



County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit

Executive Committee Meeting #9  
September 8, 2020



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





County of Fairfax, Virginia

# Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Status
  - Engineering Progress
  - Branding
  - Station Design
  - NEPA Progress
  - VDOT Coordination
  - FTA Coordination
  - Public Involvement
- Revised Project Delivery Approach
- Discussion



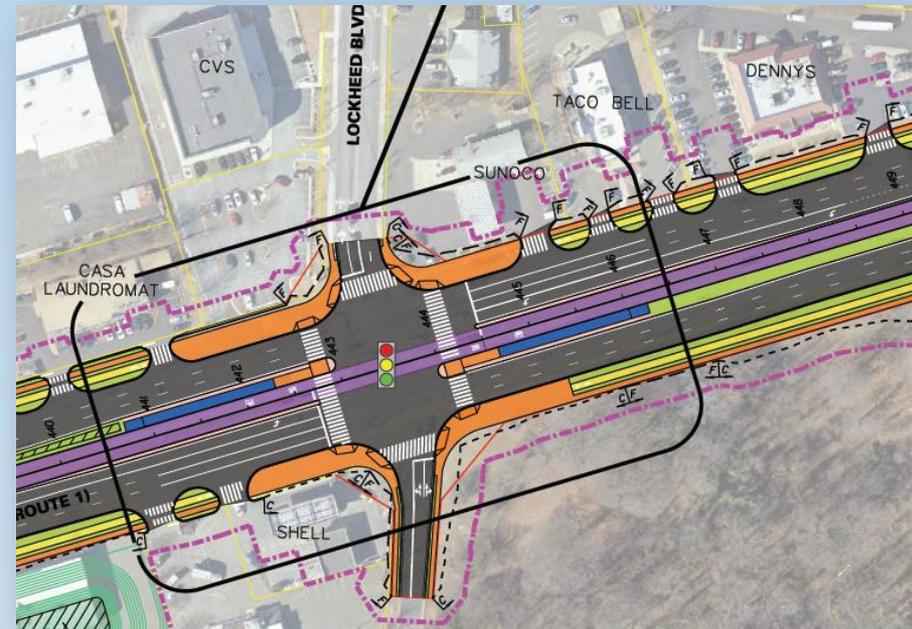


County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Engineering Progress

- **Consultant delivered 30% plans and cross sections in August**
  - Under review by various County agencies and VDOT
- **Updated Roll Maps are now on the website**
- **Project Team will continue to develop design & respond to comments**





# Branding

## Supervisors' Briefing

Presented 8 brands  
Narrowed to 3

## Focus Groups

Brands, logo and bus design to be tested  
Recruitment Occurred weeks of 8/24 & 8/31  
Groups meet week of 9/7  
Results by October

## Survey

Online  
Conducted early November  
Results by December

## Branding Options

Present final branding options to Executive Committee – Early 2021





County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Station Design

- Developing two “finalist” concept for public review this fall
- Preparing 30% plans pending VDOT coordination
  - Station structure & walls
  - Safety & security topics
  - Totem & lighting design
- Progressing architectural site plans





# NEPA Progress

- **Progress since May**
  - Seeking consensus from DHR regarding Gum Springs as historic property
  - Formal DHR concurrence needed prior to submitting Draft CE to FTA; expected by mid-October
  - Concurrence signature on NEPA document expected in winter 2020
- **Civil Rights Complaint**
  - Filed by Gum Springs resident
  - Originally filed with FHWA in November 2019; included both BRT and VDOT Route 1 projects
  - Dismissed by FHWA as not meeting minimum criteria for disparate impact under Title VI
  - FHWA transferred complaint to FTA in June 2020
  - FTA to determine if CE review and Civil Rights Investigation can proceed concurrently

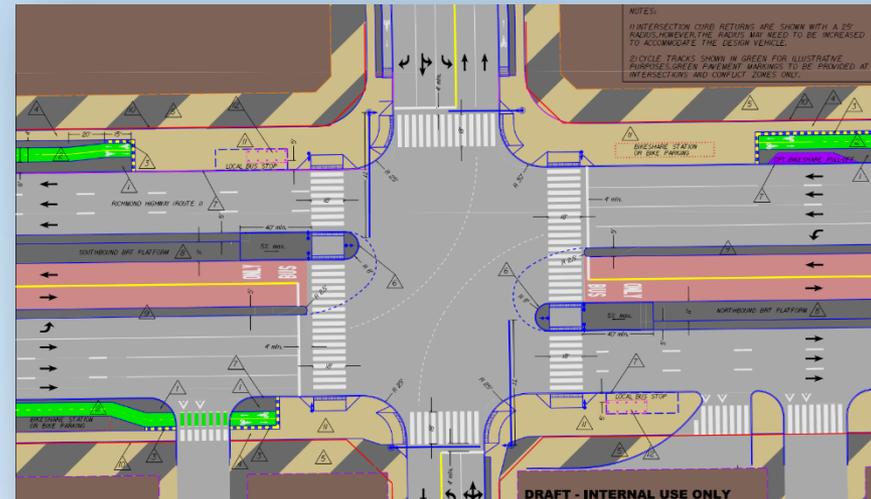


County of Fairfax, Virginia



# VDOT Coordination

- BRT schedule refined to reflect extended schedule of VDOT section
- On-going design coordination
  - Station design elements
  - Use of raised driveways to support enhanced bike/pedestrian safety along the corridor
  - Design of intersections including pedestrian plazas & lighting
  - Use of VDOT-owned SWM ponds near Fort Belvoir to meet project SWM requirements





# FTA Coordination

- Meeting monthly to familiarize FTA with project & obtain guidance on responding to New Starts grant requirements
- FTA interested in project delivery approach, schedule & timeframe for entering Engineering phase
  - FTA grant amount is fixed when project accepted into Engineering phase
- FCDOT presented right of way needs and acquisition approach
  - Real Estate Acquisition Management Plan submitted for FTA review





County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Public Involvement Plan for Fall

- Six virtual meetings total (3 English, 3 Spanish)
- Meetings to be held monthly, October-December
- **Topics include\*:**
  - Project Status
  - Station Design
  - Right of Way
  - Branding
- **Project team will use various methods to contact community members such as:**
  - Postcards, BRT email list, social media, Homeowners Associations/Civic Associations list, Fairfax Alerts, food distribution and care van sites (in coordination with Neighborhood and Community Services)



\*Note: Not all topics will be discussed at each meeting





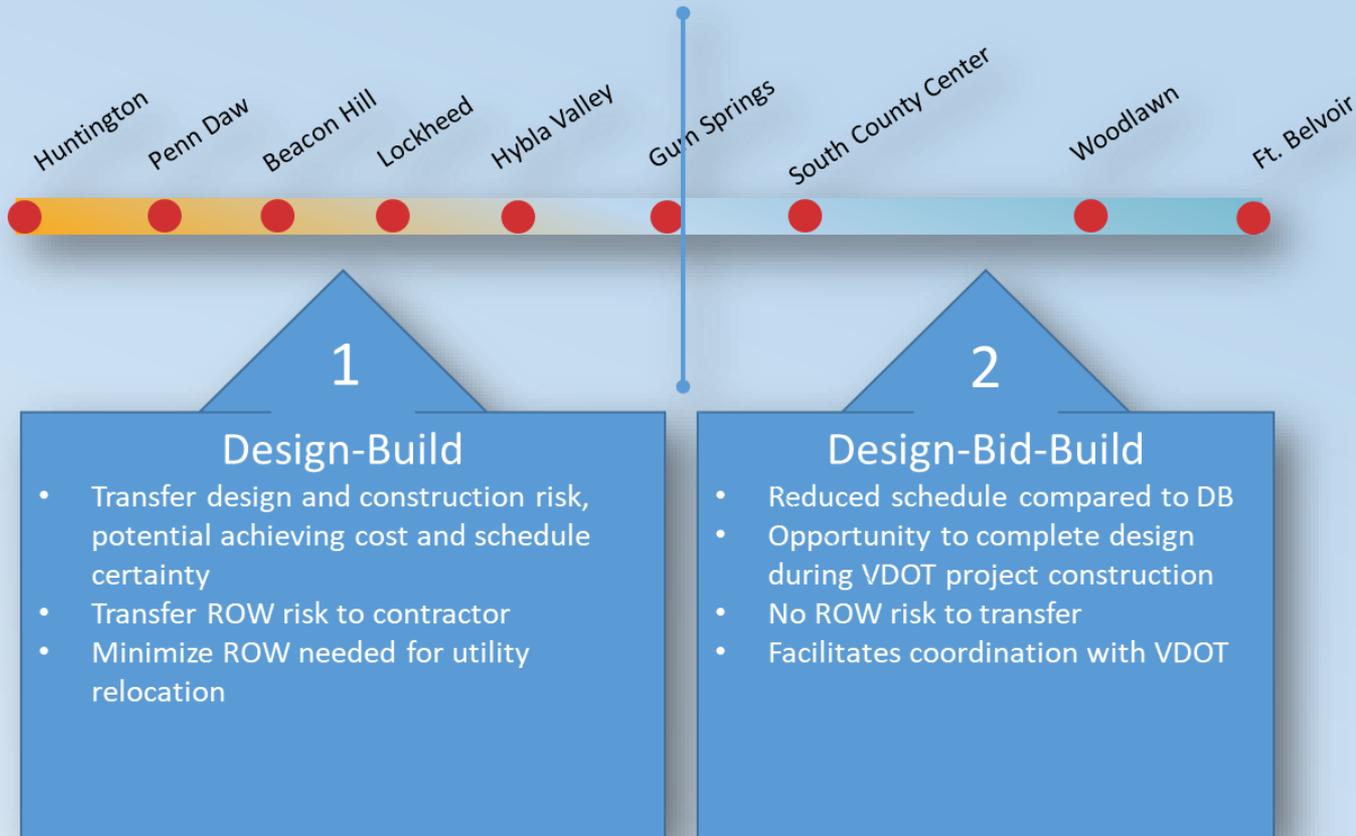
# Revised Project Delivery Approach

- Prior approach
- Changed circumstances
- Revised approach
- Implications for schedule; options to further reduce schedule
- Work underway to maintain progress





# Prior Approach





# Changed Circumstances

## 1. VDOT project re-schedule

- Refined & extended schedule created long gap between BRT project phases
- Due to risk of contractor delay claim, second phase of BRT could not be awarded until VDOT is substantially complete

## 2. FTA feedback on phasing

- Two phases with long gap between will require separate grant agreements
- Risk that second grant will not be approved, thereby reducing federal contribution

## 3. ROW & utilities schedule

- Opportunity to progress engineering during lengthy ROW & utility relocation schedule





## Changed Circumstances cont'd.

### 4. Level of control over customer facing features

- Design-Build method leaves final decisions about materials, finishes, fasteners etc. to contractor; Design-Bid-Build will ensure consistency

### 5. Limited opportunities to transfer risk

- Consultation with staff and consultants revealed transfer of ROW acquisition risk could increase project cost

### 6. Station design: need to accommodate County/community preferences

- Ensuring consistent, high quality structures and finishes requires detailed specifications which limits opportunities for design-builder to achieve cost-reducing efficiencies





# Delivery Option Evaluation

- **Multiple delivery options developed & evaluated**
  - Various combinations of design-build & design-bid-bid
  - With and without advanced utility relocation contracts
  - County vs. contractor handling easement and partial parcel acquisitions
- **Delivery options prioritized by:**
  - Soonest BRT completion date
  - Lowest cost risk
  - Maximize federal funding (one grant)
  - Accommodation of current circumstances





County of Fairfax, Virginia

# Delivery Options Evaluated

Option	Delivery Method		Completion		Relative Schedule Risk	Relative Cost Risk
	Section 1	Section 2	Section 1	Section 2 (contingent on VDOT)		
A Single design-build contract	DB		Spring 2030	Summer 2030	Medium High	Medium High
B Two separate design-bid-build contracts; construction NTP at 100% utility completion	DBB	DBB	Spring 2032	Summer 2031	Low	Low
C Two separate design-bid-build contracts; advanced utility relocation; NTP at 50% utility completion	DBB	DBB	Fall 2029	Summer 2031	Medium Low	Low
D Single design-bid-build contract; advanced utility relocation; NTP at 50% utility completion	DBB		Spring 2030	Summer 2030	Medium Low	Low



County of Fairfax, Virginia

# Recommend Option

Option	Delivery Method		Completion		Relative Schedule Risk	Relative Cost Risk
	Section 1	Section 2	Section 1	Section 2 (contingent on VDOT)		
A Single design-build contract	DB		Spring 2030	Summer 2030	Medium High	Medium High
B Two separate design-bid-build contracts; construction NTP at 100% utility completion	DBB	DBB	Spring 2032	Summer 2031	Low	Low
C Two separate design-bid-build contracts; advanced utility relocation; NTP at 50% utility completion	DBB	DBB	Fall 2029	Summer 2031	Medium Low	Low
D Single design-bid-build contract; advanced utility relocation; NTP at 50% utility completion	DBB		Spring 2030	Summer 2030	Medium Low	Low



# Revised Approach

- **Utilize single DBB contract**
  - Larger contract will attract combination of national and local contractors
  - County retains right-of-way and utilities risk; creates optimal environment for cost competition
- **Award advanced utility relocation contract**
  - Allows long lead time work to advance while VDOT project is underway
- **Start construction at 50% completion of utility relocation**
  - Compresses schedule
- **Optimal combination of completion date, schedule risk & cost risk**



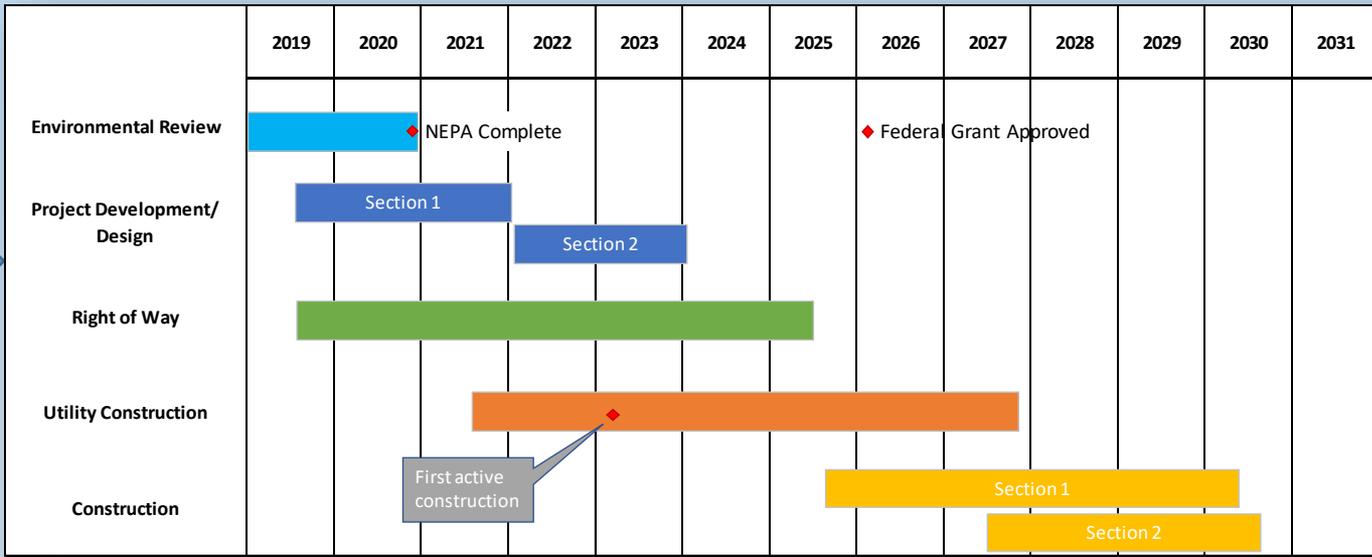




County of Fairfax, Virginia

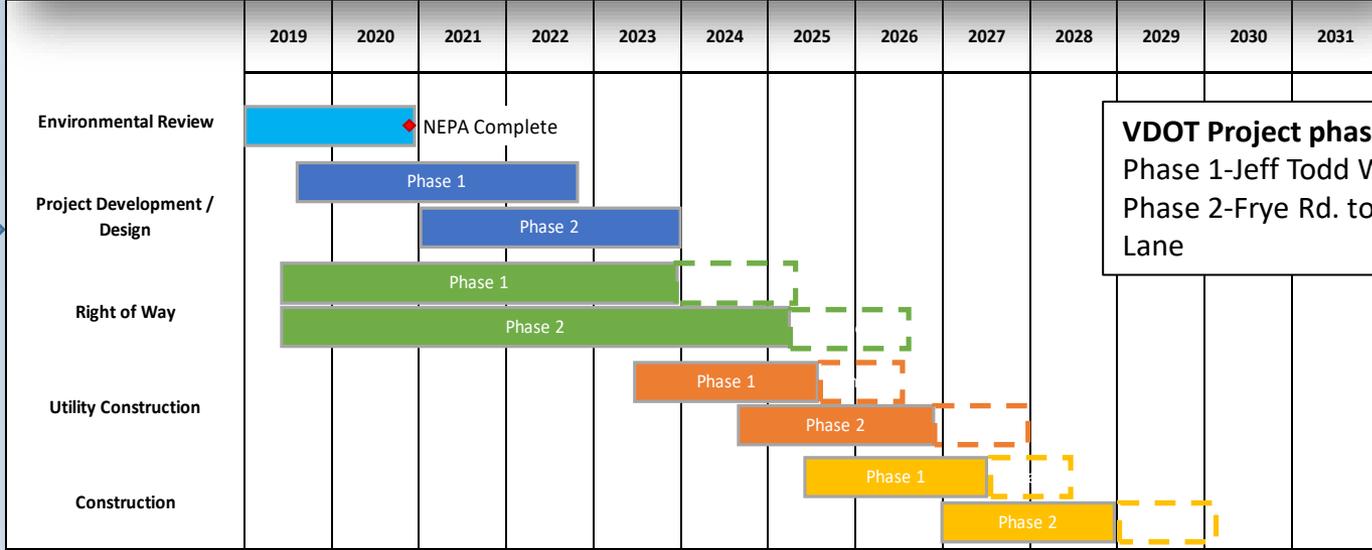
# Schedule Comparison

FCDOT BRT



First active construction

VDOT Widening

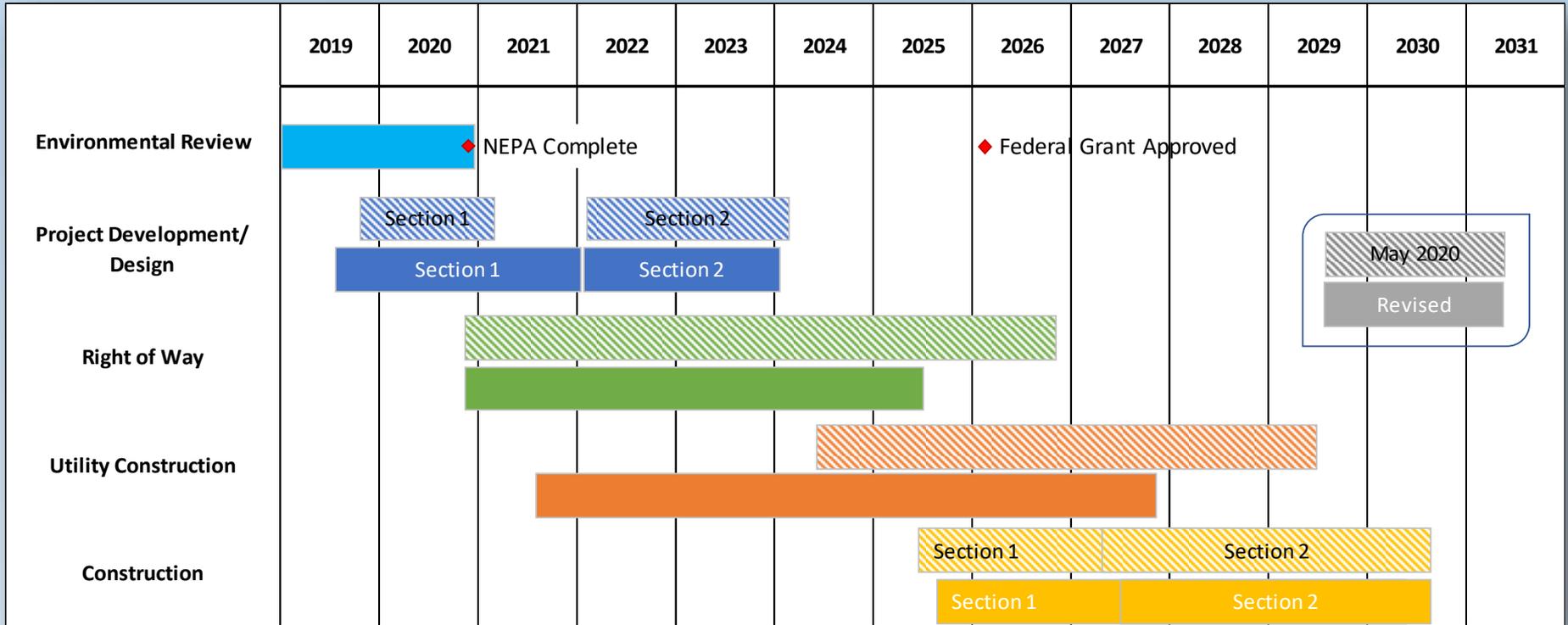


**VDOT Project phasing**  
 Phase 1-Jeff Todd Way to Frye Rd.  
 Phase 2-Frye Rd. to Sherwood Hall Lane





# Schedule Comparison





## Additional Opportunities to Reduce Schedule

- **Start partial property acquisitions prior to completion of final plans**
  - ! Risk is right-of-way needs could change, requiring a second acquisition from the same owner
- **Include contract provisions to incentivize compressed schedule**
  - ! Risk is higher project costs to cover incentives
  - ! Incentives may not be eligible for FTA reimbursement





# Work Underway to Maintain Progress

- Updating project delivery report
- Briefing FTA on revised approach later this month
- NEPA complete Winter 2020, pending resolution of Title VI complaint
- Groundwork underway for rapid start of acquisition of long-lead parcels
  - Plats
  - Titles
  - Property research
- Moving ahead to next design milestone under existing consultant contract
- Utility coordination underway
- Community outreach on-going; seeking input on branding and station design





County of Fairfax, Virginia

# Discussion

