RTS STEERING COMMITTEE: CITY OF GAITHERSBURG MD 355 BRT STUDY

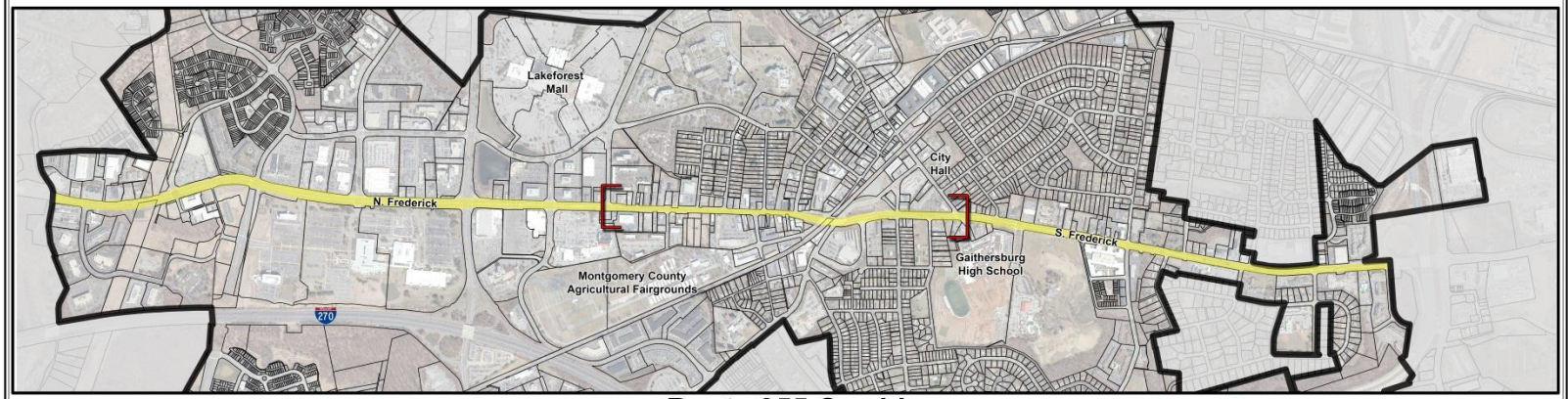
Gaithersburg

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

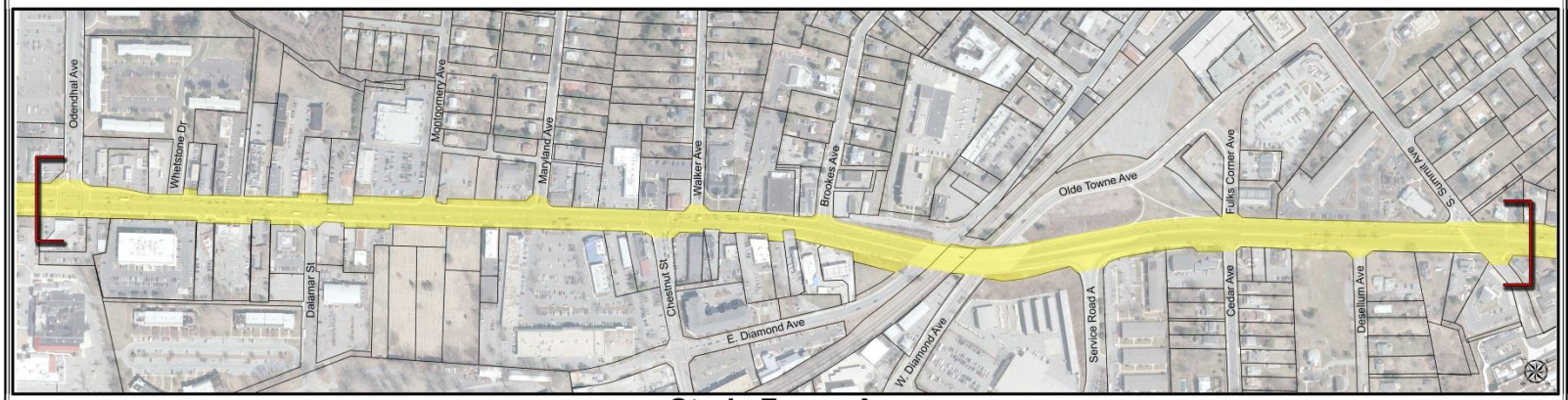
Background

- Consultant: VHB
- How does 355 in Gaithersburg accommodate BRT?
- Study opportunities, constraints, liabilities
- Focus on most constrained section

Study Area



Route 355 Corridor



Study Focus Area

Initial Deliverables

- An inventory of the existing conditions;
- A series of possible alternatives for BRT operation within the Study Area, which may include, but not be limited to, double-track guideways; single-track guideways, lane repurposing, and mixed traffic;
- Recommended cross-sections, rights-of-way, and possible engineering techniques to facilitate the various BRT scenarios within the Study Area; and
- Guidance on right-of-way policy and station locations relative to the entire four ±-mile corridor through the City.

BRT Design/Operation Alternatives:

Provide a narrative description including how BRT operates and typical impacts on traffic operations; known advantages/disadvantages; and typical estimated costs, if known, for the following:

- ☐ Dual dedicated lanes-constructed
- ☐ Single dedicated lane-constructed
- ☐ Lane repurposing
- ☐ Mixed Traffic Operations

Include a graphic cross-section, including total typical right-of-way width for each alternative.

Study Area Alternatives Analysis:

- Review the BRT design / operation alternatives as they relate to fatal flaws or impediments and traffic operational impacts.
- Further, identify potential solutions (engineering, acquisition, or other) for each BRT design / operation alternatives to provide optimal function:
  - regardless of project cost;
  - less optimal function but less expensive; and
  - the minimum cost solutions.

Study Area Alternatives Analysis (cont):

- Include a graphic cross-section, including total right-of-way width for each solution alternative for each BRT design / operation alternative for the existing cross-sections within the Study Area to be determined by the City.
- Include a comparative matrix for each solution alternative for each BRT design / operation alternative as to feasibility.
- Provide a recommendation on which BRT design / operation alternative should be supported when weighed against cost, traffic impacts, and transit usage.

Entire Corridor Policy Guidance:

- Review the existing ROWs along the entire four±-mile MD 355 corridor through the City;
- Recommend additional ROWs to facilitate dedicated duel lane system and recommended alternative in Study Area; and
- Identify most feasible locations for stations and their sizing north and south of the study focus area.

Timeline

- Kickoff April 1, 2015
- Deliverables for each study section due May, June, July
- Culminating with a final document to be presented to the Mayor & City Council in August