

I-495 EXPRESS LANES NORTHERN EXTENSION (495 NEXT)

Virginia Department of Transportation

FAIRFAX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

November 10, 2020

Presentation Topics

- Project Overview
- Environmental and Traffic Assessment Findings
- Public Outreach
- Concerns Identified
 - Noise walls
 - Trail
 - Trees
 - Scotts Run
 - Impacts of Covid-19
 - Dulles Toll Road ramps
- Transit Study
- Schedule and Next Steps







Project Overview

Scope

- Extend the 495 Express Lanes by approximately three miles from the I-495 and Dulles Toll Road interchange to the George Washington Memorial Parkway in the vicinity of the American Legion Bridge
- Replace existing bridges
- Add bike and pedestrian trails
- Replace existing noise walls and construct new walls where needed
- Provide stormwater management facilities

Goals and Objectives

- Reduce congestion
- Provide additional travel choices
- Improve travel reliability
- Enhance safety









Project Benefits

- Adds new capacity
- Provides new travel choices
- Decreases travel times during peak periods
- Reduces cut-through traffic on local roads
- Improves safety in the study area by:
 - Taking cars off local roads
 - Reducing the weaving needed to access the George Washington Memorial Parkway

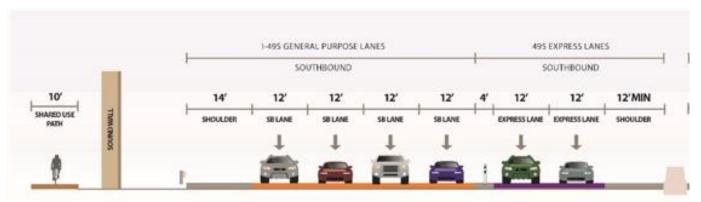






Bicycle Trail

- Preliminary design coordinated with Fairfax County to advance county bike plan
- Trails added along I-495 corridor
 - Shared-use path behind the noise wall between Lewinsville Road and Live Oak Drive
 - Connection to future crossing at American Legion Bridge to Maryland
 - Privacy and security concerns (need for fence)
- Facilities improved on bridges
 - Old Dominion Drive (VA 783)
 - Georgetown Pike (VA 193)
 - Live Oak Drive









Traffic Analysis Results

Move More People

- 2045: Moves 7,600 more people per hour in both directions combined
- 2025 with Maryland Managed Lanes System: Moves 5,400 more people per hour in both directions combined
- 2025 Prior to Maryland Managed Lanes System: Moves 2,500 more people per hour in both directions combined

Reduces Cut-Through Traffic on Local Roads



Improves Travel Reliability 2025 Prior to Maryland Project

- A 5 to 24 minute decrease in travel time on the northbound I-495 express lanes
- A 4 to 6 minute increase in travel time on the northbound general purpose lanes

2025 With Maryland Project

- A 4 to 5 minute decrease in travel time on the northbound I-495 express lanes
- A 3 to 4 minute decrease in travel time on the northbound I-495 general purpose lanes





Public Outreach

Public Meetings and Public Hearings

- Public Meeting # 1 (June 11, 2018) add # of attendees for public meetings/hearings)
- Public Meeting # 2 (May 20, 2019)
- Question & Answer Session #1 (September 28, 2020)
- Question & Answer Session #2 (September 30, 2020)
- Public Hearing # 1 (October 5, 2020)
- Public Hearing # 2 (October 8, 2020) Comment period closes on 12/4/2020
- Joint Public Meeting DRPT and VDOT

 Transit Study, 495 NEXT: November 18
- Elected Officials (16 meetings in 2020)
- Stakeholders and Agencies (29 meetings in 2020)
- Property Owners One-on-One Meetings (21 meetings in 2020)
- Homeowner's Associations (5 meetings in 2020)





Public Outreach October and November 2020 Efforts

VDOT is setting up meetings with HOA's and Civic Associations

- Mclean Citizens Assoc. (10/13/2020)
- Great Falls Citizens Assoc. (11/11)
- Beaufort Park HOA
- Saigon Community Association
- Potomac Overlook HOA
- Langley Swim and Tennis Club
- Langley Oaks HOA
- Timberly South HOA
- Snow-Lear HOA
- Lewinsville Coalition

- West Langley Civic Association
- McLean Traffic Advisory Group
- Tree Line HOA
- McLean Hamlet Community Assoc.
- Elwood Estates HOA
- Scotts Run HOA
- The Reserve HOA
- Swinks Mill Estate HOA
- Gates of McLean
- Encore and Regency Condos

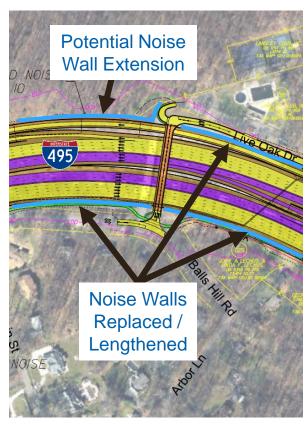


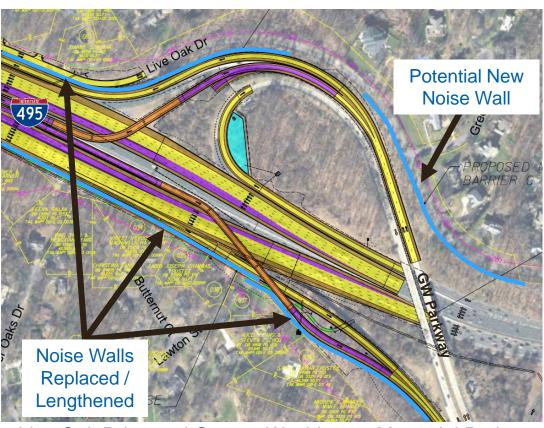


Concerns Identified: Noise Walls

Preliminary noise wall study results:

- 9 existing walls to be replaced at same elevation or higher
- 3 of 9 existing walls lengthened
- 1 new wall





Examples of noise wall locations near Live Oak Drive and George Washington Memorial Parkway

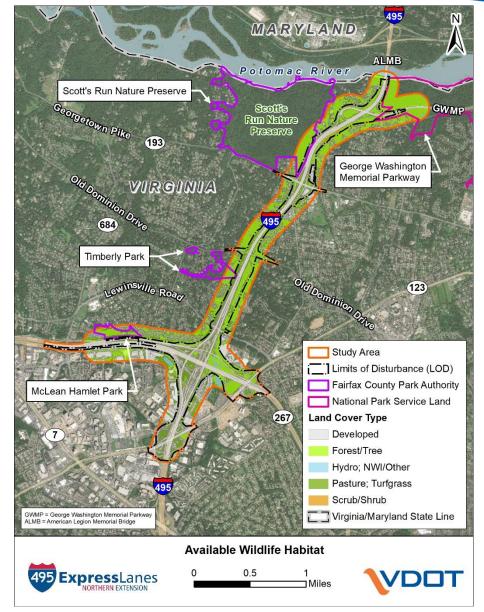
If you have a noise wall today, you'll have one in the future





Concerns Identified: Trees Wooded Areas

- Approximately 35 acres anticipated to be affected by Phase I construction
- The project will develop and implement a replanting plan
- Based on a request from the McLean Citizens Association, a tree survey will be conducted
- Roadway infrastructure and stormwater management has been designed to minimize impacts to wooded areas

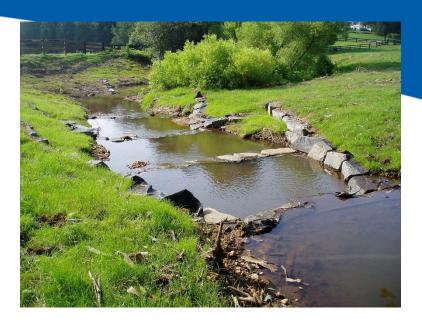






Concerns Identified: Scotts Run

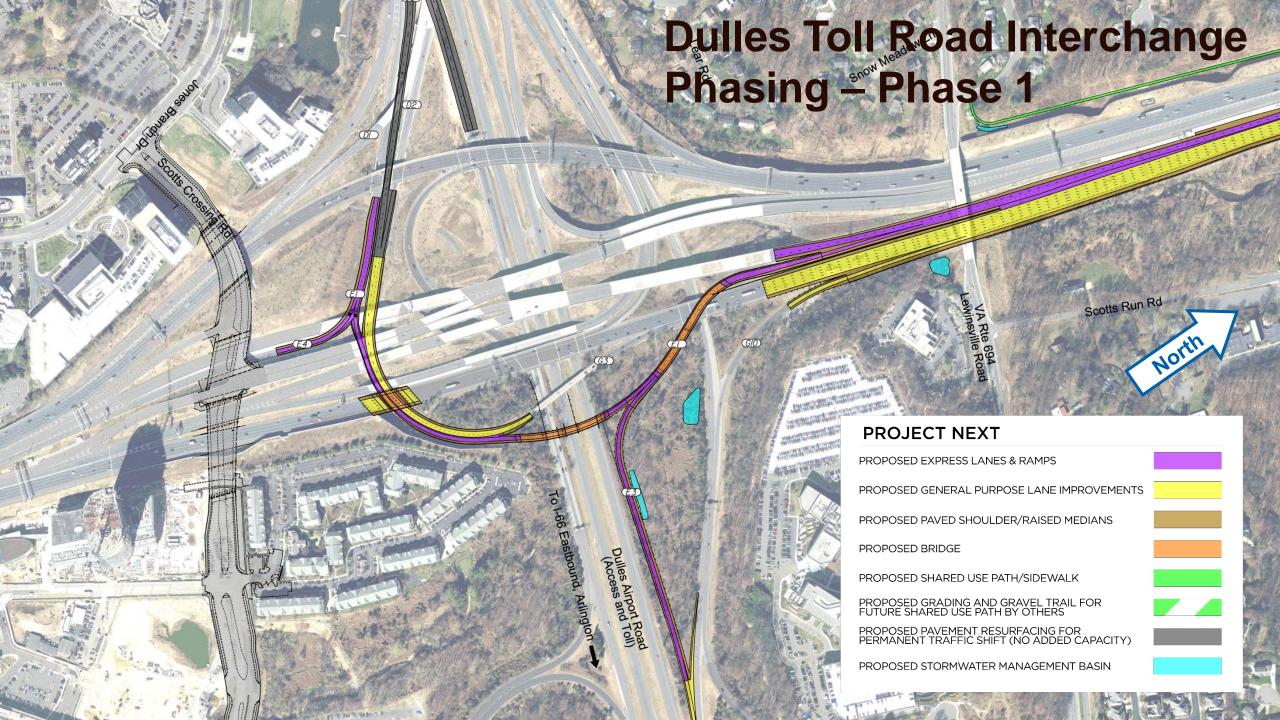
- Partnering with Fairfax County to provide outfall enhancements
- Potential collaboration with Fairfax County stream restoration projects
 - Active and/or future projects
- Implementing quality and quantity stormwater management
 - Address runoff at Scotts Run

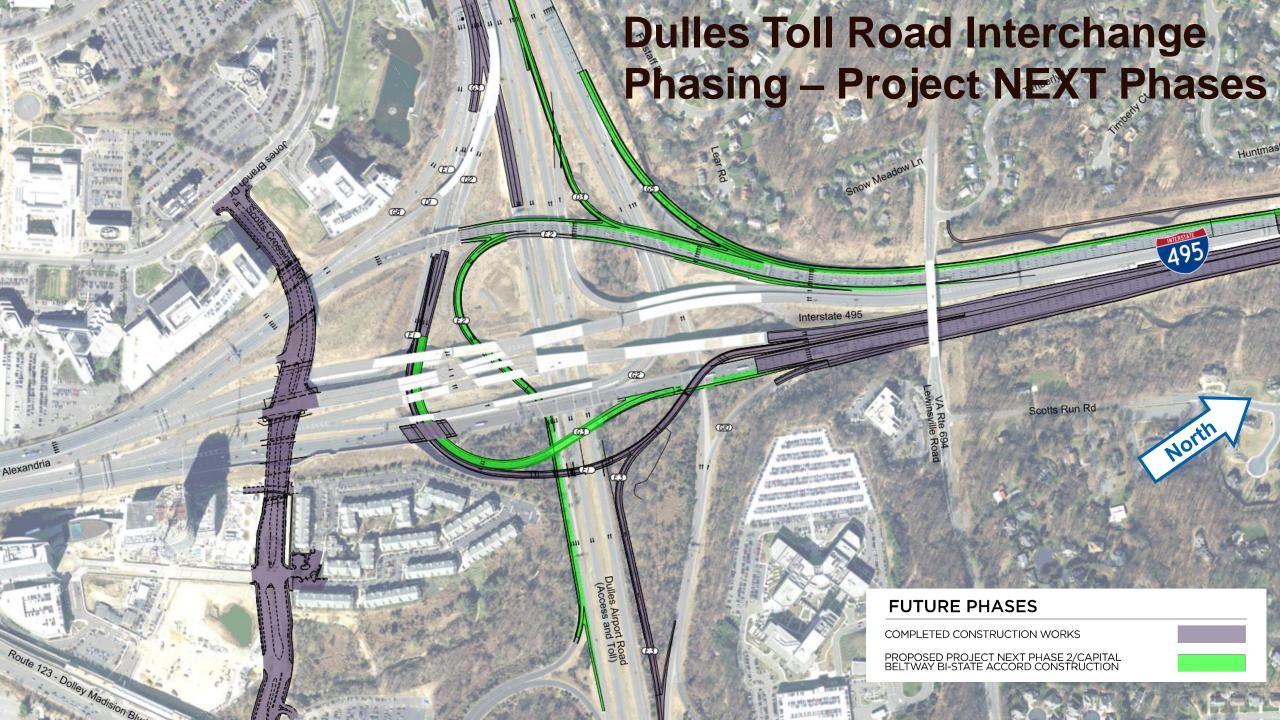


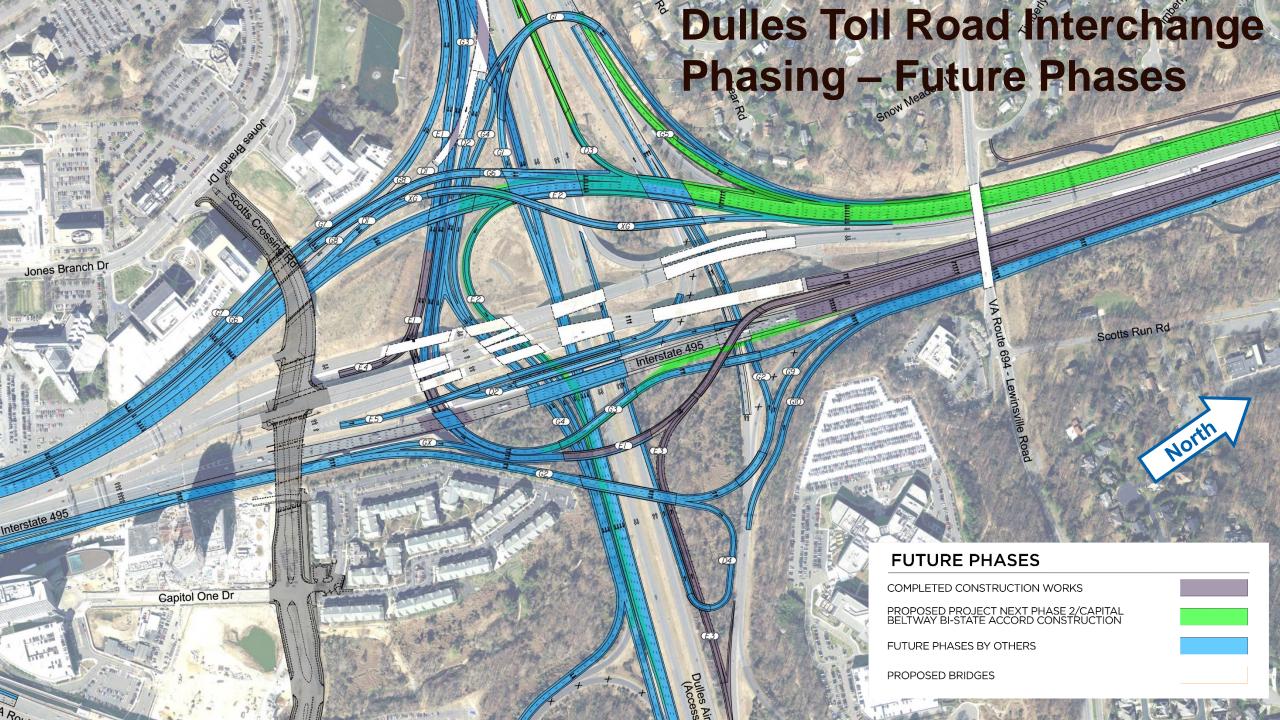










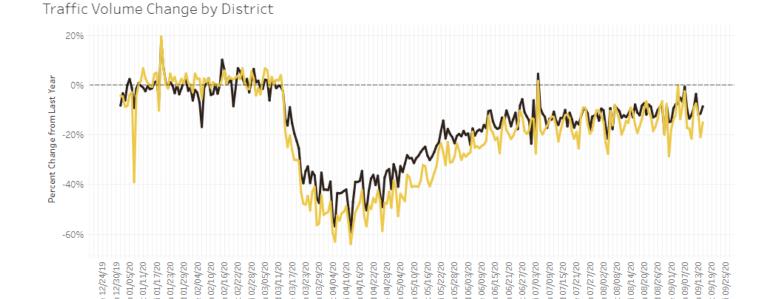


Concerns Identified: Impacts of Covid-19

- Current traffic at 80% to 90% of pre-Covid levels
- VDOT conducting sensitivity analyses to assess the impacts of Covid-19 on future traffic in the corridor

VDOT Permanent Count Station Data –
January – September 2020 –
Northern Virginia & Statewide Urban
Interstate Traffic – All Vehicles in PM Peak









I-495 Regional Transit Study

- High-level transit needs study
- Joint study between Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and Maryland Transit Administration
- The study purpose is to identify potential current and future multimodal solutions to reduce congestion, and improve trip reliability and regional connections
- The study is currently assessing the overall demand for transit.
- Rail along this corridor is not included in the regional long range plan or local comprehensive plans.
- The study is Independent of ongoing environmental studies in both states
- Anticipated results in 2020





Key Milestones

SCHEDULE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2024
Public Outreach	Ongoing				
Public Meeting #1 (June 11, 2018)	June				
Public Meeting #2 (May 20, 2019)		May			
Location & Design Public Hearing (Oct. 5 and 8, 2020)			October		
NEPA Decision/IJR Approval				Winter/ Spring	
Final Contract				2021	
Final Design and Construction Starts				2021	4
Open to Traffic					2024

