

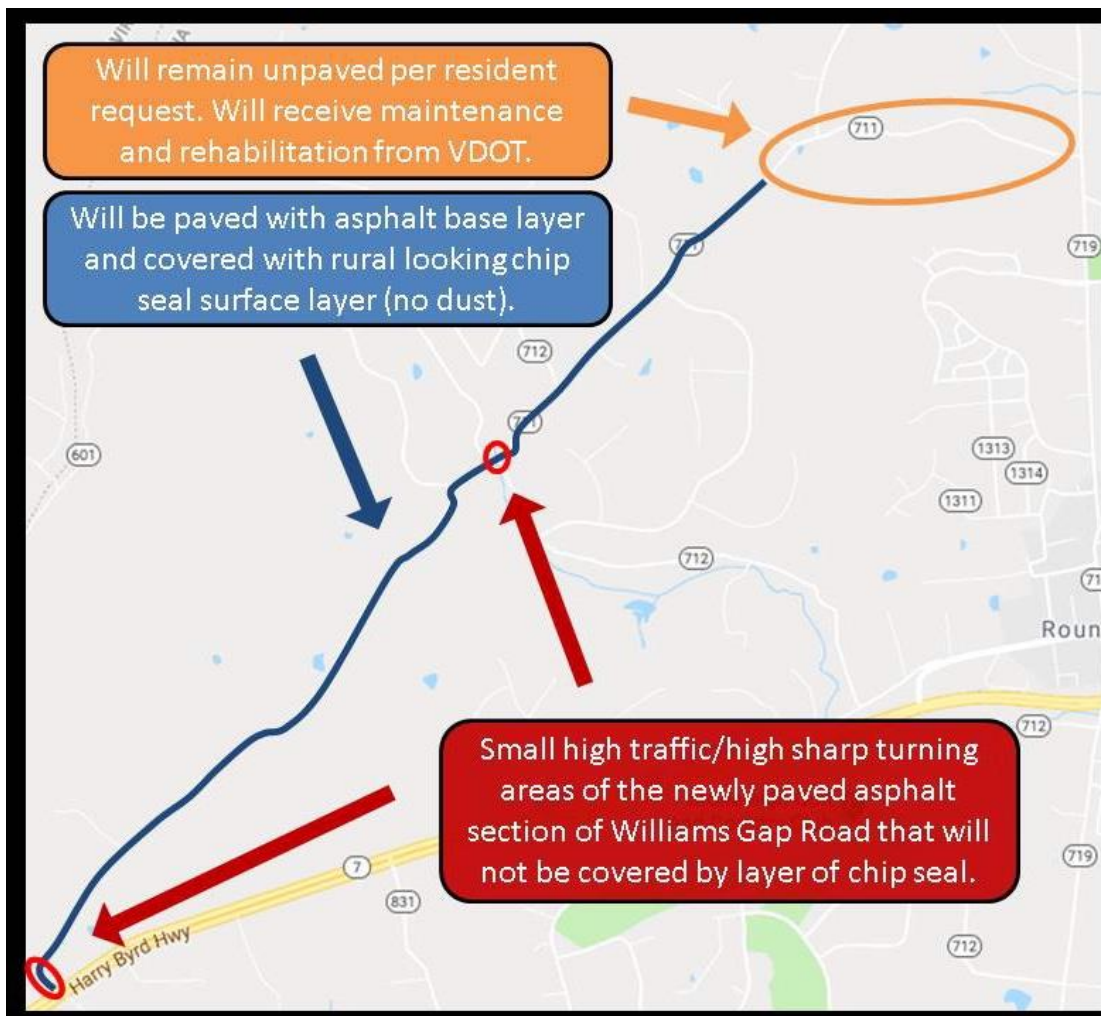
## **Williams Gap Road Improvements**

May 4, 2018

The decision regarding whether to pave a rural unpaved road (gravel road) is not one that I take lightly. These roads are an important part of Loudoun's rich history and help preserve our rural, historic and scenic character.

Therefore, prior to implementing a previous Board's decision to asphalt the entire length of Williams Gap Road, I conducted an updated survey of all adjoining property owners on Williams Gap Road, including property owners along roads served only by Williams Gap Road, to determine the wishes of current property owners. Responses received included input regarding hard surface improvements along with concerns for safety, dust, and cut-through traffic.

Based on results of the survey and through working with VDOT and the Rural Roads subcommittee of the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition, a final improvement plan for Williams Gap Road was approved. The plan accomplishes the desires of the vast majority of property owners (70%+) while ensuring improvements to the entire roadway and, I believe, limiting cut-thru traffic between Woodgrove Road and Route 7.



As reflected in the above diagram:

- Per resident request, the northern section of Williams Gap Road (roughly a mile long) will remain unpaved. This section will also receive special maintenance and rehabilitation by VDOT.
- With two small exceptions for high traffic/high sharp turning areas as noted in the above diagram - the remainder of Williams Gap Road will be paved with an asphalt base layer, covered with a chip seal surface layer designed to provide the look, feel, and sound of a rural road. In order to maintain Williams Gap Road's rural and scenic appeal, no painted markings will be applied.

In addition to the above listed improvements to Williams Gap Road, I have requested that VDOT finish paving the segment of Scotland Heights Road (Flint Farm Drive to Williams Gap Road) that was previously left undone due to budgetary constraints. Once complete, this newly paved section (Flint Farm Drive to Williams Gap Road) will match the currently paved section (Flint Farm Drive to Simpsons Creek Road) of Scotland Heights Road.

Please note that all improvements will be constructed under the Rural Rustic Roads Program within existing VDOT rights-of-way and will not encroach onto anyone's private property.

While this has been a painstaking process, it has been worth the effort in order to ensure the needs of our

community are being met and to provide the best possible outcome for this important rural road.

I will provide additional timeline information regarding construction once it has been determined by VDOT.

All my best,



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