...a trail design guide or “sketch book” of ideas through photos, line-drawings, and graphic renderings to assist local staff with trail design decisions

...a resource, to stimulate discussion on various design elements, and enhance multi-jurisdictional coordination
EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES

Sketchbook Ideas (for discussion)

- Types of Trail Users
- Trail Corridor Character: setting and context
- Trail Elements: structures, features, amenities, trailheads
- Trails and Green Infrastructure
- Universal Design / Accessibility
Who are the Trail Users?
Trail Character and Context

Rural vs developed; natural setting (field, forest, stream); on-road vs off-road; active utility operations

Schuylkill River Trail

Tobacco Heritage Trail
Trail Elements

- Trail Surface Design
- Bridges and Underpasses
- Road Crossings
- Amenities, Facilities, and Trail Services
- Trail Art
- Signage and Wayfinding
Trail Surface

Trail Surface: asphalt, crushed stone, concrete, pavers

Washington & Old Dominion  Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail  Great Allegheny Passage
Trail Design - Cross Sections

**Typical A**

Adjacent to Roadway

**Typical D**

Off-road; Trolley Line Right-of-Way

VDOT Ashland to Petersburg Trail Study
Bridges and Underpasses
Example: Trail Underpass

Greenwood Road & I-295 Underpass

Emerald Trail & I-95 underpass; Jacksonville, FL
Bridges and Underpasses

VDOT Ashland to Petersburg Trail Study
Example: Trail Bridge

Chickahominy River & Trolley Line Right-of-Way

Tobacco Heritage Trail, Meherrin River
Bridges

- Tobacco Heritage Trail, Meherrin River
- Bike-Ped Bridge, Lynchburg, VA
- Virginia Creeper Trail, Abingdon, VA
- Hawksbill Greenway, Luray, VA
Example: Boardwalks
Road Crossings

High Bridge Trail, Farmville

Tennessee Central Trail
Road Crossings

Huguenot & River Rd; Henrico County

Route 5 & Virginia Capital Trail

Hudson River Greenway, NYC

Evans Creek Rd & Tobacco Heritage Trail
On-Road Elements

Manhattan, New York City

Richmond, VA

Williamsburg, VA

Luray, VA

Rockbridge County, VA
Bollards and Gates
Amenities
Trailside Amenity Structures
Trail Art
Trail Rest Areas

New River Trail

Washington and Old Dominion Trail
Trailside Services

Great Allegheny Passage

Washington and Old Dominion Trail
Signage and Wayfinding

Tobacco Heritage Trail
Examples: Signage
Examples: Signage

1. Informational
2. Directional and Wayfinding
3. Regulatory
4. Interpretive
Trailhead Design
Example: Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail
Trailhead Design

Example: Jackson River Trail
Area of Special Consideration

Trails in Powerline Right-of-Way

Washington and Old Dominion Trail
Area of Special Consideration

Trails Adjacent to Residential Development

Washington and Old Dominion Trail
Trails and Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure refers to an interconnected network of natural areas and open space that protects ecosystem functions and contribute to clean air and water.

– Mark Benedict and Ed McMahon, 2006

Trail Corridors & Ecosystem Service
- Stormwater management
- Conservation of forests and riparian areas
- Wildlife habitat
The project includes four key components:

- construction of a multi-use recreational trail
- removal of invasive plants
- management of storm water
- restoration of Little Westham Creek

“The trail-restoration project turned into a stream-restoration project, which will ultimately result in the planting of 9,000 new trees, and provide space for teaching,”

- Rob Andrejewski, University of Richmond, Director of Sustainability
Accessibility

- Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) of 1968
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973
DISCUSSION

- Could a design sketchbook support local trail planning efforts? If so, how?
- Who are your audiences?
- What content should be included?
- What format should be considered?
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