



Supervisor Tony Buffington  
**Blue Ridge District**  
*NewsFlash*



## Franklin Park to Purcellville Trail Funding Update!

**My Accelerated Project Funding Request Gains  
Recommendation of Approval from Finance Committee**

**Now Headed to March 17, 2022, Business Meeting for Final  
Consideration**

Sent: March 3, 2022

**I'm pleased to share with you that accelerated funding for  
this project is one step closer to reality!**

Currently, the project has received \$520 thousand in design funding; however, the overwhelming remainder of design, land and right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, and construction funding is planned for an undesignated future year within the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

That said, with the Round Hill to Franklin Park Trail having been fast tracked and now nearing completion, **I am making a concerted effort to accelerate full funding for the Purcellville to Franklin Park Trail project.** In the weeks leading up to last night's Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development

Committee (FGOEDC) meeting, I met with County staff to identify an improved funding plan with hopes of accelerating \$1.025 million in design funding to FY23 (which begins on July 1, 2022). The plan would also acquire \$2 million in federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding and accelerate \$778 thousand in local funding, for a total of \$2.778 million in FY26 to be used for land and right-of-way acquisition, and for utility relocation. And finally, the plan would seek to acquire \$6.015 million in project specific state Smart Scale funding to begin trail construction in FY29.

At last night's FGOEDC meeting, the Committee (of which I am not a member) was briefed on the accelerated funding plan described above and subsequently voted in support of sending the proposed accelerated funding plan to the March 17, 2022, Board of Supervisors Budget Work Session for final consideration and possible approval.

The below graphic represents the proposed accelerated funding plan currently being considered:

**Franklin Park to Purcellville Trail**

| (\$ in 1,000s)              | PY    | FY 23   | FY 24 | FY 25 | FY 26   | FY 27 | FY 28 | FFY     | Total    |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|---------|----------|
| Recommended                 |       |         |       |       |         |       |       |         |          |
| LTF                         | \$520 | \$1,025 |       |       |         |       |       |         | \$1,545  |
| GO Bonds                    |       |         |       |       | \$778   |       |       |         | \$778    |
| Other Federal Funding (TAP) |       |         |       |       | \$2,000 |       |       |         | \$2,000  |
| Smart Scale                 |       |         |       |       |         |       |       | \$6,015 | \$6,015  |
| Total                       | \$520 | \$1,025 | -     | -     | \$2,778 | -     | -     | \$6,015 | \$10,338 |

Prior to last night's FGOEDC meeting, I attended the February 17, 2022, FGOEDC meeting in an effort to gain Committee approval to direct County staff to work on the above referenced plan and return to the March 3, 2022, meeting (last night's meeting) for further consideration by the Committee. In my February 17th comments to the FGOEDC, I stressed the following key points in support of accelerated funding for this project:

- It would best leverage current progress of the Round Hill to Franklin Park Trail project.
- It would complete an important segment of Loudoun's Countywide Linear Parks & Trails vision.

- It would Provide a safe new bicycle and pedestrian friendly connection from the W&OD Trail in Purcellville to the Town of Round Hill.
- It would get us closer to the future possibility of providing a bicycle and pedestrian friendly connection from the W&OD Trail in Purcellville, all the way to the Appalachian Trail.

I want to thank my colleagues on the FGOEDC for voting unanimously at last night's meeting to forward this funding scenario plan to the March 17, 2022, Board of Supervisor's Budget Work Session for final review and possible approval!

**Those wishing to comment on the accelerated funding request and proposed trail alignment shown in the graphics below, can do so by clicking on the button below:**

**Support Accelerated Funding & Trail Alignment**





## General Information About This Project:

As currently planned the Franklin Park to Purcellville Trail project will provide access for pedestrian and bicycle traffic from Franklin Park to an existing sidewalk in downtown Purcellville in order to enhance access and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The County's proposed trail would begin as a 10' wide shared-use-path at Franklin Park and travel north alongside Franklin Park Drive. At its intersection with Main Street (Business Route 7), the trail would cross to the north side of Main Street, utilizing a raised concrete median barrier for increased pedestrian safety. The trail would then continue east along the north side of Main Street into the Town of Purcellville, reducing in width from a 10' wide shared-use-path to a 5' wide sidewalk as it enters Town limits. This proposed sidewalk would then terminate at the intersection of Main Street and N 28th Street, where it would tie in to an existing sidewalk within Town.

This important project will serve to connect the W&OD Trail in Purcellville to Franklin Park and Round Hill as part of the Loudoun's Countywide Linear Parks and Trails vision.

For more information about the Franklin Park to Purcellville Trail project, including a link to sign up for updates about the project, visit [loudoun.gov/franklinparktrail](http://loudoun.gov/franklinparktrail)



# Loudoun County

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All our best!



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