

Springfield to Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #1
October 29, 2020



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Study purpose and expectations
- Overview of work plan / schedule
- Study area definition
- Approach for stakeholder and public participation
- Discussion of prior studies and potential issues to be considered in the study
- Data requests
- Schedule for future TAC meetings

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 Purpose and Expectations

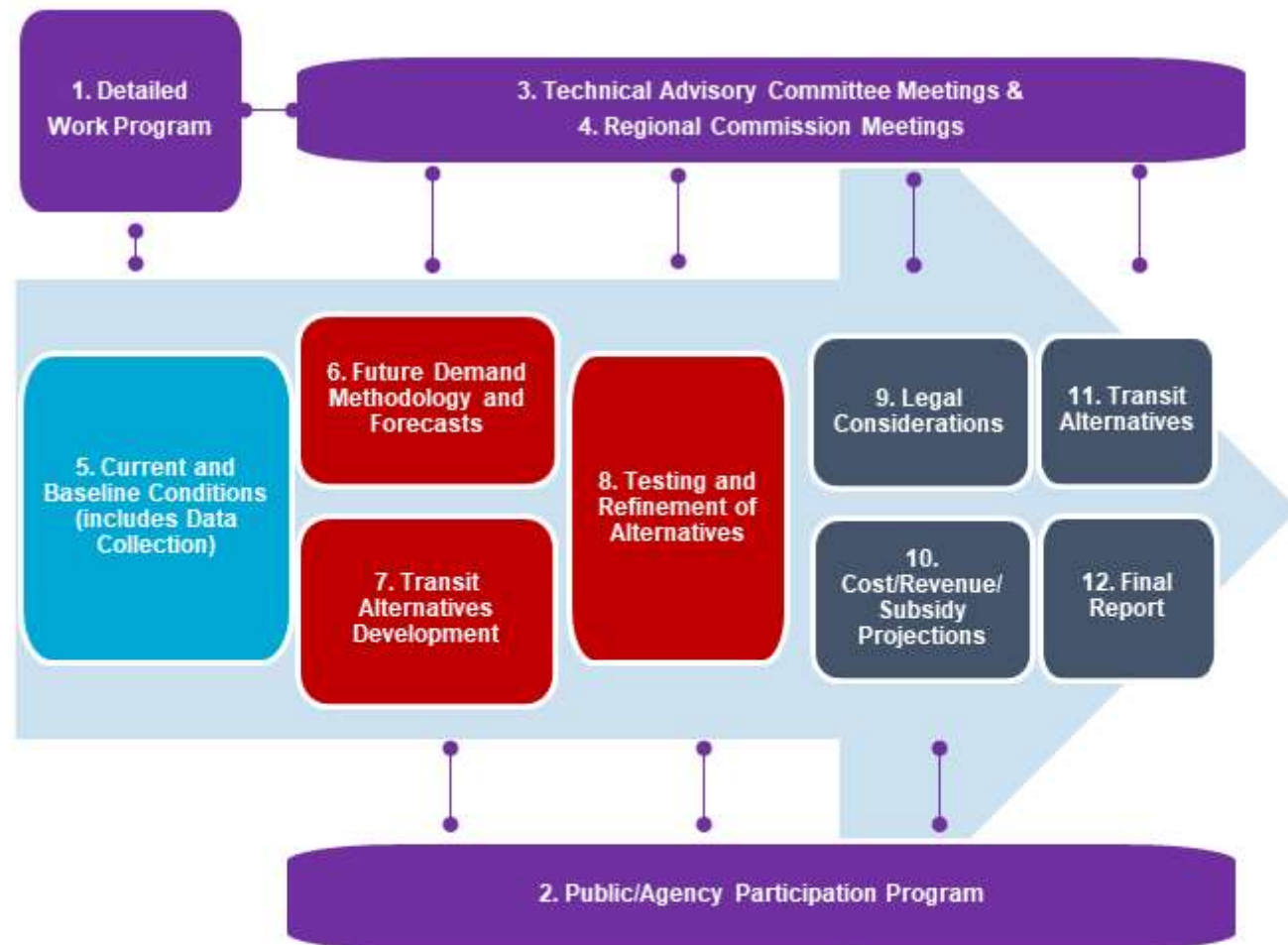
This study will provide a comprehensive, objective evaluation of a range of potential future enhanced transit alternatives that compares the cost, benefits, and impacts of each option to inform recommendations about future investment in the corridor.



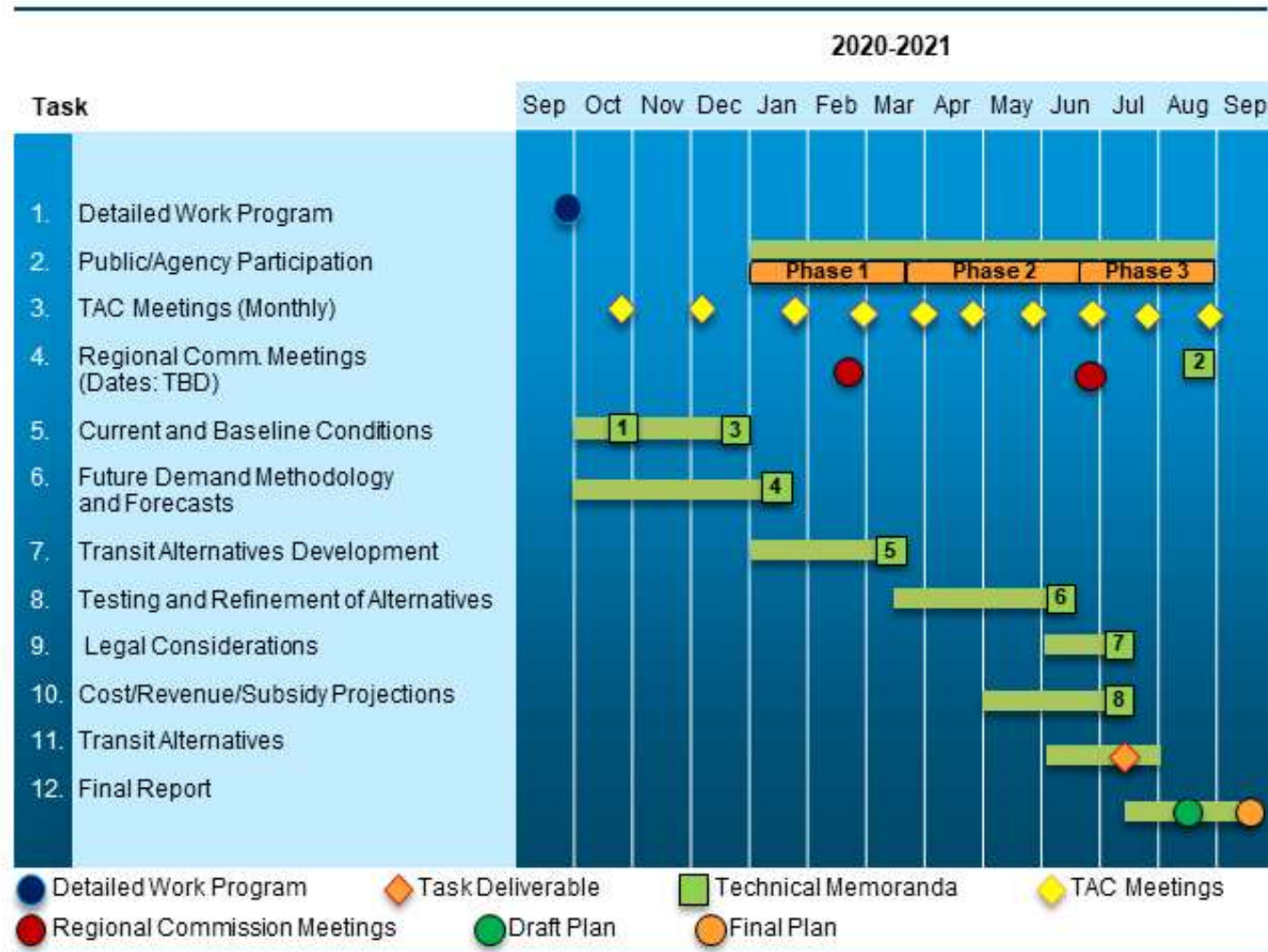
Study Work Plan

- Consultant team will be managed by CS under KFH contract; additional support from Kittelson, PRR, and LDA
- Three main phases of the study as well as the ongoing engagement program:
 - Baseline Needs Assessment
 - Alternatives Development and Evaluation
 - Study Recommendations
- Travel forecasting will use latest COG/TPB model
- Technical work to be completed by September 2021





Study Schedule



Study Area Definition

- Modeled Region – COG/TPB Version 2.3 region extends south to include Fredericksburg and part of Spotsylvania County
- Focused Area:
 - North: Capital Beltway
 - East: Potomac River
 - South: Prince William southern border, including Quantico
 - West: Roughly 1-4 miles west of I-95: Minnieville Rd. in Prince William; Hooes Rd/ Fairfax Co. Parkway in Fairfax County
- Markets:
 - Transit trips that will travel through Focused Area and potentially utilize enhanced transit alternatives



Public/Agency Outreach Approach

- Leverages key relationships between DRPT, TAC Members and key community organizations
- Provides multiple opportunities for outreach, education and engagement across the study area
- Incorporates tools to reach and engage Environmental Justice (EJ) and Title VI Populations
- Establishes early metrics and documents all feedback
- Given the pandemic, needs to be flexible
 - Initial focus on virtual engagement tools and methods

Approach To Public Outreach

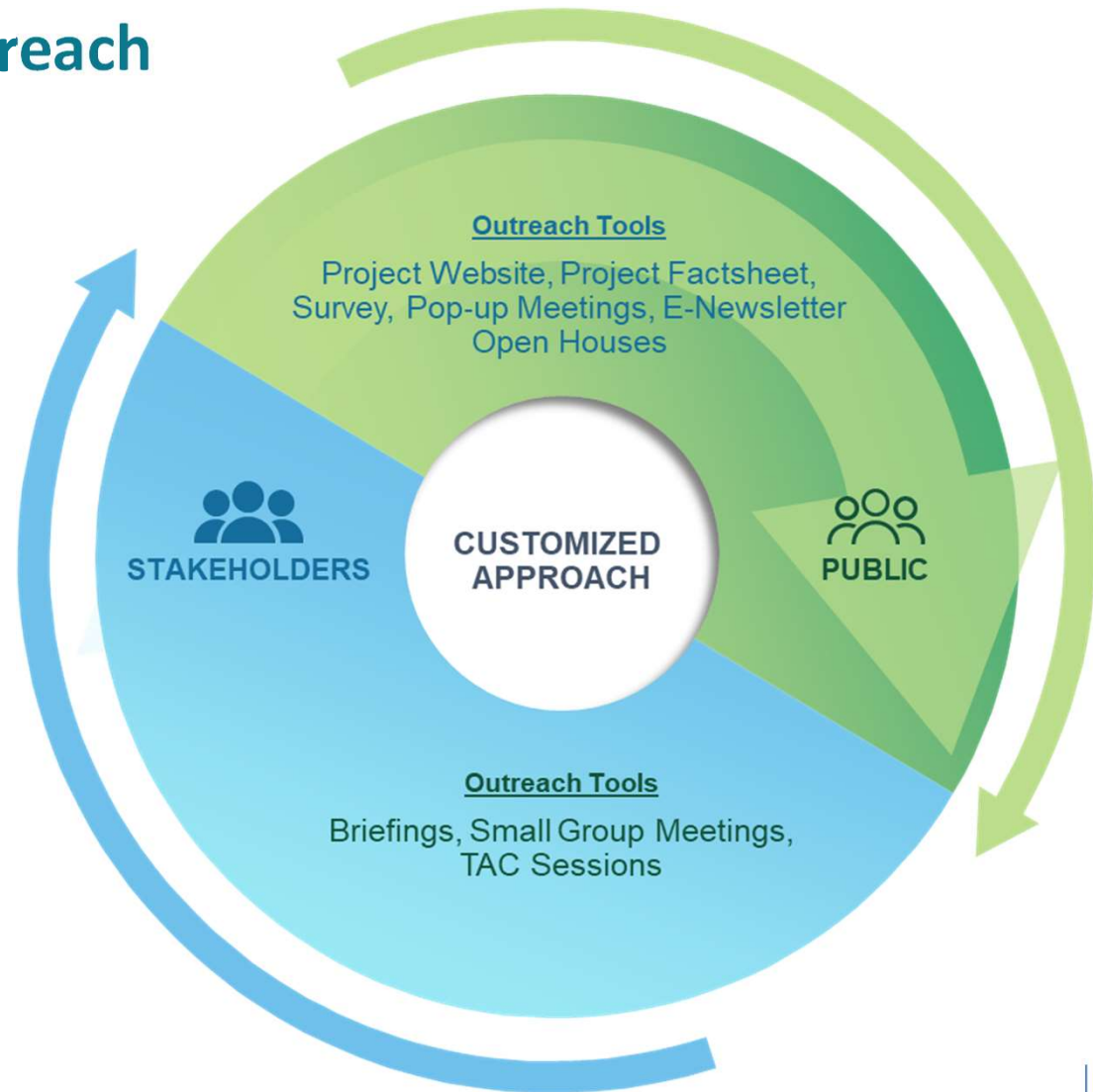
How will the team reach stakeholders?

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



Recent Plans and Studies in the Corridor

- DRPT: I-95/I-395 Transit/TDM Study
- VDOT: I-95 Interim Corridor Improvement Plan
- DRPT: Southeast High-Speed Rail, Washington, DC to Richmond, VA
- NVTC: I-95/I-395 Commuter Choice FY2020
- DRPT: Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis and Fairfax County: Richmond Highway BRT Study
- DRPT: Transforming Rail in Virginia
- NVTA: TransAction 2040 Update (October 2017)
- Recent WMATA plans—Regional Transit System Plan and Core Capacity studies (2013 to 2017)
- Recent Transit Development Plans (TDP) and Transit Strategic Plans (TSP)
- Fairfax and Prince William County Comprehensive Plans
- Ft. Belvoir and Quantico Transportation Management Plans

Data Compilation

- Operational characteristics, ridership, and cost data from transit service providers in the study area
- Existing and future population and employment projections
- Traffic volume and speed data in the I-95 corridor, including VDOT traffic counts and Probe Data quantifying travel speeds and reliability (e.g., INRIX data)
- Available data regarding usage of the existing I 95 Express Lanes
- Park & ride facilities and usage
- Regional travel patterns, including from the MWCOG/TPB model, the latest ACS-based CTPP data, Streetlight origin/destination data

Key Issues for the Study to Consider

- Existing transit usage in the study area and planned investments
- 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
- WMATA Compact implications
- Operating cost impacts of transit investments

Schedule for Future TAC Meetings

TAC #	Month	Topics to Be Covered
2	Dec. 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public/Agency Participation Program (Task 2) Existing conditions and Summary of previous studies (Task 5) Future Demand Methodology (Task 6)
3	Jan. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline conditions and needs (Task 5) Future Baseline forecasts (Task 6)
4	Feb. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach to Transit Alternatives Development (Task 7) Cost/Revenue/Subsidy Methodology (Task 10)
5	Mar. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transit Alternatives Development (Task 7)
6	Apr. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transit Alternatives Development (Task 7)
7	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testing of Alternatives – Initial Results (Task 8)
8	Jun. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testing of Alternatives – Refinements and Sensitivity Tests (Task 8) Legal Considerations (Task 9) Cost/Revenue/Subsidy Projections (Task 10)
9	Jul. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of Transit Alternatives Results (Task 11)
10	Aug. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Study Findings and Recommendations (Task 12)