

US 29 Mobility and Reliability Study

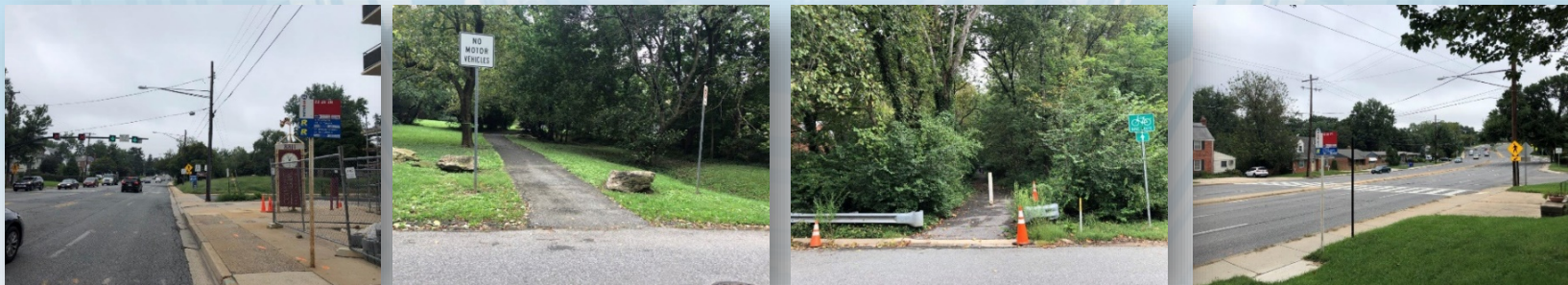
Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board
Transportation, Energy, and Environment Committee

February 22, 2021

Purpose of the US 29 Mobility and Reliability Study

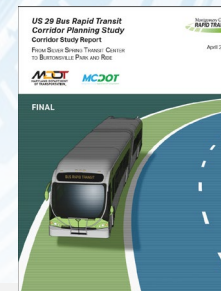
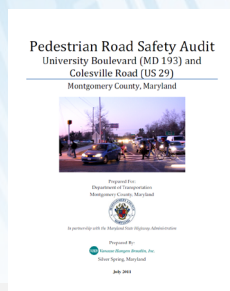
To identify improvement(s) on US 29 to complement the investment in US 29 FLASH from Tech Road to the Silver Spring Transit Center.

- Improve corridor travel time and reliability
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle access and safety



Review of Previous Studies and Recommendations

- Team Reviewed **36** Previous Studies from the 1990's to 2018:
 - US 29 BRT Studies conducted by MCDOT and MDOT SHA and MDOT MTA
 - US 29 Related Traffic and Transit Studies
 - Related Countywide and Regional Transit Studies
 - Related Functional and Master Plans



Alternatives Evaluated

- **Full-time Dedicated Median Bus Lane:** Tech Road to Sligo Creek Parkway
- **Rush-hour Managed Bus/ HOV Lanes:** Musgrove Road to Spring Street and **Bus on shoulder** north of Musgrove Road
- **Intersection Improvements:** Select congested intersections/ interchanges
- **Transportation System Management / Transportation Demand Management** measures to reduce non-recurring congestion and encourage carpooling
- **Pedestrian and Bicycle** improvements and new connections for station access, increased walk and bike sheds (Silver Spring to Tech Road)

Priority Intersection Improvements

- Identified through an assessment of over 30 improvements
 - Greencastle Road Intersection Improvements
 - Tech Road Intersection Improvements
 - Stewart Lane Intersection Improvements
 - MD 650 Interchange Improvements
 - US 29 Southbound Exit Ramp to Westbound I-495 Improvements
 - Sligo Creek Intersection Improvements

Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements

Over 200 individual walking and biking recommendations between Silver Spring and Tech Road (Cost \$15-20M*)

- New and widened sidewalks
- ADA compliance updates
- Bike routes/lanes
- US 29 crossing upgrades
- Bike parking/shares

*Cost excludes sidepaths and bridges

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Project Status

- Briefed Planning Board (October 15, 2020)
 - Comments regarding assessment of the Median Bus Lane
 - Supported Bus/HOV lane as an interim solution*
 - Requested we identify bike/ped projects for stations north of Tech Road
 - Requested we work with Planning staff to prioritize bike/ped improvements
- Briefed County Council Transportation & Environment (T&E) Committee (January 27, 2020)
 - Requested additional assessment of the Median Bus Lane alternative
- MCDOT has a proposal for additional work to conclude the alternatives analysis and then start advancing design that will be discussed with T&E on February 24, 2021
- No additional funding has been programmed to advance any other alternatives at this time

Contact

Corey Pitts
Project Manager

240.777.7217

Corey.Pitts@MontgomeryCountyMD.Gov

100 Edison Park Drive, Fourth Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Note: Due to Covid-19, most of our staff is working from home. Email is much preferred for communication, rather than regular mail or our desk phones.