

PUBLIC HEARING - FY25 Capital Budget and FY25-30 Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

I am for fully maintaining and improving existing trails along Sligo Creek and Rock Creek. In addition, extending the PEPCO trail so it will connect from Cabin John Park to Muddy Branch.

Our county parks play a crucial role in fostering the well-being of our community. The trails within these parks offer invaluable opportunities for residents of all ages to embrace healthy lifestyles. Engaging in activities such as walking, running, and cycling on these trails not only enhances physical fitness but also promotes mental well-being.

I've noticed a significant number of parents teaching their children how to ride bicycles on these trails and the park roads, which are closed to traffic on weekends. I firmly believe that these children will carry these biking experiences into adulthood, adopting cycling as a lifelong activity. Cycling stands out as one of the most energy-efficient modes of mobility, and its significance will only grow more apparent as climate change continues to escalate.

Having personally utilized the park trails and roads for cycling over the past four decades, both on weekdays and weekends, I can attest to the enduring value of these resources. The consistent availability of these trails has not only contributed to my own physical fitness but has also served as a source of relaxation and enjoyment. As someone deeply familiar with the benefits of cycling in these settings, I am motivated to advocate for the preservation and enhancement of our county parks to ensure that future generations can continue to experience the same enriching opportunities.