

# VB Awarded \$14.9M Grant to Build Section of VB Trail, a 12-Mile Pedestrian, Bicycle Trail

This week, City Council accepted and appropriated \$14.9 million in federal funding and appropriated \$2.998 million of local match funding to Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation for the Virginia Beach Trail (VB Trail) Phase 1. Phase 1 of the VB Trail will provide a 3.2-mile long, 10-foot wide paved shared-use path from Newtown Road to the Town Center area, including a pedestrian/bicyclist bridge over Independence Boulevard. When fully built, the 12-mile shared-use path will cross the full width of the city.

Next Steps



#### Help Shape the City's FY25 Budget

Join the City of Virginia Beach for a facilitated group discussion with residents about community priorities and the City's fiscal year 2025 budget from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 18 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. This event is free and open to the public.

Attend

## Point-in-Time Count of the Homeless Population

Through Jan. 9, Virginia Beach Housing & Neighborhood Preservation is asking for the public's help in identifying locations throughout the city where individuals have been observed living without shelter. The information will help guide staff during the street count of the 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of the homeless population.

Learn More

### Improving School Readiness and Reading Proficiency

Several City programs offer support both in and out of the classroom for children, caregivers and educators to increase reading and school readiness. Initiatives include GrowSmart's LENA START and LENA GROW programs, and Virginia Beach Public Library's programs to extend reading opportunities to laundromats and parks.

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#### Virginia Beach Excels in 2023

As we enter the new year, let's look back on the recognition the City of Virginia Beach received in 2023.

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