

Press Release – Public Meeting Reminder

5.10.24

Reminder for Feedback Opportunities 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.

The general public, including community members, businesses, and other interested parties, are encouraged to provide their input on the study. Feedback will help the consulting firm and project managers to understand how individuals currently use or plan to use the PHNST in Loudoun County, as well as to gain ideas on potential areas of interest where the trail could extend, such as neighborhoods, parks, visitor attractions, and retail businesses.

NVRC and project partners will host a public meeting on May 16, 2024 from 6 – 8 PM at the Lucketts Community Center in Lucketts, Virginia to provide the opportunity for community members to learn about and provide feedback on 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](#).

Interested parties can also provide feedback through the project's [StoryMap application](#), which includes an interactive map for users to pinpoint locations of interest for the trail route as well as a short survey questionnaire form. The project's public feedback period will be open through Monday, June 3rd.

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.

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.