

NATIONAL CAPITAL TRAIL NETWORK

2023 Update

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee Meeting
January 30, 2024



Overview of Today's Presentation

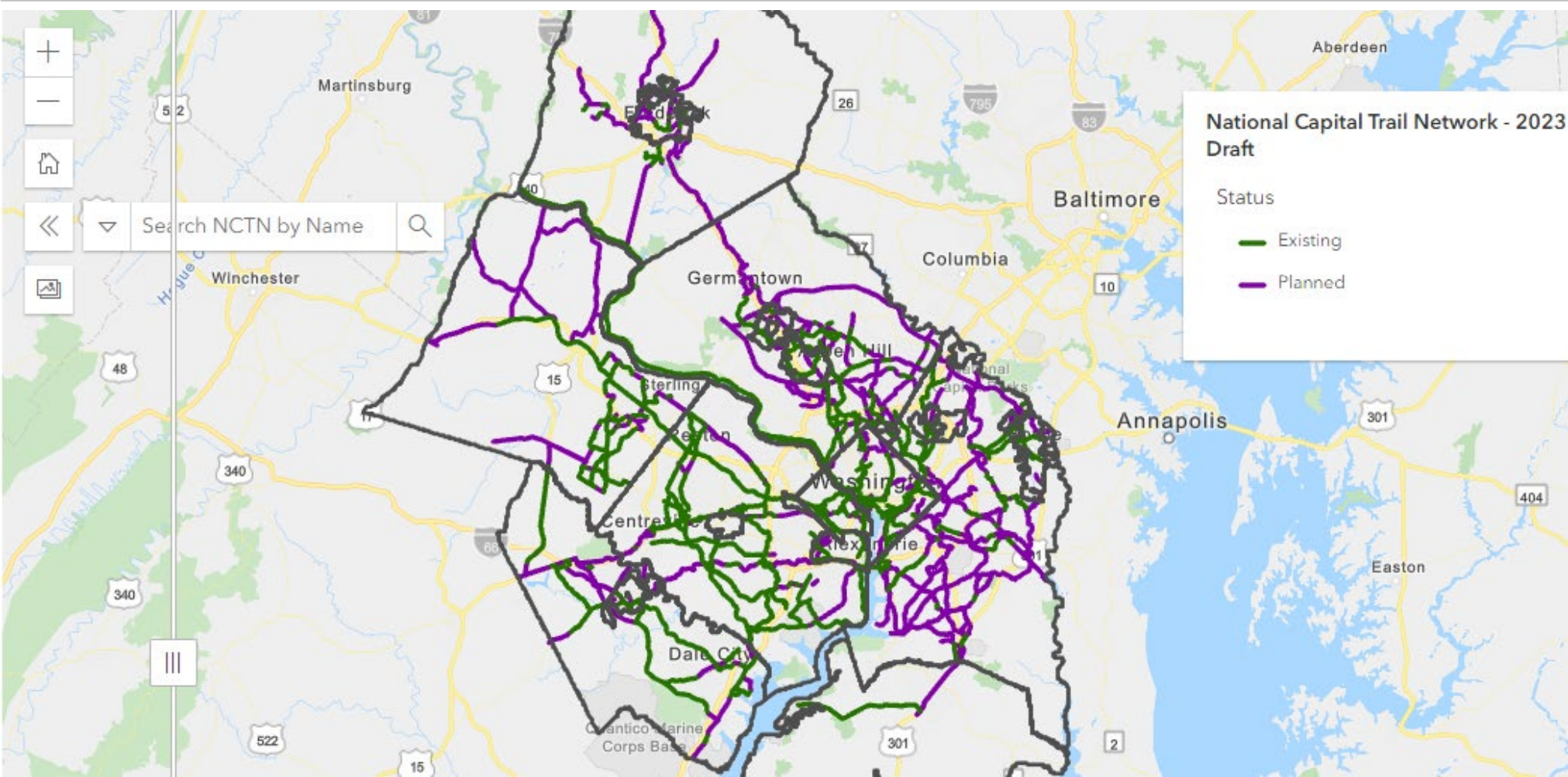
- 2023 Update
- The Revised Map and [New Web Page](#)
- Changes since November 29
- Progress towards Completion
- TPB Review
- Next Steps



Mount Vernon Trail (BeyondDC, flickr.com)



Updated National Capital Trail Network Map



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 Completed Since 2020

- 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
- 2020 – 45% existing, 55% planned (by mileage)
- 2023 – 49% existing, 51% planned
 - At the current rate, it would take about 30 years to complete the NCTN



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%



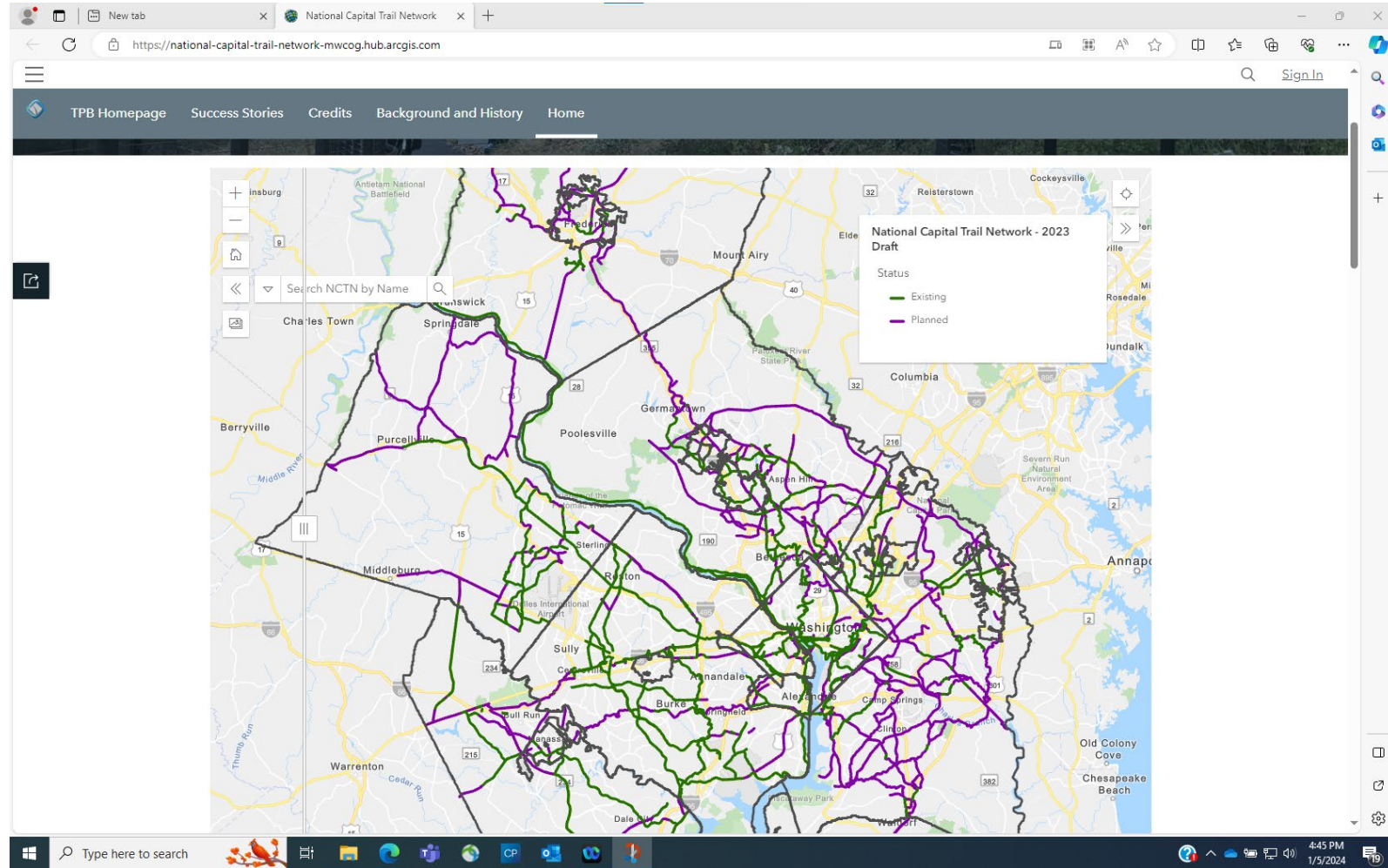
Population and Employment Served

Half Mile NCTN Buffer w/ TAZ, Cooperative Forecast 10	Within NCTN Buffer	TPB Area Total*	% Served
2020 Population	3,574,579	5,630,518	63%
2020 Employment	2,282,729	3,169,247	72%
2030 Population	3,913,552	6,139,420	64%
2030 Employment	2,569,958	3,549,888	72%

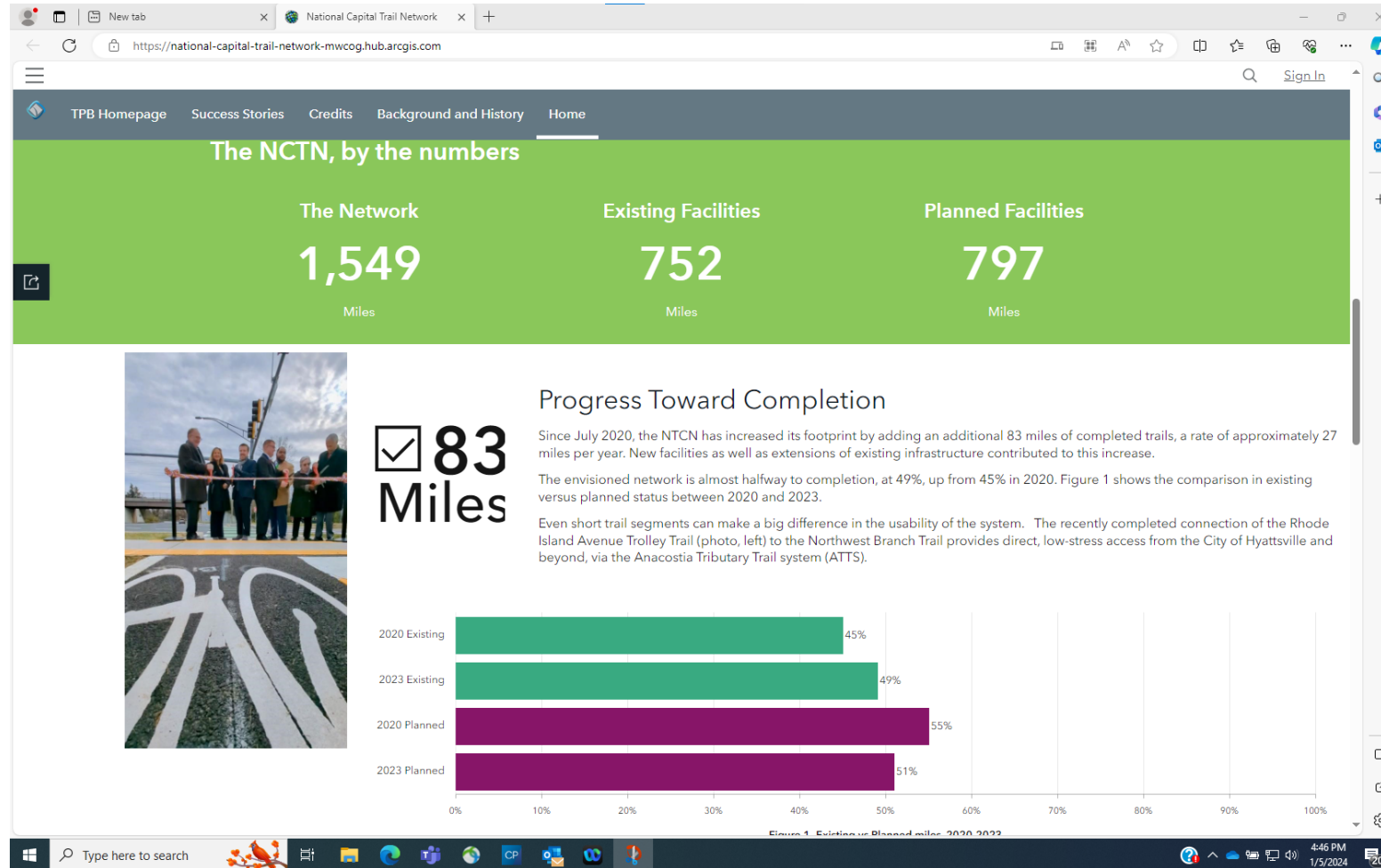
*Excludes Fauquier County



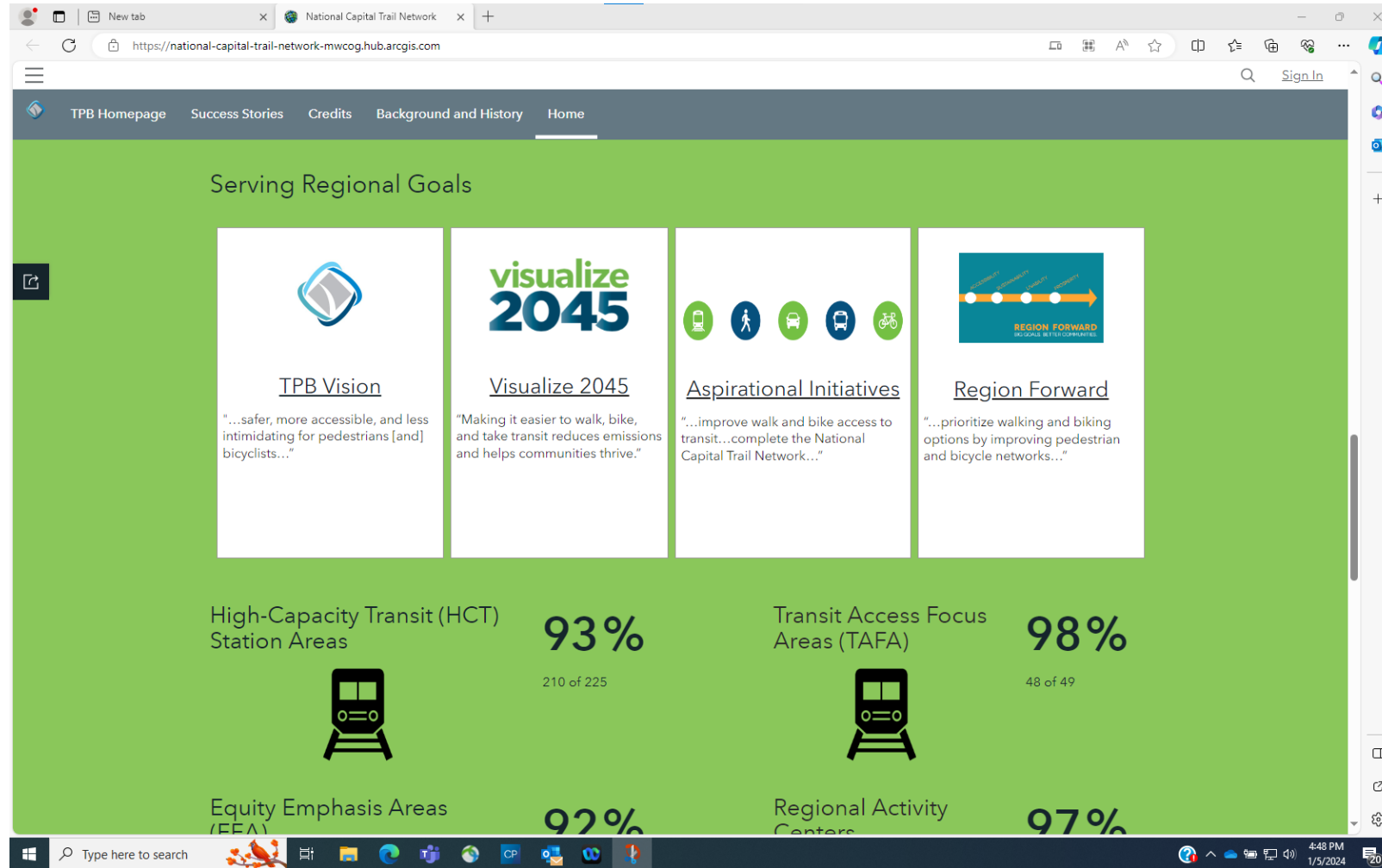
National Capital Trail Network Web Page



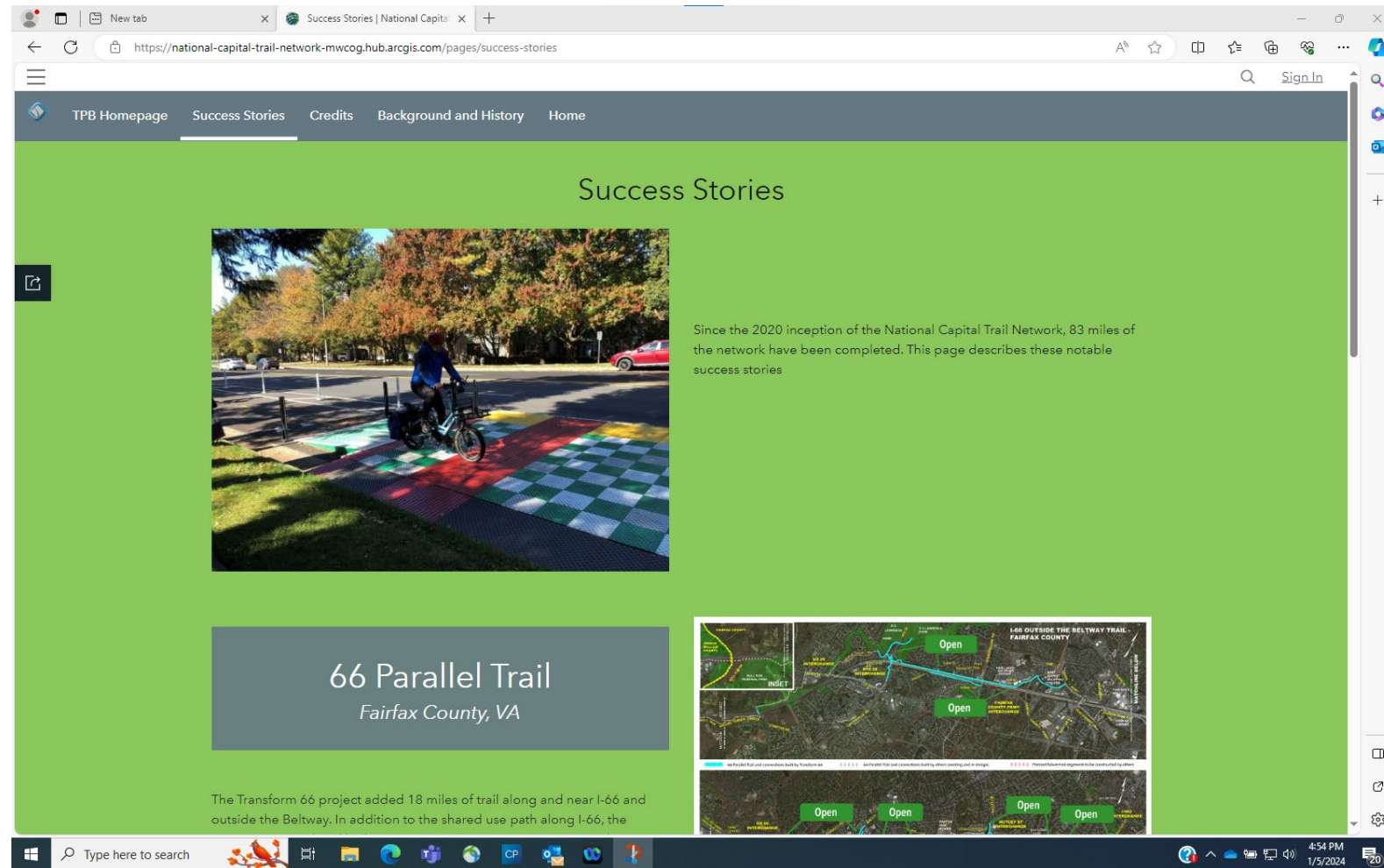
National Capital Trail Network Web Page



National Capital Trail Network Web Page



National Capital Trail Network Web Page



TPB Tech and TPB Review

- Staff presented the new map, web site, and summary data to TPB Tech and TPB in January
- At the January 17 meeting TPB members raised questions concerning specific trails in Loudoun County and in the City of Fairfax
- Staff has followed up on those questions and anticipates that they will be resolved
- Anticipated to return to TPB for approval at the February TPB Meeting



Outlook

- After approval, we will start another update of the National Capital Trail Network this year
 - In tandem with the update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Project Database and with Visualize
 - Anticipate Incorporate changes from Active Fairfax and other newly adopted plans
 - Anticipate availability the new PIT 2.0 software and mapping tool



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National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

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

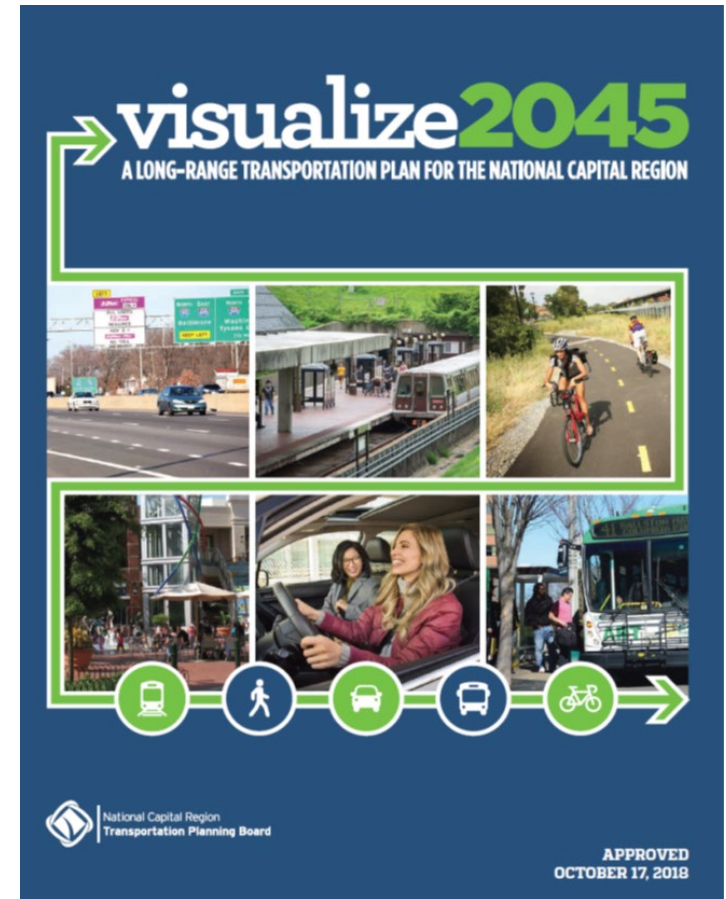


Virginia Avenue S.E.



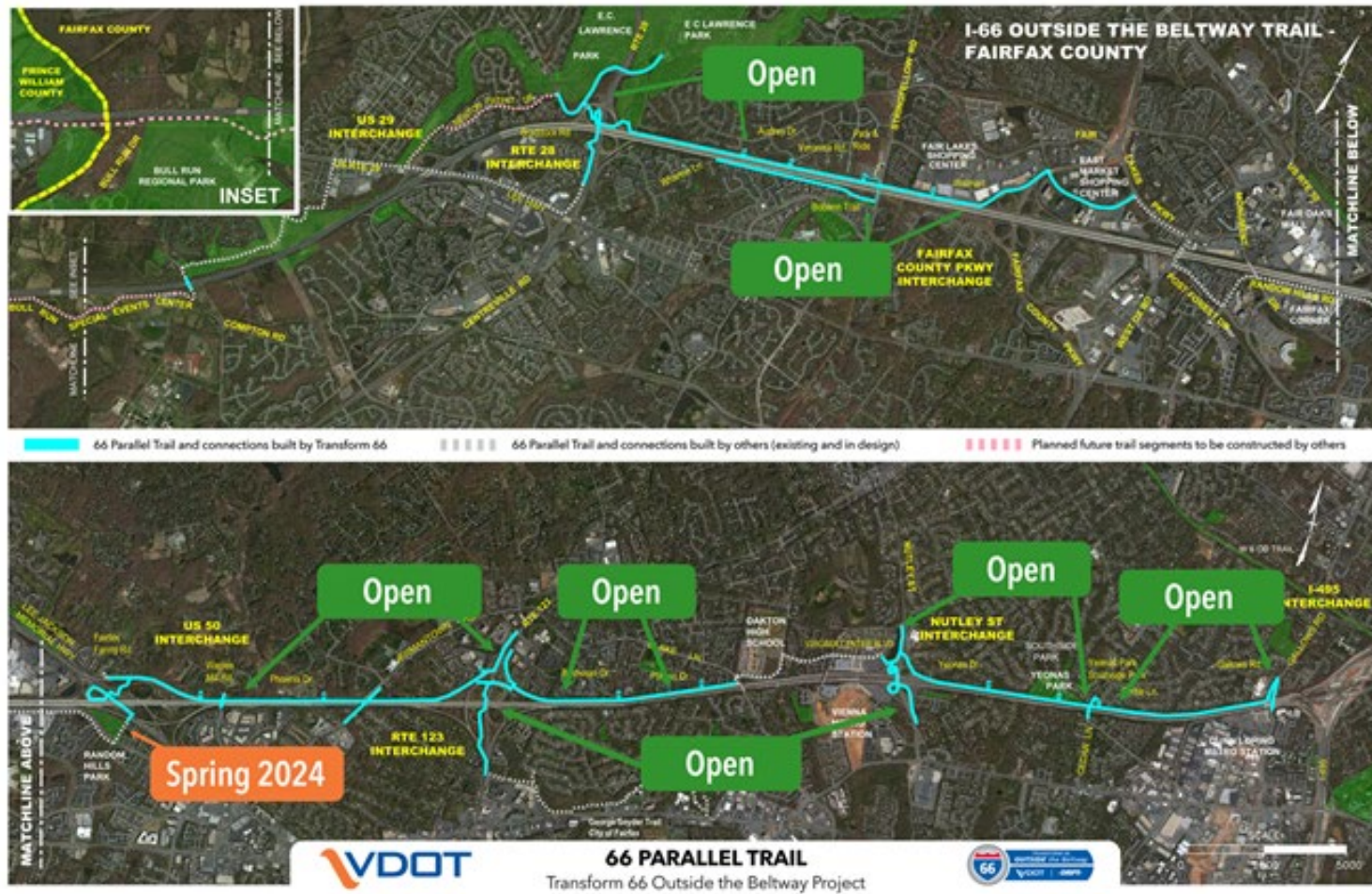
Background and Recent Changes

- 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



Notable Completed Projects - 66 Parallel Trail

- The Transform 66 project added 18 miles of trail along and near I-66 outside the Beltway
- Improved connections across and near I-66
- Connects to the existing W&OD and Custis Trails, providing a continuous off-road route from Rosslyn to Centreville



College Park Woods Connector Trail

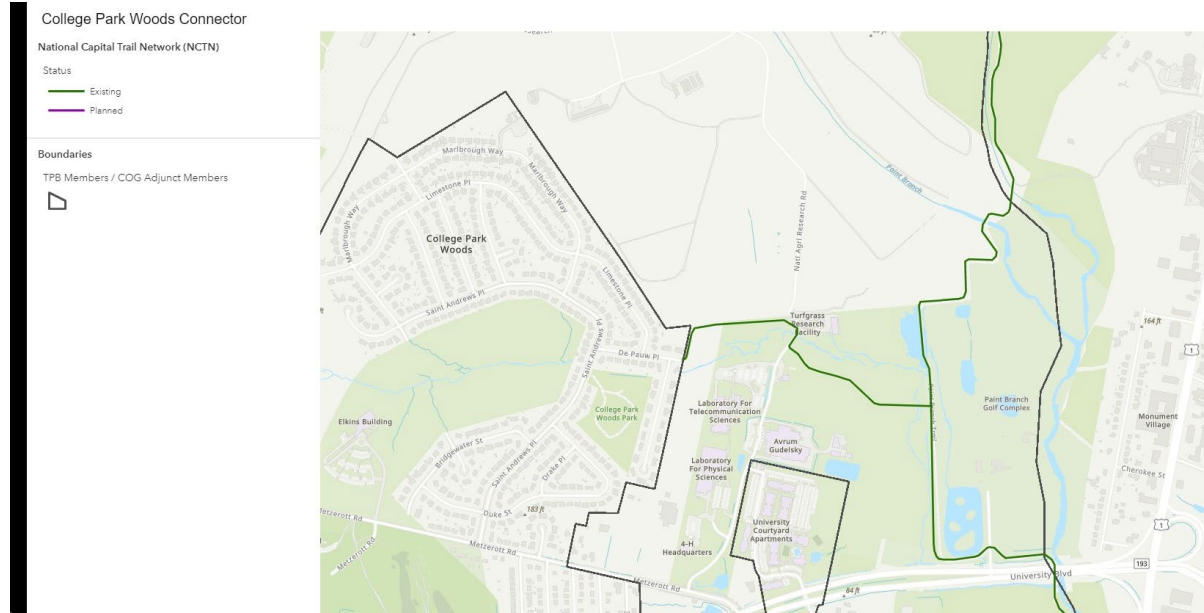


Photo credit: Jim Della-Giacoma

- Provides a safe connection between the College Park Woods neighborhood and the Paint Branch Trail, which connects to the University of Maryland campus and the rest of the Anacostia Tributary Trail System
- Before the trail opened, residents had to traverse a busy two-lane road and cross a major arterial



Frederick Douglass Bridge



- Completed in 2022, the new Frederick Douglass bridge includes wide separated paths for pedestrians and cyclists in both directions, as well as four pedestrian overlooks
- Connects existing trails on both sides of the Anacostia River, enhancing mobility and travel options that support revitalization of the area

