MD 355 - LOWER WATKINS MILL ROAD - MASTER PLAN ALIGNMENT **Recommended for ARDS (Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study)**

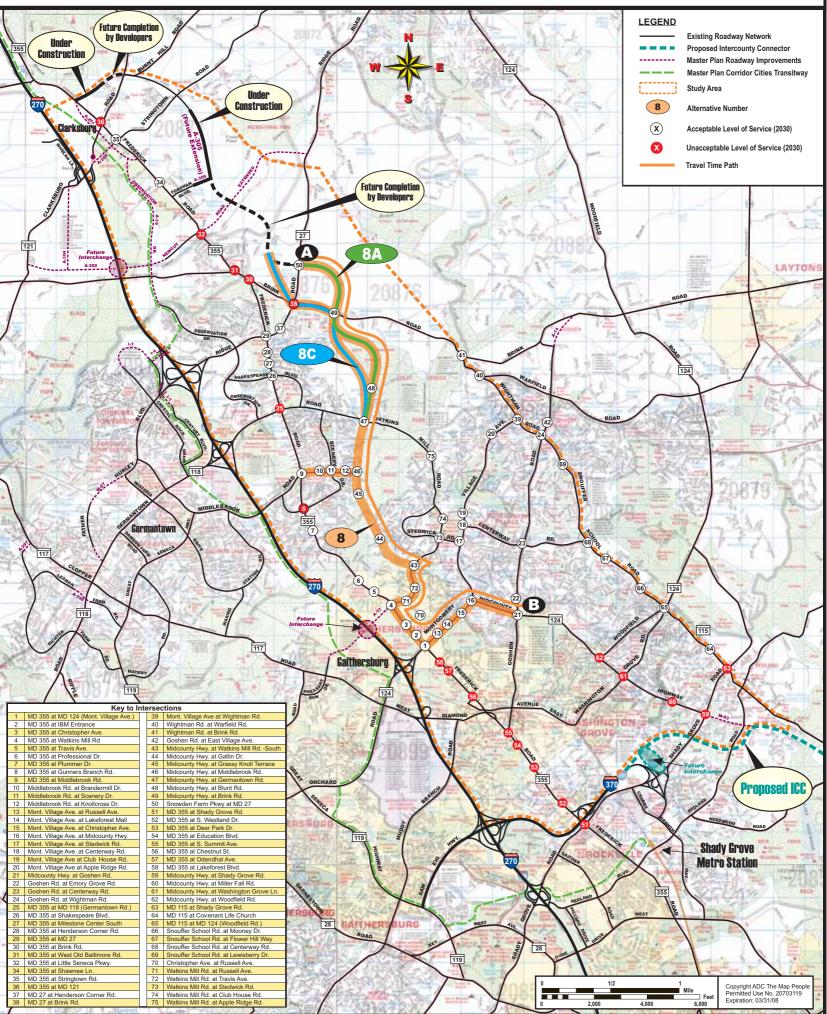
- Improve existing MD 124 (Midcounty Highway) from existing 4 lanes to 5 lanes (3EB, 2WB) from Goshen Road to Montgomery Village Avenue
- Improve Montgomery Village Avenue (MD 124) from existing Midcounty Highway to MD 355 (Frederick Road)
 - Major intersection improvements at Midcounty Highway and at MD 355
 - Bike path on the east side
- Improve MD 355
 - Intersections at Montgomery Village Avenue (MD 124), Christopher Avenue, Watkins Mill Road, and Middlebrook Road
 - Northbound auxiliary lane from Christopher Avenue to Watkins Mill Road
- Improve Watkins Mill Road to 4 lanes, divided w/ 16'-28' median from MD 355 to southern intersection with proposed Master Plan Alignment
- Build Master Plan Alignment with 4 lanes, divided w/ 16'-28' median from Watkins Mill Road to Middlebrook Road
- Improve Middlebrook Road from MD 355 to the Master Plan Alignment
 - Widen from existing 2 lanes to 7 lanes (4 WB, 3 EB), divided w/ 16' median
- Build Master Plan Alignment with 5 lanes (3 SB, 2 NB), divided w/ 16'-28' median from Middlebrook Road to Blunt Road
- Northern Terminus Design Options:

OPTION 8A

• Master Plan Alignment with 4-6 lanes, divided w/ 16'-28' median to proposed terminus of future Snowden Farm Parkway (A-305)

OPTION 8C

- Master Plan Alignment with 4-6 lanes, divided w/ 16'-28' median to the west of the park to westernmost proposed intersection with Brink Road
- Improve Brink Road to 4 lanes, divided w/ 28' median to the intersection with MD 27 (Ridge Road)
- Build new alignment with 4 lanes, divided w/ 28' median to point west of proposed terminus of future Snowden Farm Parkway (A-305)



ALTERNATIVE 8

Advantages:

- · Moderate travel time improvement
- Avoids Whetstone Run between Montgomery Village Avenue and Watkins Mill Road
- · Relatively few access points thus fewer traffic conflicts

OPTION 8A

Advantages:

- Less Impact to residences
- · Does not conflict with approved alignment for Snowden Farm Parkway (A-305)

Disadvantage:

More environmental impacts

Disadvantage:

Significant natural resource, park, and property impacts

Recommended in Master Plan:

• No, Watkins Mill Road Master Planned as a 4-lane, undivided arterial (Alternative 8 proposes 4-lane, divided)

OPTION 8C

Advantages:

- · Less impact to biodiversity and Forest Interior Dwelling

a portion of Snowden Farm Parkway (A-305)

Potentially conflicts with approved alignment for

. , ,	Less impact to most other natural resources				
Disadvantages:					

More impact to farmland

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Environmental Criteria	Option	
Environmental enterta	Α	С
Length of Route (miles)	7	7
Total Wetland Impacts (acres)	11	10
Stream Crossings Impacted	15	15
Forested Land Impacts (acres)	59	52
Farmland Impacts (acres)	24	42
Publicly-owned Parks & Recreational	44	35
Facilities Impacts (acres)		
Right-of-Way Impacts (acres)	110	109
Purpose & Need Criteria		
Over-Congested Intersections in the	in the 20	
Study Area	20	20
Round Trip Peak Hour Travel Time	33	33
(minutes)	33	
Signalized Intersections	15	16
Unsignalized Intersections	10	11
Driveways	15	16

DPWT will diligently work with environmental regulatory agencies to avoid, minimize, and mitigate environmental impacts.