

---

# Springfield to Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

South County Federation Meeting

May 11, 2021



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

# Study Background

- Virginia General Assembly approved a 2020 budget amendment directing DRPT to conduct a feasibility study :

*"F. The Department of Rail and Public Transportation, in cooperation with Fairfax and Prince William counties, shall evaluate enhanced public transportation services from the Franconia-Springfield Metro Station to Fort Belvoir, Lorton, Potomac Mills, and Marine Corps Base Quantico in Prince William County, including the cost and feasibility of extending the Blue Line and other multimodal options such as bus rapid transit along Interstate 95 and U.S. Route 1. The Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall submit a report of its findings to the Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee by December 1, 2021."*

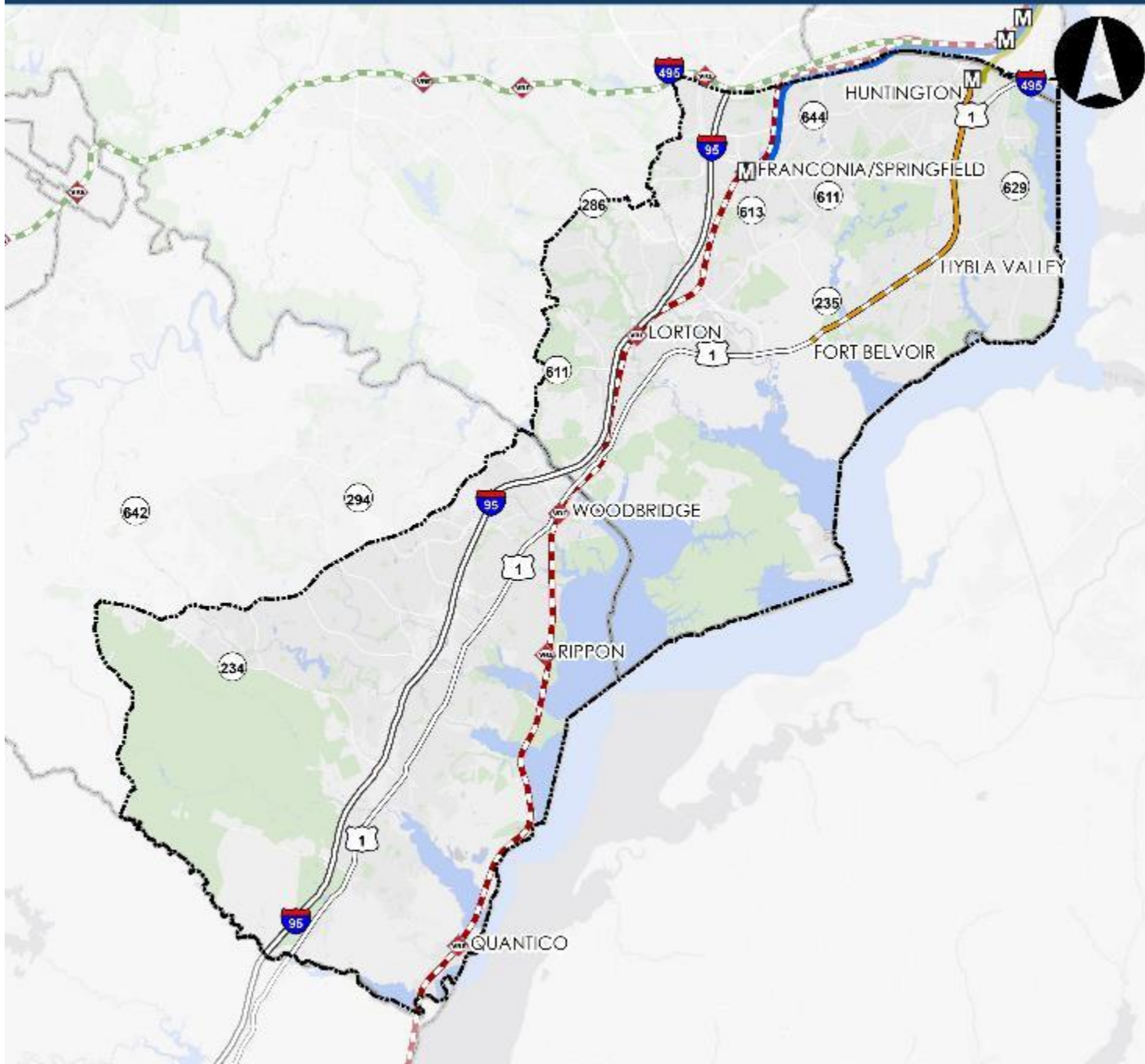
- Study must be completed by December 1, 2021
- A range of multimodal transit investments will be evaluated

# Study Outcomes

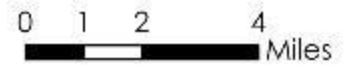
*Comprehensive, objective evaluation of a range of potential future enhanced transit alternatives that compares the cost, benefits, and impacts of each option to inform recommendations about future investment in the corridor.*



# STUDY AREA



- Metrorail Stations
- Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Stations
- Study Area
- County Boundary
- I-95
- US Route 1
- Metrorail Routes**
  - Blue
  - Yellow
- VRE Routes**
  - Fredericksburg
  - Manassas
- Richmond Highway BRT**
  - Phase 1
  - Phase 2

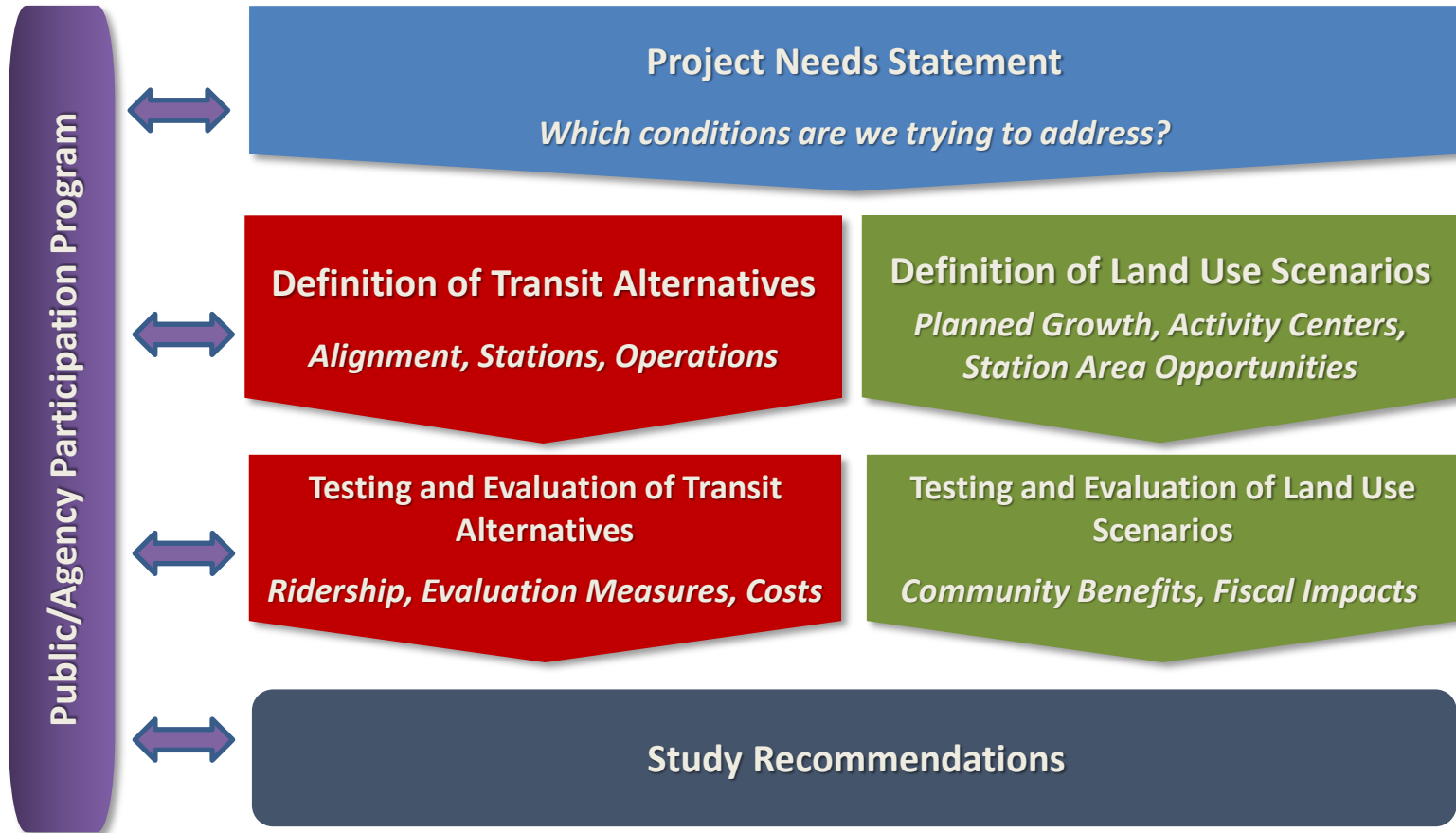


# Key Issues for the Study to Consider

---

- Existing and future transit demand in the corridor
- Other planned transportation improvements in the corridor
- Plans for transit-supportive development in the study area
- Access to Fort Belvoir and Quantico bases
- Short-term and long-term trends in transit ridership and telecommuting
- Metrorail system capacity
- Capital and operating cost of transit investments
- Funding/governance: WMATA Compact

# Study Technical Approach



# Enhanced Public Transportation is Needed Because ...

Transit Service Quality: Transit service is competitive for commute trips to the core. Other trips have little/no service.

Future Development: Existing transportation services and networks may need enhancements to support planned land uses and economic development

Equity: Specifically need to connect low-income and minority populations to job opportunities

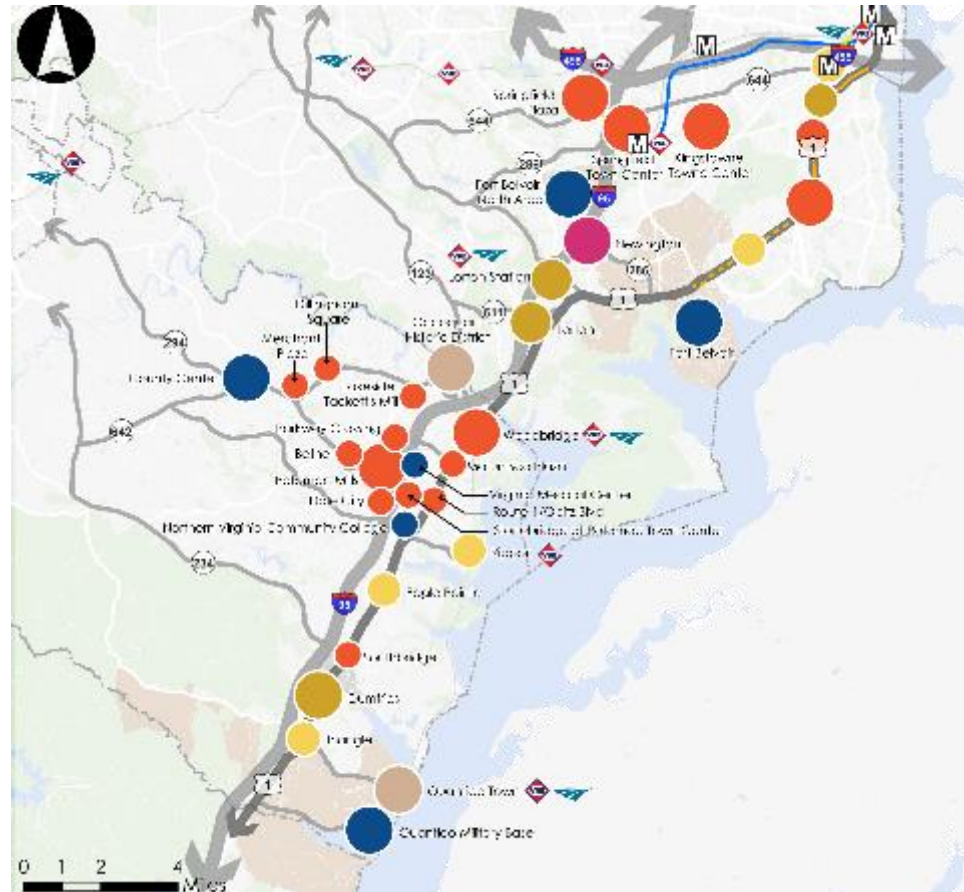
Connections to Activity Centers: Transit connections to key regional activity centers, such as Fort Belvoir and Quantico bases, are limited and infrequent

Traffic Congestion and Travel Times: Traffic congestion is severe and continuing to get worse, resulting in slow and unreliable travel times for drivers and buses in mixed-traffic

Access to Transit Services: Access is reliant on park & ride or long walks to bus, posing a particular challenge for transit-dependent riders

# Corridor Land Use Assessment

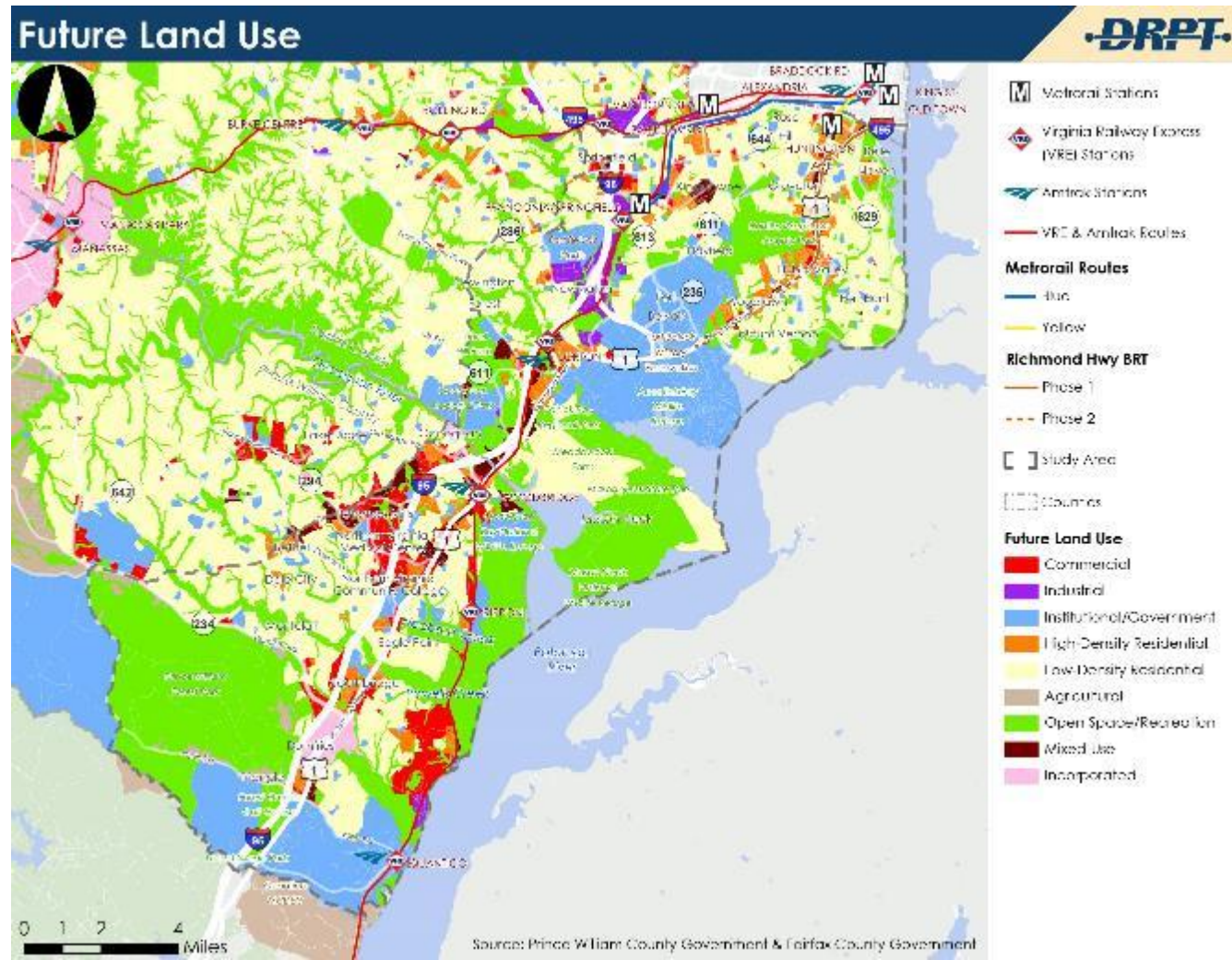
- Identify mobility hubs/potential transit station areas
- Build off Multimodal System Design Guidelines to develop land use scenarios and recommendations:
  - Visioning Work Session
  - Land Use & Zoning Recommendations
  - Transit-Supportive Policy Recommendations
  - Illustrative Diagrams
- Evaluate impact of land use scenarios on transit alternatives
- Potential to inform local land use planning efforts



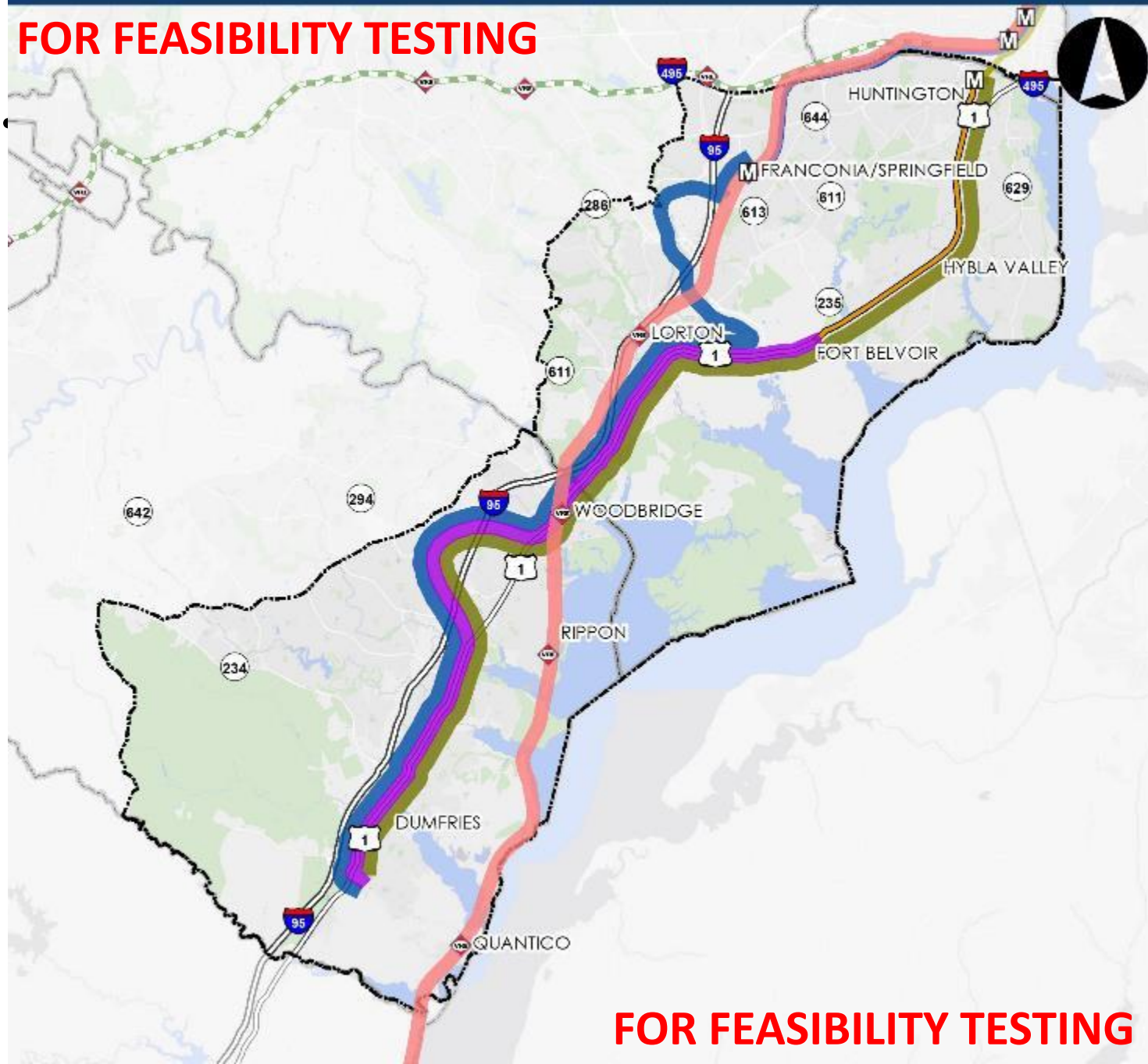


# Developing Conceptual Land Use Scenarios

- Will develop conceptual land use scenarios in greater detail around 10 potential stations considering:
  - Support local comp planning processes
  - Future Land Use and Zoning
  - Building and place types (suburban residential, strip commercial, TOD, etc.)



## FOR FEASIBILITY TESTING



- Metrorail Stations
- Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Stations
- County Boundary
- Richmond Highway BRT
- Metrorail Routes**
  - Blue
  - Yellow
- VRE Routes**
  - Manassas
- Alternatives**
  - Blue Line Metrorail
  - Yellow Line Metrorail
  - Bus Rapid Transit
  - Increased Frequency Along Existing VRE Alignment



## FOR FEASIBILITY TESTING

# Express Bus Alternative

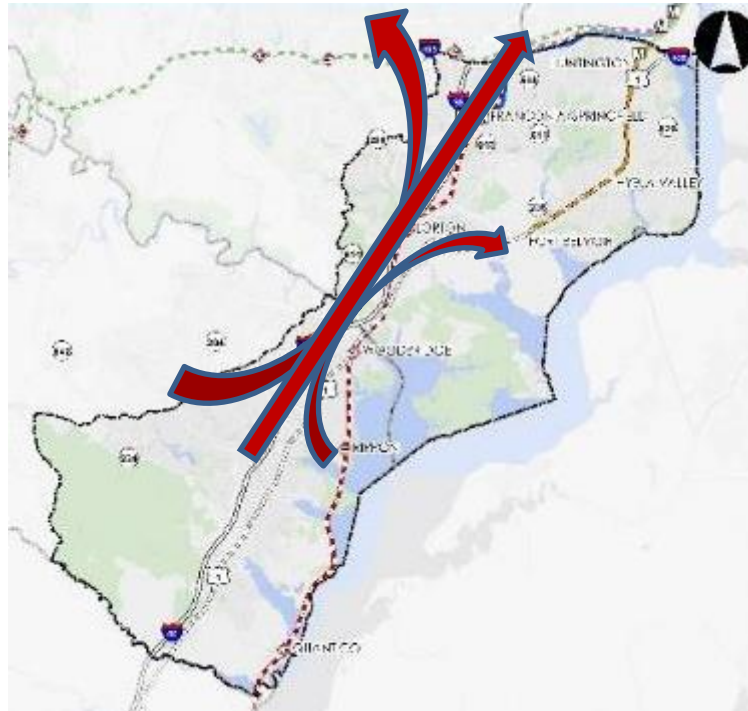
Possible new routes:

## Origins

Lake Ridge  
Dale City/Potomac Mills, Quantico  
Woodbridge  
Woodbridge  
Woodbridge/Dale City/Quantico

## Destinations

Old Town Alexandria via I-95  
Tysons  
Reston  
Fairfax City  
Ft. Belvoir South



# Approach To Public Outreach

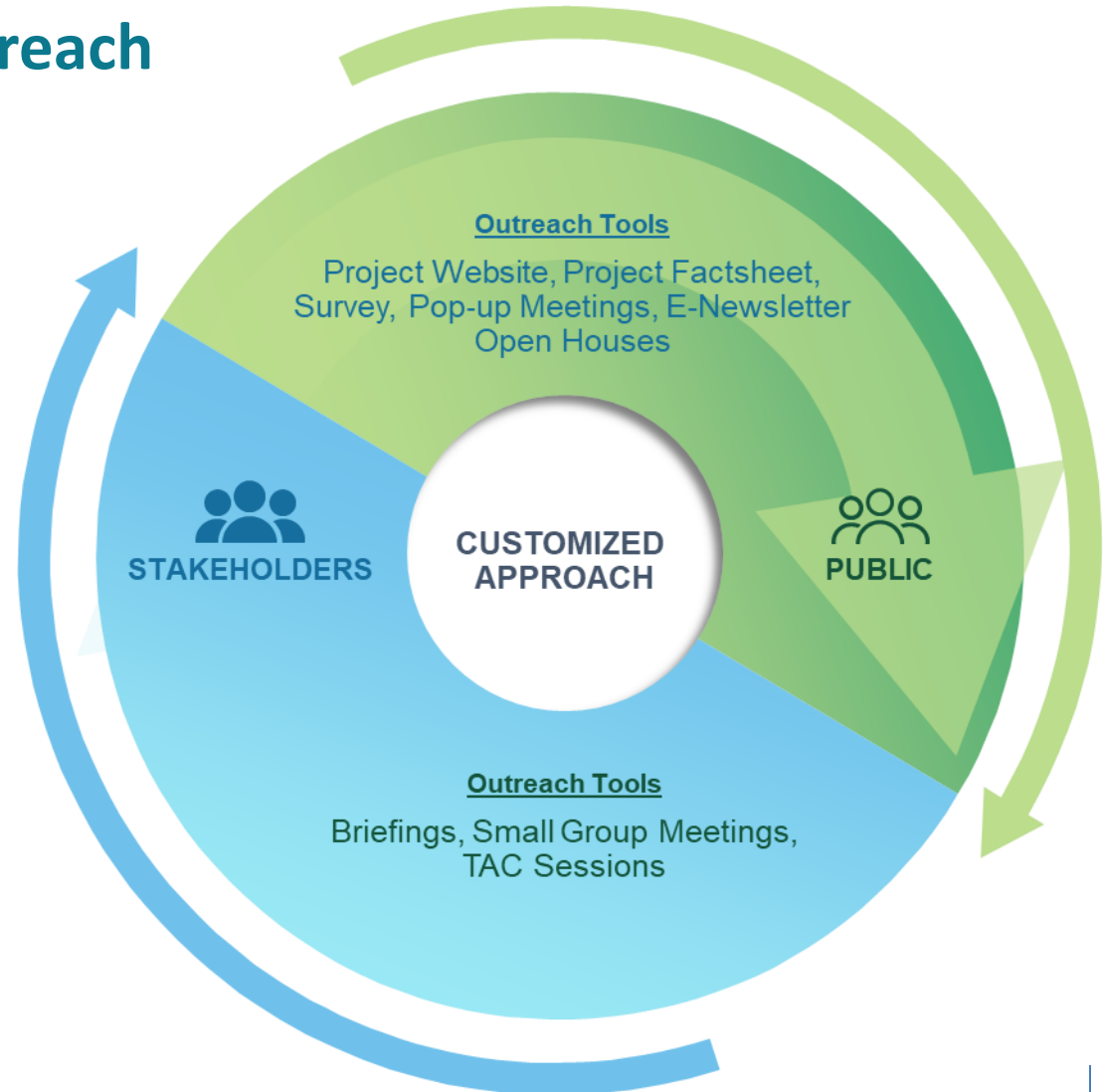
## How will the team reach stakeholders?

### PUBLIC

- Commuters
- Chambers of Commerce
- Community/Civic Associations
- Major Employers
- Military Bases /Colleges and University Extension Locations
- Advocacy Groups

### STAKEHOLDERS

- Fairfax County
- Prince William County
- NVTC
- PRTC
- Department of Defense
- Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
- WMATA



# Public & Agency Outreach

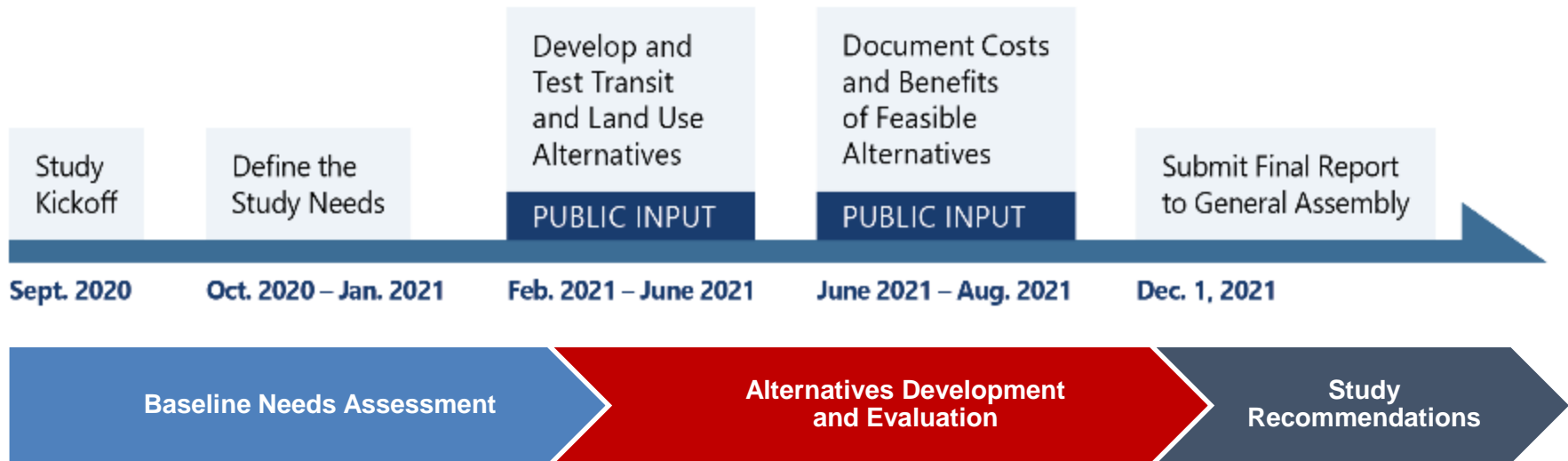
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) providing input and review from key stakeholder agencies and jurisdictions
- Public outreach provides multiple opportunities for education and engagement across the study area
  - Incorporated tools to reach and engage Environmental Justice (EJ) and Title VI (minority and low income) populations
  - Flexible approach and tactics to accommodate the pandemic
- Regular Elected Official Briefings provide a venue to learn about and provide input to the study

First public meeting held Tuesday, May 4

Ongoing Public Survey:

[bit.ly/DRPTSpringfieldQuantico](https://bit.ly/DRPTSpringfieldQuantico)

# Study Schedule



- Draft report will be completed by September
- Final report submitted to General Assembly by December 1, 2021

# Springfield to Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

South County Federation Meeting

May 11, 2021

<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/transit/springfield-to-quantico/>



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation