MD 355 Flash BRT Project Update

Corridor Advisory Committees Meeting
May 25, 2022
Meeting Objectives

- Update on MD 355 BRT project status
- Design updates at the 25% design milestone
- Breakout discussions on three current design topics
  - 25% design plan overview
  - Montgomery College Rockville – Lot 13 Transit Center
  - BRT Stations and bike/ped facilities
- Wrap-up discussion and next steps
Project Update
MD 355 BRT Project Development

We are here

Planning & Conceptual Engineering

Preliminary Engineering (2020-2023)

Final Design (2023-2025)  *Anticipated for Funding

Construction (2025-2028)  *Anticipated for Funding

Corridor Advisory Committee Input
Public Input
Current Project Status

• The MD 355 BRT is in the Preliminary Engineering phase, at the 25% design stage advancing towards 35%.

• The County's budgeting process is currently considering funding for planning, design, and construction of BRT corridors throughout the County, including MD 355.
The proposed County Capital Budget includes funds for MD 355 Implementation:

- **Central Phase** – Final Design and Construction Funded
- **North and South Phases** – Funded through Final Design
Recent Project Activities

• Completed 25% design development in April 2022

• Conducted multiple technical studies to refine transit service and infrastructure design

• Lane Repurposing Analysis - Explore engineering feasibility and project performance impacts of lane repurposing along the MD 355 corridor

• Conducted ongoing coordination with project partner agencies, including:
  - Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
  - MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA)
  - Cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg
  - Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC)
  - WMATA
  - Montgomery College
  - Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
• 25% Plans submitted to MCDOT in early April 2022

• MCDOT is reviewing the submission

• Reaching out to Public in May & June for design feedback
Service Plan
Full Build

- Clarksburg Outlet to Stringtown Rd: 12 min
- Ridge Rd / Snowden Farm Parkway: 12/12 min
- Milestone: 6/12 min
- Germantown Rd: Germantown TC
- Montgomery College-Germantown: Middlebrook Rd / Observation Drive
- Christopher Ave: Lakeforest
- Odenhal Ave: Shady Grove
- Shady Grove: 3 min
- Montgomery College-Rockville: 8 min
- White Flint: 4 min
- Bethesda: 8 min

FLASH Service:
- FLASH – Clarksburg Outlet to Shady Grove
- FLASH - Milestone to Shady Grove
- FLASH - Germantown Transit Center to Shady Grove
- FLASH - Lakeforest Transit Center to White Flint
- FLASH - Montgomery College to Bethesda
Service Plan
Central Phase

Bus Arrives Every

Milestone

Germantown TC

8 min

Montgomery College-Germantown

Germantown Rd

Middlebrook Rd / Observation Drive

Christopher Ave

Lakeforest

3 min

Odenhal Ave

Shady Grove

3 min

Montgomery College-Rockville

4 min

FLASH - Milestone to Shady Grove

FLASH - Germantown Transit Center to Shady Grove

FLASH - Lakeforest Transit Center to Montgomery College Rockville
BRT Running Way
BRT Running Way

One Median BRT Lane

Two Median BRT Lanes

Mixed Traffic

One Curb BRT Lane
Future Flash Stations
(Center Runningway)
Future Flash Stations
(Side Station)
Carver School and MC-Rockville Lot 13 Transit Center

Working with Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College to envision a new transit center on Lot 13.

- Create a new transit gateway to MC-Rockville and the Carver School
- Address future BRT and local transit capacity needs
- Improve the passenger experience multi-modal transportation connections
Existing Conditions at MC-Rockville

Lot 13

Existing Bus Loop
Lakeforest Area

• Create a more direct north-south routing for BRT through the Lakeforest area

• Preserve transit connections of Lakeforest Transit Center

• Complement redevelopment master plan for Lakeforest Mall

• Accommodate future transit service growth
Lakeforest Transit Center
Shady Grove

• Create a direct and convenient transfer between BRT and the Metro Red Line

• Relocate station from Somerville Dr. to bus loop

• Compatible with WMATA future redevelopment of the west side park and ride lot
Shady Grove

Existing Shady Grove Bus Loop – Proposed Flash BRT Station Location

WMATA Joint Development Concept for Shady Grove Park & Ride Lot
Ongoing Stakeholder Collaboration

- BRT engineering design review
- BRT Stations and Access
- Refinement of right-of-way needs
- Bicycle and Pedestrian facility design refinement
- Development proposal coordination
- Community and stakeholder outreach
Current Stakeholder & Public Outreach Efforts

**IN PERSON**
Over a dozen events between May 20th and June 21st, 2022
See website for locations, dates, and times.

**ONLINE**
June 7th, 8th, 16th, and 23rd, 2022
Four online events; get details and register on the website.

**BY PHONE**
June 2022:
Mondays, 11am-12pm
Wednesdays, 2pm-3pm
Call 240-801-5794 during office hours, or leave a message anytime.
Website Updates

• Project Updates and 25% Design Information
• Introductory Video
• Public Outreach Events
• Online Survey

Comments/Q&A?
Breakout Discussions

- Zoom virtual breakout rooms
- 30-minute moderated discussion/Q&A session
- Brief report-out to the whole group after the breakouts
Wrap-Up and Next Steps
TOPIC 1: 25% Design Plan Overview

TOPIC 2: MC-Rockville – Lot 13 Transit Center

TOPIC 3: BRT Stations and Bike/Ped Facilities
Next Steps

• County Capital Budget Adoption (May 2022)
• MD 355 BRT In-Person and Virtual Outreach Events (May-June 2022)
• Complete 35% Preliminary Engineering Milestone (End of 2022)
• Public and Stakeholder Involvement following 35% Design
• Next CAC – Fall 2022
Contact the Project Team

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**MD 355 BRT Project Website:**