Welcome Attendees

• Please place your devices on mute to avoid any background noise or other audio interference.

• When it is your turn to speak, please unmute yourselves and make sure no other devices have their audio turned up, again to avoid audio interference.
  • We may also mute your lines if background noise is detected.

• Should you have any technical difficulties within GoToWebinar, please log off and try logging back into the meeting.
  • If issues persist, please call tech support at 804-592-7985
Public Engagement

• Watch Live and Provide Comments after Presentations

Other Ways to Comment: Now – February 1, 2021

• By using the online form: https://cutt.ly/pjcMGRE
• By leaving a voicemail message here: 703-253-3324
• By sending a letter to the address below:

  Ms. Ciara Williams
  DRPT
  1725 Duke Street, Suite 675
  Alexandria, VA 22314

g. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any public body, including any state, local, regional, or regulatory body, or a governing board as defined in § 54.1-2345 of the Code of Virginia, or any joint meeting of such entities, may meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body or any member of the governing board physically assembled at one location when the Governor has declared a state of emergency in accordance with § 44-146.17, provided that (i) the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body or governing board to assemble in a single location; (ii) the purpose of meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body or common interest community association as defined in § 54.1-2345 of the Code of Virginia and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities; (iii) a public body shall make available a recording or transcript of the meeting on its website in accordance with the timeframes established in §§ 2.2-3707 and 2.2-3707.1 of the Code of Virginia; and (iv) the governing board shall distribute minutes of a meeting held pursuant to this subdivision to common interest community association members by the same method used to provide notice of the meeting.]
Introductions

• Jennifer DeBruhl, DRPT Chief of Public Transportation
• Ciara Williams, DRPT NOVA Transit Planning Manager
• Rob Cary, VDOT Deputy Director
• Zach Chissell, MDOT MTA
• Dusty Holcombe, MDOT P3 Program
I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit and TDM Study Update

Ciara Williams, NOVA Transit Planning Manager
Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Study Context and Focus

- **Fall 2019:** Governors Northam and Hogan announce Capital Beltway Accord to Rebuild American Legion Bridge and Connect Interstate Highway System

- **Complements** Virginia’s I-495 NEXT and Maryland’s Managed Lanes Study

- Funded and managed **jointly** by DRPT and MDOT-MTA, and is **separate** from improvement projects in the corridor.

- **This study’s focus:** develop and prioritize transit options and travel demand management for bistate travel across the bridge
Engagement Process

- Four Stakeholder Meetings
- Public Comment Period for Draft Recommendations: Open through February 1st
- Public Meetings
  - DRPT/VDOT I-495 NEXT Public Meeting. November 18, 2020
  - I-495 ALB Transit and TDM Study Public Meeting. January 12, 2021
- Surveys
  - Survey 1: Purpose was to gain an understanding of commute choices in addition to driving alone. Closed August 28, 2020
  - Survey 2: Getting feedback on potential recommendations. Closed December 18, 2020
- Keeping track of the Study is easy by connecting to DRPTs Major Initiatives Webpage
- The study webpage includes a stakeholder comment link (See: https://bit.ly/33Zw3YD)
Input Related to Multimodal Travel

Themes
• Support for analyzing multimodal solutions
• Importance of air quality and emissions goals
• Provide affordable and equitable choices
• Request for dedicated funding to expand transit
• Consider the effect of COVID-19 and potential increase in teleworking
• Developing transit options for near-term investment

Sources of Input
• Public comment on ongoing I-495 Virginia and Maryland projects
• Transit/TDM Public Survey #1
• Stakeholder coordination meetings
• Transit/TDM Public Survey #2
• Public Meetings

Survey #2 Update
• 48% of respondents are served by a potential bus route
• Bethesda to Tysons is the most desired route
• Technology that shows real-time bus arrival info is the #1 factor in encouraging transit use
• 63% of respondents expect to telework more in the future
Study Process

1. Assess Needs and Gaps
   - Why is transit needed?
   - What transit is there today?
   - What transit is planned in the future?

2. Review Travel Markets between VA and MD
   - Where are trips over the bridge coming from and going to?
   - Which of those markets could be served by transit?

3. Develop and Test Transit Routes and Commuter Assistance Programs
   - Where and how often should the route stop?
   - Where can transit use managed lanes?
   - How can technology improve the transit experience?
   - How will people get to and from the transit service?

4. Recommend Potential Improvements
   - What is the overall forecasted affect on reducing congestion?
   - How many people and jobs will be connected by new transit?
   - How much will it cost to implement?
Travel Demand

• High demand
  • MD 355 Corridor and Silver Spring in MD to Tysons, Dunn Loring, and VA 7 corridor

• Moderate demand
  • Fairfax and Arlington in VA to Bethesda and Friendship Heights in MD

• Corridor segments with highest number of trips:
  • I-270/I-270 spur from I-495 to I-370 (MD)
  • I-495 from the Bridge to Dulles Corridor (VA)
  • I-495 from the I-270 spur junction to Prince George’s County line (MD)
  • I-495 from the Bridge to the I-270 spur junction (MD)
Prioritization Methodology

- Potential routes scored relative to each other based on three categories

**Productivity** – Maximizing ridership for the lowest cost

**Equity** – Serving areas with high concentrations of low-income and minority individuals

**Connectivity** – Providing access to the most jobs and people

Routes Retained:
- Bethesda – Tysons
- Germantown – Tysons
- Silver Spring – Tysons
- Gaithersburg – Tysons
- Frederick – Tysons
- Bethesda – Dulles/Reston
- Bethesda – Dunn Loring
- Frederick – Arlington

SCORING KEY
- HIGH ★★★
- MEDIUM ★★
- LOW ★
Implementation Framework

• Each package built around level of transit service and vary by:
  • Markets served
  • Frequency
  • Span (time of day)

• Transit supported by:
  • Technology enhancements
  • Commuter assistance programs
  • Parking needs
### Investment Packages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Foundational peak-period service</td>
<td>• Robust network of primarily peak-period service</td>
<td>• Comprehensive all-day bus service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Connects three markets identified in previous planning efforts</td>
<td>• Connects five key markets in Maryland with Tysons and Arlington</td>
<td>• Maximizes potential ridership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Serves additional destinations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baseline Package – Transit Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Markets</th>
<th>Bethesda, Tysons, Gaithersburg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips (peak hour)</td>
<td>6 trips per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Forecasted Daily Riders over ALB</td>
<td>1,000 riders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Peak/ Mid-Day Service</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Maintenance facility or expansion may be needed to advance potential recommendations regardless of operator.
* The Bethesda - Tysons Transit Route could be advanced as part of the Near-Term timeframe.
**Medium Package – Transit Service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Markets</th>
<th>Bethesda, Tysons, Gaithersburg, Silver Spring, Germantown, Frederick, L’Enfant, Arlington</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips (peak hour)</td>
<td>16 trips per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Forecasted Daily Riders over ALB</td>
<td>3,700 riders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Peak/ Mid-Day Service</td>
<td>Limited (Bethesda – Tysons only)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Maintenance facility or expansion may be needed to advance potential recommendations regardless of operator.

* The Bethesda - Tysons Transit Route could be advanced as part of the Near-Term timeframe.
## High Package

**Markets**
- Bethesda, Tysons, Gaithersburg, Silver Spring, Germantown, Frederick, L’Enfant, Dunn Loring, Reston, Dulles, Arlington

**Trips (peak hour)**
- 30 trips per hour

**Total Forecasted Daily Riders over ALB**
- 5,600 riders

**Off-Peak/ Mid-Day Service**
- Yes

* Maintenance facility or expansion may be needed to advance potential recommendations regardless of operator.
* The Bethesda - Tysons Transit Route could be advanced as part of the Near-Term timeframe
Moving More People With Fewer Vehicles

- There is no existing transit service over the Bridge
- High Package Benefits:
  - Over 180 bus trips per day
  - Forecast increase of 5,600 daily transit riders
Equity

- 66% of bus trips during peak period in High Investment Package service origins within ½ mile of Equity Emphasis Areas

**MWCOG Equity Emphasis Areas**

- Baseline Package Service
- Medium Package Service
- High Package Service

Equity Emphasis Areas according to National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (2012-2016 ACS)
## Transit Connections – Existing and Planned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro</th>
<th>MARC</th>
<th>Purple Line</th>
<th>County BRT</th>
<th>Local Bus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tysons ● ● ●</td>
<td>Silver Spring ●</td>
<td>Silver Spring ●</td>
<td>Tysons ● ● ●</td>
<td>All stops ● ● ●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reston ○</td>
<td>Gaithersburg ● ●</td>
<td>Bethesda ●</td>
<td>Bethesda ● ● ●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulles ○</td>
<td>Monocacy ●</td>
<td>Silver Spring ●</td>
<td>Silver Spring ●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunn Loring ○</td>
<td>Frederick ●</td>
<td>Westfield</td>
<td>Westfield</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethesda ● ● ●</td>
<td></td>
<td>Montgomery Mall</td>
<td>Montgomery Mall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Spring ●</td>
<td></td>
<td>Transit Center ● ●</td>
<td>Transit Center ● ●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shady Grove ● ● ●</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gaithersburg ● ● ●</td>
<td>Gaithersburg ● ● ●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosslyn ●</td>
<td></td>
<td>Germantown ●</td>
<td>Germantown ●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L'Enfant Plaza ● ●</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- *Italicized stops are serviced by planned transit connections*
- ● Denotes stops on routes included in the baseline package
- ○ Denotes stops on routes included in the medium package
- O Denotes stops on routes included in the high package
# Technology and Commuter Assistance Program Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commuter Parking Information System</th>
<th>Vanpool Formation and Expansion Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real-Time Toll and Transit Information</td>
<td>Carpool Promotion Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real-Time Arrival Information</td>
<td>Corridor-Specific Mobility Options Marketing Campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real-Time Passenger Load Information</td>
<td>Targeted Residential Outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Signal Priority</td>
<td>Targeted Employer Outreach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps

• Recommendations available for review and comment through February 1st

• Public Meeting on January 12 to answer questions and receive input

• Following public comment period – finalize and publish final recommendations
Public Questions/Comments

We will begin by reading the questions/comments in the chat box and then we will accept live comment.
Live Public Questions/Comments

If you would like to provide comment:

• Please raise your hand in the participant panel
• If you are calling in, press *3 to Raise Hand
• We will unmute you when it’s your turn to speak
  • Mute all other devices to avoid audio interference
• You will have 3 minutes to share your comments
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Post Event Public Engagement

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I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit and TDM Study Update

Public Meeting
January 2021

Jennifer B. DeBruhl, Chief of Public Transportation
Ciara Williams, NOVA Transit Planning Manager
Department of Rail and Public Transportation