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Comments: As Tourism Manager for the City of Harrisonburg I can attest to the popularity of the George Washington National Forest among our visitors. We get many visitors looking for beautiful hiking and cycling. It is a great advantage to have the forest so close.

With recent events we have only seen an increase in people looking for outdoor adventure and an increase in the interest in trails and as a result we have heard reports of existing trails being heavily used. That can negatively impact the visitor experience and their likelihood to return. This is why I support the construction of new trails along the Tillman Road Corridor and also support the project to relocate "legacy" trails. It is also important to have trails such as the Narrowback Mountain trail system which is appealing to inexperienced hikers.

I would also like to see an increase in trails close to the boundary of the forest and closer to Harrisonburg as this helps the connection between Harrisonburg visitors and trail visitors by reducing the amount of time spent in cars traveling back and forth. The more recreational assets we have in the area which are accessible to all, the more visitors we will get staying in Harrisonburg and supporting our local businesses. The trails have real economic benefits to local businesses in Harrisonburg which provide hiking and cycling gear as well as to local restaurants and lodging facilities.