

# NATIONAL CAPITAL TRAIL NETWORK

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## 2023 Update

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Community Advisory Committee  
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# 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 nearly all TPB Priority Areas, and most People and Jobs

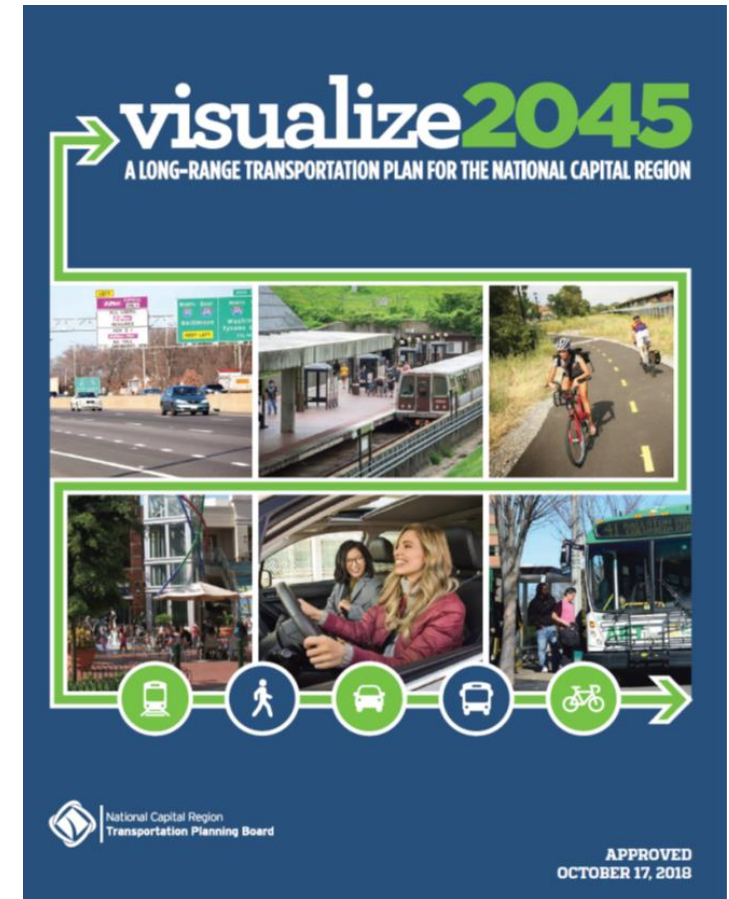


Virginia Avenue S.E.



# 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
  - Directed TPB staff to give priority to NCTN projects for TLC and TA funds
  - Report progress towards implementation
- 2023 – NCTN Map updated
  - Bike/Ped Subcommittee members, COG GIS staff



# Proposed New National Capital Trail Network Map

## NCTN Map 2023

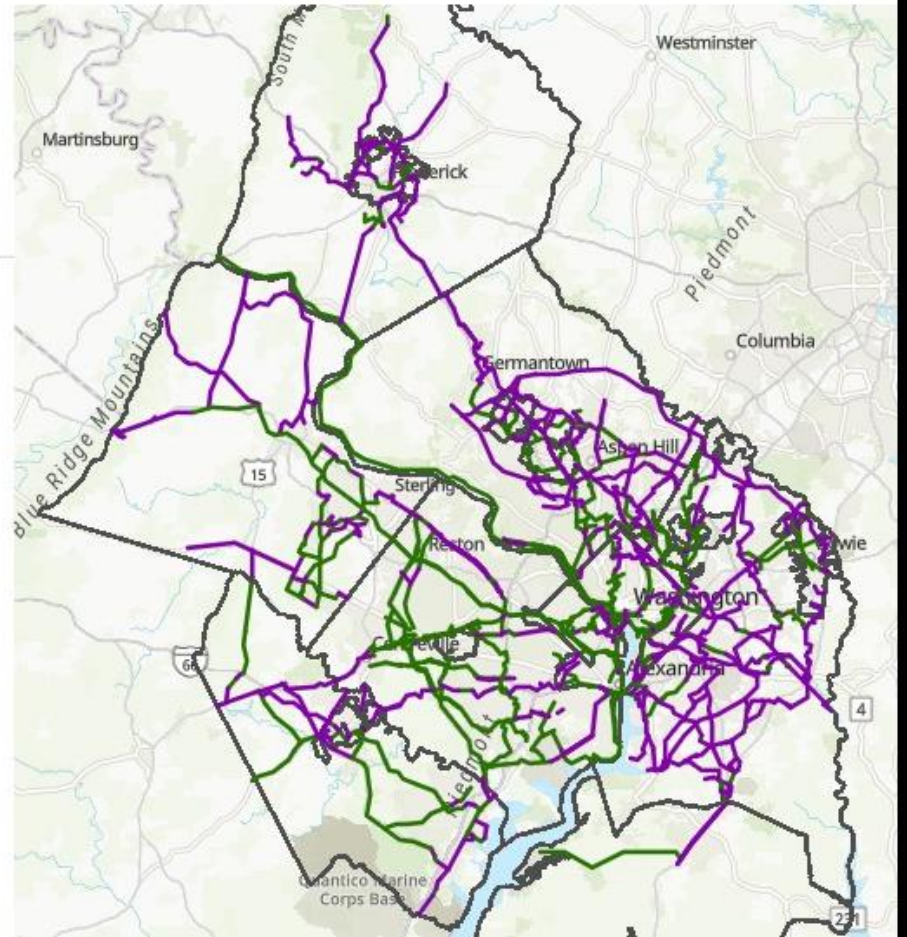
### National Capital Trail Network (NCTN)

#### 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

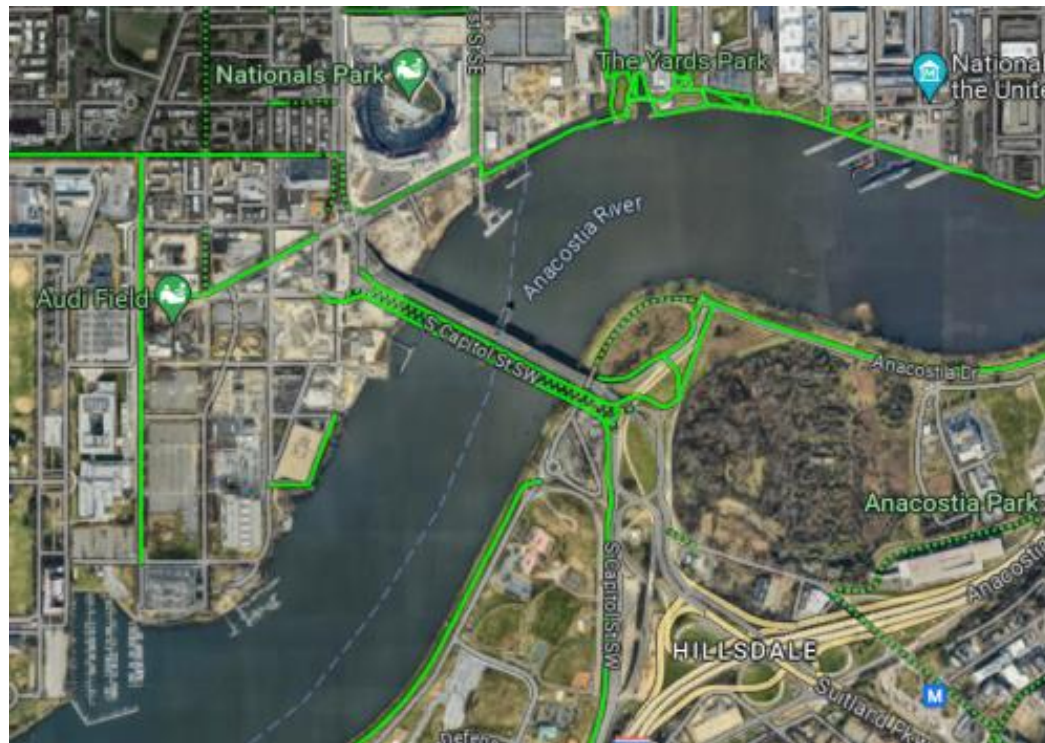
NCTN	Miles 2023	Miles 2020	Difference
Existing	752	644	+108
Planned	797	778	+19
Total	1549	1422	+127
Completed Since 2020	83*		

- 83 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.
- 2023- 49% existing, 51% planned (by mileage)
- 2020- 45% existing, 55% planned





# Notable Completed Projects: Frederick Douglass Bridge



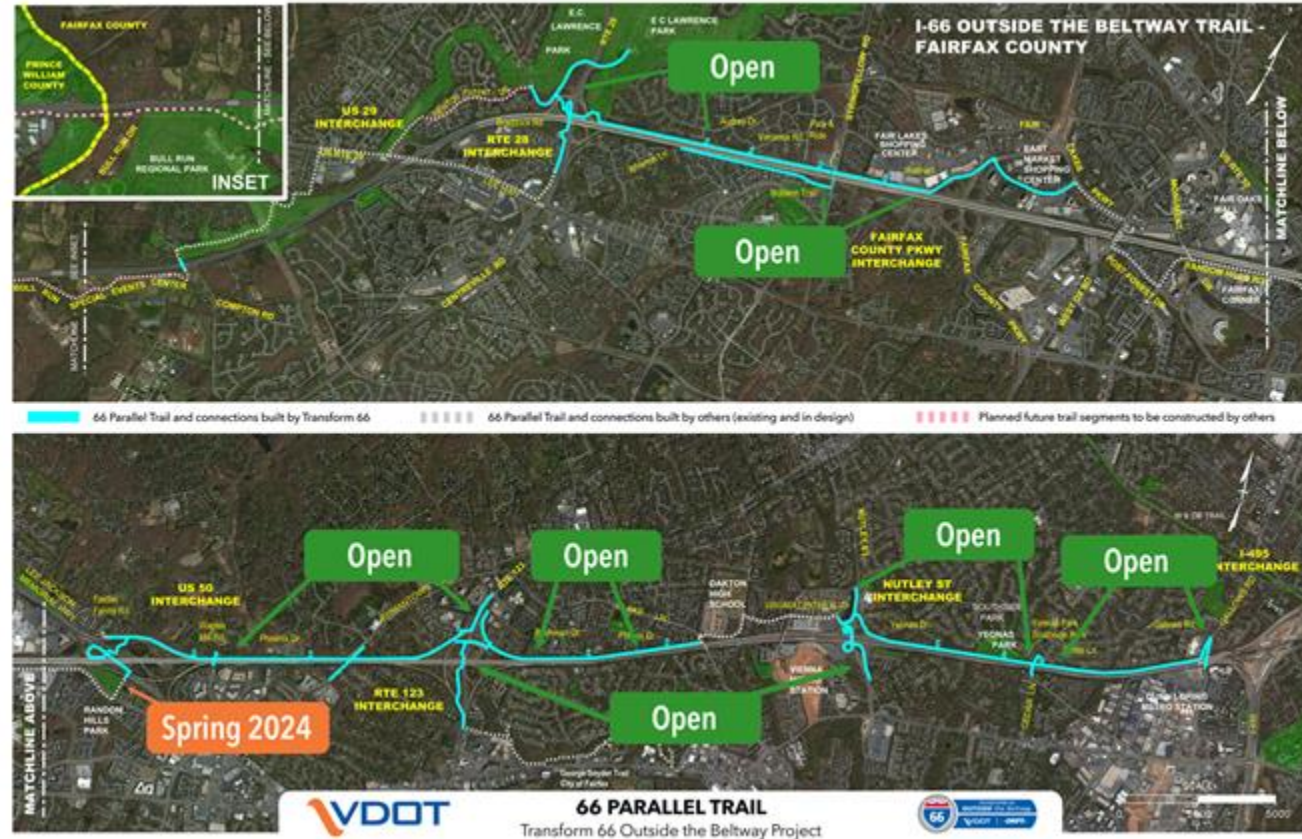
“The new triple-arched Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge includes six travel lanes for vehicles, a dedicated bike path, a pedestrian path, and four overlooks. The east and west ovals will connect to esplanades on both sides of the Anacostia River via pedestrian and bicycle paths.”\*



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\*Our Progress – Capital Trails Coalition

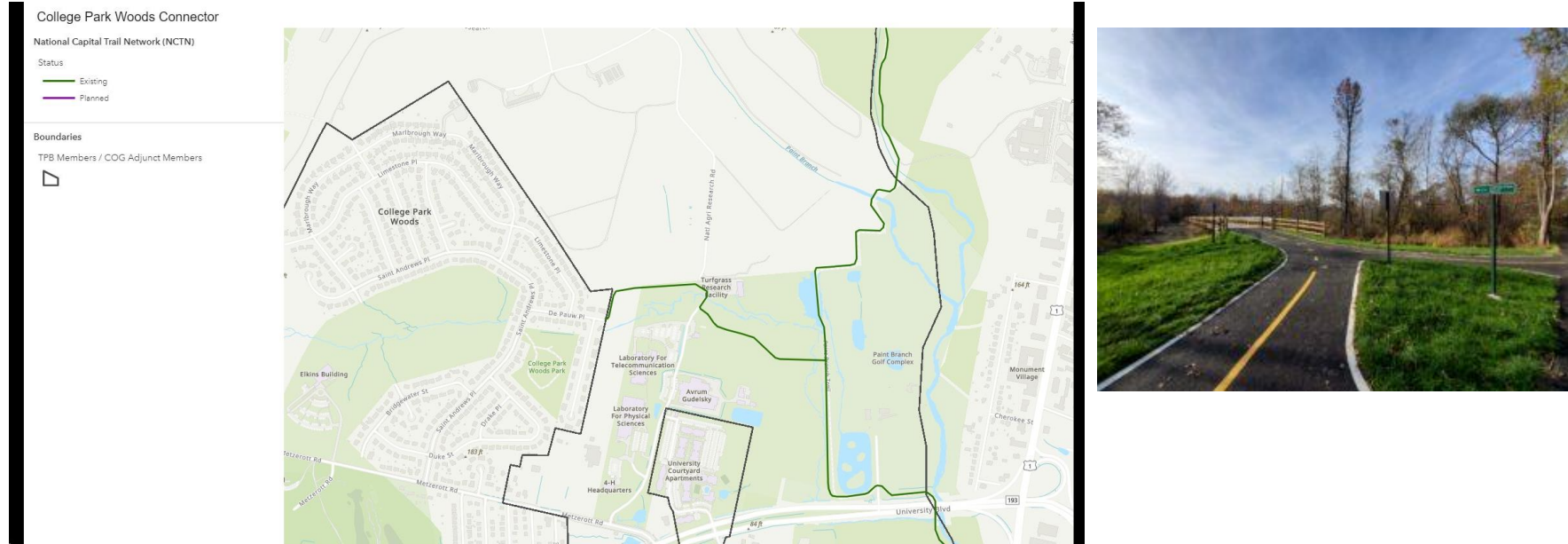
# I-66 Parallel Trail



11 miles of trail built by the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway project, along I-66 in Fairfax County, are complete. Additional segments along I-66 will be upgraded or constructed in the coming years



# College Park Woods Connector Trial

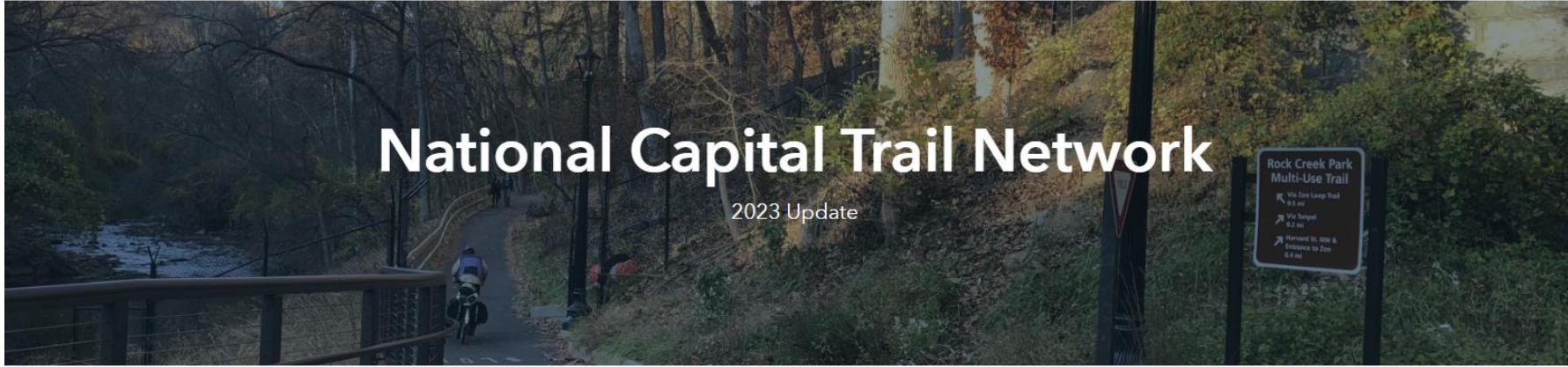


“The College Park Woods Connector is a half-mile connector across the University of Maryland land between the neighborhood of College Park Woods and the Paint Branch Trail. This trail links a residential community in the City of College Park with the University of Maryland campus and the Anacostia Tributaries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

\*Our Progress – Capital Trails Coalition



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# National Capital Trail Network

2023 Update

## Background

In July 2020 TPB adopted Resolution R5-2021, approving the National Capital Trail Network. This 1400-mile network of existing and proposed shared-use paths covers the entire region. It includes both existing and planned facilities.

Completing the National Capital Trail Network is one of the TPB's regional priorities. As such, any project that helps complete the network receives priority consideration for funds that the TPB administers, such as Transportation-Land Use Connections and Transportation Alternatives funds.

The TPB developed the National Capital Trail Network in consultation with the TPB member jurisdictions, and with the advice of



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The goal is to provide access for people of all ages and abilities. People will be able to get on these trails and be confident that they can go as far as they like, from one end of the region to the other, without encountering dangerous or stressful conditions. The National Capital Trail Network will connect people to jobs, school, shopping, nature, and entertainment.

## The NCTN, by the numbers



The Network

1,549

Miles

Existing Facilities

752

Miles

Planned Facilities

797

Miles

# Outlook

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- Next Steps
  - Integrate comments/corrections/suggestions from the TPB Technical Committee & BP Subcommittee
  - Return to TPB Technical Committee for endorsement (anticipated January)
  - Bring to TPB for information and approval (anticipated January or 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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