








North Bethesda Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Planning Study Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC)

Meeting Expectations

-  We're committed to starting on time and ending on time
-  Meeting facilitator will guide discussion
-  We're creating spaces for all voices to be heard
-  Take advantage of the "raise hand" feature
-  Place microphones on mute when not talking

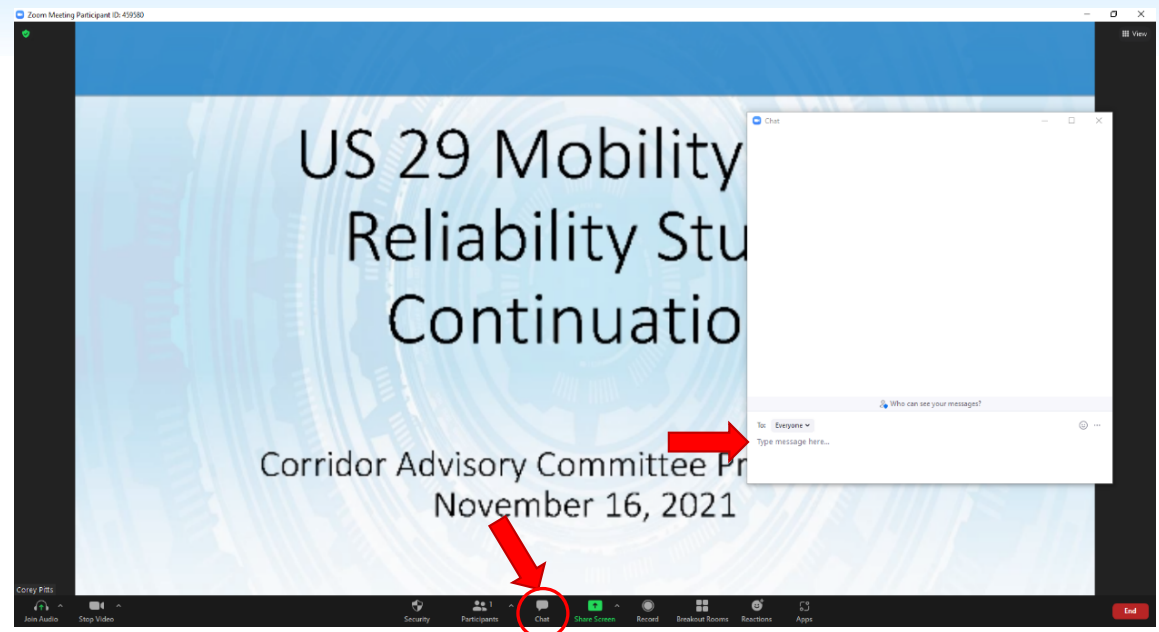
Using Zoom

Ask a question (in text):

- If you have a question during the presentation, send it via **chat**.

To send a chat:

- Click “chat” in the bottom menu
- A new window will appear.
- Type your question and send it.



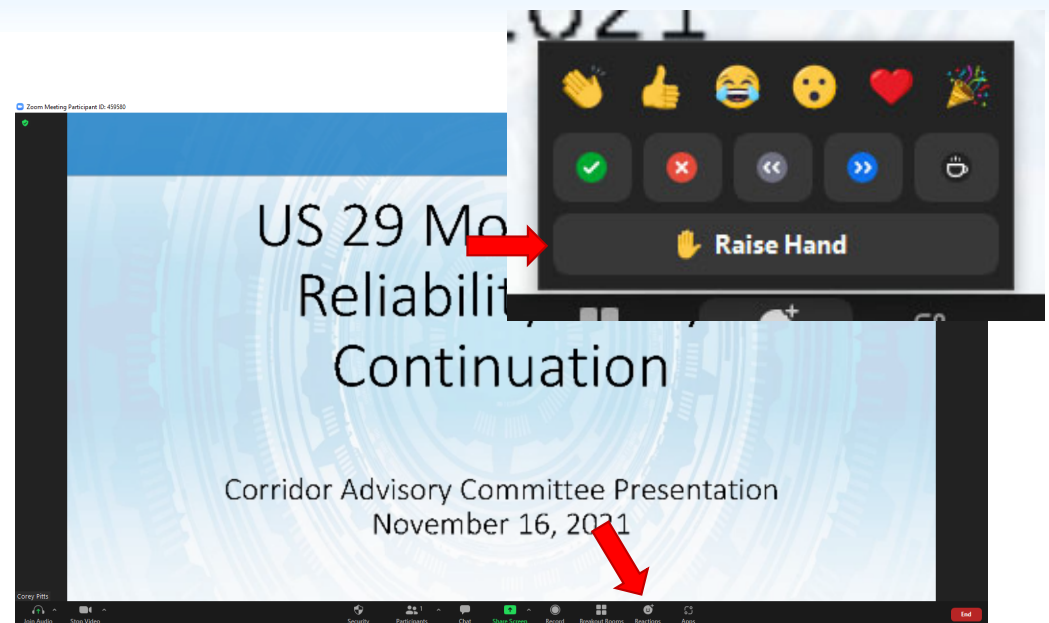
Using Zoom

Raise your hand:

- If you'd like to speak to ask a question or make a comment, please **raise your hand**

To raise your hand:

- Click "Reactions" in the bottom menu
- A new window will appear. Click the "raise hand button" at the bottom.
- If you've dialed in by phone, dial ***9**.



Project Team Participants

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

- Joana Conklin
- Sandra Marks
- Corey Pitts



Planning Consultant Team Kimley-Horn

- Melissa DuMond, AICP
- Lucas Muller, PE
- Kate Widness, AICP, CNU-A

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Overview and Background
- Goals and Objectives
- Study Area Context
- Engagement Update



Welcome to the Corridor Advisory Committee for the North Bethesda BRT

- **Introductions**

- *Name*
- *What interested you in this project?*
- *What are your top priorities for this Transitway/corridor?*



Role of Corridor Advisory Committee

- Provide input, guidance and oversight in accordance with the Master Plan
- Community involvement throughout project
- Information sharing with community
- Build consensus

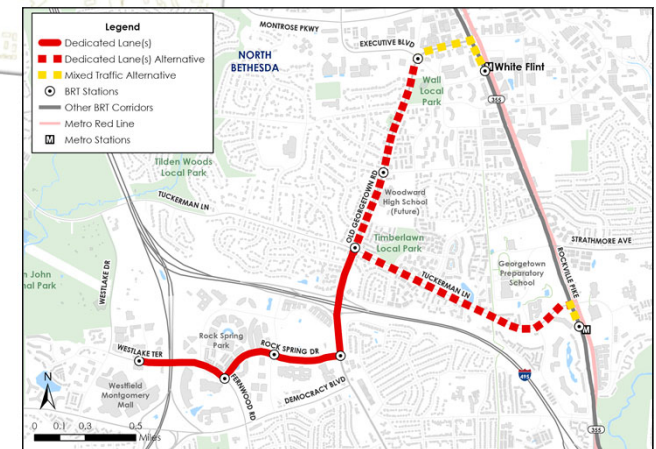
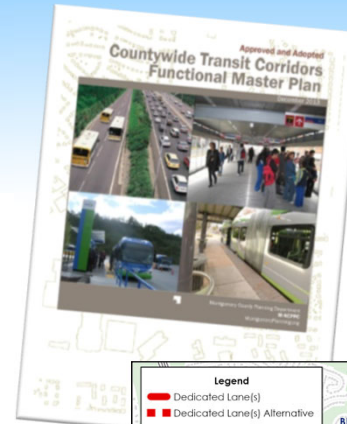


What is Bus Rapid Transit?



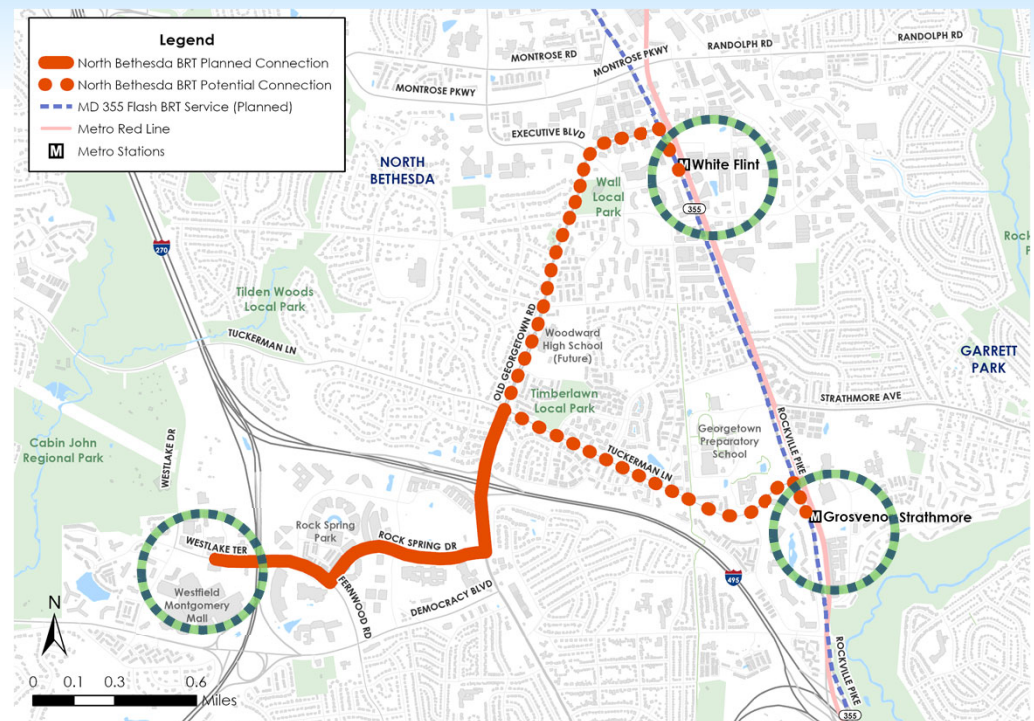
Bus Rapid Transit Overview

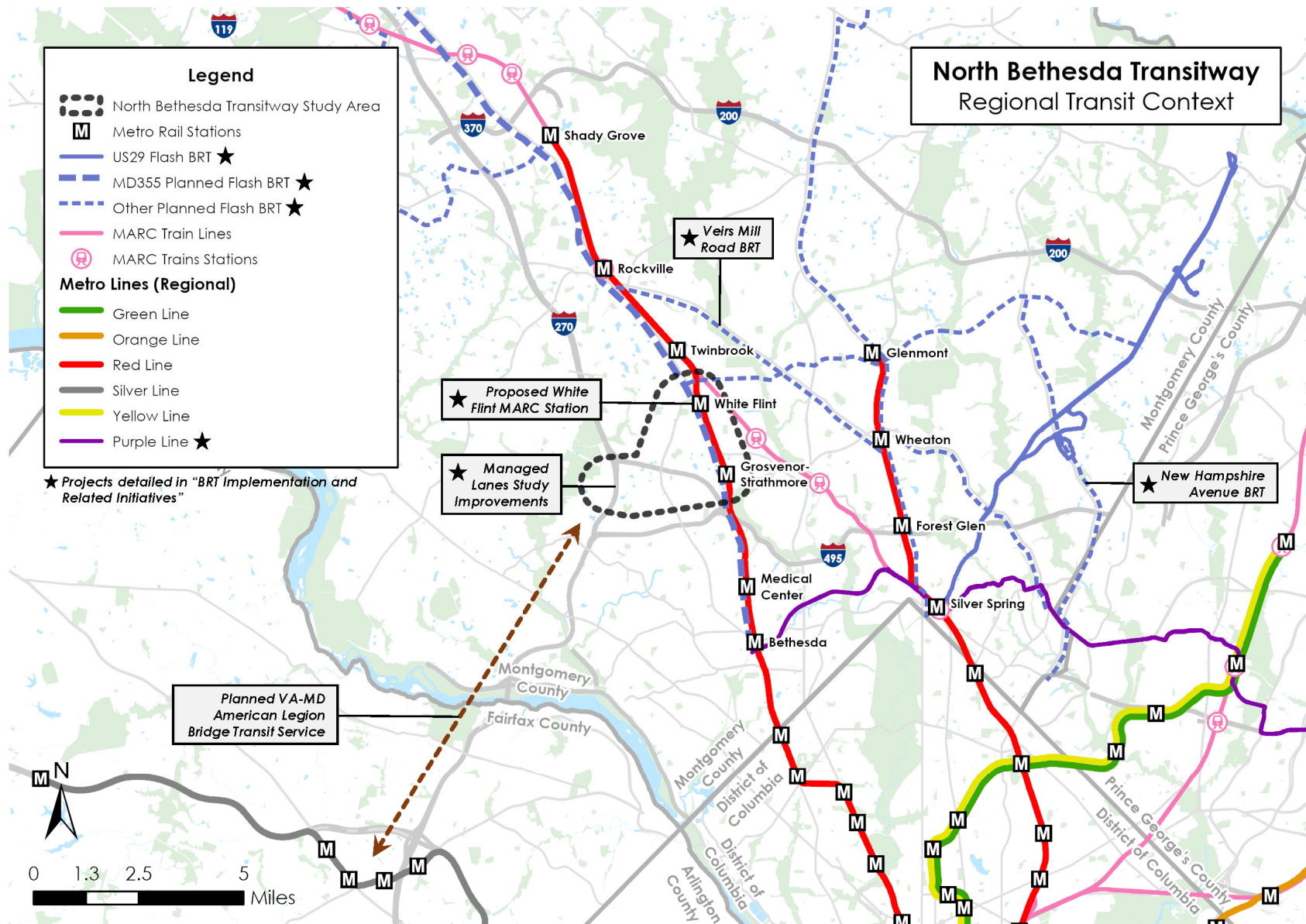
- BRT initiative in Montgomery County
- North Bethesda BRT originally identified in the *2013 Countywide Transit Corridor Functional Master Plan*
 - Connect Westfield Montgomery Mall Transit Center through the Rock Spring office park to the Metrorail Red Line



North Bethesda Transitway Planning Study

- **Corridor Extends from Master Plan Study:**
 - **Western Terminus:** Westfield Montgomery Mall
 - **Eastern Terminus:** White Flint Metrorail station *OR* Grosvenor-Strathmore Metrorail station
- **Study Outcomes:**
 - Select an Eastern terminus
 - Designate alignment types
 - *Dedicated BRT lanes vs mixed traffic*
 - Identify stop locations





Process & Schedule

North Bethesda
BUS RAPID TRANSIT
Project Schedule

WINTER 2022



Data Collection

SPRING 2022



Develop
Alternatives

SUMMER 2022



Conduct Analysis
and Evaluation

SPRING 2023



Select Preferred
Alternative



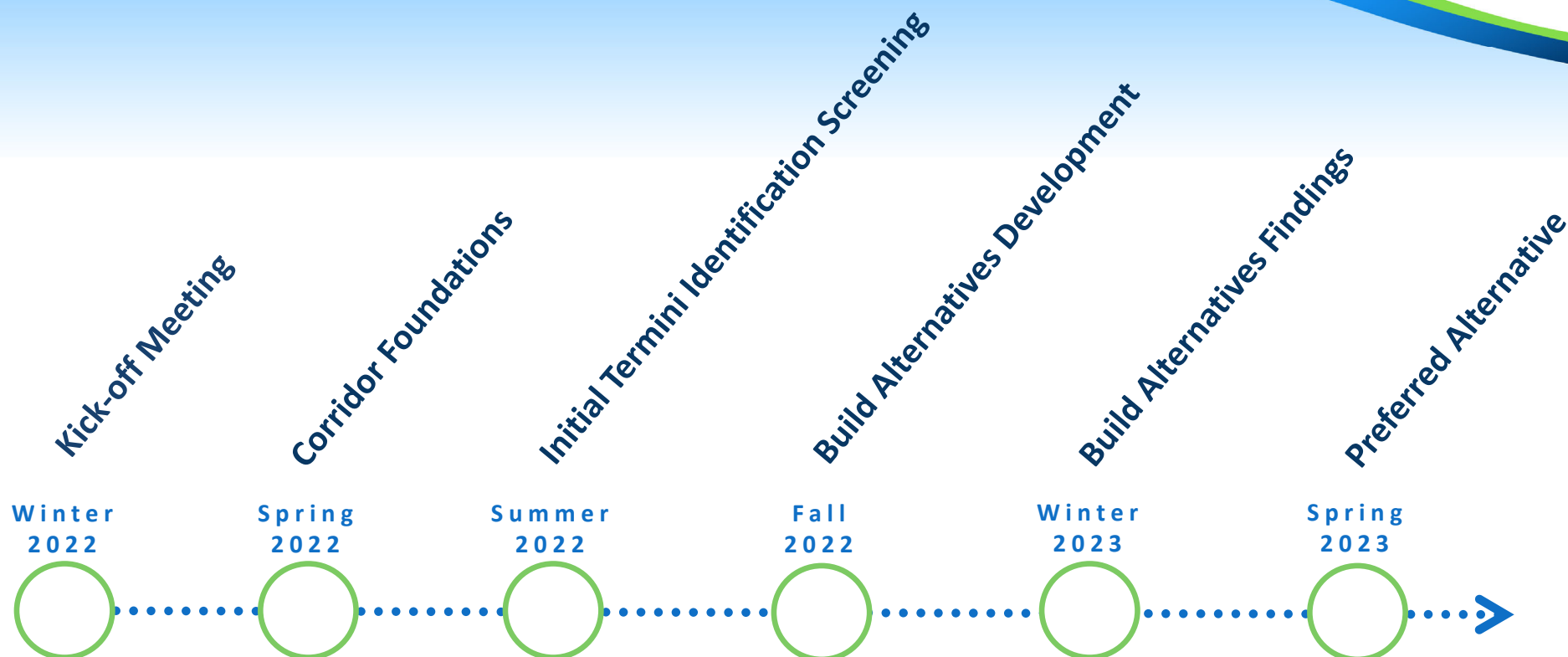
ENGAGEMENT



Throughout the project there will be updates and opportunities to provide input at the following:

- Project Webpage
- Project Survey
- Pop-Up Events
- Bus Stop Chats
- Public Meetings
 - Virtual
 - In-Person

The Role of the CAC



Goals and Objectives



Goals and Objectives *DRAFT*

Quality Service

Provide a fast, reliable, efficient, and connected transit service

Mobility Choices

Improve access to jobs, activity centers, and community facilities

Sustainable Solutions

Minimize environmental impacts and utilize cost-effective design

Community Equity

Provide improved and accessible transit service for underserved populations

Economic Growth

Promote economic development with appealing and functional transit

Public Safety

Improve safety of our streets and the livability and wellness of our communities

How To Use Poll EV



Goals and Objectives *DRAFT*

Which 2 goals are most important to the community?



[PollEv.com/amp812](https://pollev.com/amp812)

Quality Service

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Mobility Choices

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Community Equity

Provide improved and accessible transit service for underserved populations

Economic Growth

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Public Safety

Improve safety of our streets and the livability and wellness of our communities

Which Two North Bethesda BRT Project Goals Are Most Important to the Community? (Select 2)

Quality
Service

Mobility
Choices

Sustainable
Solutions

Community
Equity

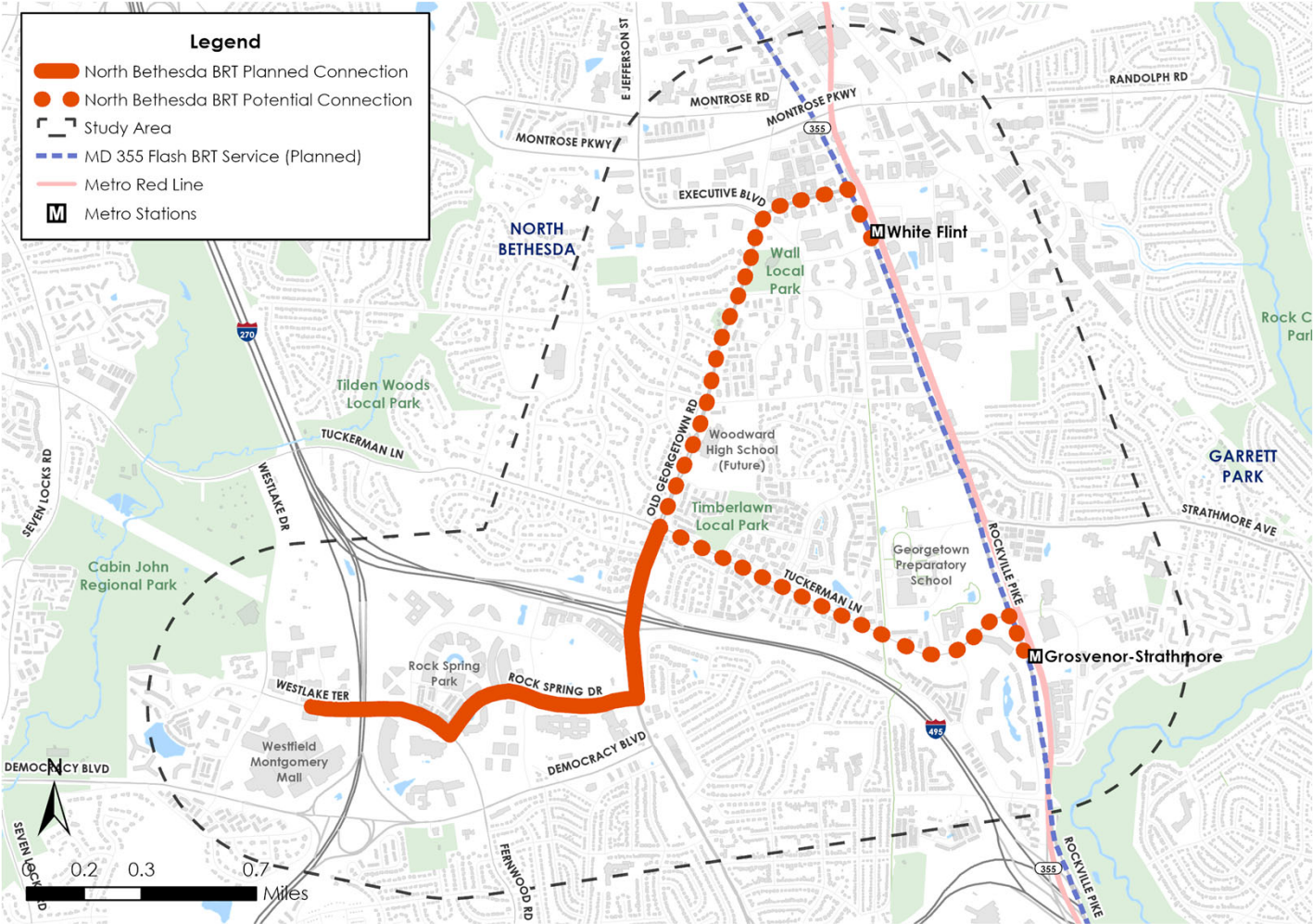
Economic
Growth

Public Safety

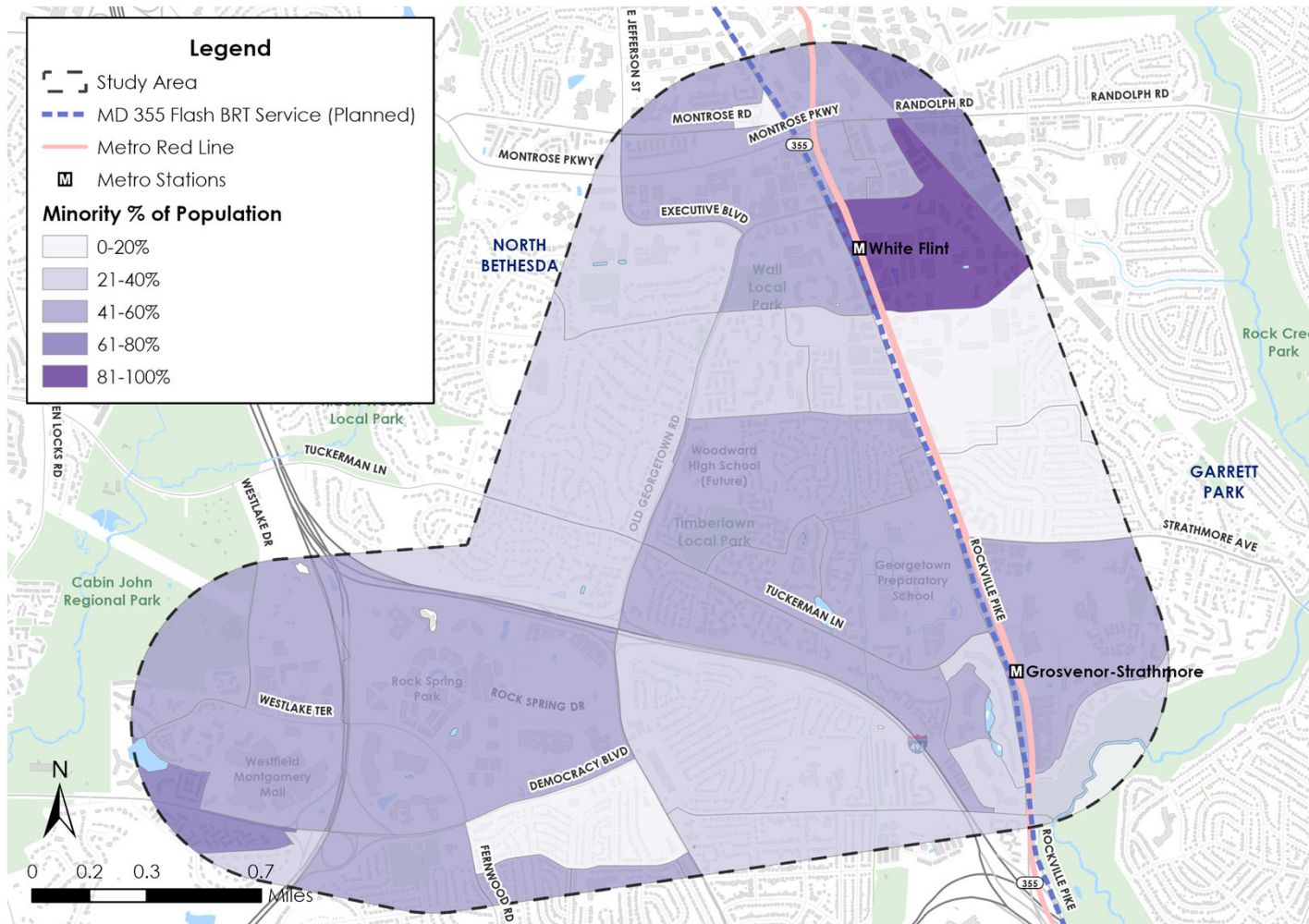
Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Study Area Context

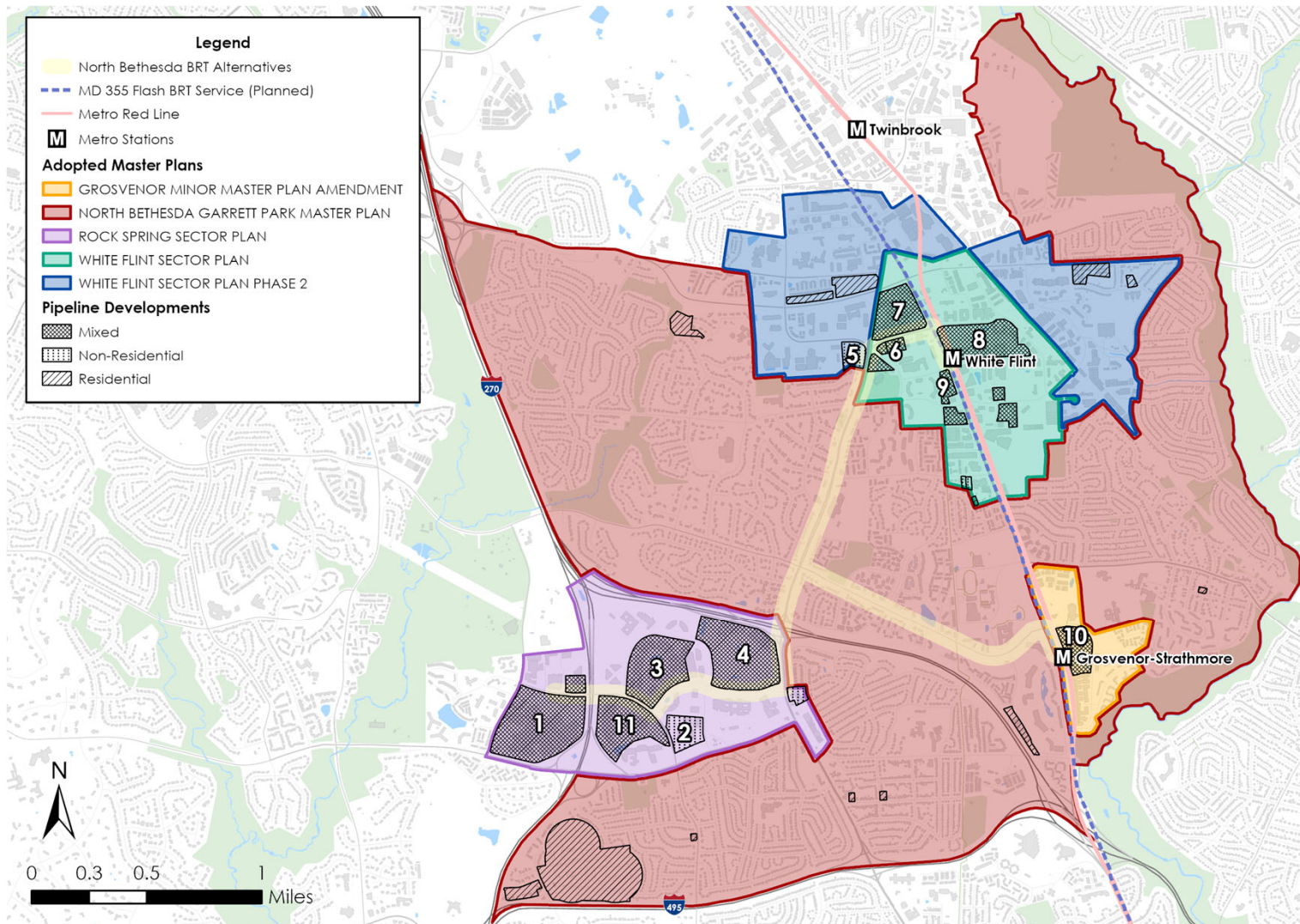
BRT Alternatives and Study Area



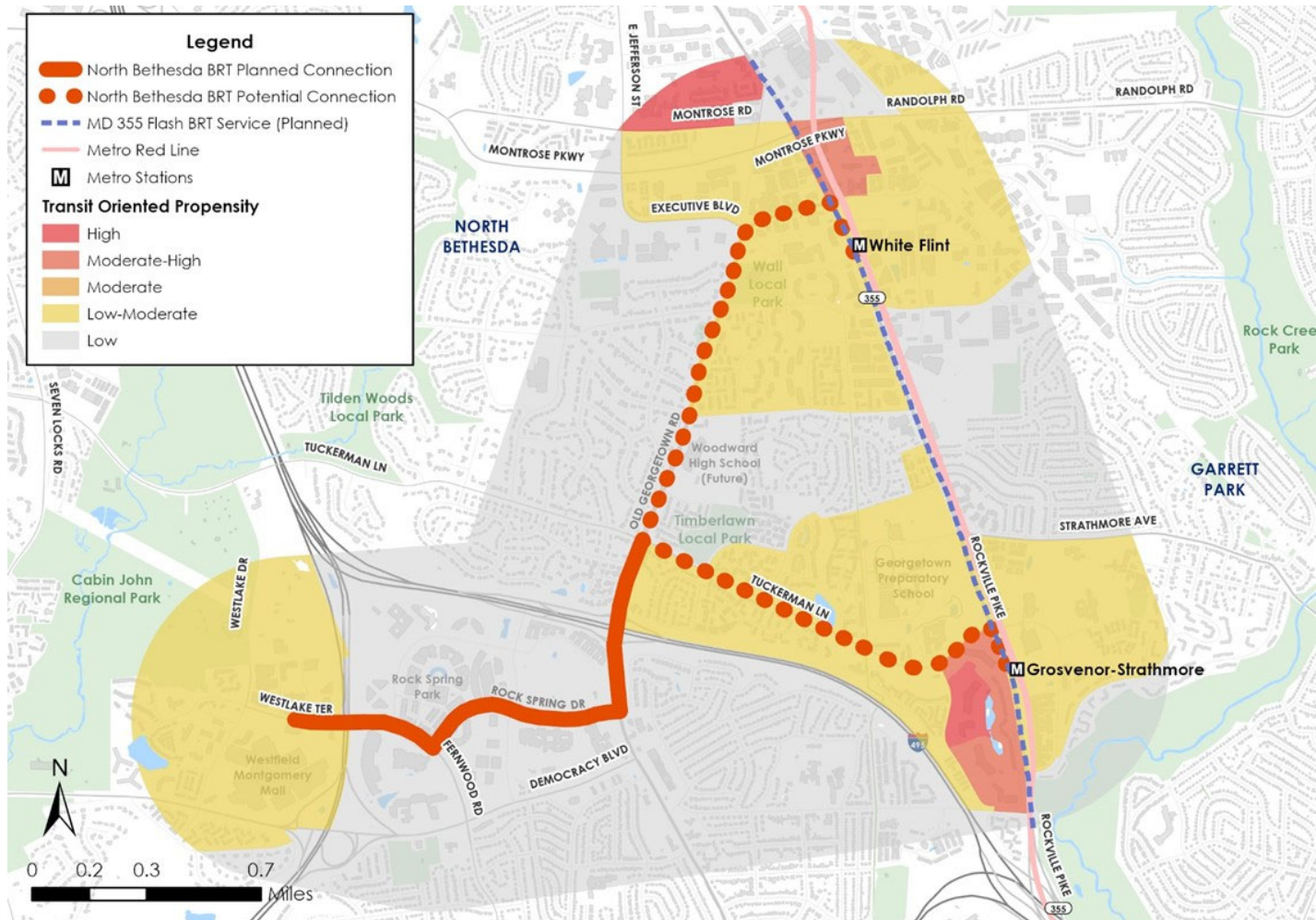
Study Area Demographics - % Minority Population



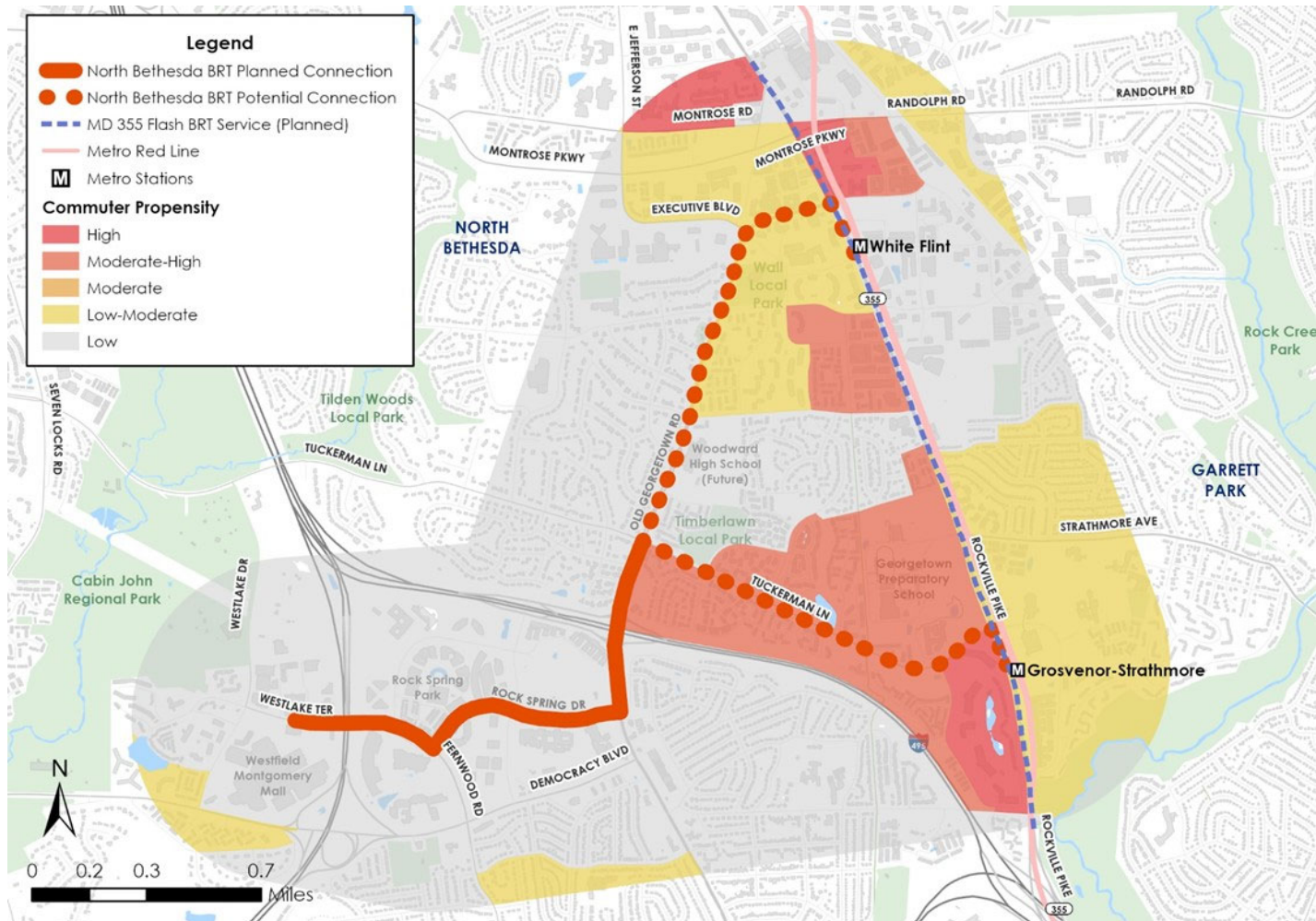
Master Plans and Pipeline Developments



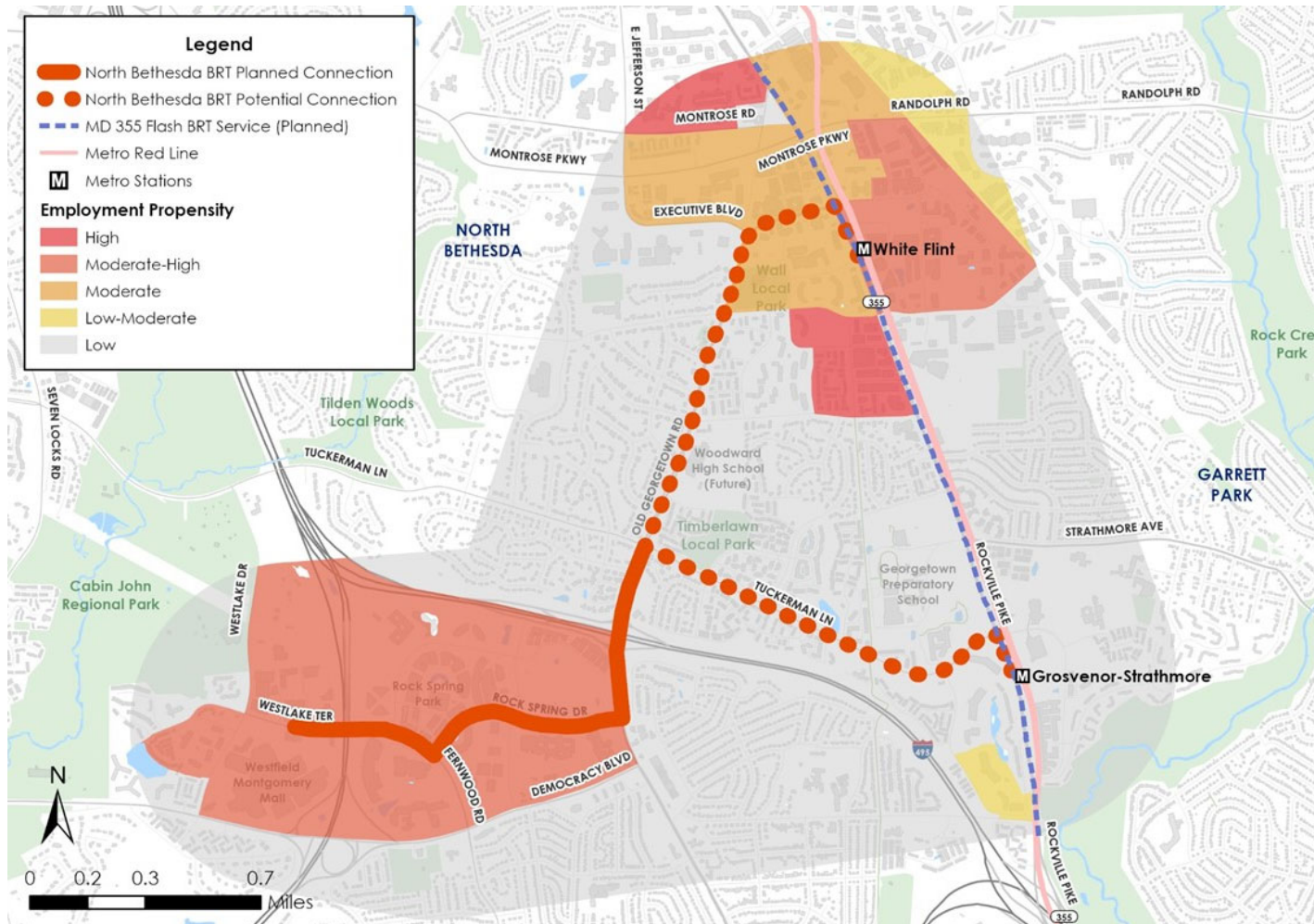
***Transit Oriented Propensity –
Areas where there is a presence of residents more likely to use transit.***



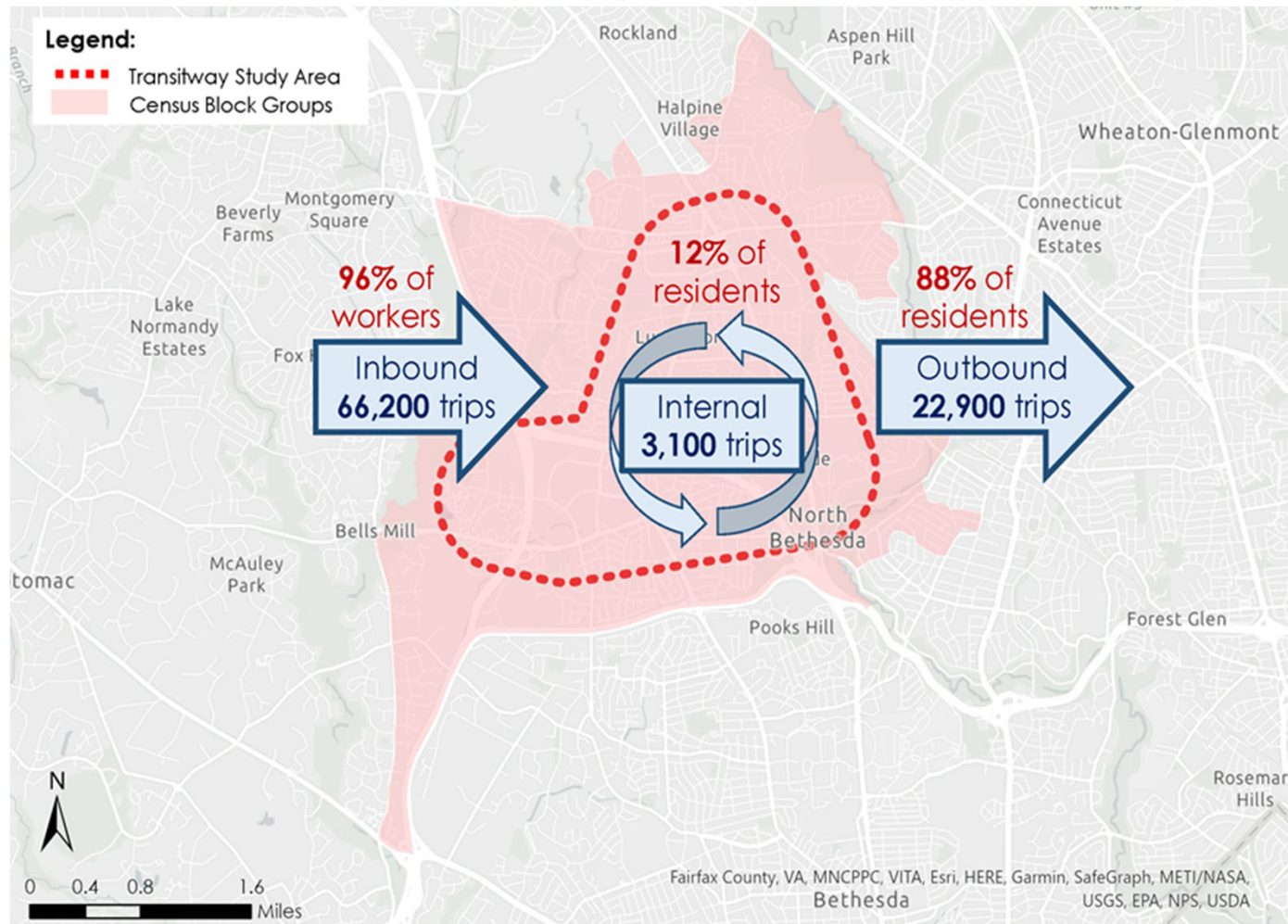
Commuter Propensity –
Areas where commuters who use transit are likely to live.



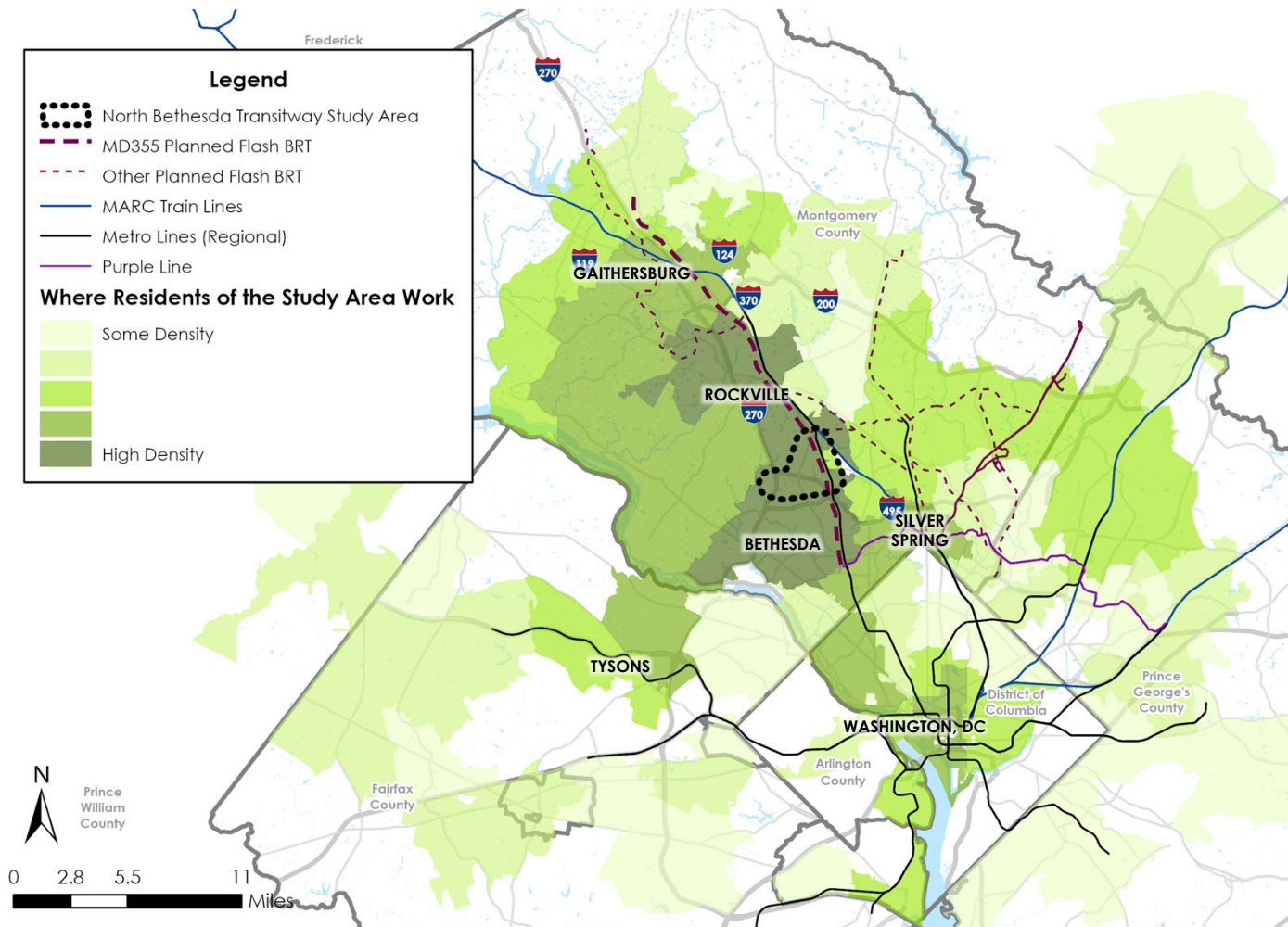
***Employment Destination Propensity –
Areas where commuters are likely to go based on total jobs and job density.***



Inflow and Outflow of Work Trips To and From the Study Area

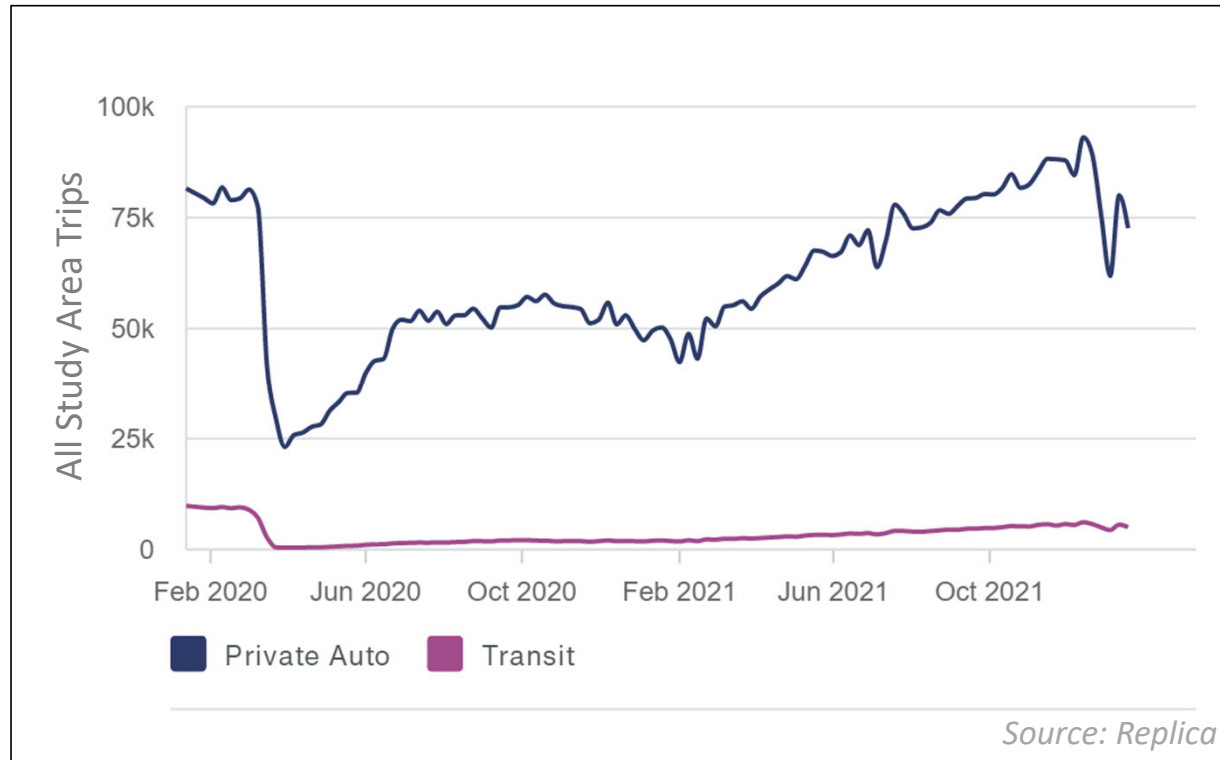


Work Locations of People Who Live in the Study Area



Source: United States Census Bureau LEHD Data

COVID Study Area Travel Trends



***Before the pandemic, how
did you travel to work?***



PollEv.com/amp812

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, how did you travel to work?

Personal Car

Walk

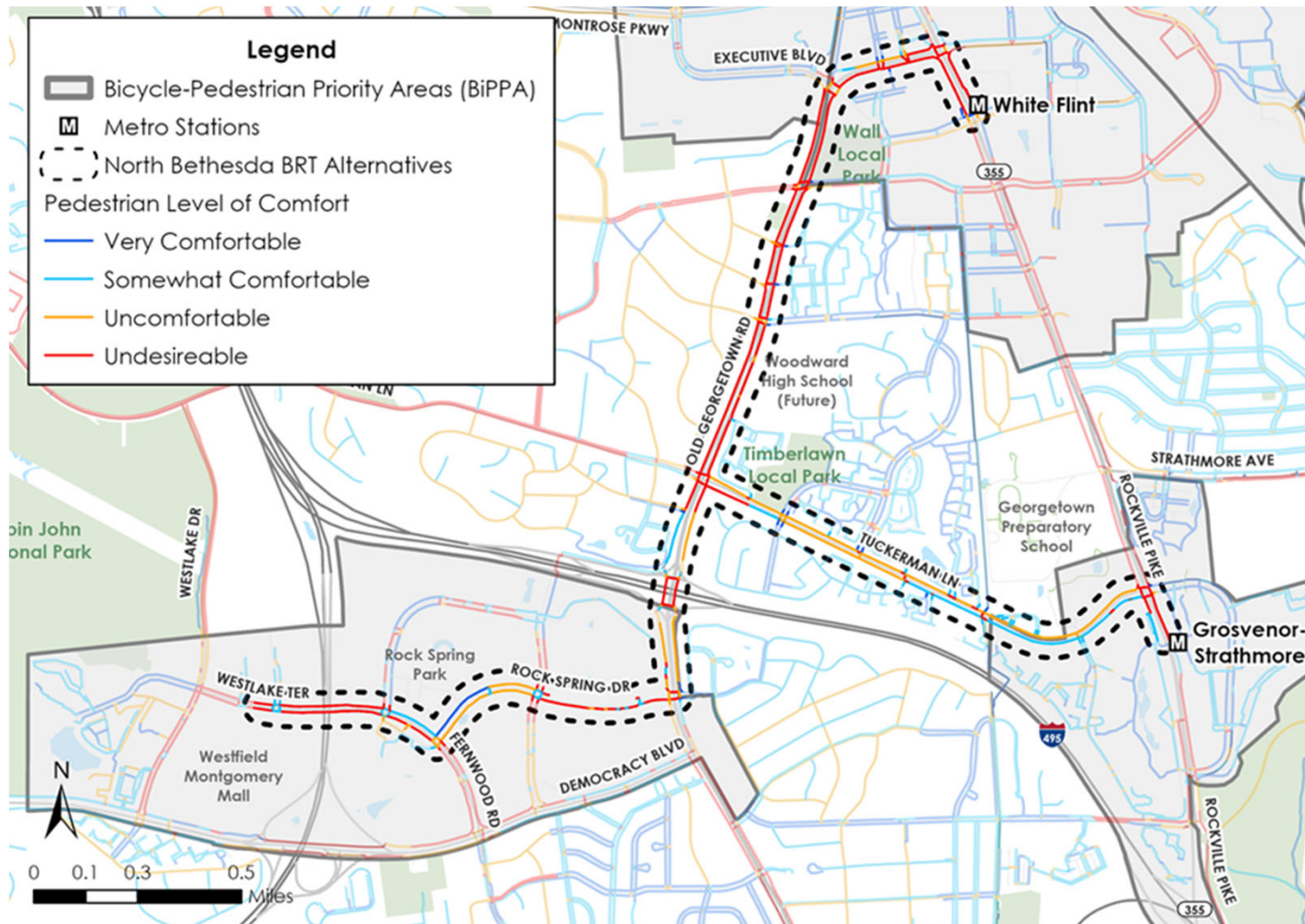
Bike/Scooter

Bus

Metrorail

Rideshare/Carpool

Pedestrian Level of Comfort in the Study Area



Current Characteristics

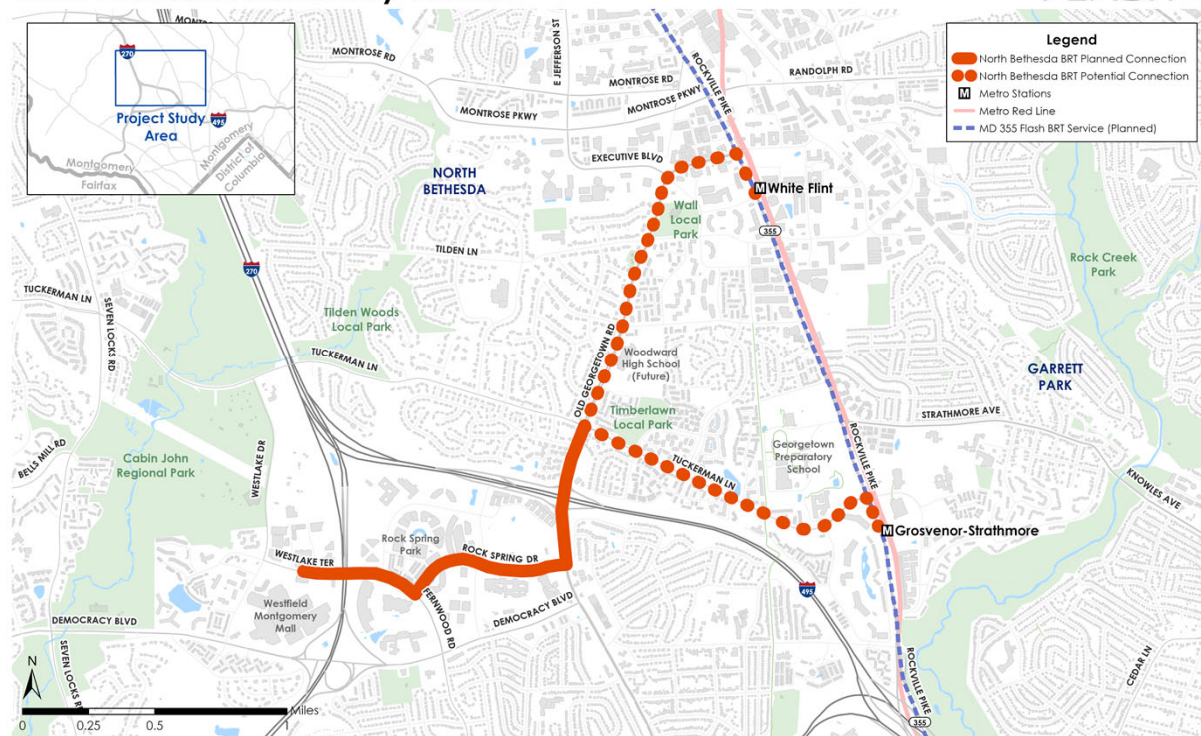
- Transit ridership has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels, unlike private auto use
- More people are commuting into the study area to work, than commuting out
- Opportunities exist to upgrade bike and ped facilities
- High transit propensity around metro stations
- Lower density and less transit-supportive land use in middle of corridor

Future BRT Considerations

- Consider stops, frequency and regional transit connectivity
- Consider capacity needs and users in design
- Opportunity to achieve visions of master plans
- Look at increasing frequency and expanding hours of service
- Include quality bike and ped facilities in design
- Look at future demand in screening the termini options

Discussion

North Bethesda Transitway Corridor



Was there anything in the data that surprised you?

Is there anything else you would like to share about existing conditions?

Upcoming Engagement

Project Webpage

- Ongoing throughout project

Project Survey

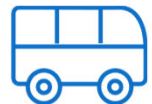
- March 2022 – April 2022

Pop-Up Events

- March 2022 – April 2022

Bus Stop Chats

- March 2022 – April 2022



Scan This to Register
for Project Updates

We need your help spreading the word!

- **Take the Project Survey**

- **Purpose:** gather public feedback on project goals, how the corridor is used, and overall travel trends.
- **When:** late March 2022 – mid April 2022
- **Where:** Project Webpage *(once survey is published)*



- **Who:** Anyone—Spread the word through your local advocacy groups and share with your neighbors, friends, and other contacts!



Questions?

Sandra Marks – BRT Project Manager, MCDOT

Sandra.marks@montgomerycountymd.gov

Project Webpage

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/NorthBethesda/>