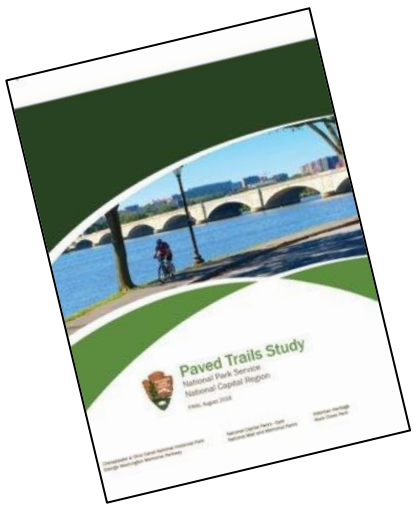


National Park Service National Capital Area Trail Program Update



Introductions



NPS Region 1 – National Capital Area



Laurel Hammig

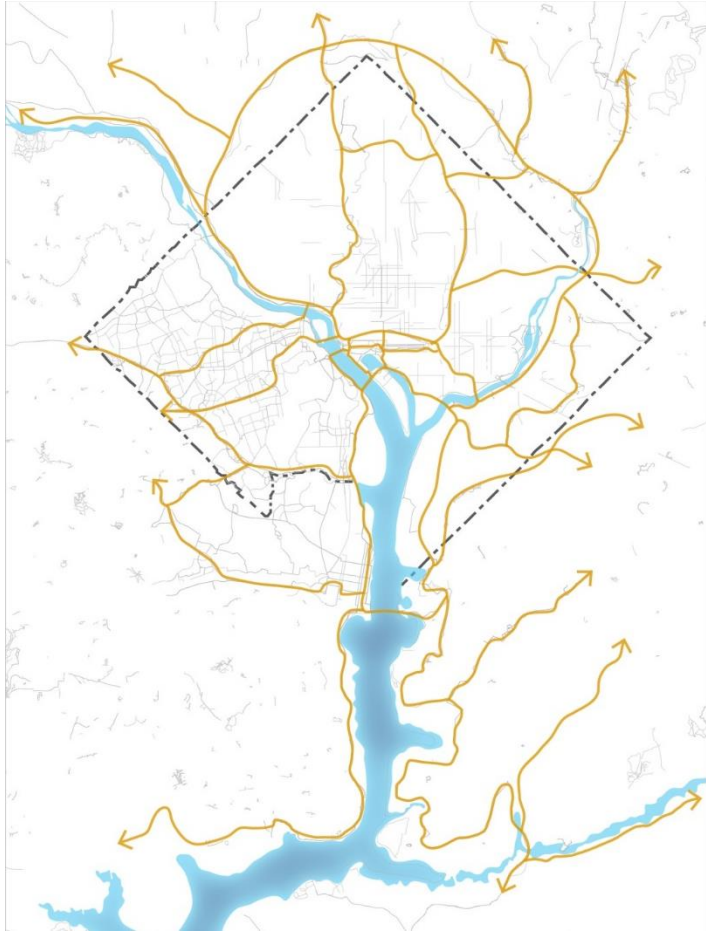
Regional Planner – Lands
& Planning



David Daddio

Transportation Program
Manager – Facilities,
Design, & Construction

Trail Program Overview



Vision: Lead the region in providing exceptional outdoor trail experiences that connect cultural and natural landscapes.

The National Park Service:

- **Plans and coordinates** trail connections regionwide
- **Operates and maintains** 100 miles of existing trail
- **Executes** trail projects with federal, state, and local partners

Plan & Coordinate



Paved Trails Study

National Park Service
National Capital Region

1996, August 2018

Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park
George Washington Memorial Parkway

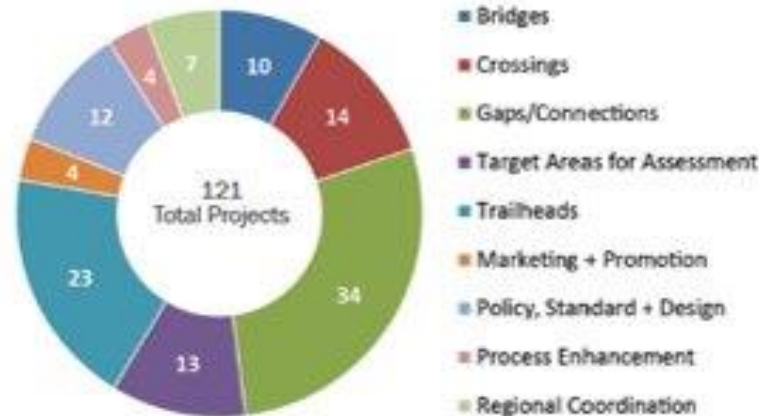
National Capital Parks – East
National Mall and Memorial Parks

Potomac Heritage
Area Studies Park

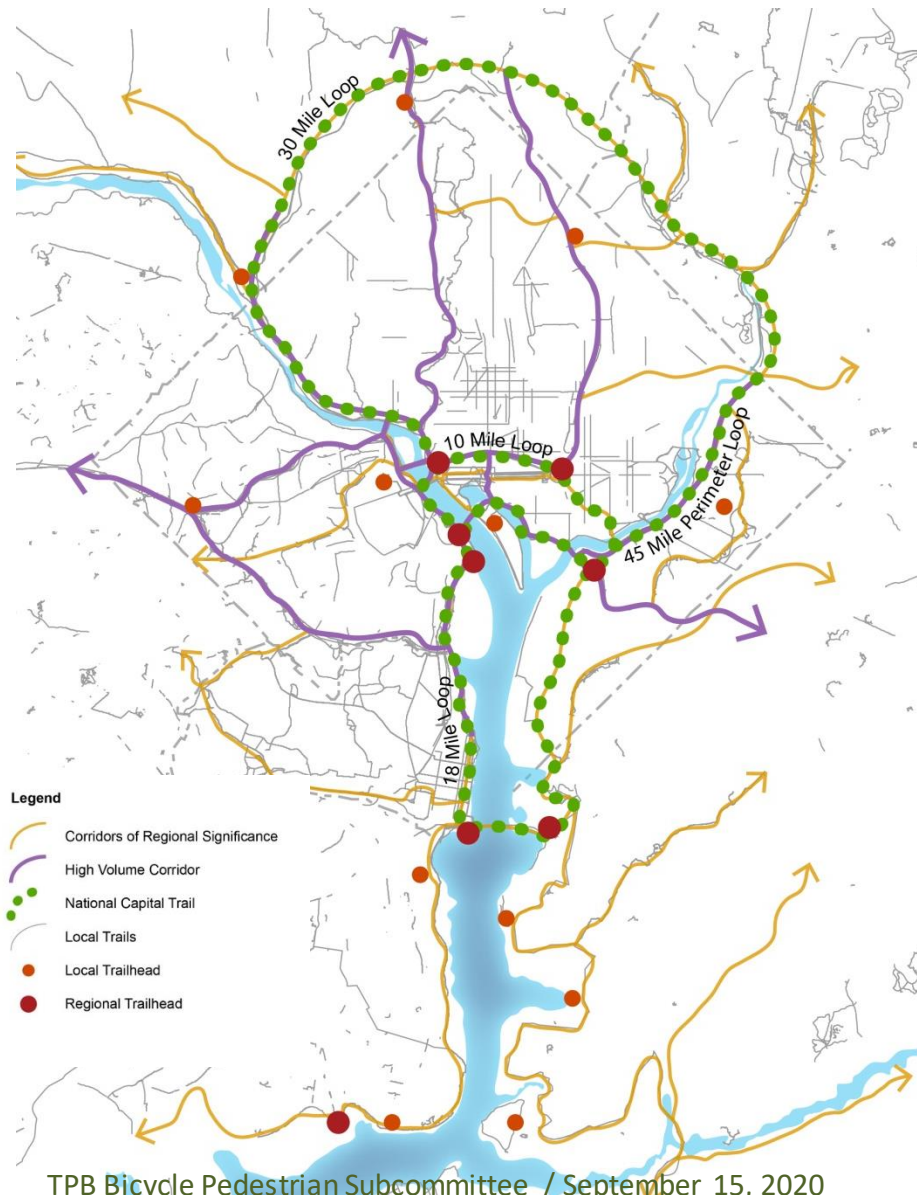
Identified:

- Corridors of Regional Significance
- High Volume Trail Corridors
- "National Capital Trail"

- **121 total recommendations**
- **94 capital projects** of which 18 rose to regional importance
- **27 programmatic recommendations**



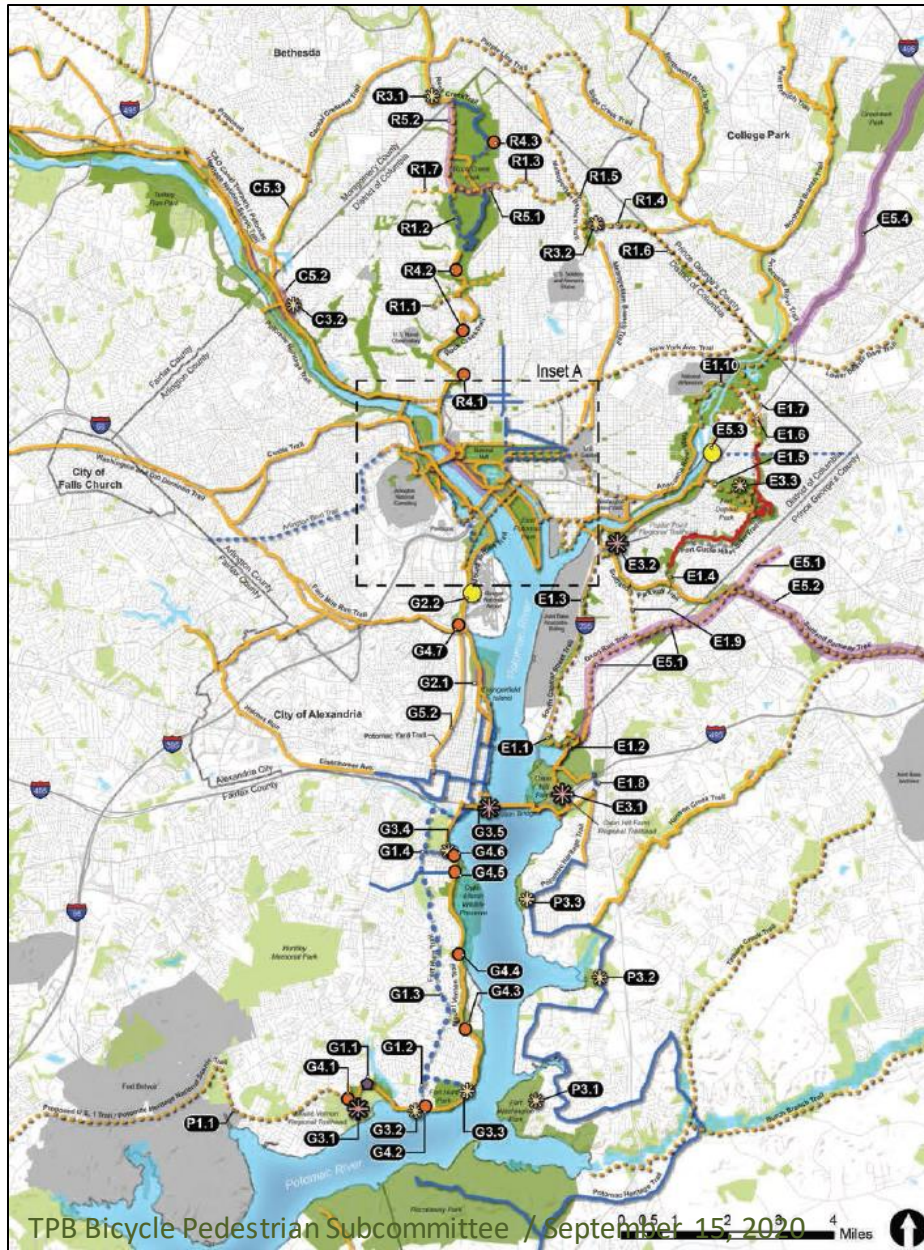
Plan & Coordinate (cont.)



Establish the “National Capital Trail”

- The National Capital Trail comprises four connected loops: a 30-mile northern loop, a 10-mile central loop around the monuments and the stadium, an 18-mile southern loop connecting to National Harbor and Old Town Alexandria, and a 45-mile perimeter loop. The approved network also includes seven miles of short connector trails.
- Approved in January 2018 for inclusion in the Transportation Planning Board’s Visualize 2045 plan as part of an aspirational element.
- July 2020 TPB approved expanded network covering all TPB member jurisdictions
 - 1,400-mile, continuous network of long-distance, off-street trails
 - Approximately 1/3 complete

Plan & Coordinate (cont.)



Capital Priorities

6 Park Units:

C= Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP

G= George Washington Memorial Parkway

E= National Capital Parks East

N= National Mall and Memorial Parks

P= Potomac Heritage

R= Rock Creek Park

5 Project Types:

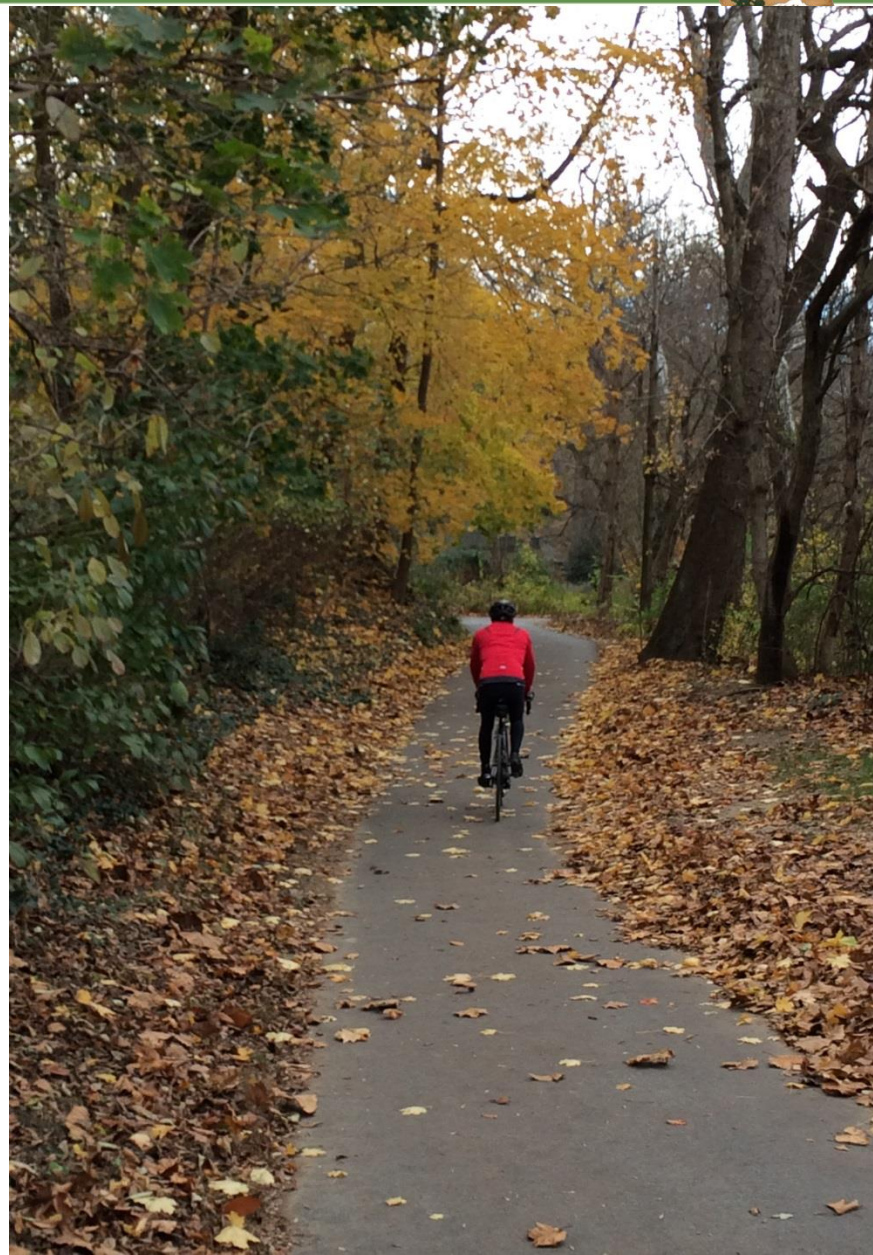
1. Gap/Connector
2. Bridge
3. Trailhead
4. Crossing Improvement
5. Target Assessment Area

Plan & Coordinate (cont.)



Non-Capital Priorities

- Establish system-wide trail count coverage within 5 years.
- Identify opportunities for additional Bikeshare stations on NPS property.
- Establish a regional trail coordinator.
- Evaluate safety data from partners and United States Park Police annually and correlate to trail improvements.

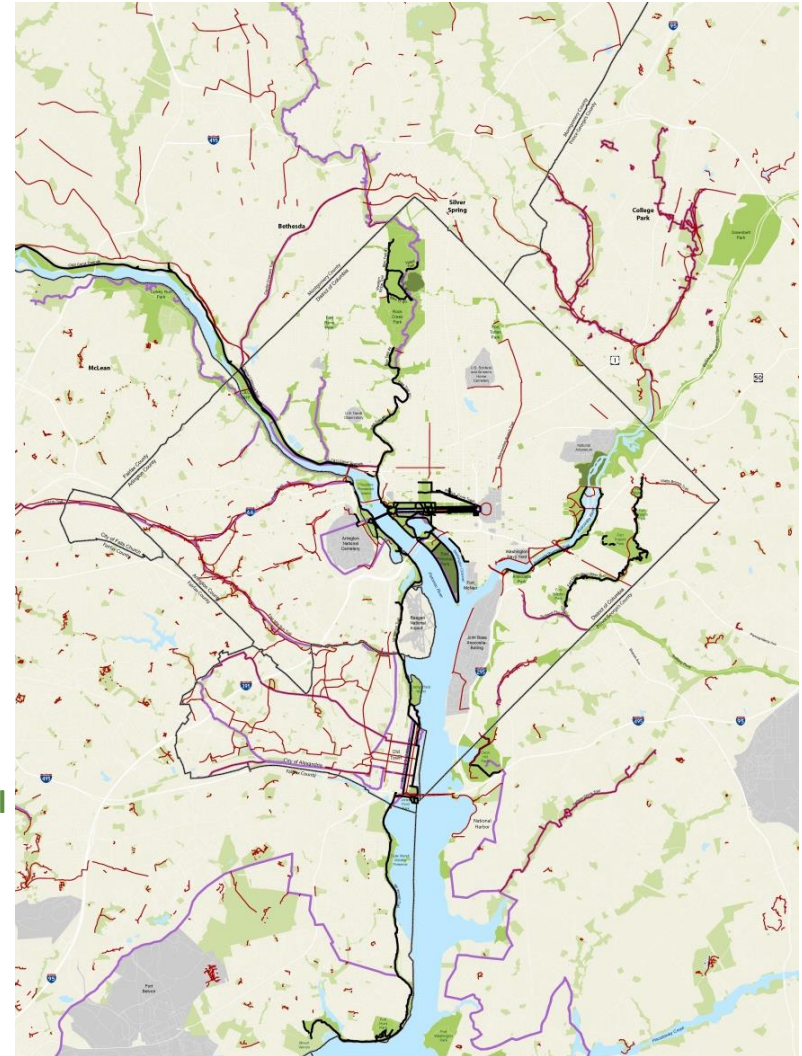


Operate & Maintain (cont.)



5 National Parks **operate and maintain** ~100 miles of trail in the regional core.

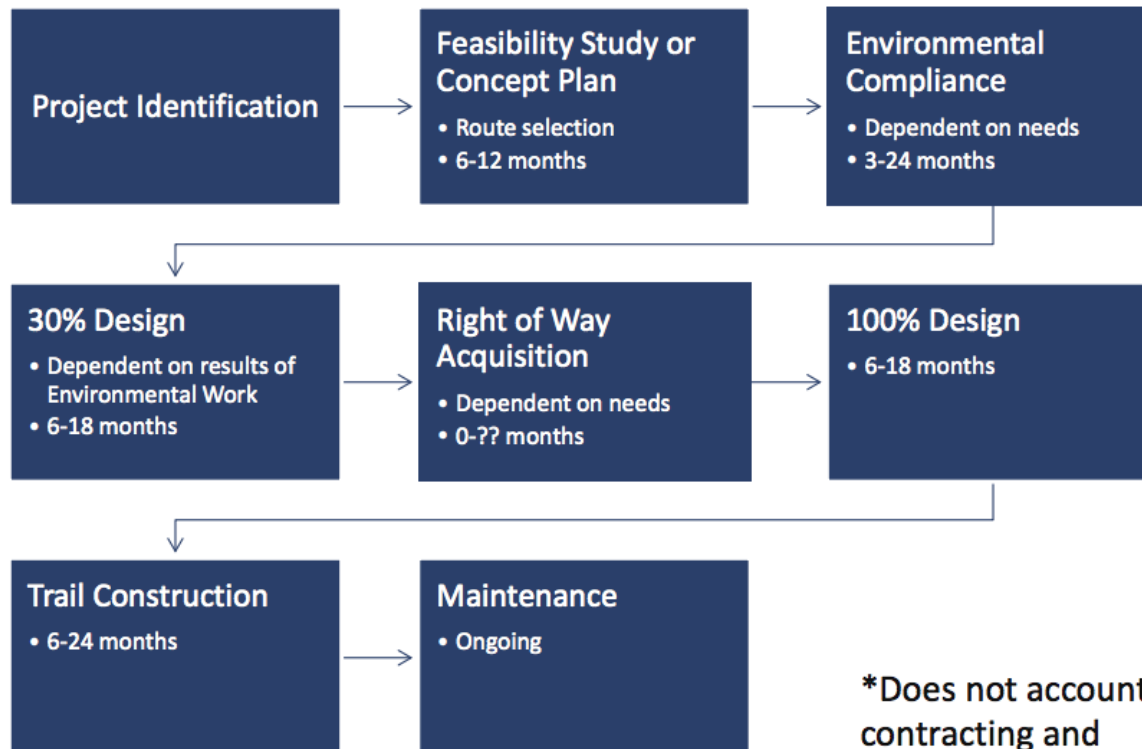
- **Mount Vernon Trail**
- Eisenhower Ave/Holmes Run Trail
- Potomac Run Trail
- Four Mile Run Trail
- Arlington Boulevard Trail
- Custis Trail
- W + O D Trail
- **C + O Canal Towpath**
- **Capital Crescent Trail**
- **Rock Creek Park Trail**
- **Potomac Heritage Trail**
- **Fort Totten Connector**
- Purple Line Trail
- Sligo Creek Trail
- Northwest Branch Trail
- Northeast Branch Trail
- **Anacostia Riverwalk Trail**
- Metropolitan Branch Trail
- New York Avenue Trail
- South Capital Trail
- **Oxon Run Trail**
- **Suitland Parkway Trail**
- **Fort Circle Hiker Biker Trail**
- Henson Creek Trail



Execute



Trail Development Process*



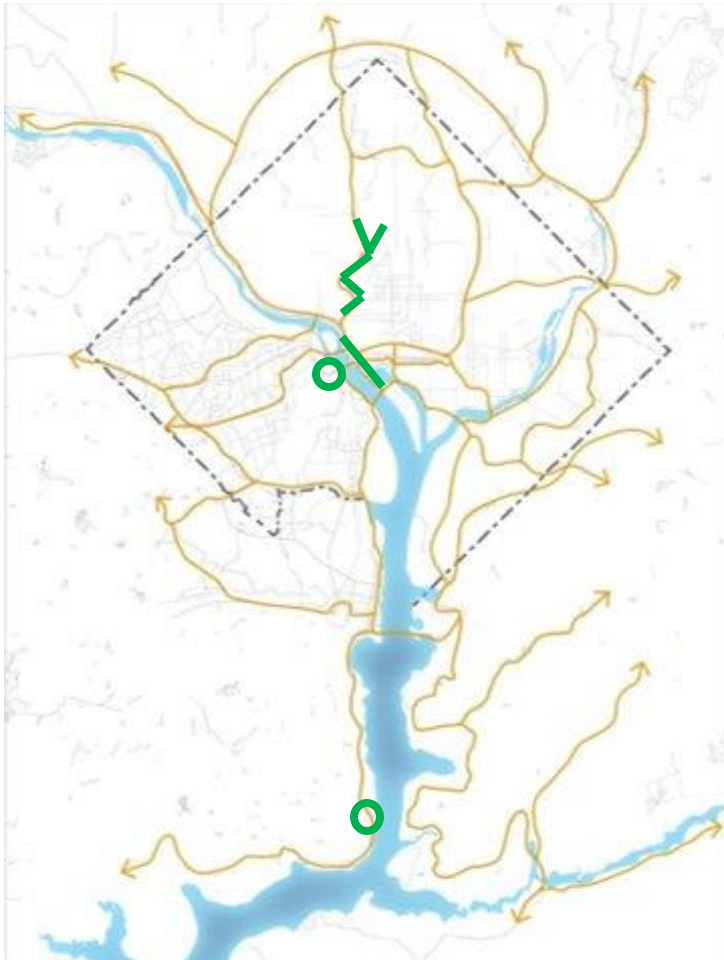
*Does not account for contracting and procurement

Trail Program – Execute (cont.)

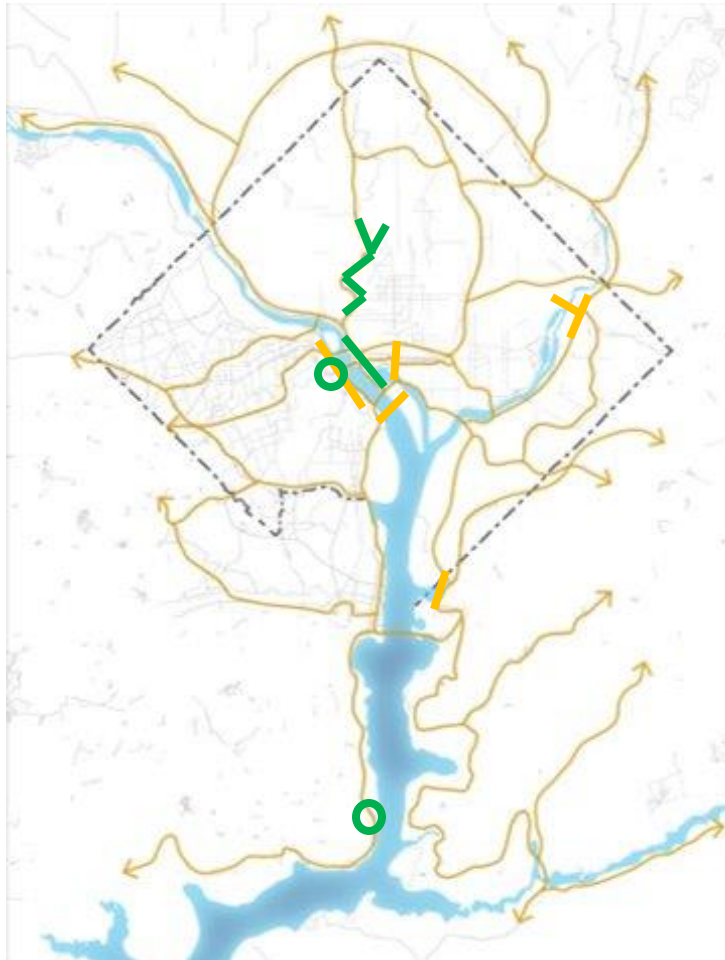


Construction-Ready:

- Memorial Circle
- ROCR + Piney Branch Trails
- Kennedy Center Trail
- MVT Bridge 12



Trail Program – Execute (cont.)



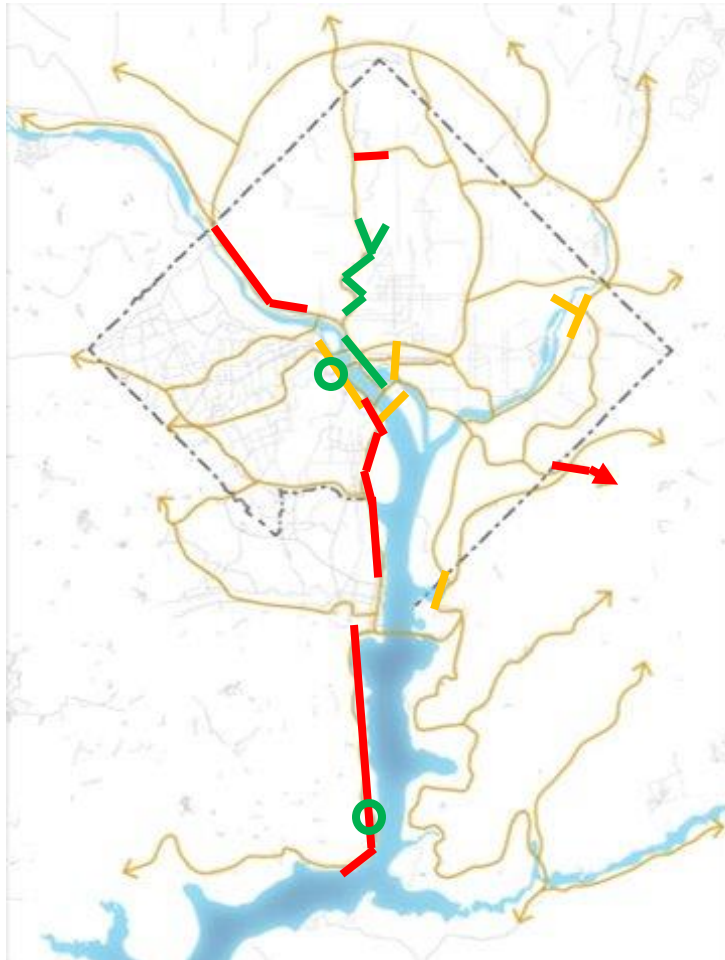
Construction-Ready:

- **Memorial Circle**
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- **Kennedy Center Trail**
- **MVT Bridge 12**

Design/Compliance:

- **Mount Vernon Trl. North**
- **ART Bridge + Kenilworth**
- **15th Street Cycletrack**
- **Long Bridge (Ped Bridge)**
- **Oxon Cove Trl.**

Trail Program – Execute (cont.)



Construction-Ready:

- Memorial Circle
- ROCR + Piney Branch Trails
- Kennedy Center Trail
- MVT Bridge 12

Design/Compliance:

- Mount Vernon Trl. North
- ART Bridge + Kenilworth
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Scoping/Feasibility Study:

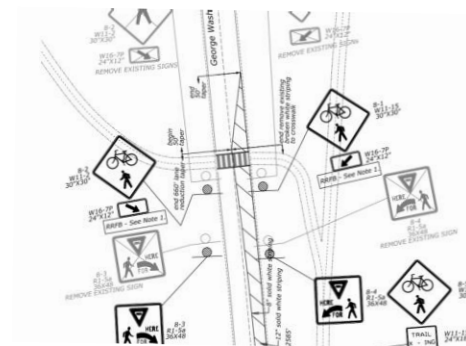
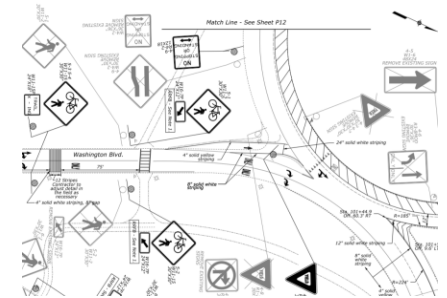
- Mount Vernon Trl. South
- Suitland Parkway
- Military Road
- CCT Repairs/CHOH Towpath Resurfacing

National Park Service



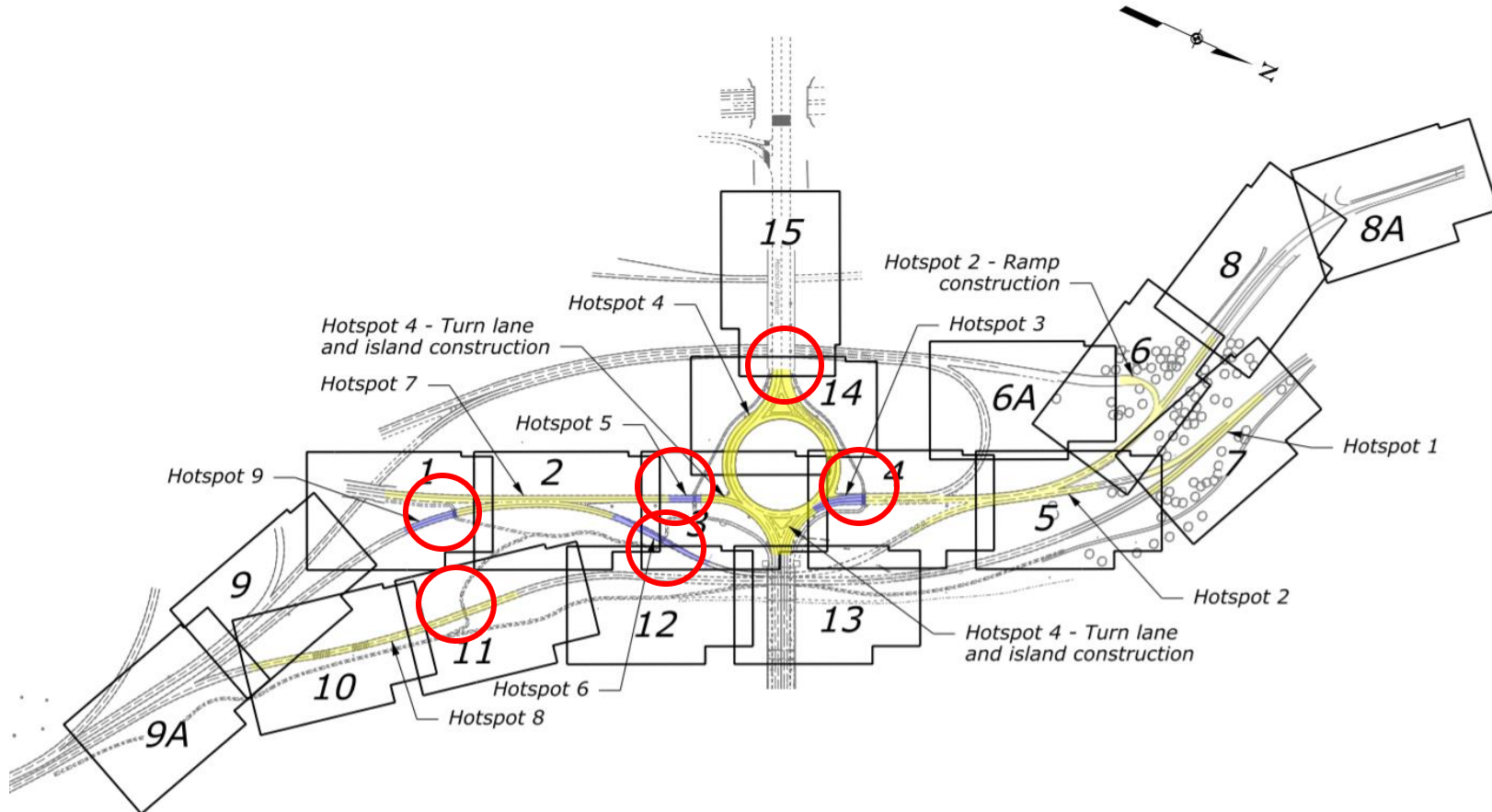
Memorial Circle Safety Improvements

- Key connection from the MVT to DC
- Sensitive cultural landscape
- Environmental Assessment (2019) (w/traffic modeling) recommended:
 - Identified hotspots like Multiple unsignalized double- and triple-threat crosswalks
 - Simplify vehicle turn movements (traffic circle road diet)
 - Reduce crossing distances (2 locations)
 - Eliminate off-ramps
 - Enhance Crosswalk Visibility (5 locations)
 - RRFBs
 - Advanced stop signage/stripping
 - Rumble strips





Memorial Circle Safety Improvements



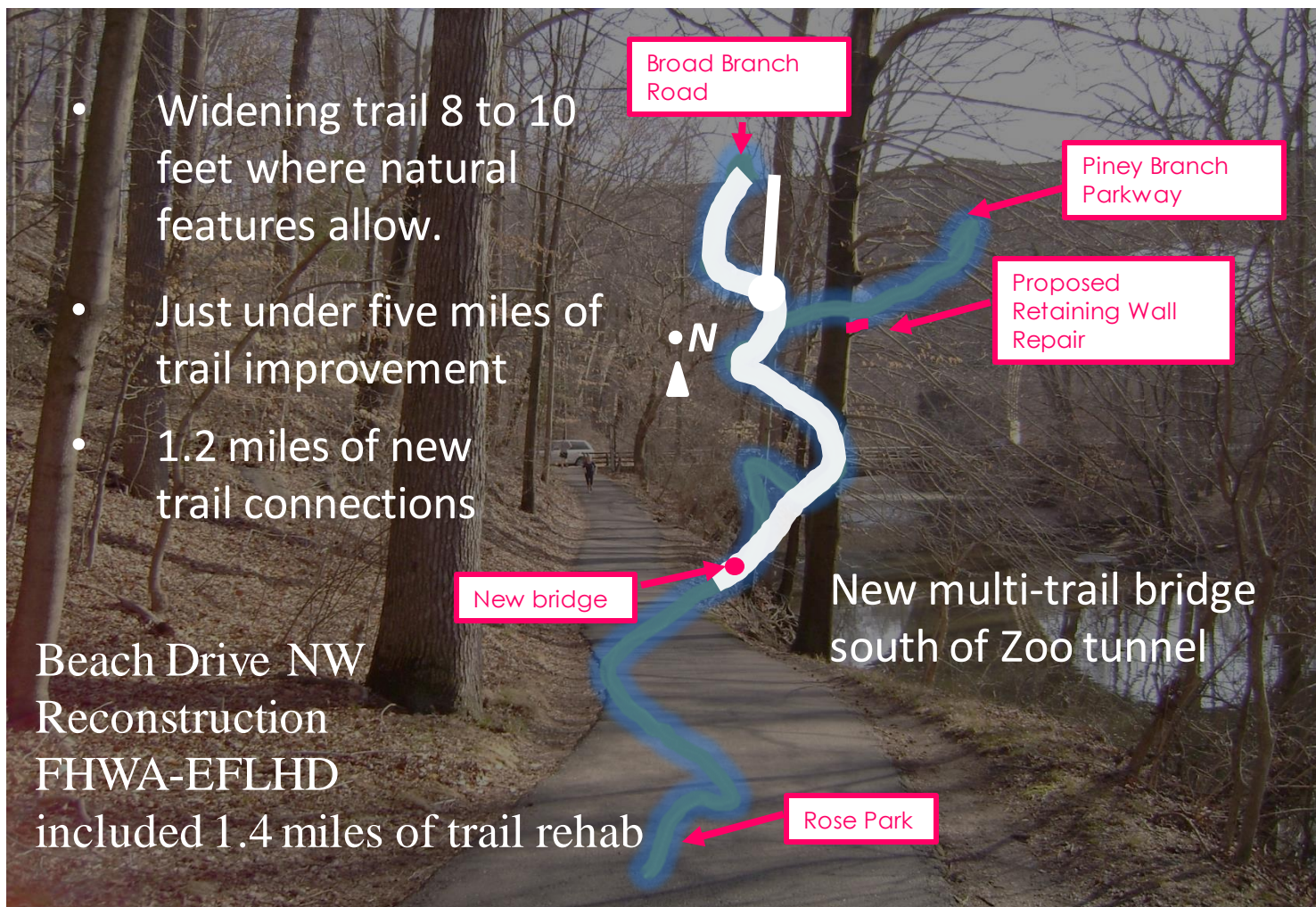
National Park Service



Rock Creek Park Multi-Use Trail Rehab

- Widening trail 8 to 10 feet where natural features allow.
- Just under five miles of trail improvement
- 1.2 miles of new trail connections

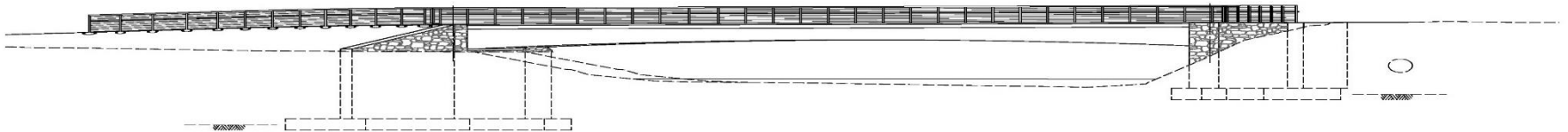
Beach Drive NW
Reconstruction
FHWA-EFLHD
included 1.4 miles of trail rehab





Overview of the New Trail Bridge

- Precast concrete, single span, double-T section
- Connects with the Zoo loop trail and the widened trail through the tunnel
- Alleviates existing narrow crossing on road bridge

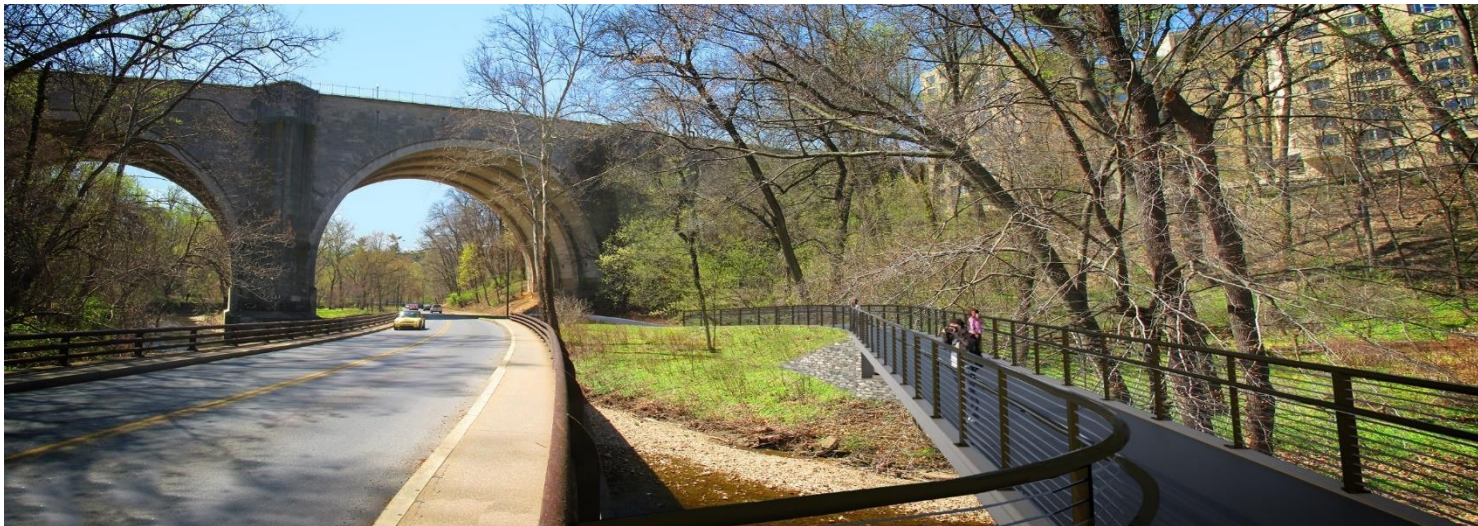


National Park Service



New Trail Bridge

- Post & cable railing
- Deck lighting
- Designed to withstand major flooding

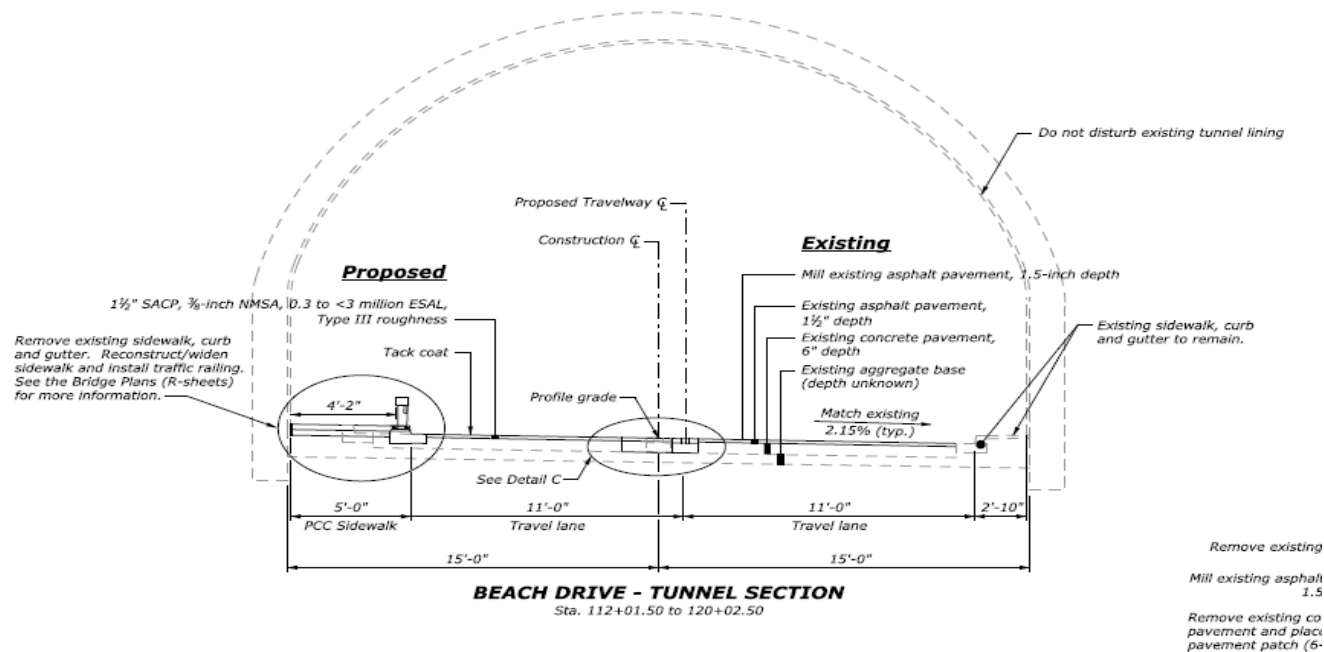


National Park Service



Widened Trail Through Tunnel

- Path through tunnel was 2' 10" with no protective railing.
- Project narrowed Beach Drive travel lanes from 24' total to 22' total.
- This allowed widening of trail width to 5', including crash-worthy railing, increasing trail passage to 4' 2".



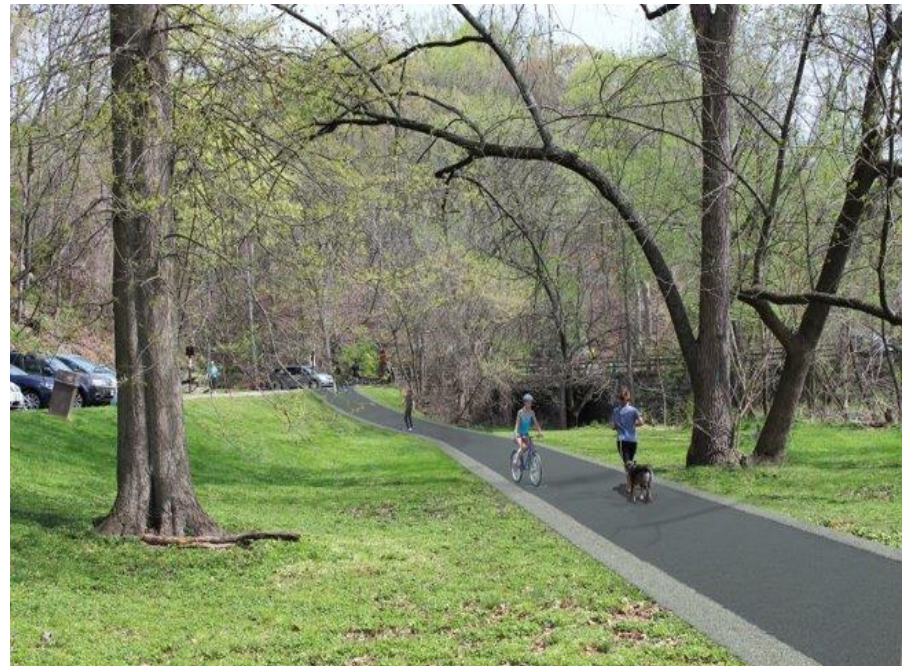
National Park Service



New Trail Sections



Proposed Trail, Piney Branch Trail at 16th Street NW



Proposed Trail, South of Broad Branch Rd NW

National Park Service



Rehabilitated Trail Sections



North of Lyons Mill Bridge



Rose Park

National Park Service



Rock Creek Path/Kennedy Center

- Reconstruct the trail in front of Kennedy Ctr.
- Repave the trail along Ohio Drive
- Tunnel through TR Bridge abutment
- ADA/x-walk enhancements, and lighting upgrades



National Park Service



Mount Vernon Trail Rehab

- Mount Vernon Trail Corridor Study (2020) found that MVT lacks width to meet current usage:
- **Width:** Current and projected usage suggest the trail should be (where feasible):
 - 3'-6' wider north of Alexandria to facilitate safe passing (11'-14' in high-use areas); at least 10 ft. South of Jones Point
 - Bridges should be 4 feet wider than the approaching trail
- **Conflict Points and Blind Curves:** At-grade road crossings, trail intersections, and blind curves represent significant crash potential
- **Other safety features:** Trail signage and pavement markings are worn and rudimentary

National Park Service



Mount Vernon Trail Rehab



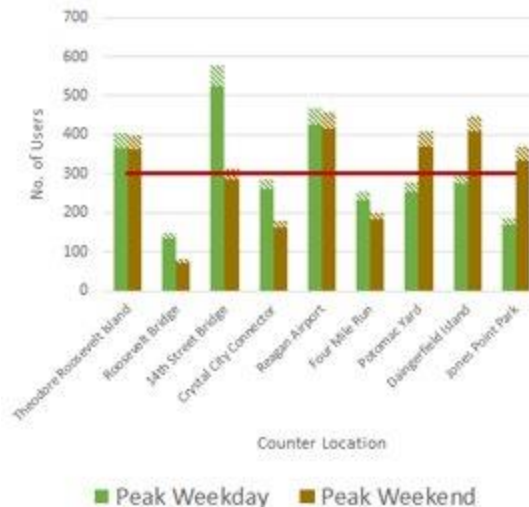
National Park Service



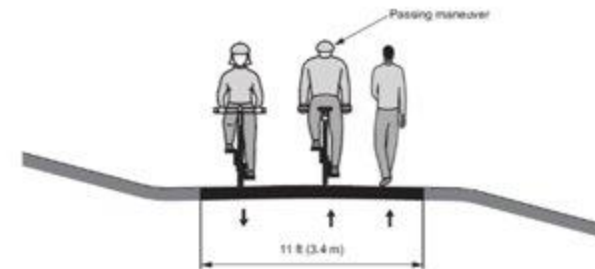
Mount Vernon Trail Corridor Trail Findings

11 to 14 feet trail width is key for safe passing where:

- Pedestrians are 30%+ more of users
- There are 300+ users during the peak hour



4 counter locations > 300 user threshold on weekdays and 6 locations on weekends



National Park Service



Mount Vernon Bridge 31/32

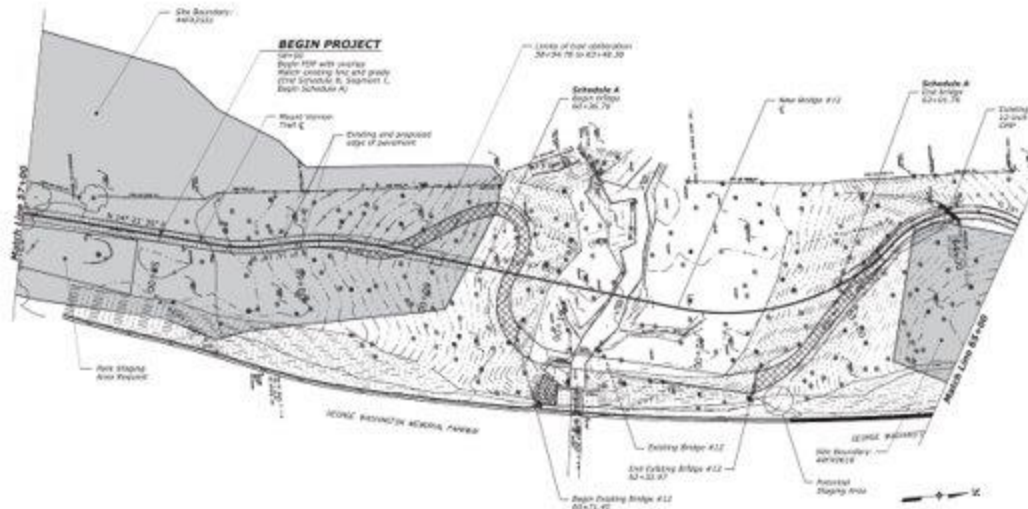
- Replace/widen the 1,400' timber bridge from 12' to 14' rail-to-rail
- Address deterioration and deck deflection/vibration
- Eliminates "T" intersection and delineate bike/ped movements to TR Bridge
- Install AASHTO-compliant railings





Mount Vernon Bridge 12

- Replace/Realign Deteriorated bridge
- Repave MVT between Fort Hunt Dr. And Waynewood Ave.
- Upgrade to AASHTO-compliant railings

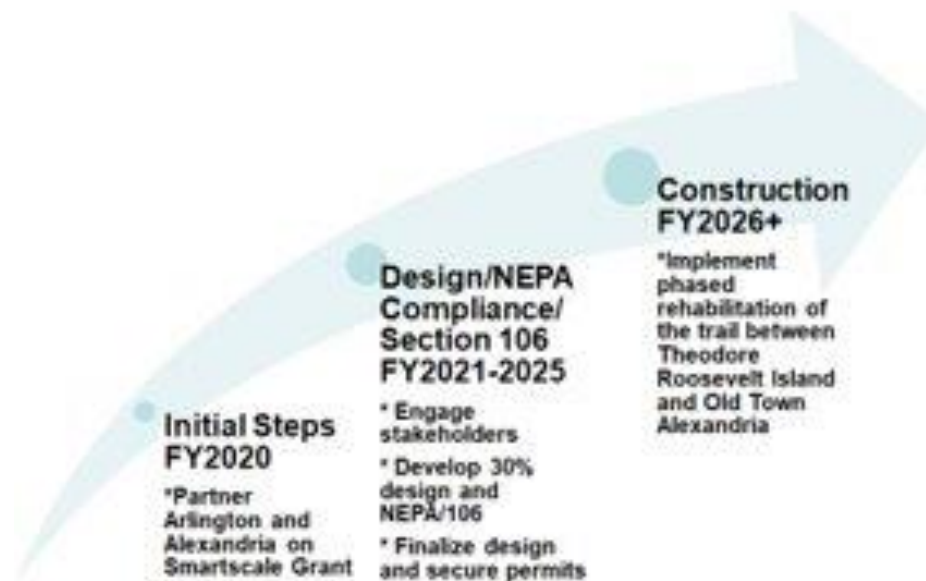


National Park Service



Mount Vernon Trail Rehab Next Steps

- **Bridge 12** – Construction in 2021
- **MVT North (Incl. Bridge 31/32)** – Preliminary Design, Pending \$20M VDOT Smartscale Grant
 - Partnership with Arlington and Alexandria
- **MVT South** – Performing initial scoping this summer





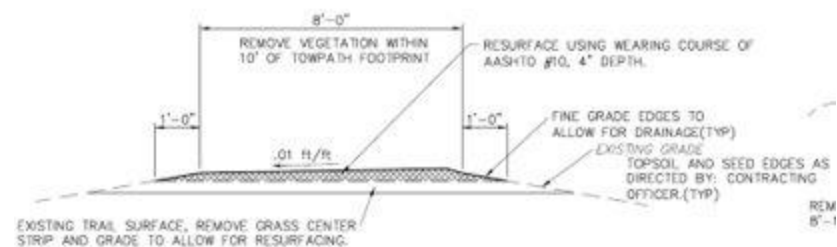
Capital Crescent Trail

- NPS Owns the CCT in the District
- Recent assessment identified needs:
 - Install new striping and signage
 - Address drainage and shoulder issues (near Chain Bridge)
 - Correct safety deficiencies at Fletchers Cove
 - Remove debris and tree overgrowth
 - Clarify Water St./Georgetown Entrance

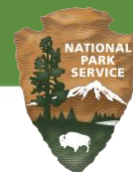


Towpath Resurfacing

- Towpath Safety Assessment (2016) recommended:
 - Standardized 10' cross-section and surface materials
 - 5 year resurfacing program focused on ~80 miles



National Park Service



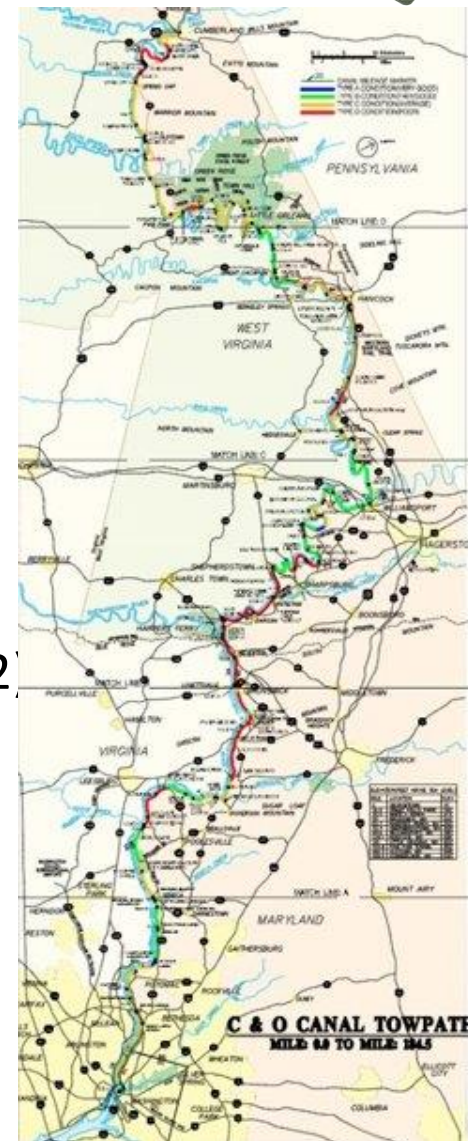
Towpath Resurfacing Continued

Complete/Under Contract:

- Violettes Lock to Whites Ferry (MP 23-35)
- Whites Ferry to Landers Road (MP 35-51)
- Brunswick to Shepherdstown (MP 55-73)

Potential Future:

- Key Bridge to Lock 16 (MP 1-16)
- Swains Lock to Violettes Lock(MP 16-23)
- Town Creek Aqueduct to Sports Complex Road (MP 162-182)





Anacostia River Trail

- Arboretum Bridge and Trail will provide a link across the river for the neighborhoods north of Benning Road, and specifically provide direct and safe access from the eastern side of the river to the National Arboretum and western side
- Kenilworth phase II of Section 3 will provide visitors a path closer to the waterfront for a more natural visitor experience

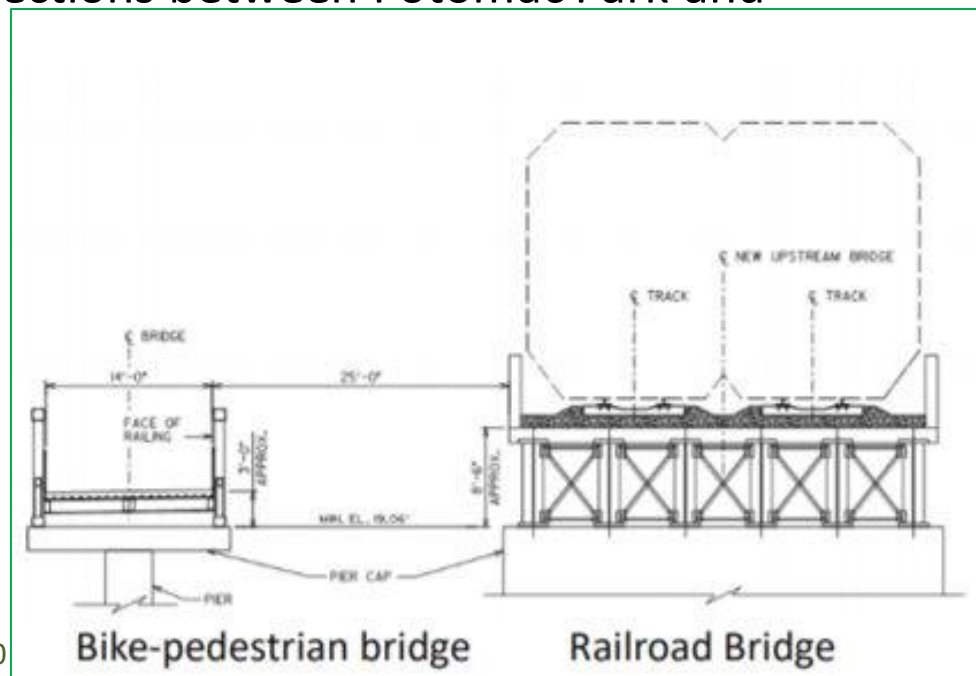


National Park Service



Long Bridge Pedestrian Bridge

- Section 4(f) mitigation plan requires construction of a new 14' wide trail bridge across the Potomac:
 - Connects Long Bridge Park to NPS Parking Lot C (w/ connection to the MVT)
- NPS will explore longer term connections between Potomac Park and Planned 15th Street Cycletrack



National Park Service



Oxon Cove Trail Rehabilitation

- About to award design contract for trail rehabilitation and bridge replacement (MNCPPC-PG connection)
- Design will enable NPS to pursue a MD Transportation Alternatives Program grant for construction



National Park Service



15th Street Cycle Track Extension

- Connect 15th Street cycle track between Pennsylvania Ave. NW and Jefferson Memorial/14th Street Bridge



National Park Service



Suitland Parkway Feasibility Study

- Conduct feasibility study for extension of Suitland Parkway Trail from DC/MD line to Henson Creek Trail
- Expand east-west trail connectivity into Maryland
- Link to Anacostia River Trail network and emerging growth area of DC





Military Road Trail

Evaluate options for an off-road trail facility along Military Road NW from Glover Road NW to 16th Street NW

- Improve safety and visibility
- Improve east-west trail connections and access to RCP
- Connect into on-street facility west of Ridge Road



The image is a collage of three photographs. The top photo shows a paved walkway along a body of water with a city skyline in the background. The middle photo shows a wooden bridge over a stream with trees in the background. The bottom photo shows a man smiling next to a child on a bicycle with a child in a stroller. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in large green letters across the top photo.

Questions?

