VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

VIRGINIA STATE TRAILS OFFICE UPDATES

TPB Bicycle And Pedestrian Subcommittee

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Agenda

- Statewide Trails Plan Phase 1
  - Multiuse Trails definition
- Statewide Trails Plan Phase 2
- Resource Hub
- Trail Design and Cost Guidelines

The Virginia Creeper Trail, Southwest Virginia

Statewide Trails Plan – Phase 1

Help Build Virginia's Network of Trails

Virginia's Statewide Trails Plan will lay the groundwork for a network of multi-use trails in the Commonwealth. The State Trails Office invites you and your community to participate in the process.

The Statewide Trails Plan will:

- Inventory existing and proposed multi-use trails in the Commonwealth
- Identify key gaps in Virginia's network of multi-use trails
- Outline next steps and best practices in multi-use trail development
- Provide opportunities for community visioning and engagement

The Statewide Trails Plan will focus on multi-use trails.

Multiuse Trails definition

State of Trail System – Overview

Inventory of current statewide trail network using data from DCR, MPOs, PDCs and local jurisdictions

Review data quality and attributes

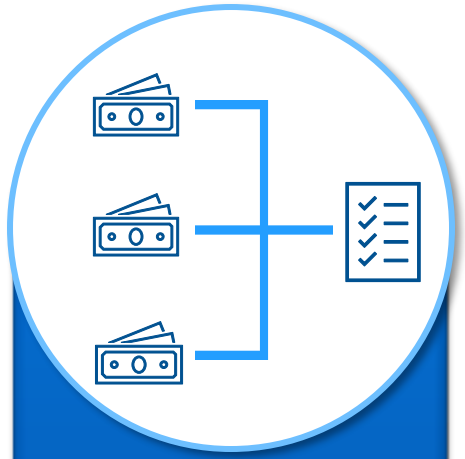
Identify high-level multi-use trail needs to inform Statewide Trail Plan

Initiate development of a statewide Resource Hub for all trails

Statewide Trails Plan – Phase 2

Identify physical barriers to trails

Analyze connections to multimodal networks



Aggregate local, state, and federal funding resources

Develop standards and guidance for context sensitive trail design

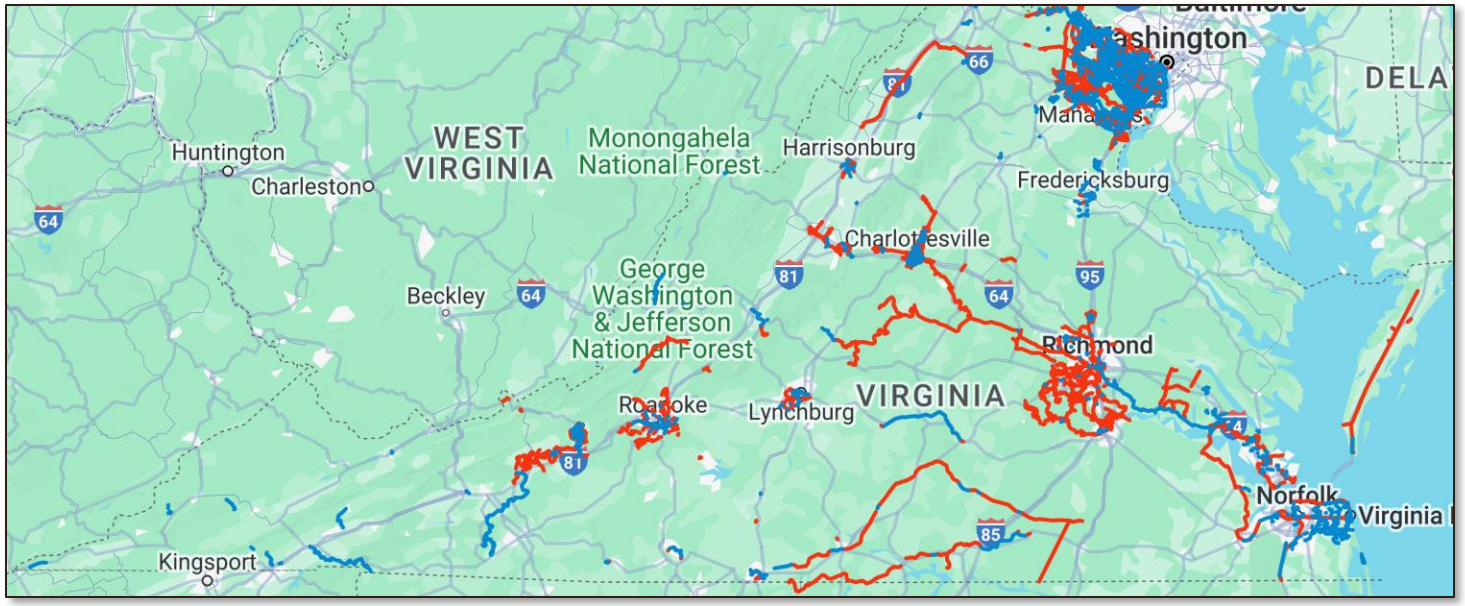
Create a StoryMap summarizing plan content

Resource Hub

- **A resource site for all types of trails in Virginia**
- **Map existing trail facilities**
  - Shared-use paths
  - Rail-to-Trail/Rail-with-Trail
  - Single track
  - State Park trail
  - Publicly and privately owned-publicly accessible trails
- **Collaborate with stakeholders to refine content that best meets the needs of end users.**
- **Standardize trail input attributes**
- **Spatialize trails data and develop an interactive mapping interface**

Resource Hub – Initial Steps

- **1500 miles of existing multiuse trails**
- **Attributes:**
  - Trail Name
  - Trail Surface Type
  - Trail Use
  - Width in Feet
  - Segment Length
  - Trail Open Date
  - Locality Name
  - Ownership and Maintenance Structure



Trails Data Inventory (January 2024)

Trail Design and Cost Guidelines

- Context sensitive design guidelines
- List the different trail contexts in Virginia
  - Coastal
  - Mountain
  - Environmentally sensitive areas
  - Urban, Suburban, Rural
- Identify trail criteria and attributes that impact cost
  - Surface material
  - Width
  - Structures
- Decision matrix for trail development based on location, design, and federal/state funding eligibility criteria

Contact:

Website: vdot.virginia.gov/trails

State Trails Office: statetrailsoffice@vdot.virginia.gov

State Trails Office Staff: Cassi Patterson, Jake Helmboldt, Torsha Bhattacharya