Regional Trail Initiatives in Hampton Roads

Bruce Drees
South Hampton Roads Trail Steering Committee
and
East Coast Greenway Alliance Trail Council
Trails, In Hampton Rds?

- Yes!
  - South Hampton Rds Trail (41 miles)
  - East Coast Greenway (81 miles)
- But not in my lifetime, right?
  - Actually, both initiatives are already underway
  - Many elements in place or complete: local plans, council/BOS resolutions, some $$$ (need more!)
  - Build on planned facilities wherever possible
  - Identified in the Virginia Outdoor Plan (DCR)
South Hampton Rds Trail

• Quick facts:
  – 41 miles from downtown Suffolk to Va Bch
  – Federation of projects that traverses our urban core
    • Connects four of five downtowns/town centers
    • Good adjunct for transit and increasing bike-ped mode share
  – Mix of facility types: trail (preferred), bike lanes, shoulders, HRT ferry
  – Key involvement:
    • Suffolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, HRTPO, VDOT, DCR
    • Bike, running, hiking groups, trail advocates; recent interest by health community
    • Ad hoc steering committee
South Hampton Rds Trail
East Coast Greenway

• Quick facts:
  – 3,000 mile trail linking cities along the East Coast
    • Key West, FL to Calais, ME
    • Urban counterpart to Appalachian Trail
    • Goal is off-road trail where feasible
    • 25% completed
  – Historic Coastal Route passes through Hampton Rds
    • Connects Elizabeth City to Virginia Capital Trail at Jamestown
    • Interim route identified pending long range trail improvements
  – Key involvement (interim route; to date):
    – Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield, Isle of Wight Co, Surry Co, ECGA, VDOT, DCR, bicycling & hiking groups, trail advocates
East Coast Greenway
East Coast Greenway

![East Coast Greenway Map](image)
Questions?

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