



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
Transportation Planning and
Mobility

Transportation Commission

January 22, 2025
7 P.M.





Notice

- ▶ The January 22, 2025, meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held in the City Council Workroom on the second floor of City Hall (301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314) and electronically. Members of the Transportation Commission and staff are participating either in-person or from a remote location through video conference call on Zoom. The meeting can be accessed by the public in-person or via Zoom.



Commission Members

- ▶ **Dan Beattie**- Environmental Policy Commission
- ▶ **Leslie Catherwood**- Resident East
- ▶ **Casey Kane** Traffic and Parking Board
- ▶ **Tim Lovain**- Resident East with Transportation Expertise
- ▶ **Jody Manor**- Planning Commission
- ▶ **Jim Maslanka**- Resident West
- ▶ **Melissa McMahon** Planning Commission
- ▶ **Matthew McManus**- Resident West, DASH Advisory Committee
- ▶ **John Chapman**- Council (non-voting)
- ▶ **Kirk McPike**- Council (non-voting)

Public Comment Period



Agenda Item 1

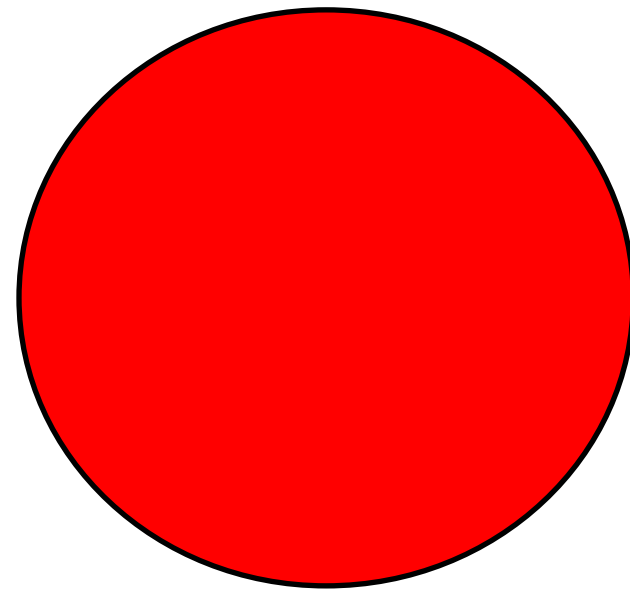




Public Comment

- ▶ For Speakers not discussing items related to public hearings.
- ▶ For virtual attendees:
 - ▶ Raise hand or press *9
 - ▶ Mute or unmute press *6
 - ▶ 3 minutes per speaker

3 Minute Timer



Transportation Commission Minutes: November 20, 2024

Agenda Item 2



Discussion Item: VPRA- Joint VPRA and City Update on Rail Projects

Agenda Item 3





Joint VPRA and City Update on Rail Projects

City of Alexandria Transportation Commission
January 22, 2025



Who is Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA)?

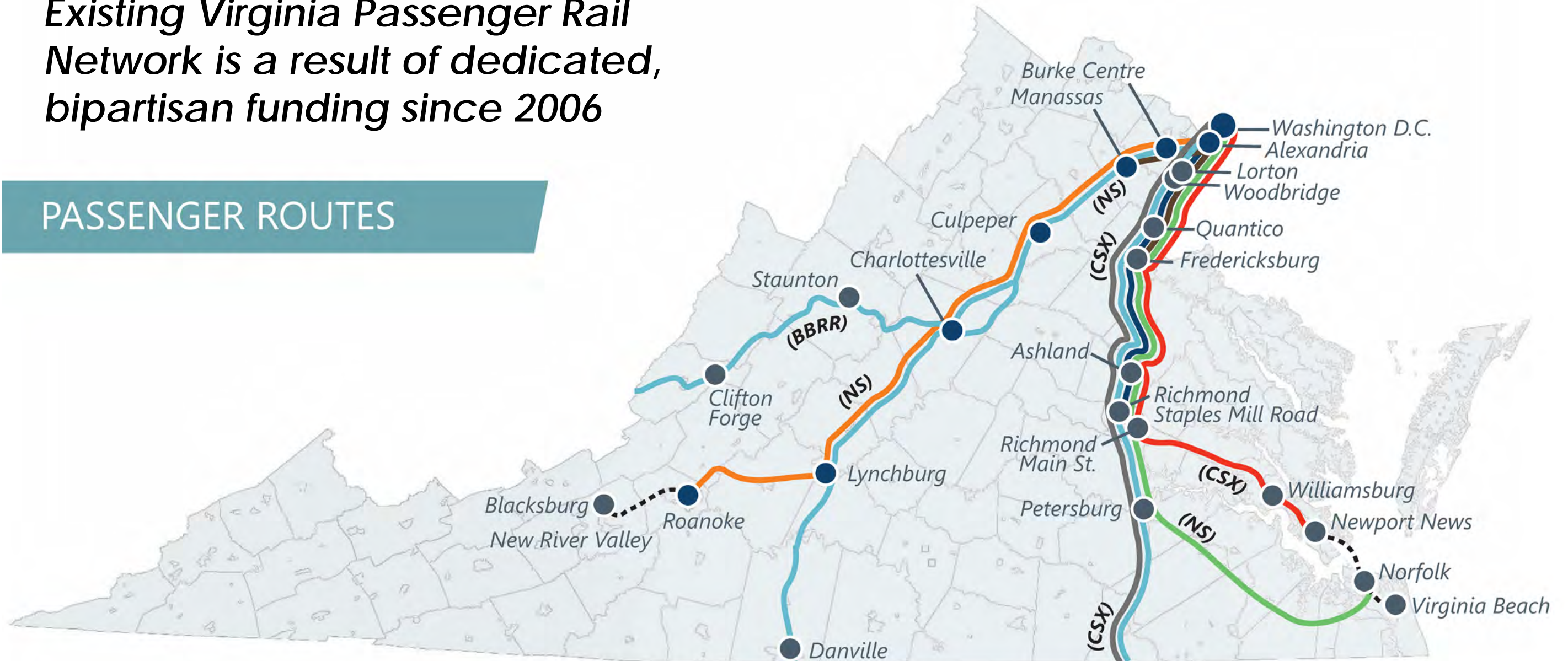
- Created in 2020 by the General Assembly
- Responsible for expanding and promoting passenger and commuter rail
 - Capital Program
 - State-sponsored routes and Marketing



Virginia Passenger Rail Network 2025

Existing Virginia Passenger Rail Network is a result of dedicated, bipartisan funding since 2006

PASSENGER ROUTES



Virginia State-Supported Services

- Washington-Roanoke (Route 46)
- Washington-Newport News (Route 47)
- Washington-Norfolk (Route 50)
- Washington-Richmond (Route 51)

Host Railroads

- CSX** - CSX Transportation
- NS** - Norfolk Southern
- BBRR** - Buckingham Branch
- Passenger Station

Other Services

- Other Amtrak State-Supported
- Amtrak Long-Distance
- VRE Commuter Rail
- Thruway Bus

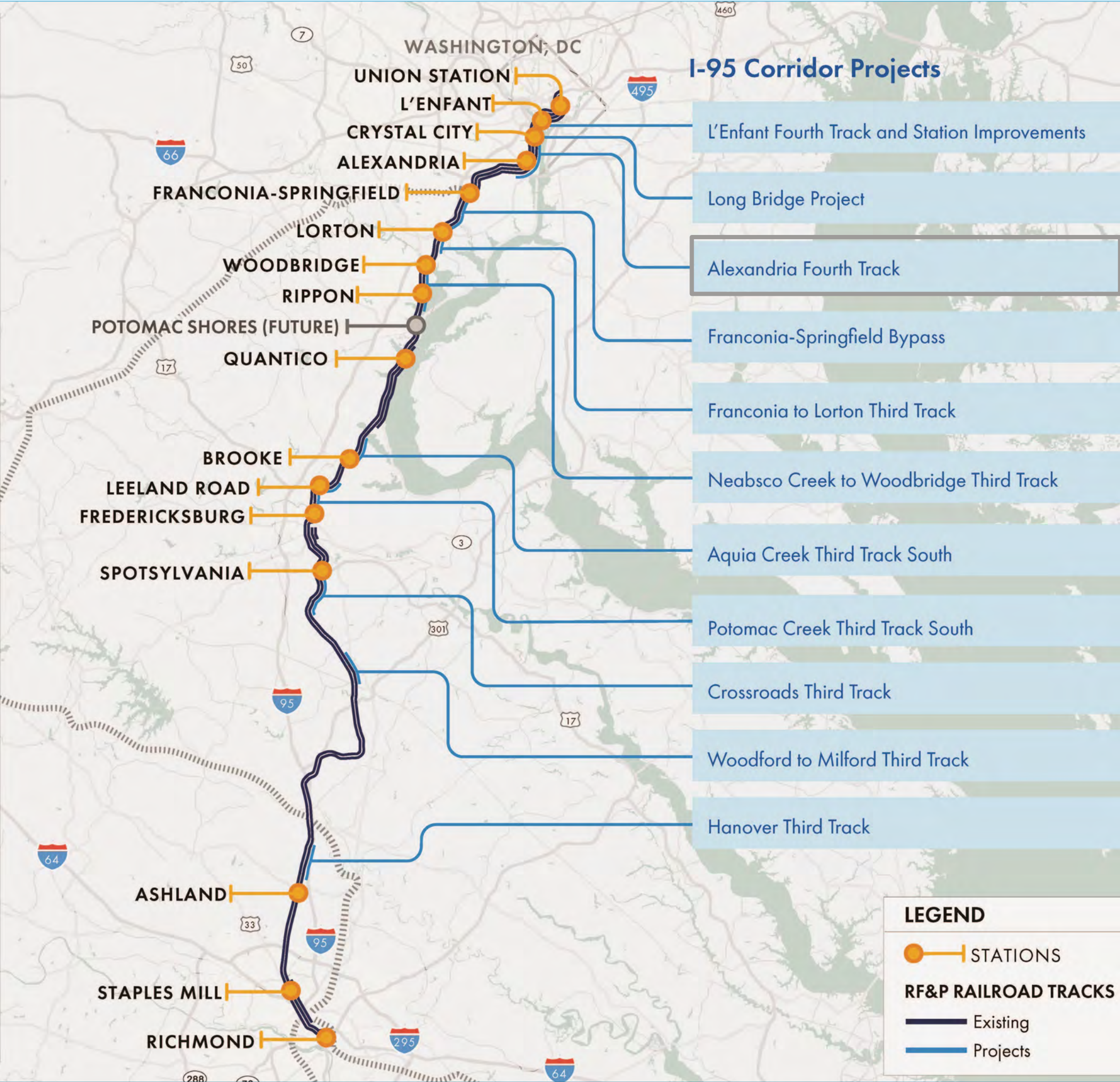
- **Four State-Supported Amtrak Routes:**
8 daily roundtrips
 - Roanoke: 2
 - Richmond: 1
 - Newport News: 2
 - Norfolk: 3
- **Five Amtrak Long-Distance Roundtrips**
- **One NC State-Supported Roundtrip**
- **Two Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Commuter Routes:** 16 daily roundtrips
 - Manassas: 8
 - Fredericksburg: 8



VPRA Capital Program: DC to Richmond

11 projects unlock new passenger rail service and set the stage for future service expansion.

- Two new Amtrak and three new VRE roundtrips (including late night & weekend service).
- Future capacity for an additional three new Amtrak roundtrips and two additional VRE

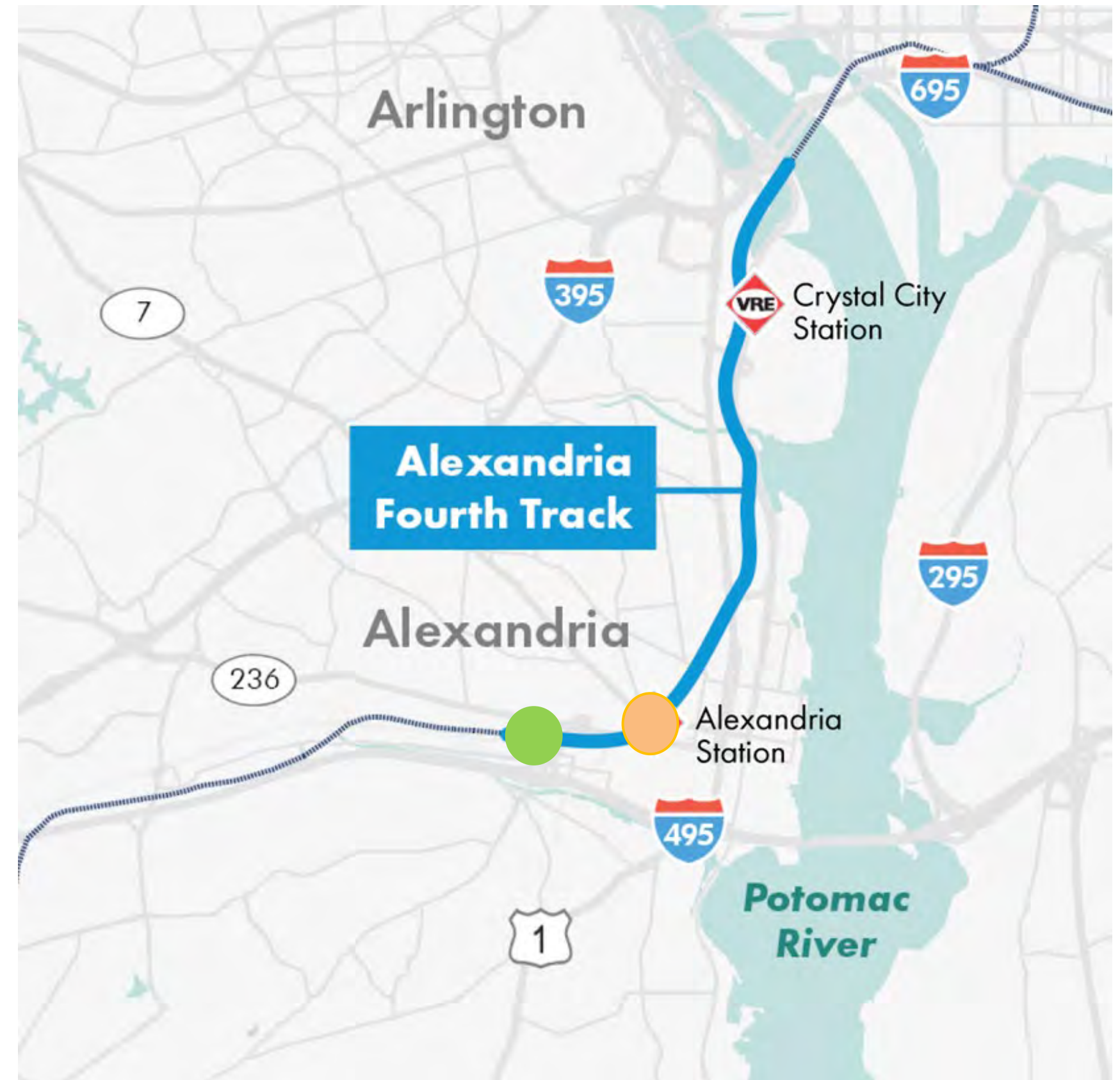


Arlington-Alexandria 4th Track Project

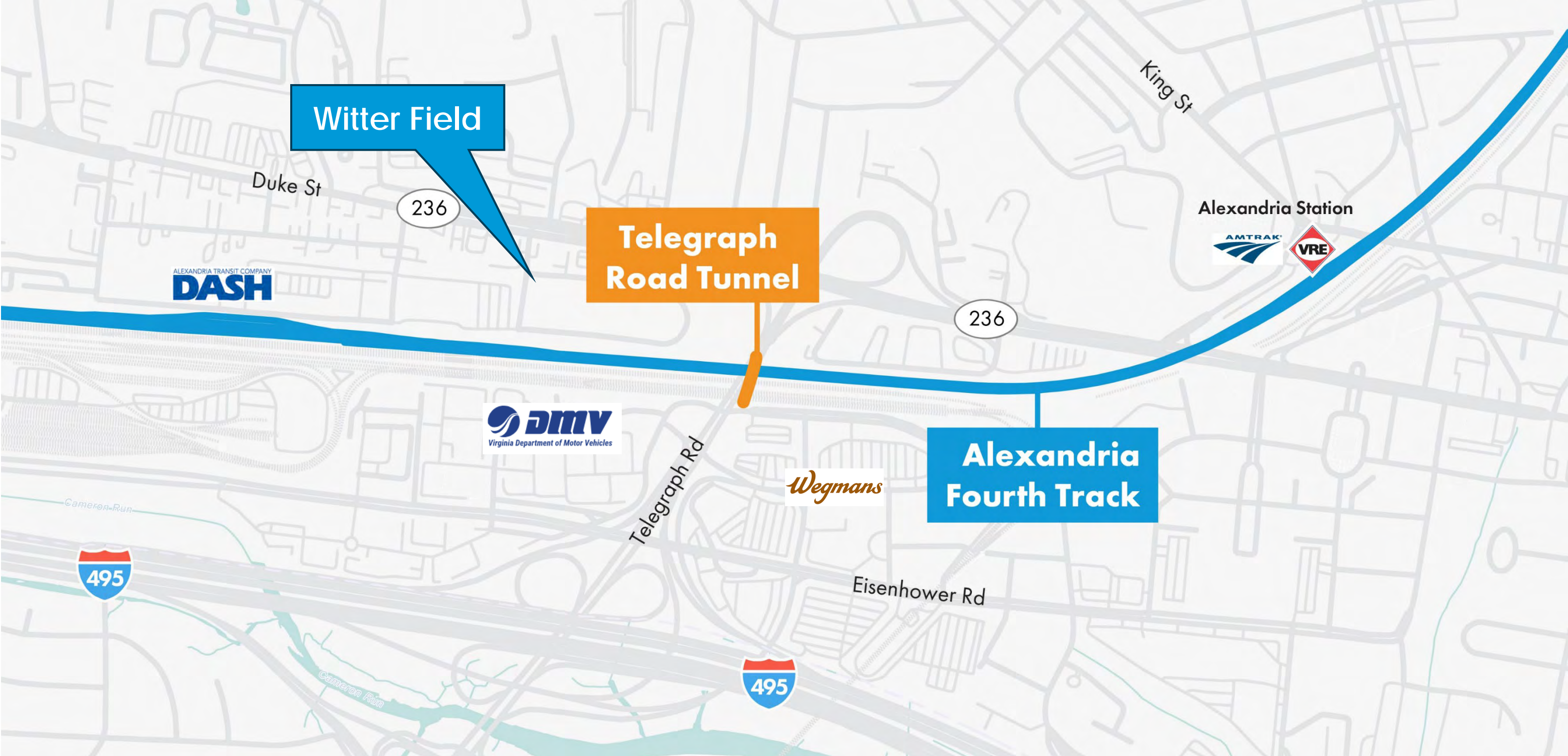
6 miles of 4th track from Long Bridge Park to Business Center Drive area (\$210M)

Related sub projects

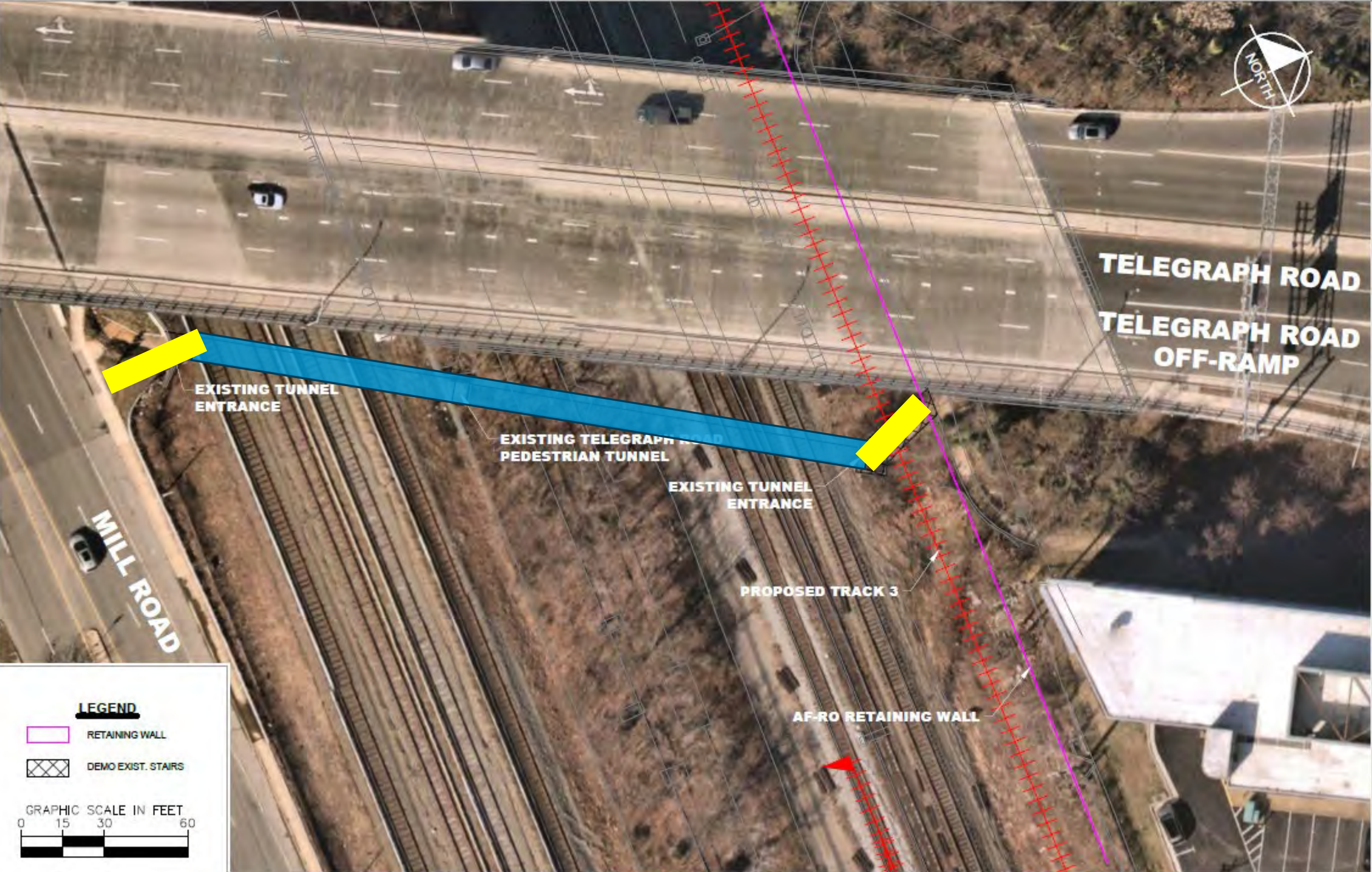
- **King Street area projects**
 - Alexandria Station (\$44M)
 - King and Commonwealth Bridges (\$84M)
 - City Streetscape Improvements (Planning Stage)
- **Telegraph Tunnel**
 - Pedestrian mitigation improvements (\$2.5M)



Telegraph Tunnel Location



4th Track and Tunnel



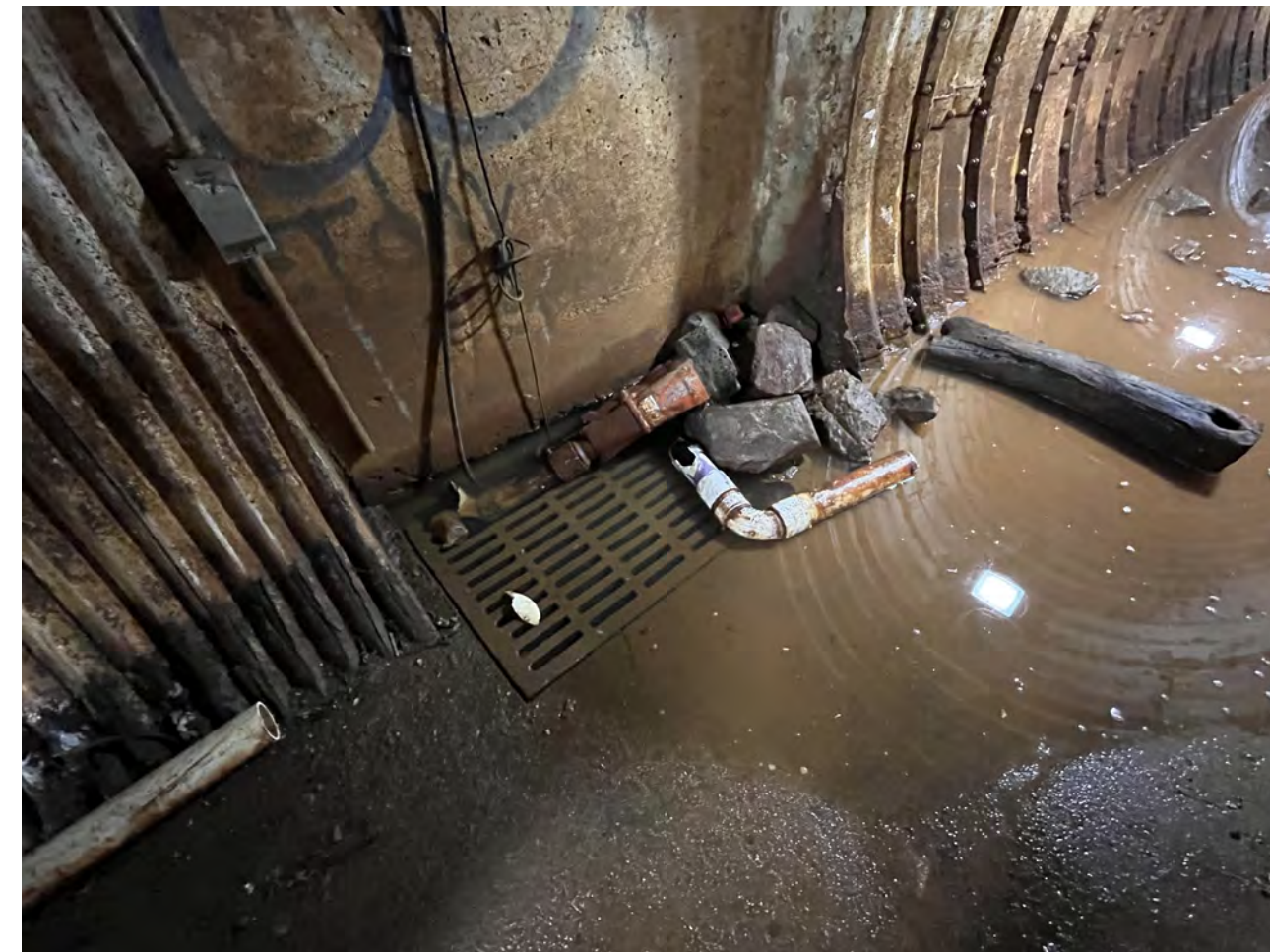
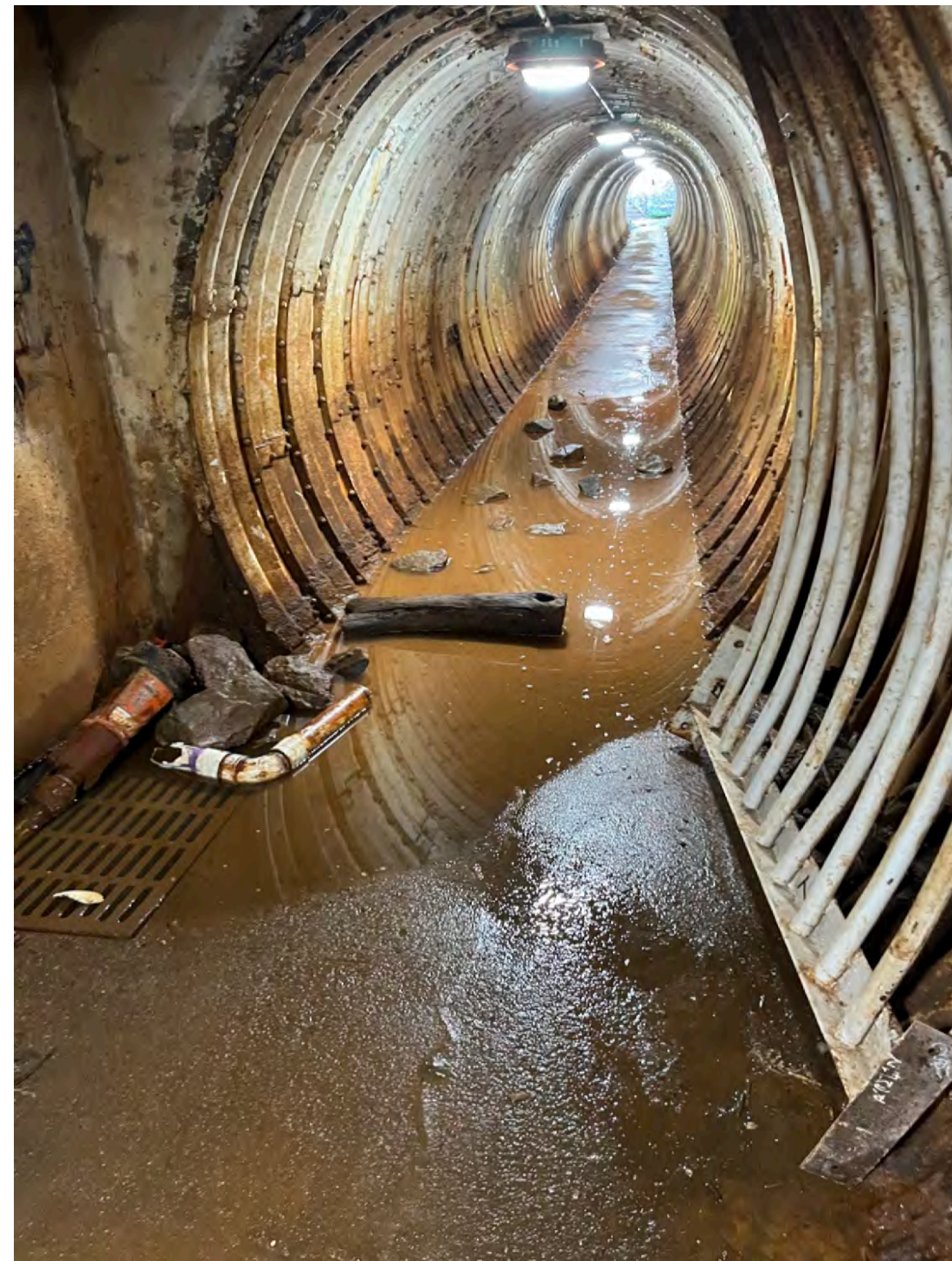
Existing Conditions - North Side of the Tunnel



Existing Conditions - South Side of the Tunnel (Mill Rd)



Existing Conditions – Inside Tunnel



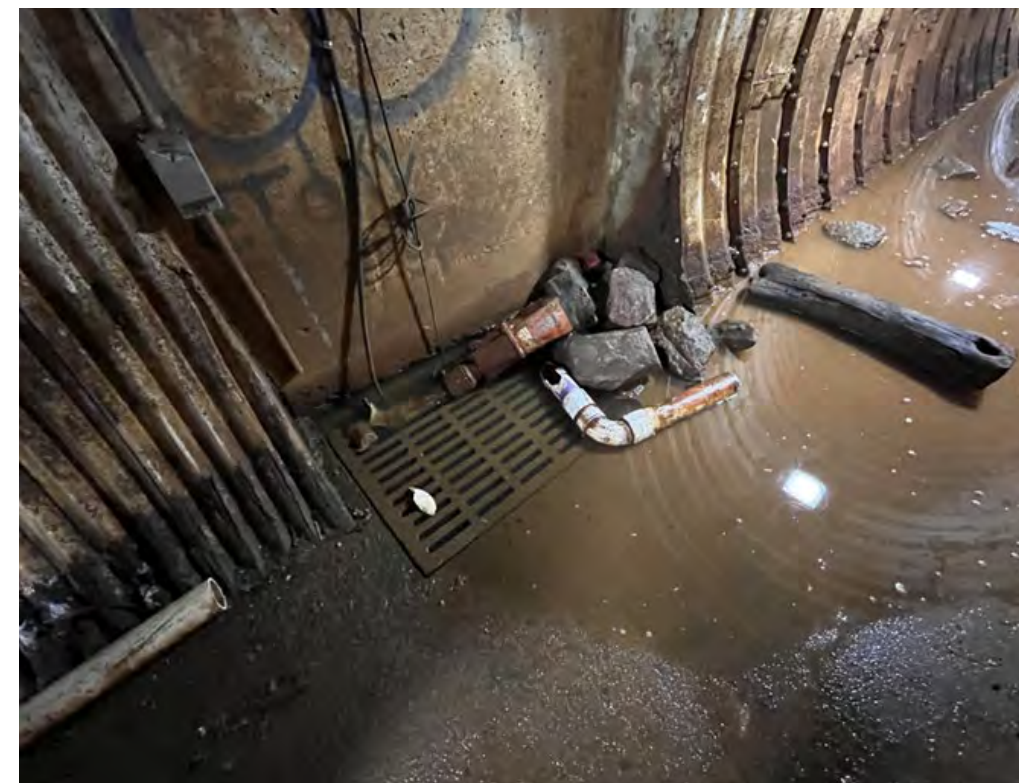
4th Track Impacts to tunnel

- Impacts identified during 4th track design
 - Recommended closing tunnel
- City requested study to determine options
- Feasibility Study
 - Existing and Planned Conditions Analysis
 - Alternatives Analysis
 - Development of improvement plan



Recommendation

- Close the tunnel because:
 - Is beyond its useful life (Constructed in 1947)
 - Would need to be completely rebuilt under tracks while not disrupting Rail/Metro service
 - Drainage/flooding issues
 - Safety-visibility concerns
 - Not ADA accessible
 - Too low for bikes
 - Cost prohibitive
- Identified alternative paths as viable options & future improvements for connectivity

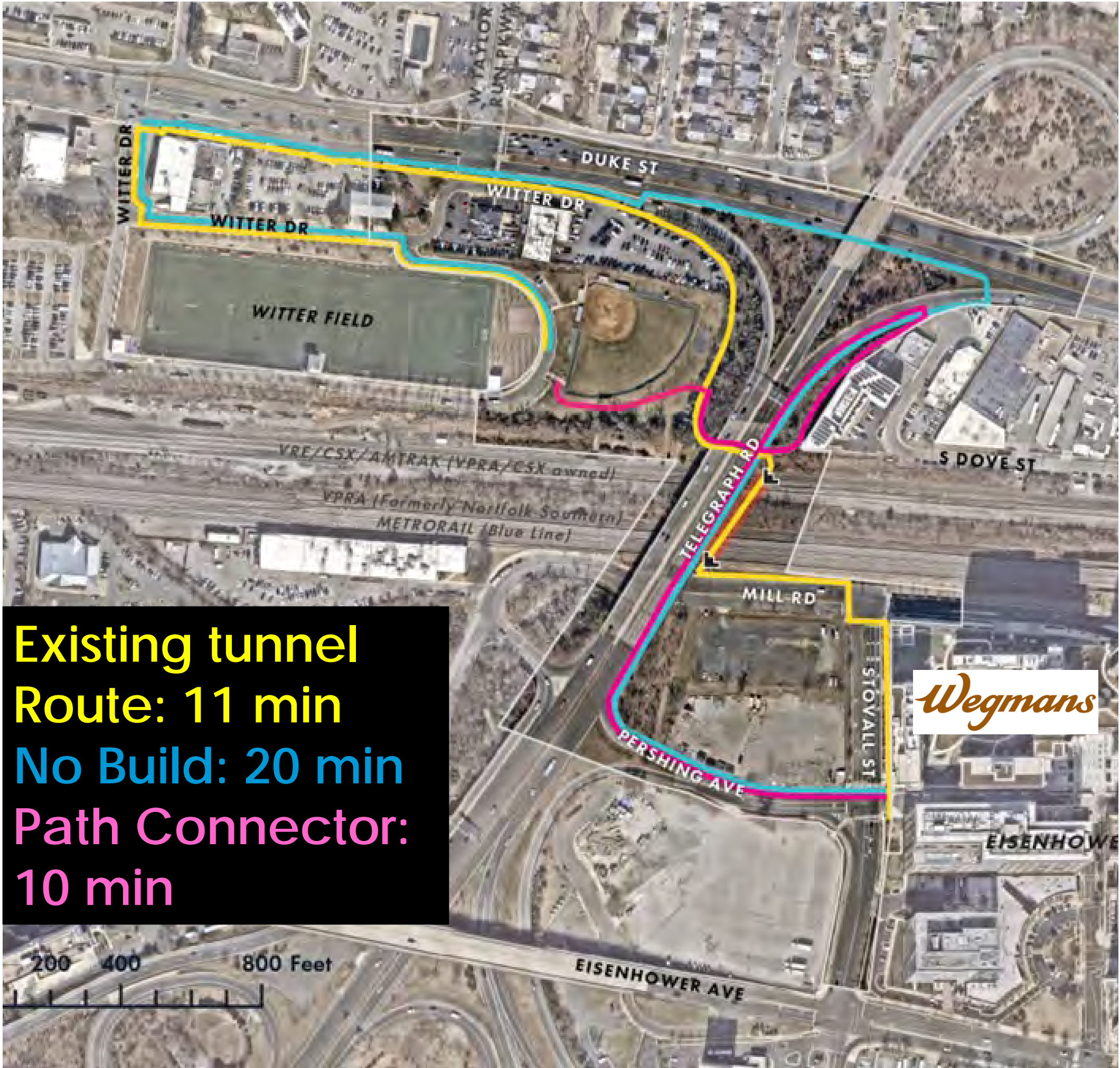


Recommended Short-term Improvements

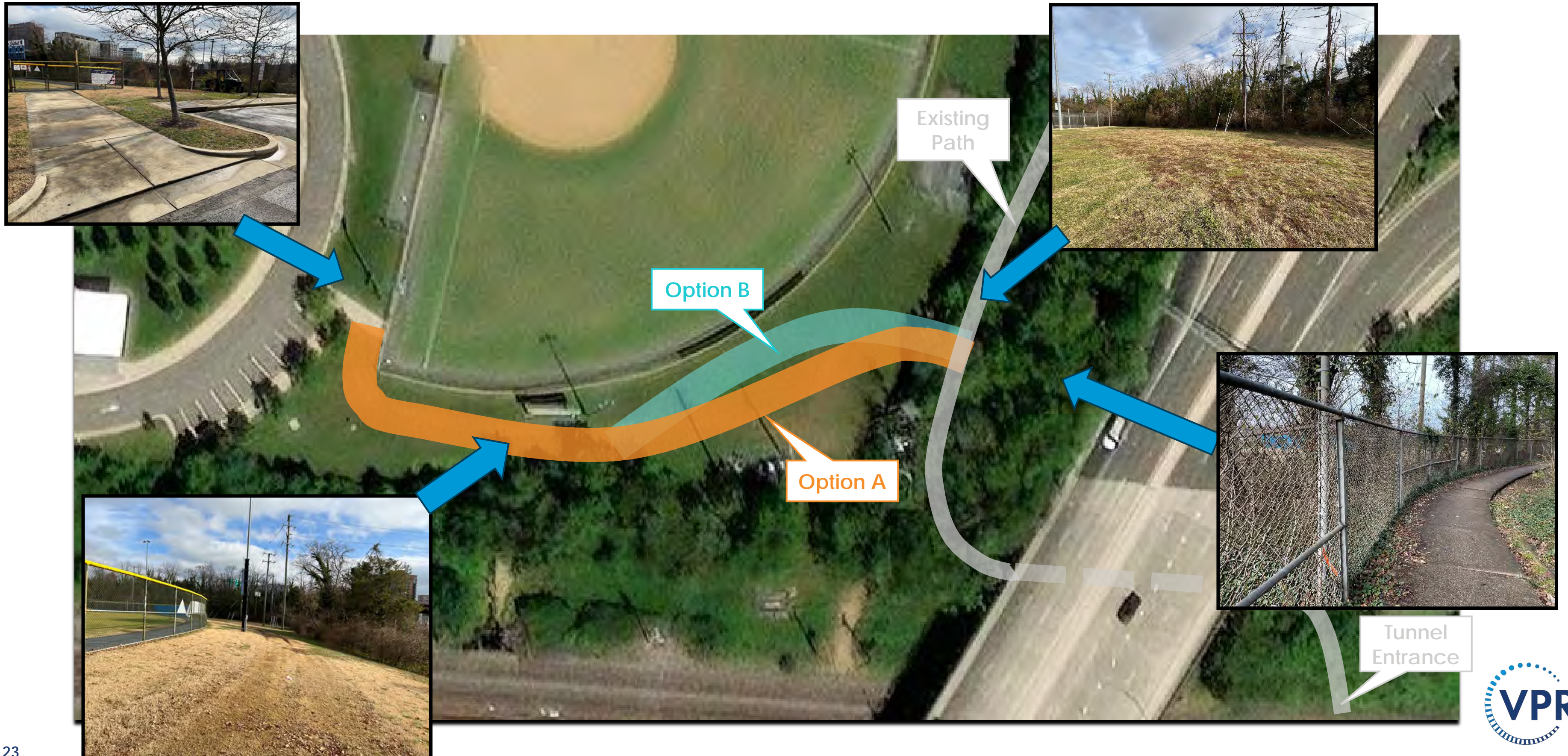


*Goal to complete short-term improvements by the time the tunnel is closed.

Walking times



Witter Park Shared Use Path Connector

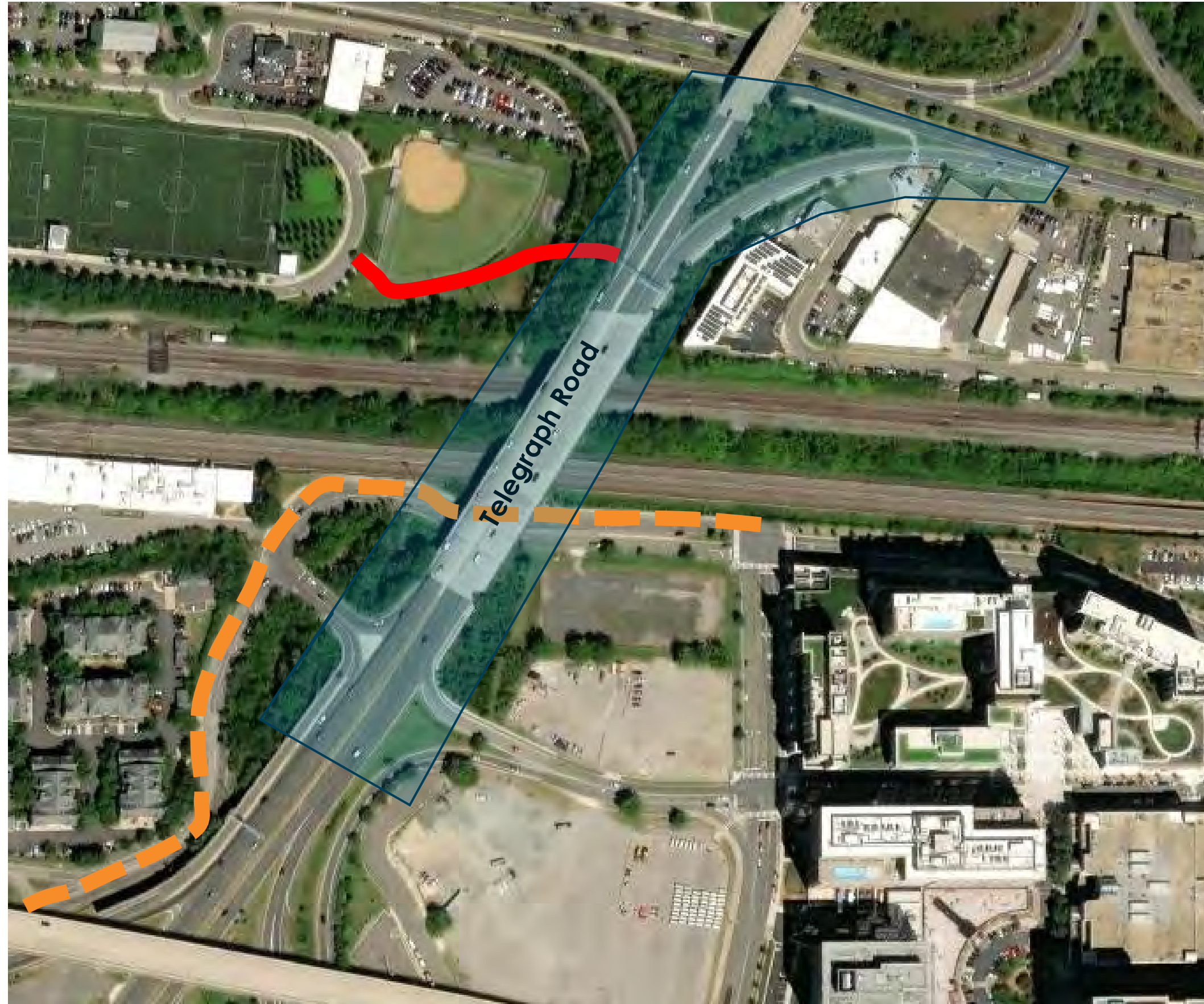


Potential Future Improvements

GOAL: Improve walking and biking experience between east and west sides of Telegraph Road.



SHORT-TERM Projects:

- Mill Road bike path
- New Connection to Witter Field
- VDOT Safety Study of Telegraph Road

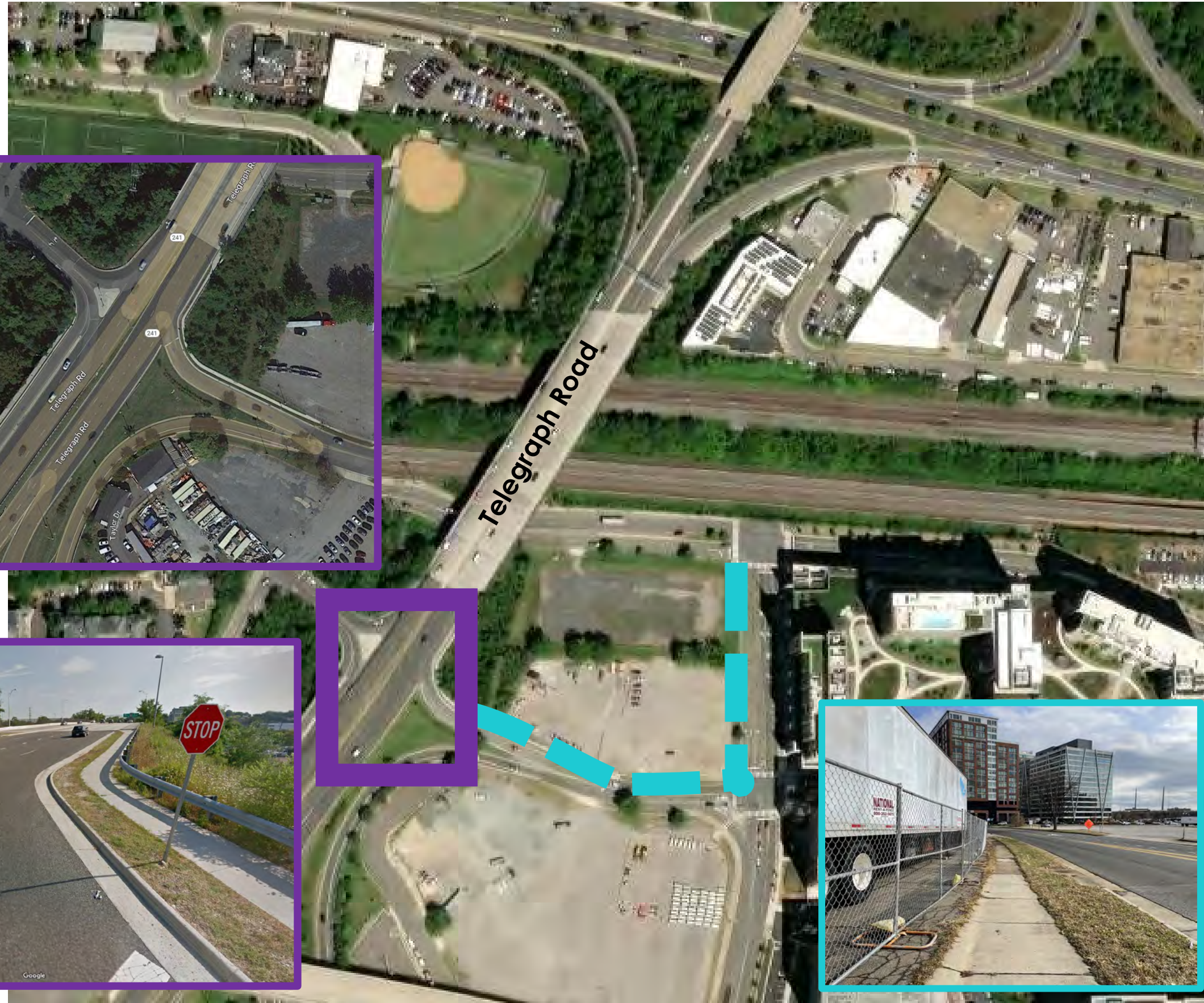


Potential Future Improvements

MEDIUM-TERM Projects:

- Streetscape improvements with new development 
- Widen sidewalk and better align intersection at Pershing & Telegraph Road 
- Reduce speed limit on Telegraph Road to 25mph

SPEED
LIMIT
25



Potential Future Improvements

LONG-TERM Projects:

- Telegraph Road protected shared use space



Next Steps

- City/VPRA agreements, design, and permitting for Witter Park connection path
- Construction of path prior to tunnel closure (**Approx 2027**)
- City coordination with VDOT on Telegraph Road Safety Study
- City-Development plan review for Eisenhower Block 3 and Pershing and Stovall Streetscape improvements

How to Stay Informed



Visit our website:
VAPassengerRailAuthority.org



Contact us:
804-303-8700
contactus@vpra.virginia.gov



Sign up for email updates:
vapassengerrailauthority.org/contact



Follow us on social media!

 VAPassengerRail
 @VAPassengerRail
 @VAPassengerRail

 Virginia-Passenger-Rail-Authority
 @VirginiaPassengerRailAuthority

Mark Schnauer- Project Manager
Mark.Schnauer@vpra.virginia.gov

Meredith Judy- Community Affairs Manager
Meredith.Judy@vpra.virginia.gov

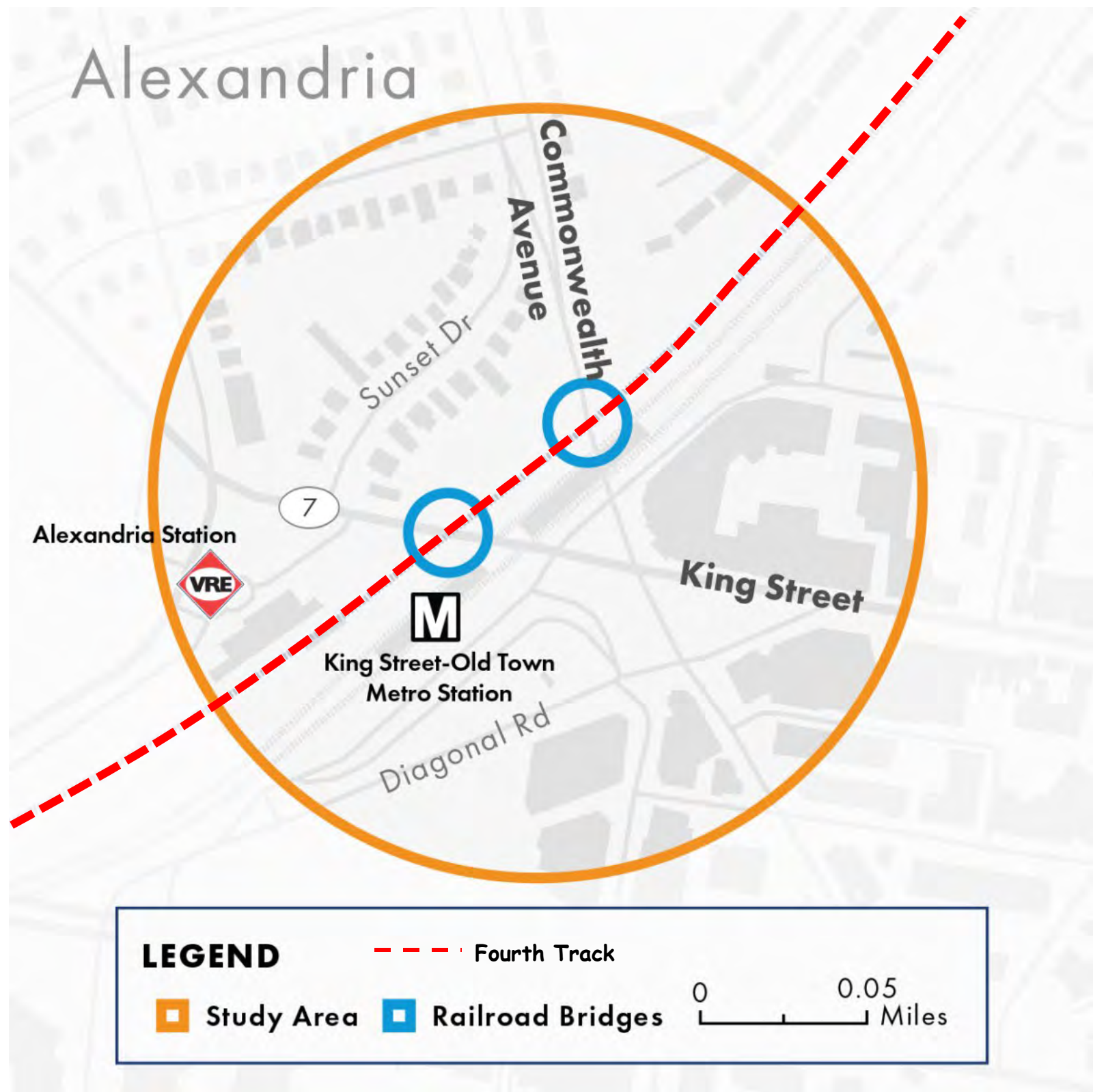


Discussion Item: King & Commonwealth Streetscape Update

Agenda Item 3



Project Context & Need

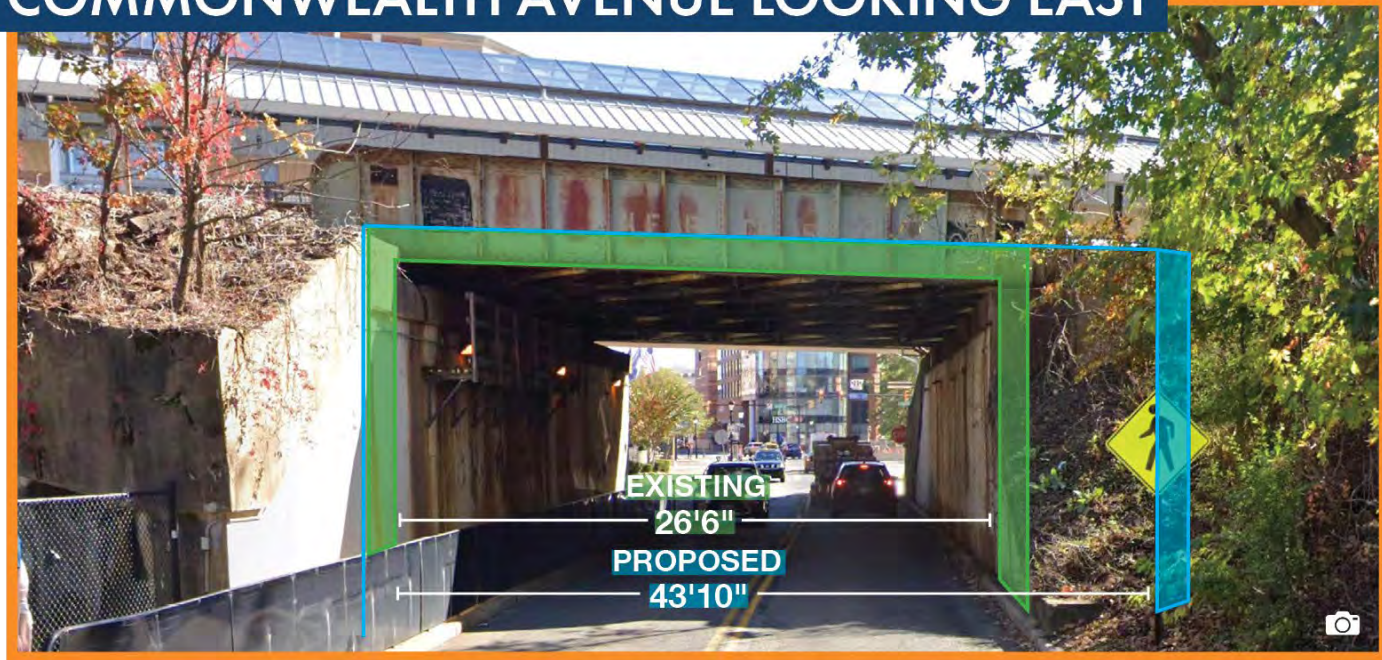


KING STREET LOOKING EAST



Dimensions based on 60% design plans, subject to change

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE LOOKING EAST



+33'



LEGEND

- Existing
- Proposed

+17'



LEGEND

- Existing
- Proposed





Existing Conditions: King Street



Existing Conditions: Commonwealth Avenue



Community Feedback

Dark and treacherous at night

Need better lighting under the bridge

Cars drive very fast! And add bike lanes that connect to neighborhoods

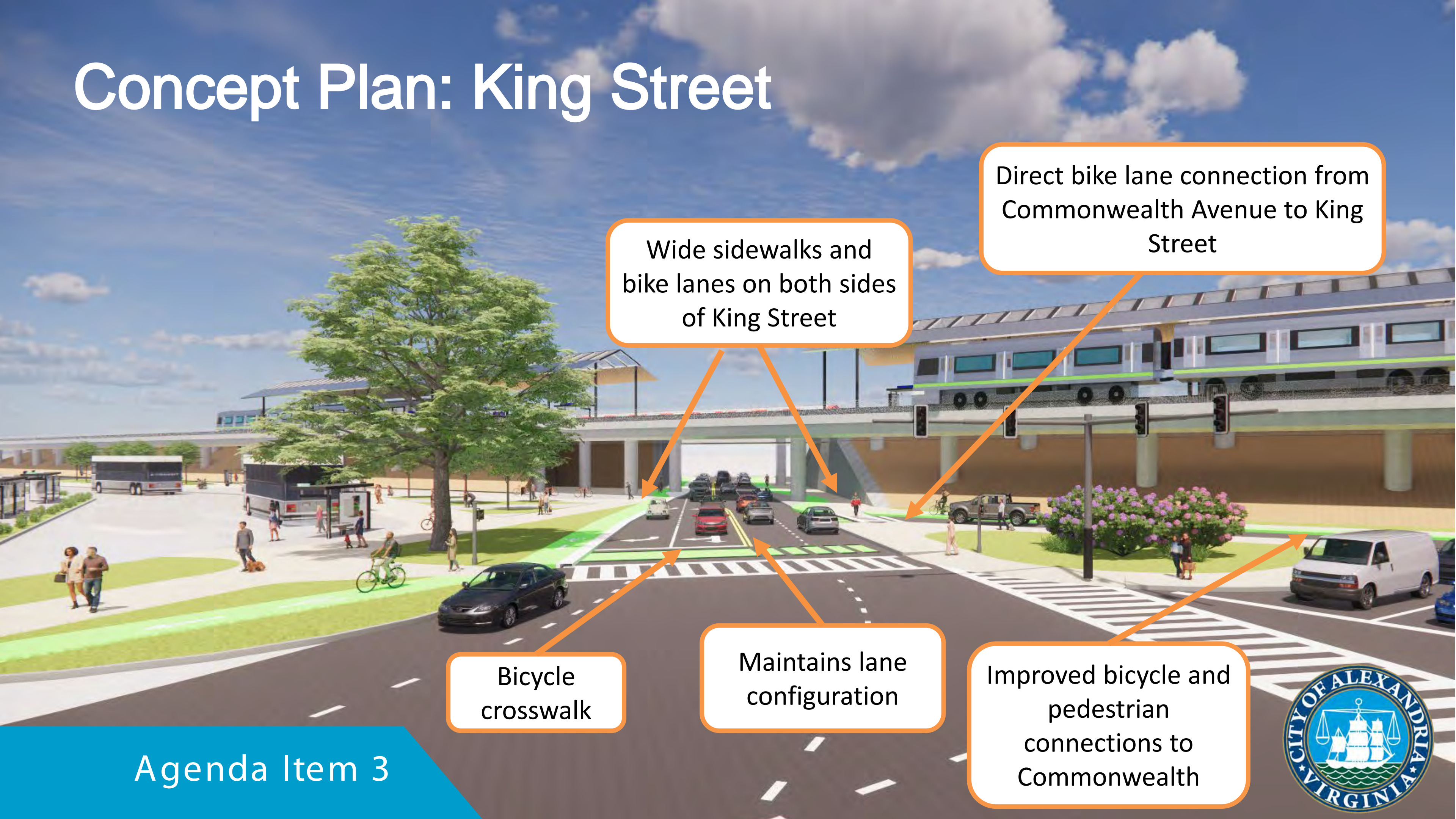
Replace barrier between sidewalk and road

Public art under the bridges

Bike Lanes and sidewalks are a top priority!

Sidewalks are too narrow!

Concept Plan: King Street



Wide sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of King Street

Direct bike lane connection from Commonwealth Avenue to King Street

Bicycle crosswalk

Maintains lane configuration

Improved bicycle and pedestrian connections to Commonwealth

Agenda Item 3



Concept Plan: Commonwealth Avenue

Direct bike lane connection from Commonwealth Avenue to King Street

Bicycle lanes

Maintains lane configuration

Wide sidewalks on both sides of Commonwealth Avenue

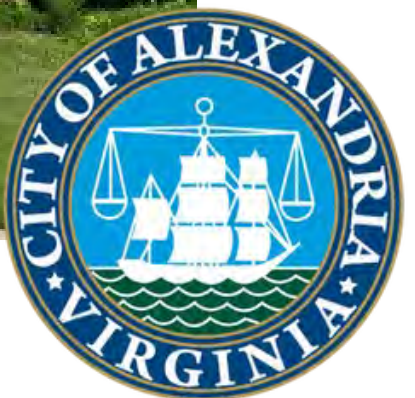
Agenda Item 3



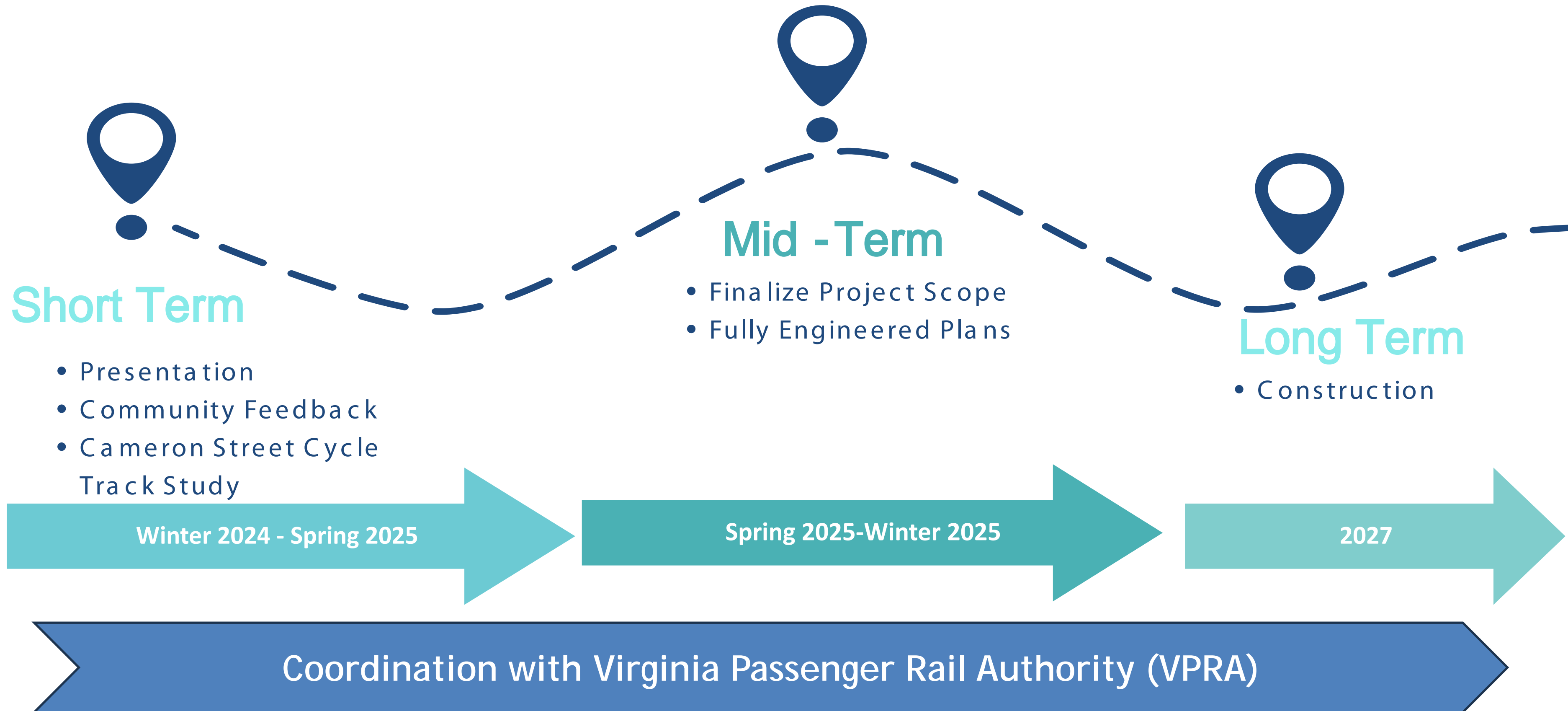
Continued Study



Agenda Item 3



Next Steps



Discussion



**Visit the shared project website at:
www.alexandriava.gov/go/4899**



Public Hearing: Consideration of Grant
Application to the M W C O G Regional
Road Safety Program and the
Transportation and Land Use Program

Agenda Item 4





Background

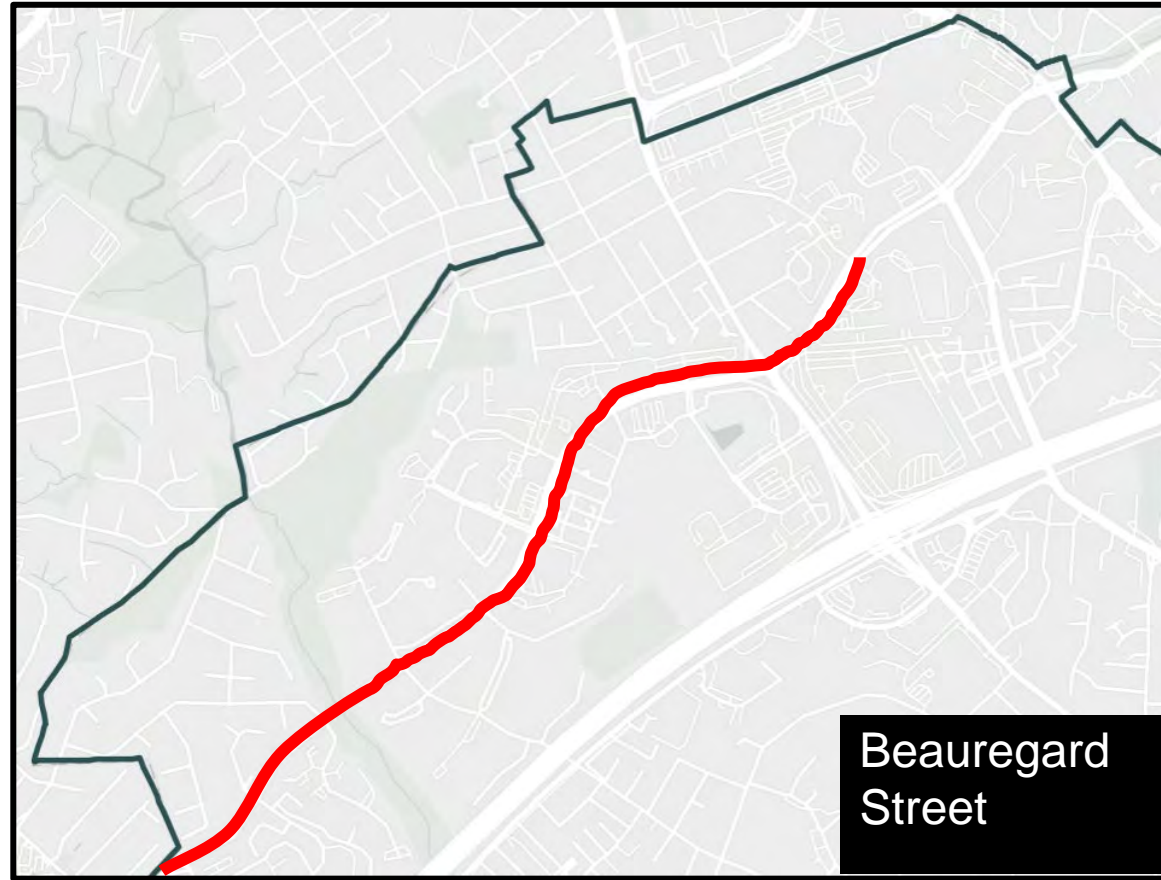
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG) Technical Assistance Grants
- Transportation Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program provides planning studies and work that promotes mixed-use, walkable communities and transportation alternatives.
 - **Beauregard Street Trail Feasibility Study**
- Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP) provides planning preliminary engineering to address roadway safety issues to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes.
 - **Braddock Road Safety Study**

Both MWCOCG technical assistance grants:

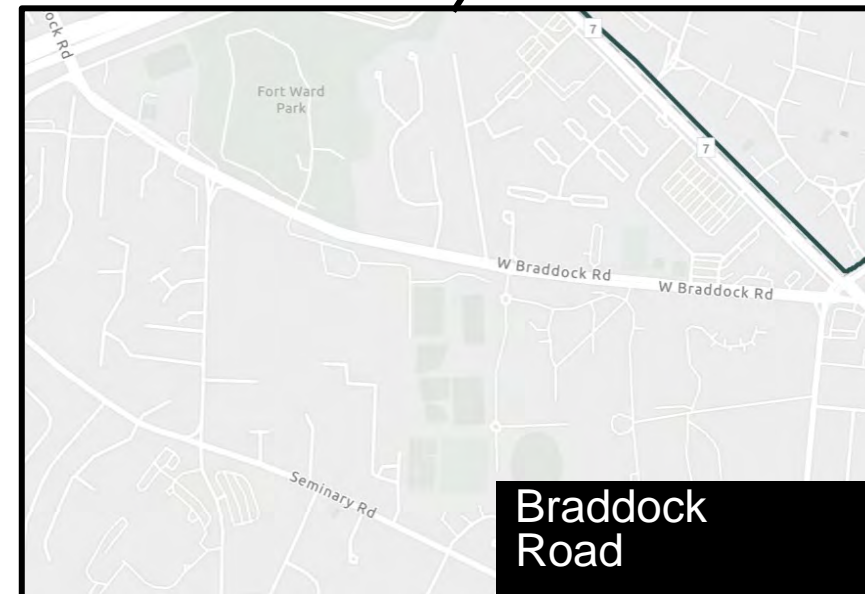
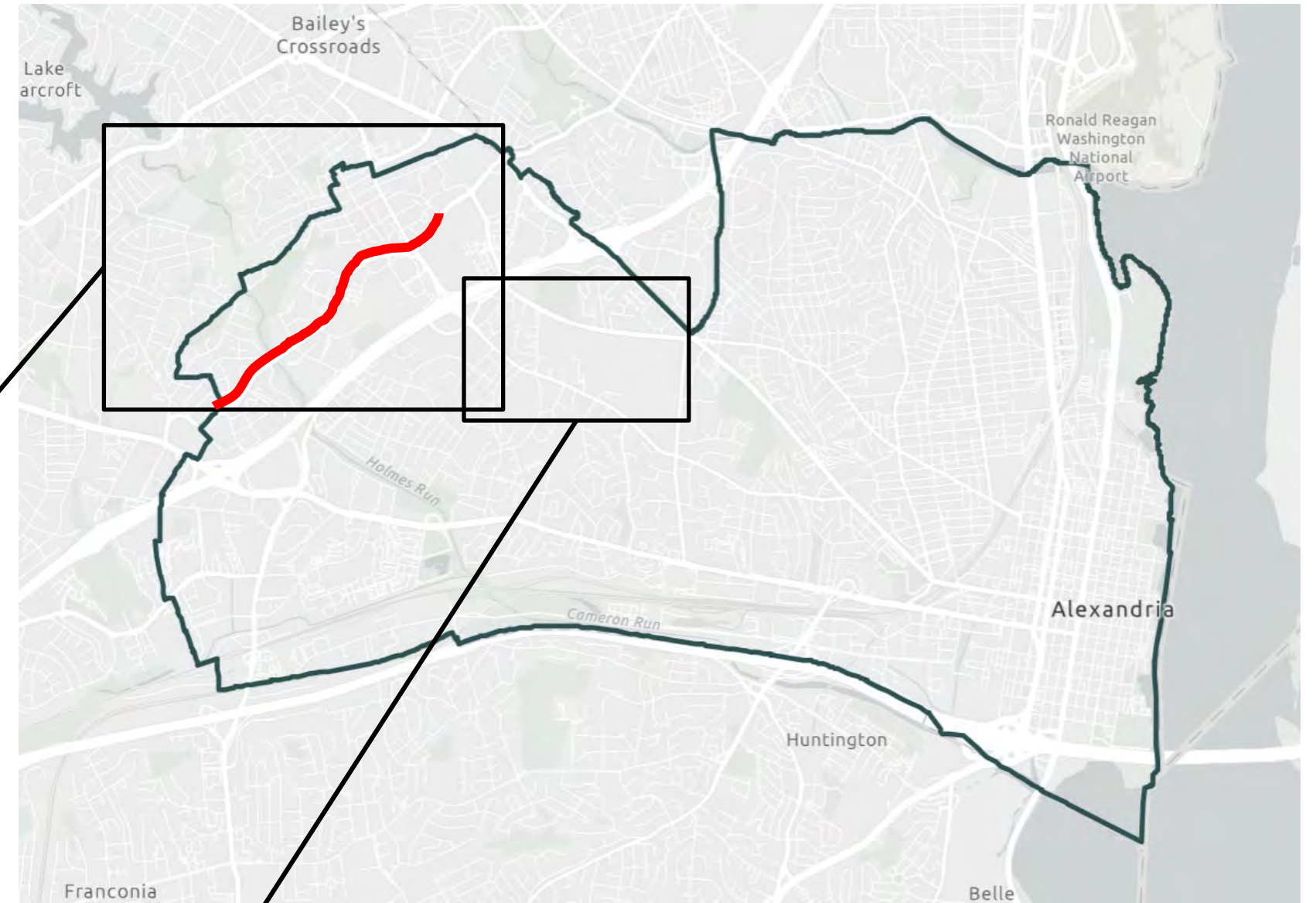
- Up to \$80,000 in short-term consultant services for planning
- Applications are due March 7, 2025
- If awarded, work starts Fall 2025
- Work to be completed by June 30, 2026



Project Locations



Beauregard Street (TLC)
Study feasibility of a multi-use trail on North Beauregard Street between Fillmore Avenue and Fairfax County



Braddock Road (RRSP)
Study safety improvements on Braddock Road between Quaker Lane and Van Dorn Street



Plans & Policies

Alexandria Mobility Plan

October 2021



VISION

ZERO

SAFER STREETS FOR ALEXANDRIA

Action Plan
Fall 2017

Source: mQI229

AlexWest

SMALL AREA PLAN

Approved by City Council November 16, 2024
Adopted by Ordinance XXXX December 14, 2024

Complete Streets Five-Year Work Plan

Fiscal Years 2025-2029
Last Updated: June 2024

Safe Routes to School Assessment

Alexandria City High School
Final

Prepared For
National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item 4

Recommendation

- That the Commission provide a letter of endorsement to City Council for the MWC OG Regional Road Safety Program and the Transportation and Land Use Program

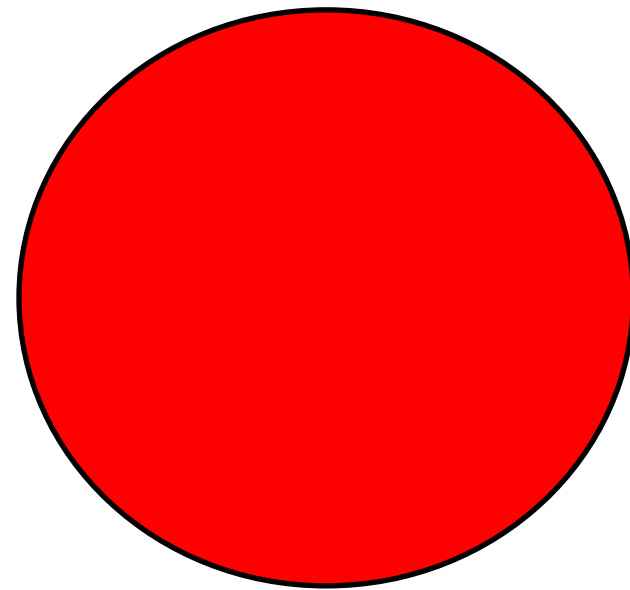




Public Comment

- ▶ For Speakers not discussing items related to public hearings.
- ▶ For virtual attendees:
 - ▶ Raise hand or press *9
 - ▶ Mute or unmute press *6
 - ▶ 3 minutes per speaker

3 Minute Timer



Discussion Item: 2023 and 2024 AMP Implementation Update

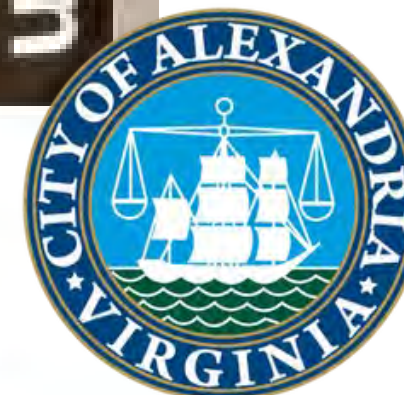
Agenda Item 5





Agenda Item 5

Alexandria
M
P
Plan



Strategy Number	Strategy	Related Policies			Guiding Principles						Related Plan(s)	Implementation Actions				Related Metric(s)
		A	B	C	Accessible	Connected	Convenient	Equitable	Safe	Sustainable		Short-Term (by 2024)	Medium-Term (by 2027)	Long-Term (by 2030)	Continual	
Transit																
1	Implement a citywide transit network with frequent, all-day service	☑	☑	N/A	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑	Transit Vision Plan Environmental Action Plan 2040 City Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin implementing the New DASH Network in Fiscal Year 2022 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with DASH's Advisory Committee and other members of the community to regularly gain input about service changes and implementation • Seek funding for both the operations and capital improvements necessary to incrementally implement the 2030 network and improvements recommended in the Transit Vision Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of residents within ¼ mile of 15 minute or better service • Percent of people taking transit to work (mode share) • Positive rating of ease of travel by public transportation
2	Build out the city's priority transitway corridors and identify improvements on congested, high-ridership corridors to reduce travel times and improve reliability	☑	☑	N/A	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑	Transit Vision Plan Environmental Action Plan 2040 City Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the community to develop a design for Duke Street that informs the construction of the Duke Street Transitway • Advance the design and construction of the West End Transitway and evaluate its success to determine whether dedicated lanes or other methods to improve speed and reliability are needed • Explore connecting Alexandria's transitways with high-capacity transit corridors in Fairfax County to help create a more reliable and efficient regional bus network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance the design and construction of the West End Transitway and evaluate its success to determine whether dedicated lanes or other methods to improve speed and reliability are needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the dedicated infrastructure for the Route 1 Metroway corridor to connect to the new Potomac Yard Metrorail station and into Arlington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate transit signal priority, queue jumps, high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, and other operational or street design improvements/pilot projects on corridors with frequent and congested bus service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive rating of ease of travel by public transportation • Percent of people taking transit to work (mode share)



Some Key Accomplishments - 2023 and 2024

DASH surpassed pre-COVID ridership levels at 5.3 million boardings for FY24

Duke Street Transitway entered design phase

DASH became an eligible direct federal grant recipient

Complete Streets developed a Five-Year Plan FY24-29

Installed 6 speed cameras in three school zones

Expanded use of speed cameras went into effect in July 2024

Full Progress Report is available [here:](#)

Agenda Item 5



Some Key Accomplishments

13 new bike racks were installed, and 8 more corals were updated

Transportation Management Plan approved in May 2023

Created ParkMobile Zones for all City-owned off-street facilities

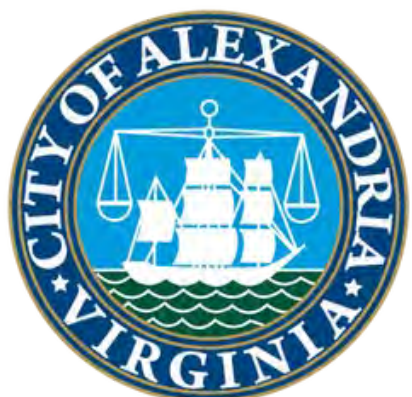
DASH fleet now includes 14 100% electric buses

City increased 450+ linear feet of sidewalk with Polk Avenue and Leslie Avenue

City increased 4.5 lane miles of protected bike lanes on King, Seminary, Pegram, and North Van Dorn

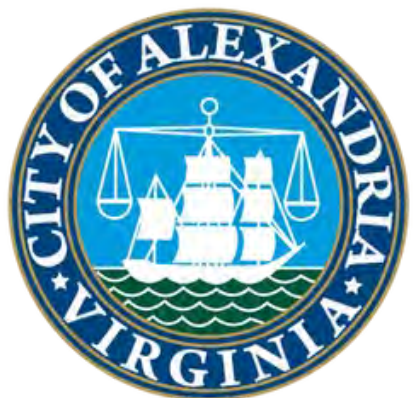
Full Progress Report is available [here:](#)

Agenda Item 5



Discussion: Annual Workplan and Calendar

Agenda Item 6



2025 Transportation Commission Work Plan - DRAFT

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
							BREAK	BREAK				
Transportation Commission												
Retreat												
Chair/Vice Chair Election												
Transportation Long-Range Plan												
Discussion Items		Detours	Trails									
City Planning Studies												
Interdepartmental Long Range Work Plan												
Repaving Update												
Duke Street SAP												
Dept. Planning/Zoning Transportation Process												
Transportation Funding												
City Budget												
NVTA 70% Funds												
SMART SCALE												
CMAQ/RSTP Grant												
Safe Streets for All												
DRPT Transit Assistance and CAP grants												
Low-No Emissions Bus Grant												
RAISE Grant												
Federal/State Grants (as needed)												
Transportation Alternatives Program												
I-395 Commuter Choice Grant												
MWCOG Technical Assistance Grants												

Discussion Item	
Action Item	
Written Item	
Not discussed this year	



Transportation Programs											
Vision Zero Action Plan Implementation											
Complete Streets											
Safe Routes to School											
Trails											
Parking and Curbside Management											
Automated Enforcement Tools											
Alexandria Mobility Plan Implementation											
Alexandria Mobility Plan Monitoring and KPIs											
Capital Bikeshare and Micromobility Update											
Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Update											
Paratransit Program Update											
Transit Program/Bus Stop Program											
FY25 Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP)											
Smart Mobility / Parking Technologies											
Regional Projects / Plans											
State Legislative Process											
Better Bus Network Redesign											
Virginia Passenger Rail Authority											
VDOT I-495 Southside Express Lanes Study											
WMATA Budget											

Agenda Item 6

- Discussion Item
- Action Item
- Written Item
- Not discussed this year



Draft 2025 Calendar

- January 22
- February 19
- March 19
- April 16
- May 21
- June 18
- July- NO Meeting
- August- NO Meeting
- September 17
- October 15
- November 19
- December 17



Commissioner Updates

Agenda Item 7





Commission Members

- ▶ **Dan Beattie**- Environmental Policy Commission
- ▶ **Leslie Catherwood**- Resident East
- ▶ **Casey Kane** Traffic and Parking Board
- ▶ **Tim Lovain**- Resident East with Transportation Expertise
- ▶ **Jody Manor**- Planning Commission
- ▶ **Jim Maslanka**- Resident West
- ▶ **Melissa McMahon** Planning Commission
- ▶ **Matthew McManus**- Resident West, DASH Advisory Committee
- ▶ **John Chapman**- Council (non-voting)
- ▶ **Kirk McPike**- Council (non-voting)

Written Items

Agenda Item 8



Other Business

Agenda Item 9



Other Business

Agenda Item 9





CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
Transportation Planning and
Mobility

Adjourn Transportation Commission Meeting

Next Meeting: February 19, 2025

