



County of Fairfax, Virginia



Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit Woodlawn – Ft. Belvoir Community Discussion July 31, 2019

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





County of Fairfax, Virginia

Agenda

- Project Overview
- Project Updates
- Next Steps
- Staying Involved



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Project Overview





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How We Got To BRT

- **Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis**
- **Embark Richmond Highway**
 - Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2015-IV-MV1
 - Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements Projects
 - Richmond Highway BRT



Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis

- Led by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
- Studied 15-mile segment of Richmond Highway from Huntington Metrorail to Woodbridge
- Significant Community Input
- Final recommendation was phased implementation of Alternative 4
 - Near-term: Median-running BRT
 - Long-term: A Metrorail extension to Hybla Valley, with BRT
 - Assumes Richmond Highway has a consistent six-lane cross-section
- Completed in January 2015



Four Transit Alternatives

1: BRT – Curb

2: BRT – Median

3: LRT

4: Metrorail/BRT Hybrid



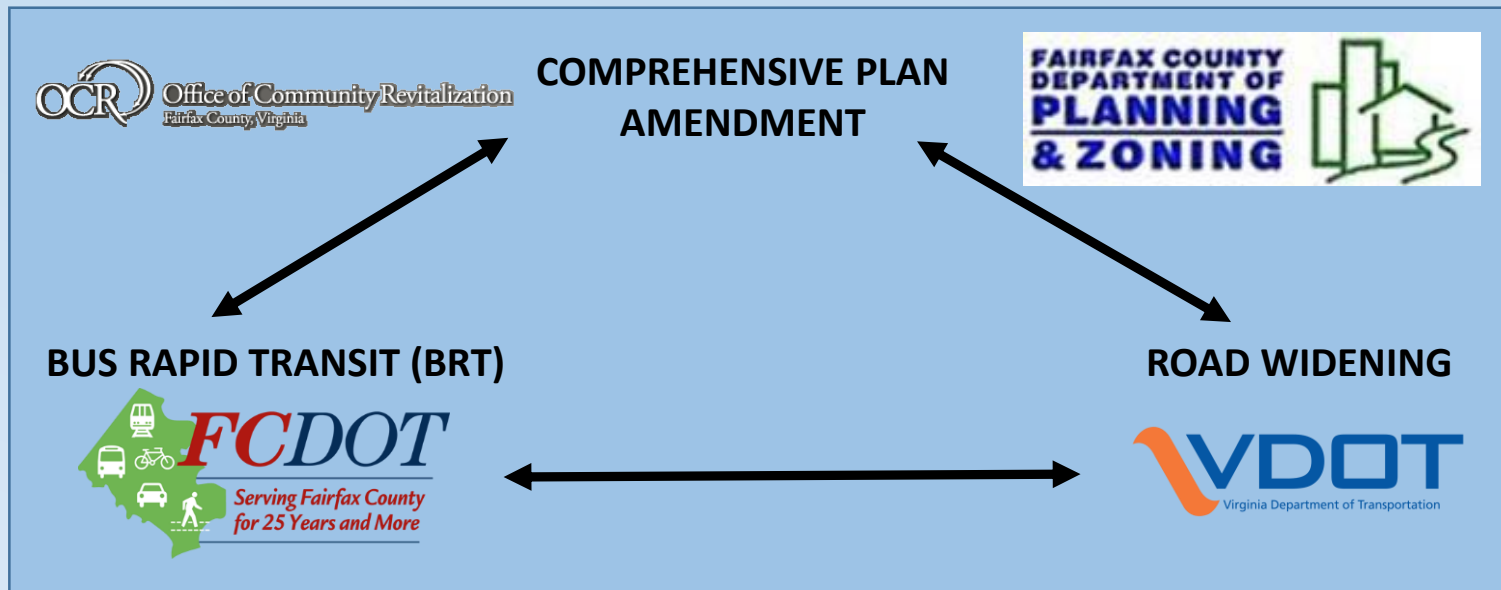
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Embark Richmond Highway



Embark Richmond Highway is the County's vision for the corridor that encompasses and expands upon the DRPT recommendations

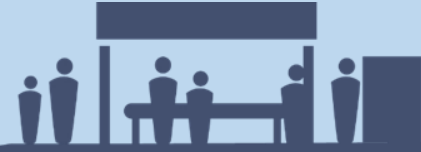


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Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2015-IV-MV1

- **Adopted March 20, 2018**
- Establishes **corridor-wide planning goals and objectives**, with an urban design vision and land use changes **in support of BRT**, and guidance for creating **transit-oriented places**
- Implementation will occur through the rezoning and development process
- Community Revitalization Section is now developing **Urban Design Guidelines** for the corridor



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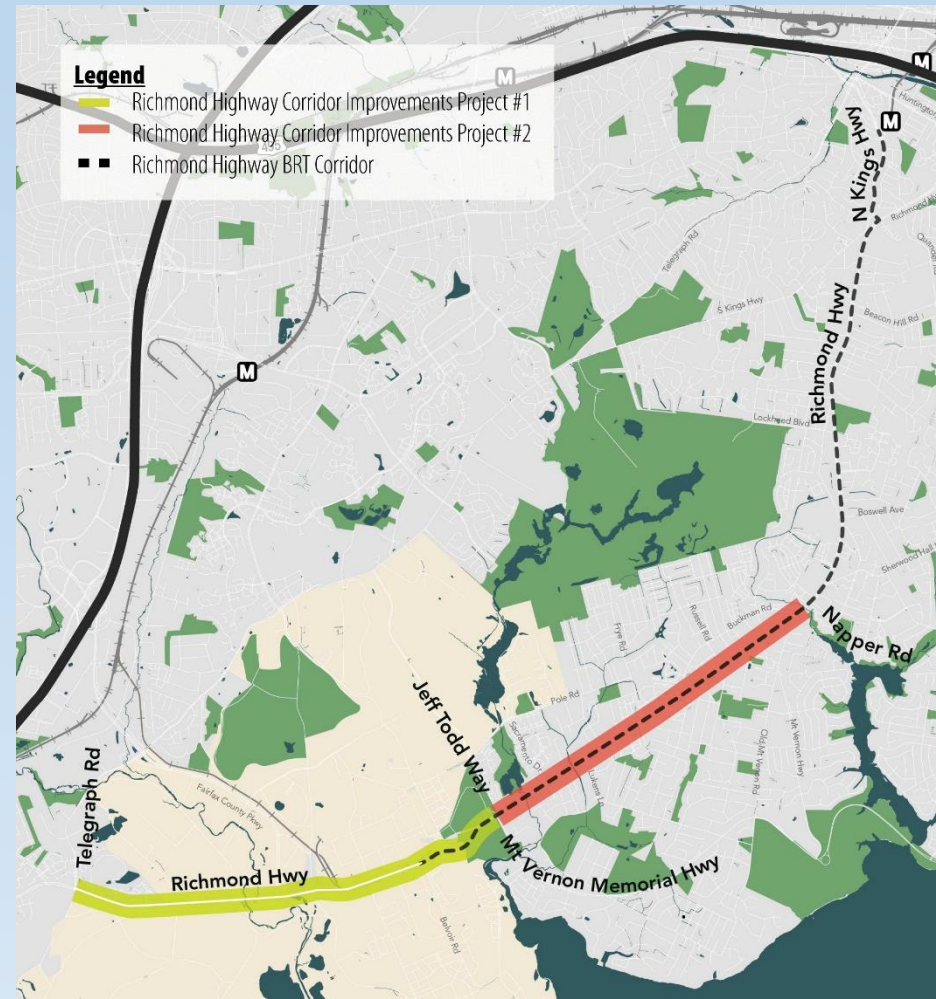


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Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements Projects

- **Project 1: Telegraph Road to Mount Vernon Highway**
 - Led by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA Eastern Federal Lands)
 - Completed in fall 2017
- **Project 2: Jeff Todd Way to Napper Road**
 - Led by Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
 - 2.9 miles, last remaining four-lane section north of Fort Belvoir
 - Environmental and design work is currently underway; construction anticipated for 2023-2025
 - In each direction: an additional lane, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and BRT accommodations



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Richmond Highway BRT

- The Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project is an effort to **plan, design, and construct** a BRT system between Huntington Metrorail Station and Fort Belvoir
- **Nine potential BRT stations**
- **Two sections:**
 - Section I: Huntington Metrorail Station to Hybla Valley
 - Section II: Hybla Valley to Fort Belvoir
- **Future:**
 - Section III: Fort Belvoir to Woodbridge





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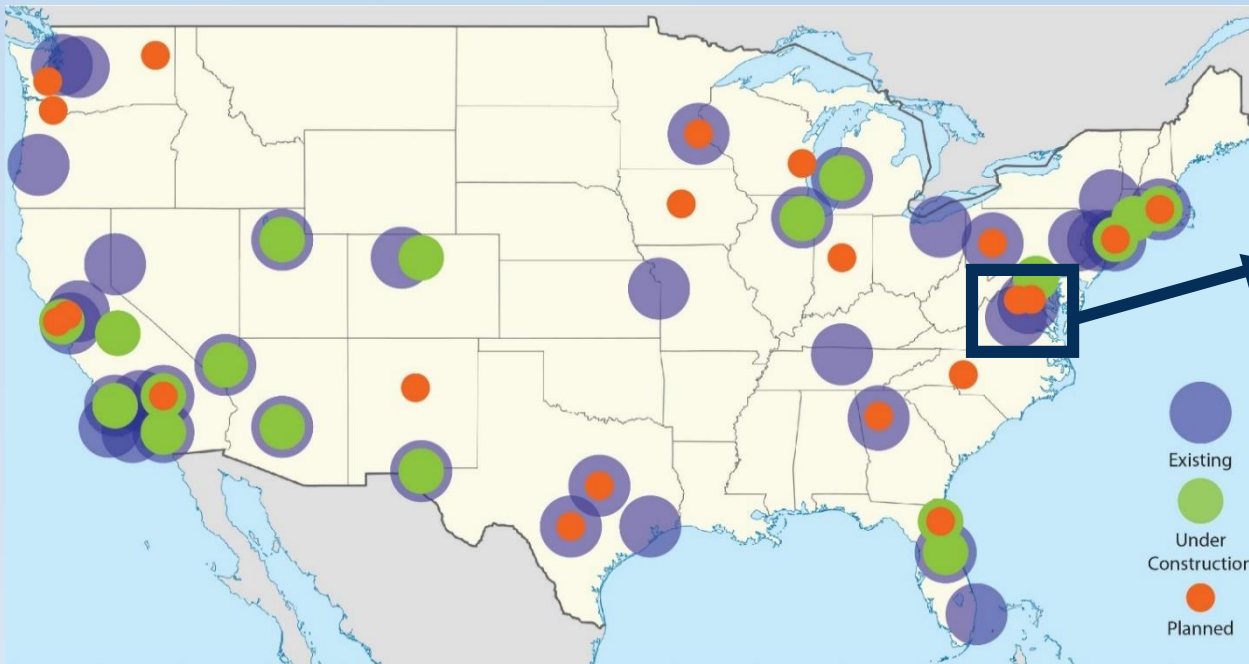
What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?

- BRT is a high-quality public transportation system designed to be **fast, reliable, and more convenient** than traditional bus routes
- It operates much like rail service, on a **dedicated transit way**, but with the **flexibility and lower cost** of bus vehicles





National BRT Examples



In Virginia

Existing:

- Alexandria / Arlington (Metroway)
- Richmond (GRTC Pulse)

Planned:

- Fairfax County (Richmond Highway BRT)
- Route 7 Tysons to Alexandria



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What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?

- **Key elements of BRT systems** often include:
 - Service plans and frequencies that prioritize reliable, frequent, efficient service
 - Dedicated lanes & traffic signal priority
 - Information technology systems
 - “Rail style” stations, with features that enhance rider comfort and convenience
 - High-quality buses
 - Unique graphics & name

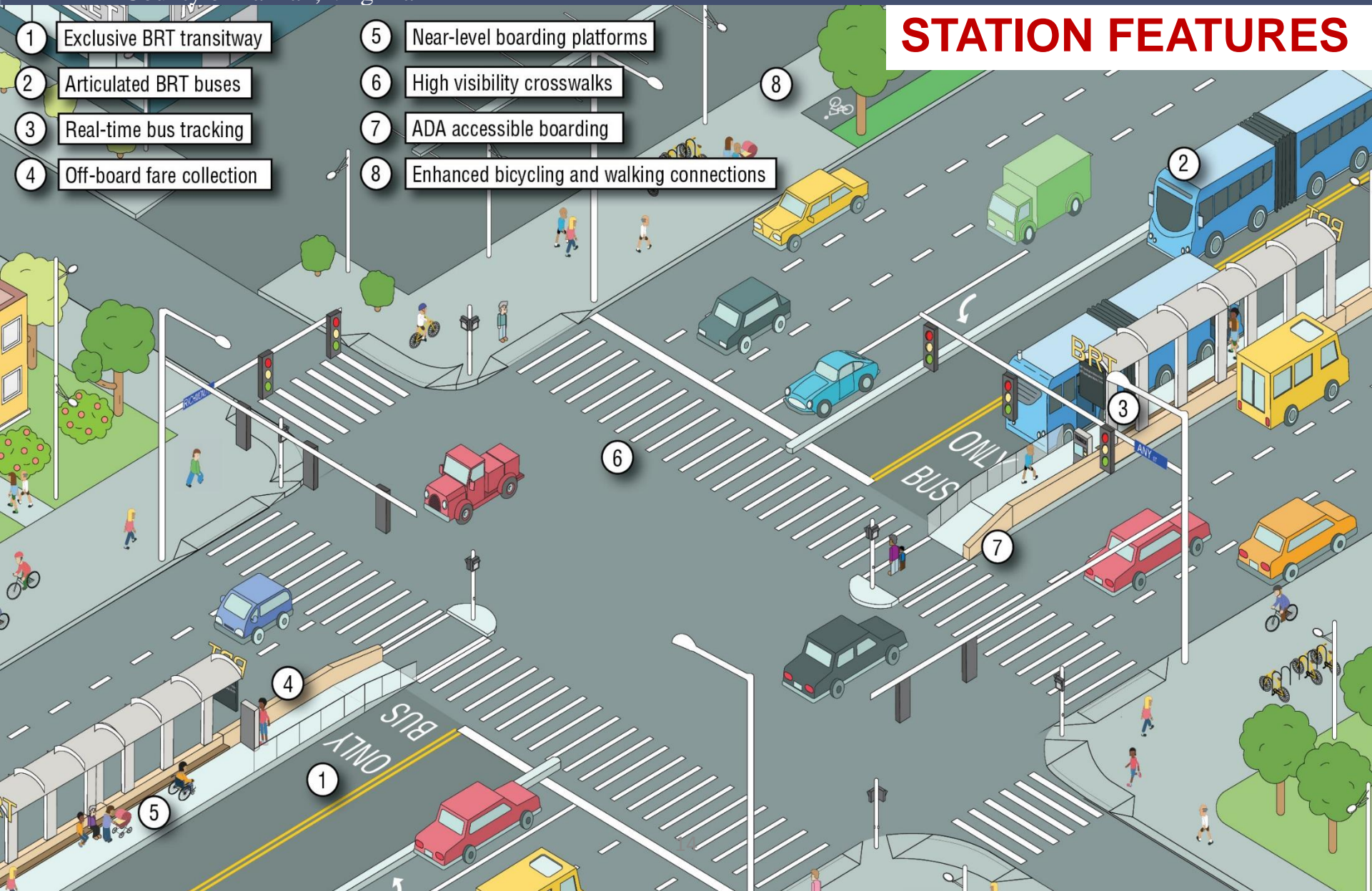




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STATION FEATURES

- 1 Exclusive BRT transitway
- 2 Articulated BRT buses
- 3 Real-time bus tracking
- 4 Off-board fare collection
- 5 Near-level boarding platforms
- 6 High visibility crosswalks
- 7 ADA accessible boarding
- 8 Enhanced bicycling and walking connections





County of Fairfax, Virginia

Funding Commitment for BRT

Cost Estimate(M)	Programmed Funding (M)	Funding Gap & Proposed Sources	Funding Sources
\$730M*	\$4M \$250M \$57.6M \$50M		DRPT NVTA 70%(FY18/23) CMAQ/RSTP SMART SCALE
		\$10M \$70.4M \$288M	CMAQ/RSTP NVTA 70% FTA New Starts
Sub-Total	\$361.6M	\$368.4M	

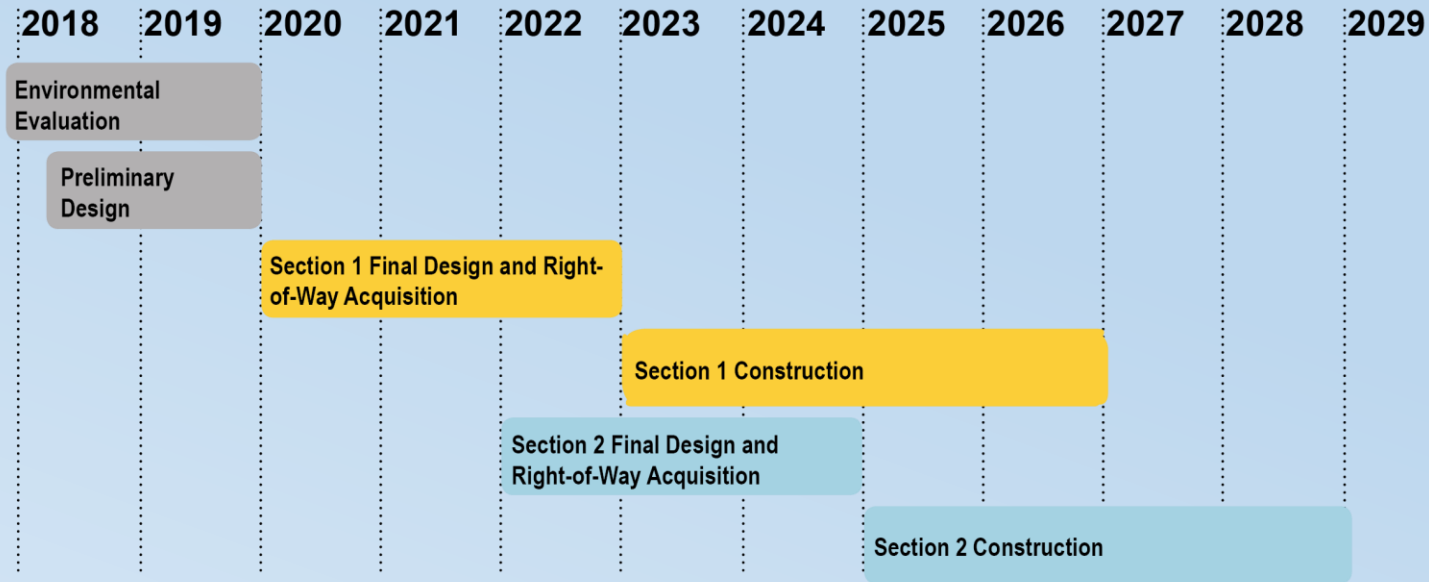
Note: *Cost based on an approximate 5-10% design and are subject to change and refinement as more engineering/design is completed





Project Schedules

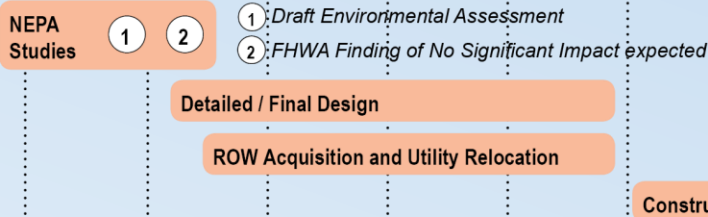
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Note: Time frames and durations for design, utilities, right-of-way, vehicle procurement, and construction will vary depending on project funding.

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For Reference: Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements (VDOT Widening) Schedule



Note: Time frames and durations for Detailed/Final design, utilities, right-of-way and construction are subject to further refinement.



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BRT Project Updates





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Environmental (NEPA)

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that we consider how the project will affect the community and the environment before we make decisions.

Activities To Date Include:

- Federal Transit Administration concurred with Purpose and Need Statement
- Existing conditions analysis for most disciplines complete, including natural resources fieldwork
- Historic architecture identification



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Environmental Analysis Areas of Study

- Proposed Action (Purpose & Need)
- Socioeconomics, Land Use, and Right-of-Way
- Natural Resources
- Indirect and Cumulative Effects
- Visual Analysis
- Hazardous Materials
- Air Quality
- Noise and Vibration
- Archaeological Survey
- Historic Architecture Survey



The technical reports will contain detailed information about the studies undertaken, and will include findings like Census block group analyses, noise measurements, and locations of natural resources along the corridor.





Design Process

- **County Comprehensive Plan**- Identifies/set up typical section (how many lanes, types of pedestrian/bicycle facilities, etc.)
- **Survey Area**-What are the physical constraints and opportunities present
- **Layout Conceptual Design**- Using comprehensive plan and survey lay out a graphic representation of the project to identify impacts and opportunities for traffic and safety improvements. Seek community feedback
- **Engineer, Refine, Repeat**- Work with community and State partners on design of project for opportunities to minimize impacts where feasible and improve corridor conditions



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Design Updates

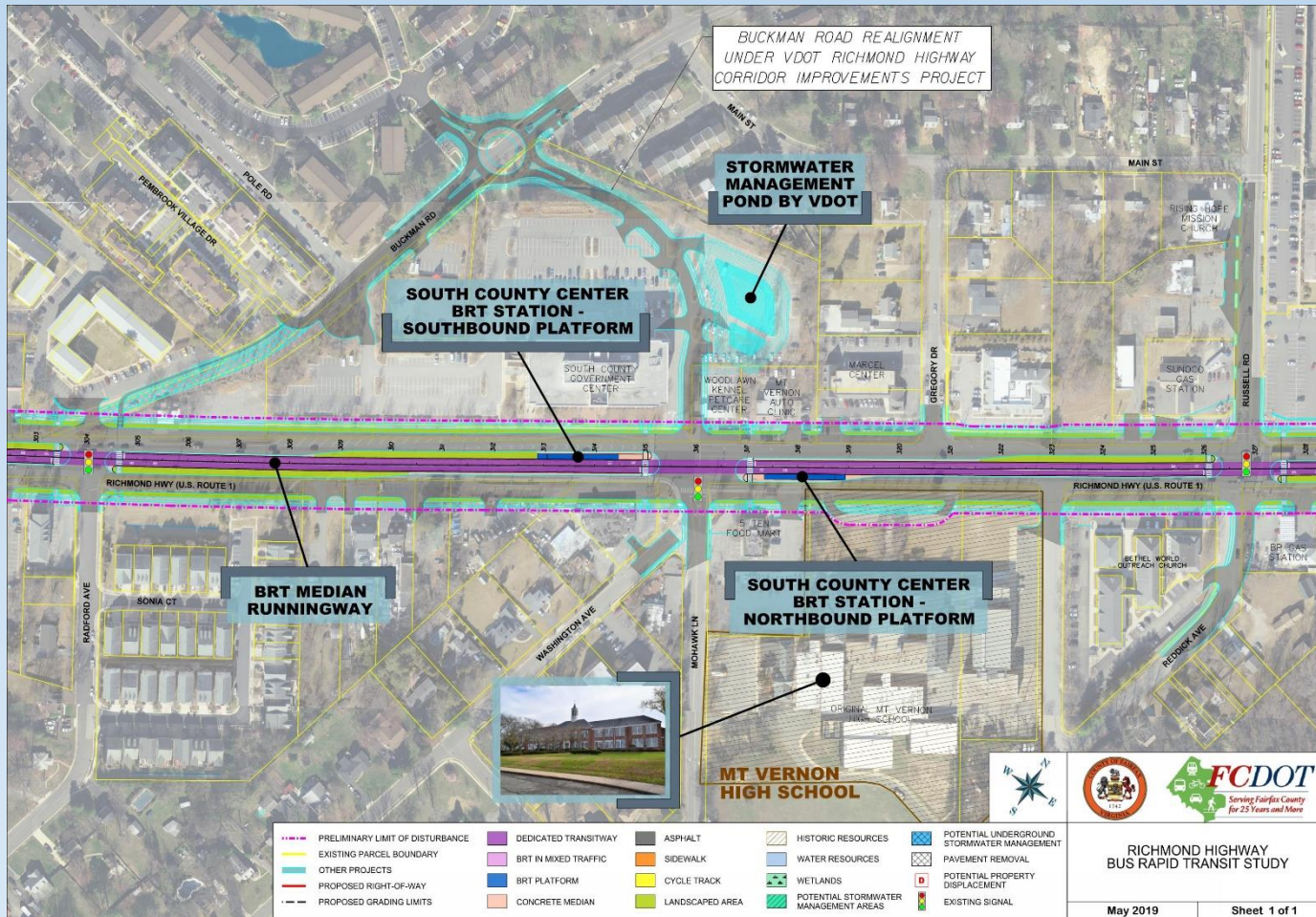
- **20% Preliminary Design**
- **Roadway/Transitway Design**
- **Storm Water Management (SWM)/Drainage Design**
- **Traffic Design**
- **Station Platform Layout**

We will be providing the public with an opportunity to review Design Elements at the next public meeting (currently planned for September 17, 2019).



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Sample Plan





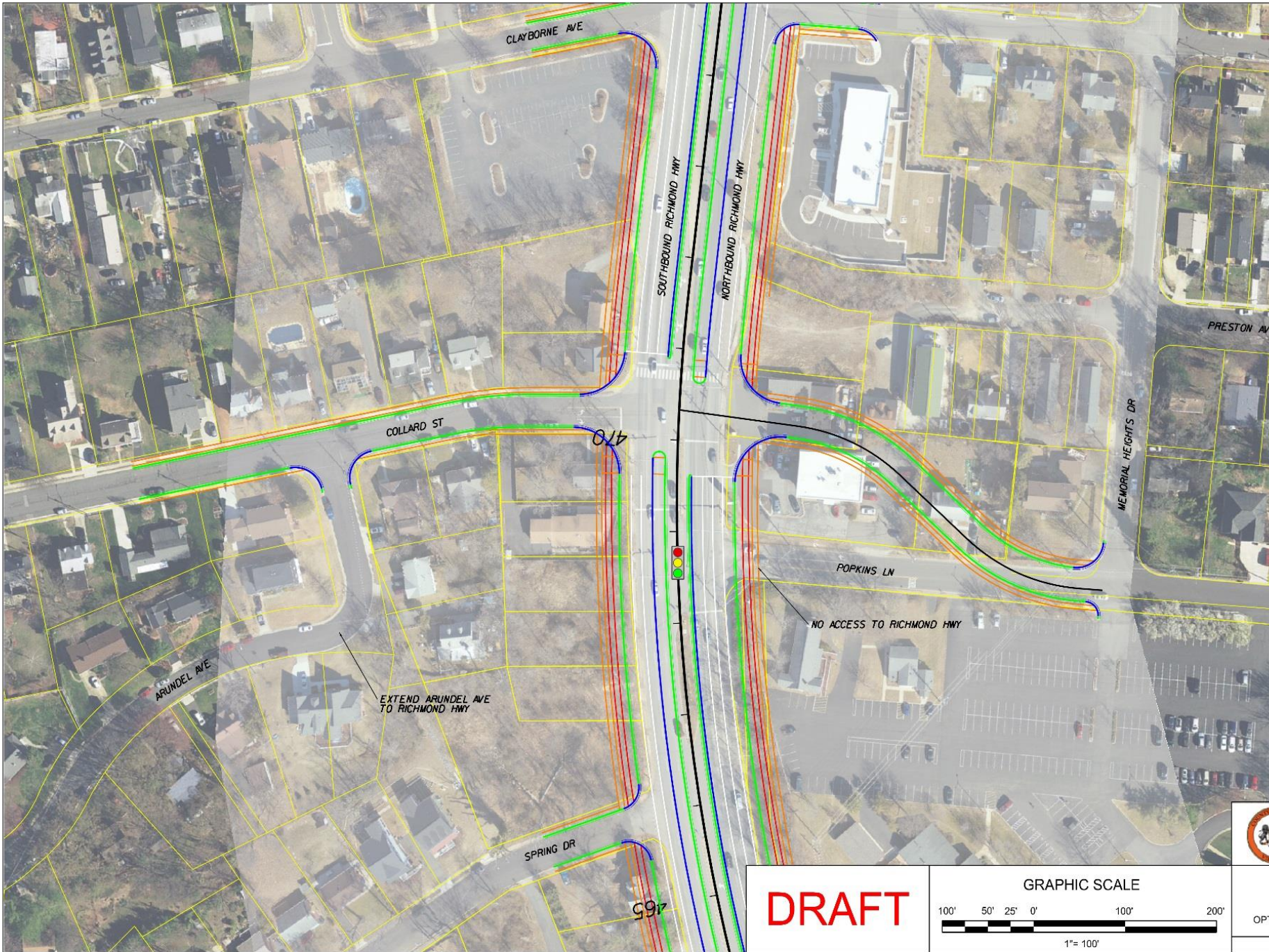
Design Findings (so far)

- In laying out a conceptual design for BRT, two intersections will need to be modified:
- Collard Street & Popkins Lane
- Fordson Road
- As design continues more locations may be identified



Intersection of Collard St & Popkins Ln

- Proposed re-alignment of Popkins Lane to Collard Street
- Consolidates two closely spaced intersections to one (consistent with the Embark Comprehensive Plan)
- Improves safety for vehicular travel
- Eliminates a crossing of the BRT system, improving safety



CLAYBORNE AVE

SOUTHBOUND RICHMOND HWY

NORTHBOUND RICHMOND HWY

COLLARD ST

ARUNDEL AVE

SPRING DR

POPKINS LN

MEMORIAL HEIGHTS DR

PRESTON AV

EXTEND ARUNDEL AVE TO RICHMOND HWY

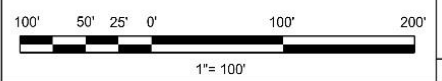
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GRAPHIC SCALE



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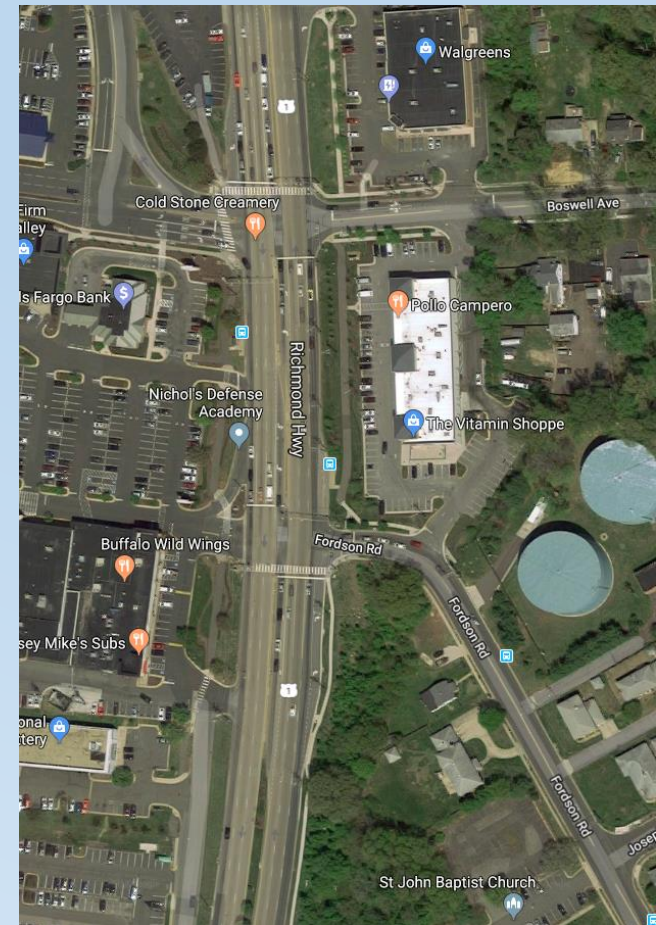


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Intersection of Fordson Rd & Richmond Highway

- Comprehensive plan calls for Fordson Road Realignment, on the east side of Richmond Highway to Boswell Avenue, with an option to consolidate traffic signals on Richmond Highway, pending future study.
- Based on traffic and design studies, County staff and consultant is considering making Fordson Road a right-in/right-out. (A complete closure under near term conditions is not needed.)



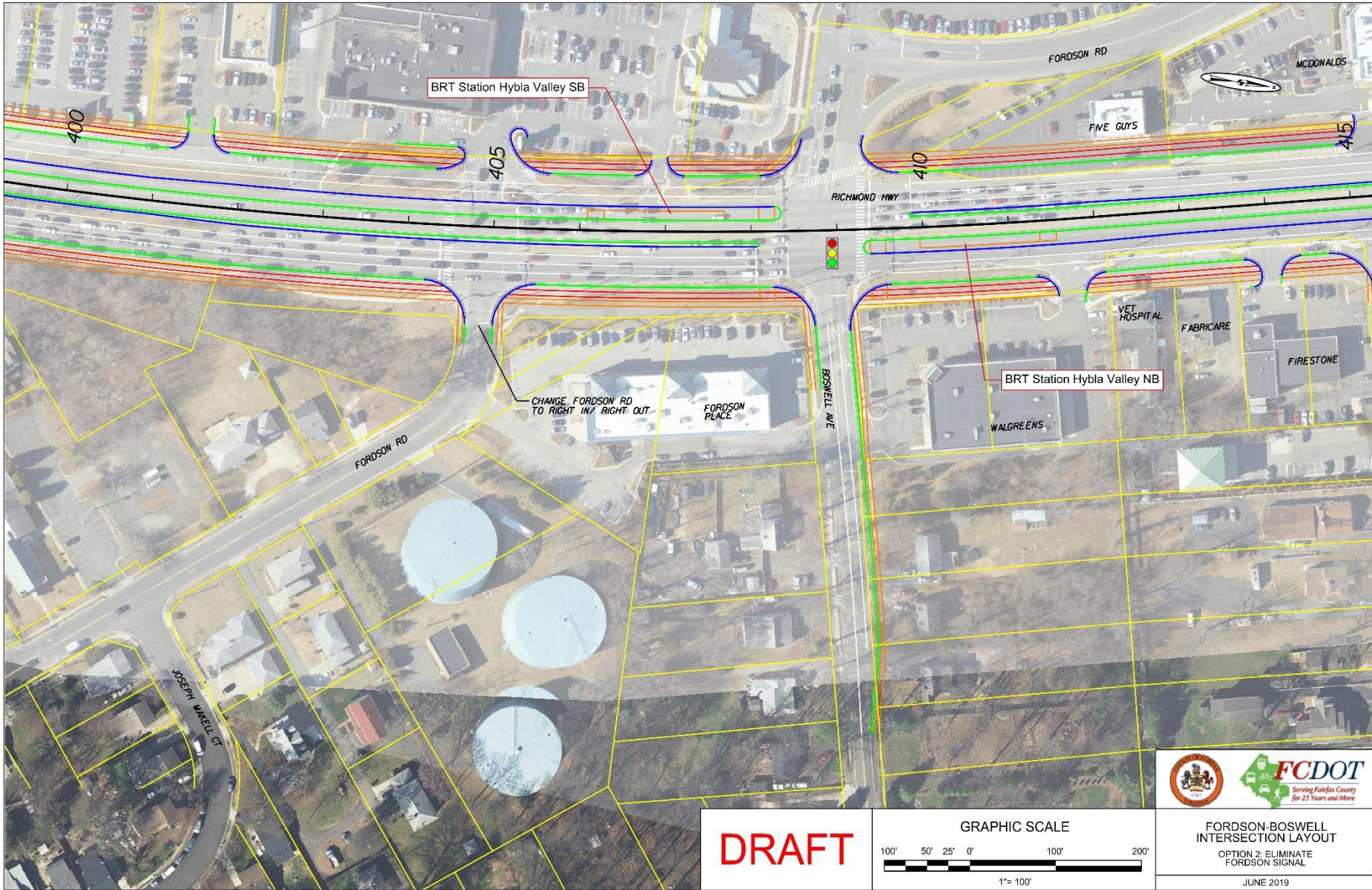


Intersection of Fordson Rd & Richmond Highway- Benefits

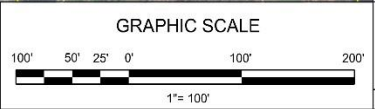
- Creates needed space within the Richmond Highway median for the Hybla Valley Station
- Eliminates the signal at Fordson Road which is too closely spaced to Boswell Avenue
- Eliminates a crossing of the BRT system, improving safety
- Keeps some access to Fordson Road
- Reduction in cut through traffic (Fordson Road currently has 2 traffic calming devices, installed in 2006)



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FORDSON-BOSWELL INTERSECTION LAYOUT
 OPTION 2: ELIMINATE FORDSON SIGNAL

JUNE 2019

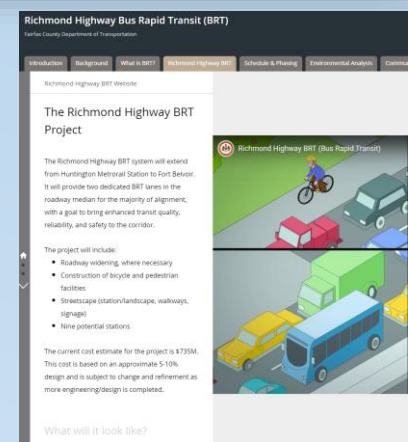
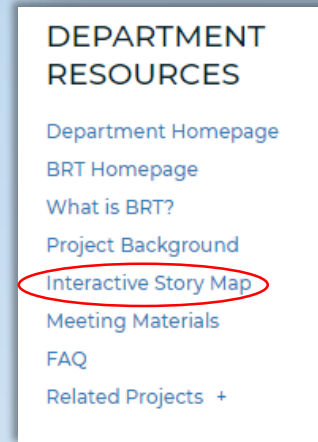


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Public Outreach

- **Community Meetings**
 - Held in April 2018 and January 2019
 - **Next Meeting: September 17, 2019**
- **Newsletters**
- **Various other engagement activities along the corridor**
- **A Story Map is now live on the website!**
- **Provide feedback at: Fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/Richmond-hwy-brt**
- **Sign up for email/text updates via Fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts (search Fairfax DOT and Richmond Highway BRT)**

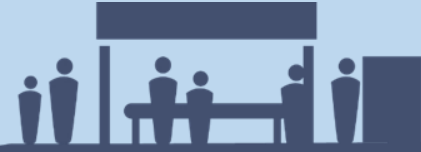


Fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt





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Branding

- **Branding is more than a logo!** The brand will bring the service to life and will help frame and position the BRT Program and the BRT service with the community, the stakeholders, and target audience
- **Branding Development Team**
 - Leading the development of the BRT brand
 - Made up of representatives from the community, including some Community Advisory Group members
 - Meeting regularly throughout 2019
- **Next Steps: engage CAG, executive committee, focus groups and community**

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County of Fairfax, Virginia

Next Steps





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RICHMOND HIGHWAY BUS RAPID TRANSIT Summer Mini-Meetings

- » FCDOT is holding a series of informal summer meetings to provide information about the Richmond Highway BRT project.
- » Most of the meetings are targeted to a specific station area, or pair of station areas along the project corridor, but anyone is welcome to attend.



Visit the project website:
fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation
 Keywords: "Richmond Highway BRT"

This graphic is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not represent a proposed station design.

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

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need this information in an alternate format, contact FCDOT at 703-877-5600, TTY 711.

RICHMOND HIGHWAY BUS RAPID TRANSIT Summer 2019 Mini-Meeting Dates and Times

01 Station Areas: Hybla Valley/Gum Springs
 June 25, 7:00 PM
 Supervisor Storck Community Center
 2511 Parkers Lane **Complete**

02 Station Areas: Beacon Hill/Lockheed
 July 24, 7:00 PM
 Bryant Alternative High School
 2709 Popkins Lane **Complete**

03 Station Areas: Woodlawn/Fort Belvoir
 July 31, 7:00 PM
 UC-Sacramento Neighborhood Center
 8792 Sacramento Drive

04 Station Areas: Huntington/Penn Daw
 August 7, 7:00 PM
 Mount Eagle Elementary
 6116 N Kings Highway

05 Station Area: South County Center
 August 14, 7:00 PM
 South County Government Center
 8350 Richmond Highway

06 General Discussion in Spanish
 August 18, 3:15 PM
 Good Shepherd Church
 8710 Mount Vernon Highway



Flip for more information



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Next Steps

Between now and Public Meeting #3 (September 2019), the Team will:

- Hold small neighborhood-scale meetings along the corridor
- Continue to advance the system design
- Develop reports that describe the types of impacts that the project could have on environmental resources
- Continue development of the BRT brand
- Continue to work on securing funding



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Staying Involved



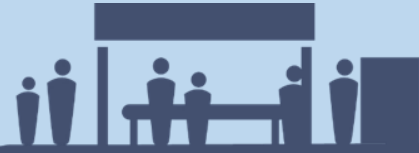


How to Stay Involved

- This process will be most effective with input from people who live, work, travel along, or spend time on the corridor
 - Sign up for **Fairfax Alerts!**
www.FairfaxCounty.gov/alerts (*Category: Richmond Highway BRT Project Updates*)
 - Track the project on **social media** (*County and Connector Facebook and Twitter*)
 - **Materials from all public meetings are posted online**



Website: fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation
Key words: Richmond Highway BRT



County of Fairfax, Virginia

Questions

Contact Information

- **Website:** fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation (key words: “Richmond Highway BRT”)
- **Email** the Project Team: DOTBRT@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Address** (for mailing comments): Fairfax County Department of Transportation, Richmond Highway BRT Project Manager, 4050 Legato Rd, Fairfax, VA 22033.

