

VDOT Northern Virginia Megaprojects Update

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee

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September 30, 2022

Northern Virginia Regional Express Lanes Network

- 90+ mile Express Lanes network planned in Northern Virginia
- 71 miles in service
 - I-95, I-395, I-495, I-66 Inside the Beltway, I-66 Western Segment
- 35 miles under construction
 - I-66 Outside the Beltway
 - I-95 to Fredericksburg
 - I-495 Northern Extension
 - I-95 Express Lanes/Opitz Boulevard Ramp
- 11 miles under study
 - I-495 Southside Express Lanes
- Three independent operators



Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes

- \$2.3 billion, 22.5-mile project
- Providing \$3.7 billion in transportation improvements to I-66 corridor
- Building 4 express lanes (2 lanes in each direction), alongside 3 general purpose lanes, with space in median for future transit
- Built and opened 2 park and ride lots with 3,200+ parking spaces
- Providing 11 miles of bike trail parallel to I-66, and improved pedestrian facilities on new bridges over I-66
- Public-private partnership with I-66 Express Mobility Partners (EMP) through 2066



- Project construction began Nov. 2017
- Opened first 9 miles (Gainesville to Route 28 in Centreville) on September 10, 2022
- Remaining 13 miles (Route 28 to I-495) scheduled to open by December 2022
- Final project construction expected to be completed in summer 2023



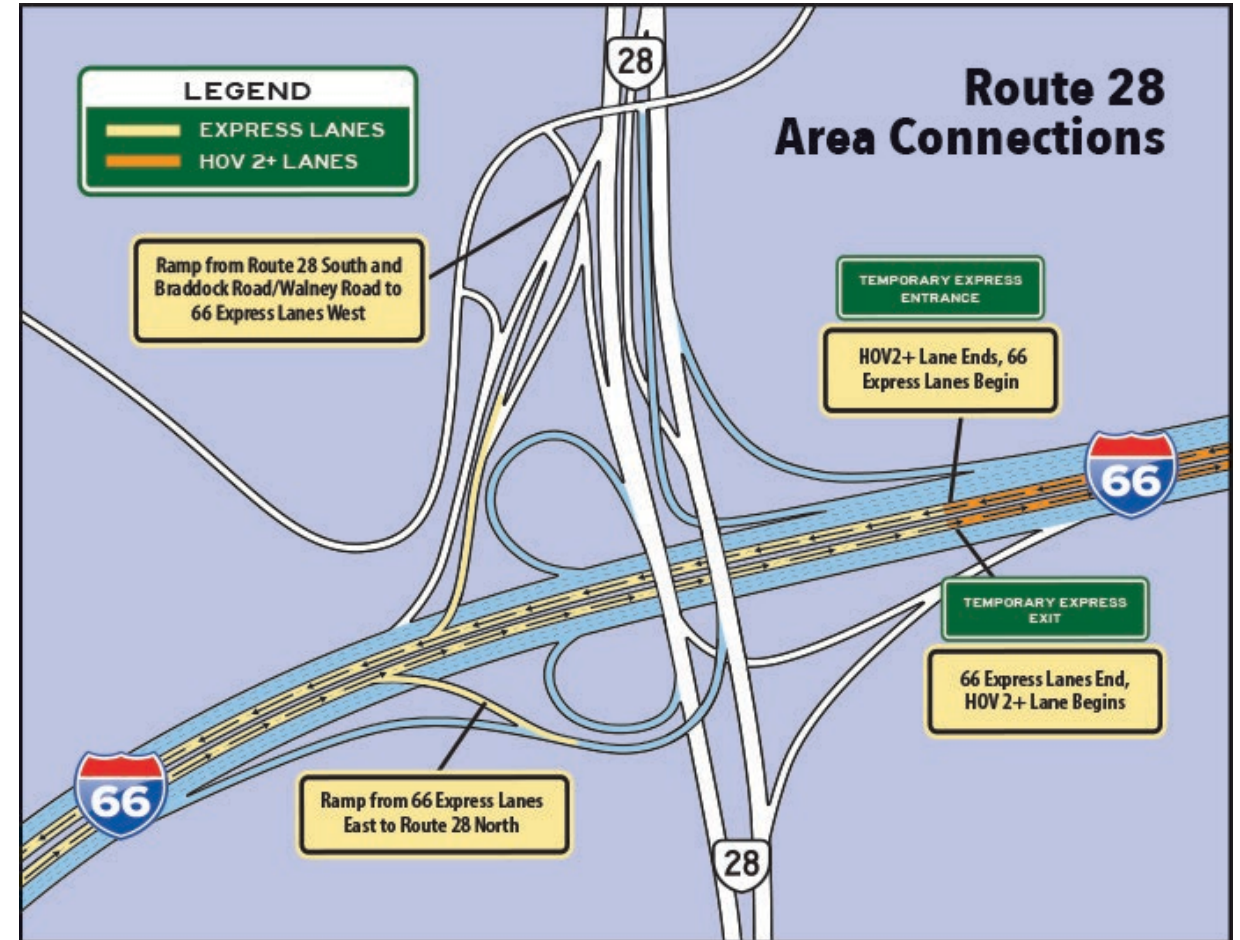
Western Section of 66 Express Lanes Opened Early on September 10, 2022

- Opened first 9 miles
 - Route 29 in Gainesville
 - Route 28 in Centreville
- Tolling and HOV-2 rules began September 24, 2022



Accessing Western Section of 66 Express Lanes

- From I-66 East, drivers access the Express Lanes prior to Route 29 in Gainesville or by using slip ramp prior to Sudley Road
- From I-66 West, drivers access the Express Lanes from general purpose lanes prior to Route 28
- Express Lanes ramps at Sudley Road, Route 28, and Braddock and Walney Roads
- New access also to park and ride lots at
 - Century Park Drive in Manassas
 - University Boulevard in Gainesville



How 66 Express Lanes Work

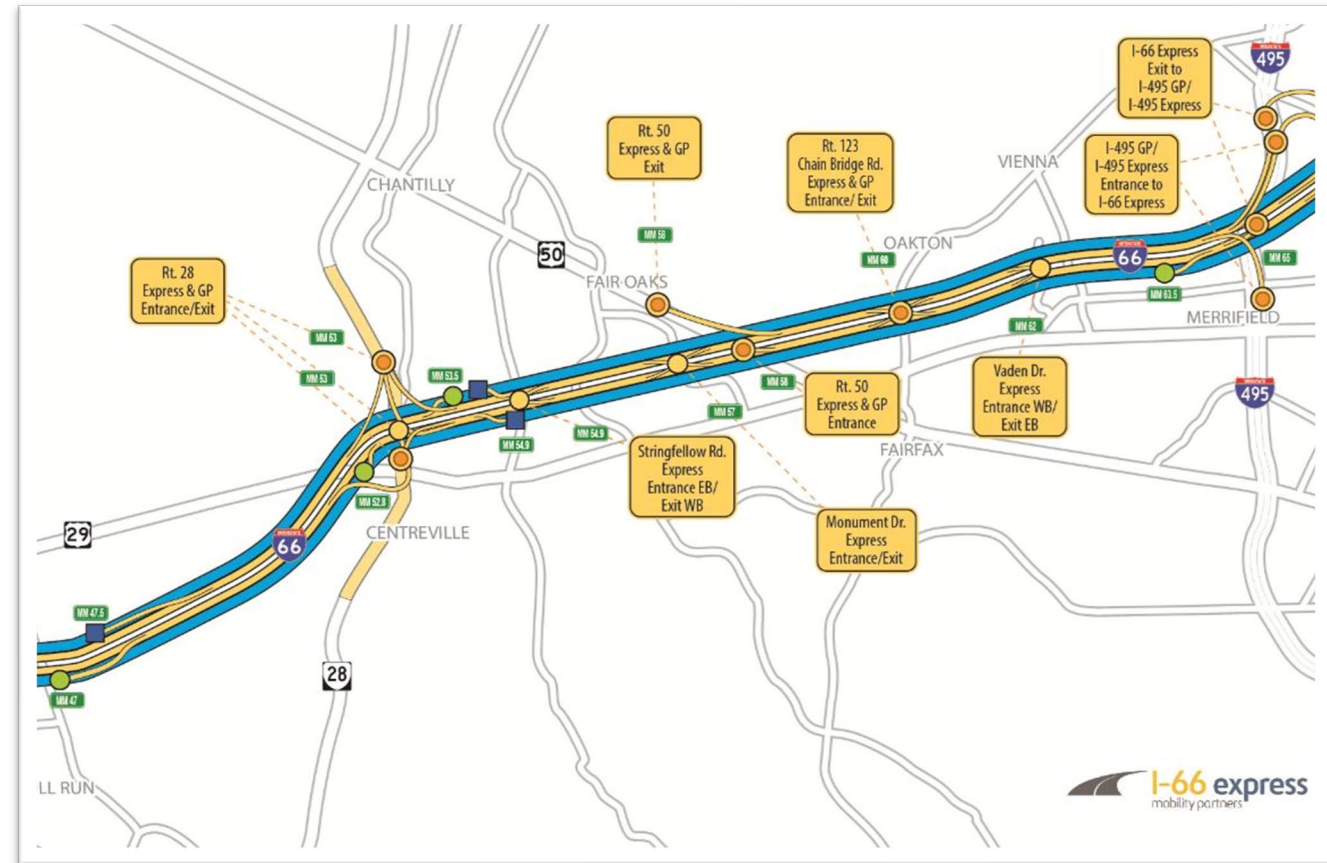
- Variable tolls to manage demand and keep lanes free flowing
- Pricing signage in advance of all entrances
- Pay through E-Zpass or through additional payment options offered by I-66 EMP including online, phone, mail or in-person (available with small administrative fee)



- High Occupancy Vehicles (HOVs) ride toll-free with E-ZPass Flex in “HOV ON” mode
- Passenger vehicles such as cars, SUVs, minivans, and pickup trucks pay the same toll rate
- Larger vehicles and large trucks allowed to use 66 Express Lanes, but pay higher rate
- Motorcycles ride free

Construction Continues on 66 Express Lanes Between Route 28 and I-495

- Major remaining construction activities include:
 - Finishing Express Lanes, paving, striping
 - Installing toll gantries and signage
- Remaining 13 miles of Express Lanes opening in December 2022
- Construction to continue through mid 2023

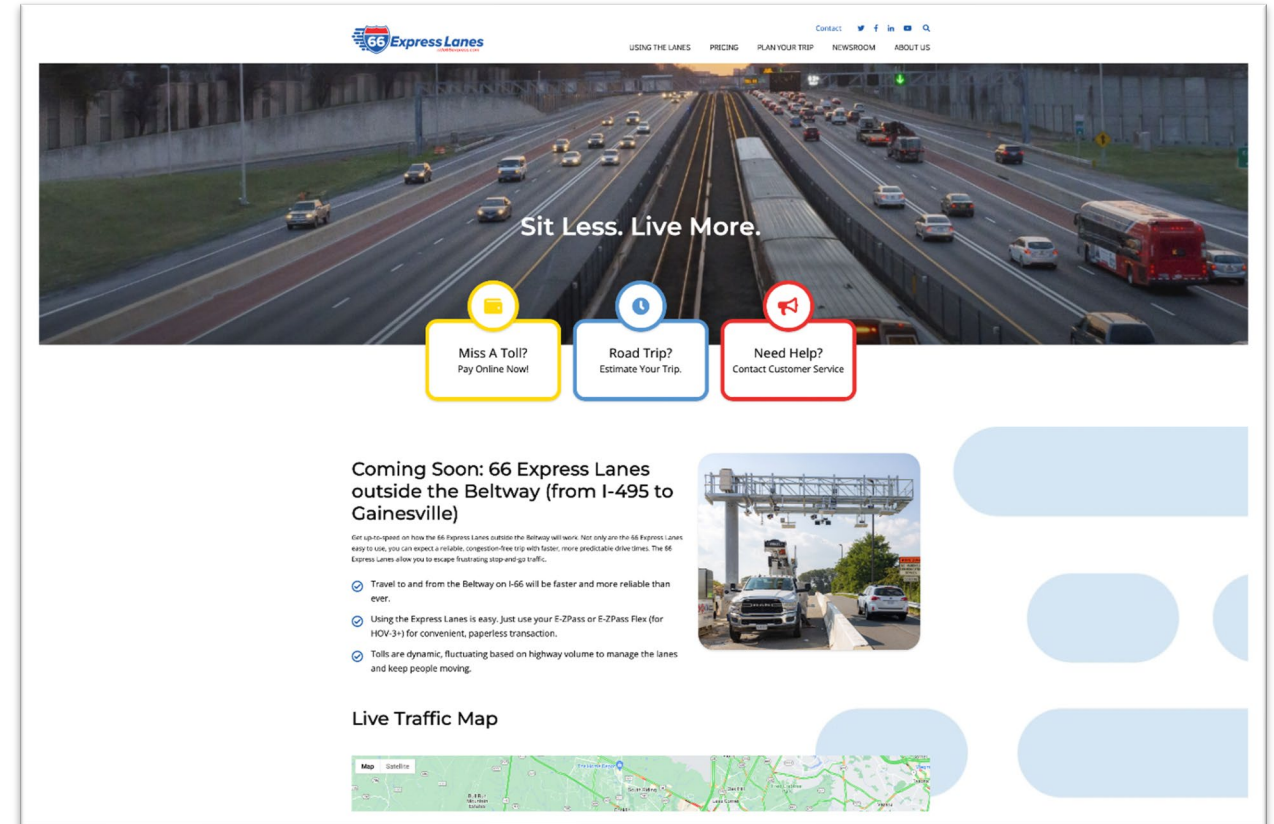


66 Express Lanes Marketing and Outreach Campaign

- I-66 EMP leading marketing and outreach campaign focused on Express Lanes users

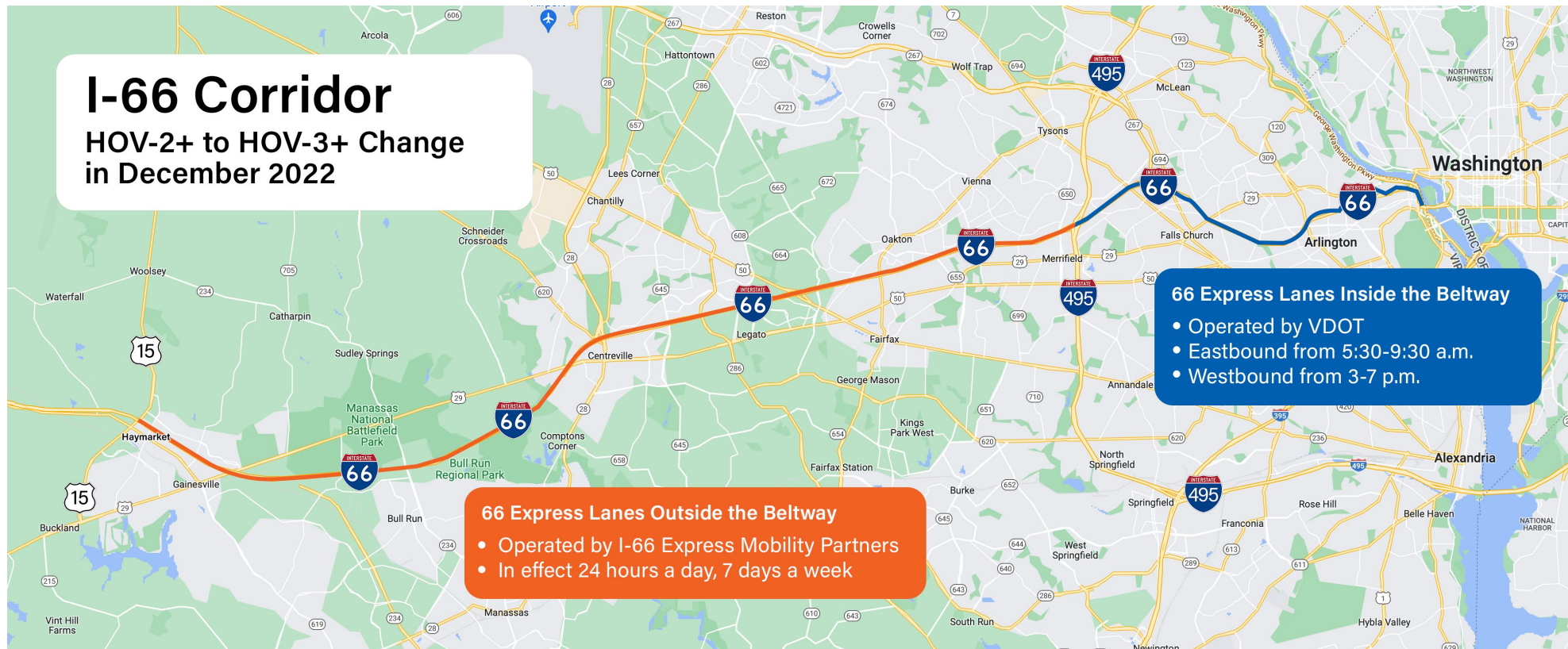


- Payment options
- Plan your trip
- Customer service



I-66 Corridor-Wide HOV Travel Change

- HOV requirement switches from 2 to 3 occupants for toll-free Express Lanes travel across I-66 corridor starting when remaining 66 Express Lanes Outside the Beltway open in **December 2022**
- New HOV-3+ rule will go into effect across entire I-66 corridor – Outside the Beltway (24/7) and Inside the Beltway (peak directions, peak periods)



VDOT 66 Express Lanes Outreach Campaign

“66 Express Lanes: Changing the Way You Move”

VDOT communications campaign focused on upcoming travel changes in I-66 corridor

- Promote carpool, vanpool, and commuter bus offerings and incentives on I-66 Express Lanes
- Raise awareness of change from HOV-2+ to HOV-3+
- Raise awareness of the need for E-ZPass Flex
- Focus on users of I-66 Outside the Beltway and Inside the Beltway
- Multi-channel, multi-agency effort

66 Express Lanes
Changing the Way You Move



New and Expanded Commuter Bus Service on I-66

Three New Park and Ride Lots

- New lots open at University Boulevard (Gainesville) and Balls Ford Road (Manassas) offering 1200+ spaces now, 3300+ spaces total
- Monument Drive Garage under construction with 820 additional spaces

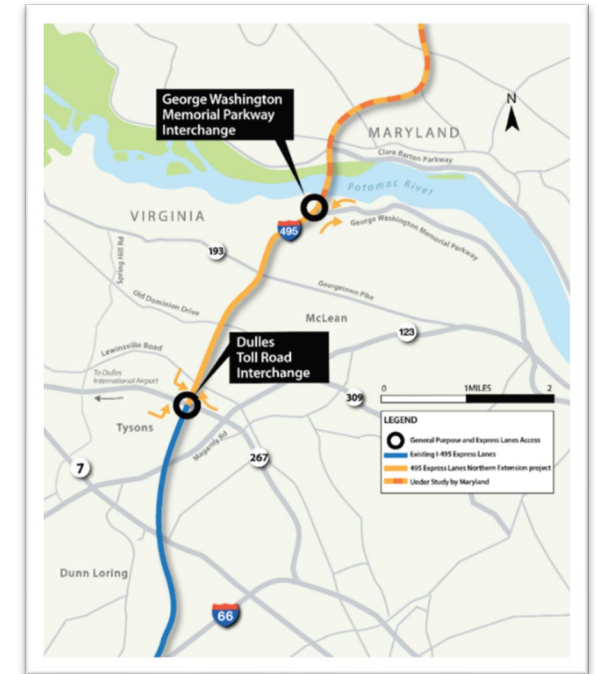
New and Expanded Bus Service

- **December 2022: PRTC's OmniRide** will offer new, expanded, and realigned services from University Boulevard and Balls Ford Road lots
- **January 2023: Fairfax Connector** will launch Route 660 service from Stone Road to Vienna and Tysons Corner Metrorail stations; joins existing Connector express routes serving Pentagon and Washington, DC service
- Express Lanes will offer faster, more reliable service to Vienna Metro for several other Connector routes



495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project (495 NEXT)

- Approximate \$660 million, 2.5-mile extension of 495 Express Lanes from I-495 and Dulles Corridor interchange to George Washington Memorial Parkway in the vicinity of the American Legion Bridge
- Creating additional express lanes access at Dulles Toll Road and Dulles Access Road interchange, and George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange
- Constructing new bridges to replace existing I-495 crossings
- Adding four miles of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities including a path parallel to I-495
- Public-private partnership project between VDOT and Transurban through 2087



- Project construction began March 2022
- Construction ramping up, as project's design is being refined and finalized
- New extended Express Lanes scheduled to open in late 2025



Other Project Benefits

495 NEXT Public and Stakeholder Outreach

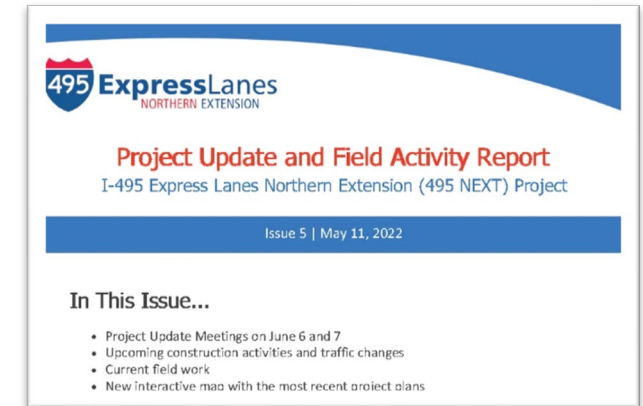
- Public information meetings held in June 2022 providing design and construction updates
- Next public update meetings planned for spring 2023
- Ongoing community or neighborhood meetings as requested and needed
- Regular coordination meetings with Fairfax County Public Schools staff representatives
- Weekly lane closure notices, monthly newsletters, and regular news releases sent to subscription list of more than 1,100 people including media, elected officials and community members

Information Sources:


Website: 495NEXT.org

Email: 495NorthernExtension@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Construction Information Line: 703-592-6430



Sign up for 495 NEXT emails to receive information on Project Updates and Lane Closures



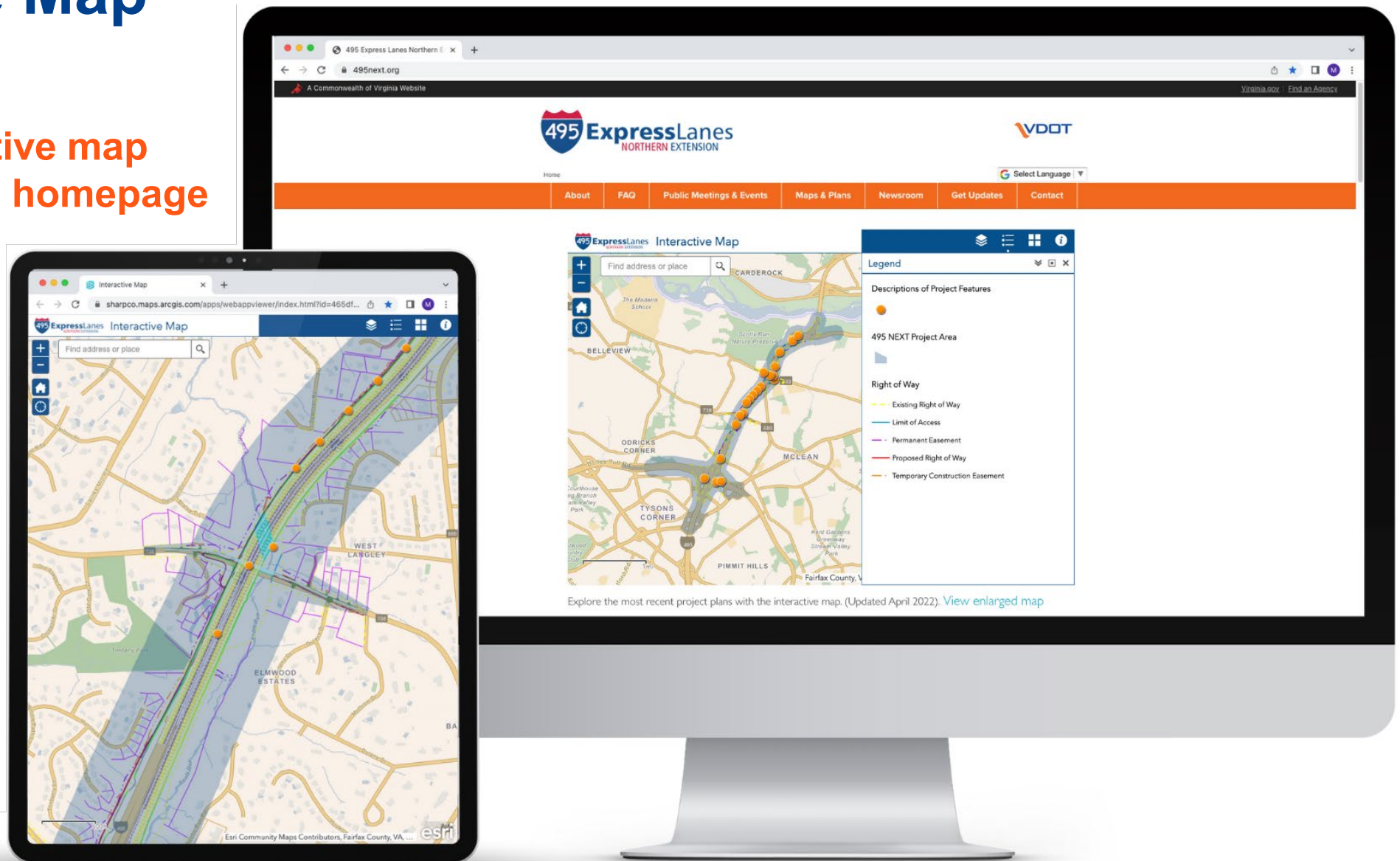
**495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT)
Scheduled Lane Closures and Traffic Changes
For May 31 - June 5, 2022**

Upcoming Highlights

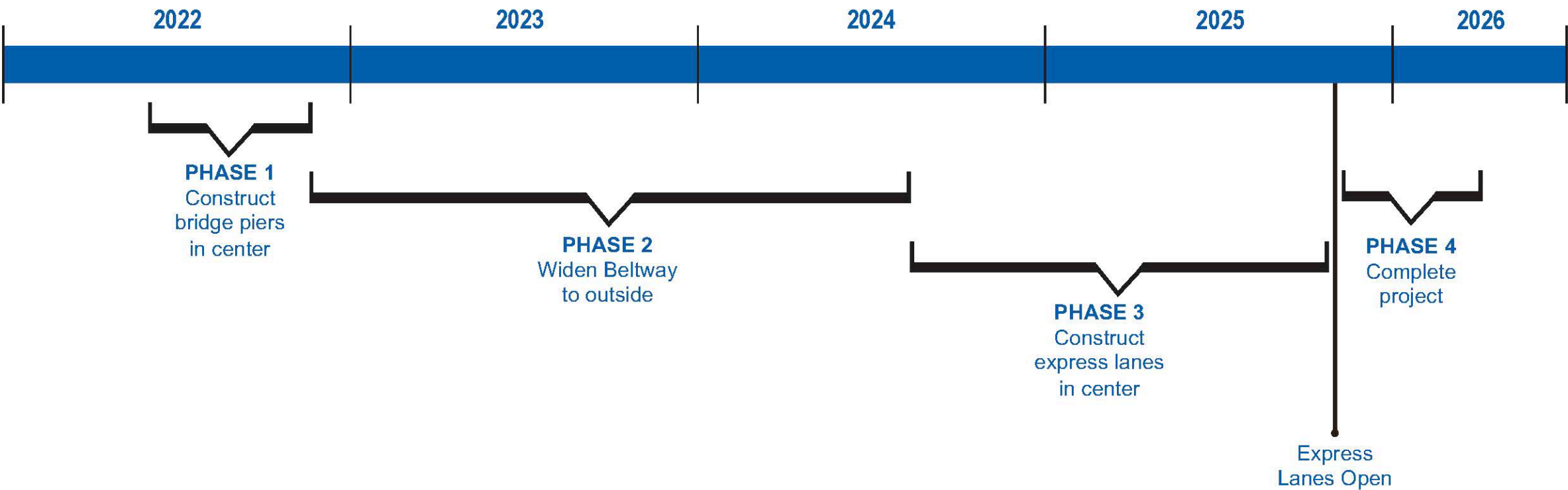
Stay alert to the following planned construction-related lane closures and traffic changes. All work is subject to change based on weather conditions and other factors. Motorists can expect potential delays in these areas due to construction activities. Find current information on travel conditions and work zones by visiting 511virginia.org.

Interactive Map

View the interactive map
on the 495 NEXT homepage
at 495NEXT.org



Construction Timeline



Completed Construction Work

- Permanently closed the northbound left shoulder (green arrow/red X) lane between end of current 495 Express Lanes and George Washington Parkway
- Restriped and realigned I-495, making room in center for construction of bridge piers at Old Dominion Drive, Georgetown Pike and Live Oak Drive
- Completed demolition work on first half of Georgetown Pike Bridge
- Cleared trees and vegetation where needed for construction



Georgetown Pike Bridge – Summer 2022

Current and Upcoming Construction Work

- Georgetown Pike Bridge foundation and support columns of the northern bridge portion
- Preparing to replace bridge crossings at Live Oak Drive and Old Dominion Drive
- Shoulder strengthening on I-495 and ramps
- George Washington Memorial Parkway Bridge deck repair and pothole filling work



Georgetown Pike Bridge Pier
Summer 2022

What Residents and Drivers Can Expect

Fall 2022 into 2023

- Periodic single-lane traffic with flaggers on local roads during off-peak hours
- Backups and delays related to work on I-495 and local roads are expected
 - Off-peak lane closures
- Overnight demolition of bridges and associated noise



Single-lane traffic operation on Live Oak Drive during January 2022 test boring

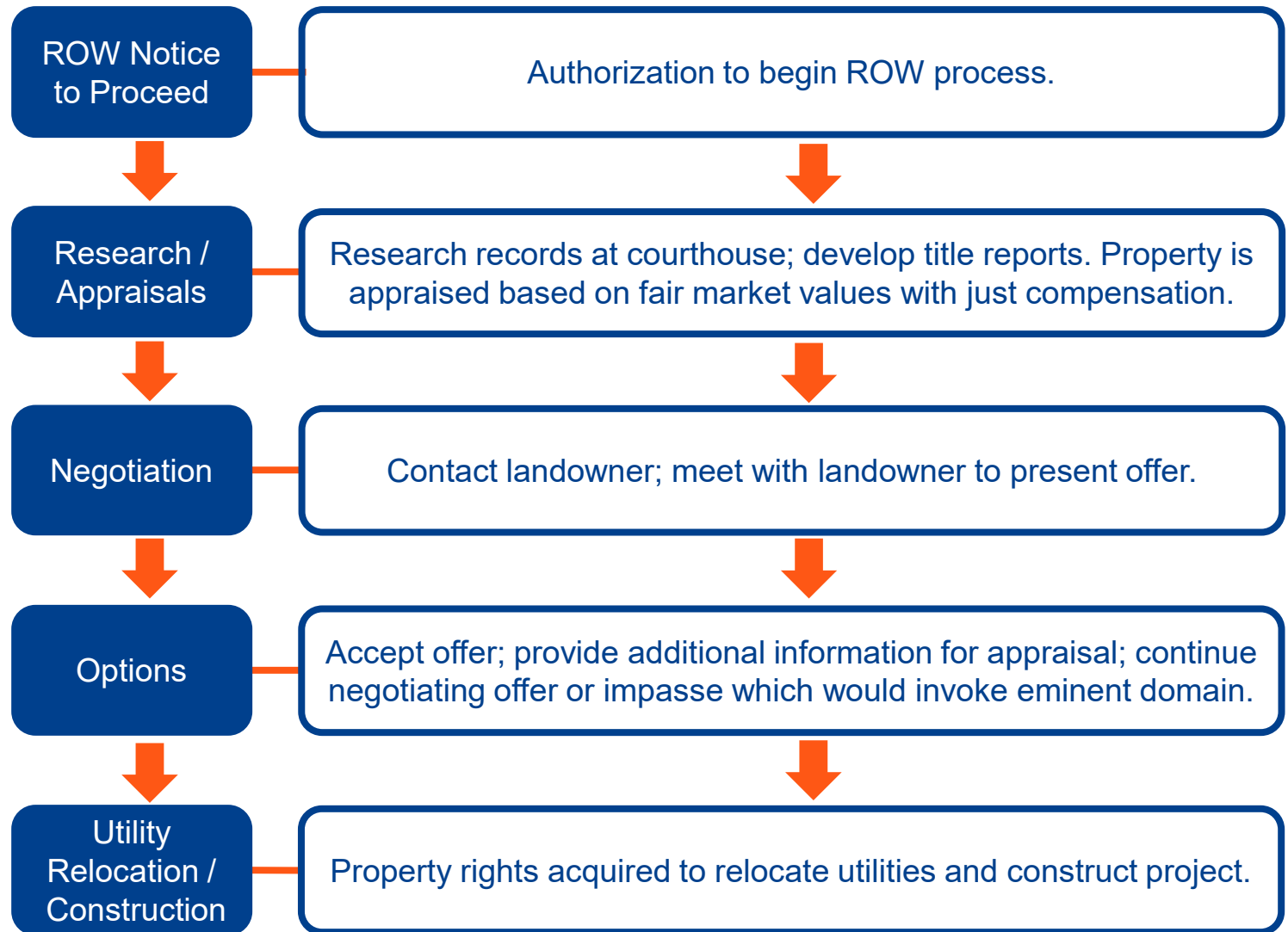
Right of Way Process

Summer 2022:

Appraisal of properties and preparing offer packages

Fall 2022 – Winter 2023:

Begin making offers and negotiations with property owners



Design Noise Analysis Process

- Final noise analysis to be completed in late 2022
- Based on design plans and updated traffic:
 - *Is the wall warranted?*
 - *Is the wall feasible?*
 - *Is the wall reasonable?*
- Publish final noise study results and proposed noise wall locations on 495NEXT.org
- If construction impacts an existing wall, a replacement wall will be provided
- For new walls, input will be solicited from benefited property owners and renters (voting process)
- Include approved noise walls into final plans



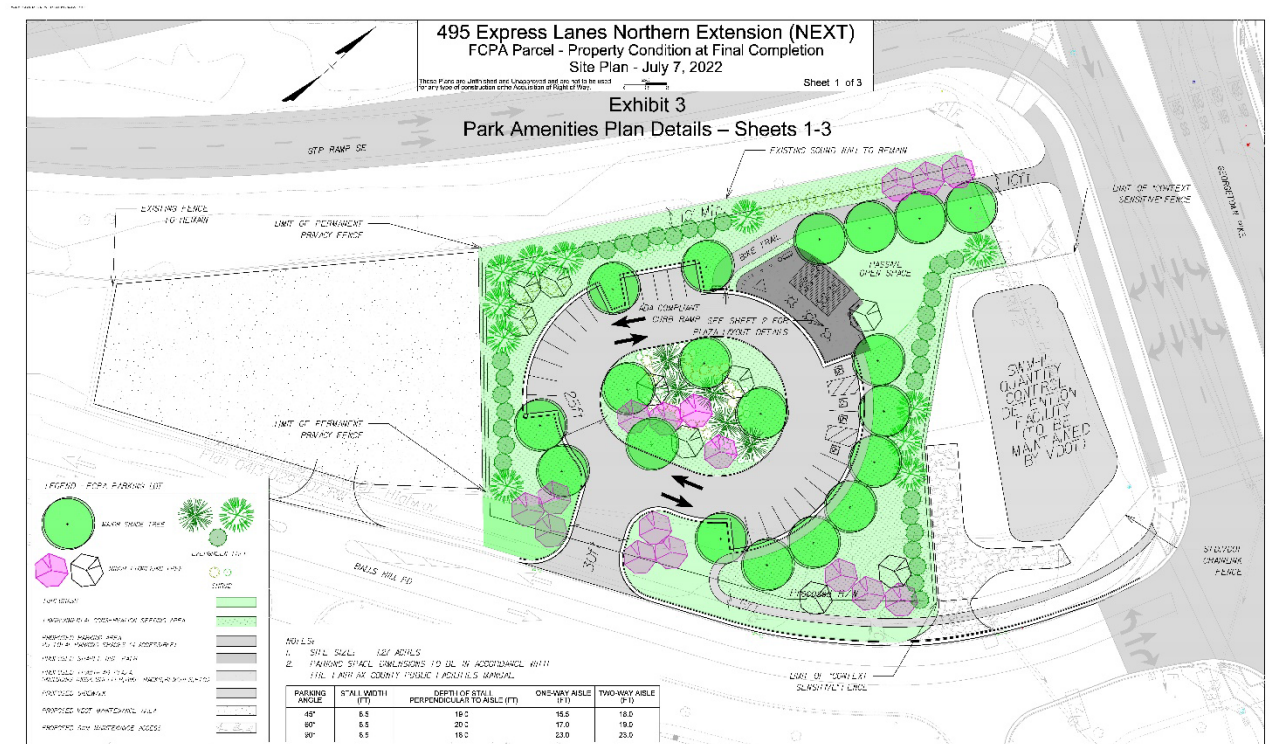
Example of dry stack (simulated stone) noise wall

Updates on Environmental Commitments

- Transurban to provide \$1.387M to Fairfax County for restoring approximately 3,000 linear feet of Scotts Run
- Stabilize stream banks at two locations along Scotts Run to improve conditions



- Fairfax County Park Authority Replacement Land
 - (Pending Final Approvals)



Virginia's Transit Commitment and Transportation Management Plan

Transit Commitment

- Commonwealth providing project funding to Fairfax County to implement Tyson's / Montgomery County routes proposed in joint I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit/TDM Study:
 - \$2.2 million per year for bus service operations
 - \$5.2 million for initial purchases of buses
- Fairfax County purchasing buses for operations to begin in 2024

Transportation Management Plan

Goals:

- Maintain mobility during construction
- Enhance public and worker safety
- Provide reliable information about construction zone

Elements:

- Transit and Transportation Demand Management
 - New bus route(s) across American Legion Bridge
 - Support to carpools and vanpools
- Traffic Operations and Incident Management
- Local Network Operations and Traffic Analysis
- Communications and Outreach

Maryland and Virginia Coordination

Maryland and Virginia working together to coordinate Maryland's Phase 1 South project and Virginia's 495 NEXT project

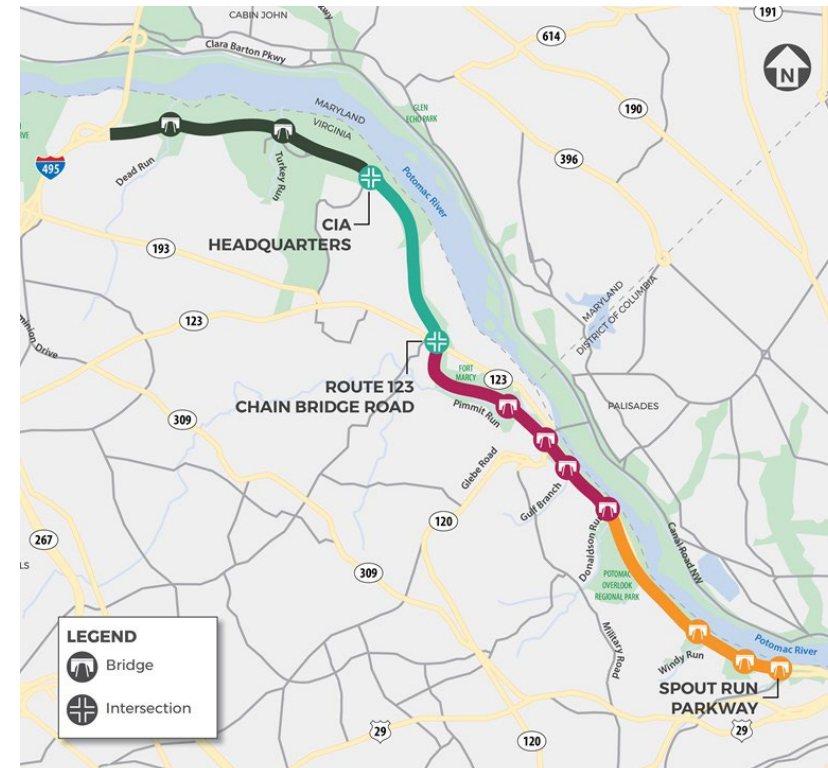
Key Elements:

- Provide a new American Legion Bridge and new bicycle and pedestrian access to connect trails on both sides of Potomac River.
- Final agreement will define how Maryland and Virginia projects will “interface” including:
 - Design and construction requirements
 - Operations and maintenance roles
 - Seamless regional dynamic toll lane network with each state operating its system independently



George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) Coordination

- National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is rehabilitating the GWMP from Spout Run Parkway to I-495
 - Major roadway reconstruction
 - Bridge rehabilitation
- Monthly meetings
 - VDOT
 - MDSHA
 - NPS, FHWA
- Transportation management strategies
- Maintenance of traffic plans



495 Southside Express Lanes Study

- VDOT is conducting an environmental study of the southern section of I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway)
 - 11 miles from Springfield interchange (I-95/I-395/I-495) in Fairfax County, VA to MD 210 interchange in Prince George's County, MD
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) conducting a separate transit and transportation demand management (TDM) study that will help inform VDOT's study

www.virginiadot.org/495southside



Purpose and Need Summary

The purpose of the I-495 SEL Study is to evaluate transportation improvements that would extend and provide continuity of the Express Lanes system on the I-95 / I-495 Capital Beltway from the I-95 / I-395 / I-495 Springfield Interchange in Fairfax County, VA to the I-495 / MD 210 Interchange in Prince George's County, MD

The following needs have been identified for this Study:

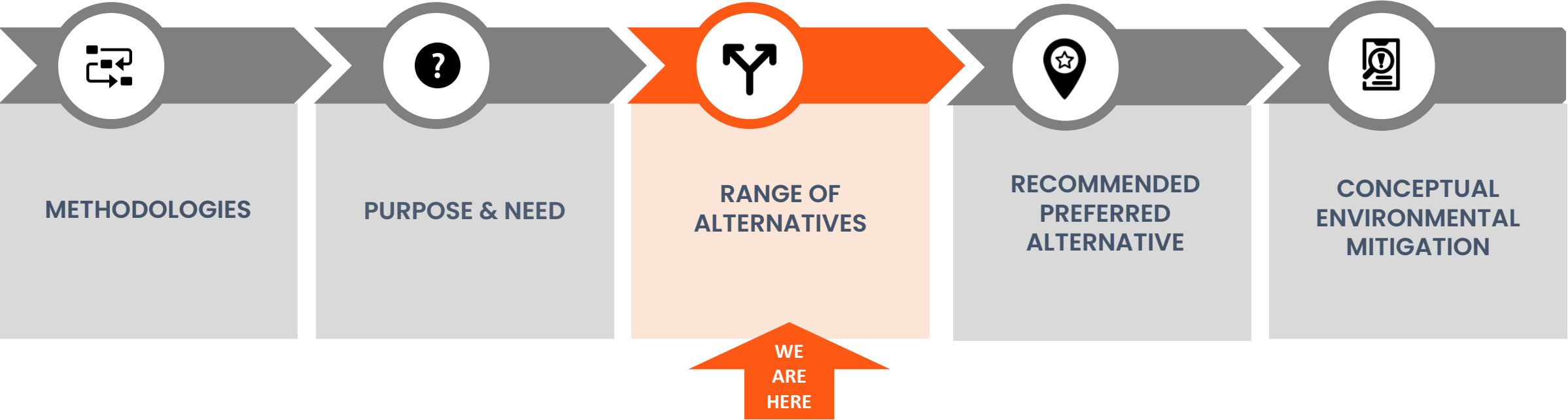
- Provide Express Lanes system continuity
- Provide additional travel choices
- Reduce congestion and improve travel reliability
- Improve safety
- Provide consistency with local and regional plans



Environmental Study Update

VDOT is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to satisfy requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Virginia’s NEPA and Clean Water Act Merged Process includes five steps:



Stakeholder and Public Input Summary

Public Information Meeting (PIMs) – May 18-25, 2022

- Four meetings held in study corridor
 - May 18, 2022 – Virtual / Online PIM
 - May 19, 2022 – Oxon Hill HS – Oxon Hill, MD (in-person)
 - May 23, 2022 – John R. Lewis HS – Springfield, VA (in-person)
 - May 25, 2022 – Nannie J. Lee Mem. Rec. Ctr., Alexandria, VA (in-person)
- 168 Attended - Total comments received 430+

Common Themes

- Importance of safety, congestion relief and travel reliability
- Desire to improve and maintain bike and pedestrian facilities
- Need for noise abatement
- Concern for right of way impacts
- Public transportation
- Effectiveness of Express Lanes
- Equity
- Cost of tolls
- Access / Exit Points
- Impact to neighborhoods / local roads / quality of life
- Environmental impacts
- Speeding / safety

Stakeholder Outreach & Public Involvement

- Weekly coordination with MDOT SHA and bi-weekly coordination with DRPT
- Monthly updates at VDOT's NEPA and Clean Water Act Merged Process Agency Meetings
- Prior to major study milestones, present updates to:
 - MDOT SHA's Interagency Review
 - Stakeholder Technical Advisory Group
 - Localities and elected officials, Public
- Public Information Meetings (PIMs) – May 18-25, 2022
- Upcoming Public Information Meetings (PIMs) – ***tentatively*** week of November 14, 2022
 - *November 14, 2022 – Virtual / Online PIM*
 - *November 15, 2022 – John R. Lewis HS – Springfield, VA (in-person)*
 - *November 16, 2022 – Nannie J. Lee Mem. Rec. Ctr., Alexandria, VA (in-person)*

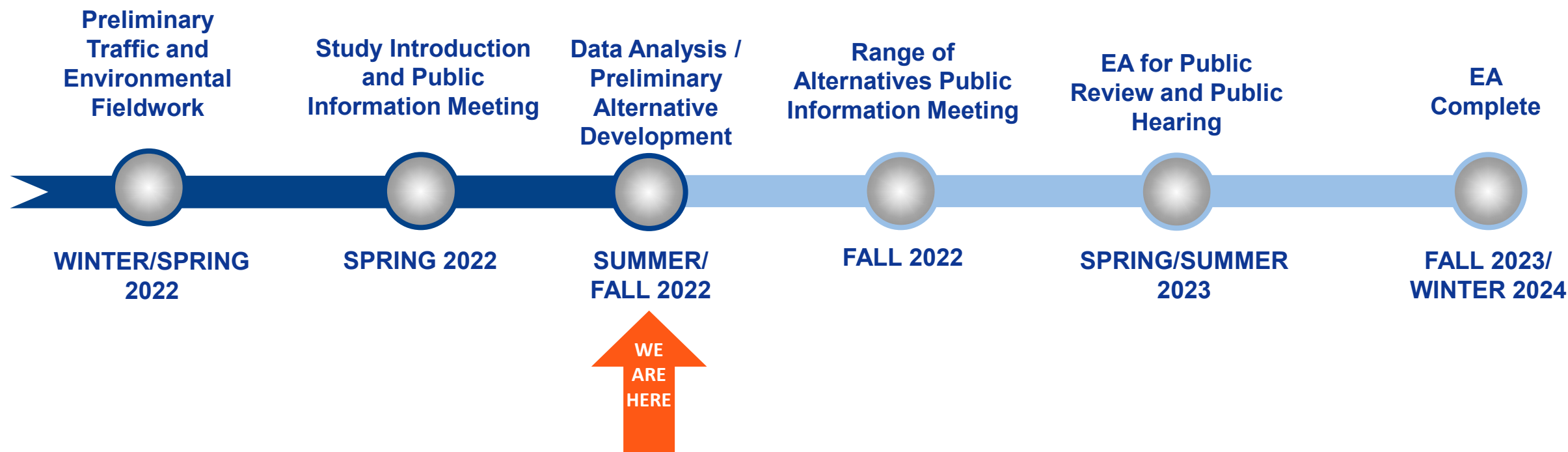
Information Sources:

Website: virginiadot.org/495southside

Email: 495southsideexpresslanes@vdot.Virginia.gov

Information line: 703-259-3752

Study Timeline



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THANK YOU