

Project Update and Field Activity Report

I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) Project

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Activities In the Field

Early project activities now or soon underway on the I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) project involve exploratory work including surveys, geotechnical test borings, tree inventories, and identification of utility locations.

Current and Upcoming Work

Test Borings

Test borings continue to be drilled along the two-and-a-half-mile project corridor, both alongside I-495 (the Capital Beltway) as well as on VDOT right-of-way behind residences on streets listed below. Depending upon weather and other factors, the boring work is expected to be completed in spring 2022.



Noise wall panels removed to provide access for boring rigs along southbound I-495 between Georgetown Pike and Old Dominion Drive.

To provide access for boring rigs from the Capital Beltway (as opposed to entering from residential streets), three noise wall panels were recently removed. The resulting gaps are closed off with caution tape and permanent barrier fence exists behind the walls to prevent public access. Following completion of behind-the-wall boring work, the panels are planned to be reinstalled by early March.

Drilling is currently or soon will be active on VDOT right-of-way in the vicinity of the following neighborhood streets:

East of the Beltway Between Georgetown Pike and the George Washington Memorial Parkway:

- Balls Hill Road, Lupine Lane, Arbor Lane,
- Lawton Street, River Oaks Drive and
- Butternut Court

East of the Beltway Between Georgetown Pike and Old Dominion Drive:

- Old Dominion Drive, Balls Hill Road, Churchill Road and Delf Drive

East of the Beltway Between Old Dominion Drive and the Dulles Toll Road:

- Dulany Drive and Scotts Run Drive

East of the Beltway West of the Dulles Toll Road:

- Spring Gate Road

West of the Beltway Between Old Dominion Drive and the Dulles Toll Road:

- Dominion Court

Boring crews are making every effort to preserve existing trees, but in some locations a limited number may need to be cleared in order to perform the work safely (tree clearing is determined in the field as work progresses). Boring involves drilling down approximately 30 to 75 feet to take samples of soil conditions that will guide design and construction of the project. When boring rigs are in operation, moderate noise may occur.

Tree Inventory

Survey crews continue to conduct an inventory of existing trees within the project limits. Tree inventory work involves installing small, pink-ribboned stakes, wrapping larger trees with striped tape and taking measurements. The markings do not represent whether a tree will be kept or removed.



Tree inventory work includes marking larger trees with striped tape.

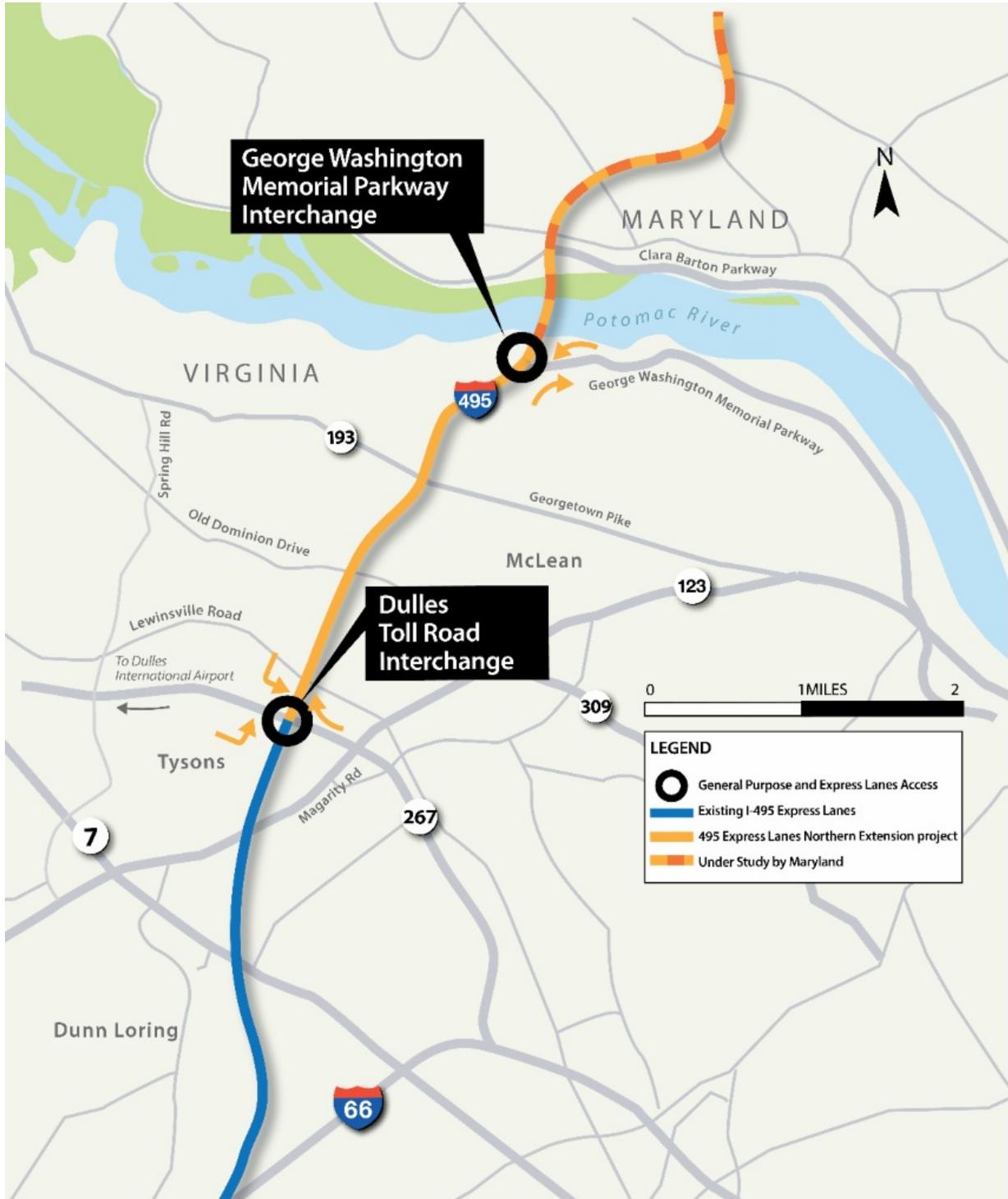
Project Background

The 495 NEXT project will extend the existing 495 Express Lanes north by two-and-a-half miles from the Dulles Toll Road interchange to the George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange in the vicinity of the American Legion Bridge. The project will provide new and improved connections at the Dulles Toll Road and George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Other project benefits include dedicated funding to support transit improvements in the corridor including new bus service over the American Legion Bridge, four miles of new bicycle and pedestrian connections including a shared-use path parallel to I-495 from Lewinsville Road to

near Live Oak Drive, replacement or rehabilitation of seven bridges with pedestrian accommodations, replacement of nine existing noise walls and construction of a new noise wall along Live Oak Drive in the vicinity of the George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange, and environmental improvements introducing stormwater management facilities and funding restoration of the stream at Scotts Run.

495 NEXT is a public-private partnership project between the Commonwealth of Virginia and Transurban, operator of the existing 495 Express Lanes. Lane Construction is the design-build contractor for the project. Financial close is expected to occur in early 2022, with construction starting later in 2022. The new extended lanes are scheduled to open in 2025.



[Learn More About the Project](#)

Check out www.495northernextension.org for additional information.

Sign up here to receive project email updates.



Questions?

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