Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit
Public Information Meeting #10
Design Updates & North Kings Highway
April 28, 2022

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

• Branding Launch
• Project Updates
  - Environmental Update
  - Schedule
  - Cost
• Design Updates
• New
  - N Kings Hwy Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)
• Upcoming Meetings
• Q&A

To inquire about a particular property, please email the Project Team at DOTBRT@fairfaxcounty.gov with "right-of-way" or "ROW" in the subject line or call the main transportation line at 703-877-5600
Branding Launch

Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit
Richmond Highway BRT has a New Identity!

• On Friday, February 25, 2022, Fairfax County officials launched the brand identity for the BRT project
  – Developed with input from community members and stakeholders over three years.
Brand Development Process

• Fairfax County sought input from a broad cross section of the Richmond Highway community. Community input played a critical role in the development of the brand.
  – Volunteers from the community joined a Branding Development Team and worked to pare down a list of 84 names to put forward three for consideration by focus groups and the public.
  – Several brand options were tested in focus groups with residents along the corridor and then with an online survey with the Richmond Highway community.
Meet “The One”!

This name, colors, and logo will be used at BRT stations and on the buses, to help people recognize and remember the new bus service.
Why “The One”? 

- The One is a **short and simple name**, so it’s easy for people to learn and recall.

- It references the place that the buses will run – **up and down Route 1** – so everyone in the community can understand its location.

- The name speaks to the **uniqueness of the service**. If you’re looking for a fast, frequent, traffic-free way to travel along the Richmond Highway Corridor, **this is The One way to do it!**
Project Updates

Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Requires federal agencies to assess environmental effects of proposed actions prior to making decisions.
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) determined the project met criteria for a Categorical Exclusion in January 2022.
Schedule

PROJECT TIMELINE (Updated April 2022)

- 2018: Environmental Evaluation
- 2019: Preliminary Development / Design
- 2022: We are here
- 2023: Right of Way
- 2024: Utility Coordination - Relocation / Construction
- 2025: Construction
Capital Cost Estimate and Funding

Total Project Cost
$795M* in 2030 dollars

Federal Funding
FTA Capital Investment Grant (49%), Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality, Regional Surface Transportation Program and other federal funding programs

Local Funding
NVTA (regional), Smart Scale (state), County & Other Match

Note: *Cost based on an approximate 60% design and is subject to change and refinement as more engineering/design is completed
Design Updates

Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit
Design Updates Information

• This presentation will focus on design changes that occurred between the development of the 30% design and 60% design.
  – Evaluated property impacts
  – Evaluated potential retaining wall locations
  – Designed South Huntington bus loop to accommodate BRT
  – And others…

• The turn lane analysis and potential related design changes will be discussed at the meeting next week, on 5/3.
Overview of Design Updates

- **Reduced property impacts, for example:**
  - Single-lane transitway from Penn Daw to Shields Avenue
  - Reduced impacts to residences along Boswell Avenue
  - Reduced impacts to Village at Gum Springs Townhomes

- **Reduced the design speed from 45 mph to 35 mph**
  - Encourages slower vehicle travel, creating a more pedestrian friendly environment
Example Impact Reduction (@ Boswell Ave.)

30%

60%
Design Updates

• Updated roll maps are available for review tonight
  − Staff will be available at roll map tables to discuss questions about specific locations
  − Roll maps are split up in 5 sections and tables have signs to indicate the endpoints of each map
  − Roll maps will be available on the project website within three business days

• The interactive map is currently being updated and will be publicized when available. Anticipated to be available by mid-May 2022.

• Project Website: Richmond Highway BRT - The One Transportation(fairfaxcounty.gov)
NEW Item: North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@Shields Avenue)
NEW Item

- North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)
  - Limited improvements were added into the BRT project along both North and South Kings Highway
    - Between Furman Lane and Mount Eagle Elementary
  - Focused on improving operations for BRT
  - Addressing concerns previously identified by community members
  - Includes design modification to North Kings Hwy/Shields Ave intersection
  - Includes improvements to address existing narrow, non-ADA-compliant sidewalks (within scope limits)
  - Right-of-way and temporary construction easements would be required from properties along Kings Hwy
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Background

- North Kings Highway (VA 241) Intersection Improvements Study
  - County planning study from 2013 to 2017 to address traffic and community concerns; included multiple community meetings
  - Study conducted before BRT selected as the preferred alternative for Richmond Highway Corridor
  - Study's preferred design alternative Option 8C-1 did not account for BRT
  - Website for 2017 Study: North Kings Highway (VA 241) Intersection Improvements Study | Transportation (fairfaxcounty.gov)
  - Project approved for implementation as part of the 2014 and 2019 Transportation Priorities Plan
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Background (continued)

- Embark Richmond Highway Comprehensive Plan Amendment
  - Formally adopted by BOS in 2018
  - Selected median running BRT as the preferred transit mode for Richmond Hwy Corridor based on DRPT Multimodal Study
  - Recommended connecting BRT from Richmond Hwy to North Kings Hwy via Shields Ave
  - Recommended extending Furman Ln from South Kings Hwy to Richmond Hwy
  - Recommended severing connection from Richmond Hwy to N/S Kings Hwy, at intersection with BRT station
  - Furman Ln Extension and Shields Ave would continue to connect Richmond Hwy and N/S Kings Hwy after BRT station is built.
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Efforts to Date

• Updated 2017 North Kings Highway Intersection study design to account for BRT operations and other considerations
  – Aligned Shields Ave to remain connected directly to the N Kings Hwy/School St intersection
  – Improved pedestrian and bicycle accommodations

• Incorporated Embark Plan recommendations
  – Severed connection from Richmond Hwy to N/S Kings Hwy, at BRT station
  – Furman Lane Extension
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Updated Concept
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Design Updates – Furman Lane Extension

- Extends Furman Ln from S Kings Hwy to Richmond Hwy
- Fulfills Embark Plan recommendation for new connection once Richmond Hwy is severed from N/S Kings Hwy at BRT station
- New connection provides access between Richmond Hwy and N/S Kings Hwy
- Improves BRT operations and geometry at BRT station
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Design Updates – BRT Station Intersection

- Includes Embark Plan recommendation to sever Richmond Hwy from N/S Kings Hwy at BRT Station
- Converts the 6-leg intersection of Richmond Hwy at N/S Kings Hwy into 2 T-intersections
- Simplifies operations and reduces conflicts for all travel modes
- Creates a plaza for enhanced pedestrian and bicyclist experience (bottom graphic depicts possible future plaza*)

*D Plaza features to be built by others*
North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)

Section 3

Design Updates – N. Kings Hwy from Poag St to Mt. Eagle

- Connects Shields Ave to North Kings Hwy at School St
- Fewer 90 degree turns to better accommodate BRT travel between Richmond Hwy and North Kings Hwy
- One fewer traffic signal on North Kings Hwy than 2017 concept
- Proposes new traffic control device for pedestrians at Mt. Eagle Elementary School – e.g., a ped signal or High intensity Activated crossWalk (HAWK)
Reviewing Roll Maps

• Static and interactive* maps are also available at: RHBRT Project Website (fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt/materials)

* Interactive map updates in progress and will be available in mid-May
Upcoming Meetings

• Public Information Meeting #11 – May 3
  - **Topic**: Additional turn lanes analysis
  - **Time**: Open house 6:30-9PM, Presentation 7:00PM
  - **Location**: Community Center in Lee District, 7950 Audubon Ave

• Public Information Meeting #12 – Date TBD
  - **Topic**: Community charm at BRT stations.
  - This will be followed by several smaller events to discuss individual stations or small groups of stations.
Community Comments / Q&A

• Please line up as discussed if you would like to share a comment or ask a question.

• We ask that comments/questions be kept to about 2-3 minutes per person to provide more people an opportunity to speak.

• We will take up to 20 minutes of questions to allow additional time to review roll maps and speak with staff.

• Please keep questions general. We cannot respond to property-specific questions in this forum.
  – You can speak with right-of-way staff, or staff at the roll maps.
  – You can also send an email to the Project Team at DOTBRT@fairfaxcounty.gov with "right-of-way" or "ROW" in the subject line.
Contact Information

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

- Email:
  - DOTBRT@fairfaxcounty.gov

- Mail:
  - Fairfax County Department of Transportation, Richmond Highway BRT Project Manager, 4050 Legato Rd, Fairfax, VA 22033.