



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

May 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Room 8, Fairfax County Government Center

12000 Government Center Pkwy

Fairfax, VA 22035

AGENDA

Members Present: Jim Klein (Mt. Vernon District), Vice Chair; Brooks Stephens (Providence District), Daniel Eisert (Hunter Mill), James Corcoran (FCPA), Lenny Bankester (Mason District), Shawn Newman (FABB), Erin Partlan (Franconia), Karen O. Ampeh (Sully District)

Call meeting to order: The meeting was called to order by Jim Klein at 7:11 PM

Review/approval of February/April 2026 minutes: April minutes approved unanimously

Administrative Item: Status of appointments/reappointments/open seats

Jim requests committee members make suggestions to Andrew, Andrew is also working with Supervisors' offices. FABB is putting out a call in their next newsletter.

Staff Report: Sandy Klanfer, FCDOT

Updates were provided on the Board of Supervisors approval of the Active Transportation and Trails Plan, as well as Active Transportation Prioritization Process and Turn Calming Pilot. TSB members asked for the recommended projects from the prioritization process, which had been provided to the district Supervisors. Members also discussed the NVTa 6-year plan projects and public input opportunities for Route 7 and Route 1 BRT projects. The Potomac Heritage Trail was also discussed: FCDOT is seeking funding for a planning study. Jim Klein mentioned that NPS is doing its own PNHST planning process which is getting underway soon.

Presentation:

As no presentation was scheduled, members used this time to discuss presentation topics and presenters they are interested in hearing from in the future. These included:

- Stream Restoration and Stream Valley Trails (Justin Pistore, Section Chief Watershed Projects Implementation–Central, Stormwater Planning Division DPWES)
- Deputy County Executive (Jennifer L. Miller)
- Gallows Corridor Project Update
- FCPD (Bike/Ped Safety; e-bike enforcement)

Jim Klein expressed interested in learning more about the potential for adding trails to stream restoration projects. Members had a conversation about this possibility. Lenny Bankester asked what it would take to get trail projects included in stream restoration. Karen Ampeh expressed

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interest in learning more about how stream restoration projects are prioritized. James Corcoran noted that stream restoration projects involve work in the stream bed itself, not in the area above the stream bed where trails would typically be located. He also noted issues with property rights, as many streams travel through private property and owners must provide permission for trails to be built.

Conversation later shifted to potentially identifying a dedicated funding stream for trail projects like the one available for stream restoration projects. Daniel Eisert brought up the dedicated taxes used in Reston to help pay for the Silver Line, and James Corcoran mentioned the use of I-66 express lane toll revenue to pay for projects in the I-66 corridor. James Corcoran suggested that finding a funding stream for trail maintenance should be prioritized over finding a funding stream for new trail construction. Shawn Newman expressed interest in a presentation from FCDOT or NVTC staff about the uses to which the various toll road revenues can be spent.

Reorganization of strategic priorities working groups:

- Pedestrian/Cyclist Safety Issues (Jim Klein)
- Strategic Trail Planning and Prioritization (Unassigned)
- Early Involvement in Land-use Planning (Brooks Stephens, Maria Lashinger)
- Improved Coordination with Allies (Erin Partlan)
- Improved Coordination at the District Supervisor Level (vacant)
- Trail and Sidewalk Maintenance (Unassigned)

The listed strategic priorities have been developed by the committee, but some have not been assigned to committee members. Shawn Newman expressed concerns about the feasibility of strategic trail planning, but asked to keep it on the agenda, which other members agreed with. Jim Klein expressed interest in focusing on safety issues. Members brought up Erin Partlan's update on coordination with allies, which had been provided at the previous meeting. Shawn Newman suggested she coordinate with the Fairfax Healthy Communities alliance of nonprofits and advocacy groups, which included the groups which spoke in favor of the ATTP at the BoS meeting.

Jim Klein brought up the need for coordination with Supervisors on issues and projects important to individual members of the BoS, and asked for input on how the committee can make sure it is staying up to date on these issues. Shawn Newman suggested that the agenda for each meeting include a list of trail projects members are interested in, which members could add to as necessary. Lenny Bankester added that it could help the committee stay focused on key objectives, and Shawn Newman noted that it could be shared with district Supervisors as necessary.

Citizen Inputs/Comments/Q&A: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

New Business:

The committee used this time to continue their conversation about future presentation ideas. Dan Eisert expressed interest in hearing from FCDOT staff about the Reimagine Wiehle Avenue planning process, including the current status and how lessons learned from this project can be

applied to planning processes in other parts of the county. Interest was also expressed in hearing from the new Deputy County Executive Jennifer Miller, and a presentation on the Gallows Road project.

Shawn Newman brought up e-bike safety policy issues. He discussed how recent state legislation was hurt by confusion over the difference between e-bikes and electric mopeds. He did not have a specific ask at this meeting, but asked the committee to keep it in mind when talking to elected officials to make sure they understand the difference between these vehicles, as it effects trails and where people can ride. Other members brought up concerns they had heard from County residents. Jim Klein and Shawn Newman discussed whether this was an enforcement issue or a policy issue, and whether the best people to hear from on this issue would be FCPD or the Deputy County Executive.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM