

Prince William County
TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

MOTION: Eileen Sheridan

SECOND: Neil Nelson

**May 28, 2024
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-12**

**RE: Support for ATIP Planning and Design Grant Application: VRE Manassas Line Trail:
Landmark to City of Manassas**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, The Prince William County Trails and Blueways Council is an advisory council established by the Prince William Board of County Supervisors to advocate for and advise the Prince William County Department of Parks and Recreation and the Board of County Supervisors on the development of a countywide trails and blueways system in Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, The Mobility Chapter of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in December 2022 and provides guidance for the County to provide an accessible, safe, comprehensive, multi-modal transportation network that allows for the safe and efficient movement of goods and people throughout the County and into Surrounding jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, Mobility Chapter Action Strategy G4.7 encourages the County to identify and apply to federal, regional, and state grant programs to maximize external funding of County mobility projects; and

WHEREAS, Section 11529 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law created the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIP) to provide competitive grant funding towards the planning and design and/or construction of active transportation projects that provide safe and connected active transportation facilities in active transportation spines; and

WHEREAS, The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Long-Range Plan includes a proposed Rail with Trail along the VRE Manassas Line from City of Manassas to Landmark in the City of Alexandria (TransAction ID 439); and

WHEREAS, The VRE Manassas Line Trail is broken into two phases with phase I of the overall project extending from Old Town Manassas to the Bull Run River/Bull Run Trail in Fairfax County spanning multiple jurisdictions including City of Manassas, Prince William County, and City of Manassas Park; and

WHEREAS, Mobility Chapter Action Strategy RT10.4 encourages the County to seek opportunities to connect the County's recreational trails to similar trails provided by adjacent jurisdictions, particularly across Bull Run/Occoquan and other local, regional, state, and federal park and trail providers; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County Department of Transportation supports the development of the VRE Manassas Line Trail as a key active transportation spine in the National Capital Trail Network as a high quality active transportation facility that will provide non-existing connections from economic hubs and regional activity centers to existing parks, open space, and commuter train station destinations; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County, with the direct assistance from the City of Manassas and City of Manassas Park, is preparing to submit an application for grant funding for the planning and design of Phase I of the VRE Manassas Line Trail through the ATIP federal grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trails and Blueways Council supports the proposed grant application submission to the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program to provide funding for planning and design of phase I of the VRE Manassas Line Trail as an opportunity to significantly progress planning of a key regional trail connection between multiple jurisdictions including a new crossing of the Bull Run River into Fairfax County and as an opportunity to expand the County's trail network.

Votes:

Ayes: 12

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1

Absent from Meeting: 2

SIGNED: 
Prince William Trails and Blueways Council chair