



County of Henrico

Department of Public Works

Terrell C. Hughes, P.E. Director

(804) 501-4393

Public Information Meeting New Market Heights Trail

July 29, 2025
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Varina Area Library

1875 New Market Road, Richmond, VA 23231

Welcome to the County of Henrico public information meeting on the proposed New Market Heights Trail project. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to provide comments. The County wants all members of the community to have the opportunity to participate in public involvement on projects affecting them. Representatives are present from a variety of relevant stakeholders to discuss the study and answer your questions.

Project Overview

The New Market Heights Trail will provide an approximately 3.2-mile-long and 10-12 foot wide, paved shared-use trail from New Market Road to the Deep Bottom Park. The trail will highlight areas of natural and historical significance, including the County's New Market Park property, Deep Bottom Park, the U.S. Civil War Battlefield of New Market Heights, and the Capital Region Land Conservancy's Varina LandLab.

Portions of the project will be **locally-funded**, while others are seeking **grant funding** assistance for construction. The project will be split into five phases:

Phase 1 & 2: Connection to VA Capital Trail, New Market Park

Phase 3: New Market Park to Kingsland Road

Phase 4: Kingsland Road to Deep Bottom Park

Phase 5: Deep Bottom Park to James River

Estimated Project Cost: \$16 million

Estimated Construction Start Date: 2026/2027



View of the proposed trail within New Market Park

Project Stakeholders

Representatives from the American Battlefield Trust, the Capital Region Land Conservancy, the Battle of New Market Heights Memorial and Education Association, the Richmond Battlefields Association, and the National Park Service, are actively engaged with the County of Henrico in selecting a proposed alignment for the trail that aligns with their goals and minimizes impacts to sensitive historical and environmental areas. They are also providing input on future trail amenities and interpretive opportunities.

The County is also working with landowner partners to establish necessary easements for constructing the trail.



NPS-RTCA

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

CAPITAL REGION
LAND CONSERVANCY

Richmond Battlefields
ASSOCIATION

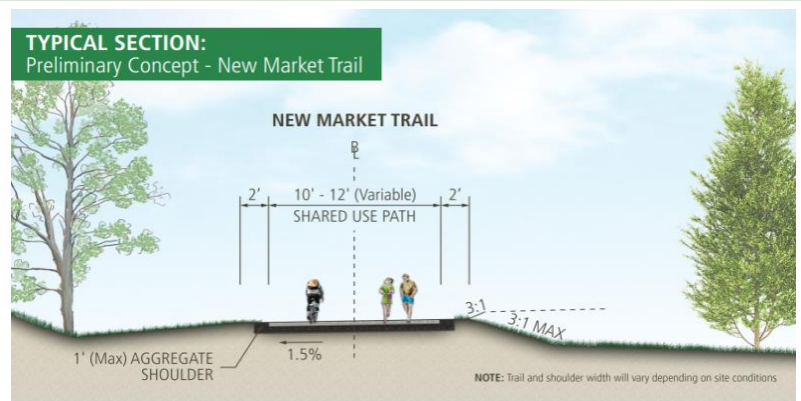
The Battle of New Market Heights and Area Significance

In September 1864, the United States Army's Tenth Corps crossed the James River and moved inland at what is now Deep Bottom Park. Their objective was to break through the outer defence line on along the New Market Road and move on to capture Richmond. The ensuing battle took place along the Confederate lines that hadsettled along New Market Road. The Union army forces included three brigades of U.S. Colored Troops (roughly 3,800 men), fourteen of whom earned fourteen Medals of Honor for their actions during the battle. The New Market Heights Trail will provide visitors with the chance to immerse themselves in the space where these troops faught, increasing awareness and visibility of this historic area.

The New Market Heights Trail will also provide visitors access to intact forests and open greenspace. Though some properties along this route were farmed and quarried, efforts are underway to restore many of these areas. The trail will cross through a portion of the 350 acre Varina LandLab managed by the CRLC, whichoffers over 4 miles of hiking trails and wildlife viewing. Deep Bottom and New Market Parks also offer opportunities to appreciate the riparian and wetland habitats of the James River and Four Mile Creek.

Preliminary Trail Features

- Major crossing improvements at Route 5 from Four Mile Creek Park/VA Capital Trail
- Trailhead with parking and New Market Heights Battle Monument & Interpretation Area
- 3 or 4 bridges or boardwalks
- Connections to other trail systems at Four Mile Creek Park, New Market Park, the Varina LandLab, and Deep Bottom Park
- Improved facilities at Deep Bottom Park



Right of Way

Much of the work proposed does not require additional right of way. As the County continues to refine the designs and a clear timeline for construction emerges for these segments, property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the easement and right of way acquisition process, please contact Ryan Levering, Transportation Development Division via lev004@henrico.gov or (804) 501-4244.

Environmental Review

The County will review the potential environmental impacts of the project as the design is refined. During construction, all reasonable efforts will be made to avoid or minimize dust, siltation, erosion, and impacts to significant natural habitats and resources. Construction will conform to the County's specifications and regulatory requirements of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Division of Soil and Water Conservation. The county will also seek input and guidance from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, and DCR's Natural Heritage Division.

Civil Rights

Representatives from the County are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of the County to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to provide comments and participate in public decisions on projects affecting them. The County ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Get Involved

The public comment period will close on August 12, 2025, following the public information meeting. County representatives will review and evaluate any information received. Comments can also be submitted to Ryan Levering (lev004@henrico.us) or at the contact address below. However, information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to the County by August 12, 2025, to be included in the public information meeting record. Comments can either be submitted using the comment form or via the online survey at the QR code:

Contact Information

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LEV004@henrico.us

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