In the first phase of the planning process, we asked the community, technical committee and key stakeholders to tell us what is important in determining potential route options. This is what we heard:

Rank the importance of factors in determining the trail route

1 Safety when near cars

2 Most scenic route

3 Minimizing environmental impacts

4 Shortest timeline to opening

5 Least impact on adjacent property owners

6 Lowest cost of construction

7 Flattest route

8 Most direct route

The draft route options presented here respond to that feedback.

As we move to the second phase of the project, we want to know what is most important to you in **identifying a preferred route alignment**. The following evaluation criteria were created based on the feedback that we have heard to date and are further explained below:

Connectivity – Prioritize routes that connect to denser commercial and residential areas and community destinations.
- Albemarle County activity centers
- Schools
- Employment centers
- Restaurants

Accessibility – Prioritize routes with public access points and accessible grades.
- Trailheads
- Access for all ages and abilities

Constructability – Prioritize routes through public Right-Of-Way (ROW) and existing trail networks and minimize the need for boardwalks, bridges, and major grading.
- Property impacts
- Maximize existingtrail networks
- Environmental impacts and permitting requirements

User Experience – Prioritize routes with high scenic qualities, access to parks and greenspace, and minimal road crossings.
- Viewsheds
- Consistency of experience
- Perceived safety and personal security

Safety – Prioritize routes that minimize road crossings and are separated from vehicular traffic.
- Number of crossings – roads, railroads, etc.
- Length of route with sufficient width of shoulder/ROW for separation

Community Support – Prioritize routes with strong support from nearby residents, businesses, and the broader community.
- Survey
- Open House