

Study Background

- The North Bethesda Transitway was proposed in the 2013 Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan to connect the Westfield Montgomery Mall and Metrorail Red Line.
- It is one of 10 proposed bus rapid transit (BRT) routes in the County's Flash BRT system.
- Two alternatives were identified for the BRT's eastern terminus (end point):
 - White Flint Metrorail Station
 - Grosvenor-Strathmore Metrorail Station
- The purpose of this study is to determine if and what type of BRT service is needed in this area to connect between key activity centers.



The North Bethesda Transitway study is currently in the Termini Screening phase, during which an eastern terminus will be selected. Next, more details of the route and service will be developed and analyzed.

Termini Screening Process

Following the Corridor Foundations Report, which details the current conditions of the project area, the Termini Screening assessed the two eastern terminus alternatives for the North Bethesda Transitway. Each alternative was screened using various metrics to determine which alternative better aligns with the North Bethesda BRT goals and objectives.

Alternative Results Summary

Goals and Objectives	White Flint	Grosvenor	Rationale
Quality Service: Provide a fast, reliable, efficient, and connected transit service	—		White Flint alternative serves more existing local bus trips and overall regional trips
Mobility Choices: Improve access to jobs, activity centers, and community facilities	—		White Flint alternative serves more existing jobs and community facilities with more travel choices
Sustainable Solutions: Minimize environmental impacts and utilize cost-effective design			Grosvenor alternative requires a less signficant investment in infrastructure and potential right-of-way impacts
Community Equity: Provide improved and accessible transit service for underserved populations	—		More disadvantaged populations live along or are connected to the White Flint alternative
Economic Growth: Promote economic development with appealing and functional transit	—		White Flint alternative better aligns with planned development
Public Safety: Improve safety of our streets and the livability and wellness of our communities			Both alternatives improve public safety on the corridor

Which Alternative Best Achieves the Goal?



The following pages of this report card detail the full results of the termini screening







White Flint Alternative

Key Takeaways:



Serves more existing bus ridership (approximately 450 more, or 40% more riders per weekday)



Serves almost **double the number of jobs** (approximately 41,000 compared with 24,000) and community facilities (28 versus 16) including recreation centers, schools, and medical facilities



Will strengthen and **promote 9.3 million square feet of planned development**, approximately
double the planned development



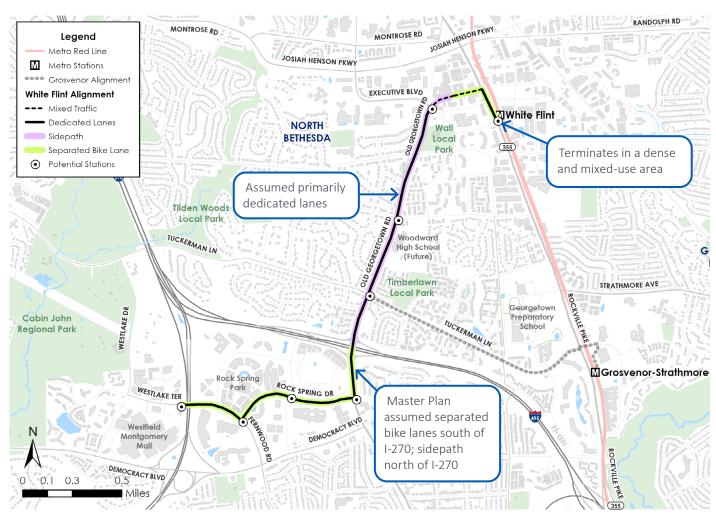
Better supports forecasted change in people and jobs. The White Flint corridor has a 31% forecast growth from 2020 to 2030, whereas Grosvenor's projected change is 2%



Better opportunity to increase countywide and regional connectivity and attracting approximately 44% more regional trips



Provides improved service to a higher number of low-income and minority populations, low-paying jobs, and equity emphasis areas



NOTE: Alignment, station locations, dedicated lane assumptions, and pedestrian/bike facilities based on the County's Transitways Corridor Master Plan, Master Plan of Highways and Transitways, and Bicycle Master Plan. All are subject to further analysis during the Build Alternatives Phase.





Grosvenor Alternative

Key Takeaways:



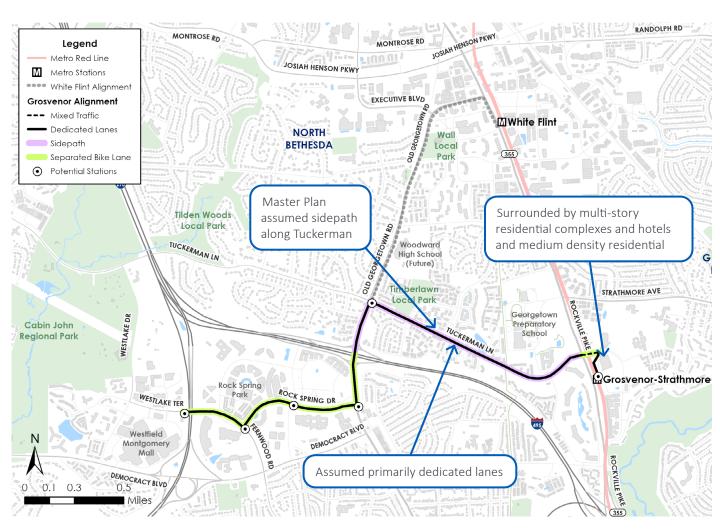
Serves more pre-pandemic Metrorail riders likely due to the presence of parking facilities



Lower level of infrastructure investment and potential right-of-way needed which would indicate a lower cost and potentially shorter construction timeline based on assumed stations and lane configuration



Serves more existing land use that is **supportive of transit**



NOTE: Alignment, station locations, dedicated lane assumptions, and pedestrian/bike facilities based on the County's Transitways Corridor Master Plan, Master Plan of Highways and Transitways, and Bicycle Master Plan. All are subject to further analysis during the Build Alternatives Phase.





Goals and Objectives		Termini Screening Metrics	Score	
		Terrinin Screening Metrics	White Flint	Grosvenor
	Quality Service	Existing Bus Stops' Boardings and Alightings along the Corridor		
	Provide a fast, reliable, efficient, and connected transit service	Access for Existing Residents along the Corridor		
		Existing Metrorail Ridership at Termini		
		Potential to Improve Transit Reliability		
		Increase Of Service Frequency and Span		
		Minimizing Impacts to Traffic Flow	0	
		Connections to Planned BRT Network		
		Regional Connectivity		
NAS.	Mobility Choices	Access to Community Facilities		
	Improve access to jobs, activity centers, and community facilities	Access to Existing Jobs		
		Connections to Existing and Planned Bike Network		
	Sustainable Solutions	Potential Right of Way Expansion Needed	0	
	Minimize environmental impacts and utilize cost-effective design	Level of Infrastructure Investment	\circ	
		Operational Cost		
		Potential to Support Electric Fleet		

Score Key		
0	Negative or Negligible Impact Towards Goal	
	Supports Achieving Goal	
	Best Alternative for Supporting Achievement of Goal (greater than 15% difference)	





Goals and Objectives		Tanusini Sanaanina Matuisa	Score	
		Termini Screening Metrics	White Flint	Grosvenoi
Chapsing and a second a second and a second	Community Equity	Access for Low-Income Households		
	Provide improved and accessible transit service for underserved populations	Access for Zero-Car Households		
		Access for Low-English Proficiency Populations		
		Access for Seniors		
		Access for Persons with Disabilities		
		Access for Minority Populations		
		Access for Lower Paying Jobs		
		Number of Equity Focus Areas within 3/4 mile of alignment		
	Economic Growth	Connections to Planned Development		
	Promote economic development with	Projected Future Activity (Jobs and People) Along Corridor		
	appealing and functional transit	Support for Transit Oriented Development		
ŽIŽIT	Public Safety	Potential to Improve Vulnerable Road Users (VRU) Safety		
	Improve safety of our streets and the livability and wellness of our communities	Potential to Improve Vehicular Safety		
		Connection to Green Space		

Score Key			
0	Negative or Negligible Impact Towards Goal		
	Supports Achieving Goal		
	Best Alternative for Supporting Achievement of Goal (greater than 15% difference)		



