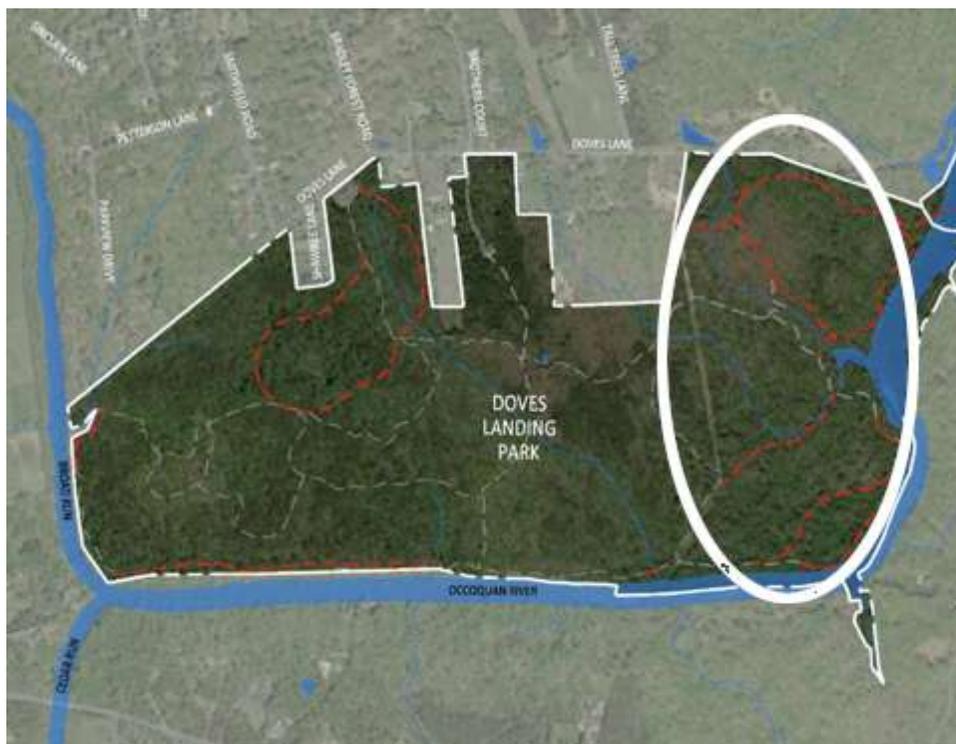
Meeting starts at 7:00pm - see agenda. If you want to see a trail segment added to the map or a policy/action strategy revised, submit your comments *before November 9* via e-mail to Planning Office staff and directly to Planning Commission members.

November 13 - Second Sunday Hike at Doves Landing

We will explore the "back side" of Doves Landing Park (circled below) from 1:00-3:00pm.

The recent approval of the Master Plan for the park drew much public interest and community comments. This hike offers a chance to see the less-visited area, where the trail network is still in development (*yes, there will be mud...*)

Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/34c69je9>, and please note the instructions for where to park first.



What's Next, After the October 20 Recreational Trails Summit?

Over 60 people attended the Trails Summit in person - plus two with last-minute cases of COVID observed remotely.

Supervisor Victor Angry (Neabsco-Prince William County) gave a supportive kick-off speech. He was followed by Jennifer Wampler (Virginia DCR) and Melicent Miller (VDH), with data about the economic and health benefits of trails and insights into the future State Trails Office.

Lightning talks communicated the status of different trail initiatives in Northern Virginia. Different roundtables discussed issues of common concern, and what actions we could take in partnership with others. There was, as intended, much “*who are you? what do you do? oh, we could work together on...*” networking.

More news to come about creating a regional trails map with common standards in 2023 (in advance of the proposed State Trails Map), plus plans for future summits.

Community Healthcare Coalition of Greater Prince William

One of the newer members of the Greater Prince William Trails Coalition is the Community Healthcare Coalition of Greater Prince William. The physical and mental health benefits of walking/biking outdoors are clear, and the least expensive doctor’s prescription is “go take a hike...”

For example, the Equity and Economic Impact Study - Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail released in January 2022 documented nearly \$400,000 in annual avoided health care benefits, per mile of trail.



*Community Healthcare Coalition of Greater Prince William
exploring Neabsco Boardwalk on October 15*

Yet Another Pedestrian Killed in Prince William County

Three days ago, a pedestrian was killed by a car driving up the I-95 exit ramp to get onto Route 234. It was the eighth pedestrian death in the county in 2022.

There is a sidewalk on the Route 234 bridge over I-95 (see red line, below) but no trail connections were ever built on either end of that isolated sidewalk. The interchange was designed to maximize the ability of cars to use the I-95 exit/entrance ramps. In all the years after the bridge was completed, the bike/pedestrian network has been left unfinished.

Why are pedestrians walking in travel lanes? Answer: there is no safe sidewalk or shared use path. Safety risks could be reduced by a Vision Zero program. The headline from WTOG tells the story: Man Fatally Hit by Car in Area With No Crosswalks in Prince William Co.



In Other News...

- [Virginia Walkability Action Institute Monthly Newsletter](#)
- [East Coast Greenway Newsletter](#)
- [Three sometimes overlooked personal barriers to biking](#)



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