

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is committed to providing meaningful opportunities for public involvement and encouraging participation in the project development process, beginning in the early planning stages. To keep the public informed on the Ashland to Petersburg (ATP) Trail Study, VDOT will provide regular updates as the study progresses. Additional opportunities for input and public engagement will also be provided in the form of upcoming public meetings. Stay informed by checking for updates on the project website at: [www.ATPTrailStudy.org](http://www.ATPTrailStudy.org).

## STUDY PROGRESS

During the Spring of 2019, VDOT worked closely with environmental agencies as well as stakeholder agencies, localities, planning organizations, and special interest groups to identify the purpose and need for the ATP Trail Study, which sets the goals of the study and establishes the primary criteria for the development and evaluation of the multi-use trail corridor options. The identified project purpose was supported by public feedback received during the March 2019 public meeting and comment period.

The purpose of the ATP Trail Study is to identify a preferred corridor for a multi-use trail facility that will enhance the active transportation network (walking, jogging, biking, or other modes of human-powered transportation) in the Richmond region, by addressing the following needs:

- **Improve safety** for the non-motoring public by providing low traffic stress active transportation facility;
- **Enhance connectivity** to existing active transportation facilities or destinations of interest (such as population centers, recreational areas, and places of school or work); and
- **Maintain consistency** with state, regional, and local transportation planning missions to prioritize active transportation networks throughout the Richmond region.

## DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF MULTI-USE TRAIL CORRIDOR OPTIONS

Based on the identified purpose and need for the study and using input from the public, interested stakeholders, and environmental agencies, VDOT developed a range of multi-use trail corridor options that have been refined in coordination with participating stakeholders and environmental agencies.

Six preliminary corridor options have been developed for consideration and are continuing to be refined based on a progressively detailed evaluation of each corridor option's ability to address the purpose and need, as well as the following planning-level criteria:



- Environmental Conditions
- Length and Route Directness
- Design Considerations



- Right of Way Impacts
- Connection to Destinations
- Cost



## WHAT IS NEXT?

Following the completion of VDOT's corridor evaluation, the initial results will be presented to participating stakeholders and environmental agencies with a recommendation for a preferred corridor option. The findings of the corridor options analyses and recommended preferred corridor option will be presented for public review and input at public meetings anticipated for the Fall of 2019.

