1. **What is the Colonial Parkway Rehabilitation project?**

This project will rehabilitate approximately 10 miles of the historic Colonial Parkway within Colonial National Historical Park in York County, the City of Williamsburg and James City County, Virginia**.**

1. **What can the public expect from this project?**

This rehabilitation includes:

 Replacement of approximately 60% of the exposed aggregate concrete pavement

* Asphalt pavement rehabilitation
* Rehabilitation of 11 bridges, including the replacement of two bridge decks
* Rehabilitation of the Williamsburg Tunnel, including lighting improvements
* Culvert rehabilitation or replacement
* Storm drain system rehabilitation or replacement
* Historic brick headwall rehabilitation
* Ditch grading and shoulder stabilization
* Stormwater management
* Steel-backed timber guardrail replacement
* Traffic counter installation
* Sign and pavement marking replacement.

As part of this project, the National Park Service will work to preserve the many natural and cultural resources that make up Colonial Parkway. Features that are replaced will replicate the originals.

The work to rehabilitate this section of the Parkway will require detours and have an impact on visitors for the duration of the project. Commuters and travelers should consider using alternate routes and proceed with caution should they choose to use the Parkway.

1. **Who is responsible for the project?**

The National Park Service (NPS), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration. Colonial Parkway is within Colonial National Historical Park - home to Historic Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in North America and Yorktown Battlefield, the site of the final major battle of the Revolutionary War. The [**Great American Outdoors Act**](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/infrastructure/gaoa.htm) (GAOA) Legacy Restoration Fund is providing approximately $123 million for the first major, holistic rehabilitation project for the parkway since its full length opened to traffic in 1957.

1. **Why is the project needed?**

This vital project will ensure that this historic parkway’s infrastructure will continue to provide a safe, scenic and enjoyable experience for those who are using it to connect to our nation’s history or as a local commuter route.

1. **What is the duration of the project?**

Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2023. Work in the Williamsburg area of the Parkway should be complete in October 2025. The overall project is anticipated to be completed in June 2026.

1. **Why was the Parkway constructed?**

Designers and landscape architects from NPS and the Bureau of Public Roads (now FHWA) linked three historically significant sites (the Historic Triangle) of the early Colonial Period. The 23-mile parkway connects Historic Jamestown (the first English settlement in 1607), through Colonial Williamsburg to the Yorktown Battlefields, where Cornwallis surrendered to Washington in 1781, effectively ending the Revolutionary War.

1. **Will the Parkway rehabilitation project add bike lanes to the Parkway?**

The short answer is "no." The primary objective of the [**Great America Outdoors Act**](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/infrastructure/gaoa.htm) is to reduce the maintenance backlog on existing infrastructure. Although we received a large funding allocation, it will only address about one-third of our needs for the Parkway and its bridges and tunnel. There is no funding for adding infrastructure. Additionally, since the Parkway is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, there are numerous factors that prevent us from changing the appearance of the cultural landscape (adding separate bike lanes) or the appearance of the Parkway itself (adding painted bike lanes).

1. **What is special about the Colonial Parkway?**

The Colonial Parkway is a meticulously crafted landscape that integrates the region's natural and cultural resources into a memorial roadway of the American colonial experience. Free of any "modern" commercial development, the parkway provides continuity to the visitor experience of motoring through nearly 400 years of American colonial history. Traversing a diverse environment, the parkway provides visitors with dramatic open vistas of rivers and tidal estuaries as well as shady passageways through pine and hardwood forests.

Planned and designed during the 1930s, the Colonial Parkway embodies the characteristics of the modern parkway. Its curving alignments, limited access, pleasurable driving experience, and use of designed plantings and park-like features remain intact today. The Colonial Parkway is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is designated an All-American Road in the FHWA Scenic Byways Program and has received the prestigious Centennial Medallion of the American Society of Landscape Architects as “one of the finest parkway archetypes in the country.”

1. **Who is rehabilitating the Parkway?**

The design-build team of Wagman/JMT was awarded the project in March 2023.

1. **How do I learn more about this project?**

Commuters can opt in to receive [**email updates**](https://cms.nps.gov/common/utilities/sendmail/sendemail.cfm?o=488AD7B4A2DAA1BA9B9B1DBFEA59ACA250&r=/colo/planyourvisit/colo-parkway-rehab.htm) about traffic, meeting notices and information about major milestones or to contact the team.

View recordings of informational public meetings on our public meeting webpage.