



July 6, 2018

Kimberly B. Pomatto
Spotsylvania County Planning Department
9019 Old Battlefield Blvd., Suite 320
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553

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Executive Director

Dennis Markatos-Soriano

Dear Ms. Pomatto,

The East Coast Greenway Alliance strongly supports the development of a 1/4th mile trail segment along Thornton Rolling Road, which is proposed as part of the East Coast Greenway (ECG) corridor in Spotsylvania County.

The East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) is the non-profit organization, based in Durham, NC, spearheading the development of a safe and accessible 3,000-mile greenway from Maine to Florida through cities and town centers along the East Coast. Our route is currently 32% on greenways, with more than 50% in construction, funded, or in active planning. Walkers, runners, and bicyclists already make over 10 million visits to the ECG annually for recreation and commuting.

A key segment of the ECG route passes through Spotsylvania County and links to trails in Fredericksburg and will connect to key destinations within the county such as the VRE Station. With the development of an ECG trail segment adjacent to Fredericksburg Christian School along Thornton Rolling Road, residents and students will begin to have expanded access to a growing regional trail system that will connect to the area's job centers, schools, transportation hubs, parks, natural sites, and adjacent neighborhoods.

Lastly, we recognize the power of trails to transform community health, increase economic development and tourism, and provide transportation choices. Through increased local investment, Spotsylvania County will become a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly community with healthier residents, a cleaner environment, and a thriving economy. We look forward to collaborating with the Spotsylvania County Planning Department and other local partners to include the proposed trail along Thornton Rolling Road as part of the East Coast Greenway. We fully support this project and look forward to contributing to its success.

Sincerely,

Dennis Markatos-Soriano
Executive Director

Kathryn Zeringue
VA & NC Greenway Coordinator

