



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

---

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

## Fairfax County Trails, Sidewalks and Bikeways Committee (TSB)

September 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Room 8, Fairfax County Government Center

12000 Government Center Pkwy

Fairfax, VA 22035

Website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/trails>

Howard Albers, Secretary

**Members Present:** Ken Comer (At Large/Chair), Howard Albers (Washington Area Bicyclists Association), Karen Ampeh (Sully District), Jim Corcoran (Fairfax County Park Authority), Shawn Newman (Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling FABB), Erin Partlan (Franconia District), Kathryn McDaniel (Clifton Horse Society), and Noel Popwell (Springfield), Maria Lashinger (Northern Virginia Builders Industry Association), Jim Klein (Mount Vernon District), and Lydia Lawrence (Dranesville District).

**Member Proxies:** Bob Cosgriff (Braddock District/Vice-Chair) proxy given to Ken Comer.,

**Members Absent:** Brooks Stephens (Providence District), James Albright (Mason District), Alex Rough (Hunter Mill District), Mark Tipton (Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association), , Diane Monnig (Fairfax Area Disability Services Board), and Mike DePue (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority).

**Others in Attendance:** Andrew Sheldon, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT), Brian Leckie, VDOT NOVA Bicycle, Pedestrian, Park and Ride Coordinator and Heidi Mitter, VDOT NOVA Multi-Modal Planning Manager.

**Call to Order:** Ken Comer (At Large/Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was not present at the start of the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Consideration of the July 2024 committee minutes was deferred until the October 2024 meeting.

**Presentation:** Brian Leckie, a Senior Transportation Planner at the NOVA District of VDOT, began by saying in 2004, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) adopted the Policy For Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations. The policy provides a framework for the Virginia Department of Transportation to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians in the planning, funding, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of Virginia's transportation network. VDOT initiates all highway construction projects with the presumption that the projects shall accommodate bicycling and walking.

---

Fairfax County Department of Transportation

4050 Legato Road, Suite 400

Fairfax, VA 22033-2895

Phone: (703) 877-5600 TTY: 711

Fax: (703) 877-5723



As the bicycle and pedestrian coordinator in the NOVA District Brian Leckie is VDOT's point of contact for bicycle and pedestrian matters with the public and local/regional governments, planning documents, research, standards, and data collection.

Eight bike ped counters are in use on the 66 Parallel Trail. The counts on a monthly average are 1,648 for bicyclists and 1,117 for pedestrians.

VDOT maintenance teams are responsible for keeping bicycle and pedestrian facilities clean and safe by removing trash and mowing the right of ways. If there is an interest in organizing a clean-up of a VDOT owned trail or if there are bicycle pedestrian related questions Brian Leckie can be contacted at (703) 259-2799 or [brian.leckie@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:brian.leckie@VDOT.virginia.gov). VDOT support for clean-up events is available on weekdays during regular business hours.

VDOT has no dedicated funding for trail maintenance or trail resurfacing. When asked about how such fundings could be arranged, the VDOT staff suggested starting with the state legislators or state government officials in Richmond.

Brian Leckie stated the best way to report bicycle facility maintenance needs is to use the myVDOT link [Report a Road Problem - Virginia Department of Transportation](#). The statewide system forwards the request to the appropriate VDOT maintenance office. Heidie Mitter commented that if the reported bike ped facility is not the responsibility of VDOT, the work order is closed and it is not forwarded to others trail owners. Currently in the NOVA District, the bike ped coordinator does not receive information about bike ped maintenance requests. If users have bike ped maintenance concerns that the myVDOT link has not addressed, users should contact Brian Leckie.

Brief explanations were given about planned, under construction, and recently completed bicycle facilities.

In Fairfax County during the 2024 VDOT repaving season eight miles of bicycle lanes were created VDOT and FCDOT work together in selecting where new bike lanes are installed.

VDOT is considering if they will need a Virginia supplement to the recently approved Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The public will have a chance to provide comments before VDOT makes a decision.

Several committee members invited Brian Leckie to attend future TSB committee meetings as a way of improving communications between the committee and the VDOT NOVA bicycle pedestrian program. Attending TSB committee meetings would provide more timely information, allow for a better understanding of bike ped concerns in Fairfax County, and hopefully finding solutions to concerns about VDOT-owned trails, sidewalks and bikeways in Fairfax County.

**Staff Report:** Andrew Sheldon announced that he is now the new FCDOT point of contact for the TSB Committee.

FCDOT staff will be holding community open houses throughout the county about Active Transportation in Fairfax County. At the October 9, 2024, committee meeting, Nicole Wynands will brief the committee on Active Transportation. Andrew Sheldon agreed to send the

presentation to the committee members so they could read it before the meeting, allowing more time for questions and answers.

There will be sixteen new Bikeshare locations in Fairfax County. In August there were 4,500 Bikeshare trips.

**Discussions:**

Future presentations to the TSB committee:

October 9 Nicole Wynands, FCDOT Active Transportation in Fairfax County.

November 13 Trail wayfinding in Fairfax County. A panel of speakers from FCDOT, the Park Authority, the Economic Development Authority, and safety agencies could discuss the importance of wayfinding.

The Tour de Mount Vernon [Tour de Mount Vernon 2024 Tickets, Sat, Oct 19, 2024 at 8:00 AM | Eventbrite](#) will be on October 19, 2024. The ride begins and ends at the Lorton Workhouse.

**Public Comments: None**

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Minutes were approved by the TSB Committee on October 9, 2024.