visualize2045
A LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Visualize 2045 Public Input Survey

Results from Survey Analysis

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Item #6

Background

- The Visualize 2045 Public Input Survey took place in Summer 2017
- The survey aimed to gather general attitudes and opinions about transportation in the region, with questions about:
  - Respondents' priorities in choosing how they travel
  - Issues respondents say affect their travel experience
  - Respondents' ideas for transportation improvements
- Information gathered from the survey will inform ongoing discussions among regional leaders throughout the development of Visualize 2045 and beyond

Methodology (1)

- Two different methodologies were used to gather responses to the public input survey: a random sample and an “open survey”
  - The random sample was designed to capture a geographically representative sample of the region
  - The open survey was available for any member of the public who wanted to participate
- Both the random sample and open surveys were conducted concurrently and used the same interactive online survey tool and questionnaire
- Using a mixed-method approach ensures statistical validity while also maximizing public participation

Methodology (2)

- The random sample approach used a probability-based random sample of adults residing in households in the TPB Planning Area
  - Random sample households were invited by mail to complete the survey using a web link and a unique PIN
- Open survey used a public outreach strategy to reach a broad cross-section of the region's population but is not geographically representative
- Gift card incentives were provided upon completion of the survey

Survey Responses

- There were 755 respondents in the random sample (5% response rate) and 5,460 respondents in the open survey, for a total of 6,215 respondents
- Random sample results were weighted by jurisdictional household totals to ensure geographic representation
- **This presentation focuses on the geographically representative random sample's results.**
- Results from the open survey are shown on slides with green backgrounds.

Question 1: Priorities

What's important to you?

We all have different priorities when it comes to making decisions about how we get where we're going. Which factors have the greatest influence on the travel choices you make every day? (Choose two.)

Reliability	"It's important that I can count on getting where I'm going on time without unexpected delays."
Affordability	"It's important that I can afford the travel options that work best for me."
Travel Time	"It's important that I can get where I want to go as quickly as possible."
Travel Options	"It's important that I have options other than driving to get where I want to go."
Safety	"It's important that I feel safe from personal harm or injury when traveling."

Respondents' Priorities (Random Sample)

Priority	Responses	% Respondents Selecting Priority
Reliability	497	65%
Travel Time	341	45%
Affordability	222	30%
Safety	156	21%
Travel Options	106	14%
Other	17	2%
Total	1,339	

Total Respondents = 755

(Adds up to more than 100% because respondents could select up to two priorities)

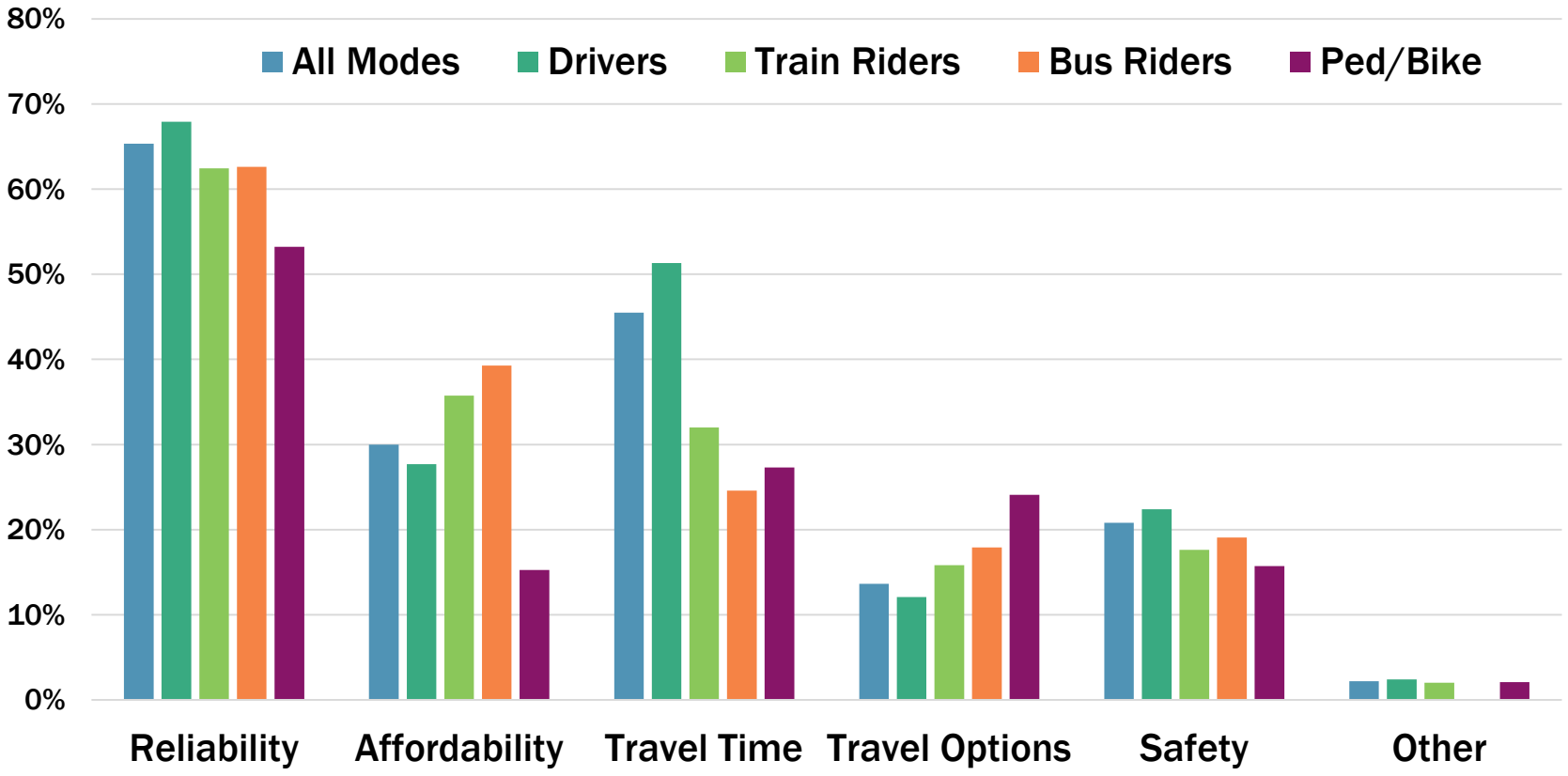
Respondents' Priorities (Open Survey)

Priority	Responses	% Respondents Selecting Priority
Reliability	3,284	60%
Travel Time	2,254	41%
Travel Options	1,337	24%
Affordability	1,182	22%
Safety	1,008	18%
Other	158	3%
Total	9,223	

Total Respondents = 5,460

(Adds up to more than 100% because respondents could select up to two priorities)

Priorities by Mode of Travel



Total Respondents = 755

Priorities by Mode of Travel

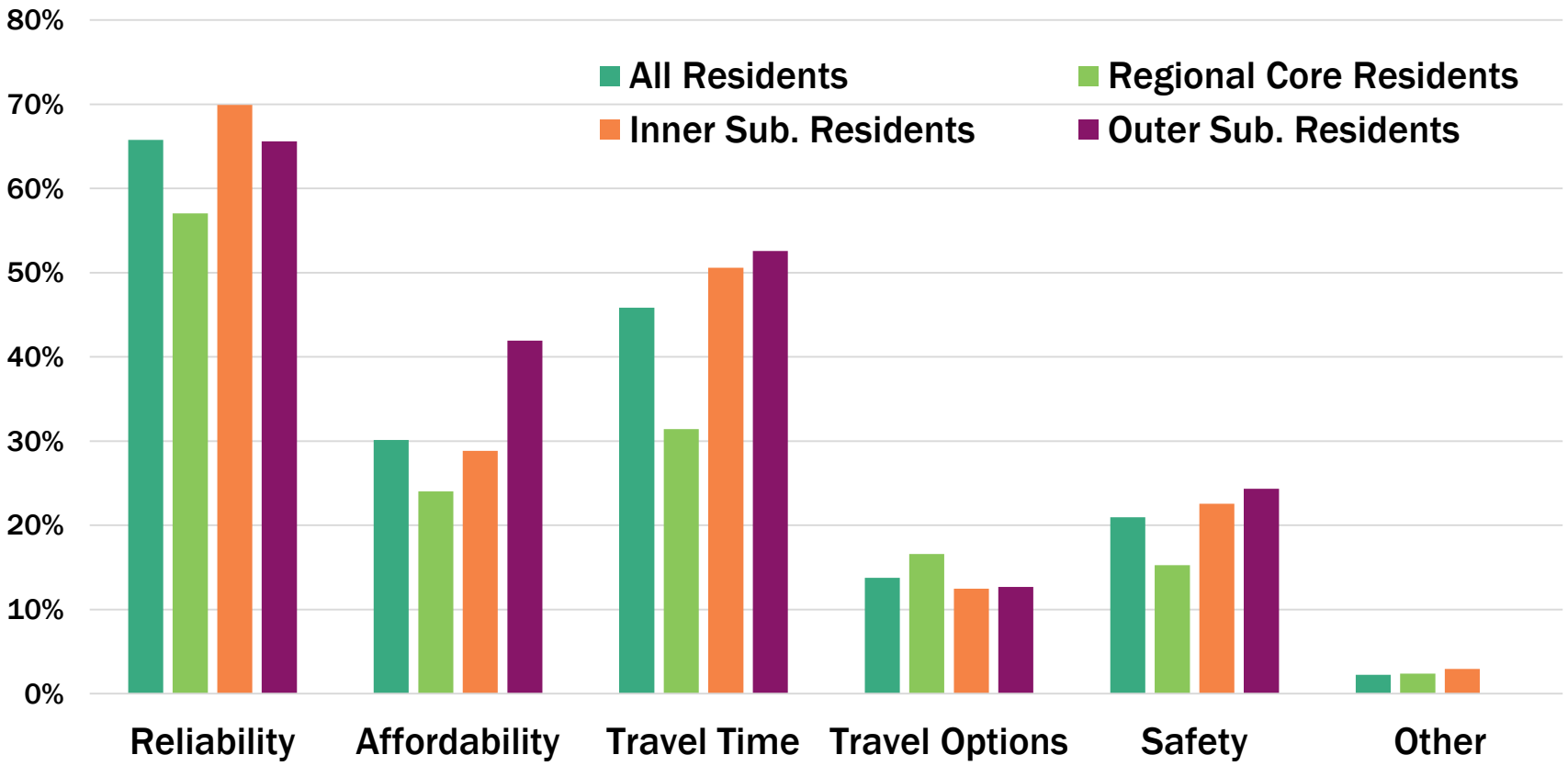
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
All Respondents	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Safety	Travel Options
Drivers	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Safety	Travel Options
Train Riders	Reliability	Affordability	Travel Time	Safety	Travel Options
Bus Riders	Reliability	Affordability	Travel Time	Safety	Travel Options
Ped. & Cyclists	Reliability	Travel Time	Travel Options	Safety	Affordability

Drivers = 550 Respondents; Train Riders = 92 Respondents; Bus Riders = 57 Respondents; Pedestrians and Cyclists = 38 Respondents

Findings – Priorities by Mode of Travel

- Reliability was the most prioritized for all modes
- Bus riders prioritized affordability more than other modes
- Drivers prioritized travel time and safety more than other modes
- Pedestrians and bicyclists prioritized travel options more than other modes

Priorities by Regional Sub-Area



Total Respondents = 755

Priorities by Regional Sub-Area

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
All Respondents	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Safety	Travel Options
Regional Core Residents	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Travel Options	Safety
Inner Suburban Residents	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Safety	Travel Options
Outer Suburban Residents	Reliability	Travel Time	Affordability	Safety	Travel Options

Regional Core:
District of Columbia
Arlington
Alexandria

Inner Suburbs:
Montgomery
Prince George's
Fairfax Co.
Fairfax City
Falls Church

Outer Suburbs:
Charles
Frederick
Prince William
Loudoun
Manassas
Manassas Park
Fauquier Co. *(Urbanized Area)*

Findings – Priorities by Sub-Area

- Reliability was the most prioritized for all sub-areas
- Inner and outer suburban residents prioritized travel time and safety more than regional core residents
- Regional core residents prioritized travel options more than inner or outer suburban residents
- Outer suburban residents prioritized affordability more than regional core or inner suburban residents

Other Findings for Priorities Question

- Priorities by State
  - Maryland and Virginia residents prioritized travel time more than District of Columbia residents
  - Maryland residents prioritized affordability and safety more than District of Columbia or Virginia residents
- Priorities by Gender
  - Female residents prioritized safety more than male residents
  - Male residents prioritized travel time more than female residents

Other Findings for Priorities Question

- Priorities by Income
  - Higher income households ($100k+) prioritized travel time more than lower income households
  - Low-income households (<$50k) prioritized affordability more than higher income households
- Priorities by Disability Status
  - Persons with disabilities prioritized affordability and safety more than persons without disabilities
  - Persons without disabilities prioritized travel time more than persons with disabilities

Other Findings for Priorities Question

- Priorities by Age
  - Older adults (55+) prioritized safety more than other age groups
  - Prime working-age adults (25-54) prioritized travel time more than other age groups
- Priorities by Race and Ethnicity
  - Hispanic and African-American respondents prioritized affordability more than other racial/ethnic groups
  - Non-Hispanic white respondents prioritized travel time more than other racial/ethnic groups

Open Survey – More Comments

Respondents were asked to add other priorities that matter to them and impact how they choose to travel. Some ideas included:

"Sustainability"

"Comfort"

"Weather"

"Convenience"

"How much stuff I carry with me determines how I get around."

"It is important to me that I can read or exercise while traveling."

"Flexibility – the ability to change destinations and times of travel."

"Community: I want to feel connected to my community while traveling."

"Efficiency"

"Carbon footprint"

"Simplicity"

"Lack of stress"

"Health"

Question 2: Issues

What affects your travel?

How much do each of the issues on this screen affect your travel? Rate each issue on a scale of "1" to "5", with higher ratings signifying a greater impact on your travel.

Reliability	Affordability	Travel Time	Travel Options	Safety
Traffic Congestion	Vehicle Ownership Costs	Time Spent in Traffic	Need for Rail Transit Options	Dangerous Driving
Traffic Incidents	Tolls and Parking	Time Needed for Transit	Need for Bus Transit Options	Infrastructure Conditions
Train Delays	Rail Fares	Lack of Faster Options	Need for Driving Options	Crime
Bus Delays	Bus Fares	Distance to Destinations	Need for Walking & Bicycling Options	Street Design

Issues – Overall

1)	Traffic Congestion	4.0
2)	Time Spent in Traffic	3.6
3)	Need for Driving Options	3.5
4)	Need for Rail Transit Options	3.5
5)	Lack of Faster Options	3.4
6)	Traffic Incidents	3.4
7)	Time Needed for Transit	3.3
8)	Dangerous Driving	3.2
9)	Infrastructure Conditions	2.8
10)	Distance to Destinations	2.7

11)	Train Delays	2.7
12)	Need for Bus Transit Options	2.7
13)	Tolls and Parking	2.6
14)	Need for Walk & Bike Options	2.5
15)	Street Design	2.5
16)	Vehicle Ownership Costs	2.5
17)	Rail Fares	2.3
18)	Bus Delays	2.2
19)	Crime	2.1
20)	Bus Fares	1.8

Color-coded by corresponding priority

Reliability	Affordability	Travel Time	Travel Options	Safety

Open Survey Responses - Issues

1)	Need for Rail Transit Options	3.8
2)	Traffic Congestion	3.7
3)	Time Spent in Traffic	3.5
4)	Need for Walk & Bike Options	3.4
5)	Lack of Faster Options	3.3
6)	Time Needed for Transit	3.3
7)	Dangerous Driving	3.3
8)	Street Design	3.1
9)	Need for Bus Transit Options	3.0
10)	Traffic Incidents	3.0

11)	Infrastructure Conditions	3.0
12)	Train Delays	2.9
13)	Need for Driving Options	2.8
14)	Distance to Destinations	2.6
15)	Bus Delays	2.3
16)	Tolls and Parking	2.2
17)	Rail Fares	2.2
18)	Vehicle Ownership Costs	2.1
19)	Crime	1.8
20)	Bus Fares	1.6

Color-coded by corresponding priority

Reliability	Affordability	Travel Time	Travel Options	Safety

Issues by Mode of Travel

	#1	#2	#3
All Respondents (755)	Traffic Congestion	Time Spent in Traffic	Need for Driving Options
Drivers (550)	Traffic Congestion	Need for Driving Options	Time Spent in Traffic
Train Riders (92)	Need for Rail Transit Options	Train Delays	Time Spent in Traffic
Bus Riders (57)	Need for Bus Transit Options	Traffic Congestion	Train Delays
Pedestrians & Cyclists (38)	Need for Walking & Bicycling Options	Need for Rail Transit Options	Dangerous Driving

Findings for Issues by Mode of Travel

- Top issues generally corresponded with mode choice
- Bus, train, and pedestrians/cyclists ranked need for options for their respective modes as the top issue
- Drivers did not identify non-auto/driving issues as top issues

Issues by Sub-Area

	#1	#2	#3
All Respondents (755)	Traffic Congestion	Time Spent in Traffic	Need for Driving Options
Regional Core (213)	Need for Rail Transit Options	Traffic Congestion	Time Needed for Transit
Inner Suburbs (395)	Traffic Congestion	Time Spent in Traffic	Need for Driving Options
Outer Suburbs (147)	Traffic Congestion	Need for Driving Options	Time Spent in Traffic

Findings for Issues by Sub-Area

- Regional core residents identified transit issues as top issues, with need for rail transit options as the top issue
- Auto/driving issues were top issues for all residents throughout the region
- No difference in top issues between inner and outer suburban residents

Other Findings for Issues Question

- Issues by State
  - For District of Columbia residents, top issues were rail transit options, traffic congestion, and need for bus transit options
  - For Maryland and Virginia residents, top issues were traffic congestion, need for driving options, and time spent in traffic
- Issues by Gender
  - For both female and male respondents, top issues were traffic congestion and time spent in traffic

Other Findings for Issues Question

- Issues by Income
  - Traffic congestion was the top issue across income groups
  - Bus transit options and vehicle ownership costs were top issues for very low-income households (<$25k)
- Issues by Disability Status
  - Traffic congestion and time spent in traffic were top issues for all respondents regardless of disability status

Other Findings for Issues Question

- Issues by Age
  - Need for rail transit was a top issue for respondents 34 and younger
  - Need for driving options and time spent in traffic were top issues for respondents 35 and older
- Priorities by Race and Ethnicity
  - Traffic congestion was the top issue across race/ethnic groups
  - Need for rail transit and lack of faster options were top issues for Hispanic respondents

Open Survey – More Comments

Respondents were asked to comment on the issues they face in their daily travel. Some comments included:

REGARDING TRAFFIC CONGESTION:

"I avoid driving as much as possible; otherwise this would be a bigger concern."

"I have to allow for 1.5 to 2 hours just to travel 23 miles."

"I bike to work and know my commute time is always the same regardless of traffic."

REGARDING TIME SPENT IN TRAFFIC:

"I limit where I consider to work due to traffic and time it takes to get there."

"Congestion slows down buses on key corridors. Bus only lanes should be a priority."

REGARDING NEED FOR RAIL TRANSIT OPTIONS:

"Light rail or more/improved metro would get people off the roads."

"More frequent train VRE departure times, and weekend service are needed for getting in and out of northern VA and DC for those of us who live beyond Metro."

Question 3: Your Ideas

What are your ideas?

Share your ideas with us. Show us up to 10 transportation improvements you think would make the region's transportation system better. Provide additional detail to help us better understand your idea.


Road


Transit (Rail)


Transit (Bus)


Walking & Bicycling


Land-Use & Policies

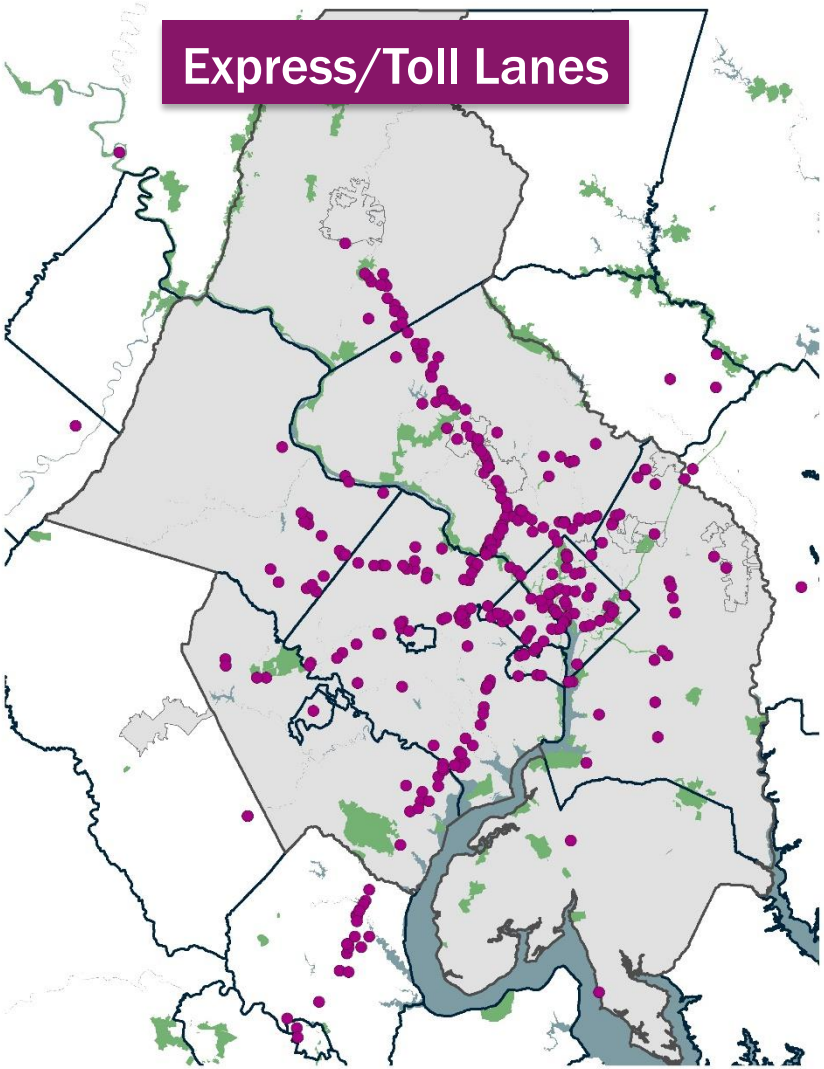

Other

After respondents chose a map marker option from above they had the option to choose an improvement type from a drop-down menu and to add comments.

The following results are combined from the open survey and the random sample.

Road Ideas

(Combined random sample & open survey data)



Road Ideas: Improvement Type	# of ideas
New or widened road/bridge	1,734
No improvement type specified	1,110
Other roadway idea	535
Calm/slow down traffic	495
Express/toll lanes	363
Maintenance issue	278

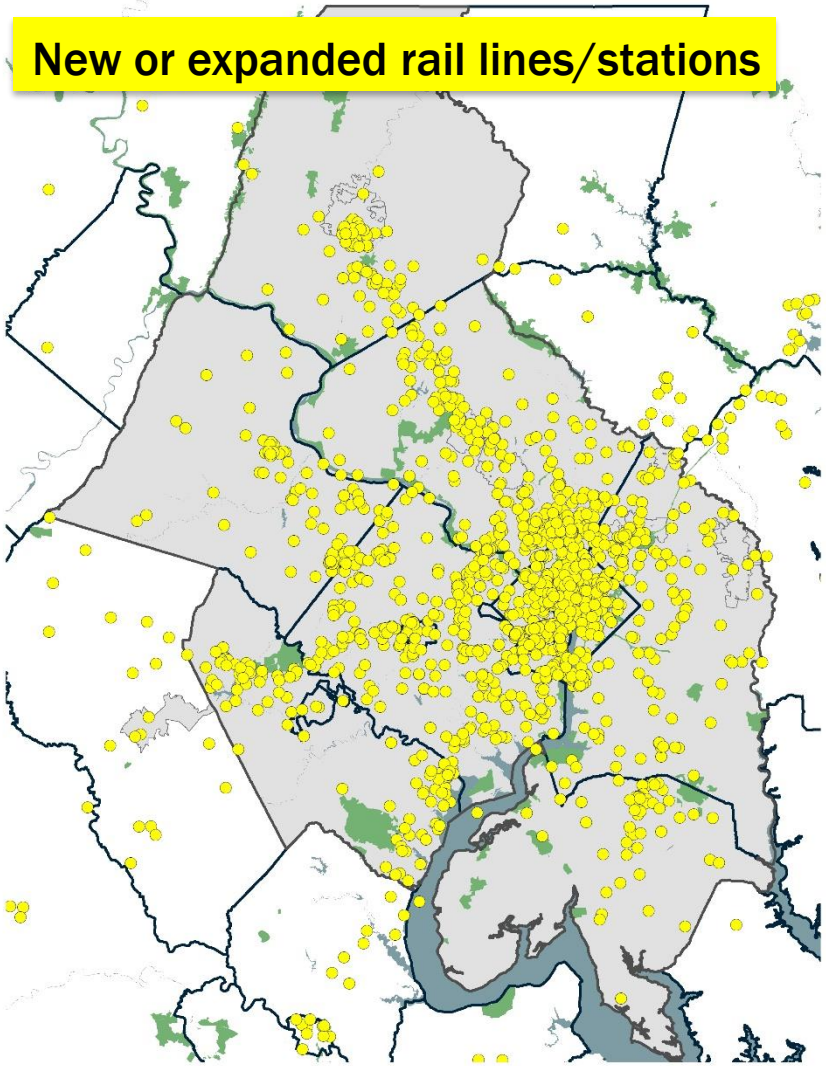
"Change 395 from HOV-3 to HOV tolls."

"Add variably priced tolls to some or all existing lanes. Funds dedicated to transit/bike/walk."

"The tolls are entirely too expensive."

Transit (Rail) Ideas

(Combined random sample & open survey data)



Rail Ideas: Improvement Type	# of ideas
New or expanded rail lines/stations	1,914
No improvement type specified	818
Service hours/frequency	582
Station improvements	159
Other rail idea	150
Maintenance issue	106
Accessibility for persons with disabilities	9

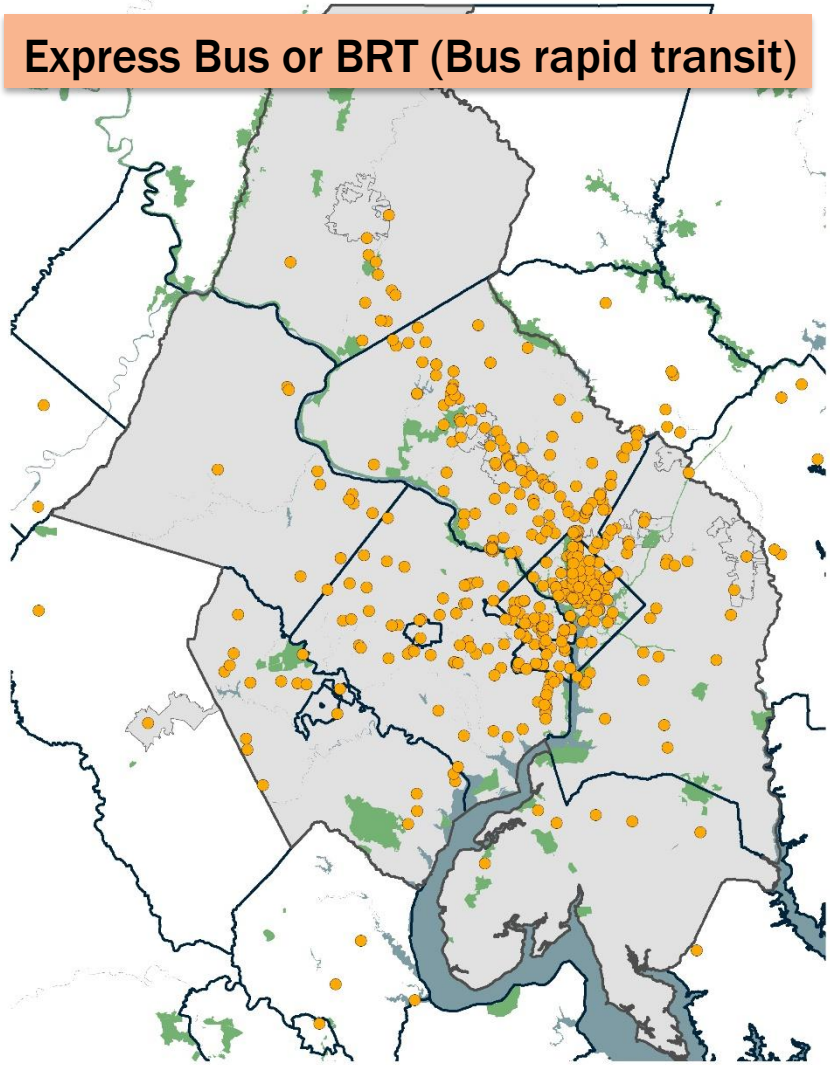
"New Orange Line metro stop at Fair Oaks/Fairfax County Government Center."

"Reverse commute on the Brunswick line."

Transit (Bus) Ideas

(Combined random sample & open survey data)

Express Bus or BRT (Bus rapid transit)



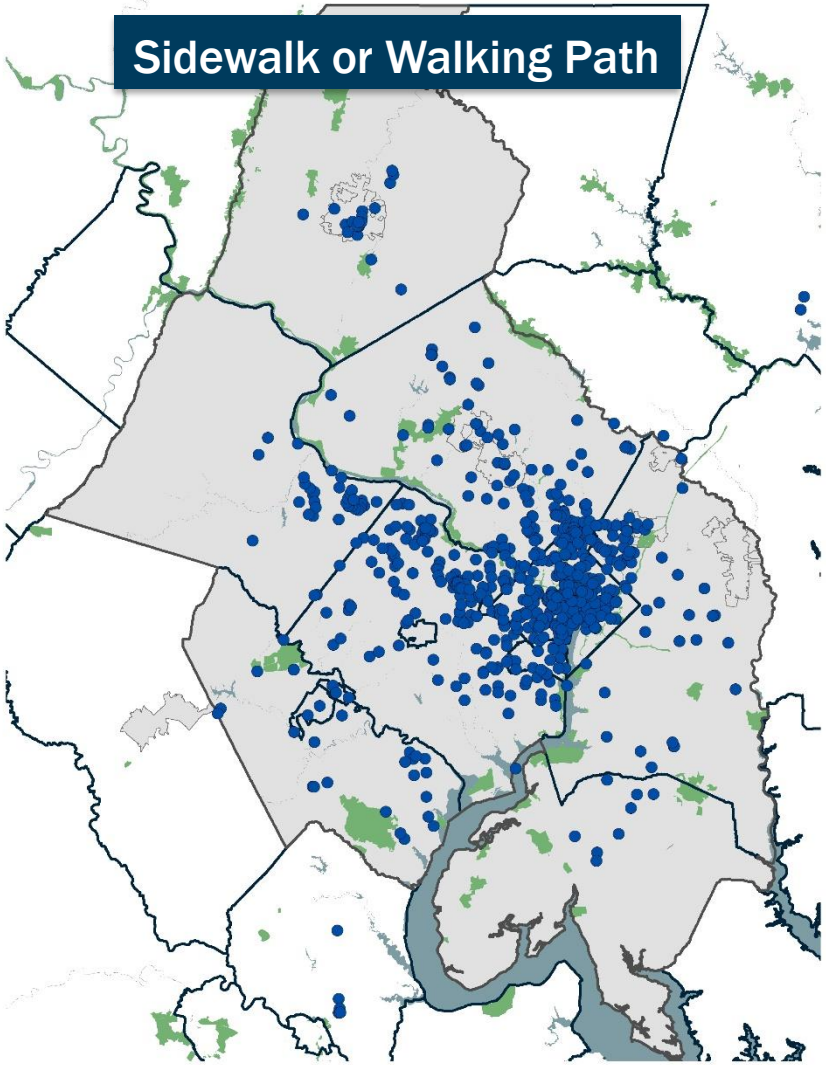
Bus Ideas: Improvement Type	# of ideas
Express bus or BRT	544
New or expanded bus route/stop	483
No improvement type specified	444
Service hours/frequency	278
Other bus idea	88
Bus stop improvements	59
Accessibility for persons with disabilities	7
Maintenance issue	1

"BRT on Rhode Island Ave from Red Line to College Park/Univ. of Maryland."

"BRT to Haymarket."

Walking & Bicycling Ideas

(Combined random sample & open survey data)



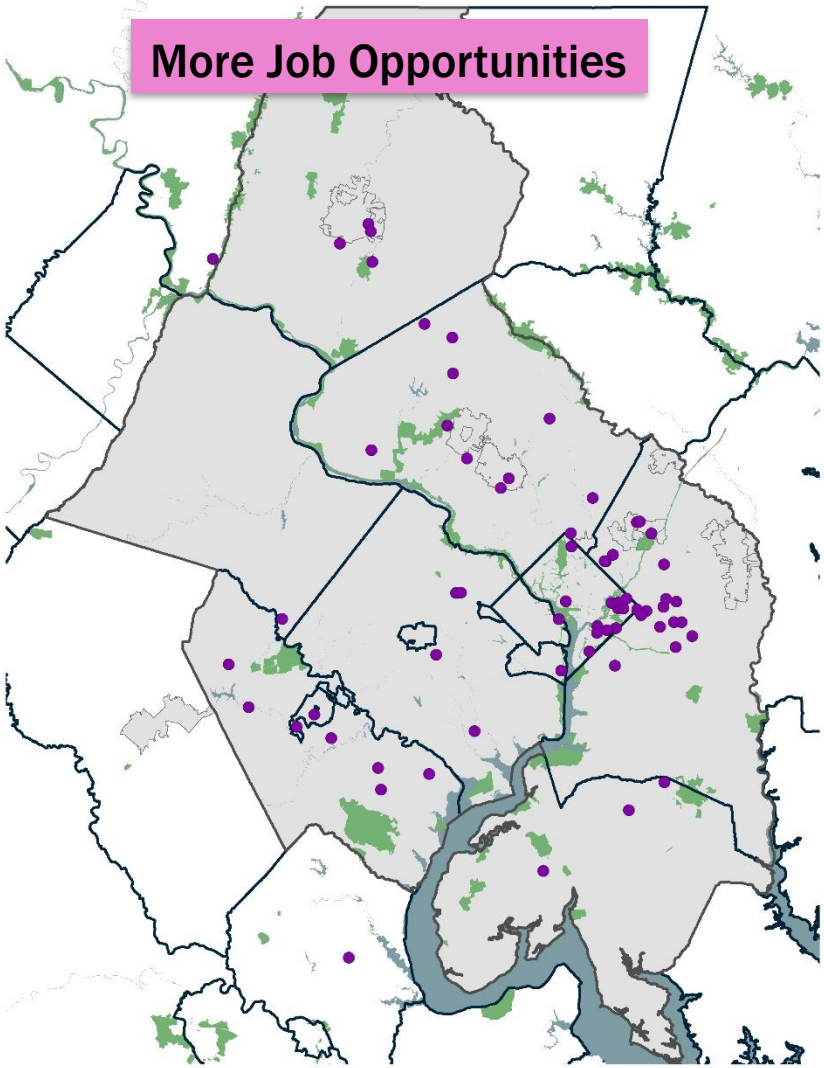
Walk/Bike Ideas: Improvement Type	# of ideas
Bicycle lane or path	2,340
No improvement type specified	850
Sidewalk or walking path	715
Crosswalk/signal/lighting	405
Other walk or bike idea	182
Bikeshare station	167
Maintenance issue	88
Accessibility for persons with disabilities	18

"Accessible paths needed to metro. Applies to other communities as well."

"No sidewalks on the main road in my neighborhood"

Land-use and Policy Ideas

(Combined random sample & open survey data)



Land-use & Policy Ideas: Categories	# of ideas
More housing/affordable housing	397
Other	386
No category specified	306
More commercial/retail development	154
More job opportunities	69
Parking prices	48

"Charles County needs good, well-paying jobs."

"Make it easier for people to live near where they work."

Other Ideas

583 other ideas were shared

"Better paratransit services for people in lower density areas. People in wheelchairs have limited accessibility. More on-demand services."

"More EV charging stations."

"Better information about travel options."

"Smaller businesses should be able to set up shop in the city easily."

"Better accessibility for folks as they age and have limited mobility."

"Offering financial incentives to organizations who encourage teleworking."

"Why are there no high speed water ferries on the Potomac servicing DC? Stations should be developed up and down the river like they have in London."

"We should study the potential benefits of trolleys in Del Ray and other dense developments."

"Regular transit to/from Annapolis (mode agnostic)."

How Results Will be Used

- Will inform TPB planning process going forward, for Visualize 2045, future plan updates, and beyond
- With these results we can communicate with regional leaders about what the public wants and needs
- Survey results are being used to help shape the program design for public forums this spring

Next Steps

- Key issues identified in the survey will be highlighted in Visualize 2045
- Shortened presentation of results will be shared at the April 18 TPB meeting

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