

### Fairfax Connector Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP)

Board Transportation Committee December 14, 2021

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# **TRIP Background**

- State grant program supporting zero and reduced fare programs to increase transit ridership
- CTB awarded Fairfax County ~ \$5.49 million
  for a three-year half-fare pilot program
  - FY 2022: \$2.2 million
  - FY 2023: \$1.9 million
  - FY 2024: \$1.3 million
- Program anticipated to help low-income residents recovering from the pandemic and help restore Fairfax Connector ridership





- Program Eligibility Criteria
  - Resident of Fairfax County, City of Fairfax or City of Falls Church, and
  - Annual income at or below 225% of the federal poverty level by household size
- Potential Program Implementation Partners
  - Department of Transportation (FCDOT)
  - Department of Family Services (DFS)
  - Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
  - Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)
  - Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

#### Next Steps

- Finalize program administration framework and processes
  - Potentially similar to Free Student Bus Pass Program
- Negotiate an MOU with WMATA for customized SmarTrip cards
- Prepare outreach and marketing materials



Next Steps (Continued)

- Proposed program launch
  - Begin pilot by promoting subsidy to DFS and HCD clients
  - Marketing and distribution of customized SmarTrip cards anticipated to begin Summer 2022
- Track and evaluate program participation
- Consider further program expansion based on results of pilot

Feedback Requested

• Are you comfortable with the proposed pilot program?

Next Update to Board Transportation Committee

• Spring 2022

### Questions/Discussion?