Project Description

The Ashland to Petersburg Trail Study was a collaborative effort among VDOT, government agencies, and special interest groups, with input from the general public to identify a preferred corridor for a multi-use trail facility that would enhance the active transportation network in the Richmond region, which includes the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico; the cities of Colonial Heights, Petersburg, and Richmond; and the Town of Ashland. The study was prepared to inform the development of future active transportation projects.

Since the completion of the study and the identification of the preferred corridor, a number of alignment refinements have been incorporated into the corridor to be consistent with current local and regional priorities for active transportation, recreation, and economic development.

Additionally, a variety of funding opportunities have been identified for the implementation of a number of segments along the approximately 43-mile alignment. Segments of the Fall Line Trail that will be maintained by VDOT will require the adoption of a location decision from VDOT’s governing Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). The adoption of a location decision to accept the Fall Line Trail into the state transportation system is consistent with the Code of Virginia (§33.2-208) and the Virginia Administrative Code (24 VAC 30-390-10). The CTB adoption of a location decision will take into consideration any public input received and will be specific to portions of the trail to be owned or maintained by VDOT.

Additional segments of the Fall Line Trail that will not be maintained by VDOT or adopted into the state transportation system are provided for review and informational purposes. The specific location of these segments will be coordinated with the public as part of the applicable plan development process.

As funding is allocated to various segments of the Fall Line Trail, additional design and detailed engineering evaluations of each segment will be conducted prior to project construction.

Alignment Refinements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Locality</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chesterfield County, City of Colonial Heights, and City of Petersburg</td>
<td>Patton Park</td>
<td>Dupuy Avenue</td>
<td>Realigned through VSU campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>Marina Drive</td>
<td>Food Lion Parking Lot</td>
<td>Rerouted to Route 1 median over Chippenham Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>City of Richmond</td>
<td>Semmes Avenue</td>
<td>Duval Street</td>
<td>Rerouted over Manchester Bridge and along 2nd Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>City of Richmond</td>
<td>Bellevue Avenue</td>
<td>Bryan Park Avenue</td>
<td>Realigned through Bryan Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Henrico County</td>
<td>Lakeside Avenue</td>
<td>Parham Road</td>
<td>Rerouted to Brook Road and Darracott Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Henrico County</td>
<td>i-295 Francis Road</td>
<td></td>
<td>Realigned around Longdale Recreation Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Some alignment refinements remain under evaluation.

Estimated Project Cost*

Total Estimated Cost: $266.5 million
(Construction Year 2023)

Preliminary Engineering: $31 million
Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation: $78.2 million
Construction: $157.3 million

*Note: Fall Line Trail estimates continue to be updated as funding is identified and project procurement and delivery methods are determined.

Environmental Review

As funding is allocated to various segments of the Fall Line Trail, those segments will be coordinated with the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction.

The environmental processes will build upon the environmental work, public input, and agency coordination conducted during the Ashland to Petersburg Trail Study. Environmental reviews and coordination may result in the identification of further refinements to the trail corridor to minimize or avoid impacts to historic properties, threatened or endangered species, streams and wetlands, or other sensitive environmental resources.

All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT’s specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

Anticipated Schedule

Segments of the Fall Line Trail will be implemented through a variety of procurement and delivery methods.

Following the completion of the Location Public Hearing process, specific schedules for various segments of the trail will be developed.

Civil Rights

Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of VDOT to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them. VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Right of Way

Displays at this meeting show the extent of right of way that may be needed as the project is currently proposed. As the design in further developed, additional easements and right of way may be required beyond what is shown in the preliminary plans. Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT’s brochure, Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants. Copies of this brochure are available here from a VDOT right of way agent.
Get Involved

Comments may be submitted at the public meetings or by mail or email to the contact information below. VDOT respectfully requests that comments are postmarked, emailed, or delivered within 10 calendar days of the public hearing, in order to be considered in the hearing record. VDOT will review and evaluate the input received at the public hearing and this information will be considered during further project development.

Please provide your feedback by May 15, 2022.

Email Us
FallLine@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Mail Us
Virginia Department of Transportation
c/o Fall Line Trail Public Hearing
2430 Pine Forest Drive
South Chesterfield, VA 23834

Call Us
(804) 524-6000

Contact Information

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Location Public Hearing

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) welcomes you to the Location Public Hearing for the proposed Fall Line Trail alignment, extending from the City of Petersburg to the Town of Ashland.

The alignment was initially identified in VDOT’s February 2020 Ashland to Petersburg Trail Study. The alignment will begin at the crossing of the Appomattox River at Patton Park in Petersburg and end at the terminus of the Trolley Line Trail in Ashland.

Since then, potential funding opportunities for the trail have been identified and modifications have been made to the initial alignment identified in the study to create the current Fall Line Trail.

The purpose of this Location Public Hearing is to request input from the community on the proposed location of the Fall Line Trail.

VDOT representatives are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. VDOT wants to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them.

A comment sheet is included in the meeting materials and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, interested citizens and all other interested parties.

Location Public Hearings

Fall Line Trail

Tuesday, May 3, 2022
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Kathy Education Center
Massey Conference Auditorium
1800 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23228

Thursday, May 5, 2022
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn Southpark
Capitol Ballroom
800 Southpark Boulevard
Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834

Project Information

Cost: $266.5 million (2023 Construction Year)

Purpose: To provide a multi-use trail corridor that connects people and places within the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico, cities of Colonial Heights, Petersburg, and Richmond, and the Town of Ashland

From: Patton Park (Petersburg)
To: Trolley Line Trail (Ashland)

Length: Approximately 43 miles

Improvements: Multi-use trail facility along existing roadways, paths/trails, abandoned railways, utility transmission corridors and on new location

Destinations of Interest (within 0.5 mi)
Carter Park; Bryan Park; James River; Appomattox River Trail; Old Town Petersburg; VSU; VUU; Virginia Capitol; VCU Medical Center; Main Street Station; 9th Street; Brookland Parkway; Boulevard Bridge

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