

Press Release – Public Meeting #2

September 27, 2024

Feedback Opportunity Regarding Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study in Loudoun County, VA

FAIRFAX, VA – The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is seeking public input on potential route options for completing the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) corridor gap in Loudoun County, Virginia. NVRC, as the lead agency and manager of the study, has partnered with the National Park Service (NPS) and Loudoun County to identify the most feasible route options for completing the network gap in the PHNST in the county. The project will identify, assess, and present the feasibility of potential routes in the PHNST corridor westward from the Town of Leesburg, including considerations for trail construction, maintenance, accessibility, park connections, scenic views, and other key elements for trail development.

Design and planning firm, [Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects](#), has been contracted to conduct the study. Over the summer of 2024, Lardner/Klein has conducted an analysis to investigate the most feasible route options for completing the network gap in the PHNST in the county. Feedback provided during the first public meeting and public comment period were used in this analysis (learn more [here](#)).

NVRC and project partners will host a public meeting on Tuesday October 29, 2024, from 6 – 8 PM at the Ida Lee Recreation Center in Leesburg, Virginia. The public meeting will offer the opportunity for community members to learn about and provide feedback on the initial results of the feasibility study. Informational displays and maps will be available for informal review with the consulting firm and project managers between 6 and 7 PM, followed by a brief presentation and discussion at 7 PM. There is also an option for remote participation during the meeting's presentation portion from 7 – 8 PM, which can be accessed with [Zoom registration](#).

The general public, including community members, businesses, and other interested parties, are encouraged to provide their input on the initial outcomes of the study. Feedback during this public meeting will help the consulting firm and project managers finalize results from the study.

For additional information and to sign up for project updates, you can visit [NVRC's project webpage](#). For specific questions about the study, or to provide additional comments, you can contact Linnea Sherman, NVRC's Regional Trails Coordinator at [lsherman@novaregion.org](mailto:lsherman@novaregion.org).

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is a regional council of thirteen-member local governments in the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington DC. According to Virginia's Regional Cooperation Act, NVRC is a political subdivision (a government agency) within the Commonwealth. NVRC has provided planning and management for the Northern Virginia section of the PHNST since the 1990s, including coordination efforts prior to congressional designation. Through data and mapping activities, special studies, and coordination with land managers, advocacy groups, and other trail partners, NVRC aims to address the range of needs and priorities of the PHNST in the region.