

NATIONAL CAPITAL TRAIL NETWORK

2023 Update

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TPB Technical Committee
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National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Overview of Today's Presentation

- History of the National Capital Trail Network (NCTN)
- 2023 Update
- The Revised Map
- Changes/Benefits
- Next/future steps



Mount Vernon Trail (BeyondDC, flickr.com)



What is the NCTN?

- Long-distance, continuous network of low-stress, mostly off-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Accessible for all ages and abilities
- Healthy, low-stress access to open space
- Clean, inexpensive, reliable transportation
- Serves most people, Activity Centers

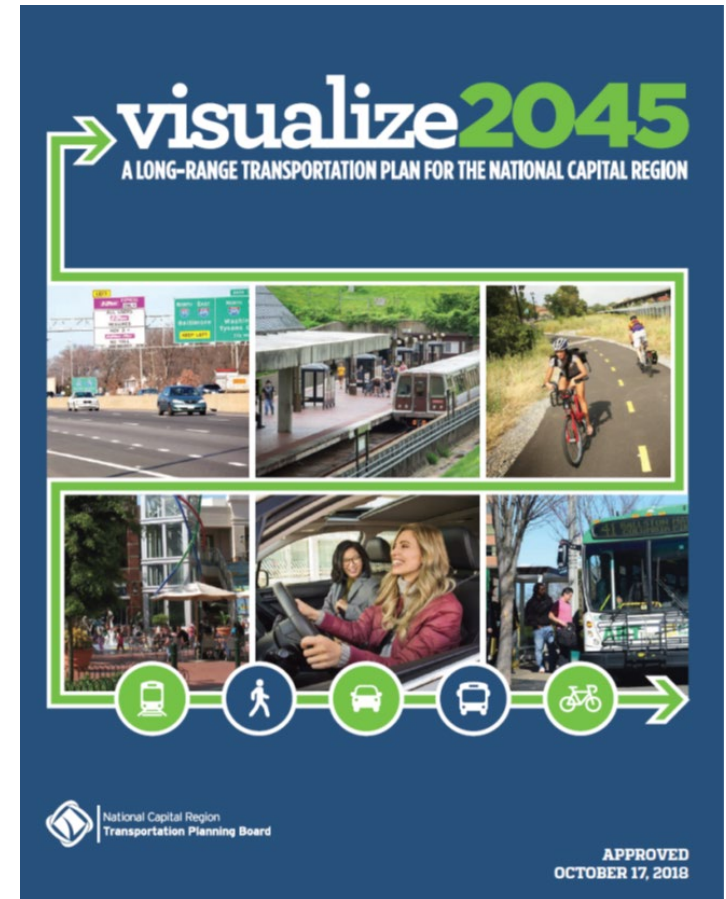


Virginia Avenue S.E.



Background and Recent Changes

- December 2018 – TPB Resolution R20-2019 directed TPB staff to build upon the National Capital Trail to create a regional trail network that would extend into all TPB jurisdictions
- July 2020 - TPB approved Resolution R5-2021, adopting the National Capital Trail Network
- 2023 – NCTN Map updated
 - Worked with Bike/Ped Subcommittee, COG GIS staff



TPB Resolution R5-2021

- Adopted the National Capital Trail Network
- Directed TPB staff to:
 - Give additional consideration to projects that will implement portions of the network for Transportation Alternatives and Transportation-Land Use Connections funding
 - Report on progress towards implementation of the network
 - Work with the TPB member jurisdictions to update the network, to reflect anticipated new agency bicycle and pedestrian plans
- Asked TPB members to prioritize projects, programs, and policies that will implement portions of the National Capital Trail Network



Proposed New National Capital Trail Network Map

NCTN Map 2023

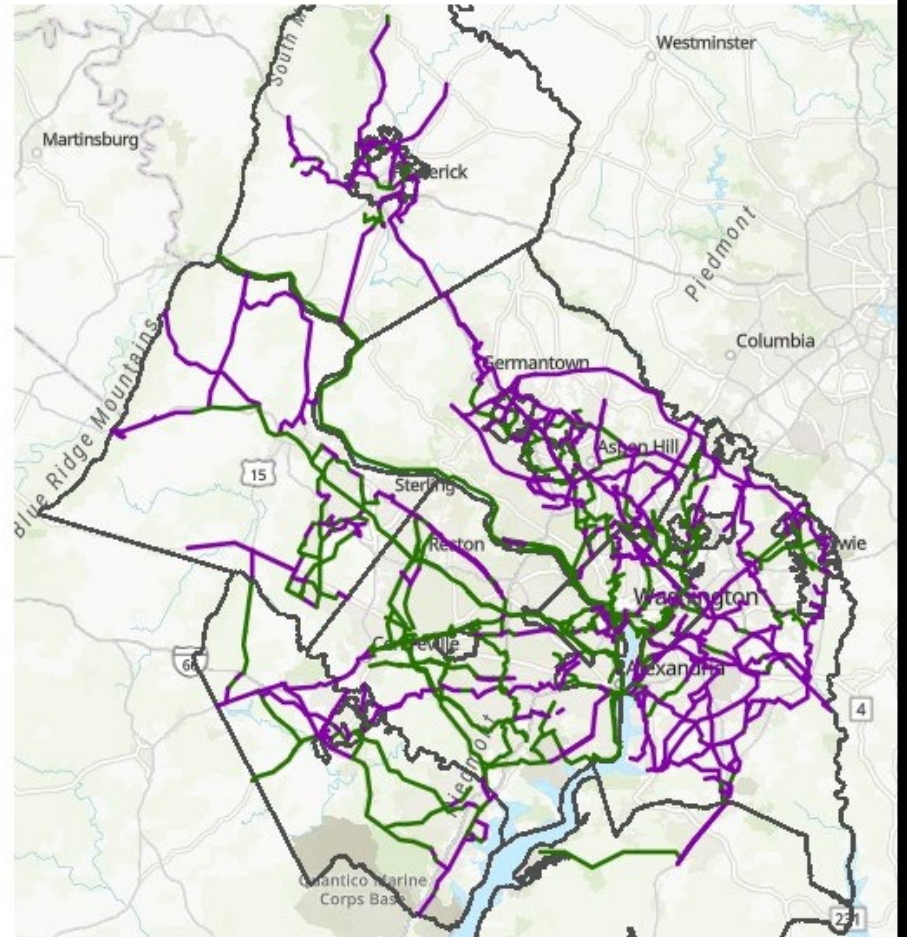
National Capital Trail Network (NCTN)

Status

- Existing
- Planned

Boundaries

TPB Members / COG Adjunct Members



Priority Areas Served by 2023 Network

Buffer Analysis 1/2 mile from NCTN Features	Within NCTN Buffer	Total Number of Features	% Served
Equity Emphasis Areas	334	364	92%
Regional Activity Centers	136	140	97%
High-Capacity Transit Areas	210	225	93%
Transit Access Focus Areas	48	49	98%



Population and Employment Served

Half Mile NCTN Buffer w/ TAZ, Cooperative Forecast 10	Within NCTN Buffer	Modeled Area Total	% Served
2020 Population	3,574,579	7,503,118	47%
2020 Employment	2,282,729	4,018,860	57%
2030 Population	3,913,552	8,195,344	48%
2030 Employment	2,569,958	4,499,328	57%



Progress Towards Completion

2023 NCTN	Miles
Existing	773
Planned	848
Total	1,621
Completed Since 2020	82

- 82 miles of the National Capital Trail Network have been completed since July 2020, a rate of approximately 27 miles per year
 - Based on projects that transitioned from planned to existing from 2020 to 2023, as identified by jurisdiction staff
- Approximately 48% existing, 52% planned (by mileage)



Notable Projects Completed Since 2020

- DC – Frederick Douglass Bridge
- Virginia – I-66 Trail
- Maryland – College Park Woods Connector



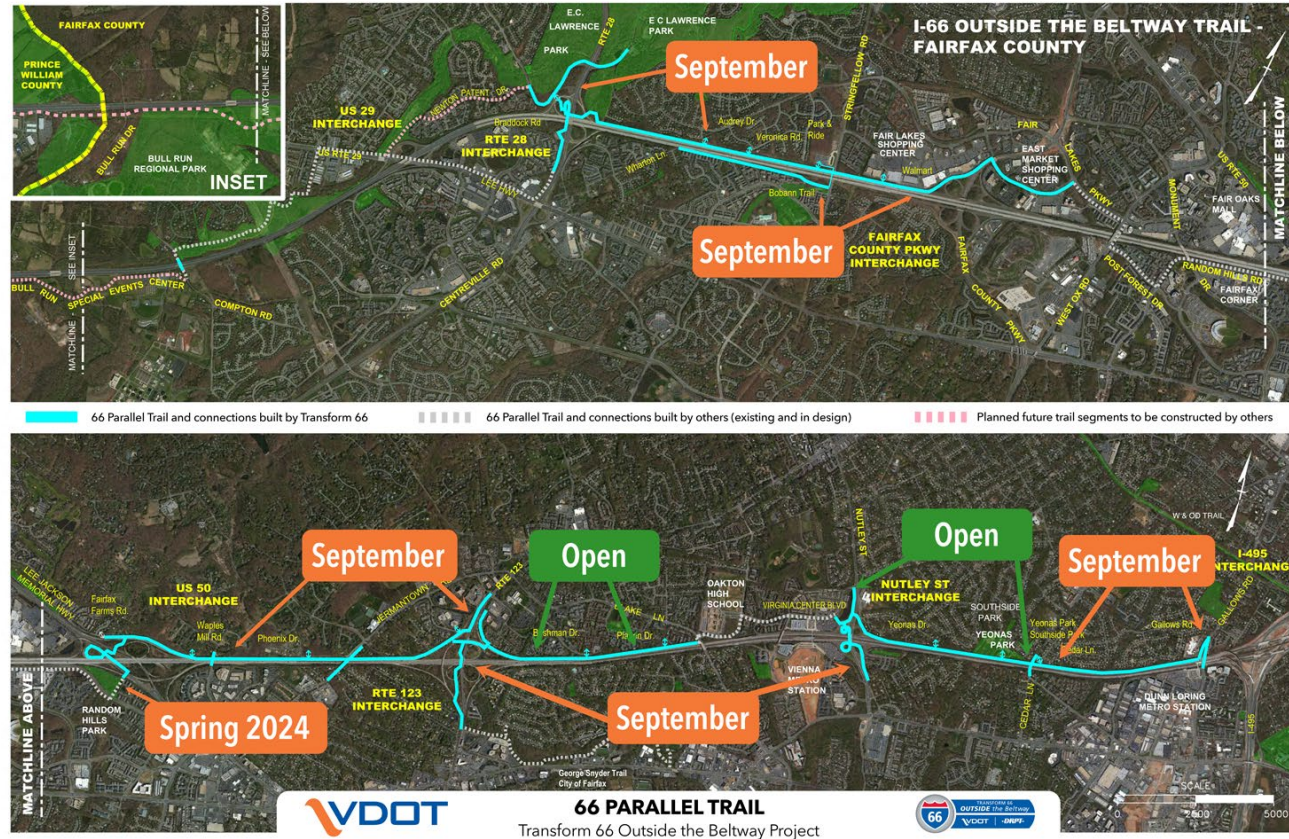
Frederick Douglass Bridge



“The new triple-arched Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge includes six travel lanes for vehicles, a dedicated bike path, a pedestrian path, and four overlooks. The east and west ovals will connect to esplanades on both sides of the Anacostia River via pedestrian and bicycle paths.”



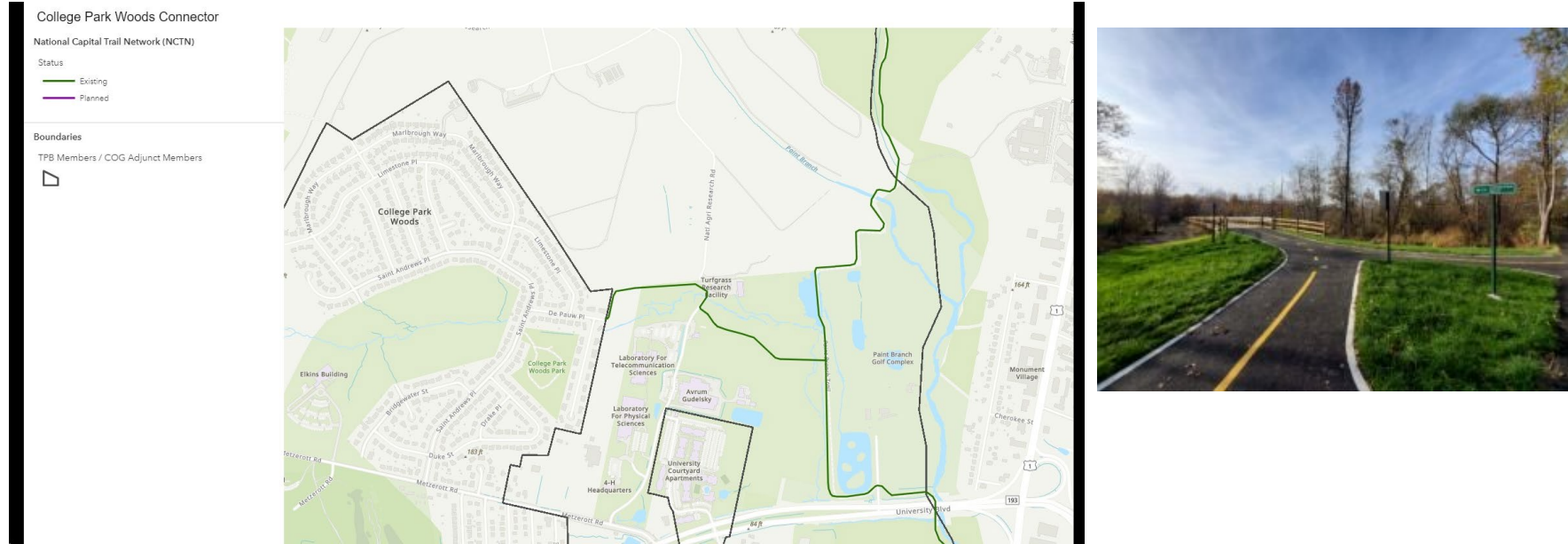
I-66 Outside the Beltway Trail



The Transform I-66 trails, 11 miles of shared use path along I-66, are complete. Additional segments parallel to I-66 will be built later.



College Park Woods Connector Trial



“The College Park Woods Connector is a half-mile connector across the University of Maryland land between the neighborhood of College Park Woods and the Paint Branch Trail. This trail links a residential community in the City of College Park with the University of Maryland campus and the Anacostia Tributaries Trail System (Photo credit to Jim Della-Giacoma).”



Comparing the 2020 and 2023 Networks

- 2023 network includes status updates as well as route adjustments, deletions, and additions versus the 2020 network
- More analytics comparing the new 2023 network to the previous 2020 network anticipated for future meetings



Outlook

- Next Steps
 - Integrate comments/corrections/suggestions from the TPB Technical Committee
 - Return to TPB Technical Committee for endorsement (anticipated December)
 - Bring to TPB for information and approval (anticipated between December and February)
- Next NCTN Update Spring 2024
 - In tandem with the update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Database and with Visualize
 - NCTN to be integrated with the PIT database



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