



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## Project Update



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Transportation

May 4, 2021





## Agenda

- ActiveFairfax Project Update
- Benefits of Active Transportation
- Existing Conditions Overview
- Draft Vision, Goals + Objectives

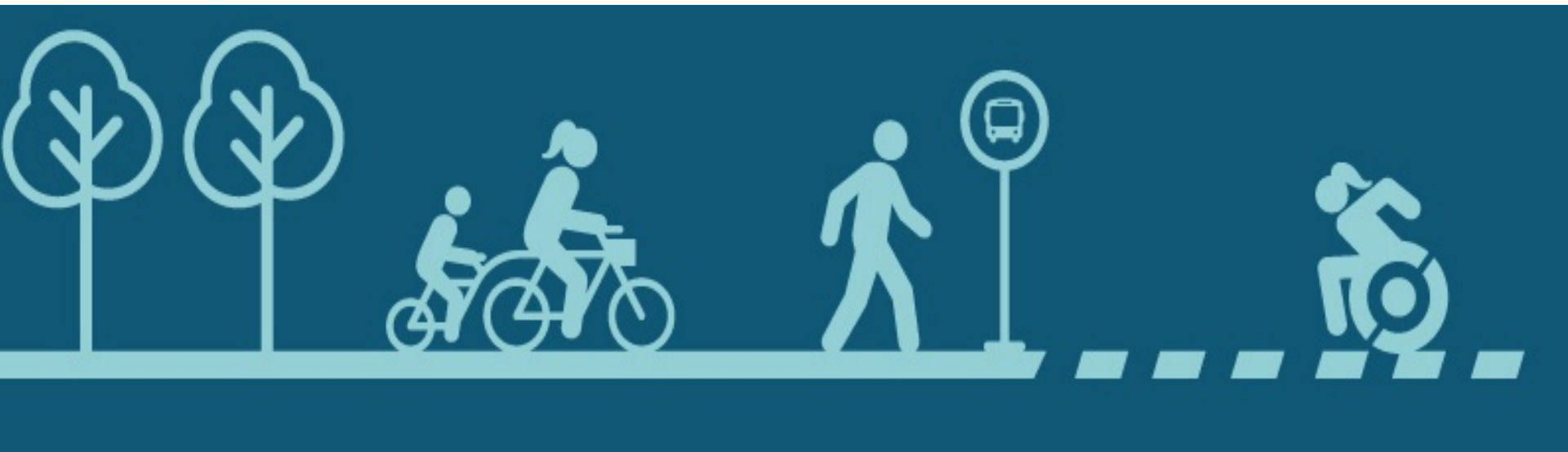




County of Fairfax, Virginia

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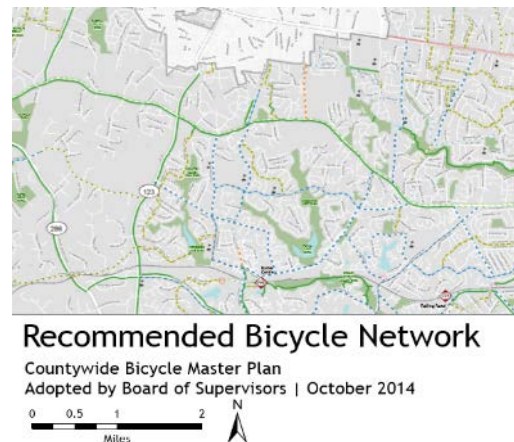
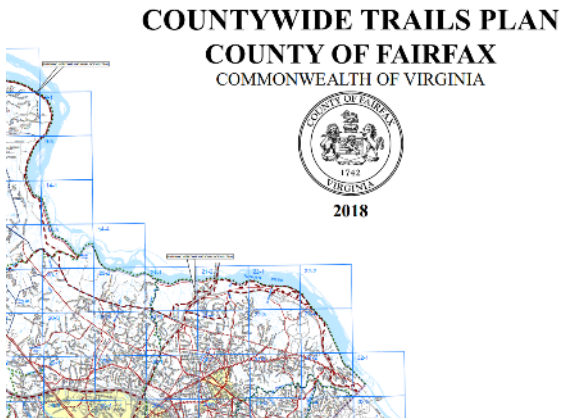
# ActiveFairfax Project Update





# Current Active Transportation Plans

- Countywide Trails Plan
- Bicycle Master Plan
- Special Area Plans (Activity Centers)



FAIRFAX COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2017 Edition  
Lincolnia Planning District, Amended through 7-16-2019  
Lincolnia Community Business Center

AREA I  
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## Regional Trail Network Plan

- Some existing and planned multi-use trails in Fairfax County are part of the regional Capital Trails Network



### Legend for the Interactive Map

- Green = existing trails
- Orange = planned trails

Graphic: Capital Trails Coalition



## ActiveFairfax Project Priorities

1. Plan a connected and comfortable network of sidewalks, bikeways and trails that serve people of all ages and abilities
2. Help engineers design safer pedestrian facilities such as enhanced crossings
3. Encourage completing streets with trees and lighting
4. Recommend changes to laws that could help make walking and biking safer and more comfortable
5. Recommend programs and initiatives to encourage people to walk and bike (more)
6. Prioritize improvements



# Project Schedule

## Phase One

- Policy + Plan Audit
- Existing Conditions Review
- Community Engagement
- Vision, Goals, Objectives + Benefits
- Strategic Safety Program Plan

## Phase Two

- Facility Selection Toolkit
- Network Recommendations
- Program Recommendations
- Implementation Guidance
- Funding Prioritization
- Comprehensive Plan Amendment

**Timeline Phase One:** July 2020 – August 2021



## ActiveFairfax Project Achievements to Date

1. Finalized Plan & Policy Audit
2. Completed Existing Conditions Review
3. Community Engagement underway
  1. 1200+ community surveys received as of 5/3, over 2000 pre-stamped paper surveys distributed at food distribution sites
  2. 900+ comments on Barrier + Destination Feedback Map
  3. 300+ comments on Planned Trail + Bikeway Network + Complete Streets Map
4. Completed Benefits of Active Transportation Report
5. Draft Vision, Goals and Objectives developed
6. Draft Systematic Safety Program Plan developed





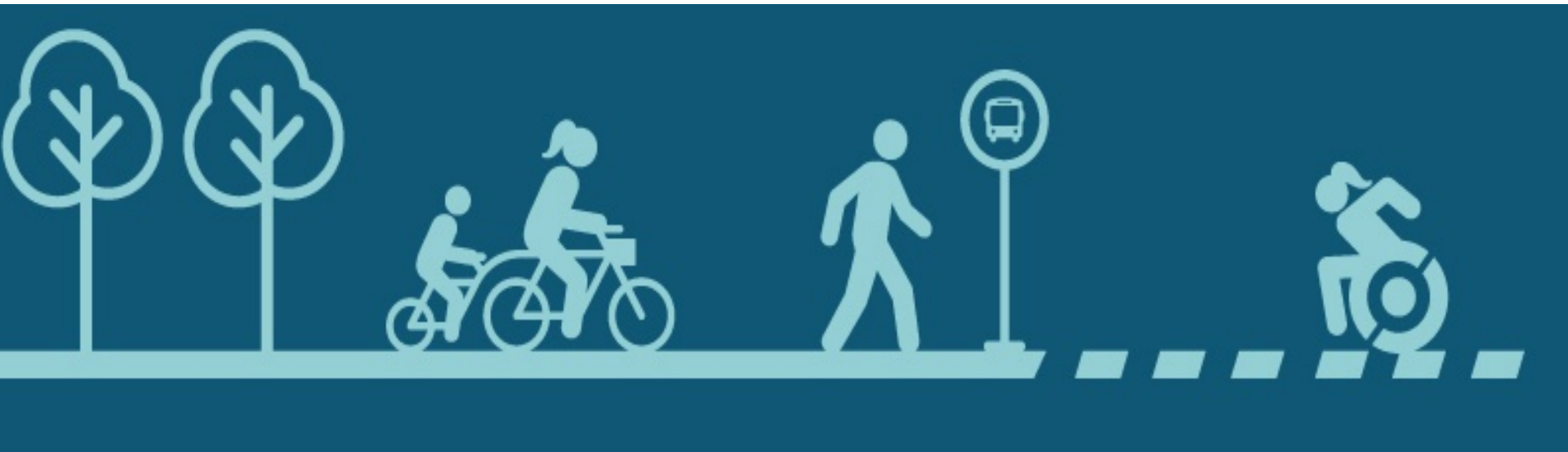
## Share your thoughts!

- Help us understand how you currently use active transportation and share your ideas on the future of active transportation in Fairfax County!
- To take the complete survey and place comments on our interactive maps, go to: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax>





# Benefits of Active Transportation





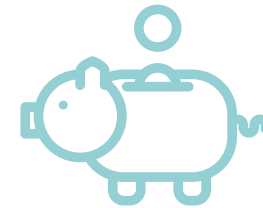
## An increase in active transportation in Fairfax County could result annually in...



**\$17.8 million**  
in healthcare  
savings



A reduction of  
**39,000 metric tons**  
of CO2 emissions



A reduction of  
**\$13.9 million**  
In vehicle crash  
costs



The additional active trips and reduced vehicle trips would result in **over \$74 million of health, environmental, and transportation benefits annually.**





## Trail-Oriented Development

A 2009 nationwide study by CEOs for Cities, a cross-sector organization that develops ideas to make U.S. cities more economically successful, found that **“houses located in areas with above-average walkability or bikeability are worth up to \$34,000 more than similar houses in areas with average walkability levels.”**





## Trail-Oriented Development

A 2014 study of Indianapolis's eight-mile (13 km) Cultural Trail found that since its opening in 2008, **the value of properties within a block of this high-quality biking and walking trail rose 148% relative to other parcels.**







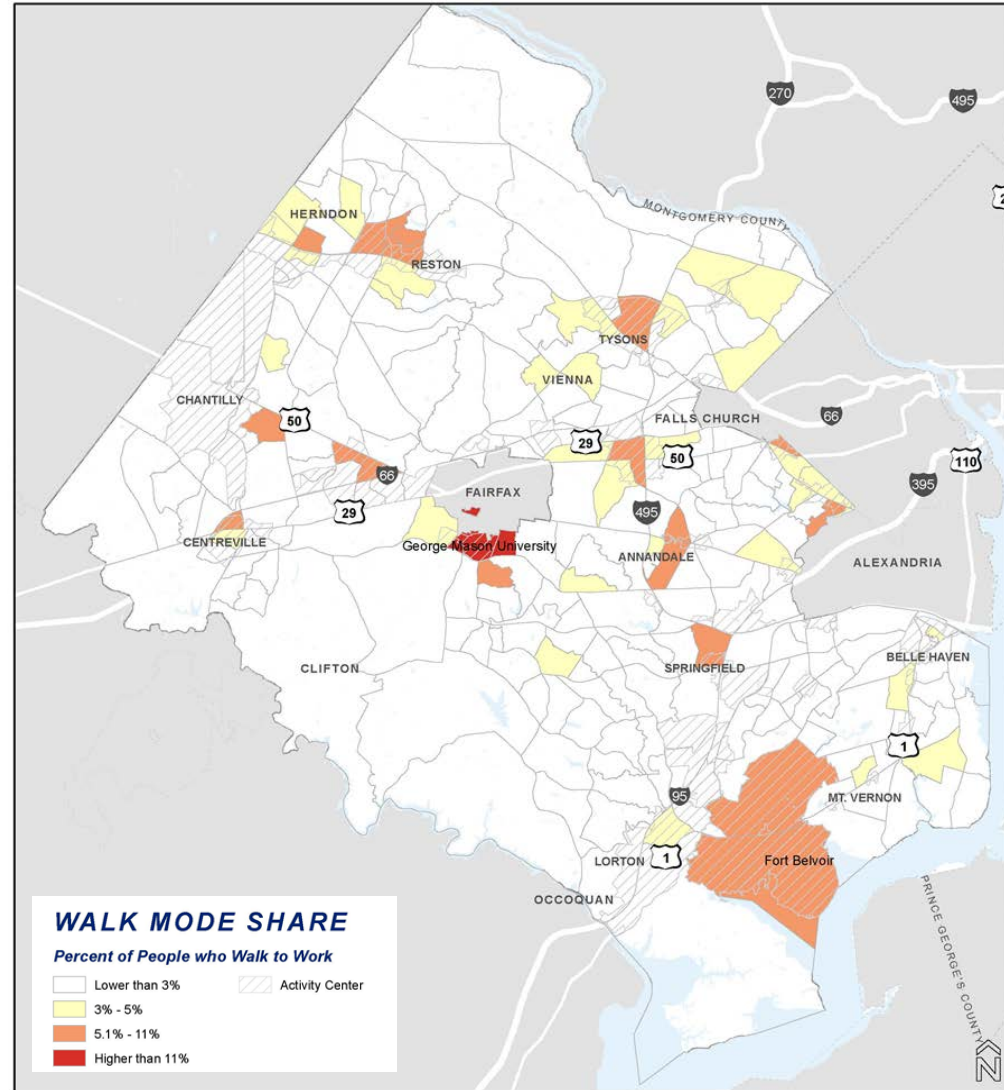
# Existing Conditions Overview





## Walk to Work Rates

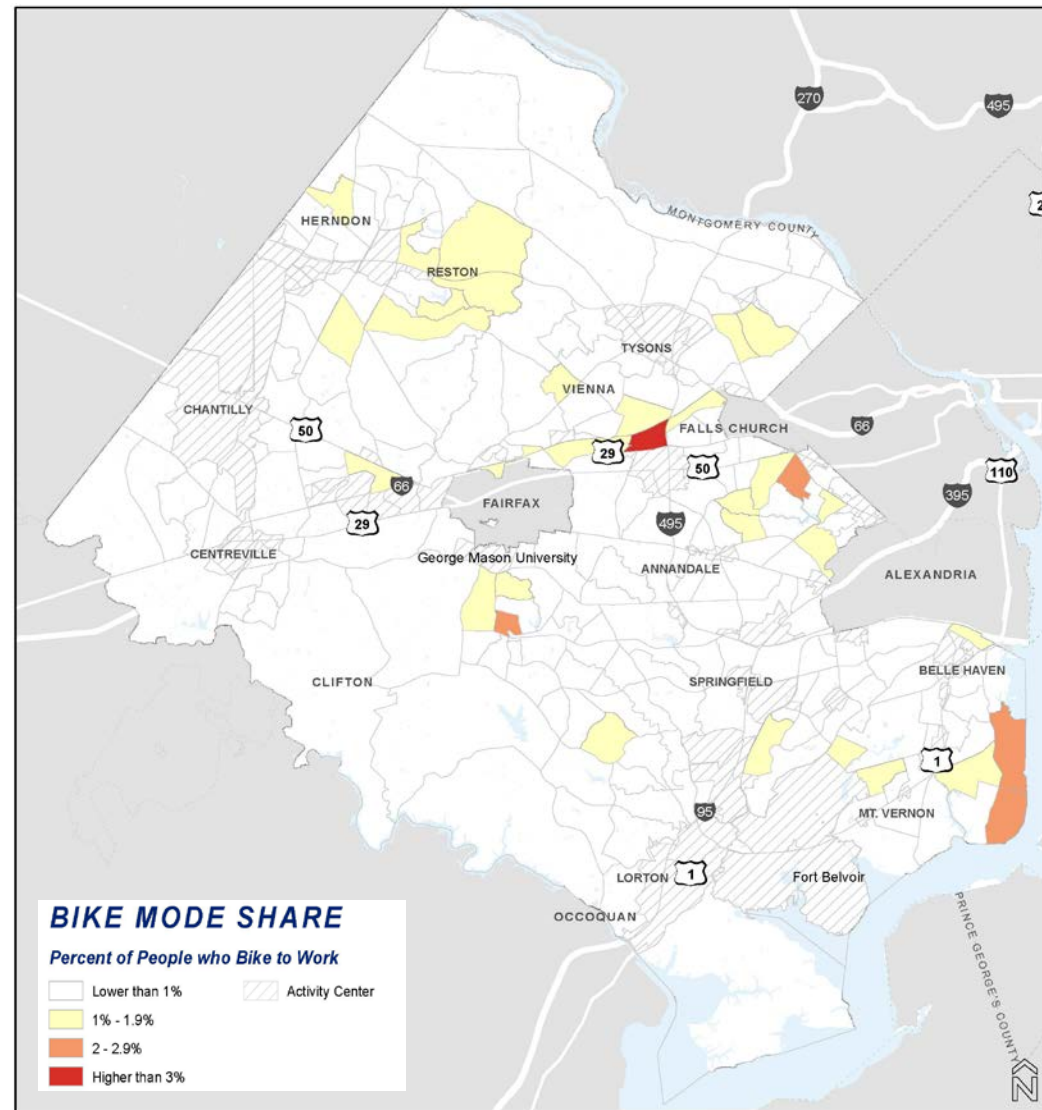
- Average rate of people currently walking to work is **1.5%**
- Activity centers have higher rates





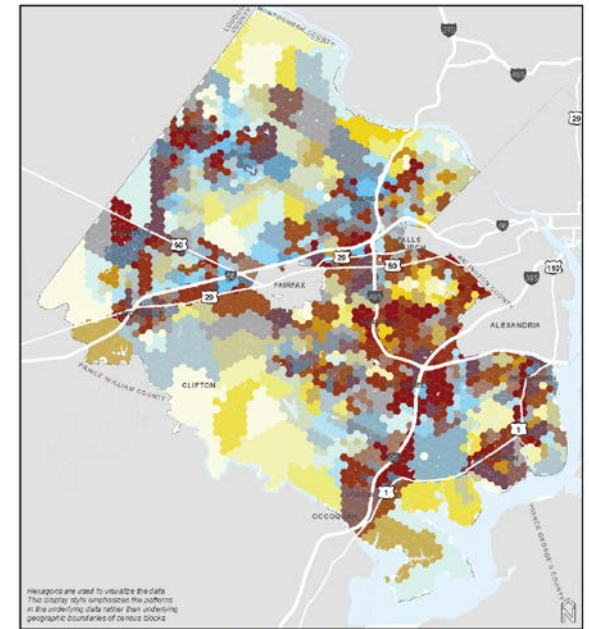
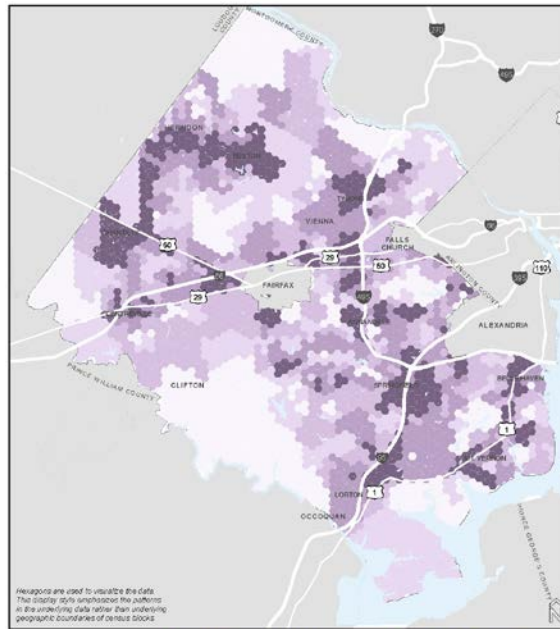
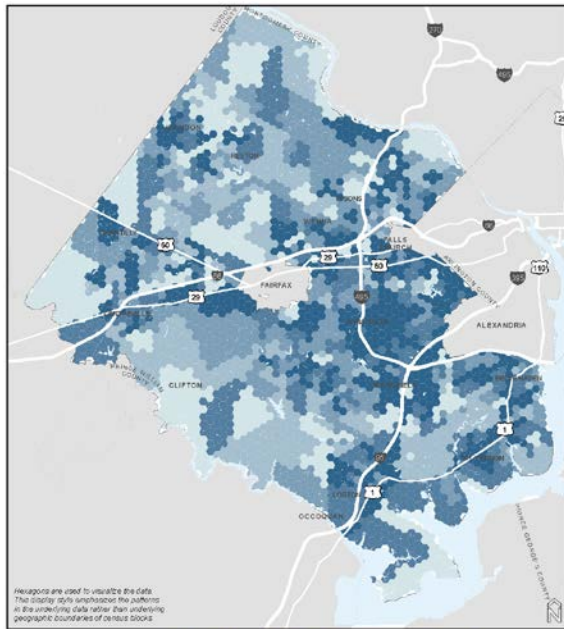
## Bike to Work Rates

- Average rate of people currently biking to work is **0.3%**
- Higher rates exist outside of activity centers





## Need + Demand





## Draft Vision + Goals







## Vision Statement + Goals

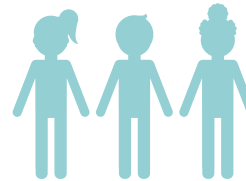
*“Fairfax County streets, sidewalks and trails are places where people of diverse races, cultures, incomes and ages feel comfortable walking, biking, or using other forms of active transportation to safely access the widest range of destinations.”*



**Access**



**Safety**



**Equity**



**Livability**





## Access

- Increase active transportation mode share and reduce reliance on automobile trips.
- Provide a network of comfortable streets, sidewalks, and trails that link neighborhoods to transit, activity centers, shopping, recreation, entertainment, and public facilities.
- Provide active transportation amenities.
- Monitor new trends and technologies and update standards to encourage their use.





# Safety

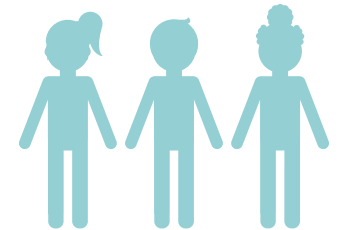
- Collaborate with federal, state, regional, local and private partners to make Fairfax County safer for walking and biking, and to reduce bike/ped fatalities and severe injuries.
- Implement safety countermeasures along high-injury corridors to reduce conflicts and collisions. Prioritize user comfort when selecting safety countermeasures.
- Work with VDOT to incorporate safer designs in state roads.
- Implement a pedestrian and bicycle safety education campaign for public schools.
- Ensure pedestrian and bicycle access, safety, and comfort throughout all phases of development.





## Equity

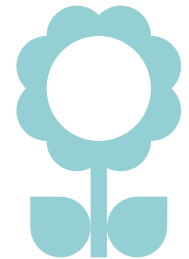
- Apply a racial and social equity lens to public engagement efforts, strategy development, and project implementation.
- Adhere to the goals of the One Fairfax Policy.
- Prioritize need-based and equitable implementation of pedestrian and bicycle facilities within activity centers.
- Provide more equity in funding for active transportation at both the federal, state and local levels.
- Analyze and address the likelihood of gentrification due to project implementation. Incorporate strategies to ensure displacement does not occur when improvements are made.





## Livability

- Increase health by providing more access to comfortable streets, sidewalks, and trails for both active transportation and recreation.
- Integrate the active transportation network and facility needs into all County planning documents and capital improvement projects.
- Pursue increased funding for comfortable streets, sidewalks, and trails, and creatively leverage different sources of existing funding.
- Increase flexibility in roadway engineering standards to give more weight to the needs of cyclists and pedestrians by emphasizing user comfort. Incorporate national best practices and innovation, and include placemaking elements.





## Comments and Questions

- **Website:** <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax>
- **Email:** [ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov)
- **By mail:** Fairfax County Department of Transportation, Active Transportation Program, 4050 Legato Road, Fairfax, VA 22033