



Construction, Contractor, and Business Opportunities

## Industry Day FAQs

### 1. What is the timeline for procurement document release and when responses would be due?

- The intent is to release the RFP Q2 2024.
- Award of Phase 1 Contract is anticipated in late Q3 2024.

### 2. What are the requirements for traffic signals?

- Optimization of traffic signals, including use of transit signal priority, is seen as an important strategy to maximize BRT speed and reliability and multi-modal performance of the corridor.
- Intersections and station areas will require consideration of pedestrian crossing signals, and potentially dedicated bicycle signals.
- Traffic signal replacement/relocation is required where roadway widening will impact the existing poles and mast arms. Impacts to controller cabinets may also require reconstruction.
- Dedicated BRT lanes/queue jumps are anticipated to use transit bar signal heads to control BRT signal phases. BRT lane controls will be coordinated with turning maneuvers to prevent conflicts and maximize throughput.
- The County will require priority signal phasing and queue jumping for transit vehicles.
- If bicycle signals are provided, there are specific requirements currently in place that would need to be met.
- Virtual signalized "gates" will be required for the reversible dedicated bus lane to provide block control and detect/prevent conflicting vehicle movements based on time-of-day parameters.
- A robust signal control system is required to address time of day and incident-related impacts to BRT and intersection operations (e.g., I-270 diversion traffic).
- Traffic signal system design and performance must be validated through collection of new (post-COVID) traffic volumes and corridor microsimulation.
- Traffic signals in the corridor are predominantly operated by the MCDOT Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations. Signal designs, strategies, and concept of operations are subject to approval of MCDOT and relevant partner agencies.

### 3. Who is handling Public Outreach?

- MCDOT is currently leading public outreach, but once we have a contract in place, the PDB will be responsible for participating in public outreach and community information meetings as the project progresses.

### 4. What is the anticipated budget?

- Offerors are encouraged to review the County's project website:  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/MD355BRT>

### 5. Has DBE/MBE goal analysis been complete, and will the RFP include the goal?

- The County establishes DBE goals on an annual basis and those goals will be included in the RFP for professional services and for construction.

**6. Will the draft Contract / Agreement be issued with the RFP?**

- It is the County's intent to release the draft Contract with the RFP.

**7. Will standard station architecture be provided by MCDOT or will the PDB be required to fully design station architecture?**

- MCDOT has standardized the aesthetics for the FLASH BRT stations. The design for which is included in the 35% plans available on the County's website:  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/MD355BRT/contractors.html>

**8. Does MCDOT plan to supplement staff to oversee the contract?**

- Yes. MCDOT has hired a PMC to assist in the management and oversight of the contract.

**9. What is the status of the environmental approvals?**

- The County is in the process of preparing the NEPA Document and anticipates approval of the document by end of 2024.

**10. Is the procurement a one-step or two-step process?**

- There will only be the release of the RFP, which will include, among other things, qualifications and project approach/understanding.

**11. Do the Offerors need to have Progressive Design-Build Experience in order to be considered?**

- Previous PDB experience is desirable, but not required. Alternative project delivery experience is required.

**12. Do the Offerors need to have Bus Rapid Transit experience in order to be considered?**

- Previous BRT experience is desirable, but not required. Certain key personnel shall demonstrate experience in delivering at least one transit project in a dense urban area or have a minimum number of years of experience delivering transit projects.

**13. What is the list of precluded?**

- The list of conflicted firms can be found [here](#).