Springfield to Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

Elected Officials Briefing September 16, 2021



Meeting Agenda

- Introductions / Welcome
- Public and Stakeholder Outreach Status
- Summary of Evaluation Results
- Sensitivity Tests
- Land Use Assessment
- Next Steps



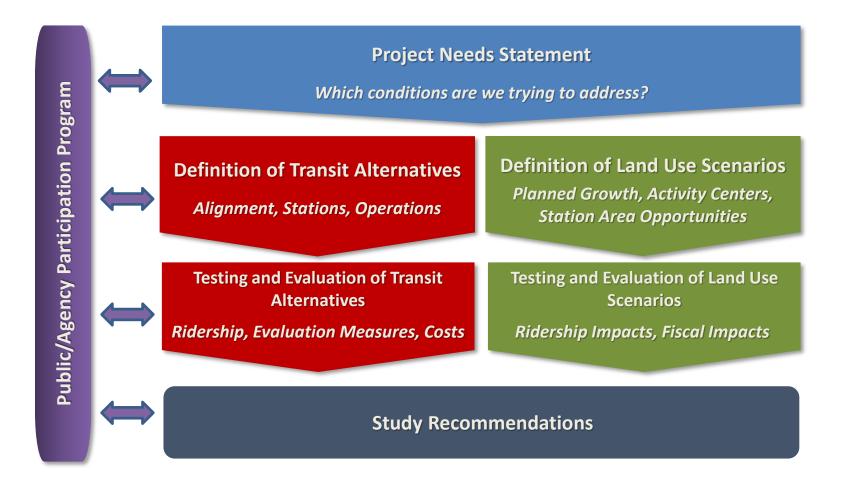
Study Outcomes

Comprehensive, objective evaluation of a range of potential future enhanced transit alternatives that compares the cost, benefits, and impacts of each option to inform recommendations about future investment in the corridor.





Study Technical Approach





Study Schedule





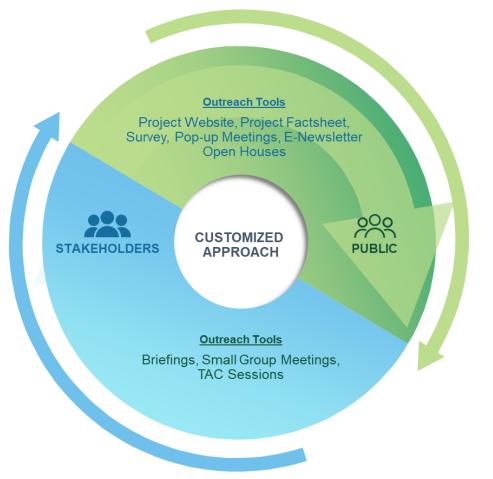
Public and Stakeholder Outreach



Outreach Status

Completed Activities

- Public Meeting #1 (May 4th)
- Public Meeting #2 (July 27th)
- Upcoming Activities
 - 3rd Round Virtual Public Meetings – September 21st and 23rd



http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/transit/springfield-to-quantico/



Virtual Public Meeting – July 27th

- 83 registered participants not including DRPT staff and the consultant team hosting the meeting.
- 42 people attended the meeting, including two dial-in participants
- Over 40 zip codes were submitted by registrants covering both Prince William and Fairfax counties.
- Closed captioning services were provided.
- Spanish interpretation services were available.
- Meeting recording available: <u>http://drpt.virginia.gov/transit/springfield-to-guantico/</u>





September Public Meetings

- Key Objectives:
 - Summarize findings Ο
 - Show impact of land \bigcirc use assumptions
 - Provide context on next \bigcirc steps for future investment
- Pop-ups held to distribute flyers
- Help us get the word out!

YOU'RE INVITED!



ALEXANDICA

Join us for a public meeting about potential transit enhancements for Fairfax and Prince William counties.

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is conducting a feasibility. study of enhanced public transportation. services between the Franconia-Springfield Vetro station in Fairfax County and the Quantico Marine Base in Prince William County. Inhanced transit could include options such as new and enhanced express bus services, increased VRE commuter rail service levels. Bus-Rapid Transit (BK-), or an extension of Metrorail



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For more information and to stay up to date on the study progress and upcoming public involvement apportanities visit our study website www.dipt.virginia.gov/bransit/springfield to guantico/

Questions?

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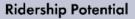
Summary of Evaluation Results

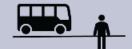


How will we evaluate feasibility?

| Goals for Enhanced Transit | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Ridership Potential | Congestion Mitigation | Equity | | |
| Increase transit usage in the study corridor | Reduce the amount of traffic congestion in the study corridor | Provide a fair distribution of costs and benefits across different population groups | | |
| Regional Accessibility/ Connectivity | Cost-effectiveness | Development Potential | | |
| • | ••• | | | |
| Increase access to regional activity centers and meet identified service gaps | Ensure that resources are used efficiently | Create opportunities for development around stations or stops | | |





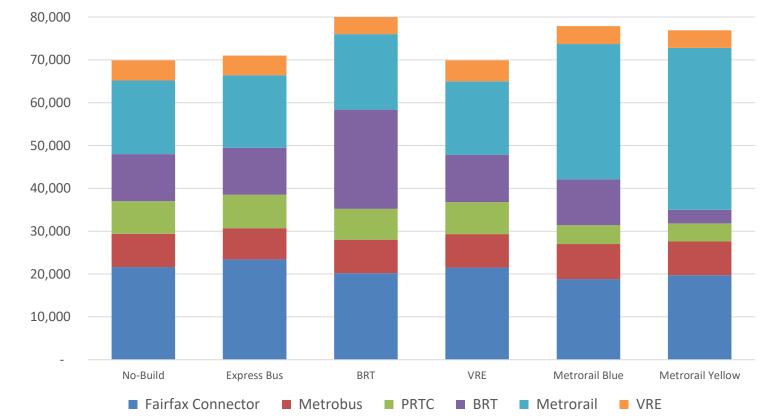


Increase transit usage in the study corridor

Total Transit Boardings

BRT Alternative has the highest number of transit boardings in the Study Corridor.

Total Transit Boardings in the Study Corridor

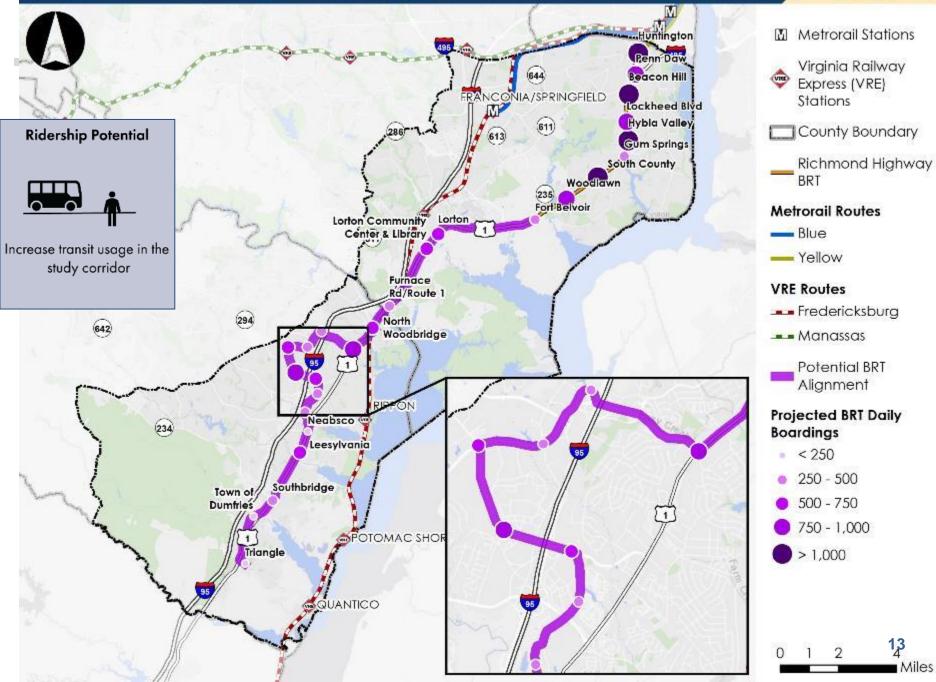


A 'boarding' is counted every time someone gets on a new transit vehicle

Includes only rail stations in the Study Corridor (Note: VRE alternative does not include new stations.)

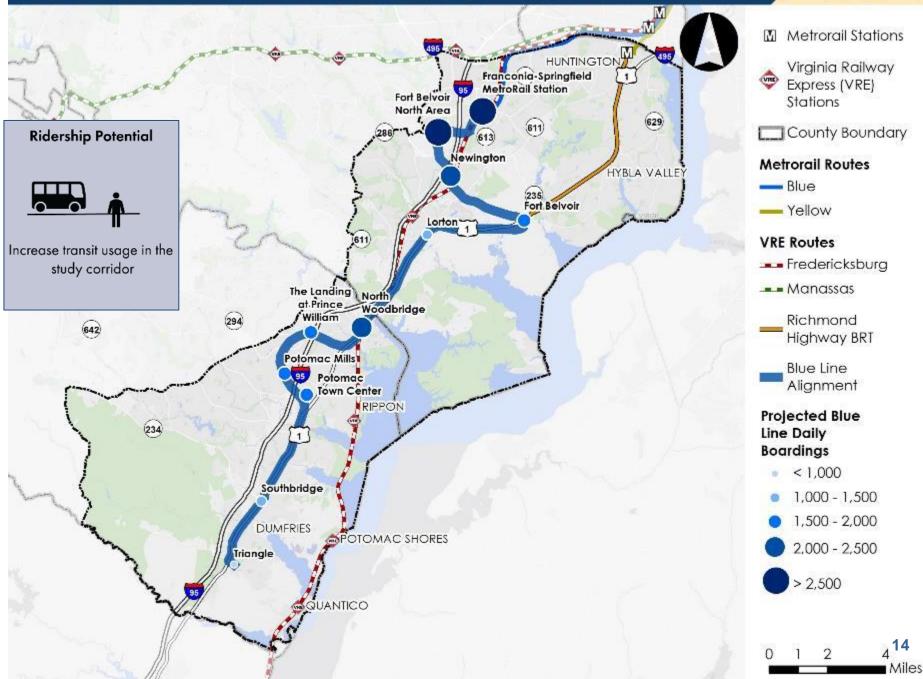


Projected BRT Daily Boardings



· DRPT·

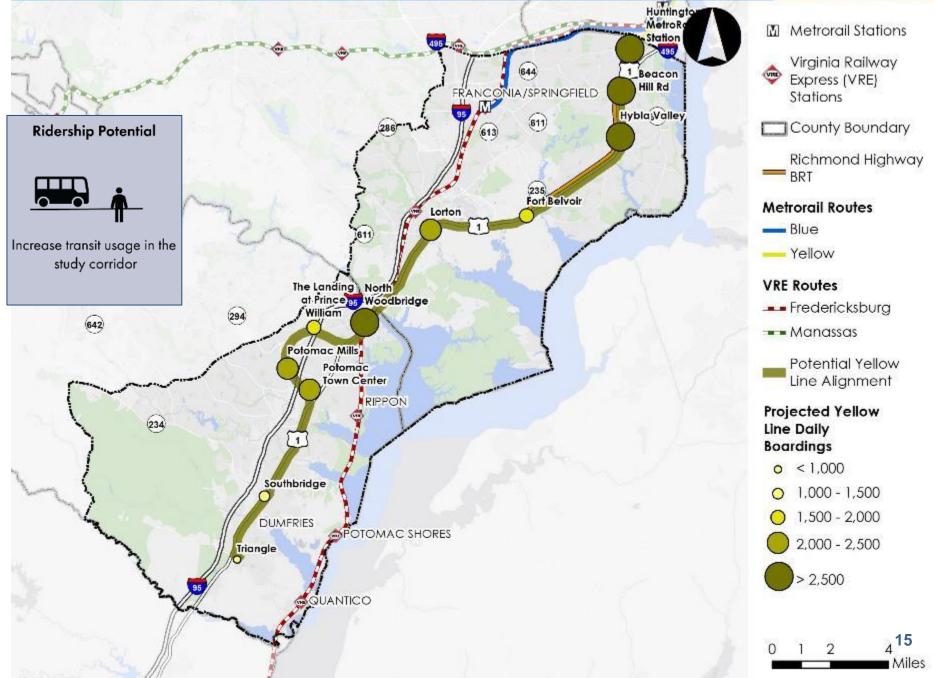
Projected Blue Line Daily Boardings

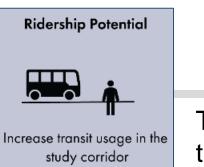


· DRPT·

Projected Yellow Line Daily Boardings



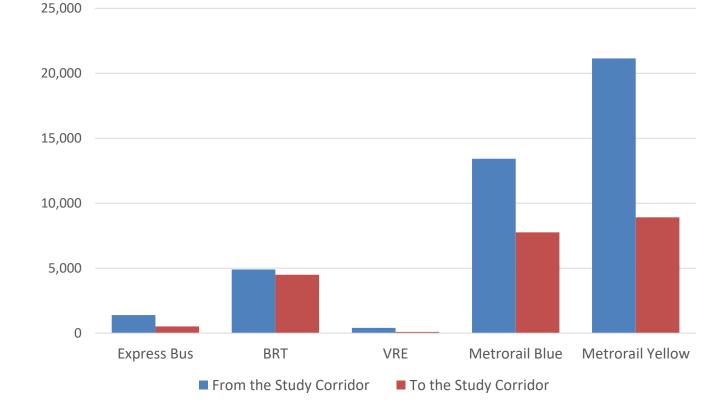




New Transit Trips

The Yellow Line Alternative creates the most new transit trips to and from the Study Corridor compared with the No-Build.

New Transit Trips in the Study Corridor



Unlike boardings, transit trips are only counted once end to end, regardless of how many routes are used.



Summary of Evaluation Results

| | Additional Express Bus | BRT Extension | Additional VRE Service* | Metrorail Blue | Metrorail Yellow |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Ridership Potential | ** | *** | ** | *** | *** |
| Congestion Mitigation | * | ** | * | *** | *** |
| Regional Accessibility | ** | *** | ** | *** | *** |
| Equity | * | $\star\star$ | ** | $\star\star\star$ | $\star\star\star$ |
| Cost- Effectiveness | *** | ** | * | * | * |

* Additional Service Above Transforming Rail in Virginia Improvements Included in Baseline



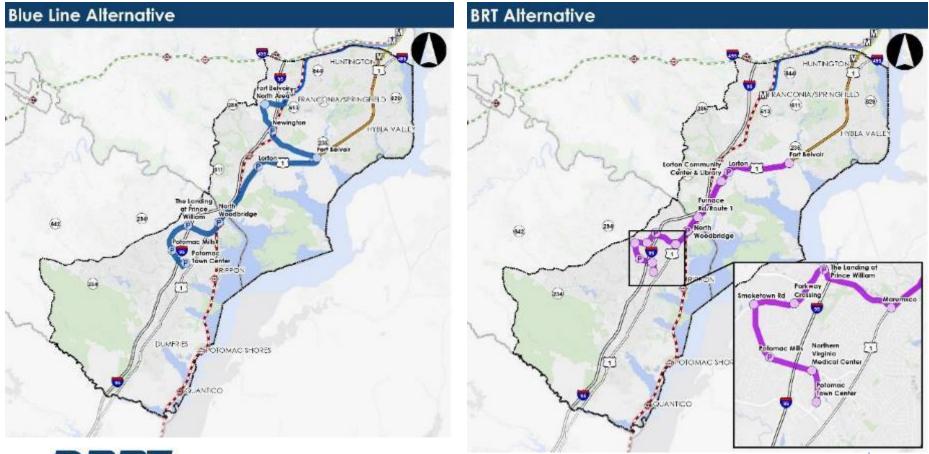
Sensitivity Tests

- Can we make the alternatives more cost efficient by shortening the alignment?
- Uncertainty in long-range planning What might happen to ridership forecasts if people keep teleworking?
- How would significant changes in land use change ridership forecasts?



Shorter Alignments

- Tested shorter versions of the Blue Line, Yellow Line, and BRT alternatives
- Remember: Initial model results showed very low ridership for BRT and Metrorail stations south of Potomac Town Center and low cost-efficiency





Shorter Alignments

Can we make the alternatives more cost efficient by shortening the alignment?

Key Sensitivity Results

Change as compared to Full Alignments

| | BRT | Metrorail Blue | Metrorail Yellow |
|--|------|----------------|------------------|
| Total Corridor Transit Boardings | -4% | | |
| New Transit Trips in Study Corridor | -32% | -10% | -6% |
| Cost per Rider | +2% | -16% | -18% |

Metrorail ridership is forecast to be less impacted by a shortened alignment than BRT. The shorter alignment results in improved cost-effectiveness for the two Metrorail alternatives.



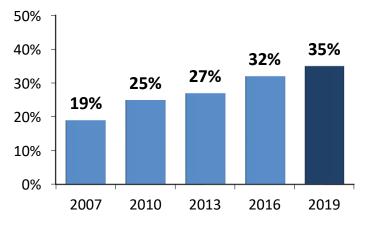
Telework Sensitivity Tests

Uncertainty in long-range planning - What might happen to ridership forecasts if people keep teleworking?

Base telework conditions – (MWCOG SOC Survey 2019)

- In 2019, 35% of regional workers teleworked regularly or occasionally vs 19% in 2007
- 33% of Fairfax/Prince William workers teleworked 1.1 days/week, a similar frequency to other regional workers

Telework increased substantially during the pandemic – estimated that 60-65% of regional workers worked at home





Telework Sensitivity Tests

Uncertainty in long-range planning - What might happen to ridership forecasts if people keep teleworking?

Key Sensitivity Results

Change as compared to Initial Results

| | Future Telework Assumption | BRT Alternative Ridership Impact | Metrorail Alternatives Ridership Impact |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| Low Telework | 45% telework an average 1.1 days/wk | -8% | -12% |
| High Telework | 55% telework an average 1.5 days/wk | -17% | -26% |

As shown above, Metrorail would be impacted more significantly by changing telework because of the higher percentage of office-based work trips, as compared with BRT.



Land Use Assessment

How would significant changes in land use change ridership forecasts?

- All of our initial model results used MWCOG Cooperative Land Use Forecasts for 2045.
- This sensitivity analysis looked at two different land use scenarios that added transit-oriented development (TOD) by increasing densities around the station areas:
 - Metrorail-focused TOD
 - BRT-focused TOD



Station Areas Considered for Additional Density

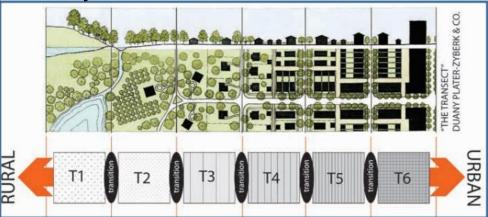
Potential Metro Stations





Density Assumptions and Place Type

For each station area, identified current and planned (MWCOG Forecasts) place types based on activity density

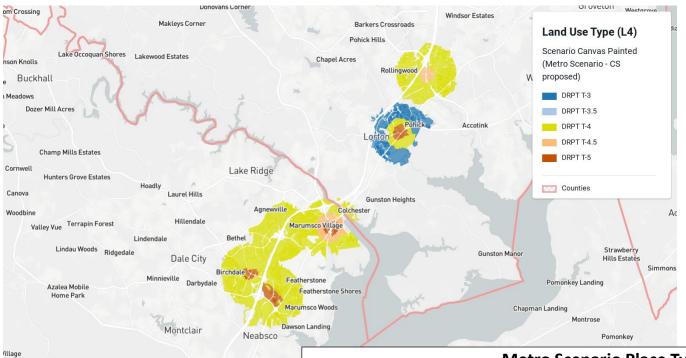


| MULTIMODAL CENTER INTENSITY | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------|--|--|
| Center Type | Activity Density (Jobs + people/acre) | Gross Development Net Develop FAR (residential + FAR (residential) non-residential) | | | |
| P-6 Urban Core | 1.0 or more | 1.6 or more | | | |
| P-5 Urban Center | 33.75 to 70.0 | 0.5 to 1.0 | 0.8 to 1.6 | | |
| P-4 Large Town or Suburban Center | 13.75 to 33.75 | 0.21 to 0.5 | 0.3 to 0.8 | | |
| P-3 Medium Town or Suburban Center | 6.63 to 13.75 | 0.10 to 0.21 | 0.15 to 0.3 | | |
| P-2 Small Town or Suburban Center | 2.13 to 6.63 | 0.03 to 0.10 | 0.05 to 0.15 | | |
| P-1 Rural or Village Center | 2.13 or less | 0.03 or less | 0.05 or less | | |
| SP Special Purpose Center Varies Varies Varies | | | | | |



Source: DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines (2020)

Land Use Assumptions - Metrorail Scenario



To develop the land use scenarios, more intense place types were assumed within 1 mile of station areas.

| | | Metro Scenario Place Types | | | | | |
|---------------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|--|--|
| at the Woods | | Chatien News | Place Type | | | | |
| ghts | No. | Station Name | Quarter Mile | Quarter to Half Mile | Half to One Mile | | |
| Ch | nerr | Newington | T-4.5 | T-4 | T-4 | | |
| | 2 | Lorton | T-5 | T-4 | T-3 | | |
| m Park Shores | 3 | North Woodbridge | T-5 | T-4.5 | T-4 | | |
| | 4 | The Landing at Prince William | T-4 | T-4 | T-4 | | |
| al Heights | 5 | Potomac Mills | T-5 | T-4 | T-4 | | |
| 1 | 6 | Potomac Town Center | T-5 | T-4 | T-4 | | |
| 10 | 7 | /Southbridge | T-4 | T-3.5 | T-3 | | |
| | 5 | Triangle | T-4 | Т-3 | T-3 | | |



Joplin

Lyman Park

Kopp

Belfair Crossroads

CAMBRIDGE SYSTEMATICS

Metrorail Scenario by Station

| Station Name | Increase in Population | % Population Increase | Increase in Jobs | % Jobs Increase | Activity Density (pop+emp / acres) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| Newington | 43,900 | 346% | 2,600 | 9% | 14.3 |
| Lorton | 11,600 | 63% | 2,900 | 48% | 20.6 |
| North Woodbridge | 18,900 | 67% | 12,400 | 218% | 27 |
| The Landing at Prince William | 25,500 | 97% | 11,800 | 118% | 28.6 |
| Potomac Mills | 22,500 | 146% | 6,700 | 45% | 28 |
| Potomac Town Center | 29,100 | 105% | 12,700 | 120% | 25.7 |
| Southbridge | 8,000 | 28% | 5,600 | 88% | 12.2 |
| Triangle | 2,200 | 19% | 3,700 | 285% | 8.8 |
| Yellow Total | 117,800 | 76% | 55,800 | 102% | |
| Blue Total | 161,700 | 96% | 58,400 | 70% | |



Land Use Impacts on Ridership

How would significant changes in land use change ridership forecasts?

Key Sensitivity Results

Change as compared to Initial Results

| | Residents Added to Station Areas | Jobs Added to Station Areas | Ridership Increase |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Blue Line Alternative | 162,000 (+96%) | 59,000 (70%) | +66% |
| Yellow Line Alternative | 118,000 (+76%) | 56,000 (+102%) | +32% |
| BRT Alternative | 134,000 (+80%) | 45,000 (+53%) | +29% |



TOD Readiness Best Practices

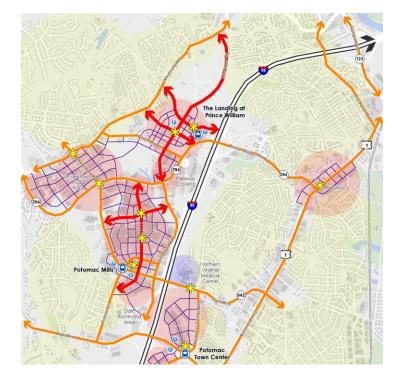
- Land Use & Zoning
 - TOD supportive zoning + urban design guidelines
 - o Design reviews
 - Station Area Plans

Transportation

- Arterials as Multimodal Corridors
- Network of walkable streets with small blocks
- o Ped/Bike Network
- o Feeder Transit/Shuttle Service
- o Micromobility
- TDM + Shared Parking

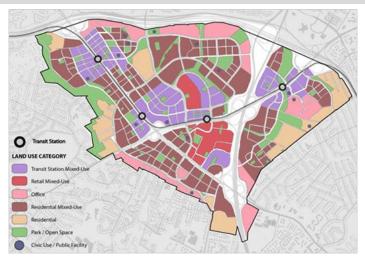
Implementation

- o TOD Rezoning
- o District-wide funding mechanisms
- Process/Framework for Property Consolidation





Case Studies - Suburban TOD



Tysons, Fairfax County, VA



Dunn Loring + Mosaic District, Fairfax County, VA



Pike & Rose and White Flint, Montgomery County, MD

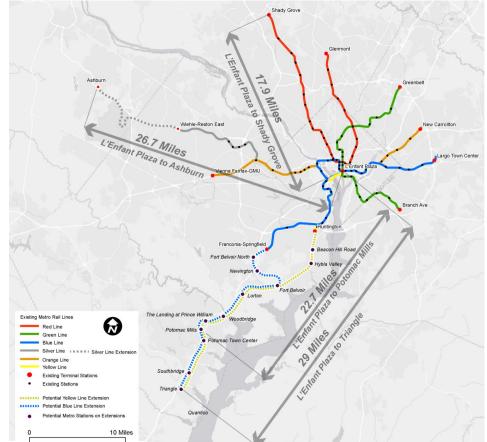


Assembly Square, Sommerville, MA



Other Considerations for Metrorail Extensions

- Metrorail extension would be a significant addition to the Metro system
- Legal / governance implications of adding Prince William County to the WMATA compact jurisdictions
- Annual capital and operating budget subsidy contributions for Prince William County (and an increase for Fairfax County)





Discussion & Meeting Wrap-Up



Next Steps

- Public meetings September 21st and 23rd
- Draft report will be completed by early October
- Elected officials briefing October
- Final report submitted to General Assembly by December 1, 2021



Extra Slides – for backup only



Transforming Rail Ridership Gains

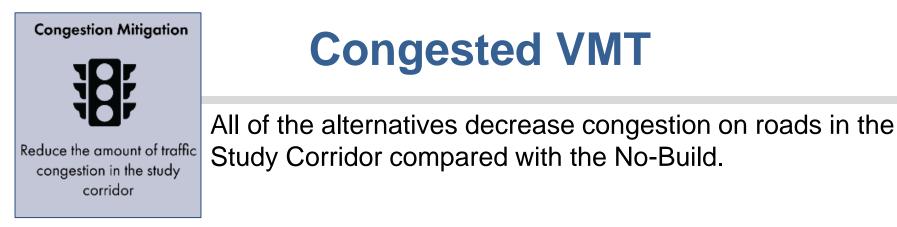
The majority of the ridership increase associated with Transforming Rail in Virginia improvements are included in the No-Build.

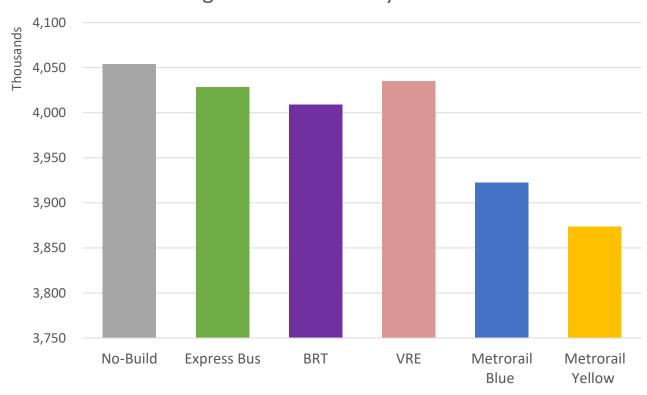
| Existing VRE Boardings in Study Corridor | No-Build VRE Boardings in Study Corridor | VRE Alternative Boardings in Study Corridor |
|---|---|---|
| 2,600 | 4,700 (82% from existing) | 4,900 (4% from No-Build) |

*Includes only rail stations in the Study Corridor. (Note: VRE alternative does not include new stations.)

Some additional boardings would occur outside of the Study Corridor







Congestion in the Study Corridor

Includes "severe congestion" and "congestion" – so lower is better



Regional Accessibility/ Connectivity

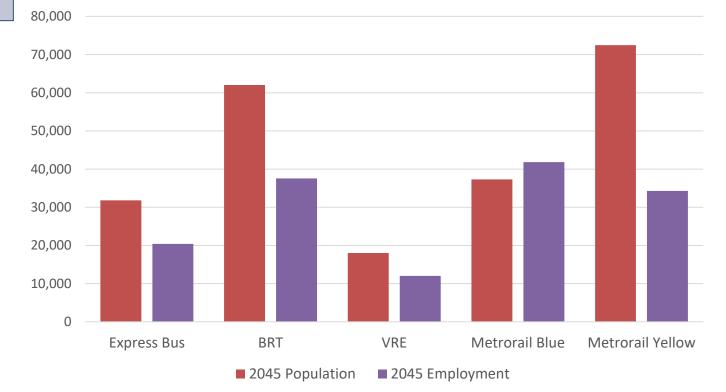
Increase access to regional

activity centers and meet

identified service gaps

Walk Access to Transit

By 2045, the Yellow Line and BRT Alternatives will provide high quality transit to the most residents. The Blue Line Alternative will have the most jobs within a half-mile of transit Jobs and Population near Transit



Within a half-mile of transit stops with new/improved service

Includes only rail stations in the Study Corridor. (Note: BRT alternative only includes the extension south of Ft. Belvoir.)

DRAFT RESULTS – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Regional Accessibility/ Connectivity

Increase access to regional activity centers and meet

identified service gaps

Percent of new

jobs accessible to residents of

Corridor within

compared to the

the Study

60 mins by

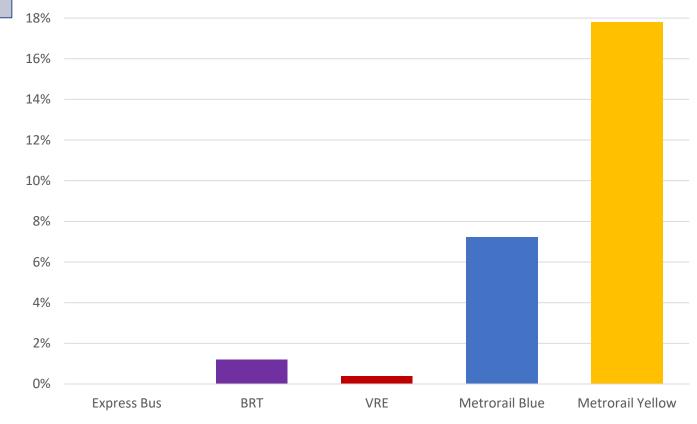
transit as

No-Build.

Access to Jobs

The Yellow Line Metrorail Alternative provides the biggest increase in accessibility to jobs by transit for Study Corridor residents.

New Jobs Accessible within 60 mins by Transit (Peak)





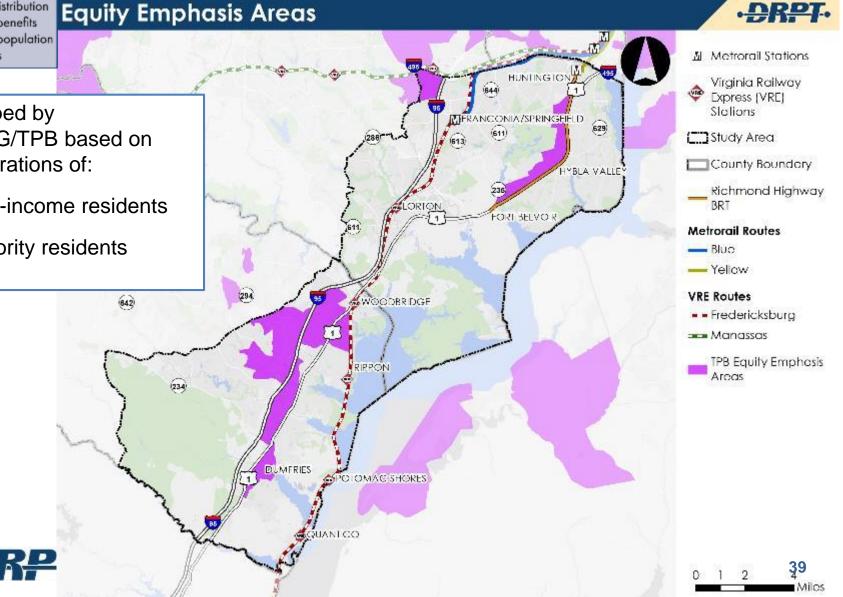
Equity

Equity Emphasis Areas

Provide a fair distribution of costs and benefits across different population groups

Developed by MWCOG/TPB based on concentrations of:

- Low-income residents .
- Minority residents .





Provide a fair distribution of costs and benefits across different population

groups

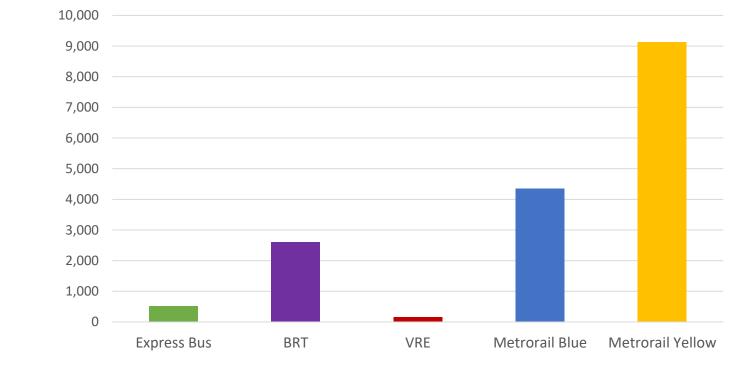
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Equity Transit Trips

- Across all Alternatives, new transit trips from EEAs grow more than from the overall Study Corridor.
- The Yellow Line Alternative includes the most new transit trips made by EEA residents

New EEA Transit Trips from the Study Corridor



New transit trips from EEAs in the Study Corridor as compared to the No-Build.





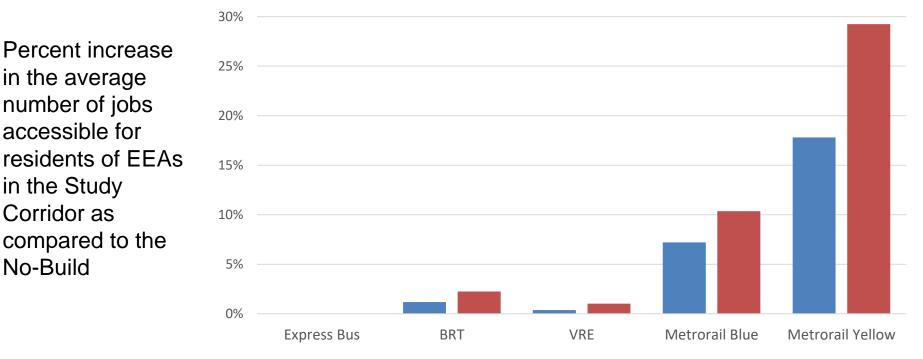
Provide a fair distribution of costs and benefits across different population groups •

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Job Accessibility for EEAs

- Across all Alternatives, job accessibility for EEAs grow more than for the overall Study Corridor.
- The Yellow Line Alternative shows the biggest increase in accessibility for EEA residents

New Jobs Accessibilbe withing 60 mins by Transit (Peak)







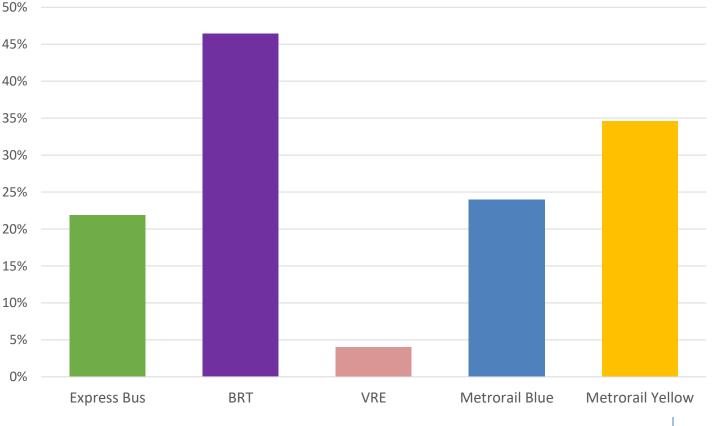
Provide a fair distribution of costs and benefits across different population groups

EEA Residents at Transit Stations

Residents near the BRT Alternatives are more than 45% residents of EEAs and most likely to be low-income and/or minority.

Portion of Residents near Transit that live in EEAs

EEA percentage of the people who live within halfmile of transit



DRAFT RESULTS – SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Cost-effectiveness



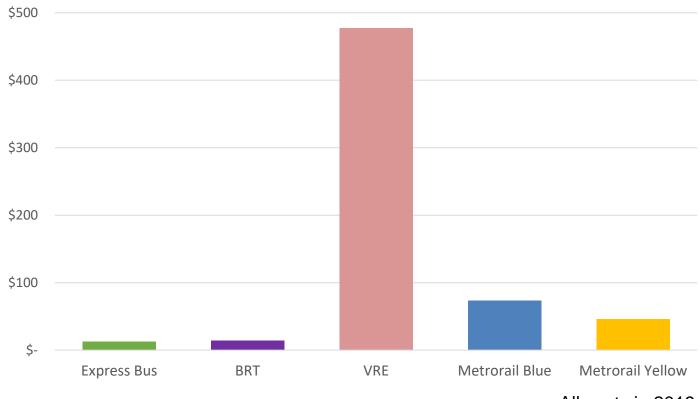
Ensure that resources are used efficiently

Total Cost per Transit Boarding

The Bus Alternatives are significantly more cost effective than the rail alternatives.

Total Cost per Transit Boarding

Estimated cost per transit boarding in the Study Corridor – lower is better. Note that the VRE ridership gains due to Transforming Rail in Virginia are in the No Build and are not reflected here.



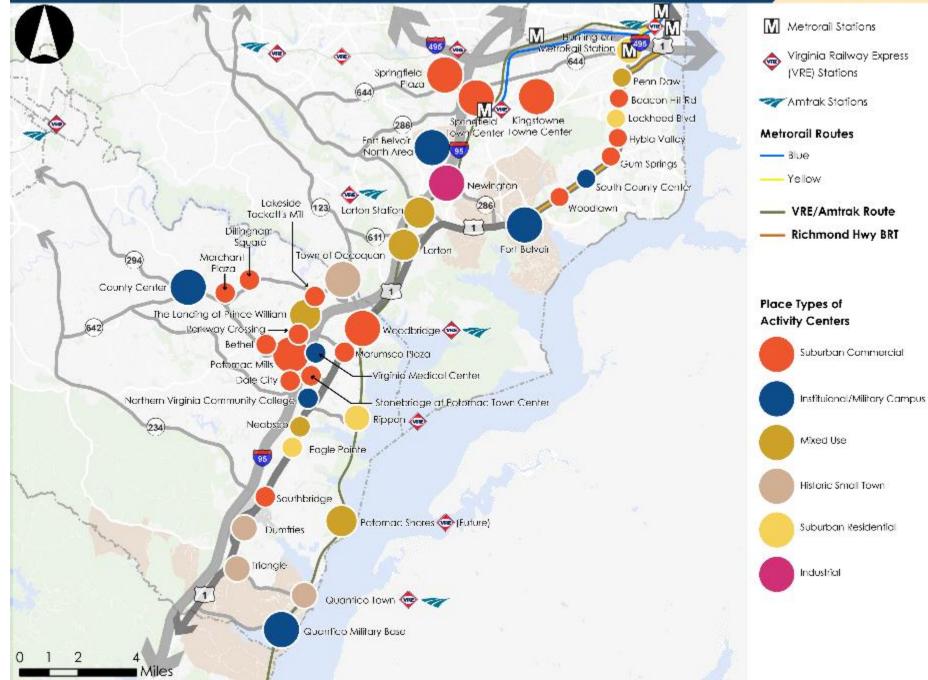


Preliminary Alternatives Considered



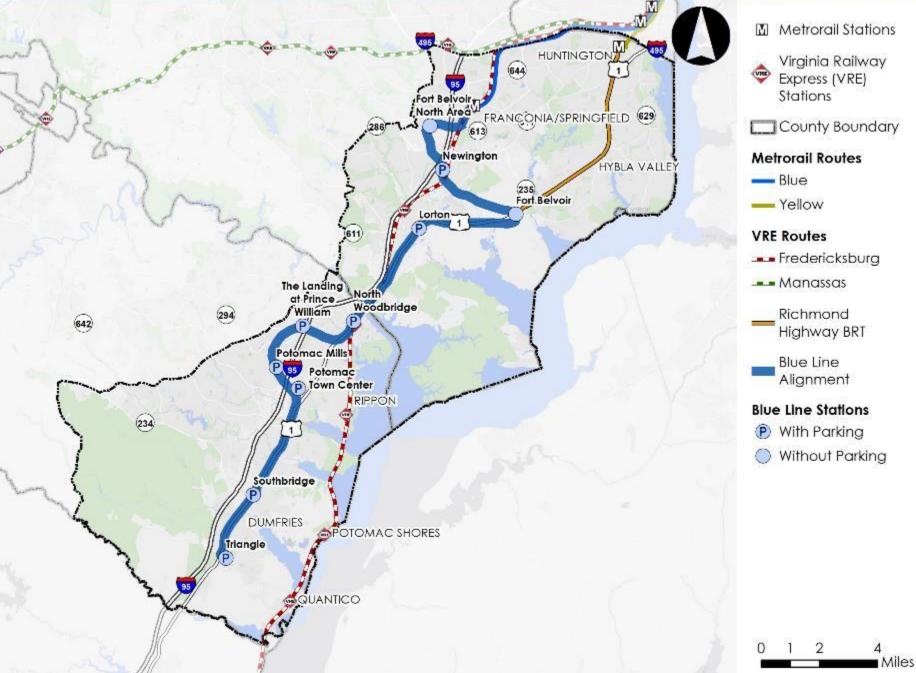
Activity Centers





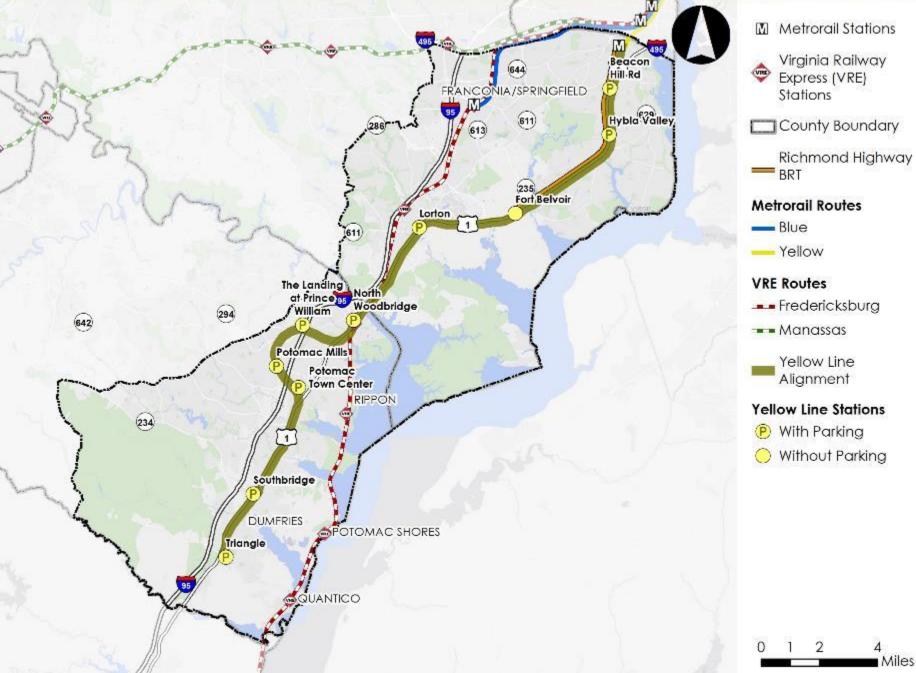
Blue Line Alternative





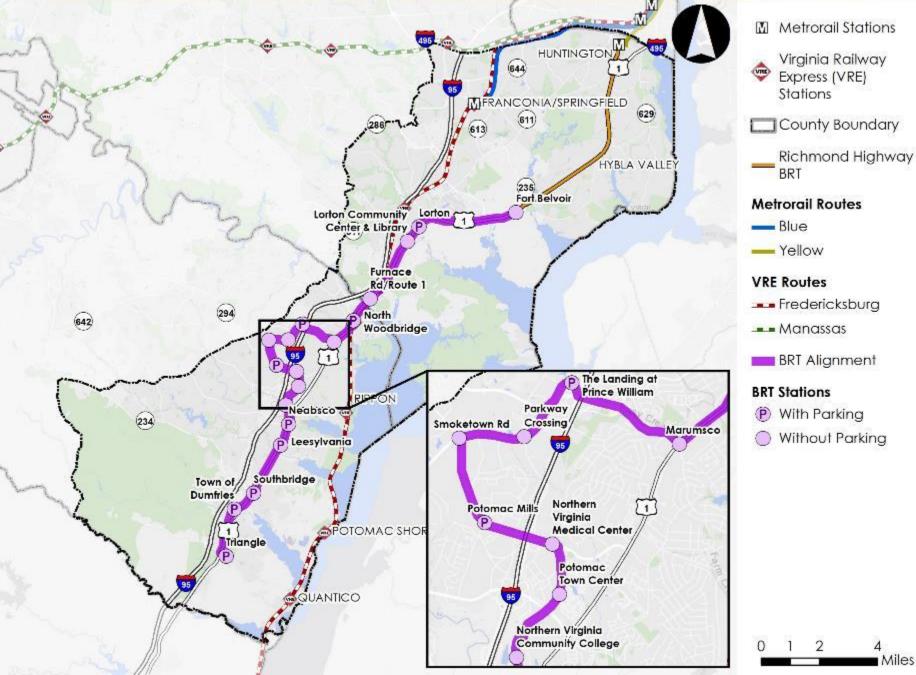
Yellow Line Alternative





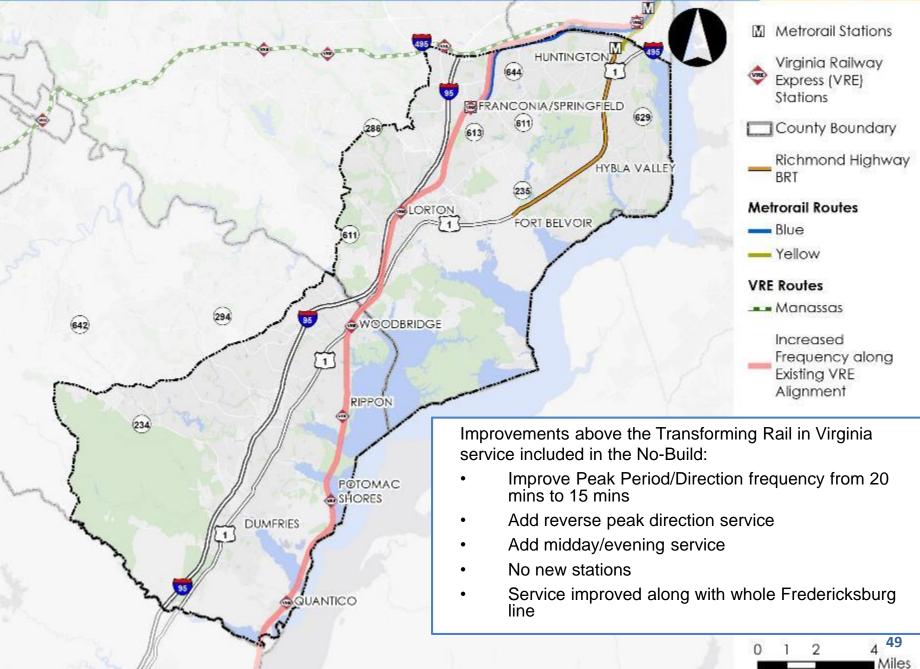
BRT Alternative





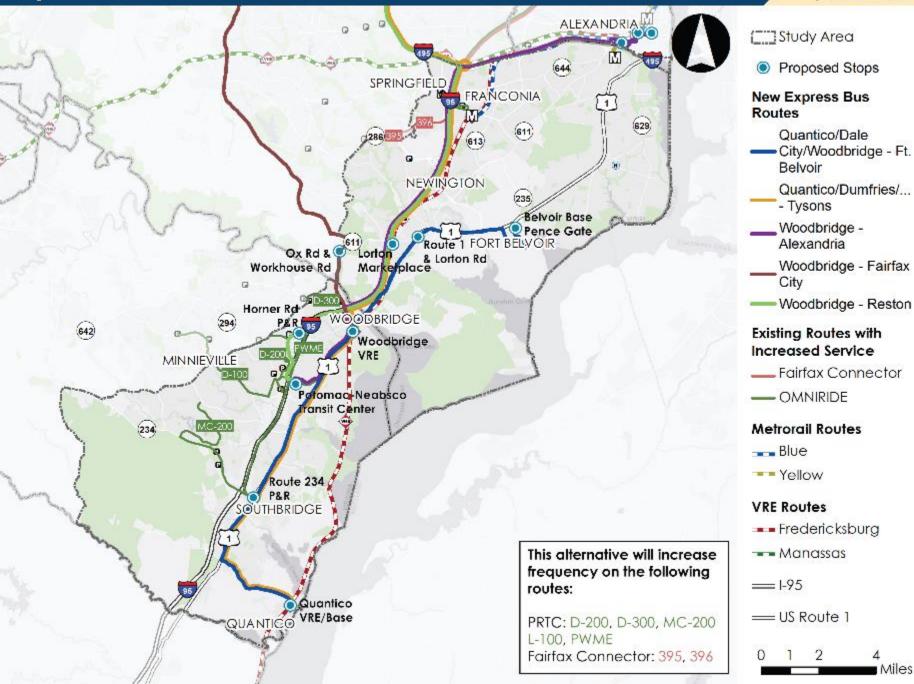
VRE Alternative



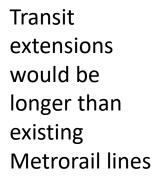


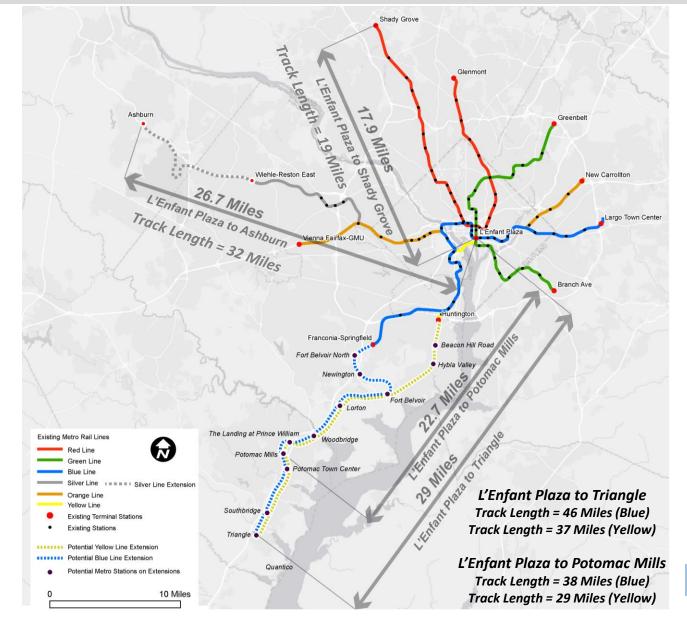
Express Bus Alternative





Regional Reference







Summary of Evaluation Results

| Goal | Measure | Additional Express Bus Service | BRT Extension | Additional VRE Service* | Metrorail Blue Extension | Metrorail Yellow Extension |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Total Transit Boardings | 71,000 | 80,600 | 69,900 | 77,900 | 76,900 |
| Ridership | New Transit Boardings | 1,100 | 10,700 | - | 8,000 | 7,000 |
| Potential | New Transit Trips | 953 | 4,696 | 256 | 10,592 | 15,034 |
| | Change in Transit PMT | 50,674 | 103,952 | 19,831 | 408,917 | 462,541 |
| Congestion Mitigation | Change in Congested VMT | (25,617) | (45,094) | (18,607) | (131,780) | (180,391) |
| | Walk Access to Population | 31,796 | 62,038 | 18,014 | 37,288 | 72,486 |
| Regional | Walk Access to Jobs | 20,431 | 37,555 | 12,051 | 41,827 | 34,285 |
| Accessibility | Change in Regional Job Accessi | 0.0% | 1.2% | 0.4% | 6.8% | 7.2% |
| | Change in Access to Job Center | 0.5% | 5.4% | 0.4% | 12.0% | 20.6% |
| Equity | New EEA Transit Trips | 520 | 2,599 | 153 | 4,346 | 9,122 |
| Equity | Change in EEA Job Accessibility | 0.0% | 2.2% | 1.0% | 7.1% | 9.9% |
| Cost- | Cost per Rider | \$ 4.58 | \$ 40.19 | \$ 342.87 | \$ 159.50 | \$ 103.69 |
| Effectivness | Cost per Transit PMT | \$ 0.13 | \$ 1.89 | \$ 7.09 | \$ 5.24 | \$ 4.74 |

* Additional Service Above Transforming Rail in Virginia Improvements Included in Baseline



Land Use Intensity Thresholds

Inputs for Urban Footprints Scenario Modelling

| Place Type & Transect Zone Description | Net floor area ratio (FAR) | Gross residential density (du/ac) | Gross population density (pop/ac) | Gross employment density (emp/ac) | Gross Activity Density (pop+emp per ac) | Gross parking density (spcs/1000 sq ft) |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| T-1 | | | | | | |
| Very low intensity | 0.02 | 0.10 | 0.22 | 0.40 | 0.62 | 2.24 |
| T-2 | | | | | | |
| Low intensity | 0.12 | 1.18 | 2.14 | 1.67 | 3.81 | 1.97 |
| T-3 | | | | | | |
| Moderate intensity | 0.28 | 4.69 | 8.11 | 4.64 | 12.75 | 1.7 |
| T-3.5 | | | | | | |
| Moderate intensity | 0.59 | 12.20 | 21.01 | 8.23 | 29.24 | 2.07 |
| T-4 | | | | | | |
| Moderate intensity | 0.91 | 17.96 | 30.92 | 12.47 | 43.39 | 1.67 |
| T-4.5 | | | | | | |
| Moderate-to-high | | | | | | |
| intensity | 1.36 | 32.03 | 54.55 | 22.52 | 77.07 | 1.78 |
| T-5 | | | | | | |
| High intensity | 1.75 | 42.79 | 72.88 | 29.52 | 102.40 | 1.66 |
| T-5.5 | | | | | | |
| High intensity | 2.21 | 54.43 | 92.69 | 37.04 | 129.73 | 1.52 |
| Т-6 | | | | | | |
| High intensity | 3.15 | 76.59 | 129.84 | 59.98 | 189.82 | 1.27 |

Place type T-4.5 (or higher) achieves the Metro guideline of > 50 activity density.



WMATA Ridership Thresholds: Suburban Metrorail

| Critoria | Matria | Thresholds | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------|--|
| Criteria | Metric | Low | Medium | High | |
| | Population Density (People per Acre) | < 31.7 | 31.7 – 47.5 | > 47.5 | |
| Density | Employment Density (Jobs per Acre) | < 19 | 19 – 26 | > 26 | |
| | Activity Density (People + Jobs) | < 50.7 | 50.7 – 73.5 | > 73.5 | |
| Ridership | Ridership per Mile | < 3,500 | 3,500 – 7,000 | > 7,000 | |

Source: Transit Corridor Expansion Guidelines (2015)

Ridership per Mile = Total Number of Daily Entries/Number of Miles of Extension

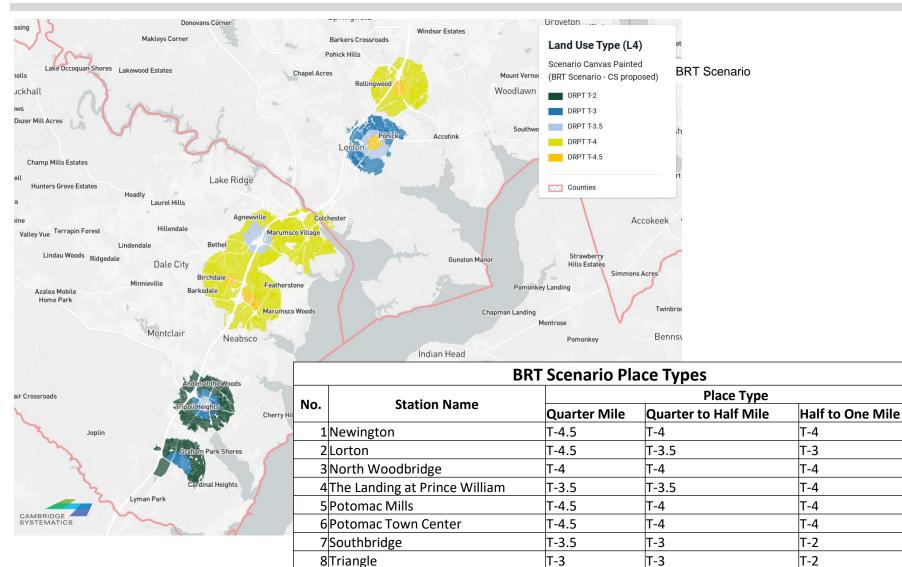
Existing (and Planned) Density at Potential Stations in Study Area

| No. | Station | Location | Population Density (1 Mile Radius) (People/Acre) | Employment Density (1 Mile Radius) (People/Acre) | Activity Density (1 Mile Radius) (People + Jobs/Acre) | Place Type |
|-----|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|------------|
| 1 | Beacon Hill Road** | Fairfax County, VA | 10.6 | 1.8 | 12.4 | P4 |
| 2 | Hybla Valley** | Fairfax County, VA | 12.4 | 2.1 | 14.5 | P4 |
| 3 | Fort Belvoir | Fairfax County, VA | 2.4 | 0.7 | 3.1 | P-MB |
| 4 | Fort Belvoir North | Fairfax County, VA | 4.0 | 2.4 | 6.4 | P-MB |
| 5 | Newington | Fairfax County, VA | 3.9 | 5.7 | 9.6 | P4 |
| 6 | Lorton** | Fairfax County, VA | 6.8 | 1.5 | 8.3 | P3 |
| 7 | North Woodbridge** | Prince William County, VA | 6.0 | 1.3 | 7.3 (26.7 – 40.0)** | P4 |
| 8 | The Landing at Prince William** | Prince William County, VA | 7.1 | 2.5 | 9.6 (11.0 – 23.0)** | P4 |
| 9 | Potomac Mills | Prince William County, VA | 4.4 | 5.9 | 10.3 | P4 |
| 10 | Potomac Town Center | Prince William County, VA | 6.8 | 4.0 | 10.8 | Р3 |
| 11 | Southbridge | Prince William County, VA | 4.2 | 0.9 | 5.1 | Р3 |
| 12 | Triangle** | Prince William County, VA | 2.6 | 0.5 | 3.1 (6.7 – 18.0)** | Р3 |

** Higher Density proposed in Small Area Plans



Land Use Assumptions - BRT Scenario





Original LU Test - Metrorail Scenario by Station

| Station Name | 2045 Baseline Population | 2045 Baseline Jobs | Metrorail Scenario Population | Population Increase | Metrorail Scenario Jobs | Jobs Increase | Metrorail Scenario Activity Density |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---|
| Newington | 12,700 | 28,600 | 56,500 | 344% | 26,700 | -7% | 27.3 |
| Lorton | 18,400 | 6,100 | 25,200 | 37% | 13,500 | 123% | 7.8 |
| North Woodbridge | 28,200 | 5,700 | 47,700 | 69% | 18,900 | 229% | 27.6 |
| The Landing at Prince William | 26,300 | 10,00 | 55,200 | 110% | 22,600 | 126% | 30.3 |
| Potomac Mills | 15,400 | 14,800 | 43,800 | 185% | 19,800 | 34% | 29.9 |
| Potomac Town Center | 27,700 | 10,600 | 62,200 | 124% | 23,400 | 121% | 27.4 |
| Southbridge | 28,500 | 6,400 | 33,400 | 17% | 11,900 | 86% | 11.4 |
| Triangle | 11,300 | 1,300 | 12,000 | 6% | 5,300 | 312% | 8.2 |
| Yellow Total | 155,900 | 54,900 | 279,500 | 79% | 115,400 | 110% | |
| Blue Total | 168,600 | 83,500 | 336,000 | 99% | 142,000 | 70% | |

WMATA's threshold for Activity Density is 50.7



Original LU Test – Land Use Impacts on Ridership

How would significant changes in land use change ridership forecasts?

Key Sensitivity Results

Change as compared to Initial Results

| | Residents Added to Station Areas | Jobs Added to Station Areas | Ridership Increase |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Blue Line Alternative | 167,000 (99%) | 59,000 (70%) | 16,700 (76%) |
| Yellow Line Alternative | 124,000 (79%) | 61,000 (110%) | 12,600 (38%) |
| BRT Alternative | 134,000 (79%) | 45,000 (53%) | 7,500 (33%) |

