Virginia Capital Trail – Project Corridor

From the Canal Walk in the heart of Richmond’s modern waterfront, to the Governor’s mansion in Colonial Williamsburg, the trail will traverse a unique landscape with unrivaled historic and cultural value.
Virginia Capital Trail – Project History

1957  Completion of Colonial Parkway to Jamestown
1975  Route 5 Scenic Byway Designation
1997-99 Initial Feasibility Study
2004  Establishment of Virginia Capital Trail Foundation
2005  Construction of initial phases begins
       East Coast Greenway Corridor Designation
2007  Construction of Richmond Riverfront Phase I and
       Charles City Phase I begins
2008  Greensprings and Chickahominy Riverfront phases
       open for public
Virginia Capital Trail – Project Goals

• Connect local parks, trails and recreational amenities and historic and cultural sites

• Enhance recreation

• Promote healthier lifestyles

• Provide alternative transportation

• Promote tourism
Virginia Capital Trail - Progress

- Trail is being constructed in phases
  - There are 8 phases
- Trail is 8 – 10 ft wide separate shared use path
- Complex (most expensive) /pressured phases to receive priority
- Local, Private, Inter-Agency Partnerships
- Use of designated funding sources
- Context-Sensitive Design
- Use of Existing Right-of-Way where possible
Virginia Capital Trail – Greensprings

- 3-mile segment connecting Jamestown Island, Colonial Parkway and Route 5
- Trailhead at Jamestown High School
- 40-Acre Wildlife Preserve Acquisition
- Open to the Public
Virginia Capital Trail – Chickahominy Riverfront

- 5-mile segment connecting Greensprings with new County Park and Chickahominy bridge
- Open to the public
Virginia Capital Trail – Sherwood Forest

- 13.5-mile phase linking new Chickahominy bridge and Charles City Courthouse
- Design / Public Involvement underway
- Construction complete late 2009/early 2010
Virginia Capital Trail – Charles City Courthouse

- 8-mile phase linking new historic visitors center with VCU Rice Center
- Historic Clerk’s Office renovated for Visitors Center with restroom facilities
- Construction began early 2008
Virginia Capital Trail – New Market Heights

- +/- 12-mile phase linking VCU Rice Center and new J. Sergeant Reynolds Campus at Route 5/I-295 intersection
- Design planned to begin in late 2008
Virginia Capital Trail – Randolph Landing

- 6.7-mile phase connecting Route 5 corridor with new County Park along river at Wilton development
- Enhanced public access to riverfront
- 100% private cost
- Planned opening in 2009/2010
- Possible future connection to trail loop along river and proposed riverside parkway
Virginia Capital Trail - Varina

- 7 mile long phase linking new developments with new J. Sergeant Reynolds campus and downtown Richmond
- Design worked schedule to begin early 2008
Virginia Capital Trail – Richmond Riverfront

- Partnership with Richmond, developers, non-profits and others
- Being constructed in segments as development progresses
- Connects new developments with downtown Richmond and the Canal Walk
- Serves as a natural extension of the Canal Walk
Virginia Capital Trail

Trail will be an amenity for the region and the Commonwealth

Administration is committed to having the entire trail either complete or under development by the 2010

Board will consider action item to designate the Virginia Capital Trail corridor at its March meeting

– Recognize alignment and importance of Trail
– Ensure that all projects along corridor consider Trail
Virginia Capital Trail

Nick Donohue
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