



## AUDUBON SOCIETY NORTHERN VIRGINIA

### Construction of the Proposed George Snyder Trail Will Cause Substantial Destruction to Fairfax City's Urban Forest

*"They paved Paradise, put up a parking lot."*

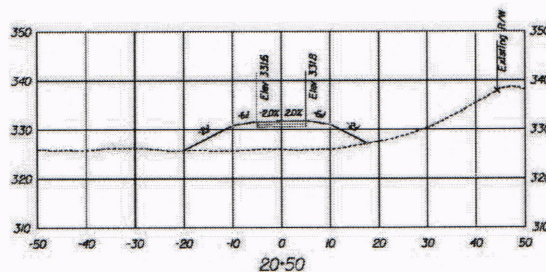
*Joni Mitchell, Big Yellow Taxi.*

Construction of the George Snyder Trail will turn a natural path that follows the existing terrain into an artificial, manufactured surface that is hugely destructive to the ecosystem of the surrounding urban forest. The following analysis is based on Stantec's George Snyder Trail Plans, found on the City of Fairfax's website at

<https://www.fairfaxva.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/16817/637407781166570000>.

The modified portion of the trail is approximately 7460 feet long. 1075 feet of the trail will not be affected by construction. Only 2425 feet, or 33% of the project, follows the existing grade or deviates only slightly from it. About 380 feet of the trail is on boardwalks and another 535 feet is on bridges. The remainder – 4120 feet, or 55% of the project, is on as much as 11 feet of fill dirt or excavated as much as 7 feet below grade. Sixty-seven percent of the project will be constructed above grade on fill dirt, excavated below grade, or on boardwalks and bridges.

In addition, to create a slope between the portion of the trail on fill dirt with the lower terrain on either side of the trail, it will be necessary to add fill dirt perpendicular to the trail in a swath 25 to 50 feet wide perpendicular to the trail.



Stantec, Sheet XS-17