

2024 HUNTINGTON AVE SAFETY PROJECT

Mount Vernon District
October 9, 2024



Presenter: Zack DesJardins, Active Transportation Planner III, FCDOT



AGENDA

- FCDOT: Proposed Huntington Ave Safety Project
- *If approved, would implement during next year's repaving season*
- Q&A

*VDOT has not yet approved this project and some elements may change as a result of their feedback



HUNTINGTON AVE - EXISTING

- Between Richmond Highway and Telegraph Rd
- Four wide travel lanes encourage speeding over 30 mph limit and “cut thru” traffic
- Left turn lanes at some intersections but not others
- Narrow sidewalks (4-5' wide) with narrow buffer to street (2-3' wide), unpleasant walking conditions
- No bicycle facilities



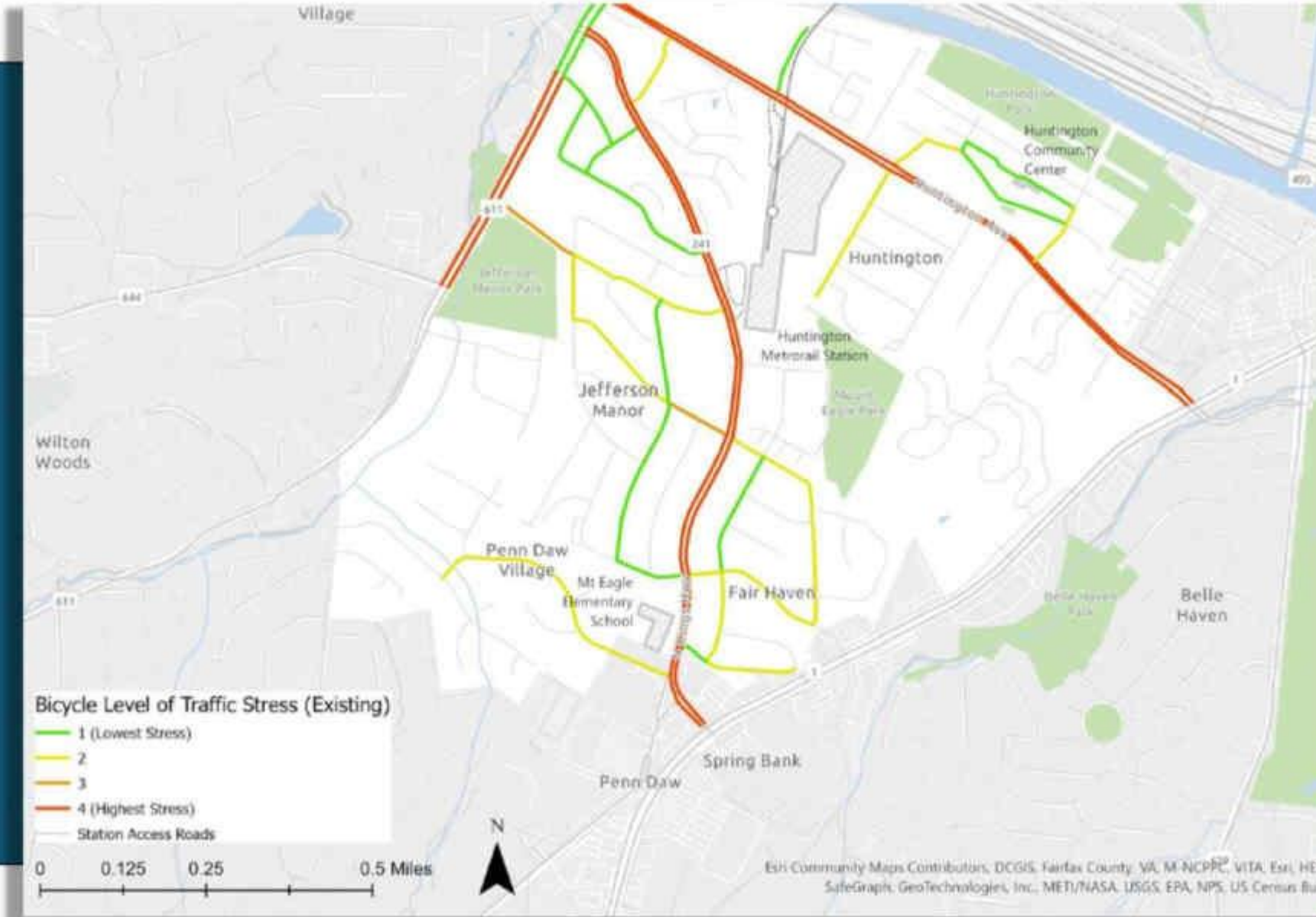
NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS

- Huntington Ave widened from two to four lanes in early 1980's for Metro
 - Park & Ride demand less than anticipated and future growth is transit-oriented and Route 1 BRT
- 2014 Countywide Bicycle Master Plan recommends buffered bike lanes
- Planned Richmond Hwy interchange removed from County plan in 2020
- Mount Vernon Task Force recommended studying a road diet in May 2022
- FCDOT developed Active Transportation Plan for Huntington neighborhood in June 2022
 - Recommended road diet study
- FCDOT plans four Capital Bikeshare stations along Huntington Ave in 2025



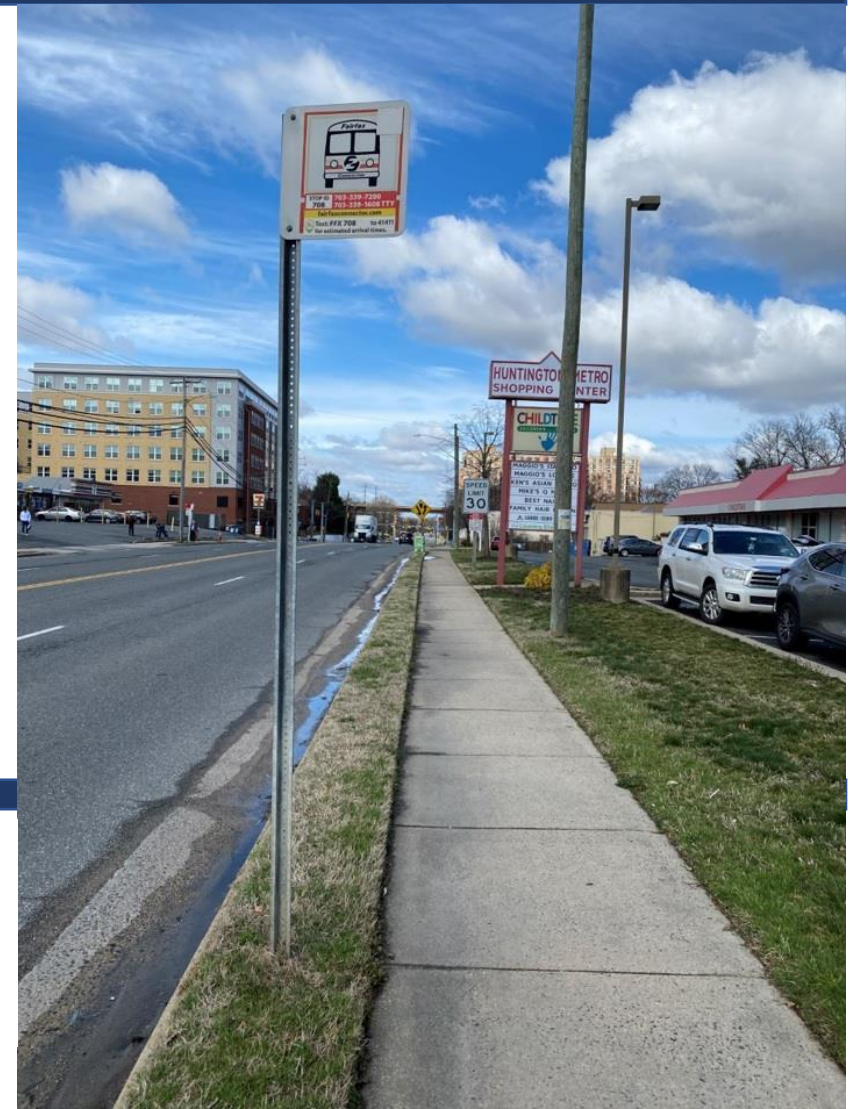


From 2022
Huntington
Metrorail Station
Active
Transportation
Study



CRASHES AND OTHER ISSUES

- 54 crashes between 2021-2023
 - Most were property damage (33) but 18 had suspected minor injuries and 3 suspected major injuries
 - 1 pedestrian crash at Metroview Pkwy and 1 at Richmond Hwy
 - 6 rear end and 11 angle crashes
- Heard from residents about speeding and cut through traffic



WHAT IS A ROAD DIET?

- Road diets typical convert four lane streets into two lanes with a center turn lane
 - Center turn lane adds capacity
 - Provides space for bicycle infrastructure
- FCDOT and VDOT have implemented 30+ road diets over the past decade
- Many studies have proven the safety benefits for all street users
- FCDOT proposes to implement a road diet on Huntington Ave during repaving



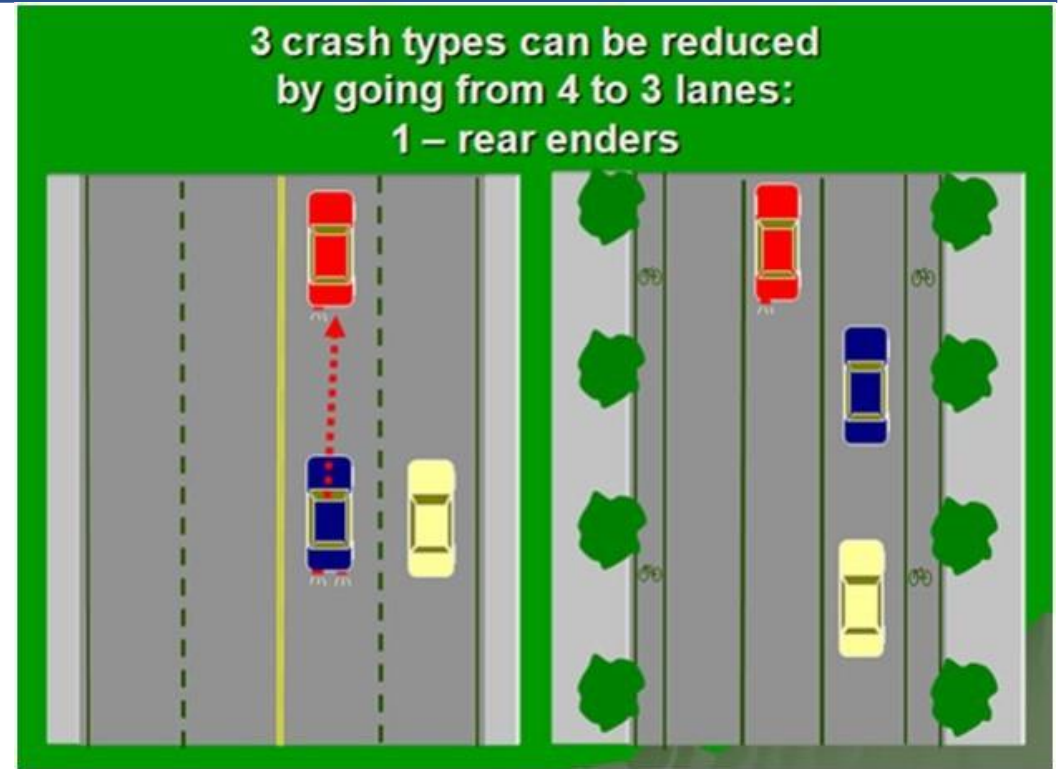
IMPROVEMENTS FOR PEOPLE WHO WALK

- People cross one travel lane at a time and have space in the median to wait for a gap in traffic
 - Eliminates double threat crash type
- FCDOT plans refuge island Robinson Way and add missing crosswalk at Fenwick Dr, installation after repaving
 - Hunting Creek Dr refuge island on unfunded project list
 - Road diet makes crosswalks east of Farrington Ave eligible for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons
 - FCDOT to look at adding crosswalk(s) between Farrington and Foley
 - Bus shelter funded at Hunting Creek to consolidate several stops
- High bus traffic means lots of people cross the street
- Moves vehicles from 3-6' from the sidewalk to 14-16' away, creating a buffer for people walking



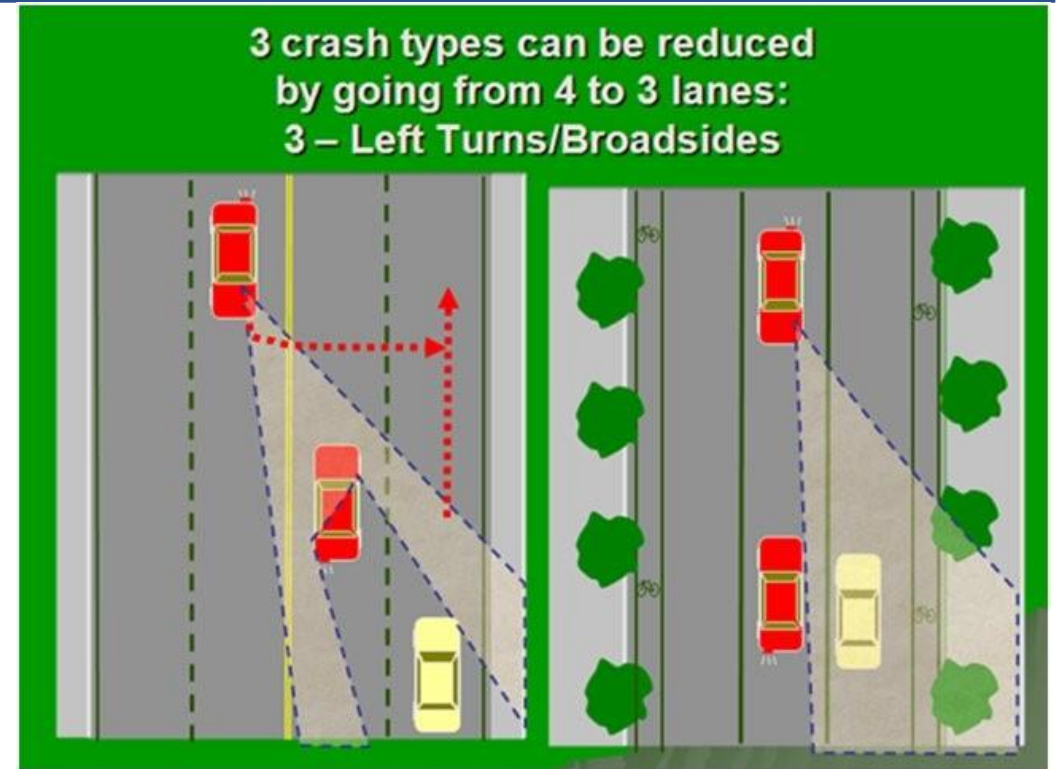
IMPROVEMENTS FOR PEOPLE WHO DRIVE

- Left turn lanes improve safety for drivers by reducing three crashes types
 - Rear end crash: providing a safe space to wait for gap to turn
 - Angled crash: turn across one lane instead of two
 - Side swipe crash: Eliminate passing around stopped left turning drivers
- Left turn lanes keep traffic flowing by removing left turning drivers from the travel lane
- Reduces speeding as slower drivers will set the limit



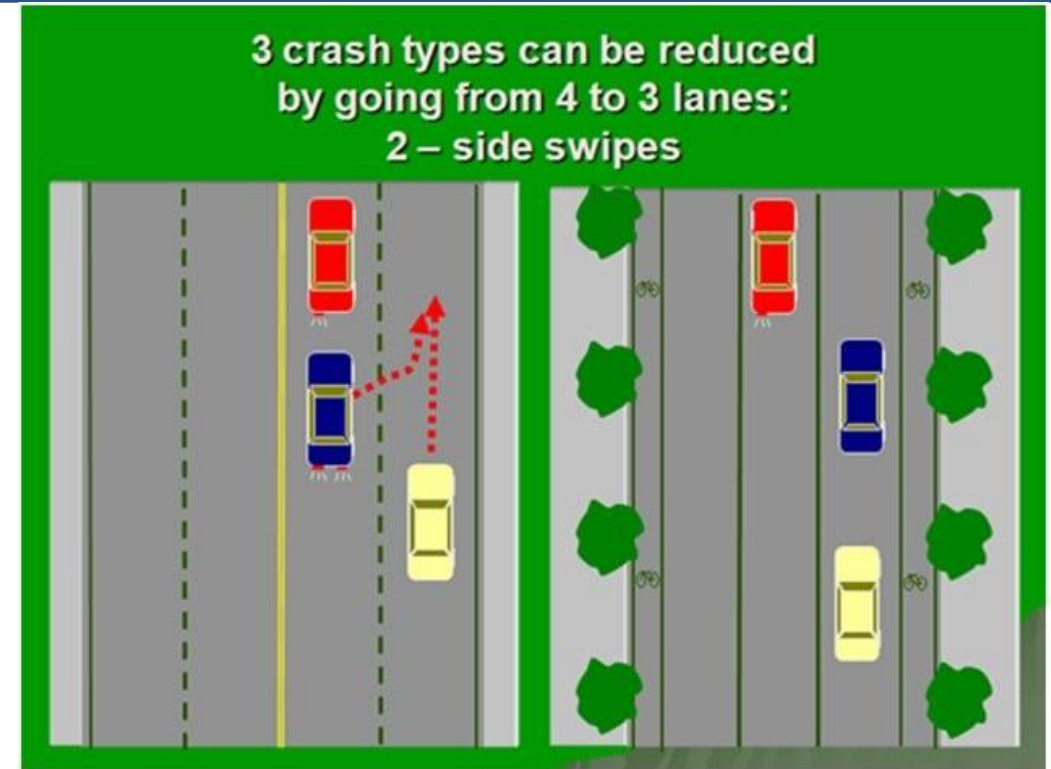
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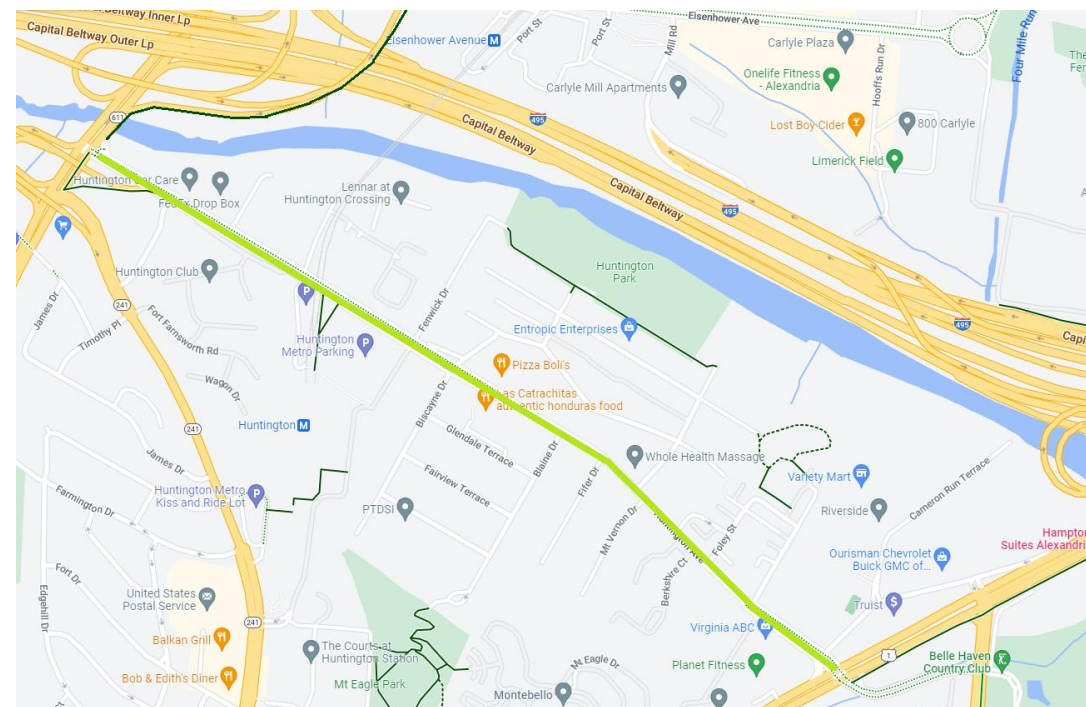
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IMPROVEMENTS FOR PEOPLE WHO RIDE BIKES

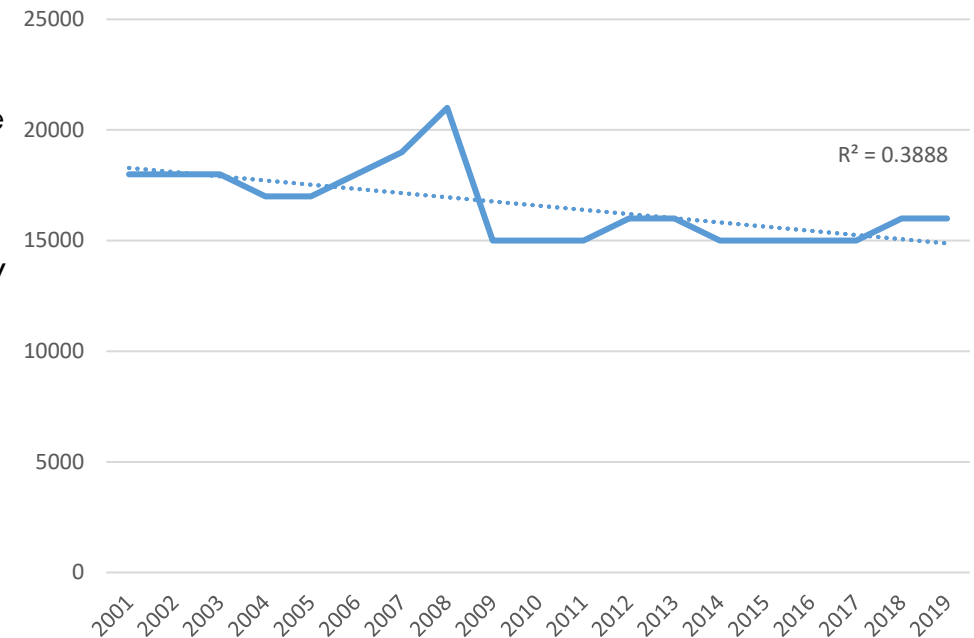
- Buffered bike lane provides safe space to riders of all ages and abilities
- Connects to Mount Vernon Trail via Richmond Hwy side path
- Connects to Carlyle neighborhood in Alexandria via Telegraph Rd ramp side path
- Connects to recreational trail along Hunting Creek via low stress streets



TRAFFIC STUDY SUMMARY

- Huntington Ave had 16,000 cars per day in 2019 and 13,000 in 2022
 - Per FHWA guidance, streets with 15,000-20,000 are good candidate for road diets in some instances and should conduct a traffic study
- No major changes at Telegraph Rd and Richmond Hwy intersections
- Traffic declined on Huntington Ave since 2001
- FCDOT collected traffic volumes in April 2024

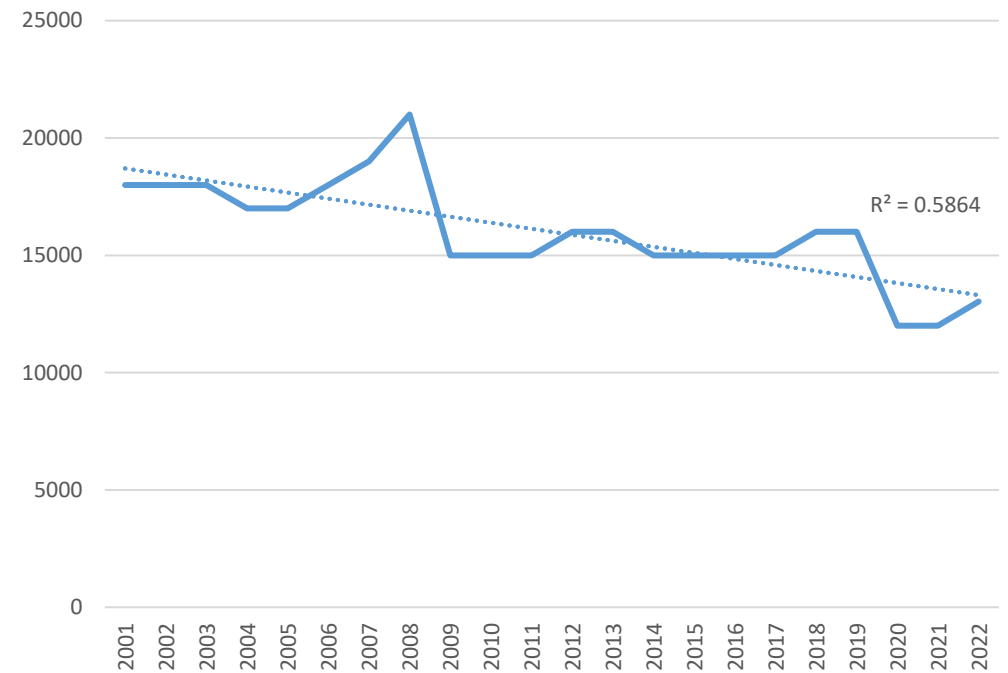
Huntington Ave Traffic Volumes (2001-2019)



TRAFFIC STUDY SUMMARY (cont.)

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Huntington Ave Traffic Volumes (2001-2022)



HUNTINGTON AVE – PROPOSED CONCEPTS

- Minimal changes to Richmond Hwy intersection to mitigate delays
 - Combine 1 of 2 left turn lanes with straight lane
 - Double left turn lane onto Huntington becomes single lane as does Huntington Ave on east side of Richmond Hwy
- +7 second increase in delay (AM & PM peak hours)
- Delay within County Comprehensive Plan guidance and FCDOT/VDOT Memorandum of Understanding
- Green paint show bike lane location and green paint may be omitted from final design



Figure 11: Intersection of Huntington Avenue and Richmond Highway Build Conditions Cross Section and Plan View

HUNTINGTON AVE – PROPOSED CONCEPTS

- Minimal changes to Telegraph Rd intersection to mitigate delays
- +9 second increase in AM and +5 second increase in PM delay for entire intersection
- Propose two stop signs*
- Reduces crossing distance and eliminates double right turn

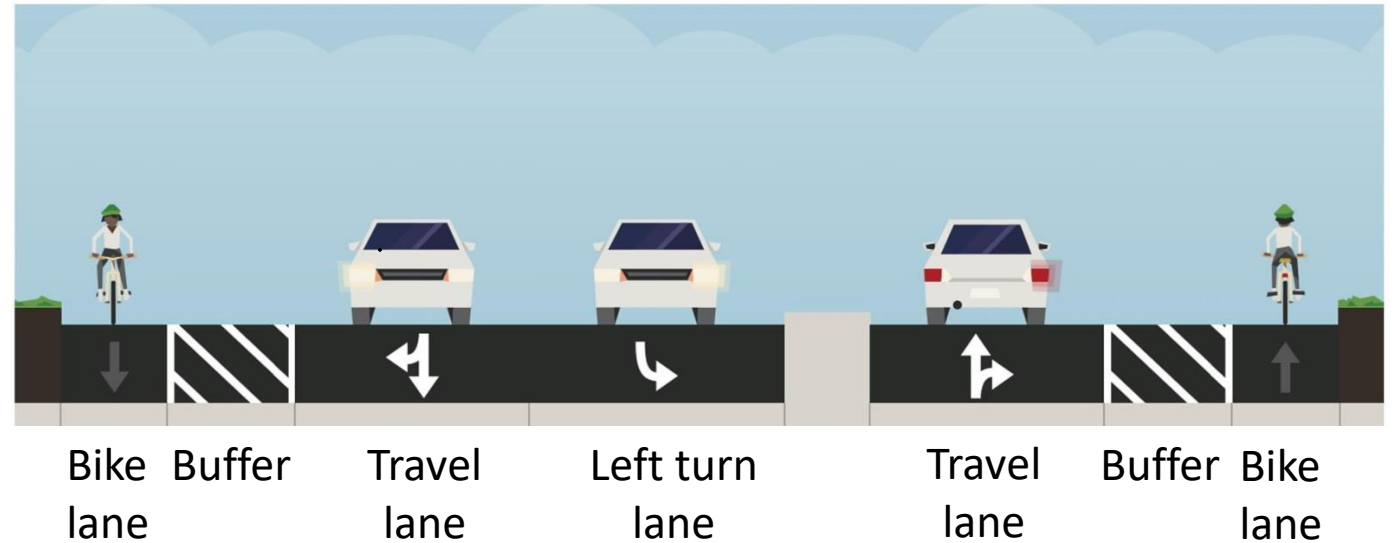
*subject to VDOT approval



Figure 10: Huntington Avenue and Telegraph Road Alternative Build Conditions Cross Section and Plan View

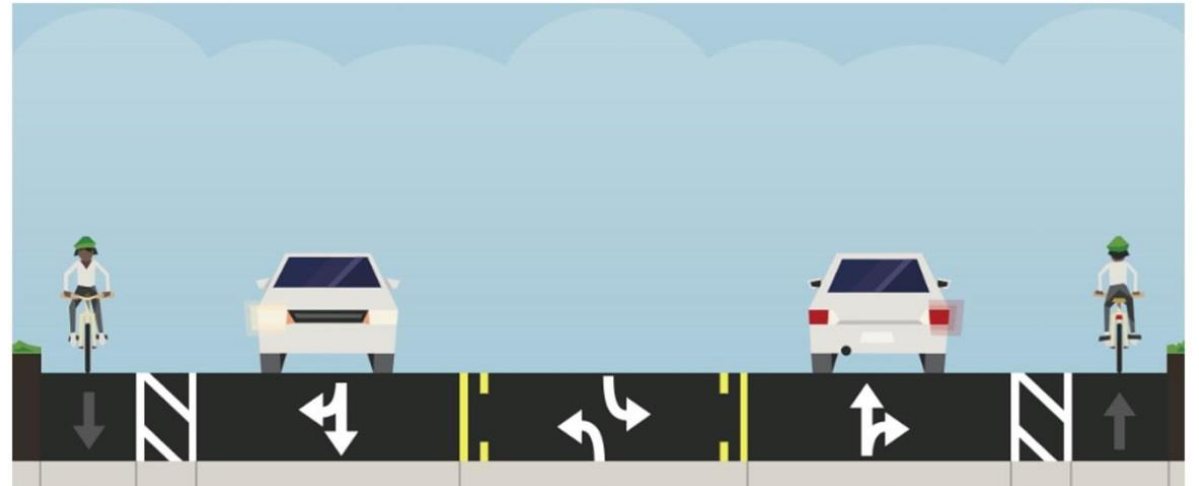
HUNTINGTON AVE – PROPOSED CONCEPTS

- Cross-section of Huntington Ave with median
- From Farrington Ave intersection to Telegraph Rd
- FCDOT may add a vertical barrier to bike lane after repaving is completed



HUNTINGTON AVE – PROPOSED CONCEPTS

- Cross-section of Huntington Ave with no median
- From Farrington Ave to Hunting Club Rd



Bike lane Buffer Travel lane Left turn lane Travel lane Buffer Bike lane

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

- **Paving-related comments** (e.g., drainage issues, missing signage, signal repair, walkway repair and sight distance issues due to vegetation overgrowth) should be submitted through the myVDOT portal: <https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/>. If you would like to request road repairs, please follow the "I need a road repaired" link on the VDOT portal or call 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623).
- **Project webpage:**
<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2025-paving-and-restriping-program>

**Comments due by:
October 25, 2024**



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

➤ Feedback Form for Huntington Ave

<https://publicinput.com/v38861>

Telephone Feedback (leave a recorded message):

703-890-5898; Project Code: 7362

➤ Mailing Address

ATTN: Zachary DesJardins
4050 Legato Road, Suite 400
22033 Fairfax, VA

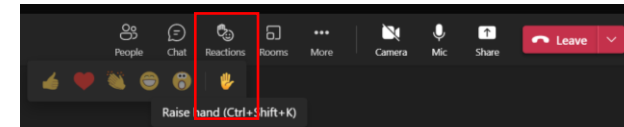
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➤ Email for questions:

DOTbicycleprograms@Fairfaxcounty.gov

To ask a Question Now:

Please use the “Reactions” > “Raise your Hand” feature at the top of your screen:



If calling in via telephone:

- Press *5 to “raise your hand”
- Press *6 to unmute to speak

