

## 495 NEXT McLean Citizens Association Transportation Committee Briefing

Virginia Department of Transportation Megaprojects Capital Beltway Express (Transurban) Lane Construction February 13, 2023

### **Briefing Topics**

- Project Overview and Timeline
- Construction Status and Upcoming Activities
- Update on Key Project Elements
- Community Coordination
- Public Outreach



# 495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project (495 NEXT)

- Approximate \$660 million, 2.5-mile extension of 495 Express Lanes from I-495 and Dulles Corridor interchange to George Washington Memorial Parkway in the vicinity of the American Legion Bridge
- Creating additional express lanes access at Dulles Toll Road and Dulles Access Road interchange, and George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange
- Public-private partnership project between VDOT and Transurban through 2087

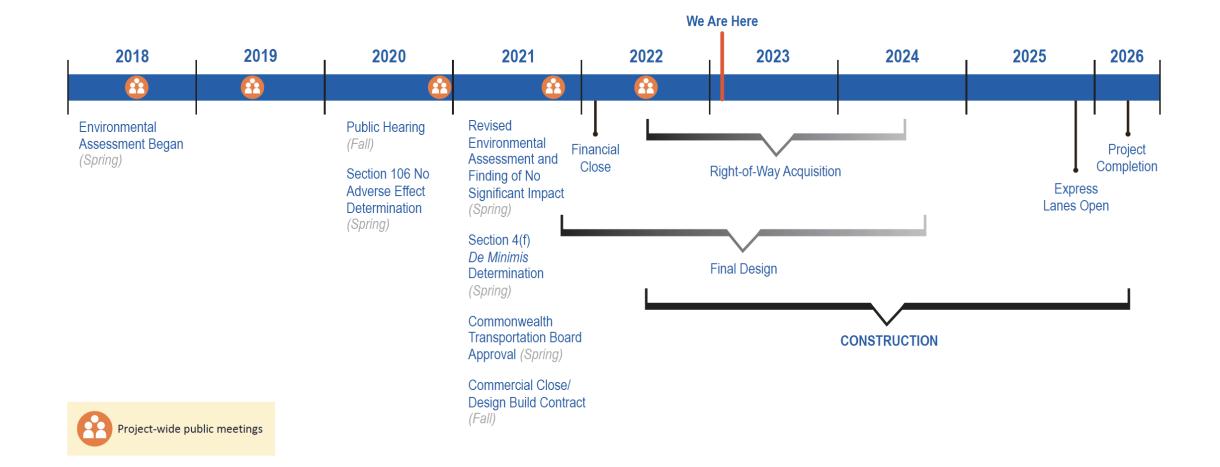


**Other Project Benefits** 

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### **I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project Timeline**







# **First Year Construction Highlights**

- Construction Start: March 2022
- 2022 Milestones
  - Beltway and ramps realigned to maximize traffic flow during construction
  - Completed Georgetown Pike Bridge center pier



Construction progress is subject to change due to weather and other factors





# **Beltway Construction**

- Work Sequence
  - Remove noise walls and clear trees
    to widen Beltway
  - Construct lanes outside current
    alignment
  - Shift traffic to outside lanes to enable construction of inside lanes
  - Open Express Lanes: Fall 2025



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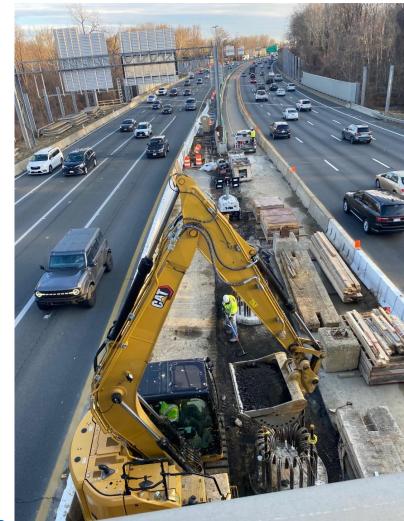




## **Overpass Construction**

- Replace old bridges with upgraded new bridges featuring wider sidewalks and trail connections
  - Live Oak Drive
  - Georgetown Pike
  - Old Dominion Drive
- Improve Lewinsville Road overpass
  - Replace 5' sidewalk with 10' sidewalk
- Work Sequence
  - Complete piers in Beltway median
  - Construct abutments (includes pile driving)
  - Complete new bridges and transfer traffic: Summer 2025
  - Demolish old bridges (during overnights)



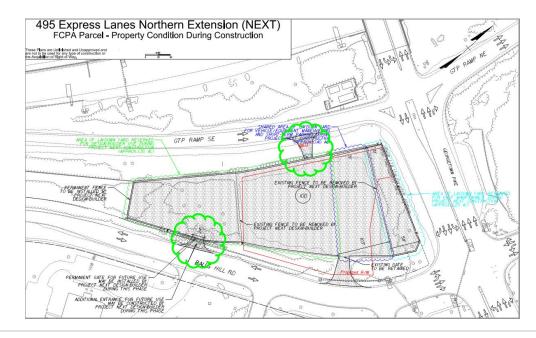




# Maintenance Yard and Future Park at Balls Hill Road

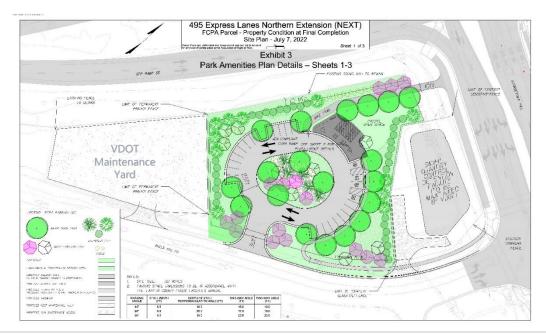
### **Existing Maintenance Yard at Balls Hill Road**

- Existing VDOT Maintenance Yard being used for construction
- Fence adjusted to maximize working space
- Additional construction entrances installed to minimize impact on Cooper Middle School and traffic at GTP/Balls Hill Road



#### Future Fairfax County Park at Balls Hill Road

- Will provide parking and trail connection to Scott's Run and new bike/pedestrian trails along I-495
- Park will open at the end of the project
- VDOT Maintenance Yard with privacy fence will be next to park





# Virginia's Transit Commitment and Transportation Management Plan

### **Transit Commitment**

- Commonwealth providing project funding to Fairfax County to implement Tyson's / Montgomery County routes proposed in joint I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit/TDM Study:
  - \$2.2 million per year for bus service operations
  - \$5.2 million for initial purchases of buses
- Fairfax County purchasing buses for operations to begin in 2024

**Transportation Management Plan** 

### **Goals:**

- Maintain mobility during construction
- Enhance public and worker safety
- Provide reliable information about construction zone

### **Elements:**

- Transit and Transportation Demand Management
  - New bus route(s) across American Legion Bridge
  - Support to carpools and vanpools
- Traffic Operations and Incident Management
- Local Network Operations and Traffic Analysis
- Communications and Outreach



# **Community Coordination**

- Beaufort Park Homeowners Association
- Georgetown Pike Bridge
- Cooper Middle School
- Live Oak Drive residents



## **Community Coordination: Live Oak Drive Construction**

- Placed roadside barrier in January 2023
- Removed 400' of old noise wall in early February
- Upcoming work:
  - Grading and temporary drainage work
- Conduct noise wall balloting: Spring 2023
- Complete new and upgraded noise barriers: Fall 2023 and Spring 2025
- Complete permanent Live Oak Drive roadway: Summer 2024



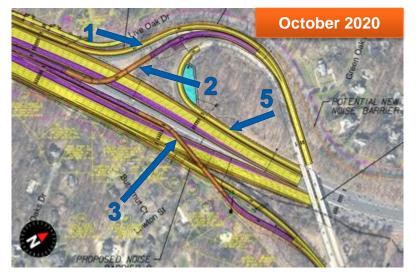
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### **Community Coordination: George Washington Memorial Parkway Interchange**

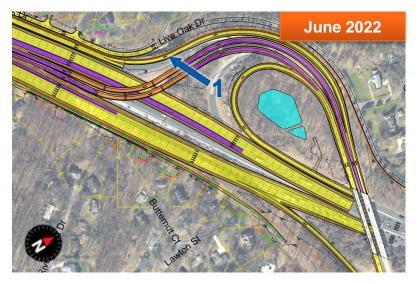
**Design Progression – Virginia's 495 NEXT Project** 



- Existing Ramps 1 and 5 shifted
- New Ramps 2 and 3 added to connect Virginia's 495 Express Lanes to GWMP
- Portion of Live Oak Drive shifted
- Old noise walls upgraded, new noise walls added



- Ramp 3 relocated beside Ramp 2 inside existing interchange
- Minor changes to Ramp 2 to pair with Ramp 3



- Lowered Ramp 1
- Shifted Live Oak Drive closer to Beltway and moved new Live Oak Drive bridge to the south
- Expanded and moved new stormwater management basin and moved to inside **Ramp 5**

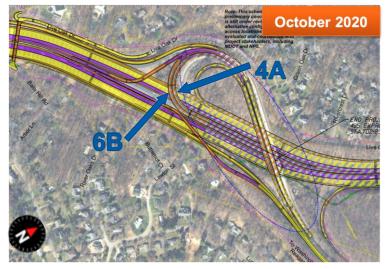
Changes are reflected in Virginia's Environmental Assessment and have federal and state approvals





### **Community Coordination: George Washington Memorial Parkway Interchange**

**Design Progression – Maryland's Phase 1 South** 



• New **Ramps 4A and 6B** added within I-495 median area to connect Maryland's High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes to GWMP

Included in Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) published by MDOT SHA and FHWA in July 2020



- Ramp 6B relocated
- Added Ramp 2B for general purpose traffic to enter 495 Express Lanes in Virginia
- Added Ramp 4B for Maryland HOT lanes traffic to exit to general purpose lanes or Georgetown Pike

Included in Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) published by MDOT SHA and FHWA in October 2021



- Removed Ramp 2B
- Added Ramp 6A for I-495 general purpose lanes to enter northbound Maryland HOT lanes

Included in Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) published by MDOT SHA and FHWA in June 2022. Included in the Selected Alternative approved by FHWA in Record of Decision issued in August 2022.

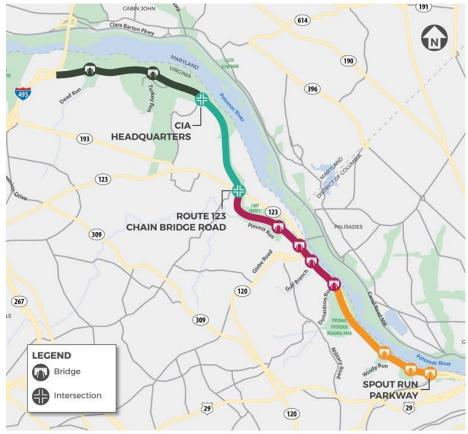




# George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) Coordination

- National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is rehabilitating the GWMP from Spout Run Parkway to I-495
  - Major roadway reconstruction
  - Bridge rehabilitation
- Monthly meetings
  - VDOT
  - Maryland State Highway Administration
  - National Park Service, Federal Highway Administration
- Transportation management strategies
- Maintenance of traffic plans
  - Traffic switch for reversible lane use targeted for late March/early April 2023

Public meeting on GWMP Rehabilitation project targeted for early-to-mid-March 2023.





# **What Neighbors Should Expect**

- Nighttime Work: Certain activities are unavoidably noisy and impactful, and must be performed during overnight hours
- Lane Closures/Traffic Changes: Periodic traffic impacts on local roads in the 495 NEXT project area are required to safely complete work

### **Commitment to Neighbors**

- Reducing construction impacts, while maintaining project schedule
- Providing advance notice to direct-impact neighbors
- Meeting with communities and neighborhoods

#### How We Provide Advance Notice to Neighbors



- Flyers and fact sheets delivered door-to-door and by email
- Website information and updates on 495NEXT.org
- **Emails** to affected stakeholders
- Construction Information Line: 703-592-6430
  (monitored daily)



Use QR code to subscribe to project update emails





### **Public Information Tools**



Newsletters and Weekly Lane Closure Reports Emailed to Subscriber List



**Interactive Map Showing Project Design** 

#### **Resources and Contacts:**

Email:495NorthernExtension@VDOT.Virginia.gov

**Construction Information Line:** 703-592-6430 (monitored daily)

VDOT: Michelle Holland, 703-586-0487

Transurban: Brent McKenzie, 571-326-5609

Lane Construction: John Undeland, 703-785-3461

#### **Project Update Meeting Coming Spring 2023**



Use QR code to sign up for project update emails



495 ExpressLanes



495NEXT.org - Project Website



**News Releases and Media Outreach** 





### **THANK YOU**