



**I-395 Express Lanes  
Northern Extension Project  
Fairlington Citizens Association  
September 12, 2016**

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Virginia Department of Transportation**

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Virginia Department of Transportation**

# Meeting Agenda

- Project Update
- Key findings of draft Environmental Assessment
- Key traffic findings
- Eads Street improvements design concept
- Update on the 95/395 Transit and Traffic Demand Management Study
- Project schedule

# Existing Conditions

- Lack of capacity and congestion on I-395 between the current Express Lanes terminus near Edsall Road and Washington DC
- Access challenges to and from the Pentagon at the Eads Street Interchange
- Lack of capacity on Eads Street ramp



# Purpose and Need

- Develop a transportation solution that improves roadway conditions throughout the corridor by:
  - Reducing congestion
  - Providing additional travel choices
  - Improving travel predictability
  - Improving roadway safety



# Project Background

- Comprehensive Agreement executed in 2012 with 95 Express Lanes, LLC (95 Express) for 95 Express Lanes contemplated potential future development of the Northern Express Lanes in the I-395 corridor
- In November 2015, VDOT and 95 Express signed a Development Framework Agreement outlining roles and responsibilities
- VDOT is working to finalize the scope
- The toll project will provide long-term transit investment through an annual transit payment
- Improvements to be built largely within VDOT's right of way



# Atlantic Gateway: Partnering to Unlock the I-95 Corridor (FASTLANE/TIGER Grants)

Virginia selected to receive \$165 million dollar federal grant to improve more than 50 miles of the I-95/I-395 Corridor from Fredericksburg to the Pentagon.

- Extending I-95/I-395 Express Lanes
  - North to the Pentagon (~ 7 miles)
  - South to Fredericksburg (~ 10 miles)
- Improving commuter rail service on VRE and Amtrak
  - Third track construction in Fairfax County (~ 8 miles)
  - Improvements to Long Bridge (Potomac Crossing) (~ 6 miles)
- Increases Capacity on Interstate General Purpose Lanes
  - Eliminates bottleneck on I-395 at Duke Street
  - Adds new lanes across Rappahannock
- Expanding bus service and commuter parking spaces in the corridor



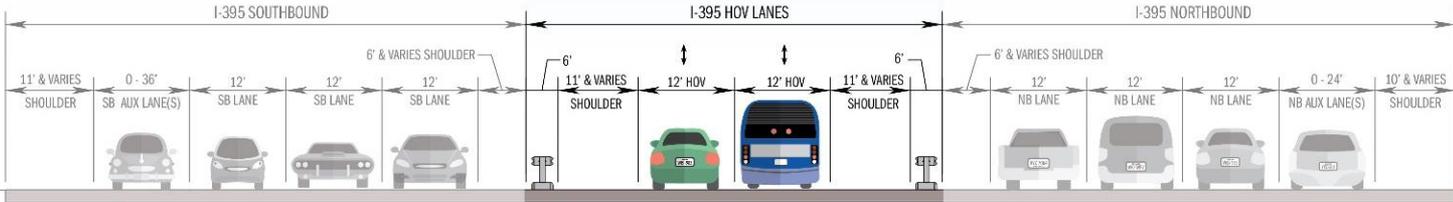
# Project Scope

- Expand and convert the two existing reversible High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on I-395 to three managed High Occupancy Toll (HOT) or Express Lanes for eight miles along I-395 from north of Edsall Road to the vicinity of Eads Street near the Pentagon
- Provide improved connections between the proposed I-395 Express Lanes and Eads Street
- Install signage, toll systems, and an Active Traffic Management System
- Provide sound walls
- Conduct a Transit/TDM Study to identify candidate projects

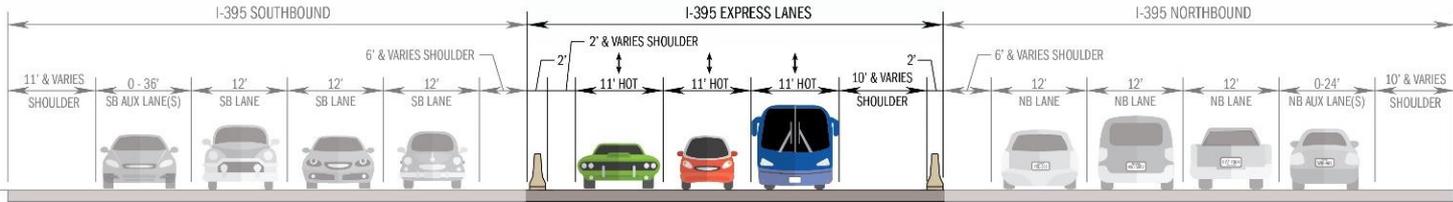


# Typical Section

## Existing Condition



## Proposed Condition

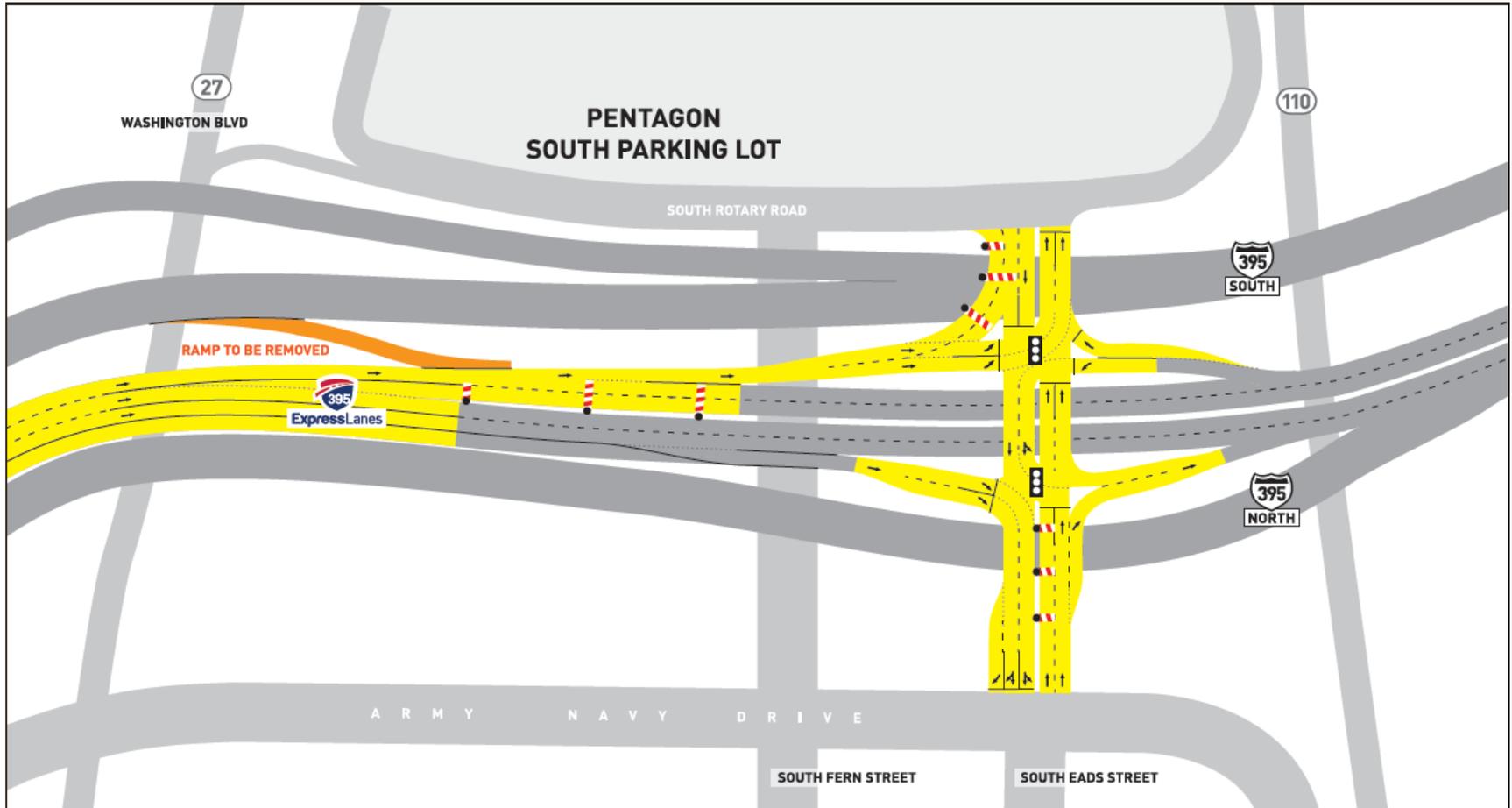


# Express Lanes Access

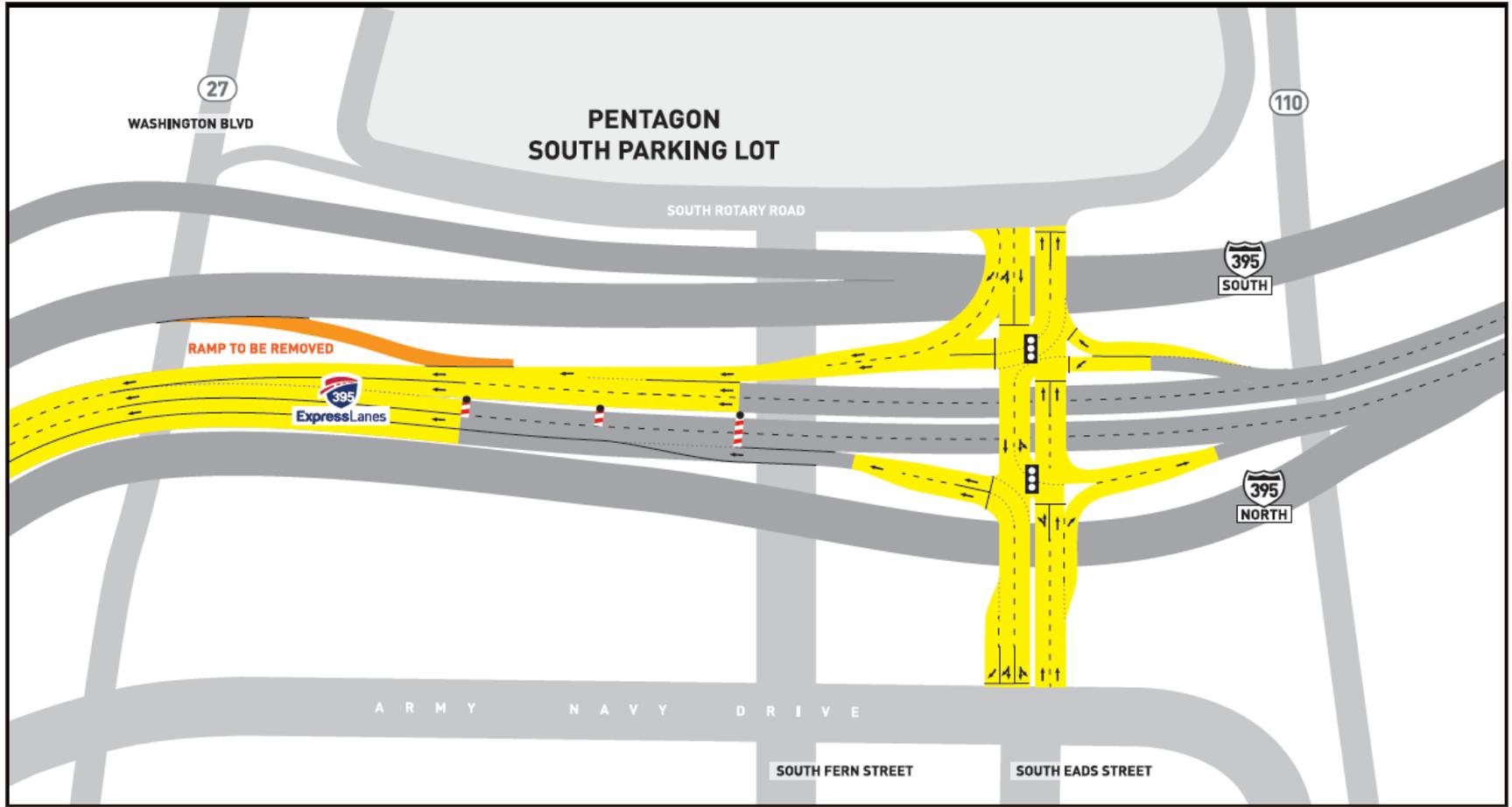
- All existing access points to remain the same – except for Eads Street Interchange
- Capacity and operational improvements at Eads Street Interchange under evaluation
- Seminary Road South facing ramp remains limited to HOV-only at all times



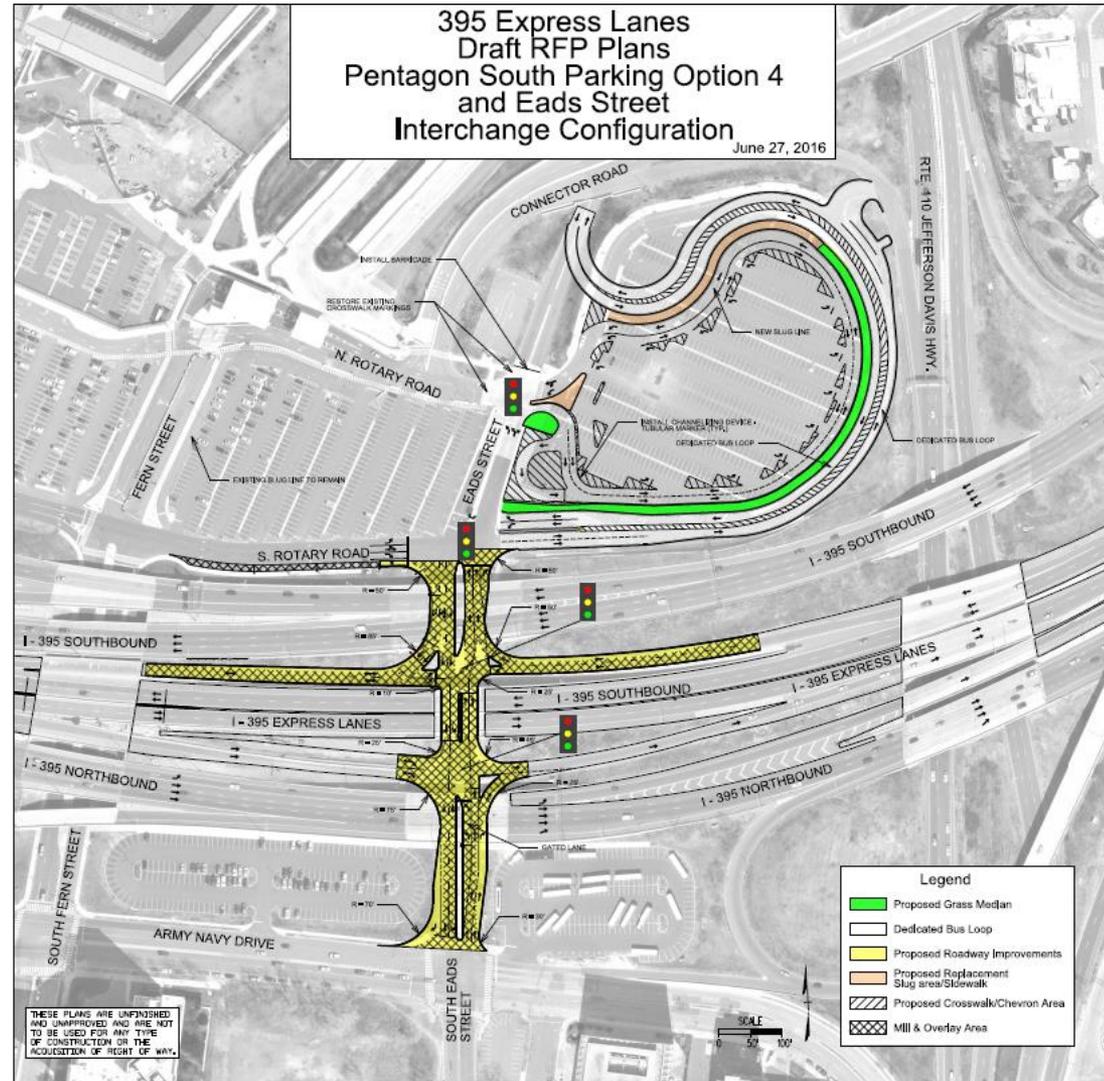
# Eads Street Interchange Concept AM Operation



# Eads Street Interchange Concept PM Operation



# Pentagon South Parking Option 4 and Eads Street Interchange Configuration



# Partner Roles and Responsibilities

VDOT and DRPT	95 Express
Environmental Assessment	Preliminary Engineering and Design
Interchange Modification Report (IMR)	Cost Estimating
Federal, State and Local Agency Coordination	Finance Plan
Transit/TDM Study	Design-Build Procurement
Public Outreach to Support Environmental Assessment	Community and Public Outreach for I-395 Express Lanes



# Environmental Assessment

- VDOT prepared Environmental Assessment (EA)
  - Draft Environmental Assessment available at [Virginiadot.org/395express](http://Virginiadot.org/395express) on September 12, 2016
  - Technical Studies include:
    - Traffic Analysis and Forecasting
    - Air Analysis
    - Noise Analysis
    - Indirect and Cumulative Effects
    - Cultural and Natural Resources
  - Public Information Meeting in April 2016
  - Public Hearings on October 24 and 26, 2016

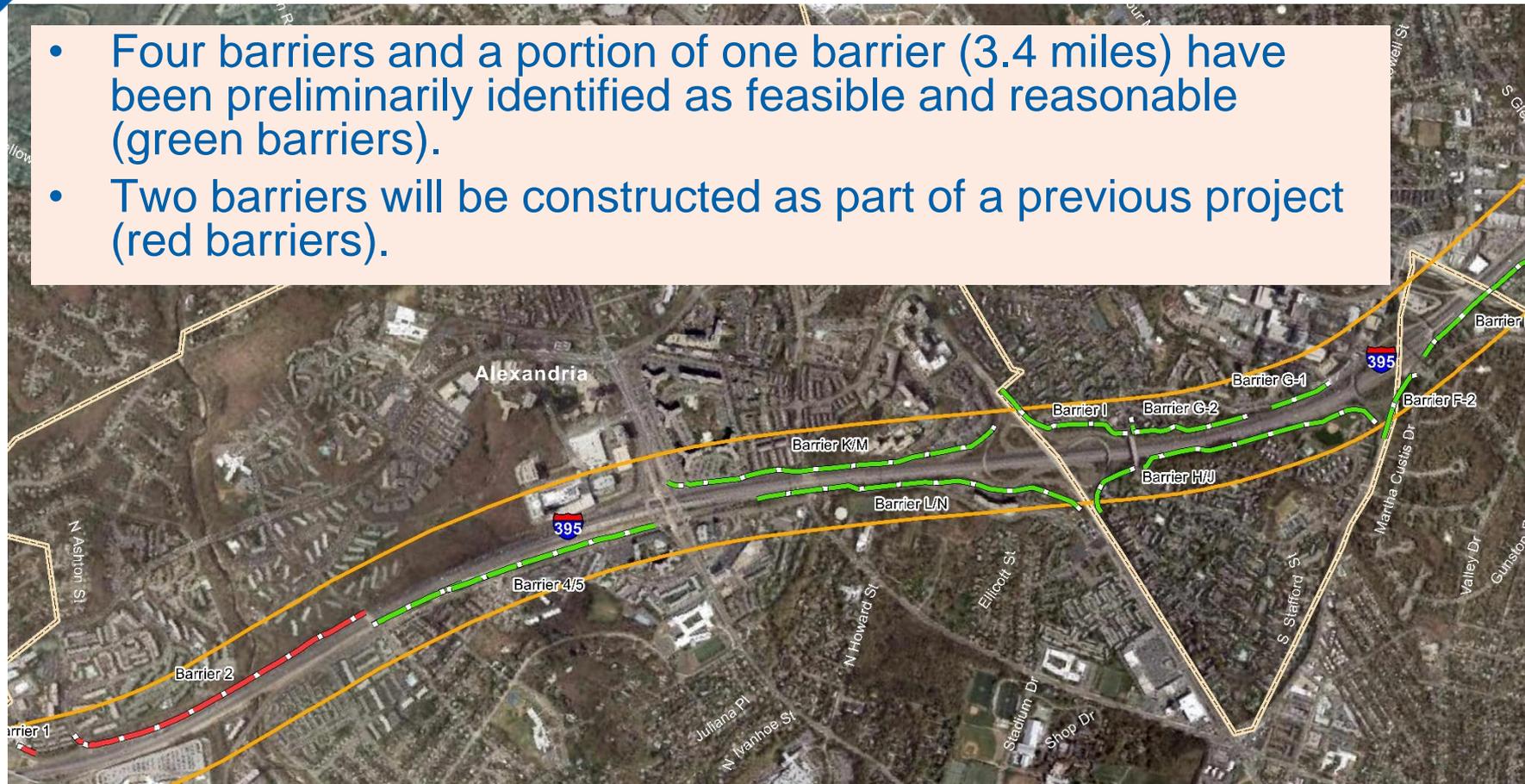


# Environmental Assessment Findings

Environmental Resource	Resource Summary
Property Impacts	No relocations or displacements. 5.3 acres of easements.
Environmental Justice	No disproportionate impacts.
Land Use, Community Facilities, and Recreational Resources	No substantial impacts.
Cultural Resources	No adverse effect. 5.06 acres of property may be impacted by noise barriers.
Air Quality	No adverse impacts to ambient air quality and no violation of NAAQS.
Noise	Impact to 2,857 noise-sensitive receptors. 8.1 miles of barriers have preliminarily been identified as being feasible and reasonable.
Wetlands and Streams	Impacts to 0.004 acres of wetlands.
Floodplains	Impacts to 0.09 acres of 100-year floodplains and 0.01 acres of 500-year floodplains.
Wildlife and Habitat	Minimal Impact.
Threatened, Endangered, and Special Status Species	No adverse effects to the Northern Long Eared Bat and the Dwarf Wedgemussel. Anadromous Fish Use areas mapped downstream of the study area may require time-of-year restrictions.
Hazardous Materials	8 sites of elevated environmental concern. Sites will be managed and handled in accordance with federal, state, and local procedures.
Indirect and Cumulative Effects	Minimal impacts since the proposed improvements are to an existing facility within existing right of way in an environment that is highly developed.
Section 4(f)	If right of way impacts occur to historic properties, the Section 4(f) use would likely be considered a de minimis impact.

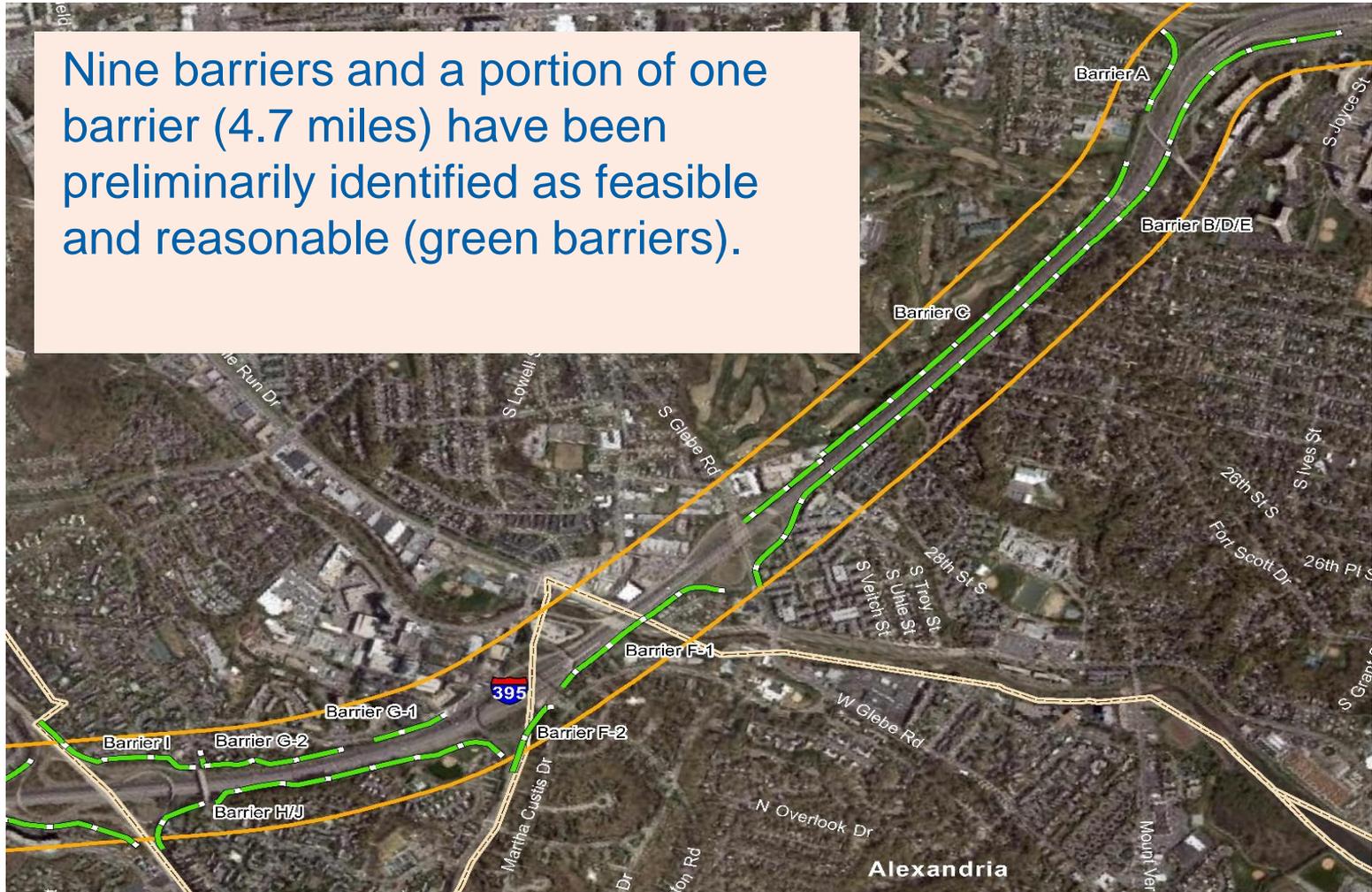
# Noise Barriers within Alexandria

- Four barriers and a portion of one barrier (3.4 miles) have been preliminarily identified as feasible and reasonable (green barriers).
- Two barriers will be constructed as part of a previous project (red barriers).



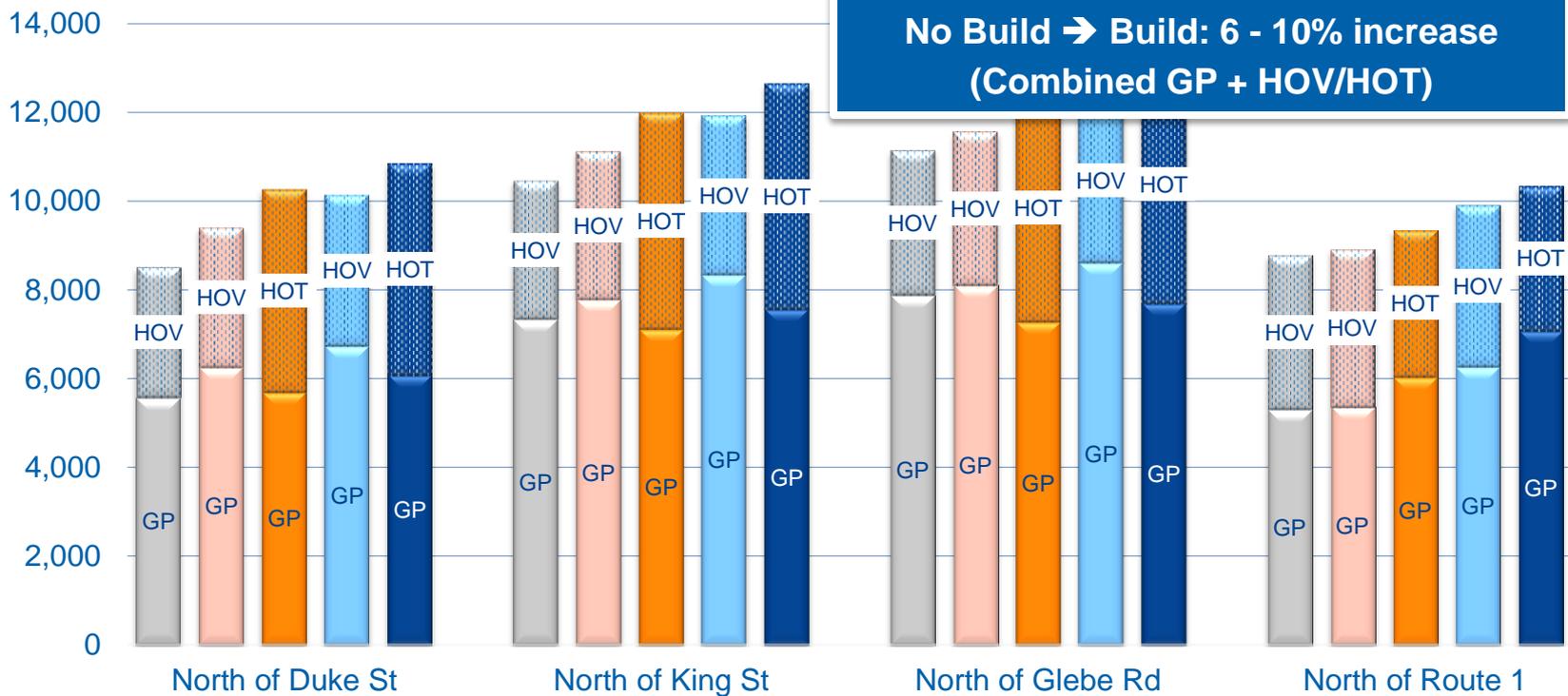
# Noise Barriers within Arlington

Nine barriers and a portion of one barrier (4.7 miles) have been preliminarily identified as feasible and reasonable (green barriers).



# Peak Hour Volumes (7 - 8 AM) Northbound I-395

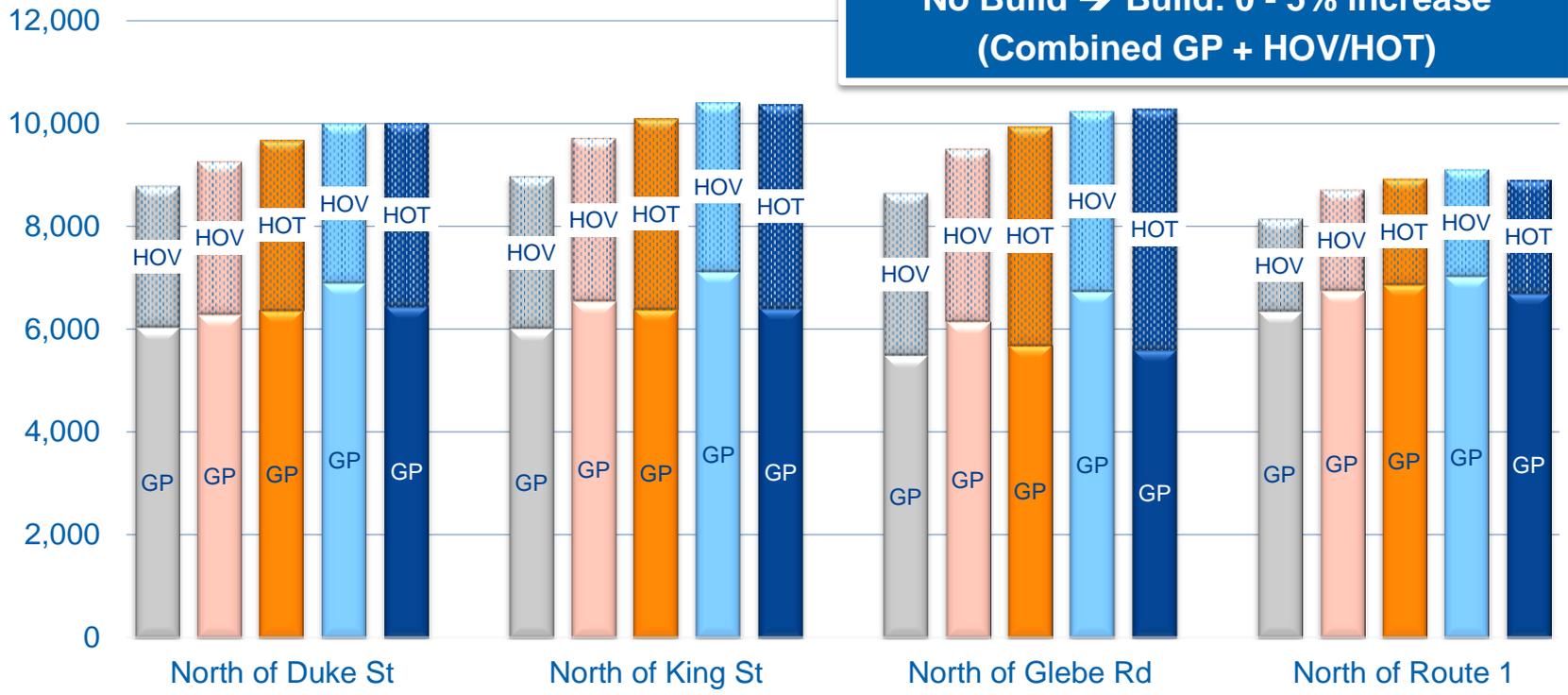
**North of Edsall Road to Eads Street**  
**No Build → Build: 6 - 10% increase**  
**(Combined GP + HOV/HOT)**



Existing (2015)
  2020 No Build
  2020 Build
  2040 No Build
  2040 Build

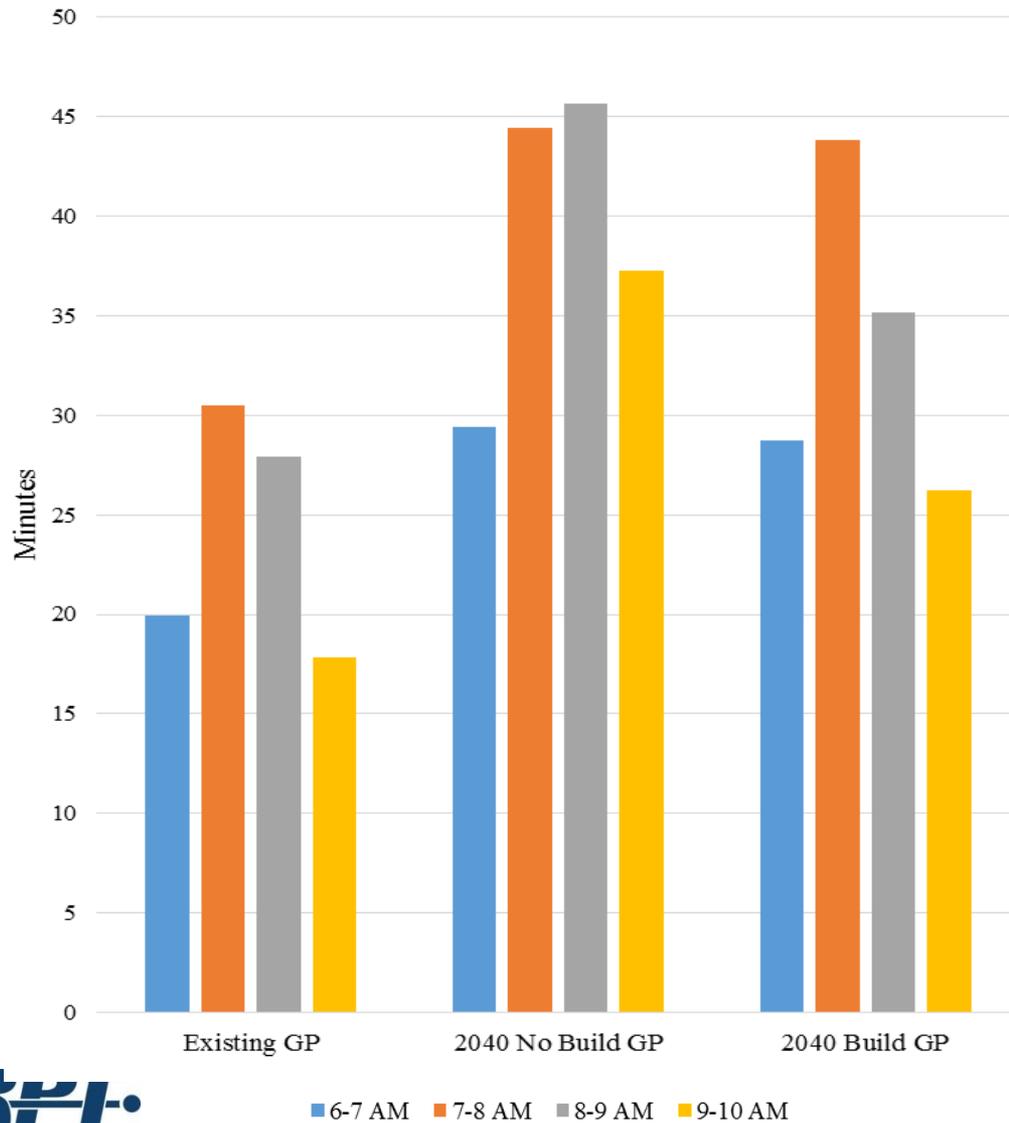
# Peak Hour Volumes (5 – 6 PM) Southbound I-395

**North of Edsall Road to Eads Street**  
**No Build → Build: 0 - 5% increase**  
**(Combined GP + HOV/HOT)**

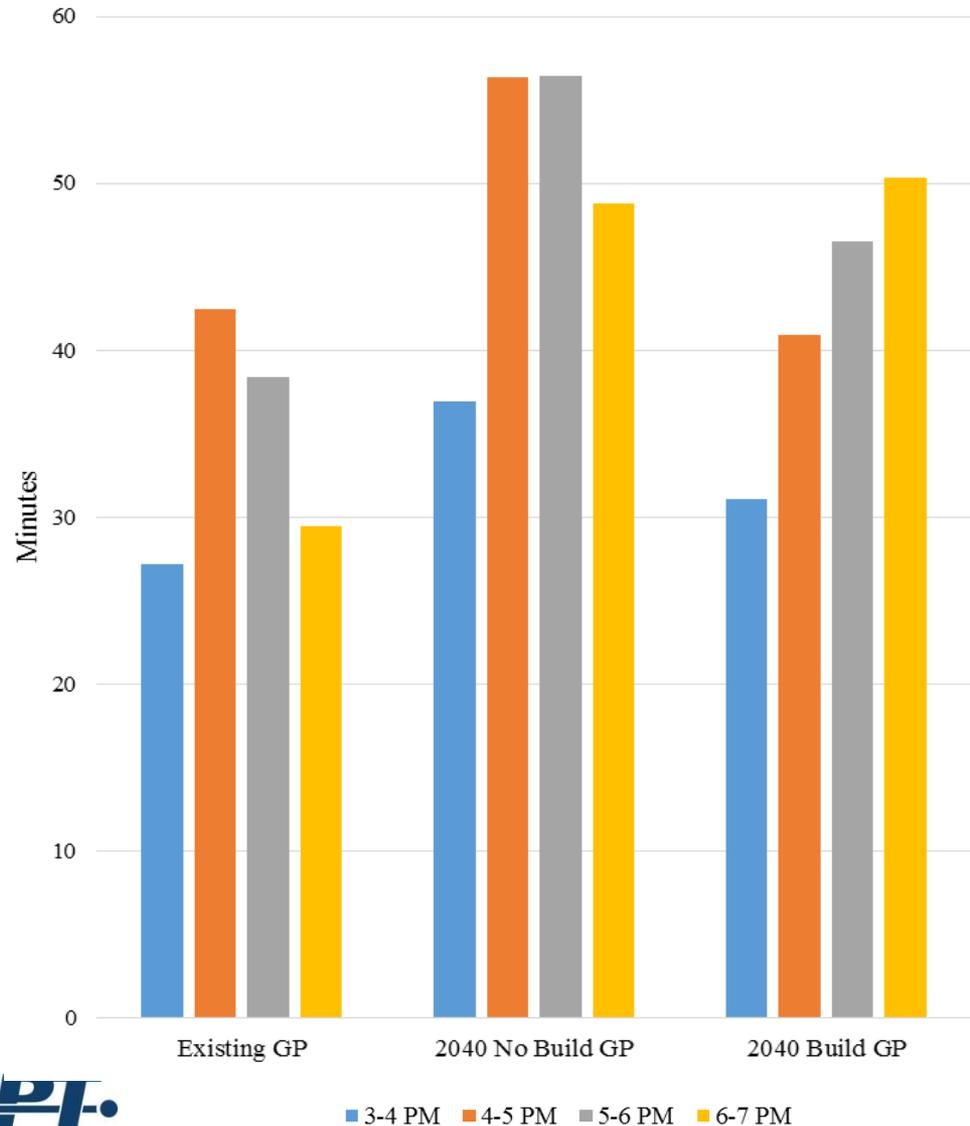


Existing (2015)
  2020 No Build
  2020 Build
  2040 No Build
  2040 Build

## Northbound I-395 Travel Times – 2040 AM Peak South of Edsall Rd to North of HOV Lane Terminus in DC



## Southbound I-395 Travel Times – 2040 PM Peak South of Edsall Rd to North of HOV Lane Terminus in DC



# I-95/I-395 Transit and TDM Study

- DRPT is leading the development of a new I-95/I-395 Transit/Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Study in coordination with key stakeholders including:
  - Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)
  - Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
  - Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William, Spotsylvania and Stafford Counties
  - Cities of Alexandria and Fredericksburg
  - VRE and WMATA

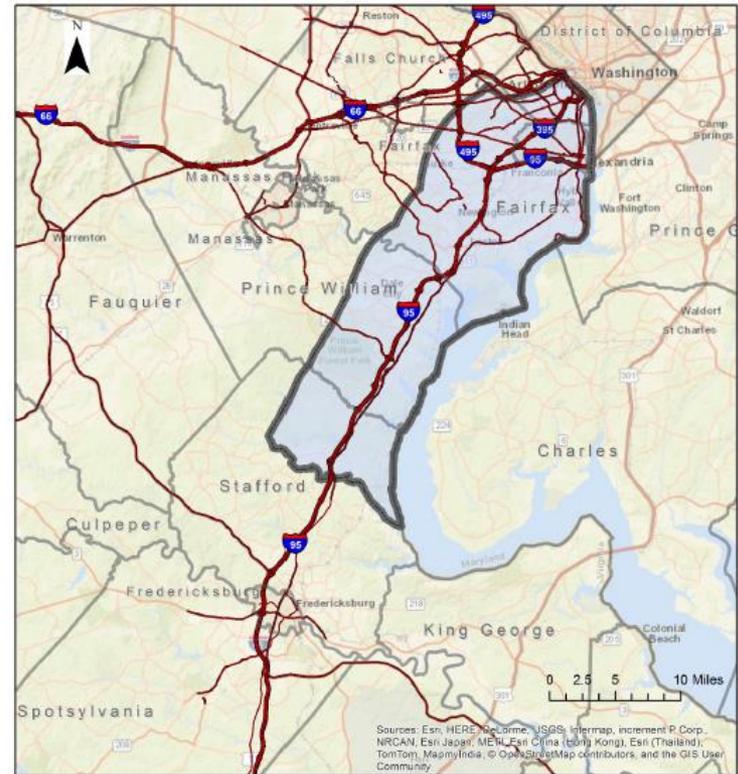
# I-95/I-395 Transit/TDM Eligible Projects and Funding

- Eligible projects will increase mobility and move more people along I-95 and I-395 and benefit toll payers in the I-395 corridor. Example projects:
  - Enhanced service to existing routes
  - New local and commuter bus service
  - Transit capital (bus and rail) projects
  - Park and ride lots
  - TDM program enhancements
- The Commonwealth will commit to provide at least \$15 million annually for 95/395 Transit and TDM initiatives.



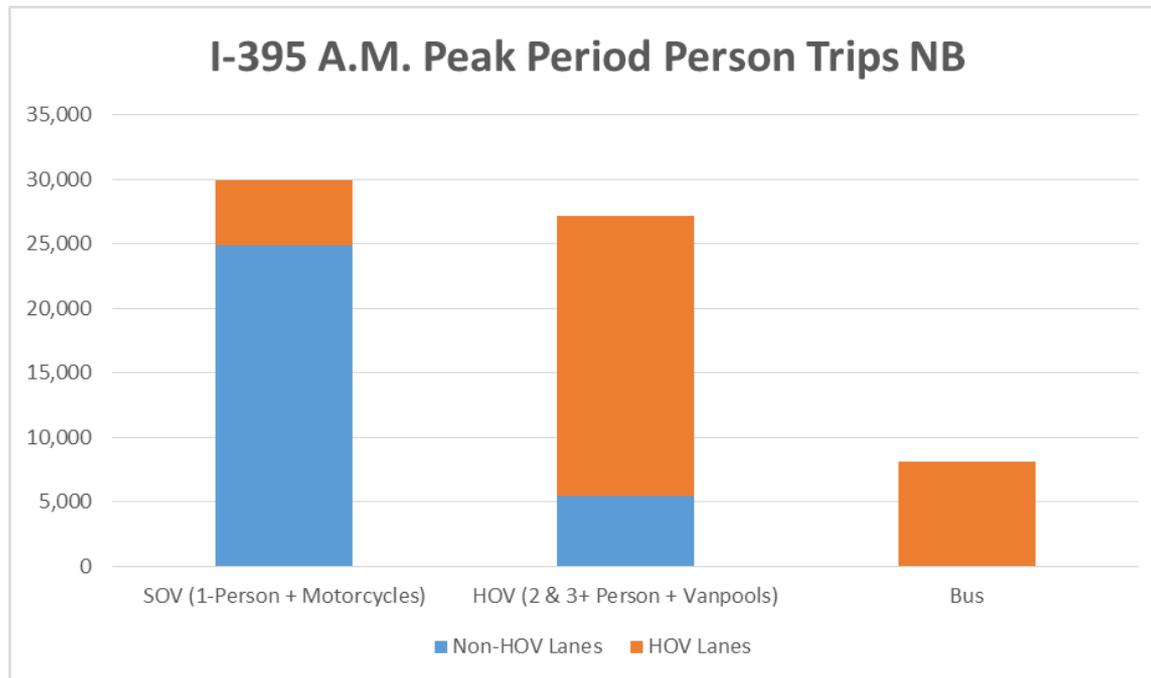
# 95/395 Transit/TDM Study Area and Markets

- Primary project study area extends from the southern terminus of the I-95 Express Lanes (at Garrisonville Road) north to the Potomac River and includes:
  - Parallel commuting corridors
  - Various modes of travel
- Transit/TDM services, programs, or facilities that are being studied include those that:
  - Serve work destinations within the project study area inside the Beltway (including downtown DC)
  - Directly use the I-395 Express Lanes
  - Provide direct access to services in the corridor or increase person throughput or travel choices in the study area



# Existing Peak Period Travel

- In the A.M. peak period, there are 65,000 persons carried in 40,000 vehicles northbound
- 54% of the person trips are on the HOV lanes
- Transit vehicles are less than 1% of the vehicles but carry 12% of trips



# Public Outreach Update

- Meetings with key stakeholder groups and elected officials
  - Alexandria Transportation Commission briefing on September 21
  - Arlington County Transportation Commission on September 29
  - Arlington County Board on October 15 or 18
  - Pentagon
  - District Department of Transportation
  - Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)
  - Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
- Community Briefings with 95 Express partner
- Coordination with planned projects along the corridor
- [VirginiaDot.org/395express](http://VirginiaDot.org/395express) project website and opportunity to sign-up for updates

# Key Milestones

Key Milestones	Begin Dates
Public Outreach and Technical Coordination	Ongoing
Begin NEPA – Environmental Assessment	January 2016
Begin Transit/TDM Study	April 2016
Public Information Meetings	April 11 and 13, 2016
Public Hearing	October 24 and 26, 2016
Regional Long-Range Plan Decision	November 2016
Final NEPA Decision	December 2016
Final Transit/TDM Study	December 2016
Final Financial Agreement	January 2017
Begin Construction (95 Express)	Summer 2017
Project Completion (95 Express)	Summer 2019

# I-395 South Widening Duke Street to Edsall Road

## I-395

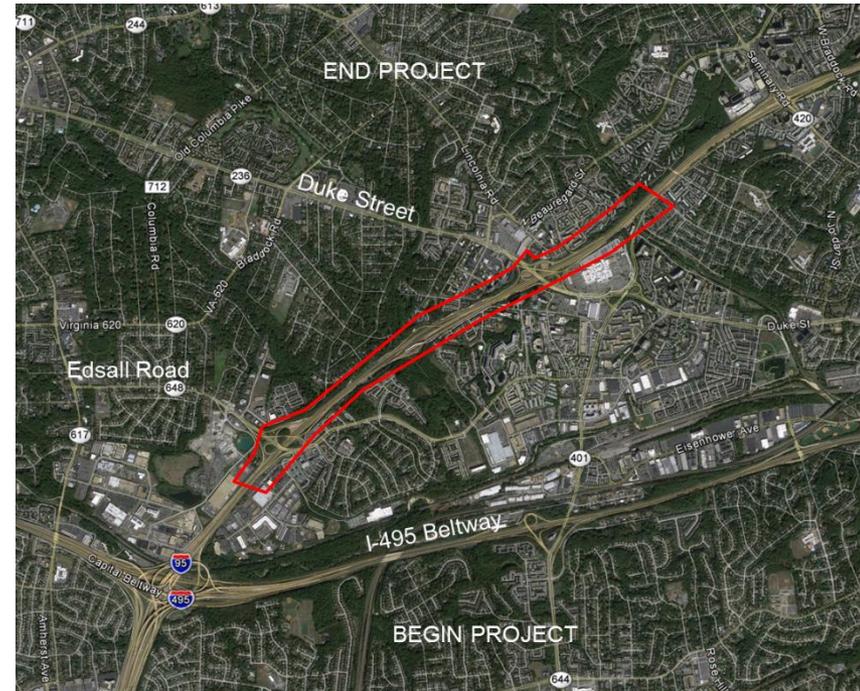
- Widen Southbound I-395 from 3 lanes to 4 lanes between Duke Street and Edsall Road

## Edsall Road Interchange

- Replace existing Edsall Westbound to I-395 Southbound Loop Ramp with new signalized intersection

## Duke Street Interchange

- Replace existing I-395 Southbound to Duke Eastbound Loop Ramp with new signalized intersection



# Upcoming Public Hearings I-395 Corridor

## **I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension Public Hearing on draft Environmental Assessment and Design**

**Monday, October 24, 2016 (6:30–8:30 p.m. Presentation at 7 p.m.)**

Wakefield High School Cafeteria  
1325 S. Dinwiddie Street  
Arlington, VA 22206

**Wednesday, October 26, 2016 (6:30–8:30 p.m. Presentation at 7 p.m.)**

Francis C. Hammond Middle School  
4646 Seminary Road  
Alexandria, VA 22206

## **I-395 South Widening – Duke Street to Edsall Road Public Hearing**

**Thursday, October 27, 2016 (6:30–8:30 p.m.)**

Bren Mar Park Elementary School  
6344 Beryl Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22312



**Thank you**

**[Virginiadot.org/395express](http://Virginiadot.org/395express)**

**For more information  
and to sign up for updates**