



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.
Chairman

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Agenda item #3

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 19, 2017

MOTION

Made By: Ms. DeTuncq, Seconded By: Mr. Connors

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: "Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge"

WHEREAS, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors wants to memorialize the life and ultimate sacrifice of Private First Class Donald R. Rash, who gallantly gave his life in defense of the United States, the Commonwealth of Virginia, Tazewell County and fellow soldiers during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), name the bridge on Route 1103, Centre Street, over Laurel Fork in the Town of Pocahontas, Tazewell County as the "Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge"; and

WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located; and

WHEREAS, by resolution, Tazewell County has agreed to pay VDOT for the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on Route 1103, Centre Street, over Laurel Fork in the Town of Pocahontas, Tazewell County as the "Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Tazewell County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: “Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge”

Issue: Commemorative naming of the bridge on Route 1103, Centre Street, over Laurel Fork, in the Town of Pocahontas, Tazewell County as the “Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge”.

Facts: Private First Class Donald R. Rash, Company B, First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Marines, Third Division, United States Marine Corps, was killed in the line of duty near the Khe Sanh Combat Base during the Vietnam War on March 30, 1968.

While conducting a reconnaissance in force near Khe Sanh Combat Base, PFC Rash’s company suddenly came under a heavy volume of small-arms fire from a numerically superior North Vietnamese Army force occupying fortified positions. Although his squad was pinned down, PFC Rash disregarded his own safety as he unhesitatingly left a covered position and launched a determined assault against the enemy emplacements.

He fearlessly advanced across fire-swept terrain, boldly throwing hand grenades and delivering a heavy volume of rifle fire upon the enemy force, until he had destroyed five enemy positions and killed numerous North Vietnamese soldiers.

When his company was ordered to withdraw while under mortar fire, he remained behind delivering suppressive fire to cover the evacuation of casualties until he was mortally wounded.

Recommendations: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends this request be approved.

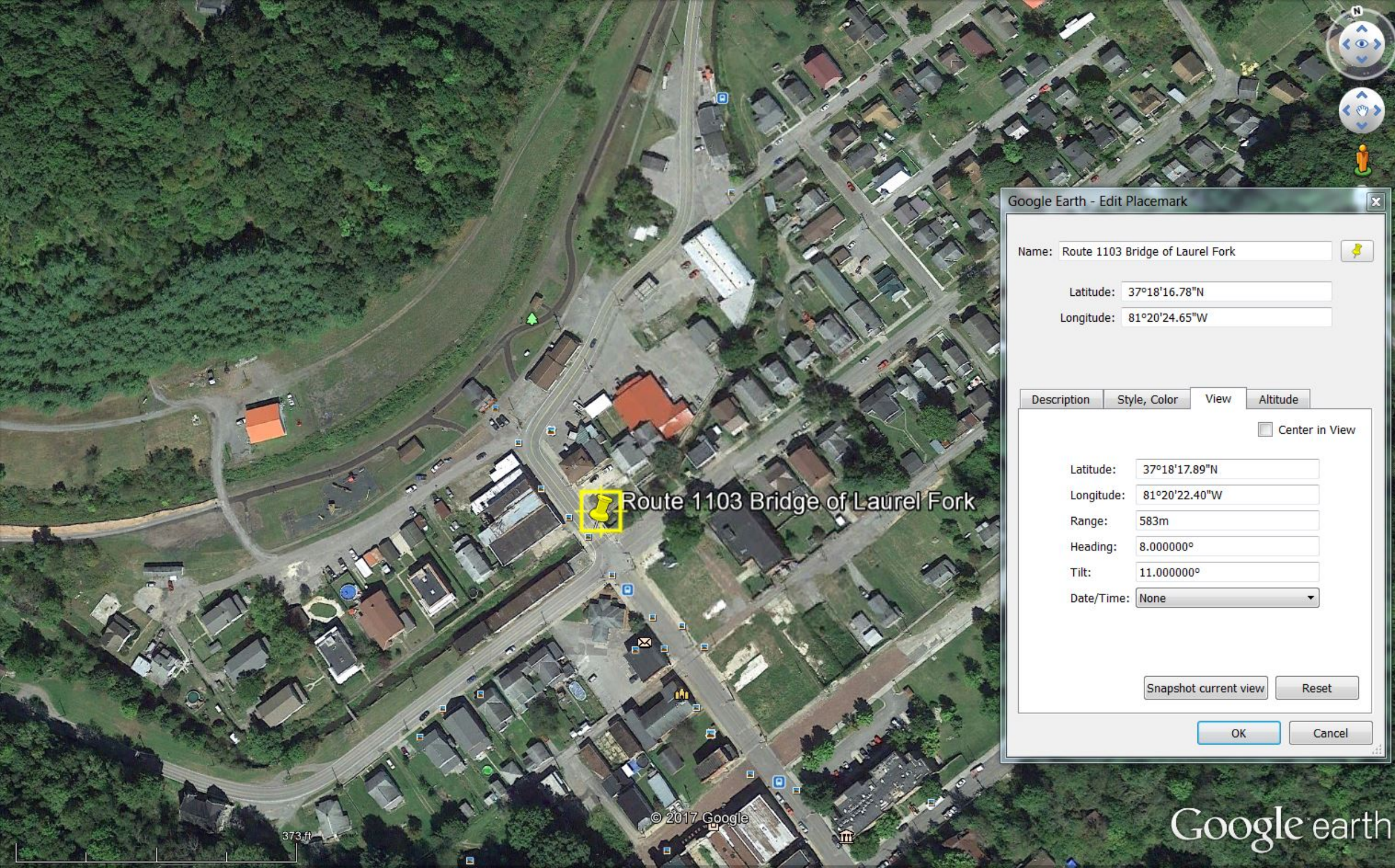
Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

Result if Approved: The bridge on Route 1103, Centre Street, over Laurel Fork, in the Town of Pocahontas, Tazewell County will be designated as the “Donald R. Rash Memorial Bridge”.

In accordance with law, Tazewell County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: VDOT is not aware of any opposition to this proposal.



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Longitude:

Description Style, Color View Altitude

Center in View

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Date/Time:

Tazewell County





Route 1103 Bridge over Laurel Fork

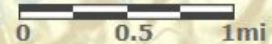




Route 1103 Bridge over Laurel Fork



Pocahontas



Layers Route Selector

> Search for a Route

Route Name
SC-1103N (Tazewell County)
SC-1103S (Tazewell County)

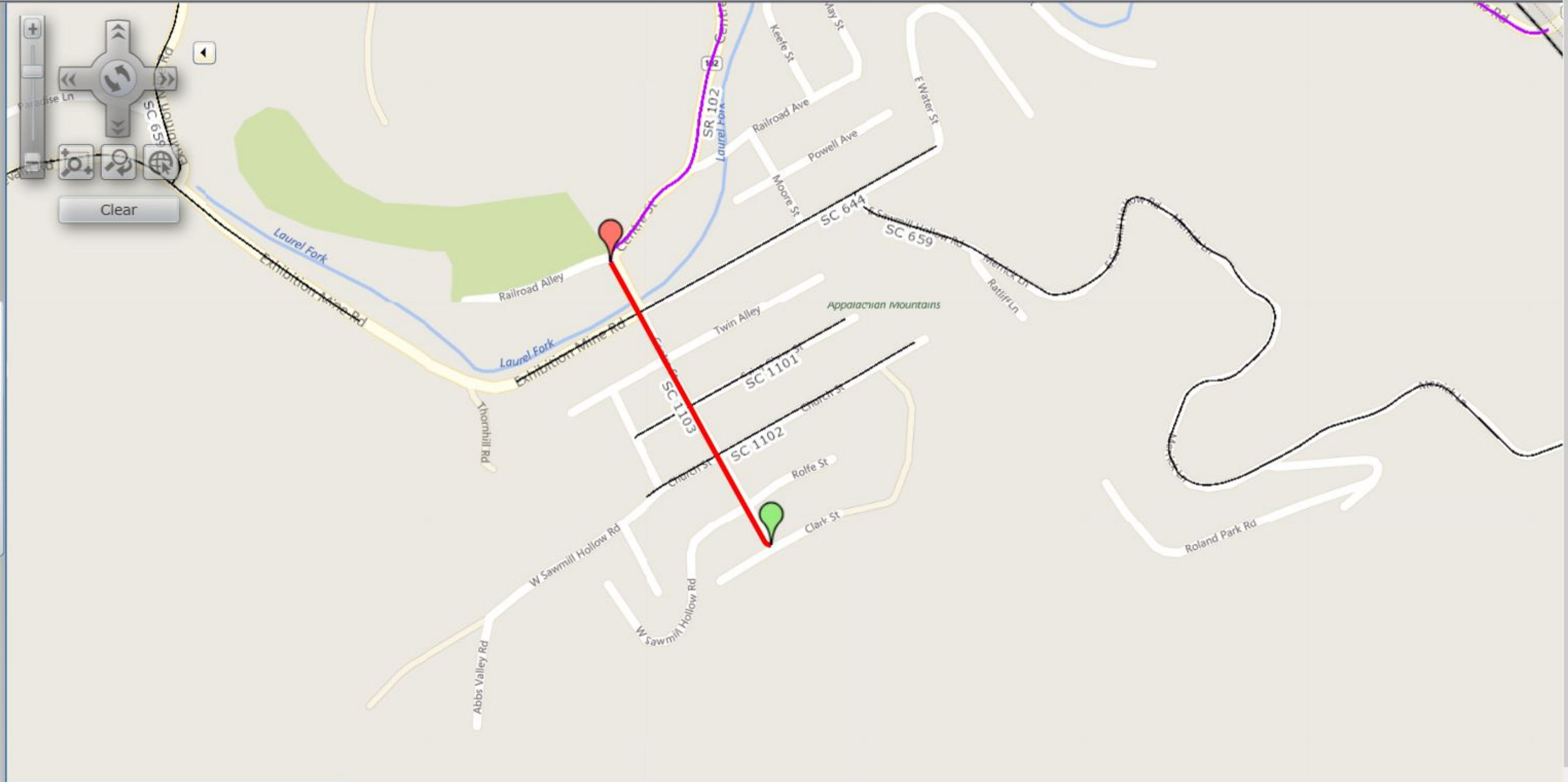
Route Name	Length	Units
SC-1103S (Tazewell County)	0.23 mi.	OSM

Start Mile (0 - 0.23)

End Mile (0 - 0.23)

Distance (mi) 0.23 (0 - 0.23)

Traffic Flow N/A



Map Scale 1: