

# **VDOT MEGAPROJECTS UPDATE**

## **FAIRFAX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Susan Shaw, P.E., Megaprojects Director**  
Virginia Department of Transportation

February 21, 2023



# Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes

*Opened November 2022*

- \$2.3 billion, 22.5-mile project
- Providing \$3.7 billion in transportation improvements to I-66 corridor
- Project construction began Nov. 2017
- Built 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



*\*\*Construction activities continue into 2023\*\**

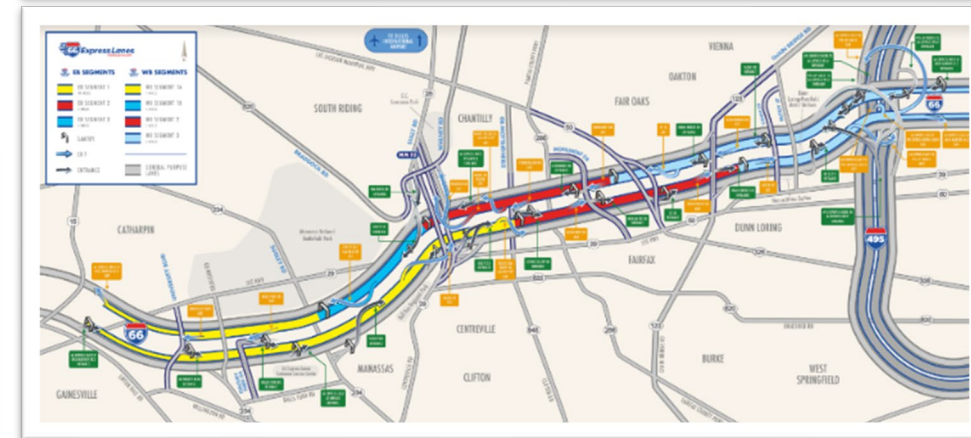
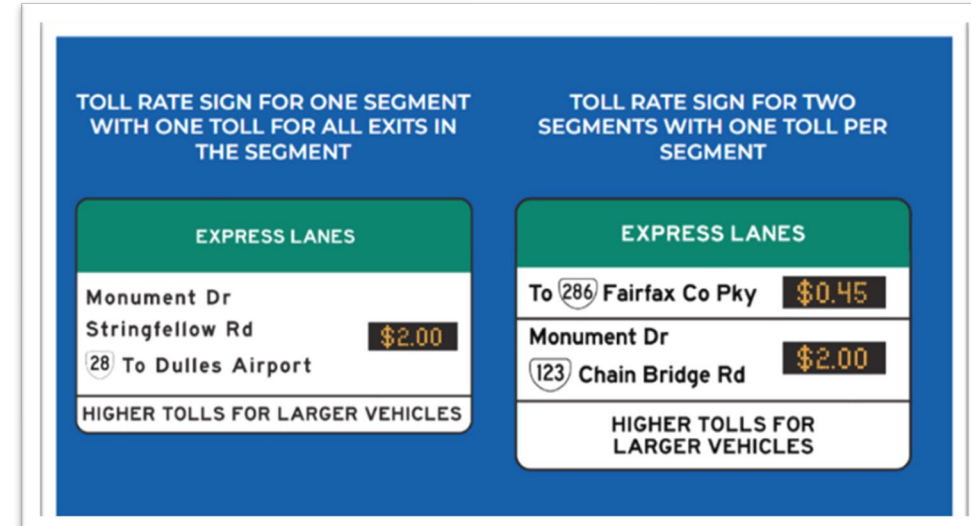


# How the 66 Express Lanes Work

- Variable toll rates based on traffic volumes and speed to keep lanes free flowing
- Segmented tolling system with three segments eastbound; four segments westbound
- Before entering the express lanes, drivers see overhead signs displaying a single price to reach all exit points in that segment
- While riding in the express lanes, pricing and destination signs are displayed in advance of each new segment, so drivers can choose to continue or exit the express lanes
- Trips can include multiple segments

Eligible vehicles with three or more occupants ride toll free with E-ZPass Flex in HOV mode

- Eligible vehicles include two-axle passenger cars, trucks, vans, and SUVs less than 7 feet tall



66 Express Lanes Outside the Beltway Segments

# Construction Update

## *Remaining Major Activities*

- Gallows Road Bridge over I-66
- Roundabouts at Nutley Street
- Shared-use path along I-66





# Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

## I-66 Shared-use Path / 66 Parallel Trail

- 11 miles of trail along I-66 between Gallows Road and Centreville
- Additional trail sections built off-corridor

*Phased opening beginning spring 2023*



February 1, 2023

*Construction inspection of shared-use path along I-66, 2022*

# Northern Virginia Express Lanes: Tolling and Payment Options

- Express Lanes use variable tolling to keep lanes free flowing
- E-ZPass transponder accepted on all roadways with no administrative fees
  - Visit [EZPassVA.com](http://EZPassVA.com) or call 877-762-7824 for more information
- Eligible vehicles with three or more occupants ride toll free with E-ZPass Flex in HOV mode
- Motorcycles ride toll free



Other payment options offered by operators (include administrative fees):

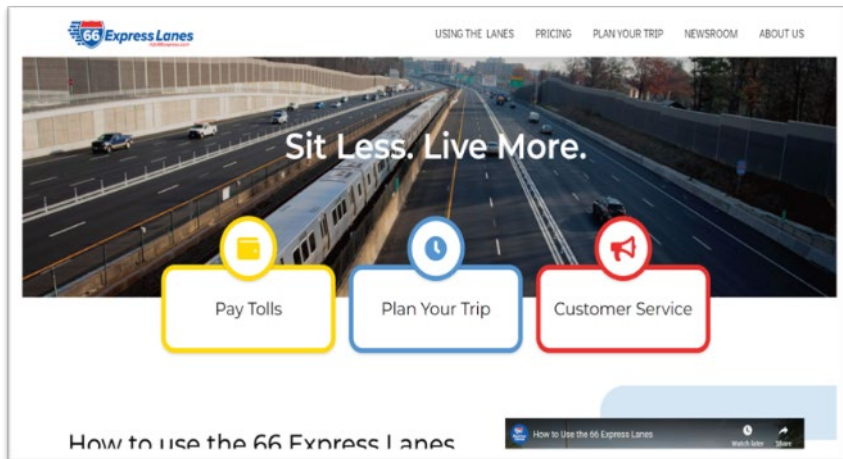
|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 66 Express Lanes Outside the Beltway | Online at <a href="http://Ride66Express.com">Ride66Express.com</a> , mobile app, 833-643-2867, mail, in-person at 66 Express Lanes Customer Service Center in Manassas |
| 66 Express Lanes Inside the Beltway  | Online via <a href="http://EZPassVA.com">EZPassVA.com</a> , mobile app, 877-762-7824, mail, in-person at select DMVs   |
| 495/95/395 Express Lanes             | Online at <a href="http://ExpressLanes.com">ExpressLanes.com</a> , 855-495-9777, mobile app, mail  |



# Vehicle Tolling Classifications for 66 Express Lanes Outside the Beltway

- Toll prices vary by shape and size of the vehicle
- Cars, SUVs, minivans, and pickup trucks pay the same toll rate
- Vehicles taller than 7' and longer than 18' pay higher toll rates and are not HOV-eligible
- Peak Toll Factor applies for large vehicles Mon-Fri between 5:30-9:30 a.m. and 3-7 p.m.

Visit [Ride66Express.com](https://Ride66Express.com) for additional details



| TOLL CLASS #1   | TOLL CLASS #2   | TOLL CLASS #3  | TOLL CLASS #5   |
|---|---|--|---|
|   |   |  |   |
| NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 0X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 0X  | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 1X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 1X  | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 1X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 1X   | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 3X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 3X  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motorcycle</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passenger Car</li> <li>• SUV</li> <li>• Minivan</li> <li>• Standard Pickup</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large Pickup Trucks</li> <li>• Extended SUVs</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Commercial and Recreational Vehicles</li> <li>• Vans</li> <li>• Small Buses</li> </ul> |
|   | Height <= 7'<br>Length up to 18'<br>2 axles   | Height <= 7'<br>Length > 18' but < 23'<br>2 axles  | Height > 7'<br>Length <= 23'<br>2 axles   |
| TOLL CLASS #6   | TOLL CLASS #7   | TOLL CLASS #8  | TOLL CLASS #9   |
|   |   |  |   |
| NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 4X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 6X  | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 4X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 6X  | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 4X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 6X   | NON-PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 6X<br>PEAK TOLL FACTOR: 8X  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium Commercial and Recreational Vehicles</li> <li>• Medium Buses</li> <li>• Small Commercial Trucks</li> <li>• Small Moving Trucks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large Commercial and Recreational Vehicles</li> <li>• Large Buses</li> <li>• Large Commercial Trucks</li> <li>• Large Moving Trucks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial Vehicles and Recreational Vehicles</li> <li>• Buses</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large Truck</li> <li>• Semi-Trucks and other vehicles pulling trailers</li> </ul>            |
| Height > 7'<br>Length > 23' but <= 30'<br>2 axles   | Height > 7'<br>Length > 30'<br>2 axles  | Height > 7'<br>Length > 23' but <= 46'<br>3+ axles   | Height > 7'<br>Length > 46' but <= 73'<br>3+ axles  |

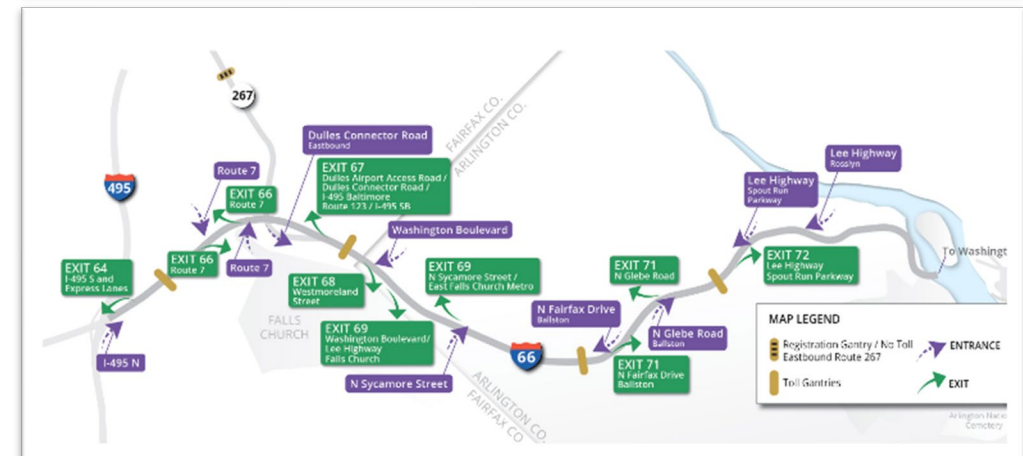
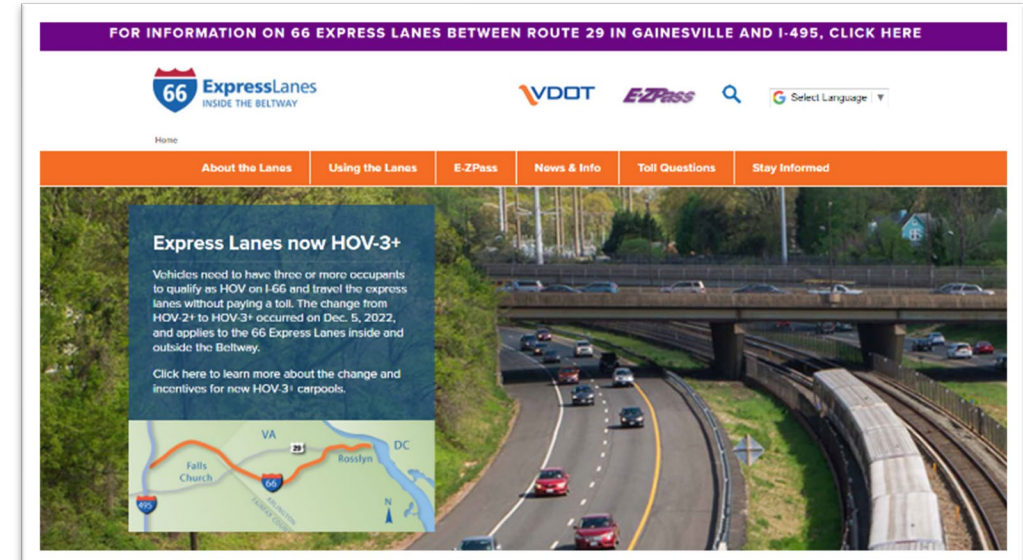
66 Express Lanes outside the Beltway have eight classes of permitted vehicles



# Vehicle Tolling Classifications for 66 Express Lanes Inside the Beltway

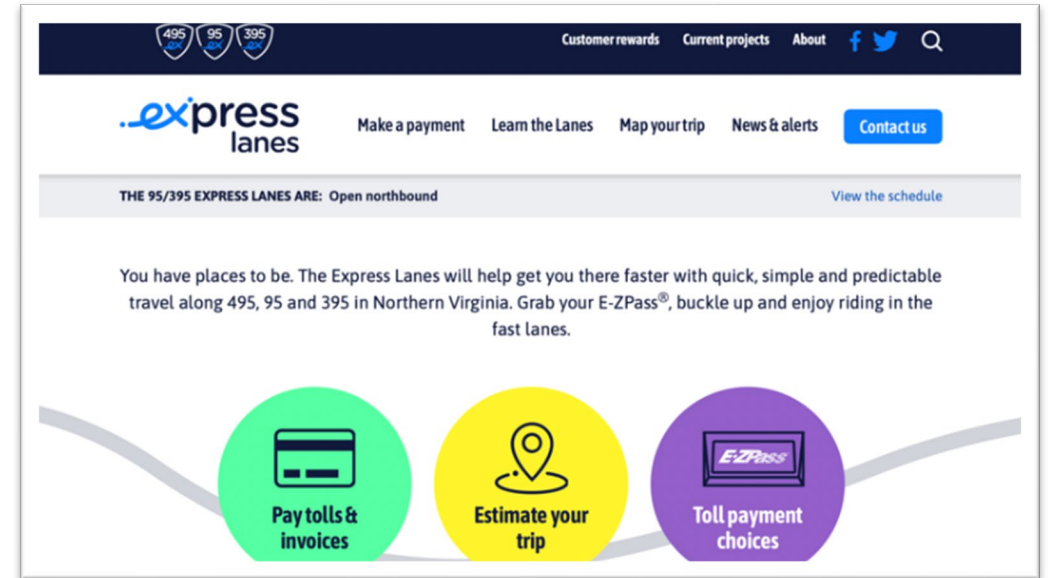
- No toll differences based on vehicle size
- All vehicles are HOV-eligible with 3 or more occupants and an E-ZPass Flex
- No trucks with more than two axles allowed anytime
- Tolling in effect eastbound between 5:30-9:30 a.m. and westbound 3-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, not including holidays

Visit [66ExpressLanes.org](https://66ExpressLanes.org) for additional details

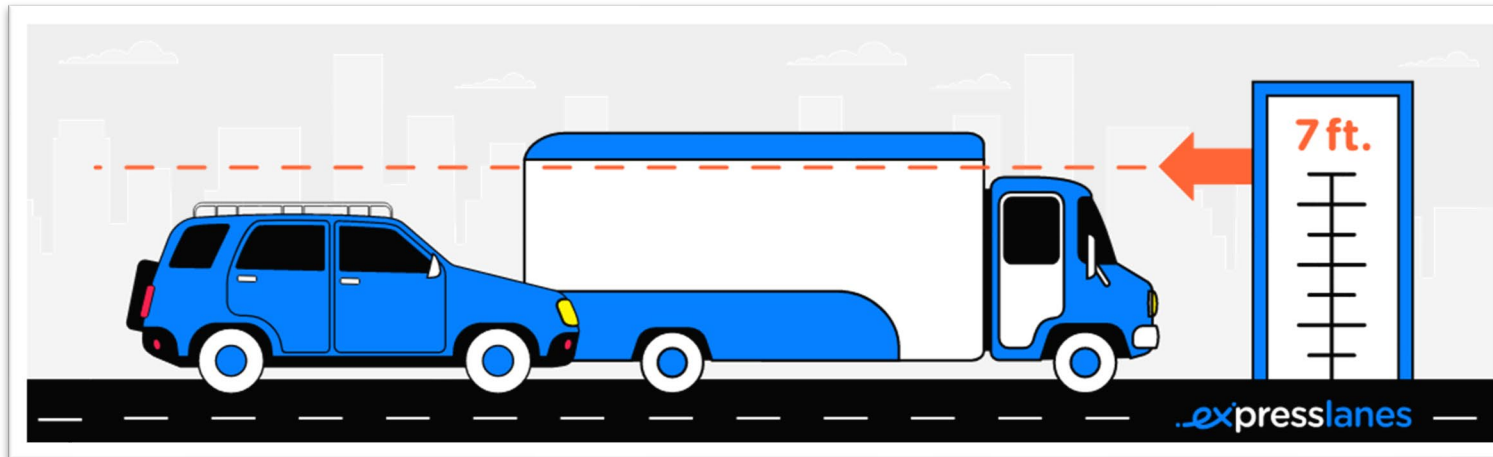


# Vehicle Tolling Classifications for 495/95/395 Express Lanes

- Toll prices vary by shape and size of the vehicle
- Cars, SUVs, minivans, and pickup trucks pay the same toll rate
- Vehicles taller than 7' pay 3x toll rate
- All vehicles are HOV-eligible with 3 or more occupants and an E-ZPass Flex
- No trucks with more than two axles allowed



Visit [ExpressLanes.com](https://www.expresslanes.com) for additional details



# 95 Express Lanes/Opitz Boulevard Ramp Project

- Constructing a south-facing, elevated, reversible ramp from the Opitz Boulevard bridge to the 95 Express Lanes to increase accessibility to and from 95 Express Lanes corridor
- Providing sidewalk along north side of the Opitz Boulevard bridge
- Relocating existing slip ramp from southbound I-95 general purpose lanes to south of Dale Boulevard
- Construction began: Summer 2022
- Final project completion: Summer 2024





# New Express Lanes/ Access Point

## Northbound Access (AM Peak)



### LEGEND



## Southbound Access (PM Peak)

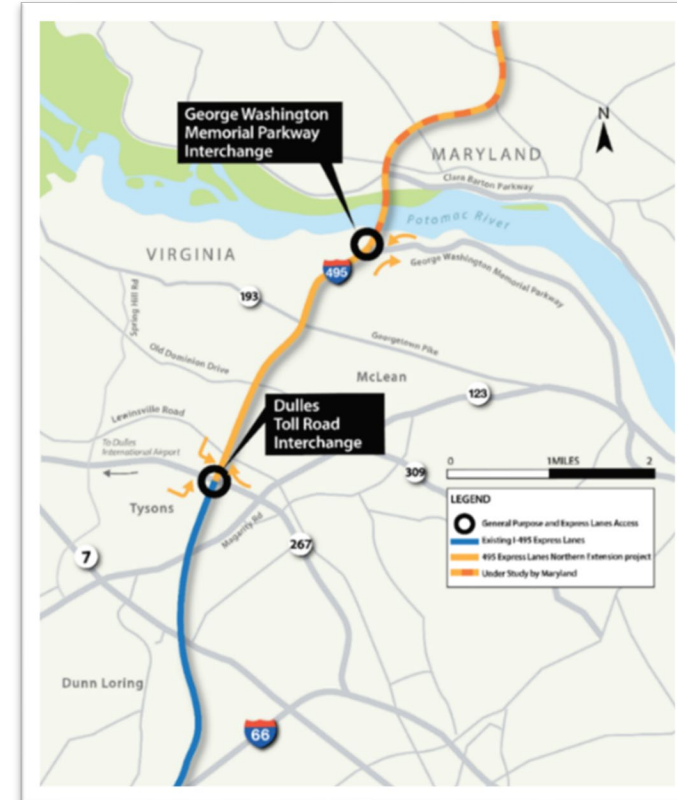


### LEGEND




# 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, an George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange
- Public-private partnership project between VDOT and Transurban through 2087




Improve interchanges and replace existing bridges




Add bike and pedestrian trails



Replace existing noise walls and construct new walls where needed



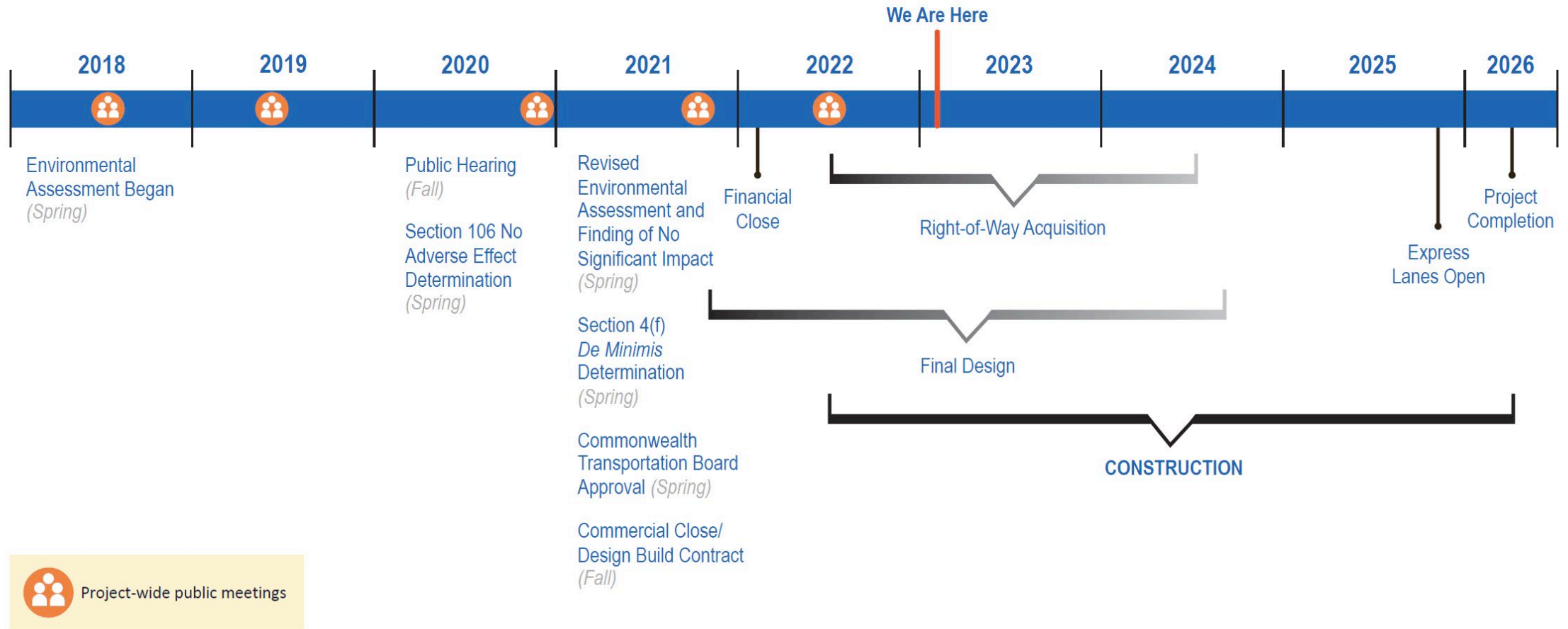
Provide stormwater management facilities



Provide stream restoration and stabilization

## Other Project Benefits

# I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project Timeline





# First Year Construction Highlights

- Construction Start: March 2022
- 2022 Milestones
  - Beltway and ramps realigned to maximize traffic flow during construction
  - Completed Georgetown Pike Bridge center pier



*Construction progress is subject to change due to weather and other factors*

# Beltway Construction

- Work Sequence
  - Remove noise walls and clear trees to widen Beltway
  - Construct lanes outside current alignment
  - Shift traffic to outside lanes to enable construction of inside lanes
  - Open Express Lanes: Fall 2025



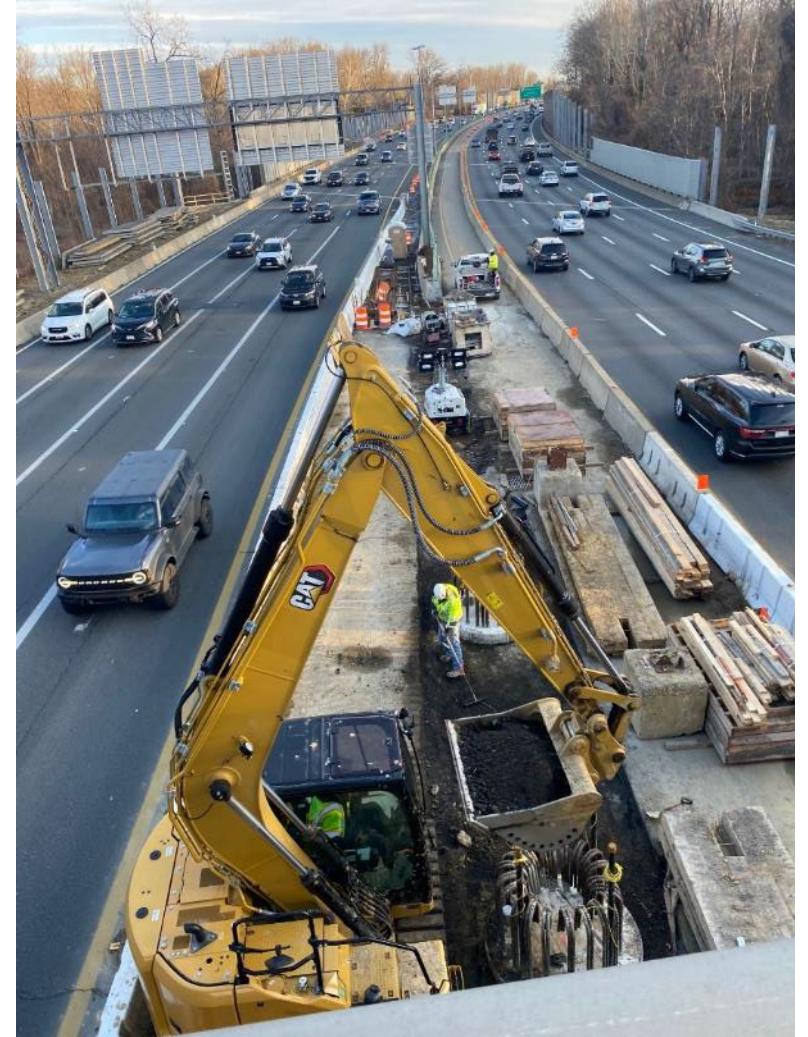
*Construction progress is subject to change due to weather and other factors*



# Overpass Construction

- Replace old bridges with upgraded new bridges featuring wider sidewalks and trail connections
  - Live Oak Drive
  - Georgetown Pike
  - Old Dominion Drive
- Improve Lewinsville Road overpass
  - Replace 5' sidewalk with 10' sidewalk
- Work Sequence
  - Complete piers in Beltway median
  - Construct abutments (includes pile driving)
  - Complete new bridges and transfer traffic: Summer 2025
  - Demolish old bridges (during overnights)

*Construction progress is subject to change due to weather and other factors*





# Virginia's Transit Commitment and Transportation Management Plan

## Transit Commitment

- Commonwealth providing project funding to Fairfax County to implement Tysons / 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

# 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](http://www.virginiadot.org/495southside)



# Purpose and Need Summary

Study purpose: Evaluate transportation improvements that would extend and provide continuity of the Express Lanes system from the Springfield Interchange to the MD 210 Interchange in Prince George's County, MD

## Study Needs:

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

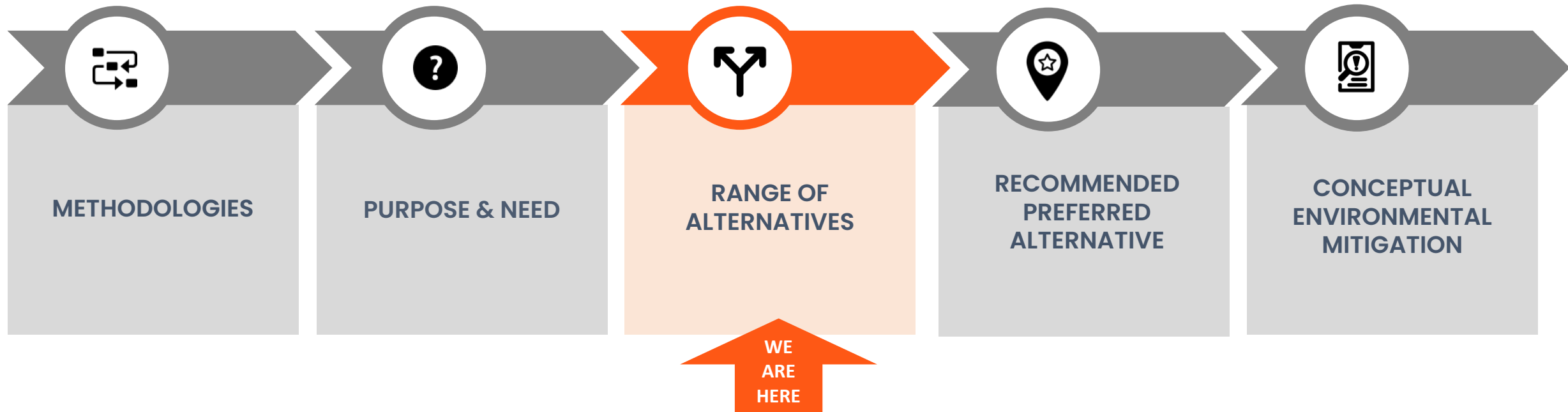




# Environmental Study Update

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:



# Status Update

## Developing Environmental Assessment (EA) documentation

- Existing operational corridor analysis
- Traffic analysis
- Preliminary alternative concepts development

## Current study schedule

- Begin study - January 2022
- Begin data collection, analysis and initial agency coordination - January 2022
- Begin public and stakeholder outreach - Spring 2022
- Held virtual Public Information Meeting (PIM) - May 18, 2022
- In-Person PIMs - May 19, 23 & 25, 2022
- PIM (study update/preliminary alternative concepts) - Summer 2023
- Public Hearing for EA - Winter 2024
- FHWA NEPA Decision - Spring 2024



THANK YOU!