

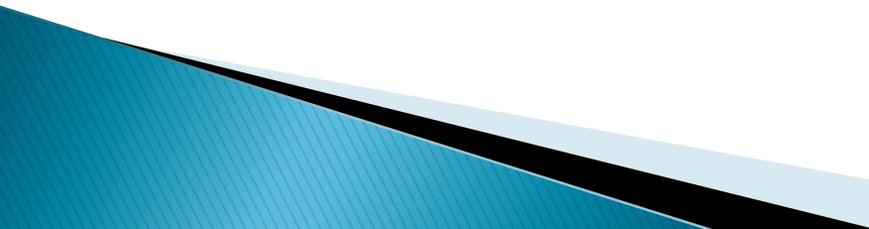
Virginia Central Railway Trail
Public Meeting
April 19, 2012

Virginia Central Railway

- ▶ Fredericksburg and Gordonsville RR Co. incorporated 1853
- ▶ Eighteen miles of roadbed cleared and graded by 1857, but no tracks laid before Civil War
- ▶ Graded route used to move troops during CW; played a key role in three battles – Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness
- ▶ Rail line (narrow gauge) opened between Fredericksburg and Orange in 1877
- ▶ The 38 mile route upgraded to standard gauge 1925–1926
- ▶ Western 37 miles abandoned by 1938 (declining revenue)
- ▶ One mile of track remained in operation until 1983

Virginia Central Railway Trail

What is the proposed project?

- An approximately 3.5 mile long, ten foot wide, mostly paved bicycling and hiking trail along the VCR rail bed.
 - Beginning near Essex Street and extending west to Interstate 95.
 - To eventually pass under I-95 and connect with an extension of the trail in Spotsylvania County.
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Eastern Trailhead; near Essex St.; looking west



Existing Trail through Cobblestone development



Existing Trail through Cobblestone; approaching Willis St.



Proposed trail west of Willis St.; Hazel Run on left



Proposed trail behind old Regional Jail property



Proposed trail approaching Lafayette Blvd.; trail will pass under the bridge



Proposed trail approaching Blue & Gray Pkwy.; new pedestrian signal and crosswalk to be installed



Trail will run parallel to Alum Spring Rd.



Trail will continue along Alum Spring Rd.



Trail will continue along existing trail through Alum Spring Park



Approaching Jefferson Davis Hwy.



New pedestrian signal and crosswalk will be installed on Jefferson Davis Hwy.



Trail continues west toward I-95



Trail path

Typical current trail condition west of Jefferson Davis Hwy.



Typical current trail condition west of Jefferson Davis Hwy.



Virginia Central Railway Trail

What is the schedule for construction of the trail?

(Schedule subject to change)

- ▶ Advertise for Construction: September 30, 2012
- ▶ Award Construction Contract: November 30, 2012
- ▶ Start of Construction: January, 2013
- ▶ Completion of Construction: November, 2013

Virginia Central Railway Trail

Will the entire trail be built at one time?

- ▶ Depends on availability of funding
- ▶ Project has been divided into four sections; bids will be obtained by section
 - Area 1: Essex Street to Blue and Gray Parkway
 - Area 2: B/G Parkway to Jefferson Davis Highway
 - Area 3: Jefferson Davis Highway to Idlewild
 - Area 4: Idlewild to I-95

Virginia Central Railway Trail

What are the challenges/issues facing the project?

- Historically and environmentally sensitive areas
 - The railbed itself is historically significant
 - Historical culverts
- Two major road crossings (B/G Parkway and Jeff Davis Highway)

Virginia Central Railway Trail

Challenges/issues facing the project (continued)

- ADA compliance
- Steep slopes on either side of trail in some areas
- Cost

Virginia Central Railway Trail

To Comment on the Project:

- Dictate comments to the court reporter here at this meeting.
- Submit written comments by April 29, 2012 to:
 - dfawcett@fredericksburgva.gov
 - Doug Fawcett
Director of Public Works
City of Fredericksburg
PO Box 7447
Fredericksburg, VA 22404
- Call Public Works at 540-372-1023

Legend

-  Bridge_New
-  Crossing_At_Grade_New_Signalized
-  Crossing_At_Grade_Existing_Signalized
-  Eastern_Trailhead_Existing
-  Parcel_Lines_Existing
-  Trail_Existing
-  Trail_New
-  Trail_Future
-  Underpass_Existing
-  Underpass_New



City of Fredericksburg, Virginia
Virginia Central Railway Trail
 Date: April 16, 2012 Scale: 1" = 200'