

Prince William County
TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

Meeting Minutes
 December 19, 2023; 6:30 PM

Approved by the T&BC on January 23, 2024

Attendance

District	Appointee	Present (in person)	Present (virtual)	Absent
At Large	Amy Latalladi-Fulton	✓		
	Bill McCarty	✓		
Brentsville	Liz Cronauer	✓		
	Catherine O'Connor	✓		
Coles	Mike DePue	✓		
	Joe Marshall	✓		
Gainesville	Duane Martin	✓		
	VACANT			
Neabsco	Jason Williams	✓		
	Rich Wilson	✓		
Potomac	Raheel Sheikh			✓
	VACANT			
Occoquan	Eileen Sheridan	✓		
	Neil Nelson	✓		
Woodbridge	David Brickley		✓	
	Lynda Silverstrand	✓		

Staff persons Patti Pakkala, Yolanda Hipski, David Kroeger and DPR Deputy Director Janet Bartnik were present. Bryce Barrett attended virtually.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Liz Cronauer at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Administrative:

- November 28, 2023, T&BC minutes were approved through a motion by Neil and seconded by Lynda.

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- November 29, 2023, PHNST Subcommittee (SC) minutes were approved thru a motion by Jason and seconded by Duane.
- Resolution 23-10 allowing remote virtual participation in the meeting by David Brickley was approved through a motion by Lynda and seconded by Bill. This will be attached to the minutes.

Citizen's Time.

- Charlie Grymes was present virtually but had no comments to share.

T&BC Election of Officers for 2024.

- Citing article 9-2 of the T&BC bylaws, the T&BC unanimously approved a resolution by Lynda and seconded by Neil to suspend article 4-4 relating to consecutive terms for the T&BC secretary who is finishing his second year and volunteered to continue for a third year.
- Liz Cronauer was reelected to a second term as Chair.
- Amy Latalladi-Fulton was reelected to a second term as Vice Chair.
- Joe Marshall was reelected to a third term as Secretary.

2024 T&BC Meeting Dates.

- Two options were initially considered – having all meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month and having all meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Many members reported conflicts with the 3rd Tuesday option and considering any other day or Tuesday of the month generated even more conflicts.
- The 4th Tuesday option creates two problems dates: November 26th (week of Thanksgiving) and December 25th (Christmas Day).
- Jason brought forth a motion that was seconded by Eileen to meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month in January through October and the third Tuesday of November and December. The motion was approved unanimously. The calendar is now set for 2024 meetings.

County Agency Representatives

PWC Department of Parks and Recreation. Janet Bartnik, Patti Pakkala, David Kroeger

- Janet reported that the contractor for the Powell's Crossing project was now onboard and collecting data and planned to survey the site in January. The T&BC would be asked to meet with them in February as a stakeholder for this project. It was reported that Leesylvania State Park is showing interest in this project.

PWC Transportation. Bryce Barrett

- Bryce presented a slide for the criteria for updates to the National Capital Trail Network Map. This is attached to the minutes. A bigger update is coming in April and will hopefully pick up more PWC trails that are existing or planned. Since child cyclists need to be able to use, these criteria narrow down candidates for inclusion. Also, the density of trails shown should correlate to the jurisdiction. The East Coast Greenway and Potomac National Heritage Scenic Trail should be included; Bike Route 1 may not meet the criteria. If a planned trail is listed, this will be useful for getting targeted funds.

PWC Planning. Yolanda Hipski

- No report this month.
-

Presentations/Reports.

DPR Capital Improvement Plan. Janet Bartnik

- Janet presented six of the projects that DPR is seeking to obtain CIP funding from the BOCS in 2024 that have trails and blueways interest. This presentation is attached along with notes about each. Highlights:
 - Neabsco Creek ADA Parking to Boardwalk. Estimated at needing \$111K, the Woodbridge District Office reallocated \$89K of year end funds, reducing the still needed funding to \$22K.
 - The Kayak Launch at Neabsco Creek includes a picture showing where the shovel-ready launch will be. (\$250K)
 - Neabsco Creek (Metz) Wetland Preserve Boardwalk - \$4.02 M is still needed. The design is such that they can build with whatever money is provided and then step down to the trail underneath for the remainder of the trail.
 - Lake Ridge Marina Dock Replacement (\$2M) – only the wood part is being replaced. This is separate from requests for an upgrade of Crew House.
 - Dale City Recreation Center Park improvements (\$725K). There is a big hill from the recreation center to the ball fields that needs to be better connected. It was reported that the Heavy Construction Contractors Association would like to make many fixes and improvements in the lower fields.
 - Lake Ridge Park Cotton Mill Trail Development. To help lower the cost, there will be no curbs and gutters on the associated road. This will keep to the original budget and not require more funding.
- Liz Cronauer asked members to study these and request support for them in the 2024 budget from their supervisors. The first budget meeting will be on January 16th.

2024 T&BC Proposed Goals

- Liz asked for members to bring forth potential goals for the T&BC for 2024. Joe created the following list which was distributed to all members at the meeting.
 1. Explore, collect, and warehouse information about existing community trails and other “low-hanging fruit” that could be added to the county trail system without significant costs or effort. Find ways to utilize volunteers to make some of these realities.
 2. Interface with other groups to connect our trails and planned trails to Fairfax County, Stafford County, Loudoun County, and the National Capital Region.
 3. Encourage volunteer efforts for maintaining more PWC trails using new PWC approved methodology.
 4. Support and encourage PWC CIP additions for trails outside of bonds and additional trail maintenance funds.
 5. Finish arranging plans and approaches for gaps in PHNST. Establish a traceable schedule to track in future years completing in 2031.
 6. Encourage and track changes and updates to the Occoquan Greenway culminating in completion of this route from McCoart to Occoquan in 2025.
 7. Inventory and identify gaps and approaches toward completion of the Broad Run Greenway.
 8. Inventory and identify gaps and approaches toward completion of the Neabsco Creek Greenway.

9. Inventory and identify gaps and approaches toward completion of the Catharpin Creek Greenway.
 10. Inventory and identify gaps and approaches toward completion of the Powells Creek Greenway.
 11. Inventory and identify gaps and approaches toward completion of a Bull Run Loop trail in concert with Fairfax County.
 12. Develop maps, plans, and approaches for one or more blueways in the county.
 13. Develop two prioritized lists for each district of recreational trails and bike/pedestrian trails. Get buy-in from each district's supervisor for the list.
 14. Encourage at least one trails or blueways ribbon cutting in each district.
- Many liked the above list as a starting point.
 - Jason asked that recruitment and publicity be added.
 - Duane wanted to see a comprehensive trail network county-wide. He is looking for a long range vision that can help realize results.
 - Duane asked Bryce for another large copy of the Comp Plan trail map. Bryce reminded everyone that the trails are all on the county mapper under Land Development.
 - Amy wants to get another Potomac District representative on the T&BC with a special focus on a park at Possum Point.
 - Catherine wants to see the use of more volunteers and for all to get the word out about what is needed.
 - Mike added Blueways access.
 - Lynda added standardized signage across the county on all the trails.
 - Neil wants to focus on the Sinclair Mill Boat Launch.
 - Eileen wants more communication with the supervisors. She wants to see a process that obtains the money needed by providing the information needed.
 - Liz wants to work with staff or county to gather wish lists and create aspiration map inputs. (Maybe best realized with a subcommittee.)
 - Patti reminded everyone that the staff is working on numbers 7-10 of Joe's list, and they are 95% completed.
 -

PHNST Subcommittee. Jason Williams

- The November 29th meeting went through the PHNST gaps. The meeting featured discussions with representatives from Stafford County and connections at the south of PWC are a problem for both counties – the next meeting on January 24th at 2 PM.
- Janet mentioned that the Flap Grant paperwork affect multiple gaps of the PHNST will be submitted for BOCS approval at the 1/16 meeting.

Organization Representatives' Time

Greater Prince William Trails Coalition (GPWTC). Eileen Sheridan, Vice Chair, Neil Nelson, Secretary

- Eileen was elected chair for 2024.
- The next quarterly meeting will be held on January 25th at 10 AM at the Potomac Science Center.
- A recent meeting was held with transportation offices – PWC, Manassas and Manassas Park.

Prince William Trails & Streams Coalition (PWTSC). Neil Nelson

- Two hikes are scheduled for January:

- January 1st at noon from Silver Lake Park to Route 15 and back.
- January 14th (second Sunday) at 1 PM in the Preserve at Long Branch (mid-county)

Mid Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE). Jason Williams, Rich Wilson

- There was a trail workday on December 9th at Andrew Leitsch Park. 3 crews worked on the other side of the trail there, mostly completing a one mile section. It should open soon.
- They are working on 2 miles of trails that horseshoe around James Long Park. Patti asked for GIS tracks of the new trails.

Catherine will be added next month to report on her group.

Members' Time:

- Amy:
 - She shared cookies from Occoquan.
 - She took her brother to the Sensory Night for the Holiday Lights at the Neabsco Boardwalk. It was a great experience.
- Bill:
 - Thanks to all board members for their actions in 2023.
- David:
 - No comments.
- Duane:
 - Duane thanked those that brought cookies to the meeting.
 - Supervisor Weir is placing high priority on crossing US Route 15 not at grade.
- Eileen:
 - Attended Capital Trails Coalition. More focus on Fairfax and Arlington though PWC was mentioned.
- Jason:
 - Jason continued to talk about the boardwalk replacement project on the PHNST and the positive feedback from nearby residents.
- Joe:
 - Joe described his recent driving trip through the Florida Keys and the many types of boats that he was on during this trip.
- Liz:
 - Liz thanked all for their trust in electing her and the other officers. She mentioned how excruciating the recent data center meetings were.
 - She mentioned that the Yorkshire TLC had its first meeting. She also asked Joe to consider joining the group due to his familiarity with this region of the county.
- Lynda:
 - A big Bandalong cleanup was scheduled for December 20th as there appeared to be lots of stuff to clean out.
- Mike:
 - No report.
- Neil:
 - Some of the Occoquan Greenway plats have been submitted that affect Section 6.
- Raheel:
 - Not present.
- Rich:
 - No report

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- Catherine:
 - Working with student volunteers in science and biology.

Meeting Recap:

- None

Next meeting agenda items:

- Mike – Resolution about blueway targets and launch sites
- Powell's Creek Crossing
- Full Goals List
- BOCS CIP Budget Status
- Agenda items for the January meeting should be forwarded to Liz, Amy, or Joe by January 9th.

Next meetings:

At Hellwig: Full T&BC – January 23rd at 6:30 PM.

At Hellwig: PHNST Subcommittee – January 24th at 2 PM

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM based on motion by Lynda, seconded by Mike.

MOTION: Lynda Silverstrand

December 19, 2023

SECOND: Bill McCarty

Regular Meeting

Res. No. 23-10

**RE: APPROVE DAVID BRICKLEY'S REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE
REMOTELY THROUGH ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION MEANS**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Trails and Blueways Council adopted a policy pursuant to Section 2.2-3708.2, VA Code Ann., to allow for remote participation by Members of the Council, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Council's policy, David Brickley notified the Chair that they (the member) are requesting permission from the Council to electronically participate at the Council's December 19, 2023 Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the member certified (Check A or B);

A. _____ the Member is unable to attend the meeting due to (i) a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents the Member's physical attendance or (ii) a family member's medical condition that requires the member to provide care for such family member, thereby preventing the member's physical attendance; OR

B. X the Member is unable to attend the meeting due to the following specifically identified personal matter: Travel Constraints

AND the Member has not already participated electronically due to a personal reason in excess of two meetings this calendar year or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater; and

WHEREAS, the remote location from which the Member plans to electronically participate is his residence; and this remote location **will not** be open to the public; and

WHEREAS the Member verifies that the Member's participation in any closed session of the meeting shall remain confidential and not be disclosed to any unauthorized persons or entities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Council's policy, a request for electronic participation from a remote location shall be approved unless participation violates the Council's policy or any provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Trails and Blueways Council does approve the request to participate in the meeting through electronic communication means in accordance with the Council's policy; a quorum of the Council was physically assembled at one primary or central meeting location; and arrangements were made for the voice of the Member to be heard by all persons at the primary or central meeting location.

Votes:

Ayes: 12

Nays: 0

Absent from Vote: 1

Absent from Meeting: 1

SIGNED:



Prince William Trails and Blueways Council chair

Selection Criteria

- Long-distance, regional trail network
 - Many local trails will not be included
- Accessible for **“All Ages and Abilities”**
- Off-Street Multi-Use Paths:
 - 10'+ wide for new construction.
 - 8' minimum for existing facilities
 - Narrower in short segments if design constrains
 - Paved, or firm surface such as crushed limestone
- On-street:
 - Protected from moving traffic (e. parked cars, curb, flexposts)
 - Short unprotected connections where necessary
- Designed for non-motorized use
- Connectivity
 - Directly connected to the regional network
 - Suitable for both transportation and recreation
- Existing or Planned Facilities are acceptable
 - Planned facilities must be in an approved plan



Virginia Avenue SE



PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Trails and Blueways Council

Meeting Date:	December 19, 2023
Agenda Title:	Capital Improvement Plan
Requested Action:	For information only
Staff Lead:	Janet Bartnik, Deputy Director

BACKGROUND

Parks and Recreation staff presented in November a list of agency requests for FY25 CIP funding submitted to County Administration as a part of the budget planning process. Projects submitted were from among a prioritized capital planning document. Staff offer further detail on select priority projects for the TBC's information.

DISCUSSION

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has been afforded capital / park system expansion support via voter support of a 2019 bond issue that included funding for:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| - Occoquan Greenway | \$ 5,000,000 |
| - Neabsco Greenway | \$ 3,500,000 |
| - Trails and Open Space Acquisition | \$ 2,000,000 |
| - Howison Homestead Soccer Complex | \$ 6,000,000 |
| - George Hellwig Turfed Soccer Fields | \$ 3,000,000 |
| - Powell's Creek Crossing | \$ 9,500,000 |
| - Fuller Heights Park | \$ 6,000,000 |
| - Neabsco District New Park | \$ 6,000,000 |

In recent years, DPR has received increased funding for maintenance improvements through the Capital Maintenance Program (an operating expense line) and the Building and Facilities Program. Dedicated capital funding for park system expansionary projects has not been available to the Department.

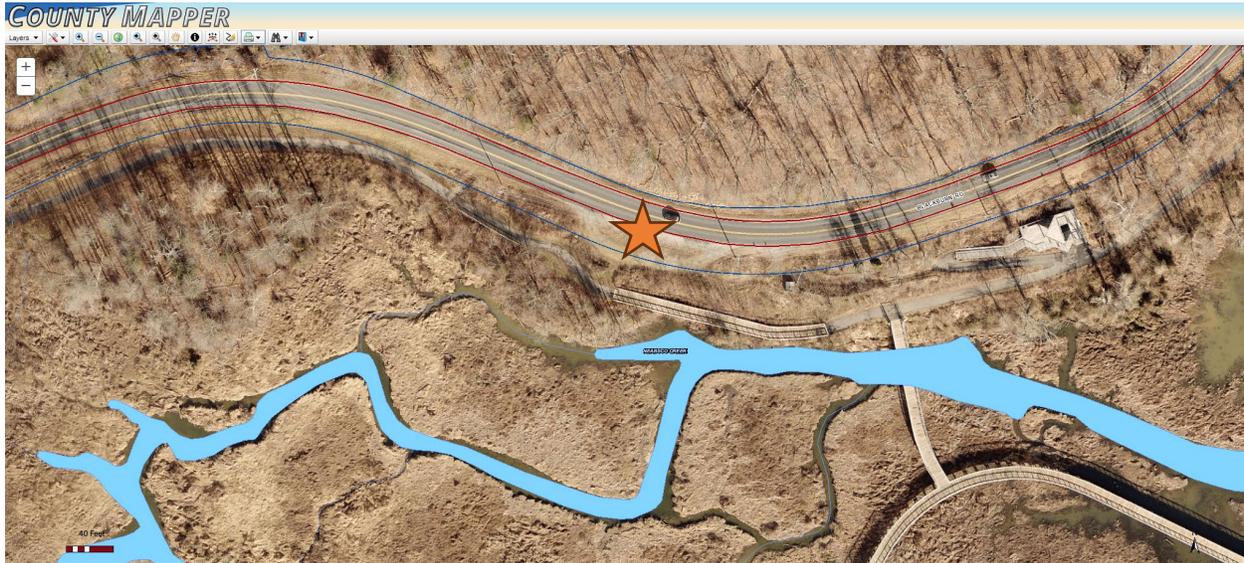
Descriptions for FY25 CIP Requests – Select Projects for Trails & Blueways Council Information

In no particular order, five projects that may be of interest to the Trails and Blueways Council follow. A sixth project is included with an important funding update.

Neabsco Creek ADA Parking to Boardwalk

This project is shovel ready and permits obtained. 50% of the funding is available and 50% is needed to complete the project. This project enhances ADA access to the Neabsco Boardwalk.

Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$250,000	\$139,000	\$111,000	Shovel Ready

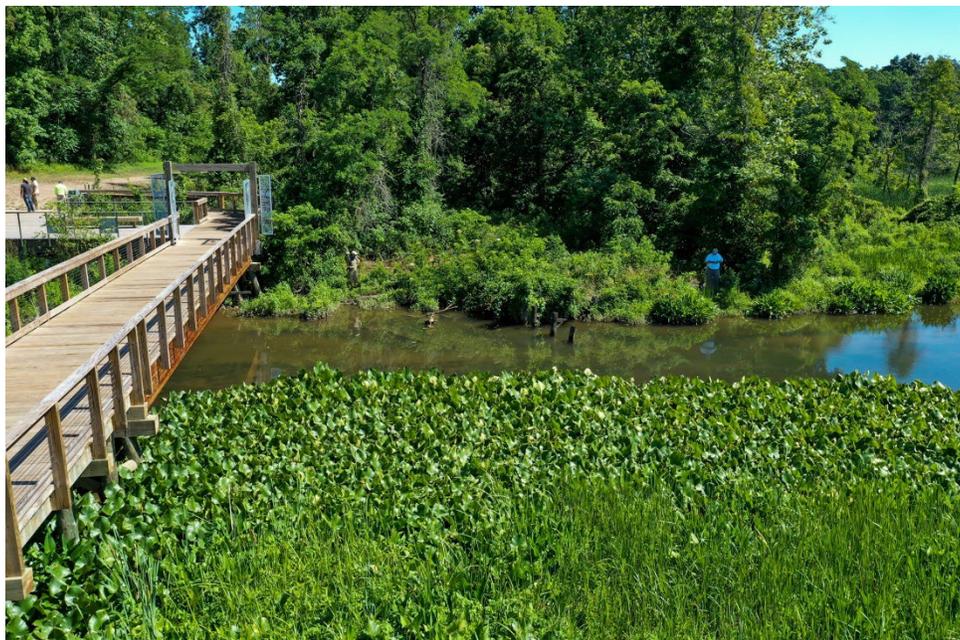
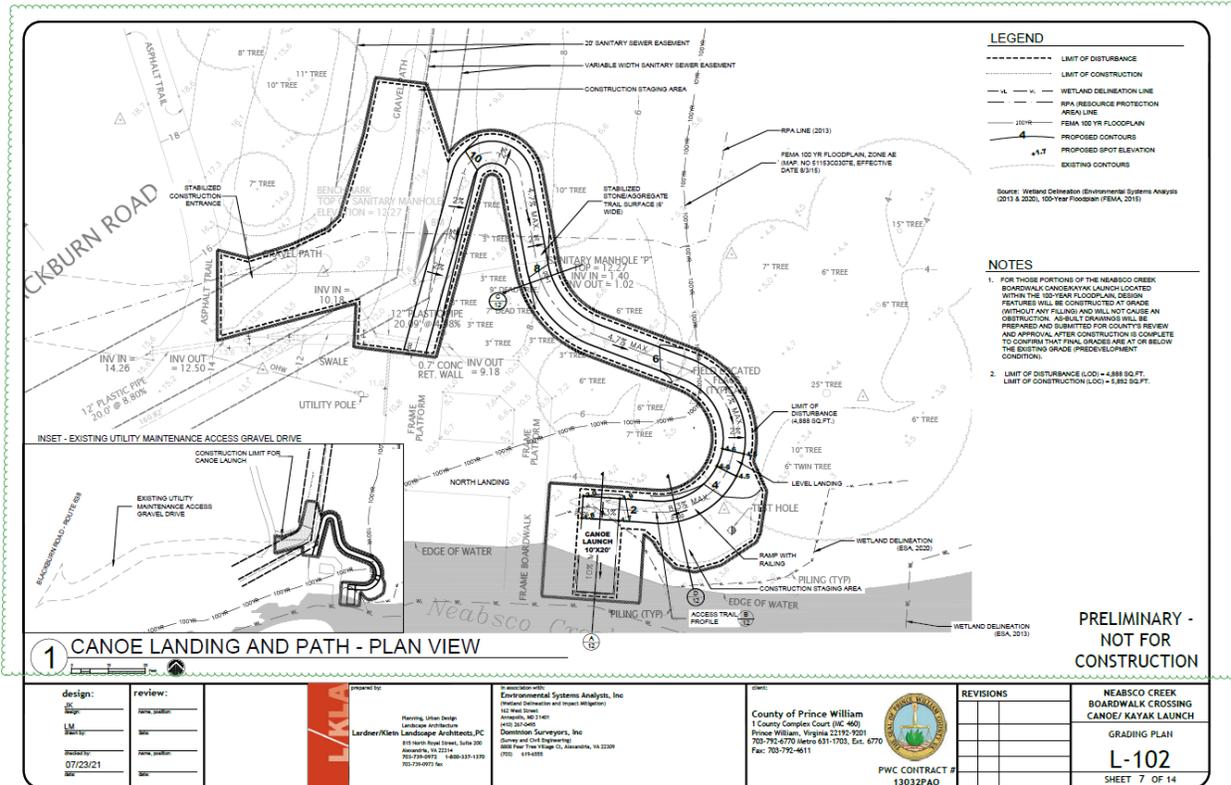


The Boardwalk's ADA Parking project has just received \$89,212 from the Woodbridge District Office end-of-year savings, reducing the funding need for the project to about \$22,000.

Neabsco Creek Kayak Launch

Project is shovel ready. This project was planned as a part of the Neabsco Creek Boardwalk project.

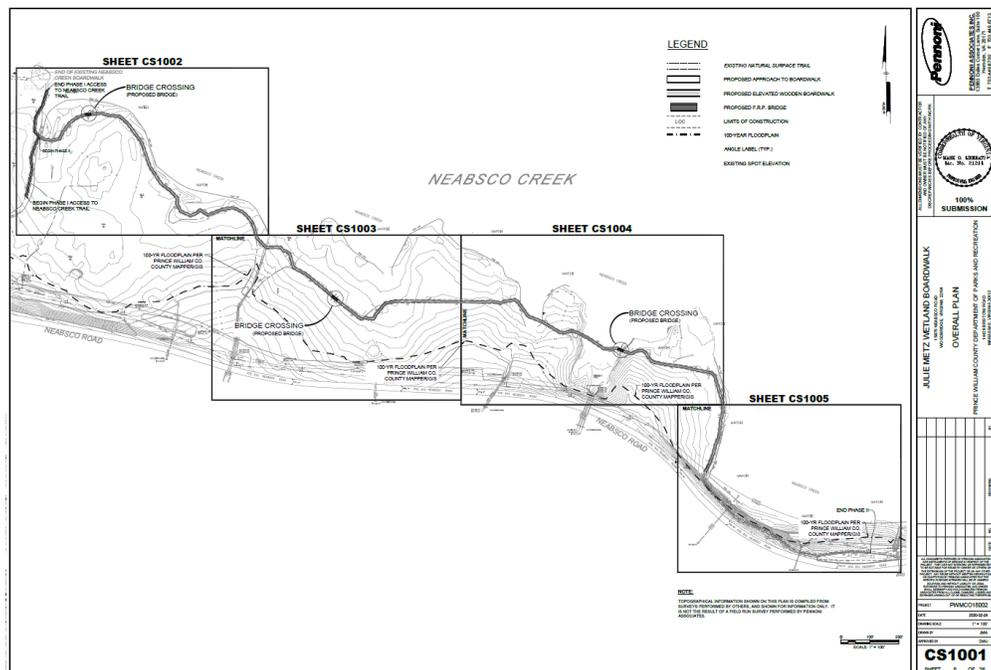
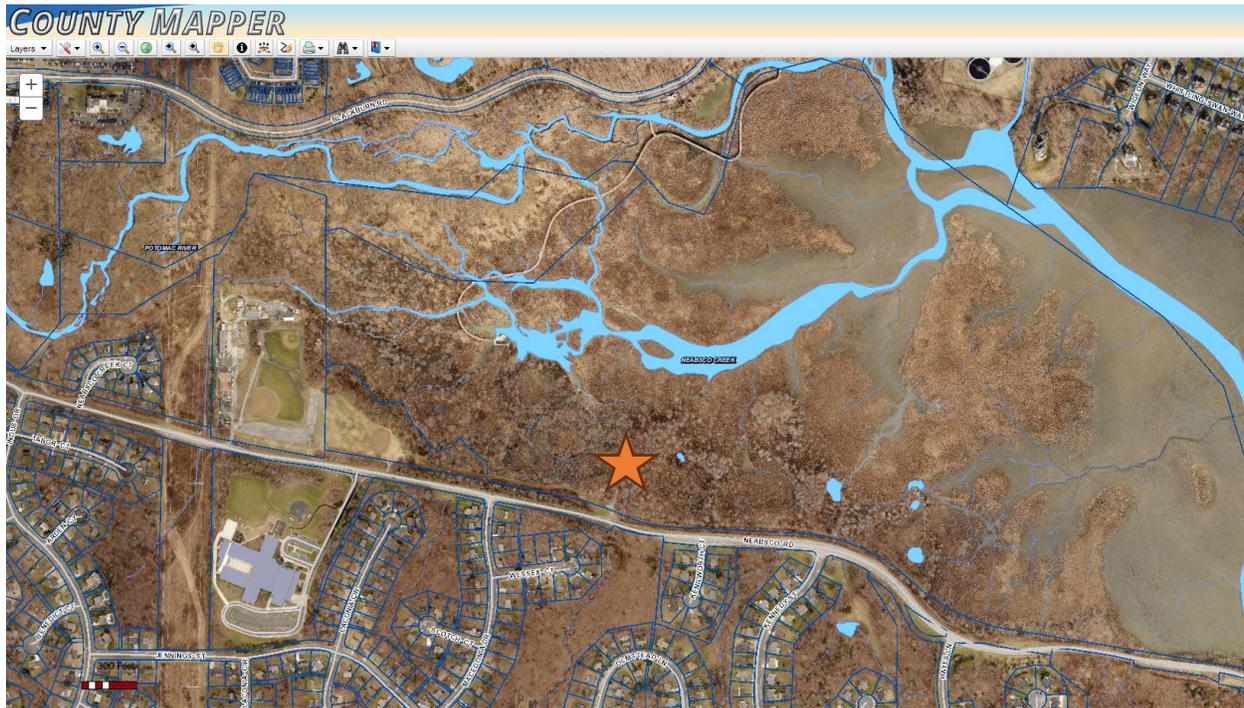
Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$250,000	NA	\$250,000	Shovel Ready



PHNST - Neabsco Creek (Metz) Wetland Preserve Boardwalk

Project is shovel ready. Requested funding will allow completion of full project scope. Phase one to be developed in FY24/25. This project is a key segment of the PHNST.

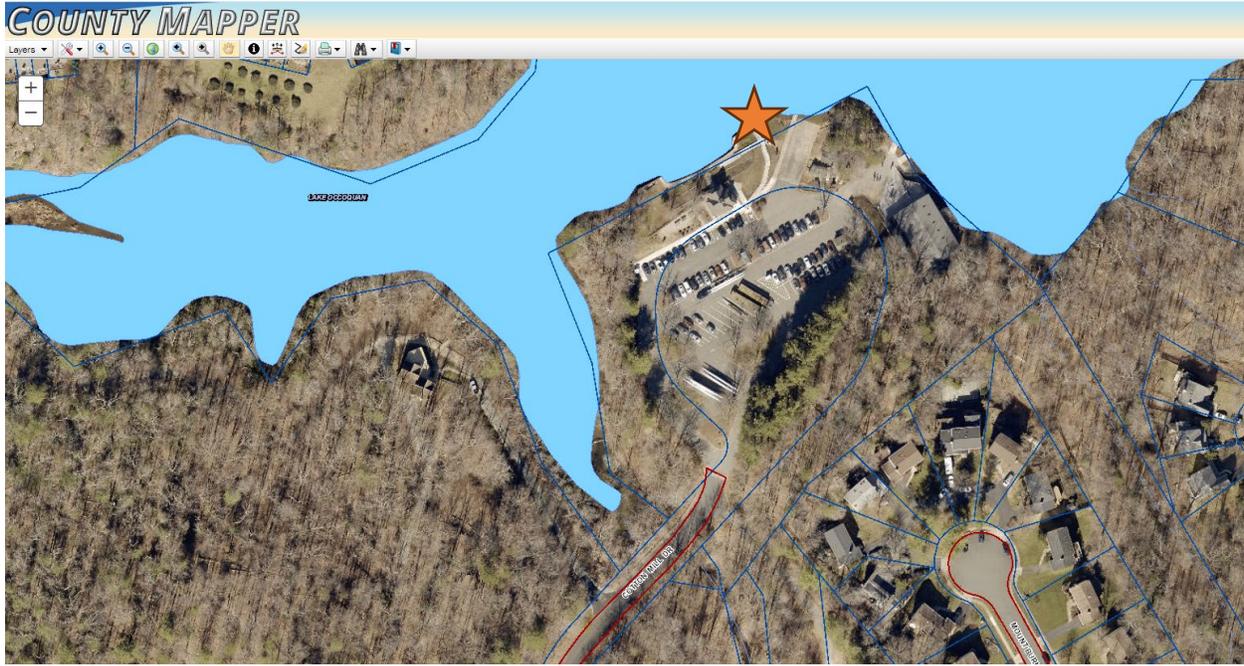
Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$5,224,505	\$1,203,691	\$4,020,814	Shovel Ready



Lake Ridge Marina Dock Replacement

Project was designed and bid twice in 2021 and 2022. Proposals were over budget. Staff made design modifications to bring down the cost, but additional funding is still required to complete the project. Temporary improvements have been made to keep the dock operational.

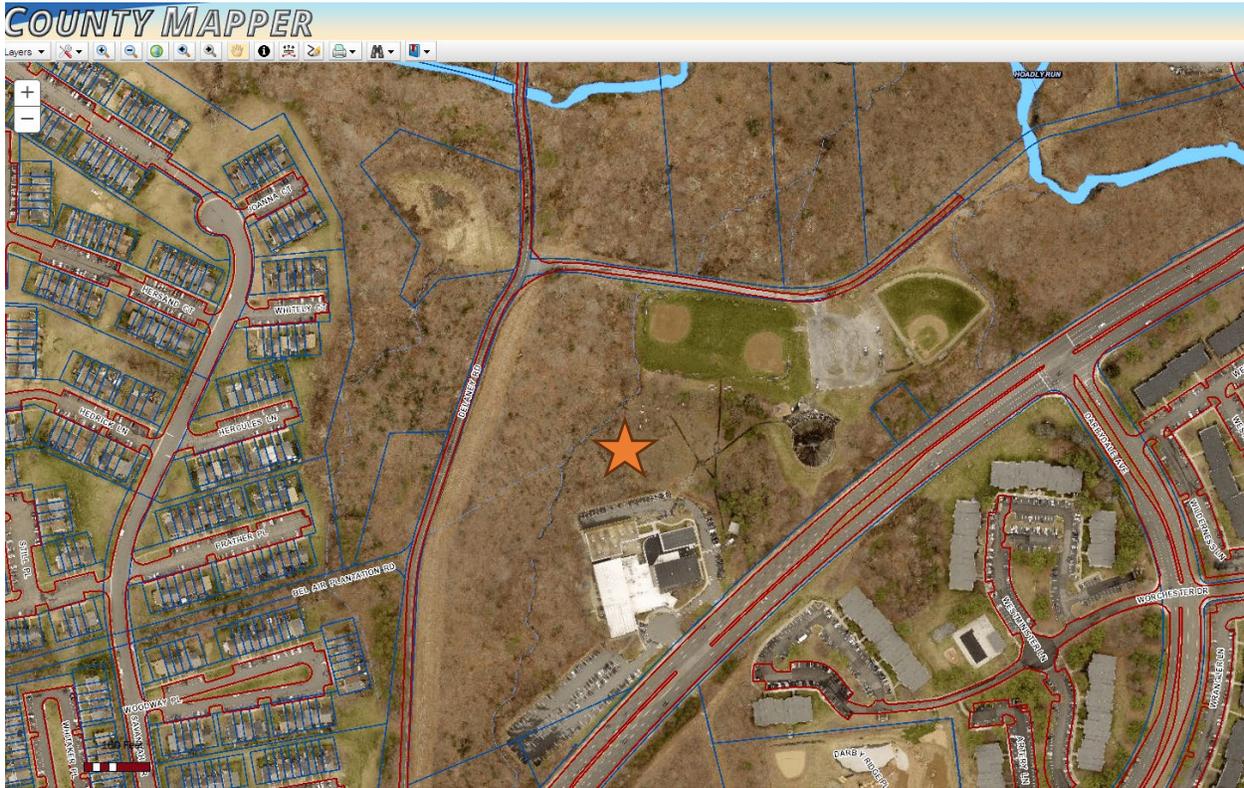
Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$2,000,000	NA	\$2,000,000	Design



SB Dale City Recreation Center Park Improvements

This is an ARPA project that lacks sufficient funds to complete. Without additional funds, the project will need to be phased in order to spend ARPA funds by the required deadline.

Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$1,800,000	\$1,075,000	\$725,000	Planning



The Park currently contains baseball diamond fields, playground, rest rooms, gravel parking area, batting cages, picnic shelter, picnic pads, grills, outdoor theater, and storage sheds. There are degraded asphalt pathways connecting the upper wooded part of the park with the lower ball field and playground areas.

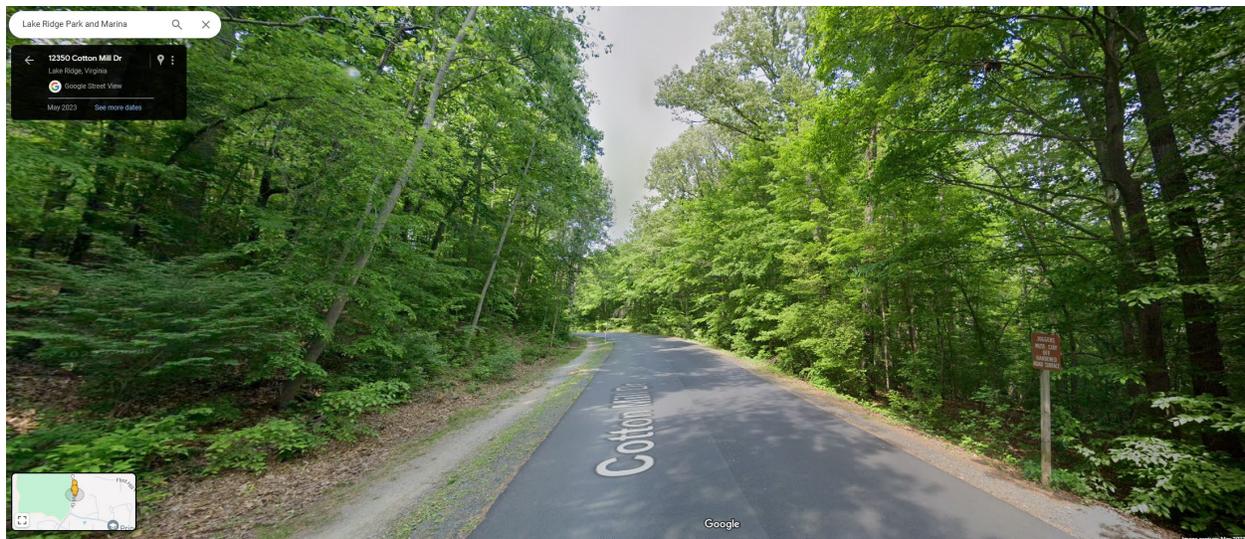
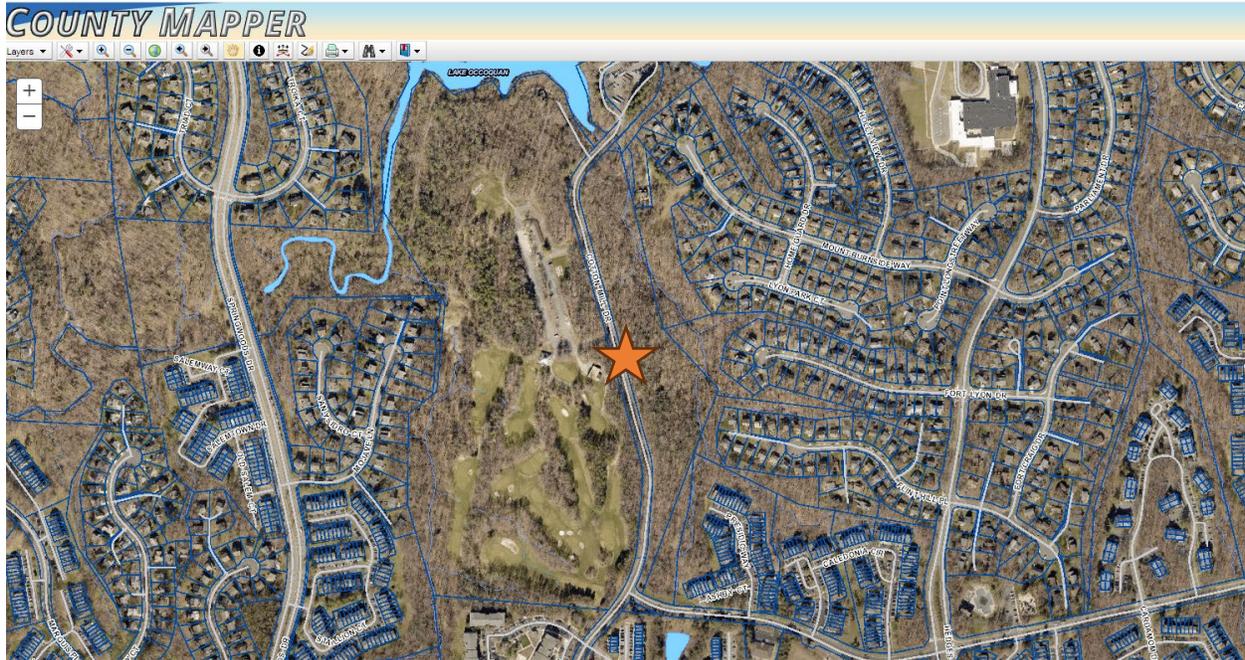
This ARPA-funded project is intended to increase accessibility throughout the park and to rehabilitate existing infrastructure. The wooded hillside offers a challenge to creating a fully accessible improvement. Staff are seeking public input via online survey to inform resource allocation decisions.

The Heavy Construction Contractors Association would like to repave the ADA spaces in the lower lot, improve/expand ADA access to the lower ballfield, add new bleacher pads and bleachers to the lower ballfield, and possibly replace fencing at the lower ballfield. They would provide all the labor and materials at no cost to the county, sourcing both from 35+ companies in the region.

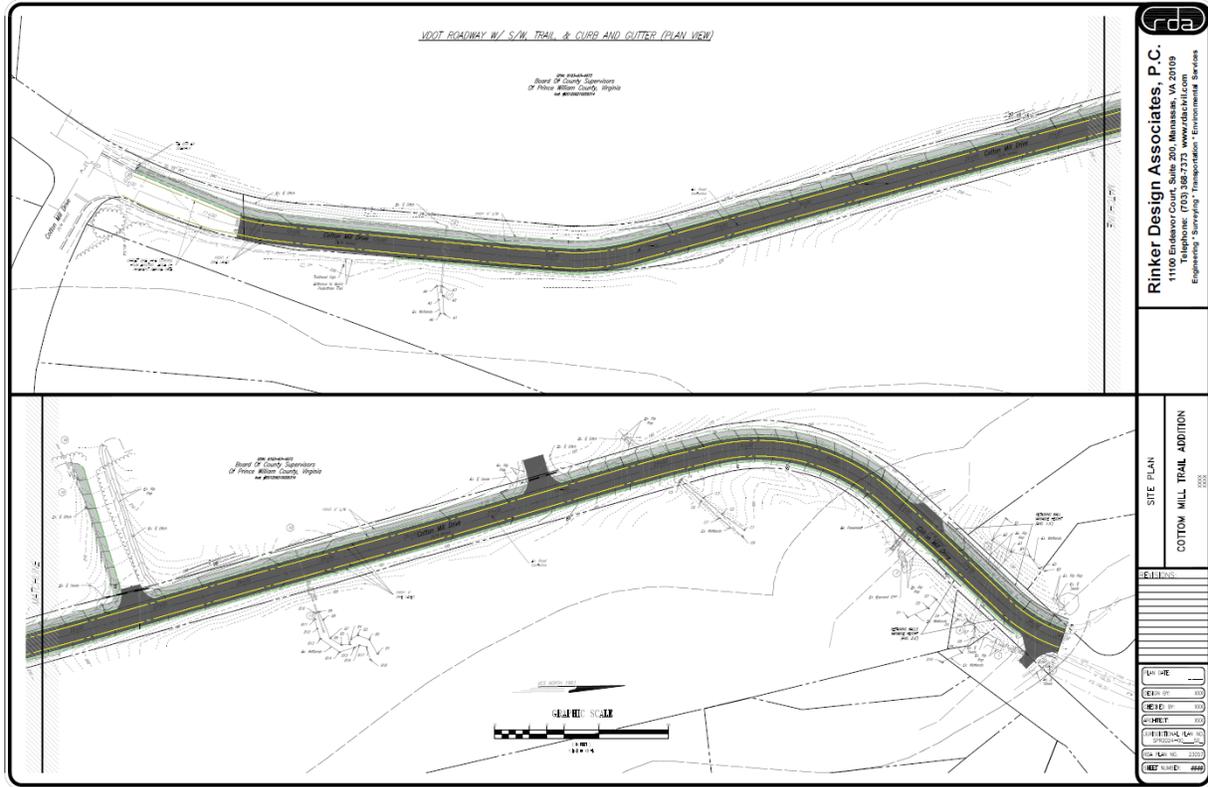
Lake Ridge Park Cotton Mill Trail Development

Initial justification: This is an ARPA project that lacks sufficient funds to complete. Without additional funds, the project will need to be phased in order to spend ARPA funds by the required deadline.

Cost Estimate (2023)	Prior Allocation	FY25 Request	Project Status
\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$1,000,000	Design



UPDATE: The project staff and consultants have identified an alternative design that meets budget constraints.



This new design will include a paved bike path plus a sidewalk on the opposite side of the road. Removing curb and gutter to streamline the design eliminates the need for retaining walls and assists with containing cost.