

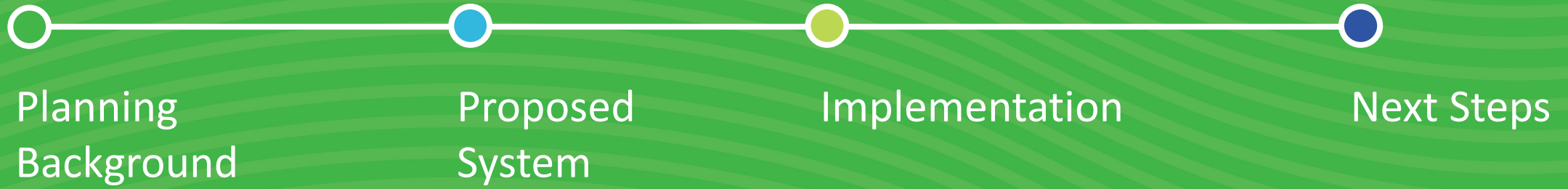


February 1, 2021

# Great Seneca

## Science Corridor Transit Improvements

---



# Agenda





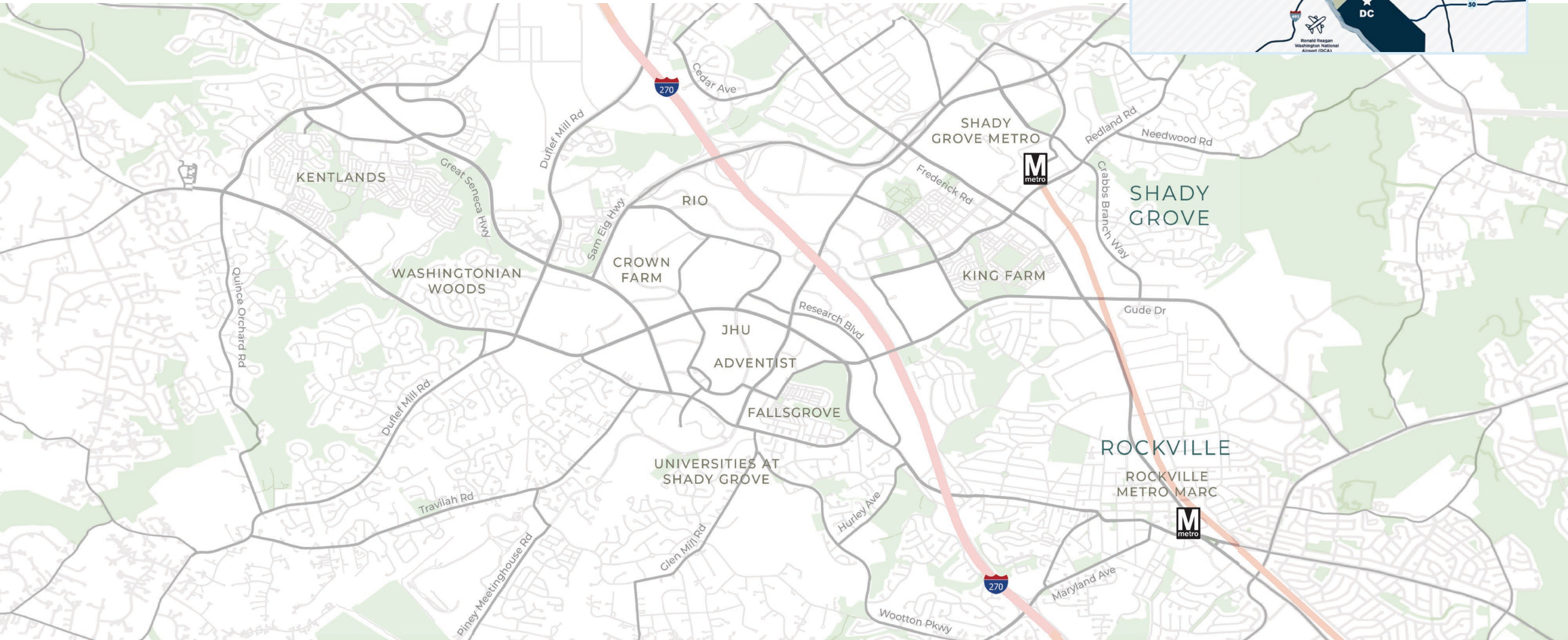
BACKGROUND

PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Great Seneca Science Corridor Overview







# GSSC's Needs and Opportunities

## ***Unleashing Economic Recovery***

Great Seneca Science Corridor is a key piece of the County's biotech, life sciences economy

## ***Essential Workers and Essential Work***

Health care, vaccine research, and education are all happening here

## ***Neighborhood Connectivity***

Need for direct bus transit for residents and workers to get to their destination





# Planning Context



Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan defines a compelling, transit-oriented **vision** for a vibrant life sciences hub.



Corridor Cities Transitway remains the **long-term transit vision**, but implementation in the near-term is not realistic and quality transit is needed now.





# Planning Context

## NEED

Future development of GSSC depends on **getting commuters out of their cars** to meet staging requirements.

## APPROACH

**Recognizing a need for near-term improvements,** MCDOT developed the framework for an enhanced bus network.

## COORDINATION

**MCDOT will work with stakeholders,** including residents, businesses, and agencies, to advance this network.



# Analysis to Develop Network

## ROUTES

**Analyzed ridership and origin-destination data** for study area to confirm routes and stations.

## STATIONS & IMPROVEMENTS

Ridership and route performance data were used **to confirm station locations and identify locations that could benefit from priority, low-cost treatments.**

## NETWORK

**Developed a set of network and corridor policy goals** to inform system refinements.



Proposed System



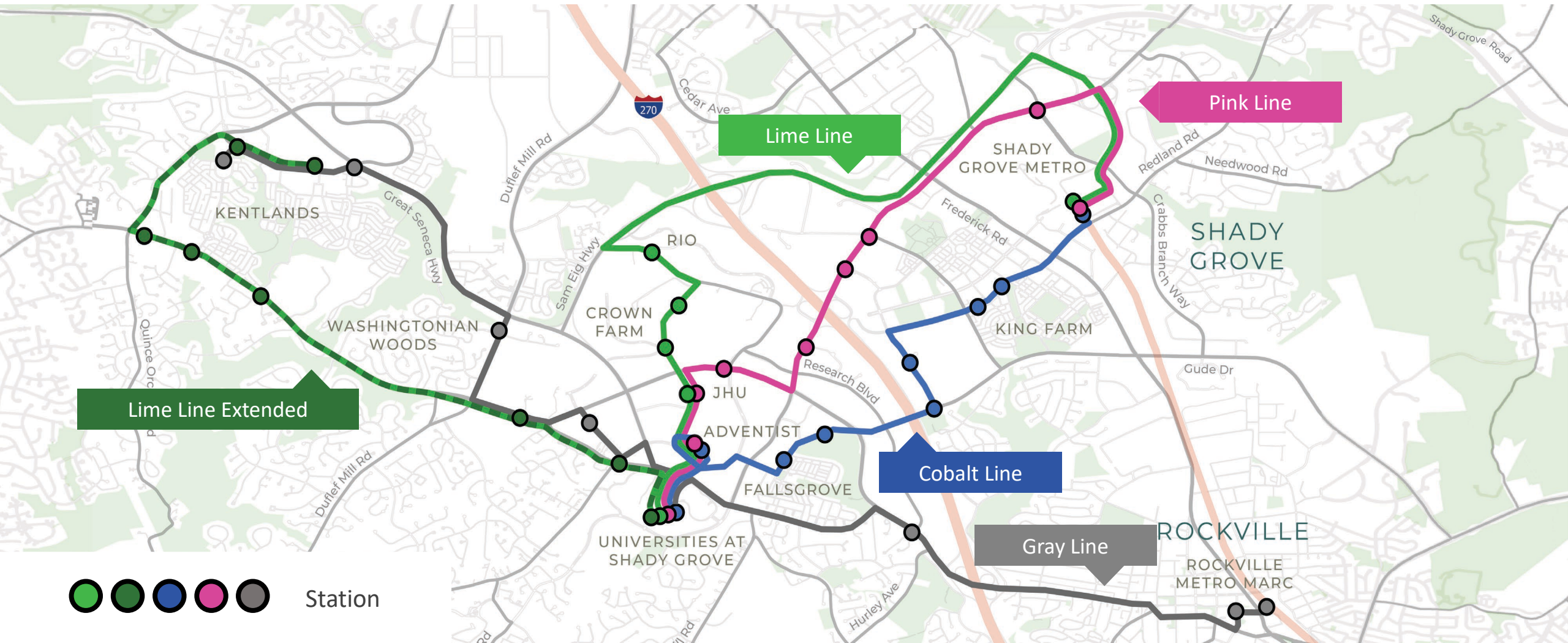
BACKGROUND

PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

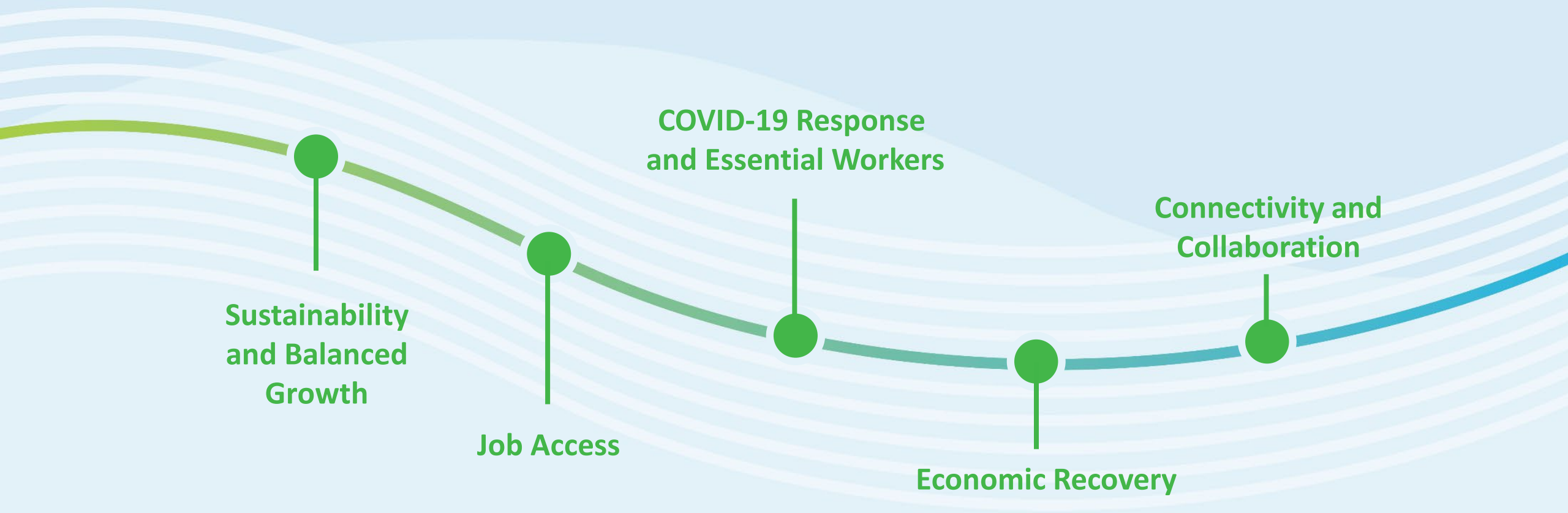
NEXT STEPS

# Great Seneca Science Corridor Transit Improvements



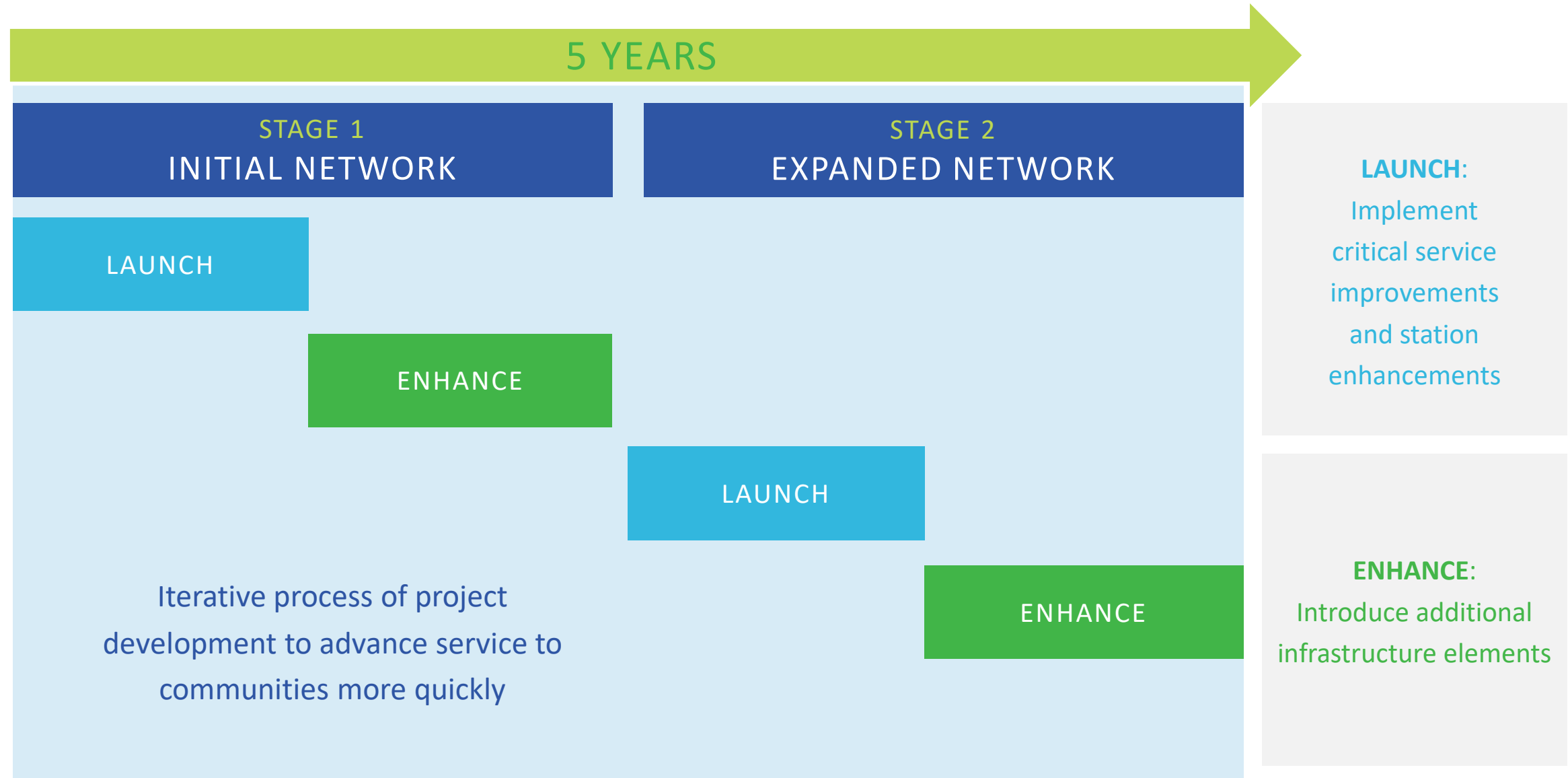


# Network Goals





# Approach to Rollout







# Initial Network

## Lime Line

Uses I-370 to provide express route to RIO, Crown Farm, and heart of Life Science Center.

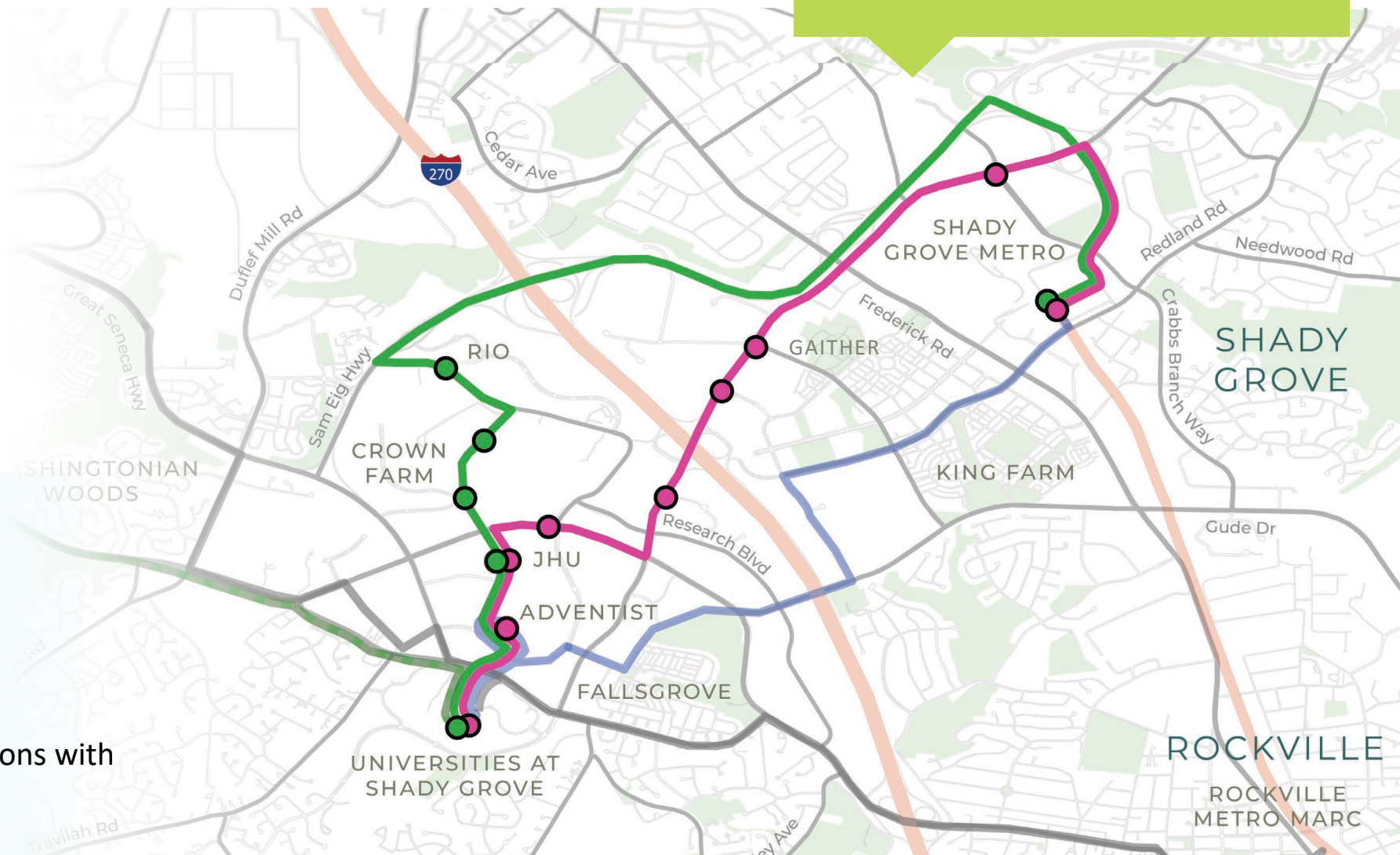
## Pink Line

Links busy Shady Grove corridor with Life Sciences Center.

## KEY FEATURES

- ✓ 1.75 miles of dedicated bus lanes
- ✓ Transit Signal Priority
- ✓ New roadway connections
- ✓ Distinctive, easily identifiable stations with passenger amenities

*Initial routes build a network of direct routes to expand transit use in the GSSC Master Plan area. Both routes create hubs at Shady Grove Metro and Universities at Shady Grove.*





BACKGROUND

PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Initial Network

## LAUNCH IMPROVEMENTS

### FIELDS ROAD (ELLINGTON BOULEVARD TO DISCOVERY DRIVE)

Repurpose curb lanes as exclusive bus-bike lanes



### DISCOVERY DRIVE/ DIAMONDBACK DRIVE/ BROSCART ROAD

Repurpose curb lanes as exclusive bus-bike lanes



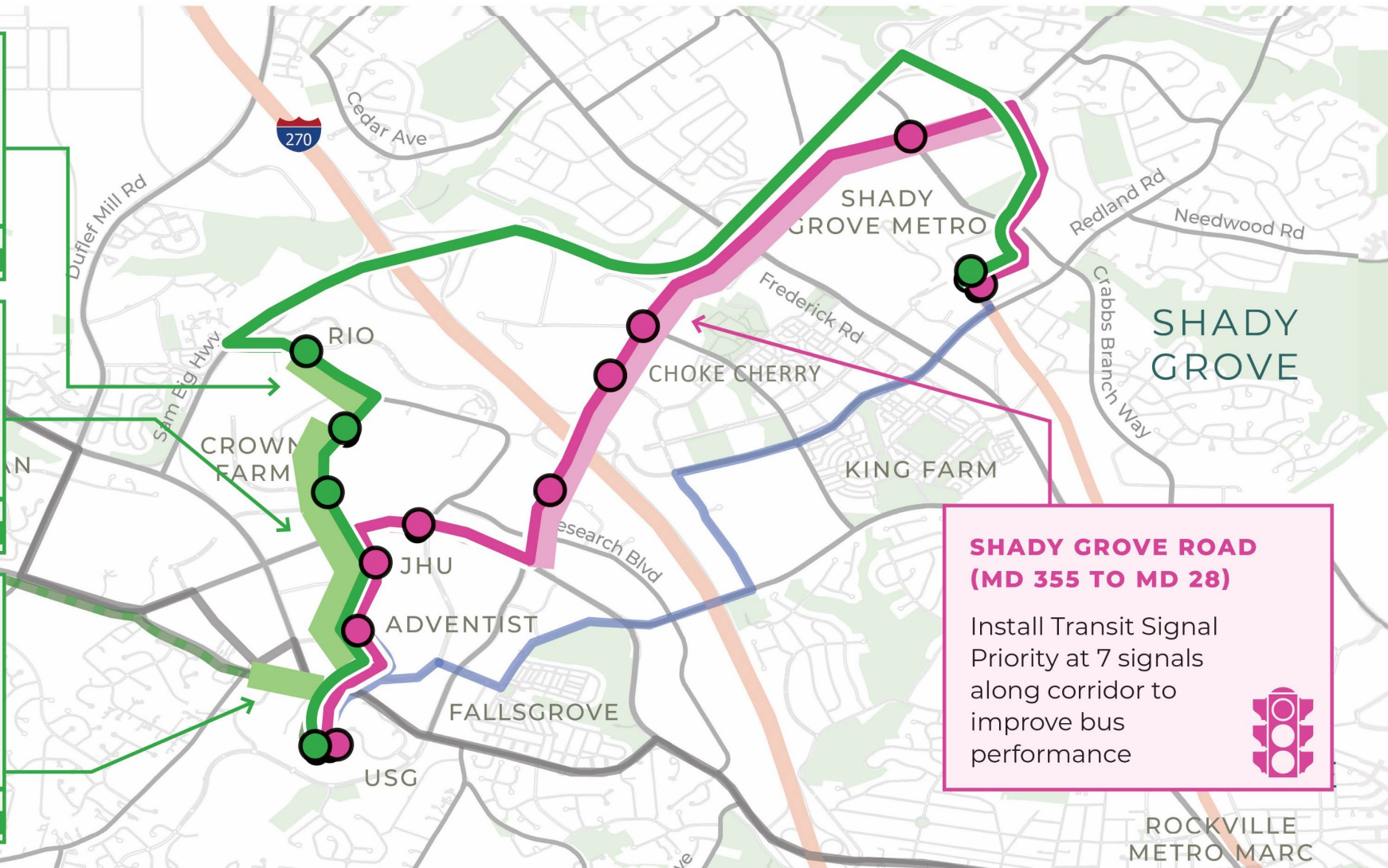
### MEDICAL CENTER DRIVE (MEDICAL CENTER WAY TO GREAT SENECA HIGHWAY)

Repurpose curb lanes as exclusive bus-bike lanes



### SHADY GROVE ROAD (MD 355 TO MD 28)

Install Transit Signal Priority at 7 signals along corridor to improve bus performance

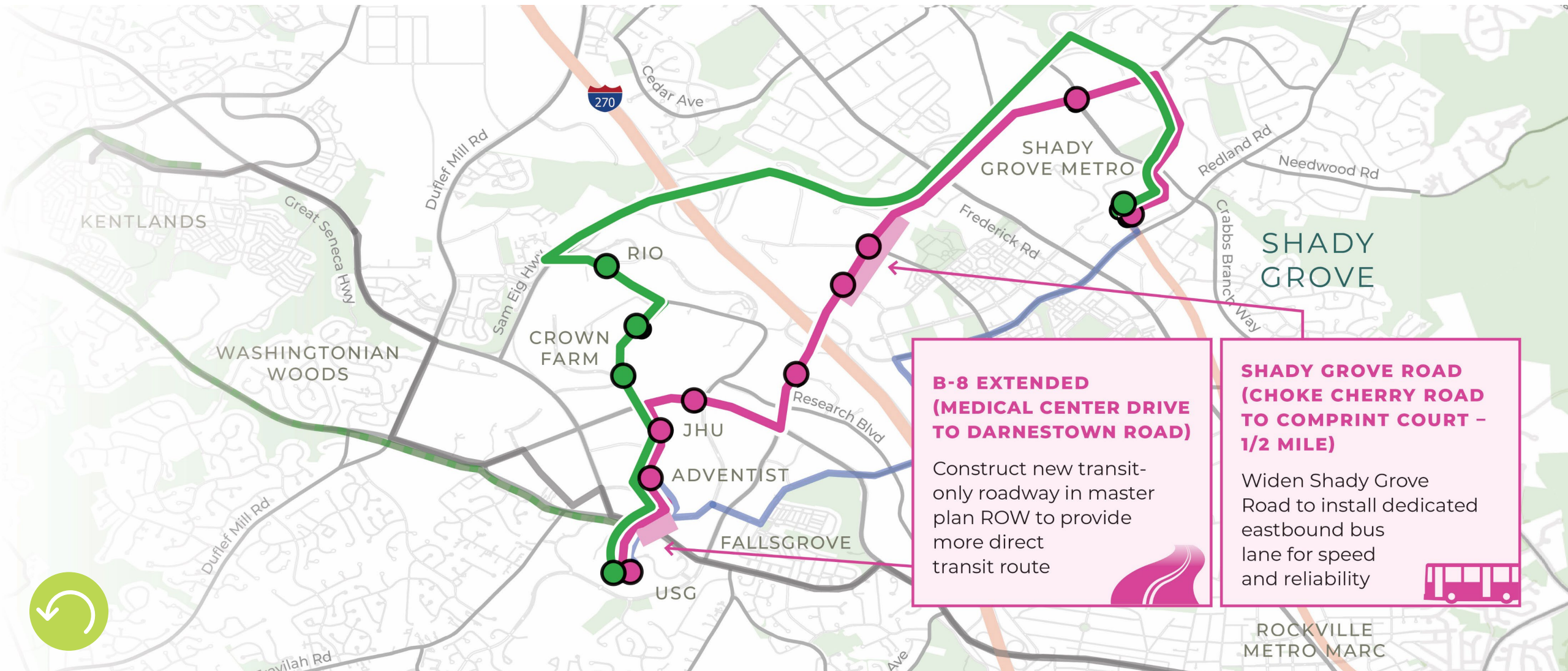




[BACKGROUND](#)[PROPOSED SYSTEM](#)[IMPLEMENTATION](#)[NEXT STEPS](#)

# Initial Network

## ENHANCE IMPROVEMENTS







# Expanded Network

*Expanded network creates effective connections from the Life Sciences Center in all directions, linking businesses and residents with Metro stations and multiple transit options.*

## Gray Line

Connects Kentlands to Life Sciences Center. Provides key east-west connection to Rockville

## Cobalt Line

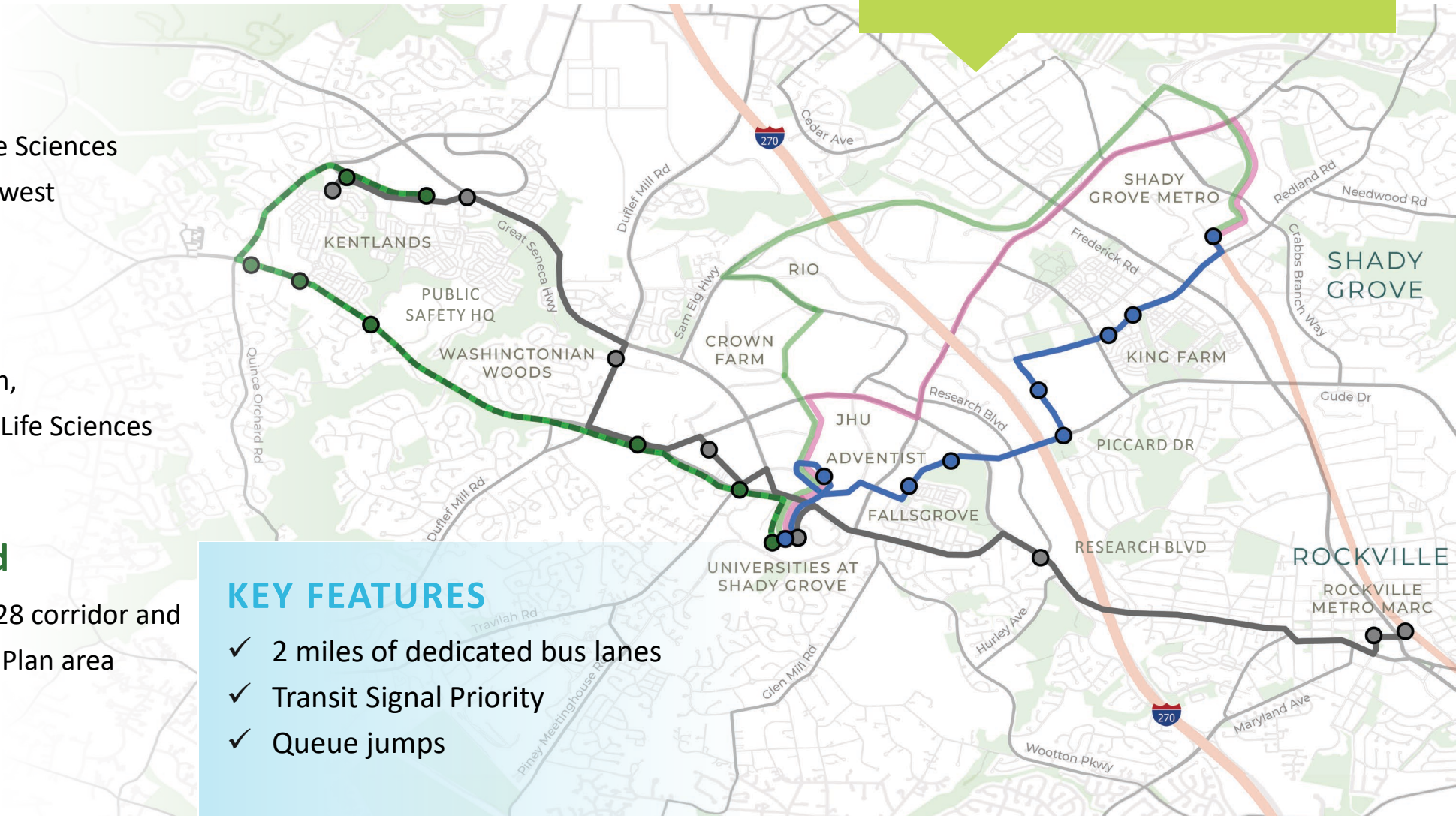
Links Falls Grove, King Farm, and Piccard corridor with Life Sciences Center

## Lime Line Extended

Provides access to Route 28 corridor and west side of GSSC Master Plan area

### KEY FEATURES

- ✓ 2 miles of dedicated bus lanes
- ✓ Transit Signal Priority
- ✓ Queue jumps







BACKGROUND

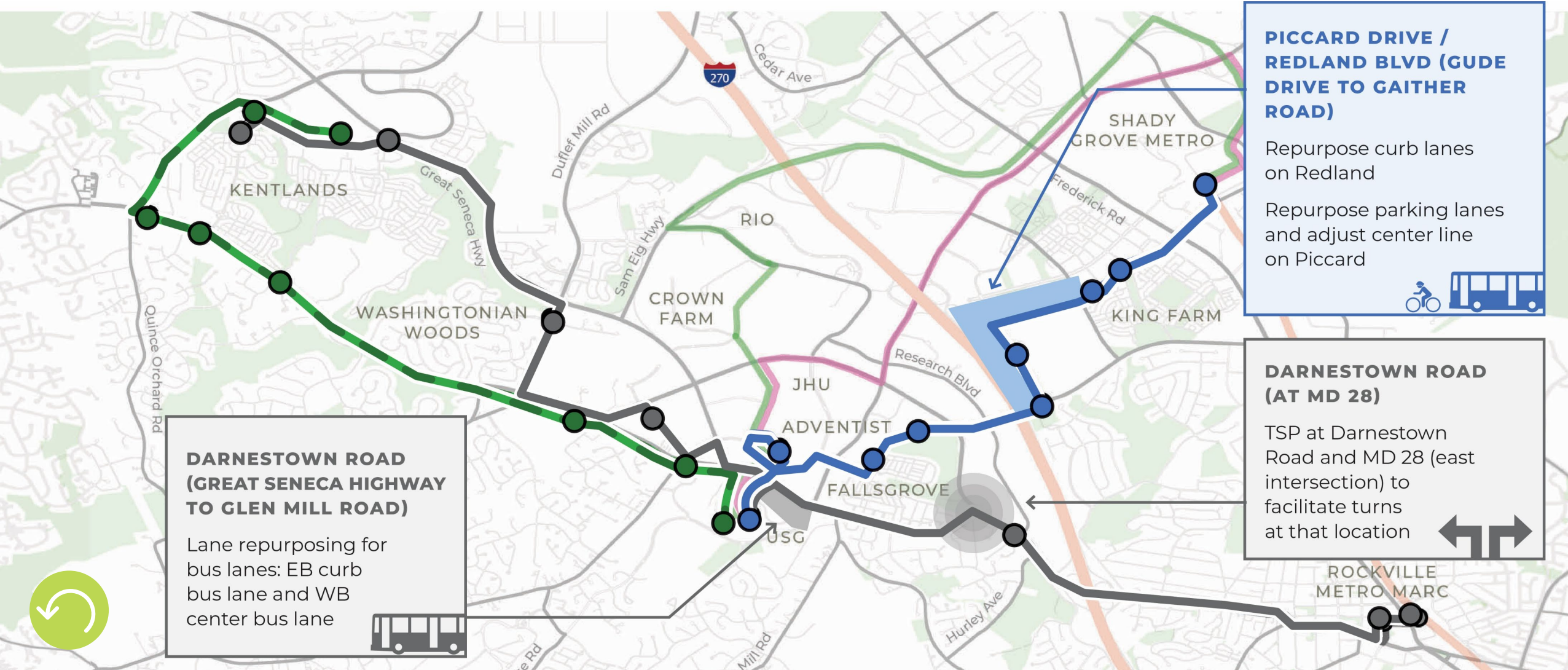
PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Expanded Network

## LAUNCH IMPROVEMENTS







BACKGROUND

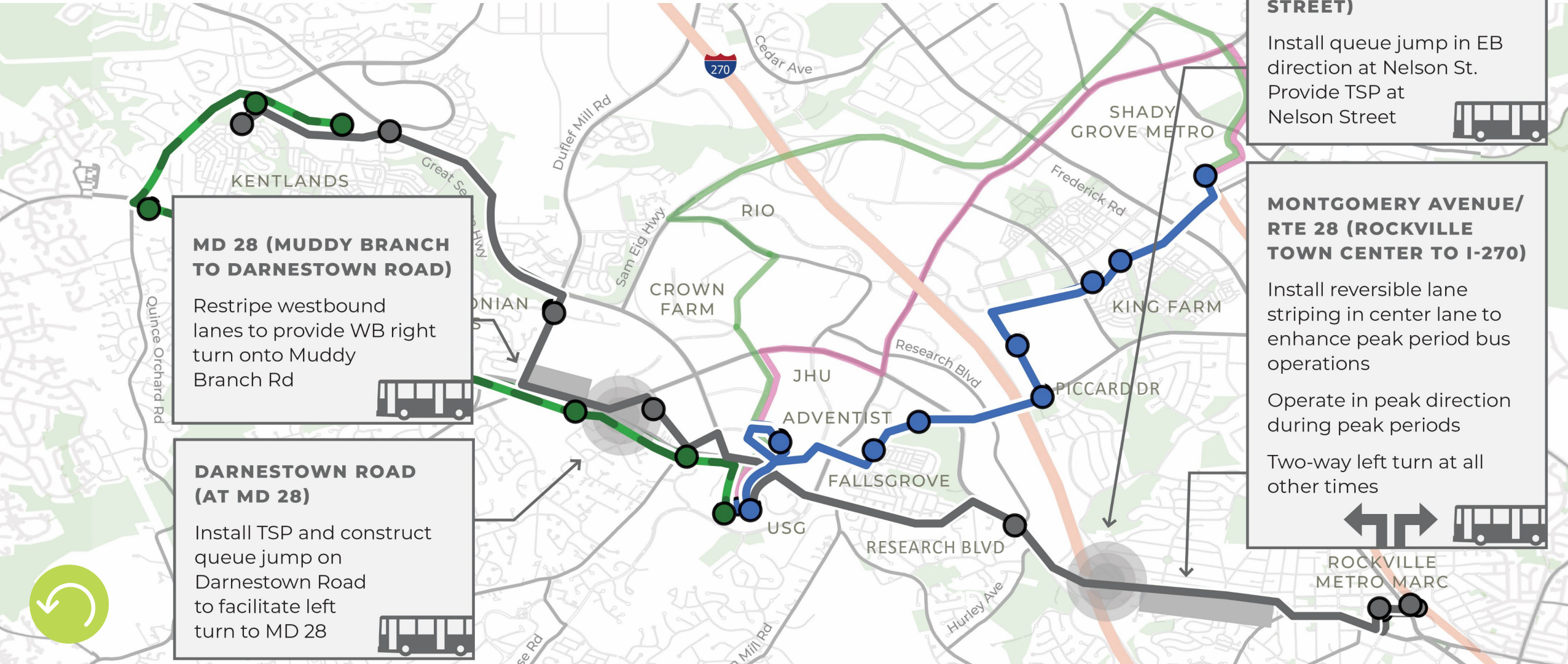
PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Expanded Network

## ENHANCE IMPROVEMENTS







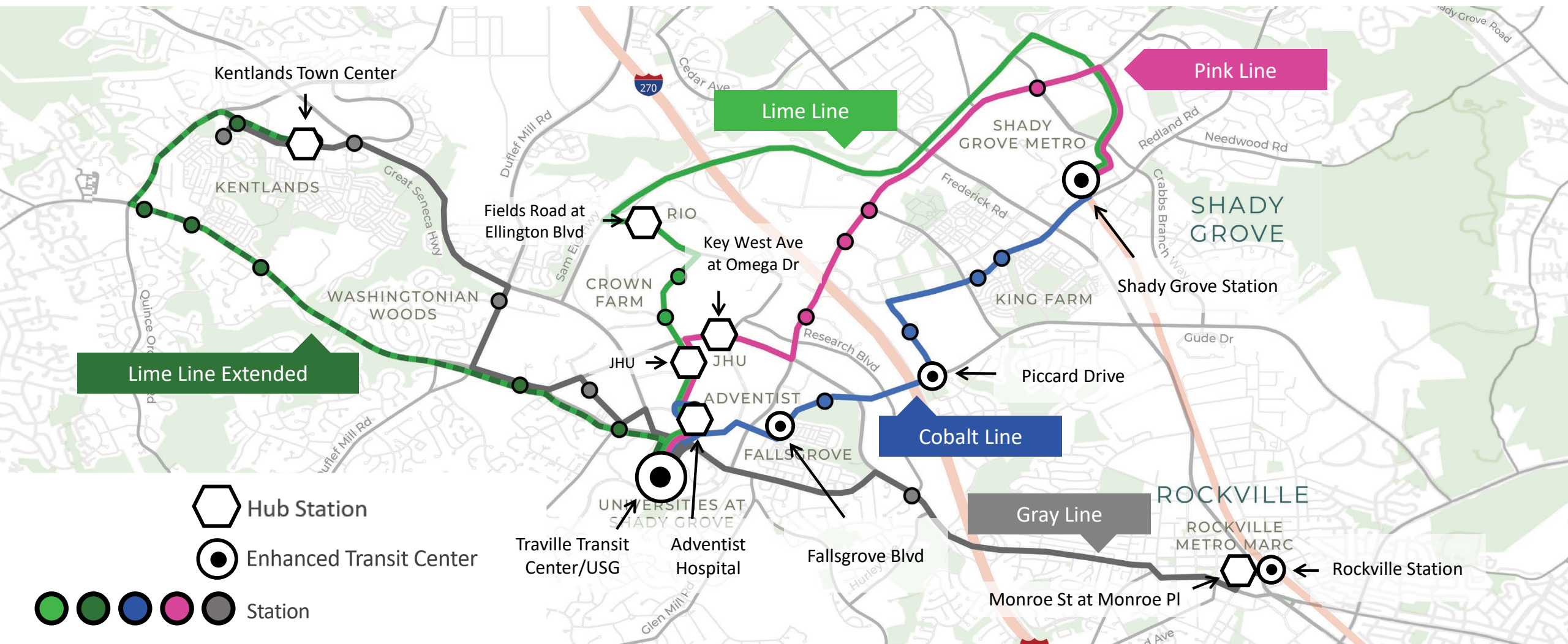
BACKGROUND

PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Proposed Stations







# Rockville City Staff Comments

- How does this connect to the Research Boulevard corridor?
- Could/should this connect to Montgomery College?
- Questions about the combined bus/bike lanes
- Questions about lane repurposing
  - Montgomery Avenue
  - Piccard Drive
- Station spacing and design

Implementation





BACKGROUND

PROPOSED SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION

NEXT STEPS

# Great Seneca Science Corridor Transit (GSSCT) Service Implementation Timeline

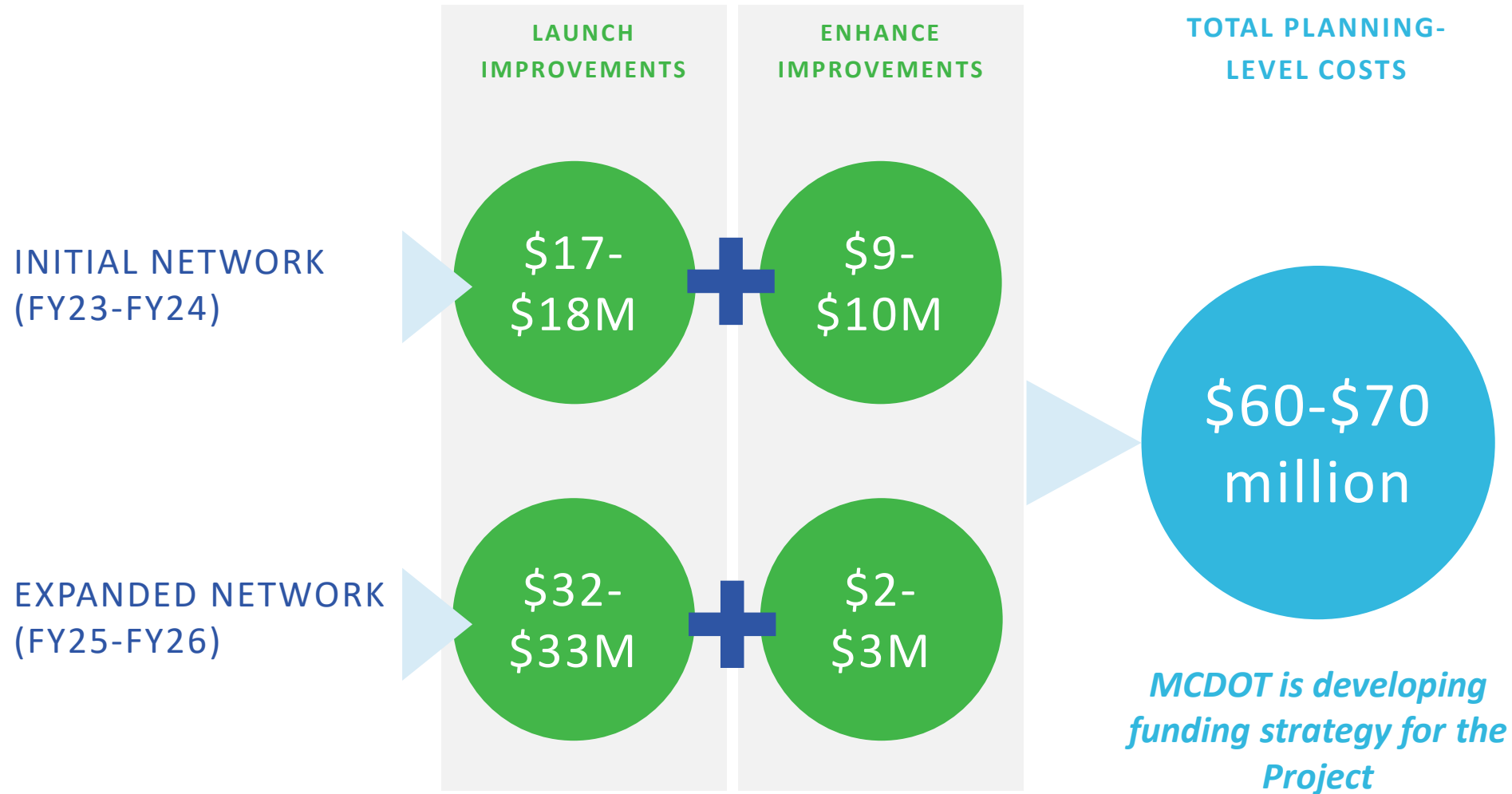








# Capital Costs



Next Steps





# Next Steps



MCDOT is meeting with municipal, political, planning, community, and business representatives to collect feedback and build support for this initiative.







# Next Steps

MCDOT is working to secure additional funding to advance this Project in the next fiscal year.

- Funding would support planning and design for the proposed route network and improvements, including opportunities for additional infrastructure.







# Next Steps

A large green triangle pointing to the right, positioned in the upper right corner of the slide.

Project will serve as a **key element** of post-COVID economic recovery.

***MCDOT requests your help in advancing the planning of this proposal to move the County forward.***





# Contact

**Corey Pitts**

240.777.7217 | [Corey.pitts@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Corey.pitts@montgomerycountymd.gov)