



County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit

Executive Committee Meeting #12

July 12, 2021



The Richmond Highway  
BRT project is funded in  
part by the Northern Virginia  
Transportation Authority.





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# Agenda

- Introductions
- Public Involvement
- NEPA Status
- FTA Coordination
- Right of Way Acquisition
- Roadway/Station Design Progress
- 12-Month Outlook





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# Public Involvement

- **Roadway Design comment period**
  - Closed July 9
  - Interactive map available online
  - Comments welcomed via survey, email & by U.S. mail
- **Eighth Public Involvement Meeting**
  - Held June 30
  - 70 registered attendees
  - Presentation followed by Q&A
    - Project Overview
    - Project Updates
      - Schedule
      - Right-of-Way Acquisition
      - Station Design
    - Roadway Design Overview
    - Discussion/Q&A
  - Recording available on project website:
    - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYoyxWcVF4g&ab\\_channel=FairfaxCountyGovernment](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYoyxWcVF4g&ab_channel=FairfaxCountyGovernment)
- **Community charm conversations coming in fall 2021**



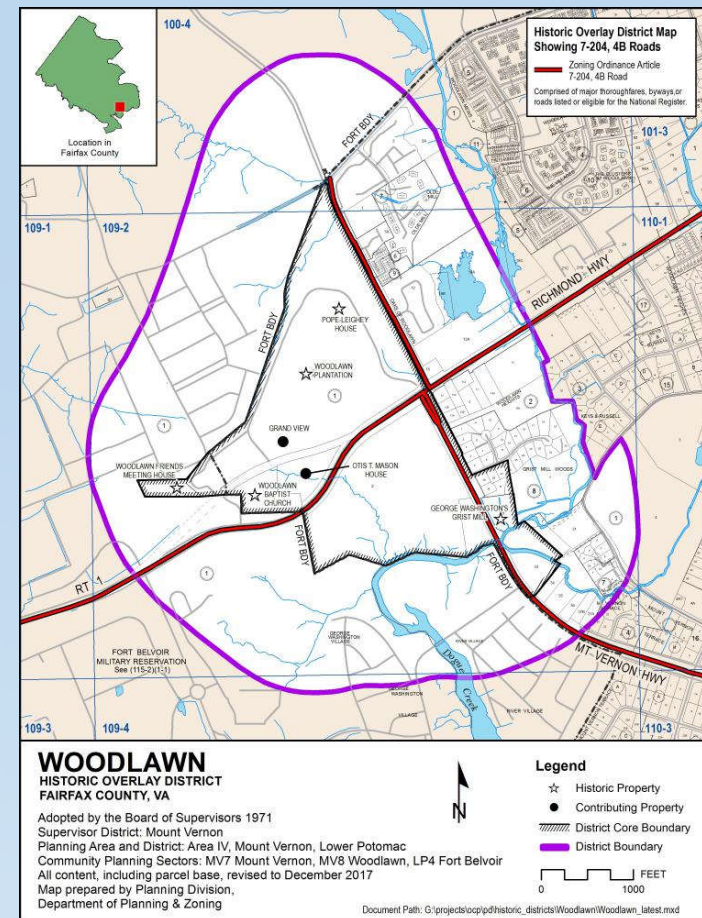


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# NEPA Status

- **Section 106 Process**
  - Received Conditional No Adverse Effect from Department of Historic Resources
  - Received objection from the National Trust for Historic Preservation
  - FTA has provided a response to National Trust; awaiting further correspondence
- **FTA Review**
  - Responded to FTA comments on Categorical Exclusion and technical reports
  - FTA now reviewing in anticipation of signature in late summer





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# FTA Coordination

- Accepted in New Starts Project Development in March 2020; project listed in FTA FY 2022 Annual Report
- Intend to request entry into Engineering late 2021
- Request includes:
  - Completed environmental document
  - 30% design plans
  - Project Management Plan
  - Cost estimate
  - Progress on third party agreements
  - Financial plan
  - Preliminary project rating
- Monthly meetings with FTA are on-going
- FTA bringing on an oversight consultant

## Annual Report on Funding Recommendations

Fiscal Year 2022  
Capital Investment Grants Program and  
Expedited Project Delivery

New Starts Projects That Entered Project Development since February 2020

- IL Chicago Red Line Extension
- VA Fairfax County Richmond Highway BRT

Available from:  
Federal Transit Administration  
Office of Planning and Environment  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
<http://www.fta.dot.gov>

**OT**  
Fairfax County  
and More





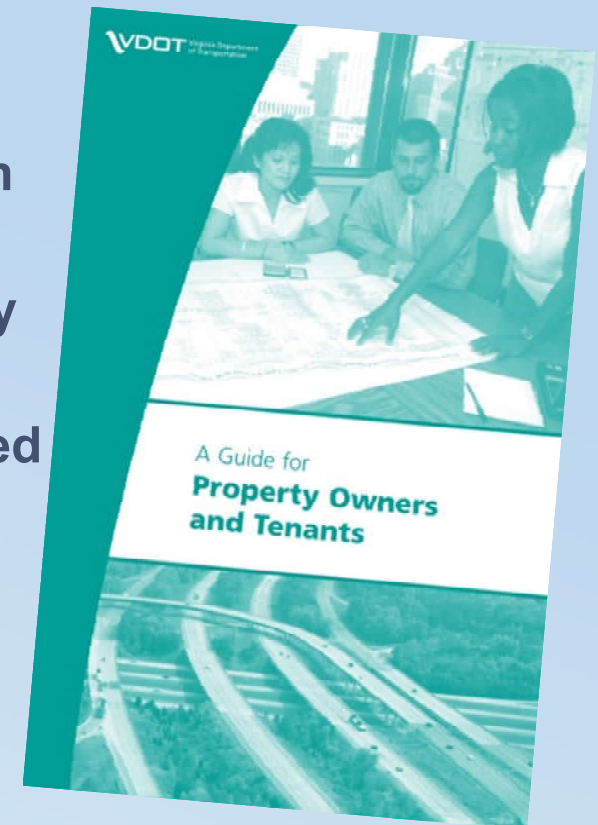
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## Right of Way Acquisition

- Right-of-way phase will start after NEPA approval; full acquisitions are first priority
- Two properties approved for Early Acquisition by FTA; appraisals underway
- Demolition planning & procurement underway
- Continue to communicate with stakeholders, developers, property owners & public; featured topic at June public meeting
- Each acquisition is unique
- Individual discussions will occur with each property owner and tenant
- Maps available at:

[fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt/materials](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt/materials)

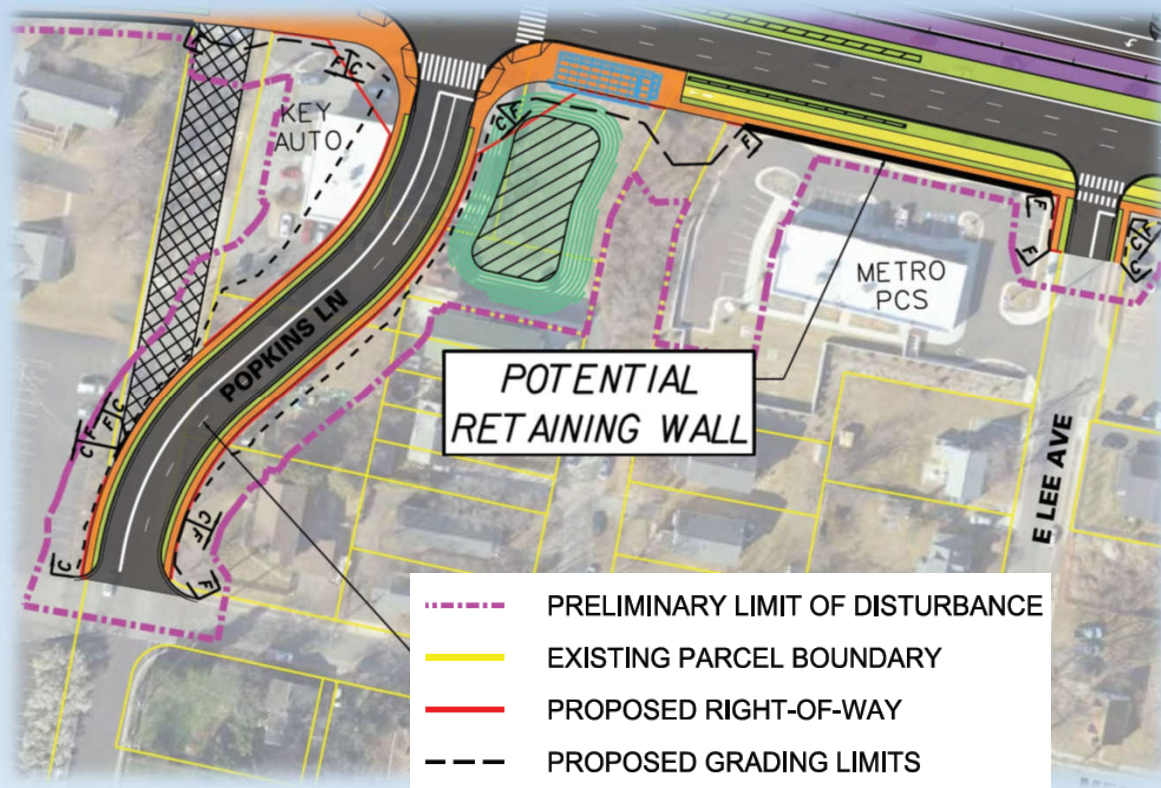




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## Potential ROW Impacts Shared with Community



- Types of impacts
  - Total Acquisition
  - Partial Acquisition
  - Perpetual Easement
  - Temporary Construction Easement
  - Scheduling meetings with affected property owners as requested

Maps available at:

[fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt/materials](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt/materials)





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# Roadway Design Modifications

- Project Team has been continuously collecting comments and refining design
- **Modifications shared at last public meeting**
  - Fordson Road
  - Fairhaven regrading
  - A&A Rentals
  - St. Louis Catholic Church - Walsh Hall
  - Collard Street
  - Boswell Avenue sidewalk





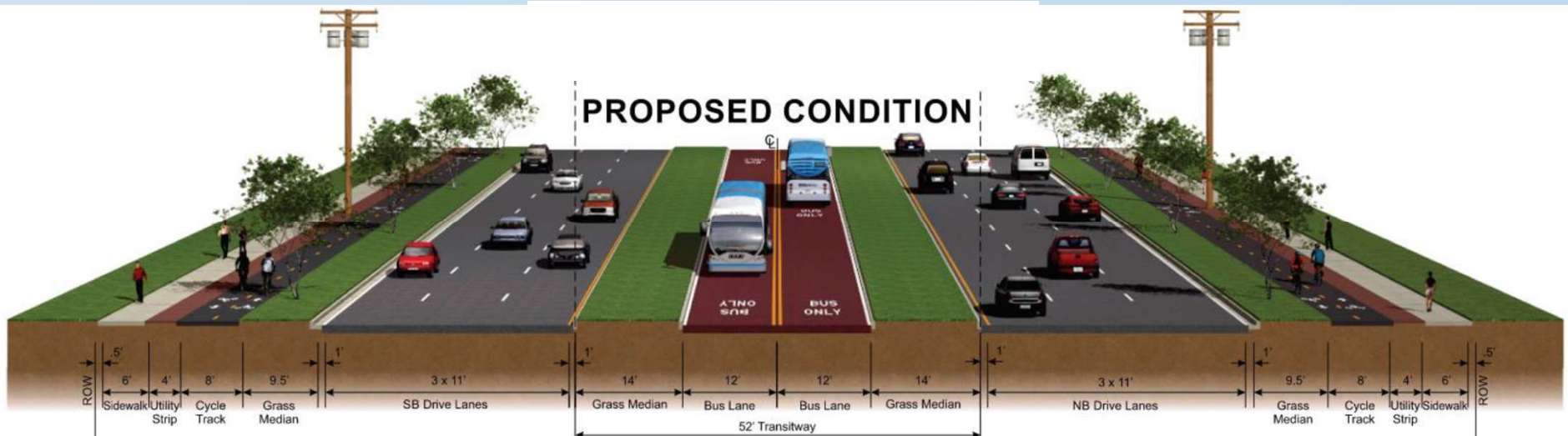


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# Preliminary Design Endorsement

The BRT project design generally includes:

- Six general purpose lanes (3 lanes in each direction)
- Transitway (BRT running down the center of the roadway)
- Nine BRT stations
- Continuous sidewalk and cycle tracks on either side of the roadway



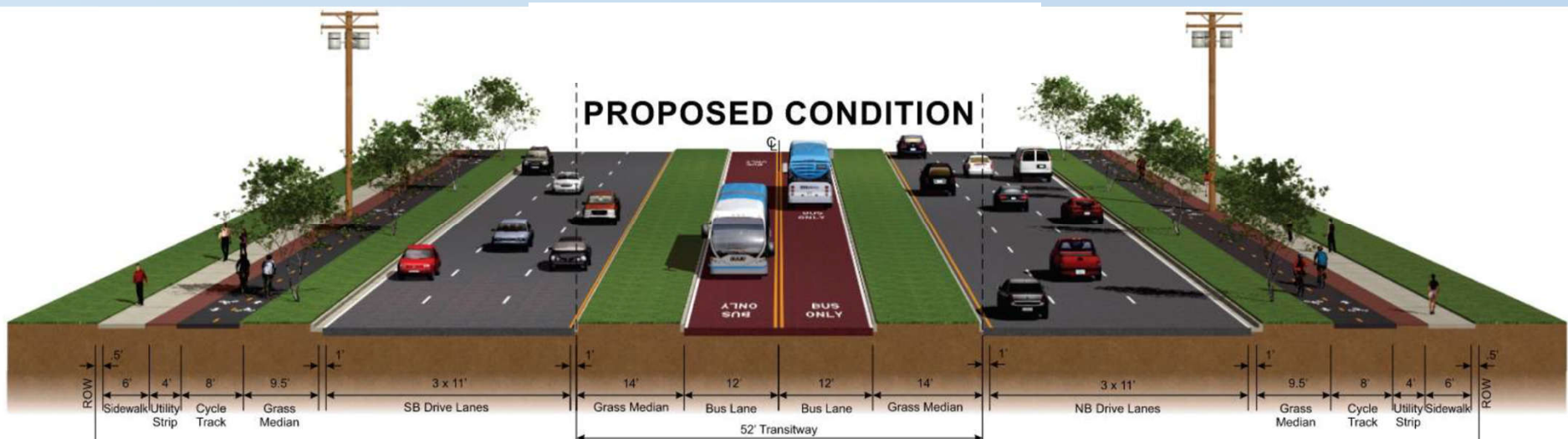


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# Preliminary Design Endorsement

- Public comment period was open from June 11 to July 09,
- There were 106 public comments:
  - Most of the comments (about 50%) contained comments or questions related to the design or operation of the system but did not state overall support or objection to the project. These include comments about utilities, roadway width and crossing safety, speed limit as tied to sound walls and lane width, cost, and property impacts, among other items.
  - About 32% of comments stated direct support for the project. About 15% stated opposition.
- Staff seeking the BRT Executive Committee's recommendation that the full BOS endorse the preliminary design plans at the July 27, 2021, BOS meeting.
- Staff will continue to refine the design and work to mitigate property impacts, where possible.





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## Advancing Design

- 60% is next design milestone; consultant task approved May 2021
- Following BOS endorsement of the preliminary design FCDOT will address comments & continue to refine the design, adding more detail & working to mitigate property impacts
- Areas to be further refined:
  - Roadway and intersection refinements
  - Stormwater management/drainage
  - Bicycle/pedestrian design
  - Cost savings opportunities





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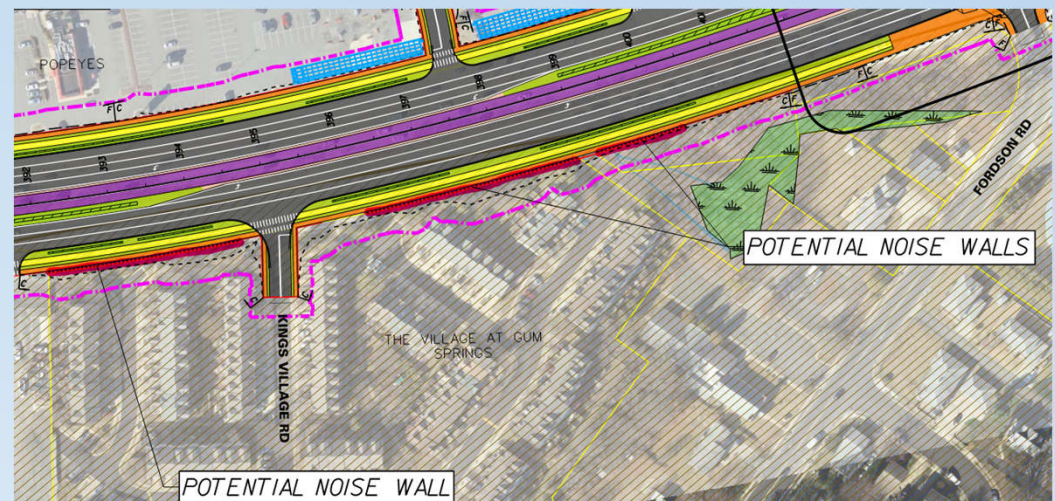
## Potential Noise Wall Locations

- Potential noise wall locations have been identified using federal and VDOT guidelines (see graphic below)
- Locations unchanged since 20% plans
- Wall designs will be refined as project approaches construction
- Input to be sought from property owners & tenants who could benefit from walls as identified on plans

Link to [VDOT Noise Abatement](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/pr-noise-walls-about.asp)

Web Page:

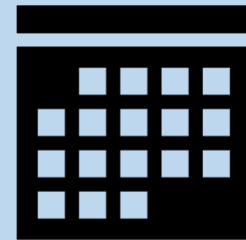
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# 12-Month Outlook



- Value Engineering review (July 2021)
- BOS Design Endorsement (July 2021)
- Categorical Exclusion signature (Late Summer 2021)
- Branding Rollout for System (Fall 2021)
- Request to Enter FTA Engineering (Fall 2021)
- Right-of-Way Acquisition/Demolition (Underway)
- Complete 60% Roadway & Station Design (Early 2022)
- Third Party Coordination (Underway)
  - Complete VDOT programmatic agreement (Fall 2021)
  - VDOT has been very accommodating and helpful
- Utility Coordination (Underway)
  - Establish easements; initiate design of relocation
- Electric Bus technology review (Early 2022)





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# Discussion

