



RUSTIC ROADS COMMISSION FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

30 North Market Street, Third Floor Frederick, Maryland 21701 (301) 600-1149



June 27, 2024

Rustic Roads Program Nomination Process

As part of their duties, the Rustic Roads Commission is tasked with creating a nomination process for citizens to propose roads for inclusion to the Rustic Roads Program, overseeing the designation of roads, and submitting these recommendations to the County Executive and County Council. The Rustic Roads Program nomination application has been live on the Rustic Roads Commission webpage since it was approved by the Commission on May 8, 2024.

With two applications in the nomination process, Staff was asked to give the Commission an overview of how the nomination process works from submitting a nomination to the County Council public hearing.

Once a citizen completes a nomination application, they send it to County Staff, via mail to 30 N. Market St. or email (RusticRoads@FrederickCountyMD.gov). Staff then evaluate the application for completeness and communicate with the applicant if there are any missing attachments or issues with the application.

Once the application is deemed complete, Staff work on creating a staff report that evaluates the road's objective and subjective criteria and research the historic, surrounding land use, environmental, conservation, and agricultural preservation information along the nominated segment of road. Once the staff report is complete, it is scheduled for the next available Rustic Roads Commission public meeting. The nomination is then advertised through the Commission's webpage, social media, and physical signage.

Commissioners receive the staff report and nomination application as part of their packet and Staff presents the nomination to the Commissioners at their meeting. Commissioners may ask Staff any questions they have about the staff report or nomination. The applicant may then give public comment on the application to the Commission and answer any questions that Commissioners may have that Staff is unable to answer.

The Commission then votes whether or not to recommend the nominated road to the County Executive and County Council. If the Commission votes to recommend a road to the Rustic Roads Program, Staff works with the County Executive and County Council to schedule a public hearing of the recommended nomination. The public hearing is then publicly advertised again through the Commission's webpage, social media, and physical signage. Staff present the recommended road to the County Council and follow the public hearing process for questions and public comments. If the County Council votes to approve the recommendation, the road becomes part of the Rustic Roads Program.