



County of Fairfax, Virginia

Braddock Road Widening

Guinea Road to I-495

Community Meeting

Lake Braddock Secondary School

February 19, 2014

Department of Transportation





Presentation Outline

- Background – Supervisor Cook
- Study Scope – FCDOT
- Project Schedule
- Citizen Involvement Process
- Questions



Background

- Right of Way dedicated for future Braddock Road widening from Ravensworth Road to Rolling Road in the 1960s.
- Braddock Road widened to four lanes in 1970.
- Braddock Road widened to six lanes in late 1980.
- HOV Widening on Braddock Road adopted by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 1990.



Background (Contd.)

- Northern Virginia 2010 Transportation Plan recommended HOV widening on Braddock Road from Burke Lake Road to I-495.

Basis for recommendation:

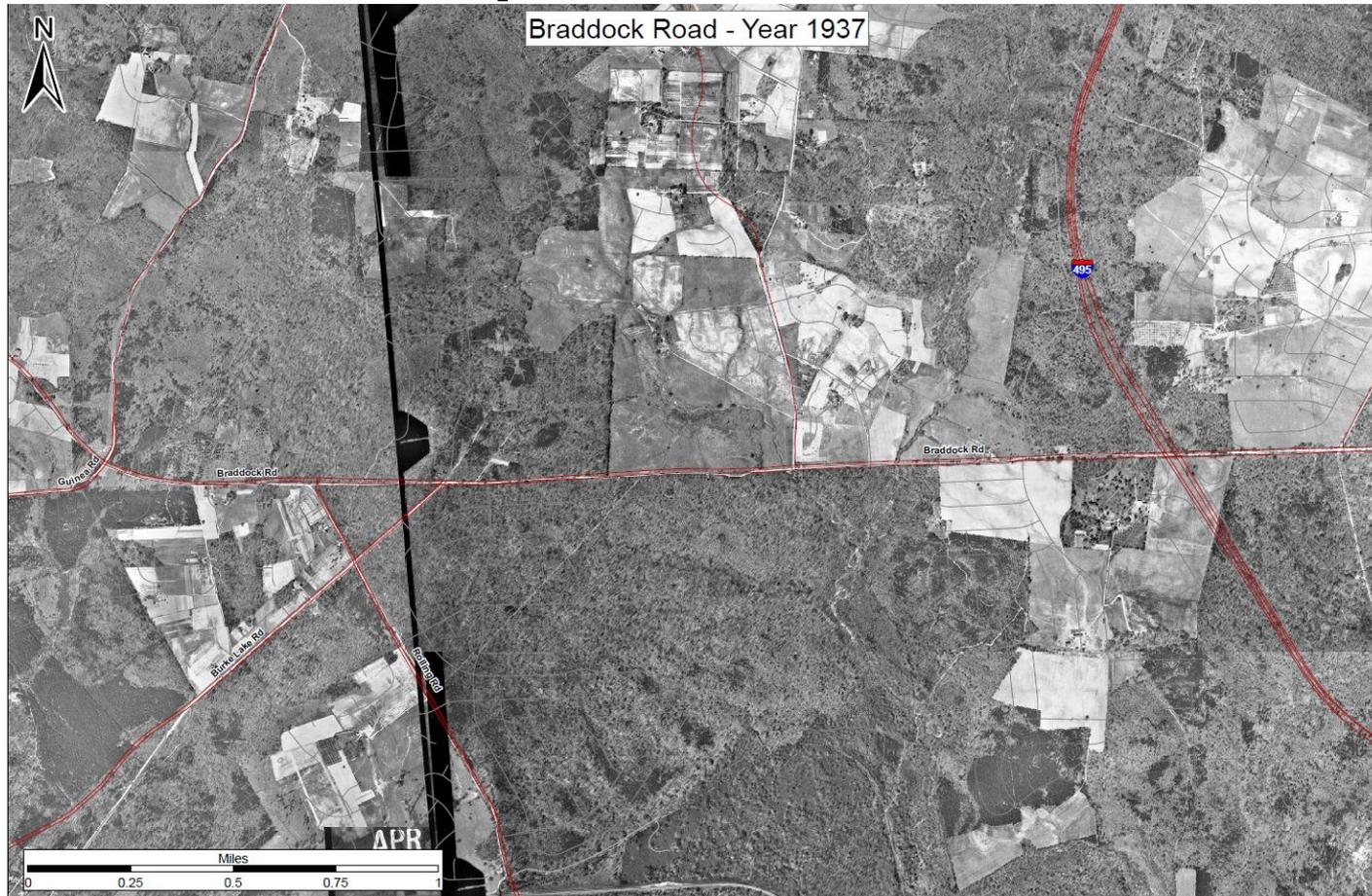
- Lack of sufficient SOV*/LOV* capacity on the transportation plan that existed at the time
- Inability/unwillingness to add further LOV* capacity beyond the plan, and
- High cost and long lead times required to provide fixed-guideway transit, as well as the questionable effectiveness of fixed-guideway transit to meet the need.

*SOV – Single Occupancy Vehicle

*LOV – Lower Occupancy Vehicle (vehicles with # occupants lower than the posted vehicle occupancy restrictions, to use an HOV lane for a fee, while maintaining free travel for qualifying HOVs)

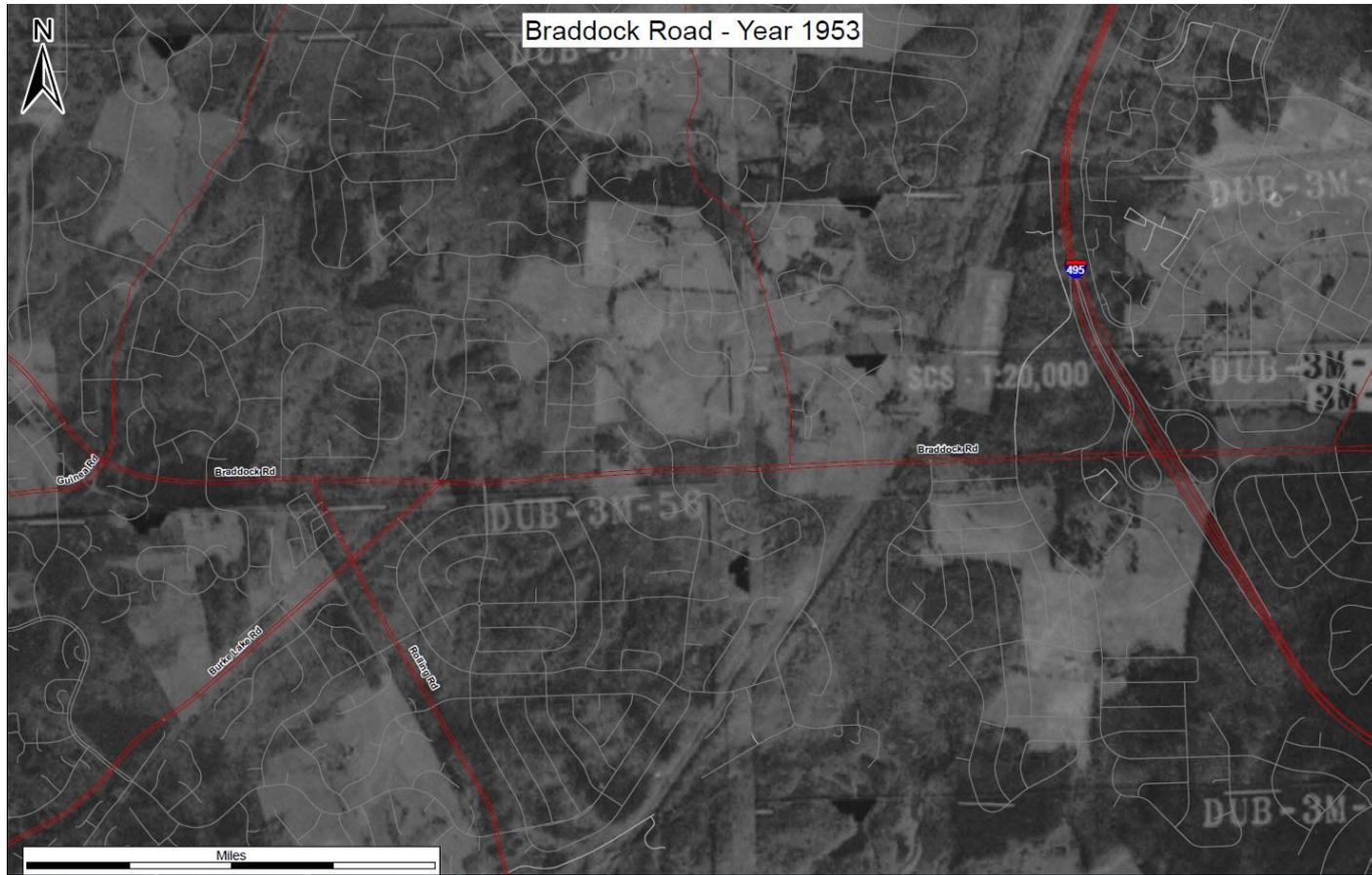


Historic Map – Braddock Road



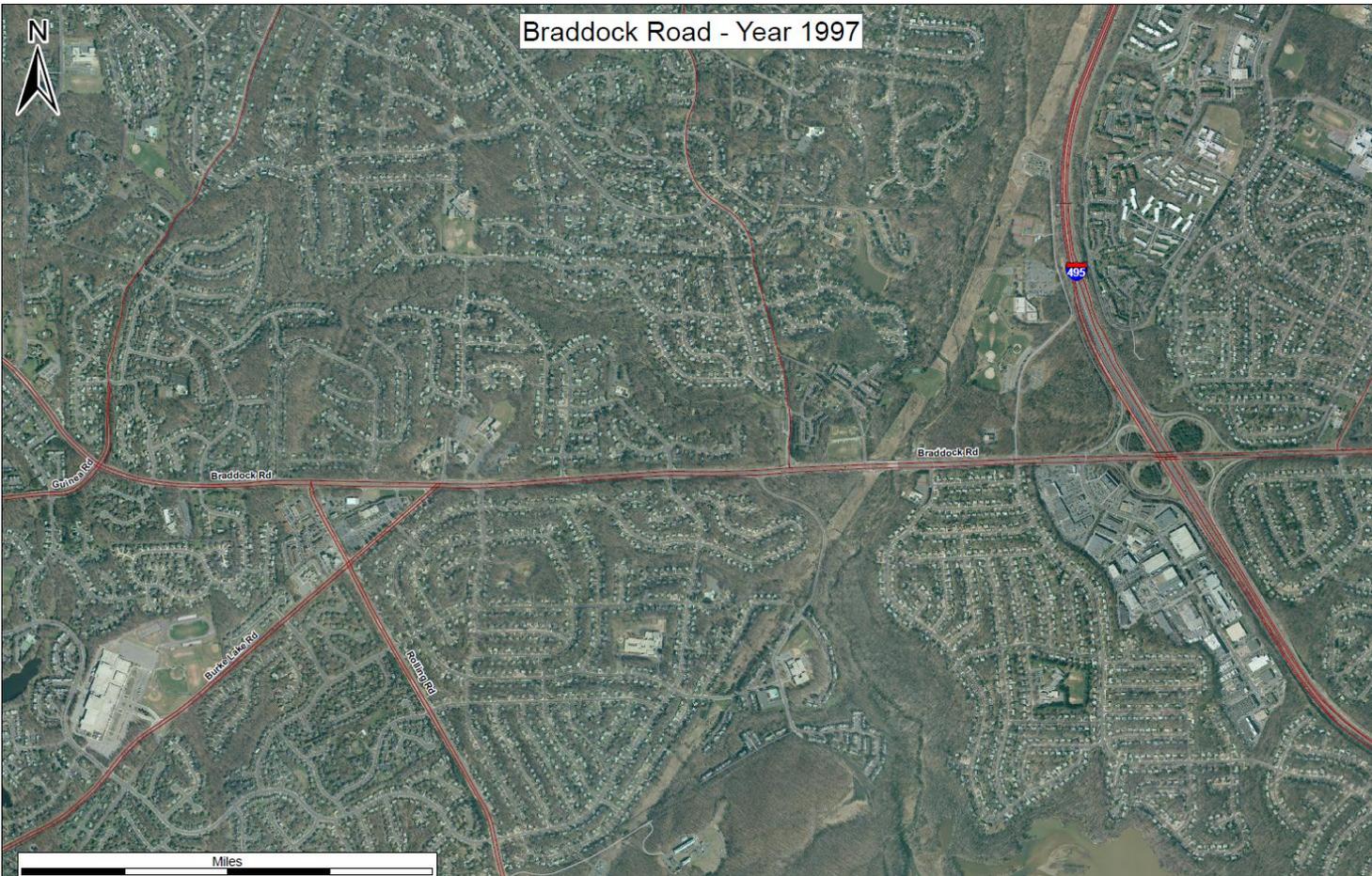


Historic Map (Contd.)





Historic Map (Contd.)



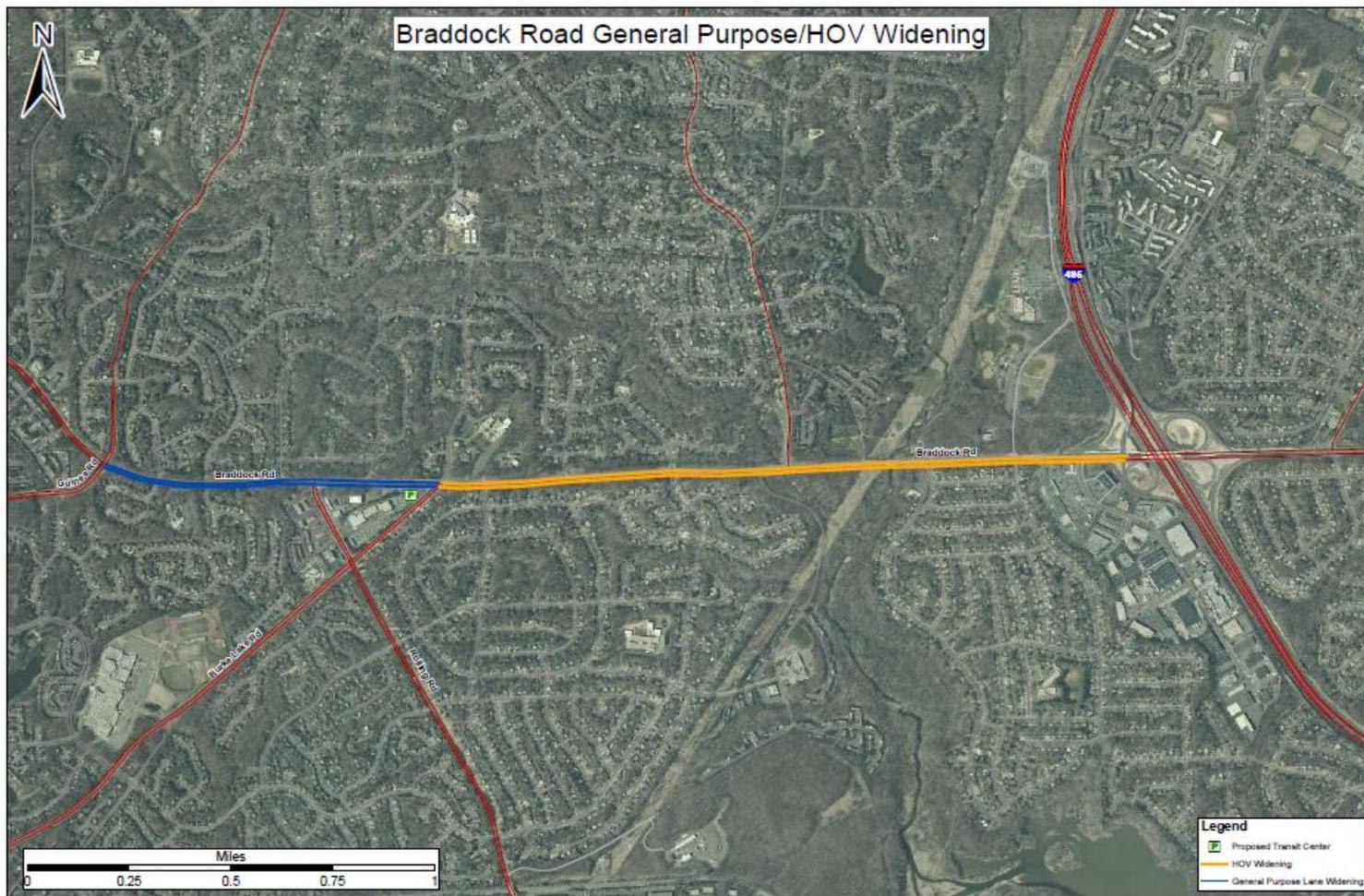


Project Description

- Address mobility needs due to adjacent neighborhoods and high traffic volumes.
- Widen Braddock Road from four general purpose lanes to six general purpose lanes from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road.
- Widen Braddock Road from six general purpose lanes to eight lanes by adding two HOV lanes from Burke Lake Road to the 495 Express Lanes.
- Potential transit center near the Kings Park Shopping Center.
- This effort is moving forward due to last year's landmark transportation funding bill (HB 2313).



Project Map





Project Need

- These proposed projects scored high on a recent county cost-benefit analysis.
- This part of Braddock Road currently handles approximately 70,000 automobile trips a day, and is one of the more congested corridors in the county.
- A growth rate of 8% is projected over the next 30 years along the Braddock Road corridor.
- In 2013, the county launched new bus service from the Burke Centre VRE station to Tysons with stops on Braddock Road near the Burke Lake Road intersection.



Project Need (Contd.)

- The creation of HOV-Express Bus lanes is a key component to making that new bus route successful, and to handle future growth in the corridor by providing a significant travel time savings for carpools.





Project Scope Outline

Study Alternatives

- Addition of only General Purpose Lanes from Burke Lake Road to I-495
- Addition of two HOV 2 Lanes from Burke Lake Road to I-495
- Addition of two HOV 3 Lanes from Burke Lake Road to I-495
- Addition of two HOT Lanes from Burke Lake Road to I-495
- Addition of two General Purpose Lanes from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road
- Addition of Transit Center and Commuter Parking
- No-Build Alternative



Project Scope Outline

HOV Widening from Burke Lake Road to I-495

- Examine ability to connect directly to I-495 Express Lanes facility, including possible bridge widening to accommodate the additional lanes.
- Evaluate all alternatives for viability and make recommendation on preferred alternative.
- Evaluate best location for roadway widening to accommodate GP lanes only/HOV 2/HOV 3/HOT lanes (e.g., far left lane or far right lane) for effectiveness, safety, and traffic flow.



Project Scope Outline

HOV Widening from Burke Lake Road to I-495 (Contd.)

- Evaluate enforcement strategies to examine occupancy violations utilizing the HOV and HOT facilities.
- Examine implementing innovative at-grade solutions for incorporating preferred alternative on Braddock Road.
- Also examine possibility of grade-separated solutions and draw a comparison with at-grade solutions for the preferred alternative to be effective.



Project Scope Outline

HOV Widening from Burke Lake Road to I-495 (Contd.)

- Study following key intersections in detail, in addition to other intersections for vehicular and pedestrian safety improvements and possible alignment:
 - Wakefield Chapel Road/Braddock Road
 - Danbury Forest Drive/Braddock Road
 - Burke Lake Road/Woodland Way/Braddock Road
 - I-495/Ravensworth Road/Port Royal Road/Queensberry Avenue
- Research similar examples of roadway widening incorporating HOV in other jurisdictions (DC, MD and other states).



Project Scope Outline

Corridor-wide tasks

- Stakeholder identification.
- Perform an Origin-Destination study to evaluate total vehicular trips entering the Express Lanes and I-495.
- Perform a corridor traffic analysis to assess vehicular weaving and merging issues.
- Study trail systems, bicycle connections, bus stops and pedestrian crossings and missing links.
- Investigate right-of-way and environmental impacts of all alternatives, such as noise, stormwater management, impacts on parks, wetlands, etc.
- Look at Transit Development Plan recommendations for future transit in the corridor.



Project Scope Outline

Corridor-wide tasks (Contd.)

- Develop planning level cost estimates for each alternative.
- Coordinate all alternatives studied with adjacent communities.
- Incorporate results/recommendations from the Braddock Road/Wakefield Chapel Road/Danbury Forest Drive Study.
- Coordinate with Fairfax County Public Schools on how each alternative will impact school bus routes.
- Evaluate access management strategies.
- Evaluate landscaping needs and community priorities, including discussion of existing landscaping.



Project Scope Outline

Corridor-wide tasks (Contd.)

- Evaluate traffic signal operations and coordination along the corridor and other operational improvements.
- Perform license plate survey at the Kings Park Shopping Center.
- Perform neighborhood travel survey.



Project Scope Outline

General Purpose Widening from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road

- Develop conceptual design of addition of general purpose lanes on Braddock Road from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road.
- Ensure coordination with HOV lane east of Burke Lake Road.
- Identify right-of-way, environmental issues and community concerns regarding this segment.
- Develop a more detailed project cost estimate.



Project Scope Outline

Transit Center/Park-and-Ride/Transit Service

- Develop conceptual design of the transit center on Braddock Road, including determination of parking needs.
- Coordinate with Fairfax Connector and WMATA on existing and future bus routes and service along the Braddock Road corridor and how each alternative will function with the proposed park-and-ride facility.
- Evaluate usage of current park-and-ride lots and informal carpooling along the corridor.
- Coordinate with recommendations from the Transit Development Plan.
- Study pedestrian/bike facilities to/from and within the transit center.



Schedule

Study

- Approximately 18 months.
- Significant citizen participation throughout.
- Regular meeting schedule.

Target Design/Construction/Project Completion

- Approximately 7 years following Study completion.
- Continued citizen participation on a regular basis.



Citizen Involvement

- Formation of Citizen Advisory Group.



QUESTIONS?