

# Virginia Plastic Bag Fee

Reducing Single Use Plastic Bags in  
Virginia Beach



# LRNow: Who We Are



Lynnhaven River NOW (LRNow) is a Virginia Beach nonprofit restoring and protecting local waterways and natural areas. With 15,000 supporters, we lead hands-on conservation, education, and smart policy to build a cleaner, more resilient coast.



# LRNow's 2025 Cleanup's At A Glance

- Total Amount of Trash Removed:  
22,006 lbs
- Total Amount of Volunteers: 1,200
- Total Amount of Volunteer Hours:  
2,724.5





# VA General Assembly 2020

- Authorized any county or city to adopt by ordinance the Virginia Disposable Plastic Bag Tax of five cents on single-use plastic bags provided to customers in grocery stores, convenience stores, and drugstores in the locality.
- Legislation stipulates all City revenue from the fee must be used for reusable bag distribution and specific environmental efforts



# Localities in VA that have adopted the fee



- Roanoke
- Alexandria
- Fredericksburg
- Falls Church
- Charlottesville
- Fairfax
- Richmond
- Arlington County
- Fairfax County
- Loudoun County
- Albemarle County

# Fee

Revenue generated from fees must be used for environmental purposes such as:

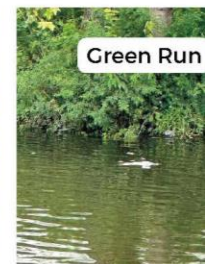
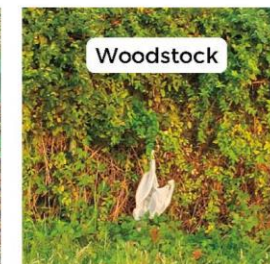
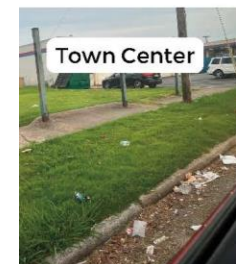
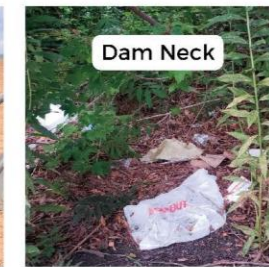
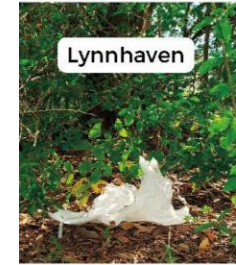
- Reusable bags to SNAP & WIC recipients
- Environmental Cleanups
- Educational Programs to reduce waste and litter, and to mitigate pollution





# Why Plastic Bags?

- Plastic bags are one of the most frequently littered items in Virginia Beach.
- End up on streets and in our waterways threatening wildlife
- Increased localized flooding via stormwater system blockages
- Plastic pollution all around (and in!) us. Tiny plastic particles (microplastics) in air we breathe, water, and food we eat.
- Plastic bags clog disposal and recycling machines causing major delays and significant costs to repair.





# Benefits

- Benefits of reduction in Plastic Bag littering:
  - Reduces storm drain and recycling system blockages and associated costs
  - Improves beauty and safety of our streets, natural areas, and waterways, and health of our wildlife





# Reusable Bags

- Readily available & inexpensive to purchase
- Mitigate fee effect on low-income households & communities
  - Portion of fees returned to City can be used for reusable bags for SNAP & WIC recipients
  - LRNow & the VB Clean Community Commission are dedicated to distributing bags to those in need



# Contact

- Dylan Mason, Public Policy Manager
- Mobile: (757) 894-7275
- Email: [Dylan@lrnow.org](mailto:Dylan@lrnow.org)
- Cristin Pullman, Community Outreach Manager
- Mobile: (757) 708-1612
- Email: [Cristin@lrnow.org](mailto:Cristin@lrnow.org)



# VB TRAIL UPDATE



Steve Lambert | 10.02.2025



CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH  
**Parks &  
Recreation**



# VBTRAIL

## SPANNING THE CITY



Newtown Transit Hub

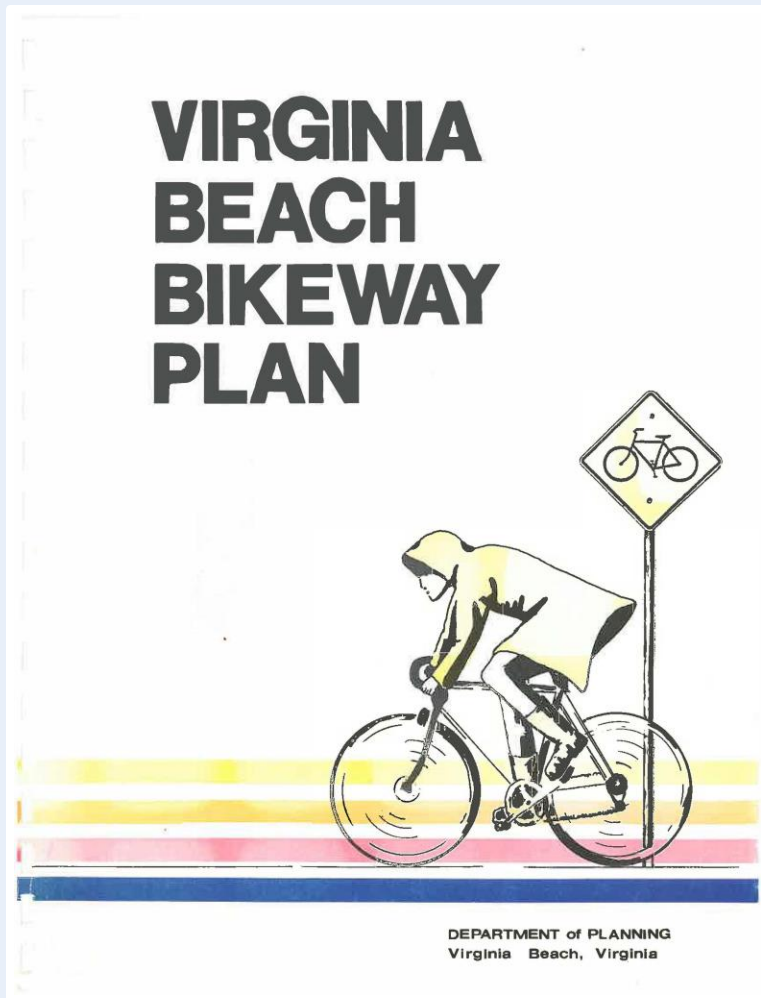


Town Center

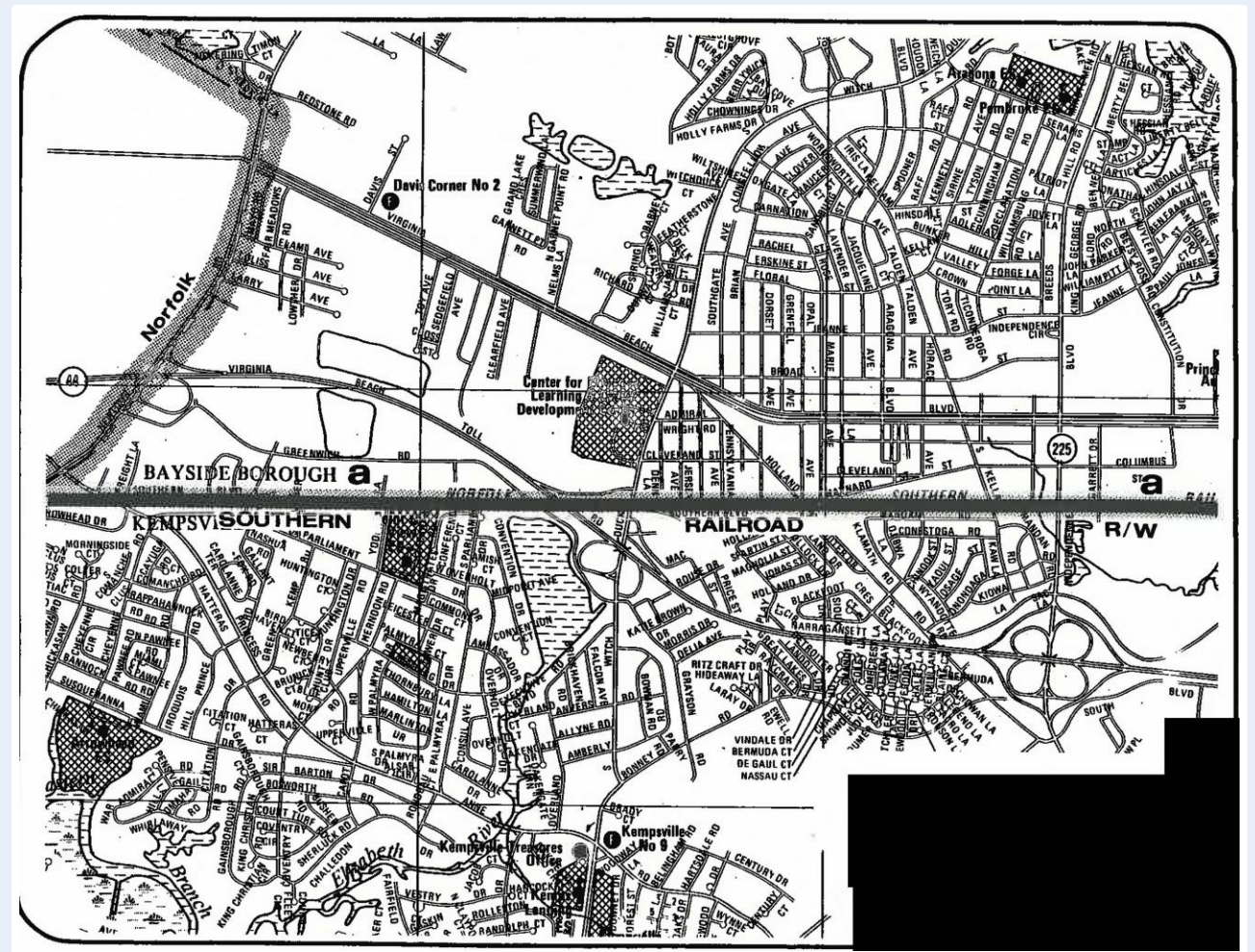


Rudee Park



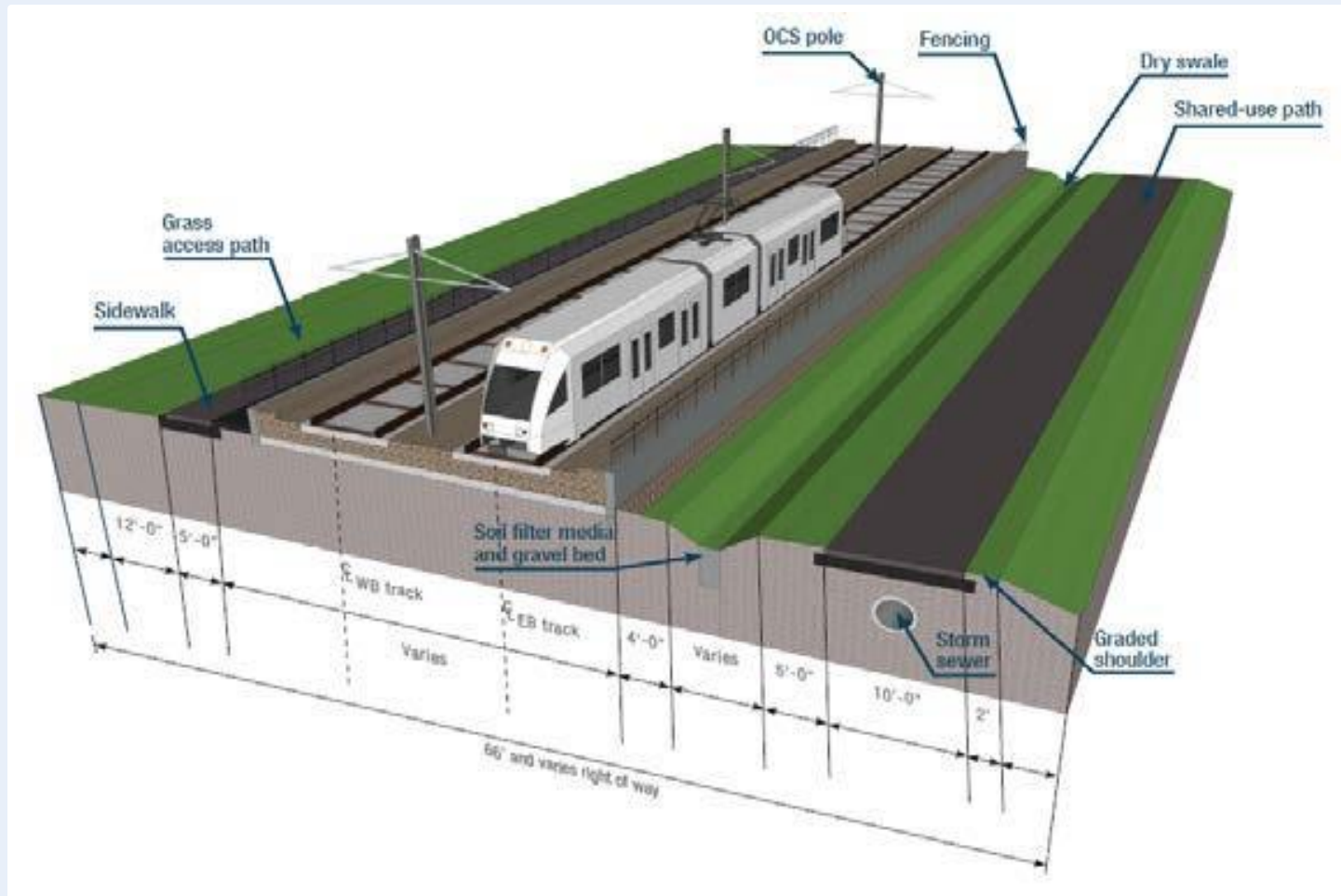


1981 Virginia Beach Bikeways Plan



Southern Railroad ROW

# VBTRAIL History



2015 Light Rail with Trail Concept Design



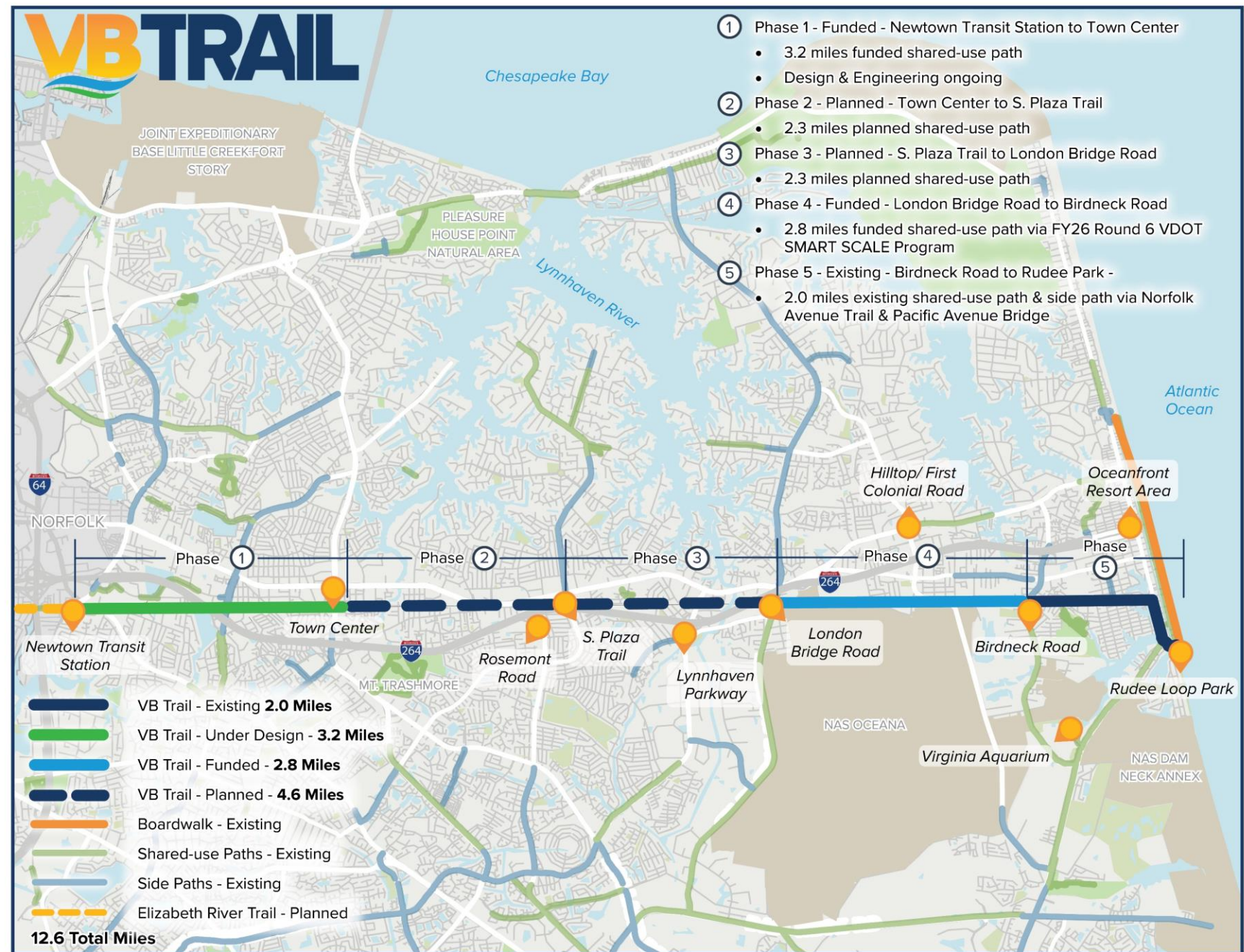
# VBTRAIL History



2018 NSRR Shared-Use Path Concept Study

# VBTRAIL Today

- 12.6 miles Total
- 2 miles of existing trails including:
  - Recently upgraded Pacific Avenue Boardwalk
  - Winston Salem Avenue Improvement Project
  - Rudee Park
- 6 miles funded
- 4.6 miles planned





# VB TRAIL Phase 1

## Funding:

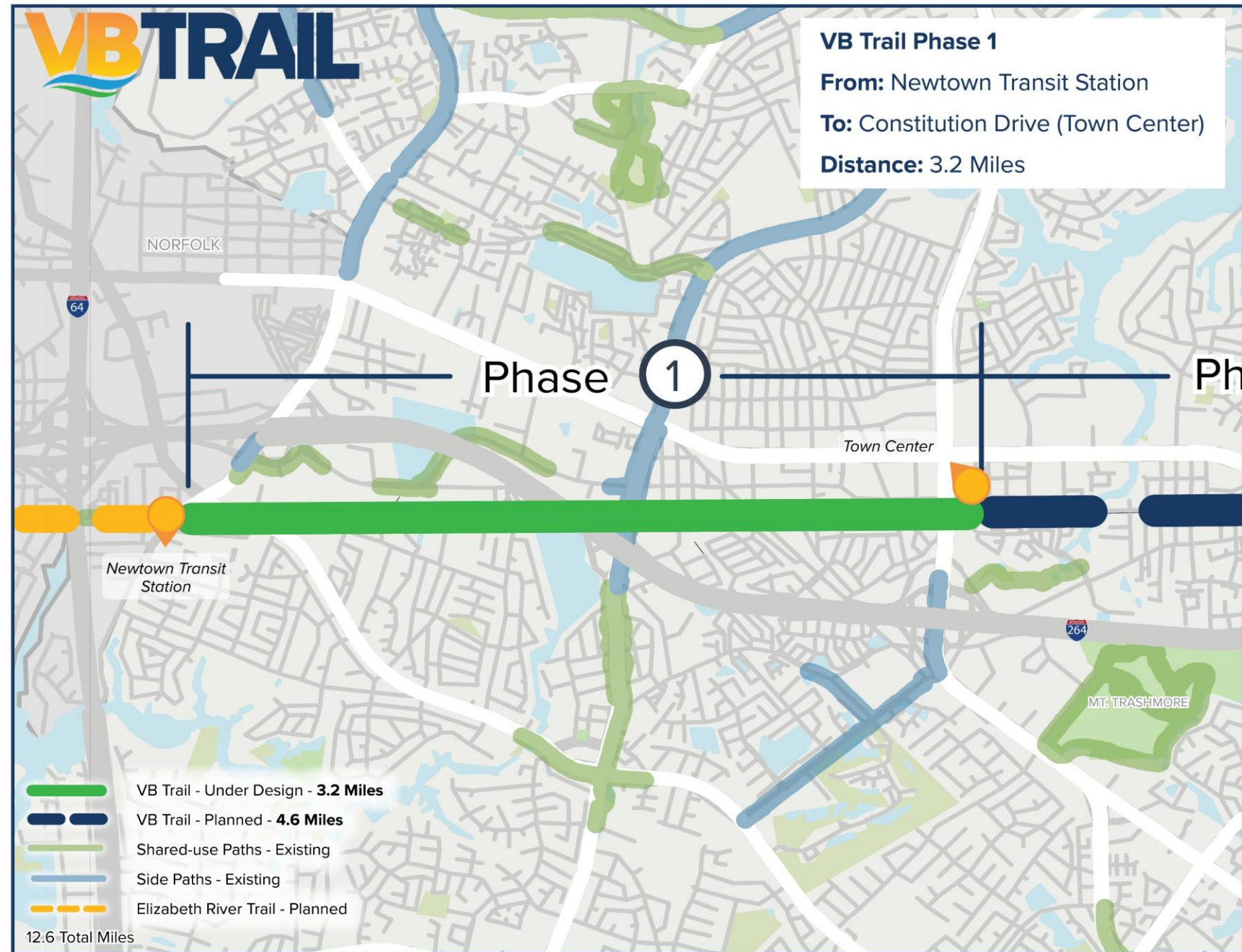
- 2022: **\$750k** HUD Grant (US Rep Luria)
- Nov 2023: **\$902k** from Dominion (offshore wind easement)
- Dec 2023: **\$14.9M** from USDOT's SS4A
- Jan 2024: **\$2.998M** City Council local match
- Apr 2024: **\$14.9M** from USDOT's RCN Grant

## Status:

- 60% Design (Mid-June)
- Federal Agreement nearly complete
- 5-year completion horizon (once agreement in place)

## Construction Cost Increases:

- Overall Cost: **\$19.6M → \$36M**
- FY 25-26 Budget: City Council approved **\$16.5M** in city funds











# VB TRAIL Phase 2

## Cost:

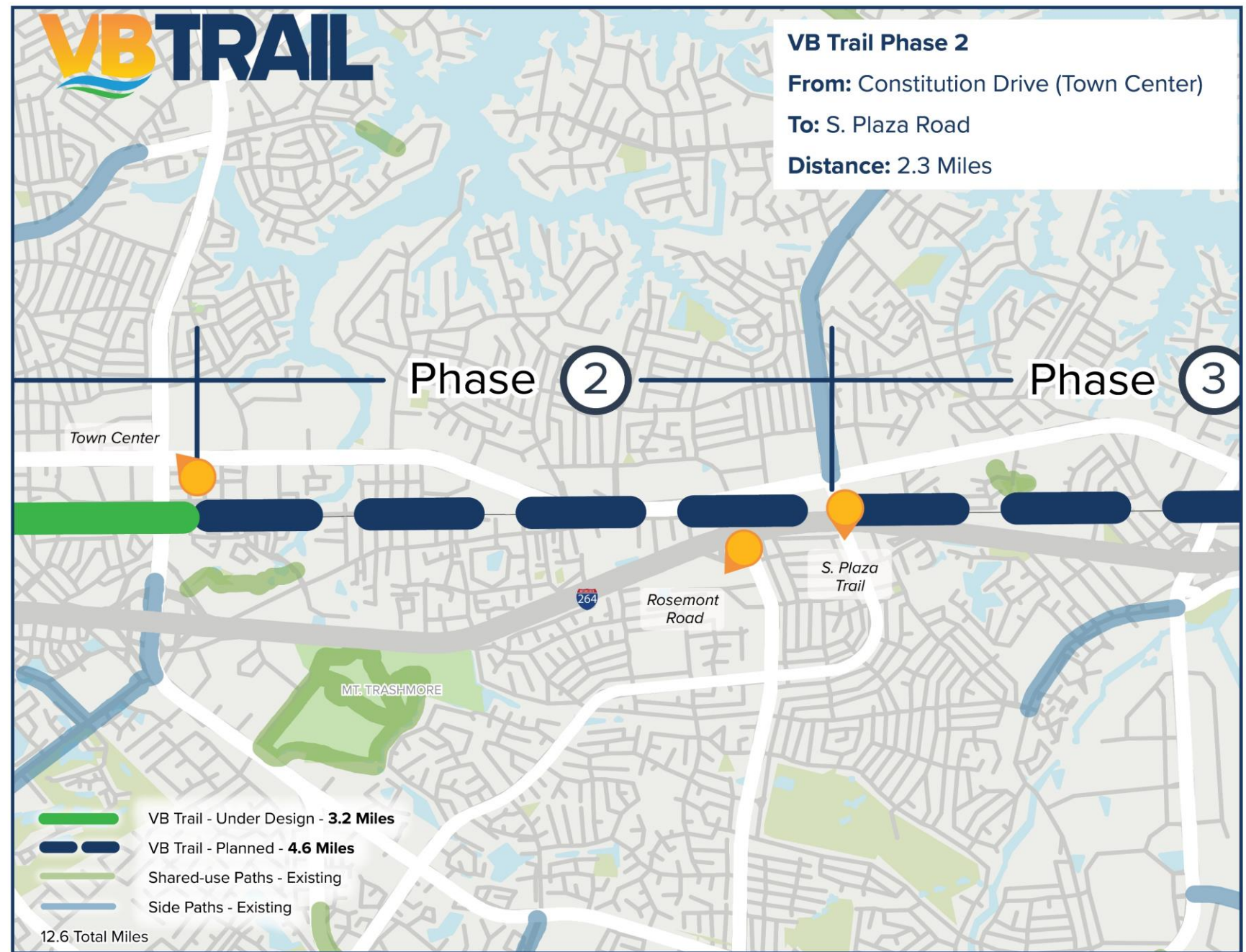
- \$20.5 - \$23.5 Million

## Status:

- Preliminary Engineering Report (15% Design) Complete
- Seeking Federal and State Grants

## Key Improvements:

- **Intersections:** Rosemont Road, S. Plaza Trail
- **Crossings:** One Bridge over Thalia Creek
- **Connectivity:** Future Thalia Creek Greenway Phases



September 2025



# VB TRAIL Phase 3

## Cost:

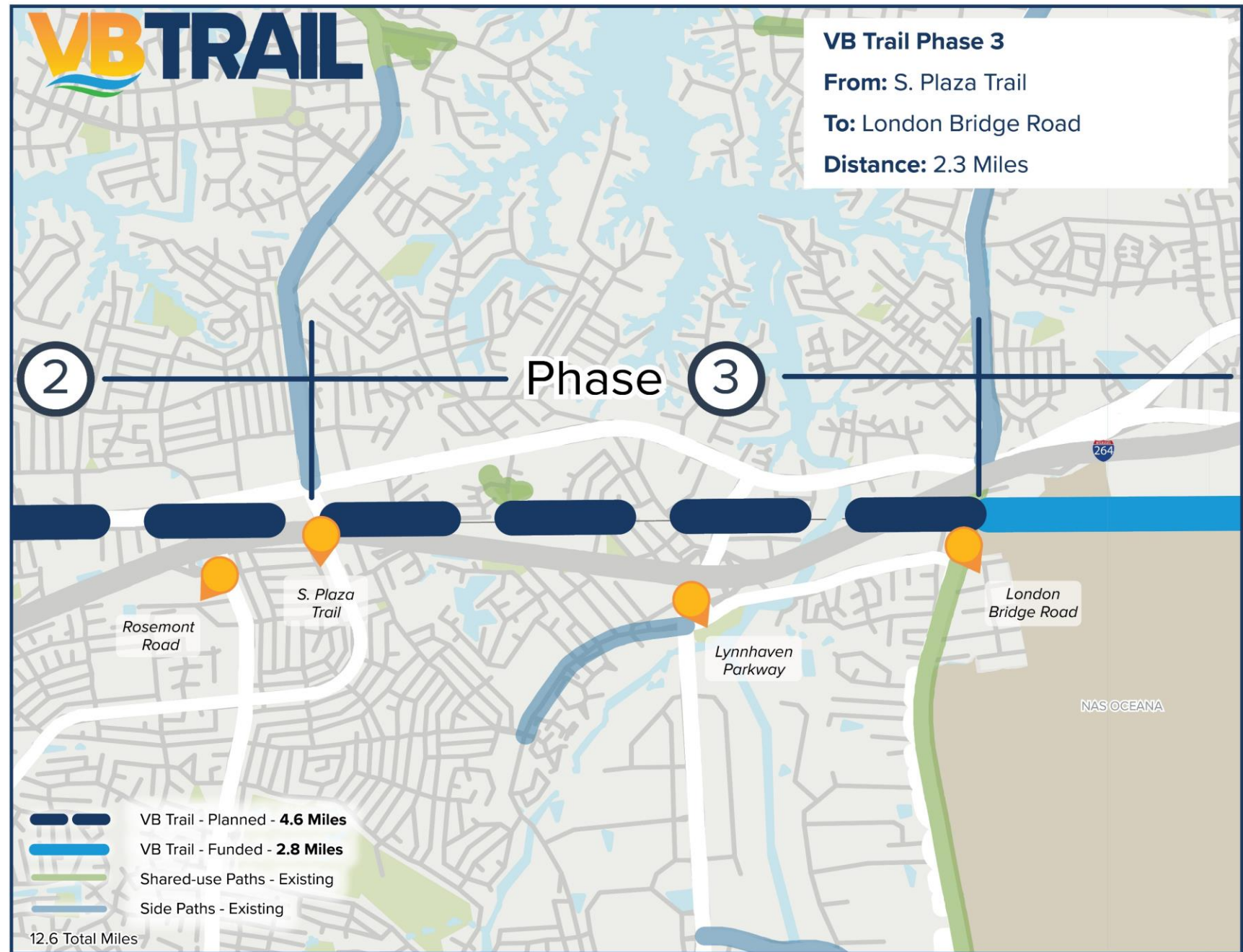
- \$20.5 - \$23.5 Million

## Status:

- Seeking Federal and State Grants

## Key Improvements:

- **Intersections:** Lynnhaven Road, London Bridge
- **Crossings:** One Bridge over London Bridge Creek
- **Connectivity:** Future Thalia Creek Greenway Phases



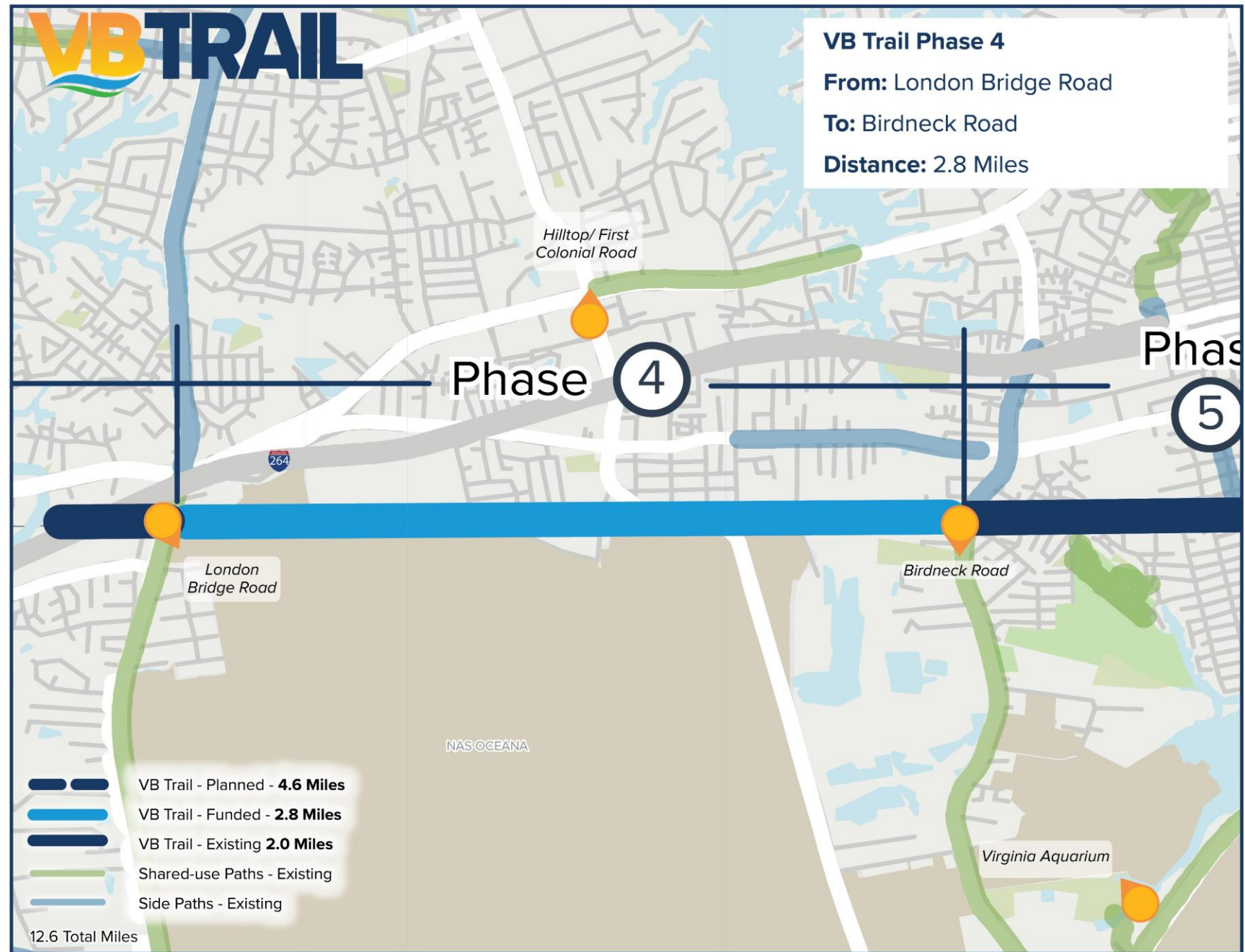
# VB TRAIL Phase 4

## Funding:

- June 2025 - **\$23.8 Million**  
Round 6 SMART Scale  
Funding
- **Key Improvements:**
- **Intersections:** London Bridge Road, Oceana Boulevard, and  
S. Birdneck Road

## Schedule:

- Design: 2027
- Construction: 2031-2032

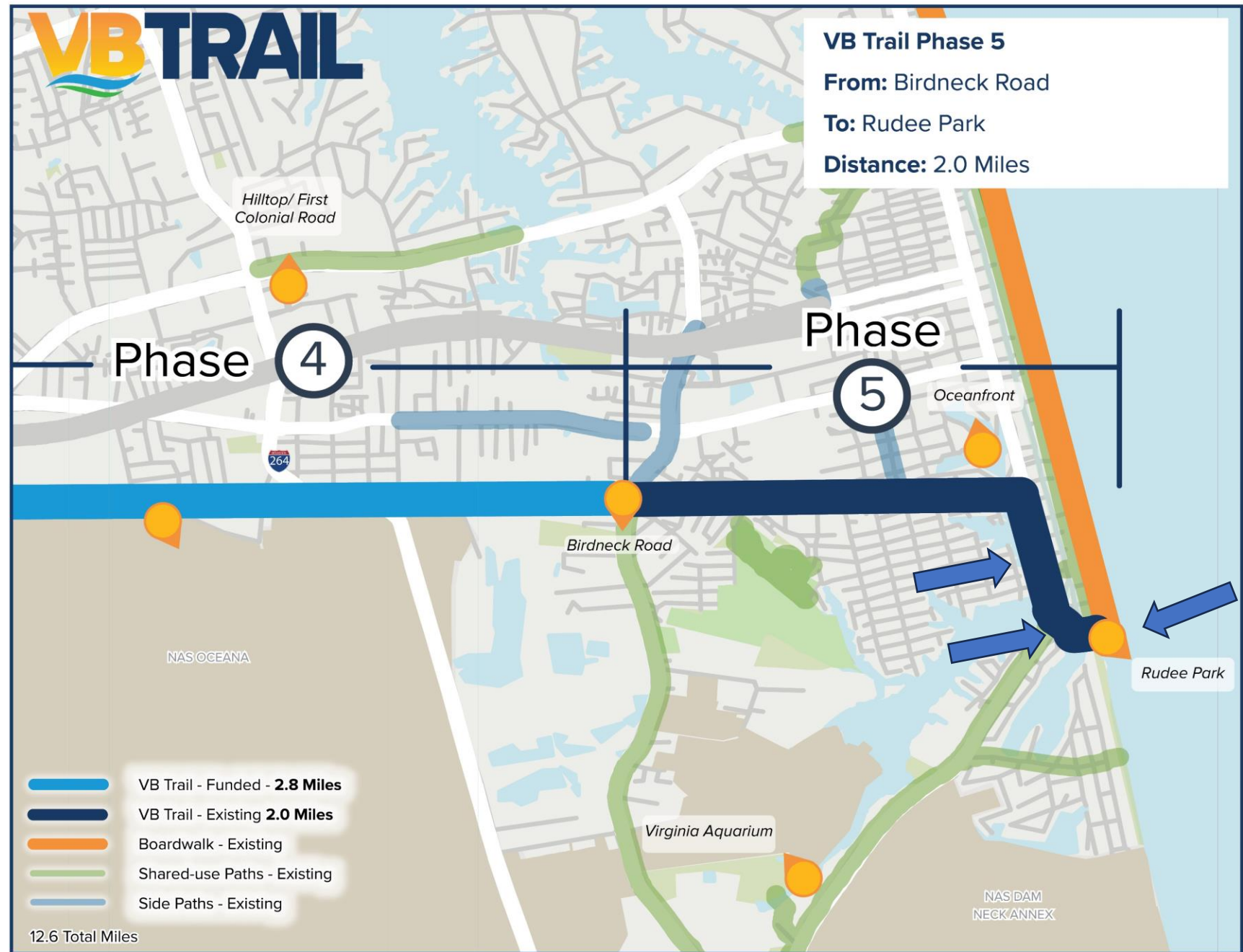




# VB TRAIL Phase 5

## Status:

- Norfolk Avenue Trail – Complete
- Pacific Avenue Boardwalk – Surface replaced – 2022 - **\$750K**
- Winston-Salem Avenue Improvements – Under Construction
- Rudee Park – Under Design

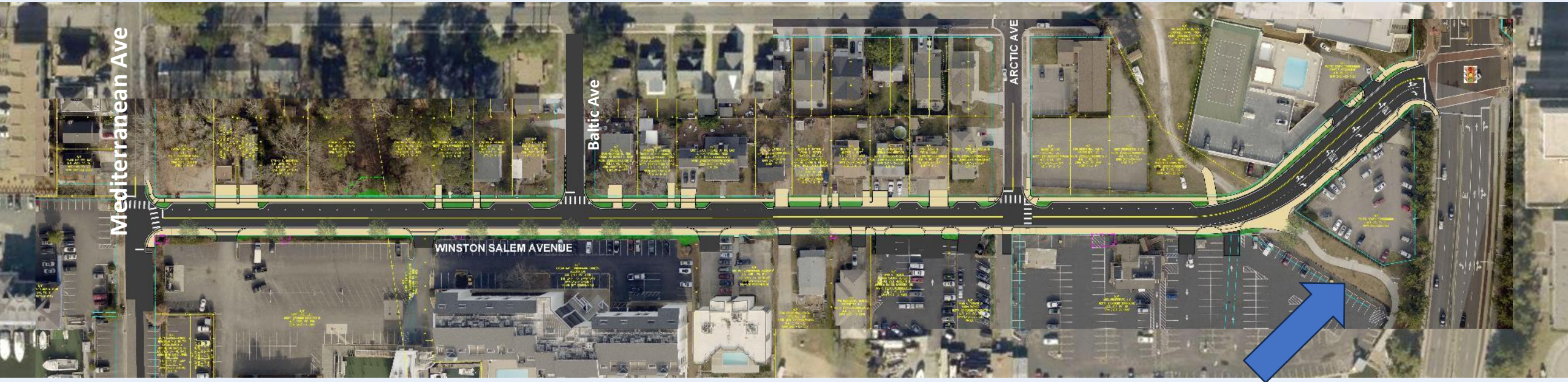




## Phase 5 – Winston Salem Avenue Improvements

- \$18 Million City Investment
- Improving the Marina District to be more walkable and pedestrian friendly
- Last connection to the Eastern Terminus of the VB Trail, SHRT, Beaches to Bluegrass Trail, and TransAmerica Trail
- Improves stormwater and utilities along corridor
- Currently Under Construction







# VBTRAIL Phase 5 – Winston Salem Avenue Improvements



*Existing Conditions*



# VBTRAIL Phase 5 – Winston Salem Avenue Improvements



*Future Conditions*

- \$42 Million City Investment
- The New Terminus of the VB Trail, SHRT, Beaches to Bluegrass Trail, and TransAmerica Trail ending in the **Atlantic Ocean** via the **Jetty Walk**
- Connects the VB Trail, Atlantic Avenue, and the Boardwalk
- Expected Construction: 2027 – 2028



# VBTRAIL Phase 5 – Rudee Park





# VBTRAIL Phase 5 – Rudee Park





# VBTRAIL Phase 5 – Rudee Park





# Thank you

Contact:

**Steve Lambert**

(757)385-4310

slambert@vbgov.com



**Parks &  
Recreation**