



# Fairfax County Transit Strategic Plan / Route Optimization Planning Process



Virtual  
April 2021





# AGENDA

1. Background
2. Transit Strategic Plan (TSP)
3. Strategic Vision and Goals
4. Transit Planning Process
5. Q&A



# 10-YEAR TRANSIT STRATEGIC PLAN



PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION

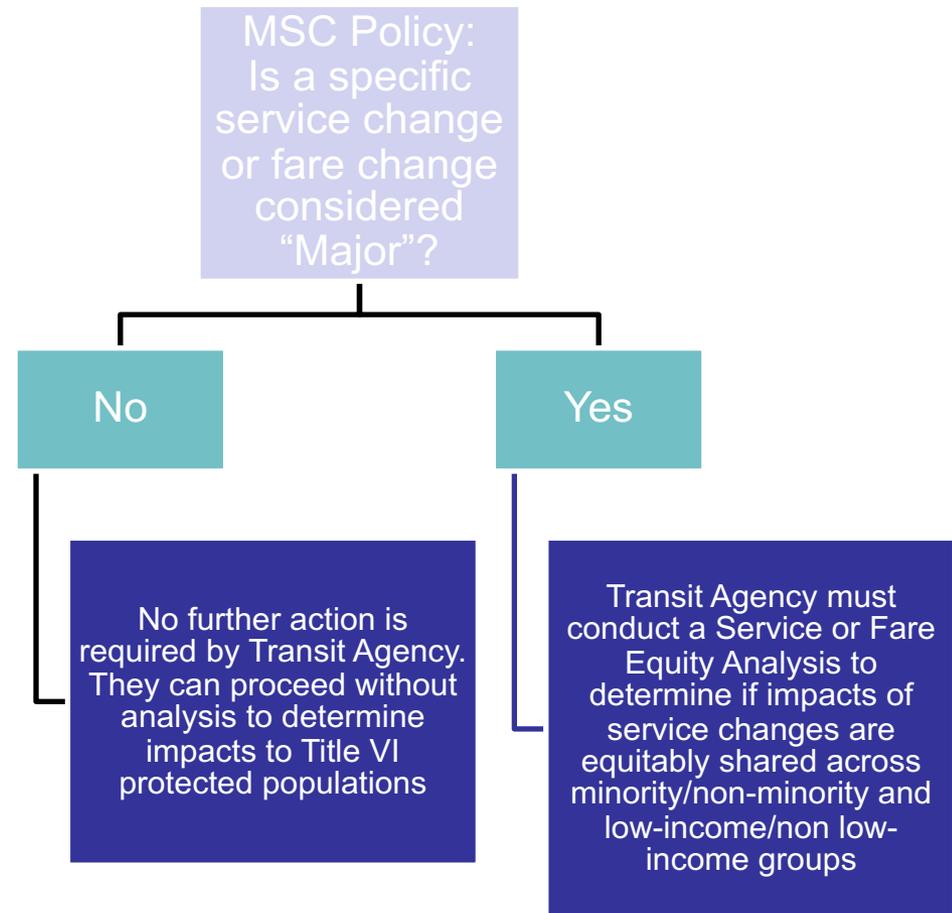
***As of 2018, the Virginia General Assembly and Department of Rail and Public Transportation require that large public transportation agencies, like Fairfax Connector, develop a TSP***





# FCDOT Title VI Policy

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination
- Key Elements & Policies:
  - Public Participation Plan
  - Language Access Plan
  - Service Standards and Monitoring
  - Title VI policies: Major Service Change, and Disparate Impact / Disproportionate Burden





# Understanding Our Community

## County Demographics

- 1,145,800 total population
- 396,500 total households
- 49% minority population
- 17% low-income households

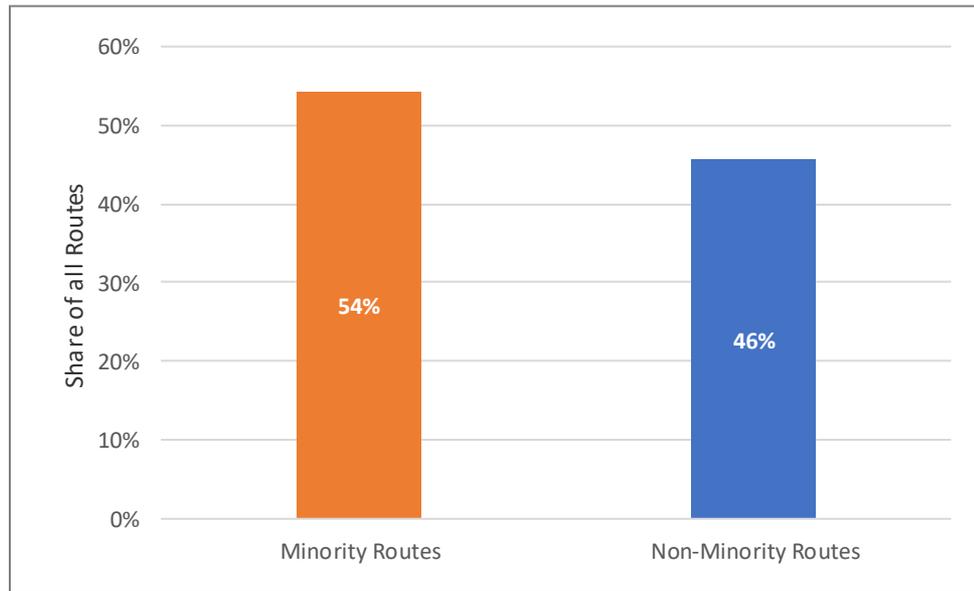
## Onboard Survey Results

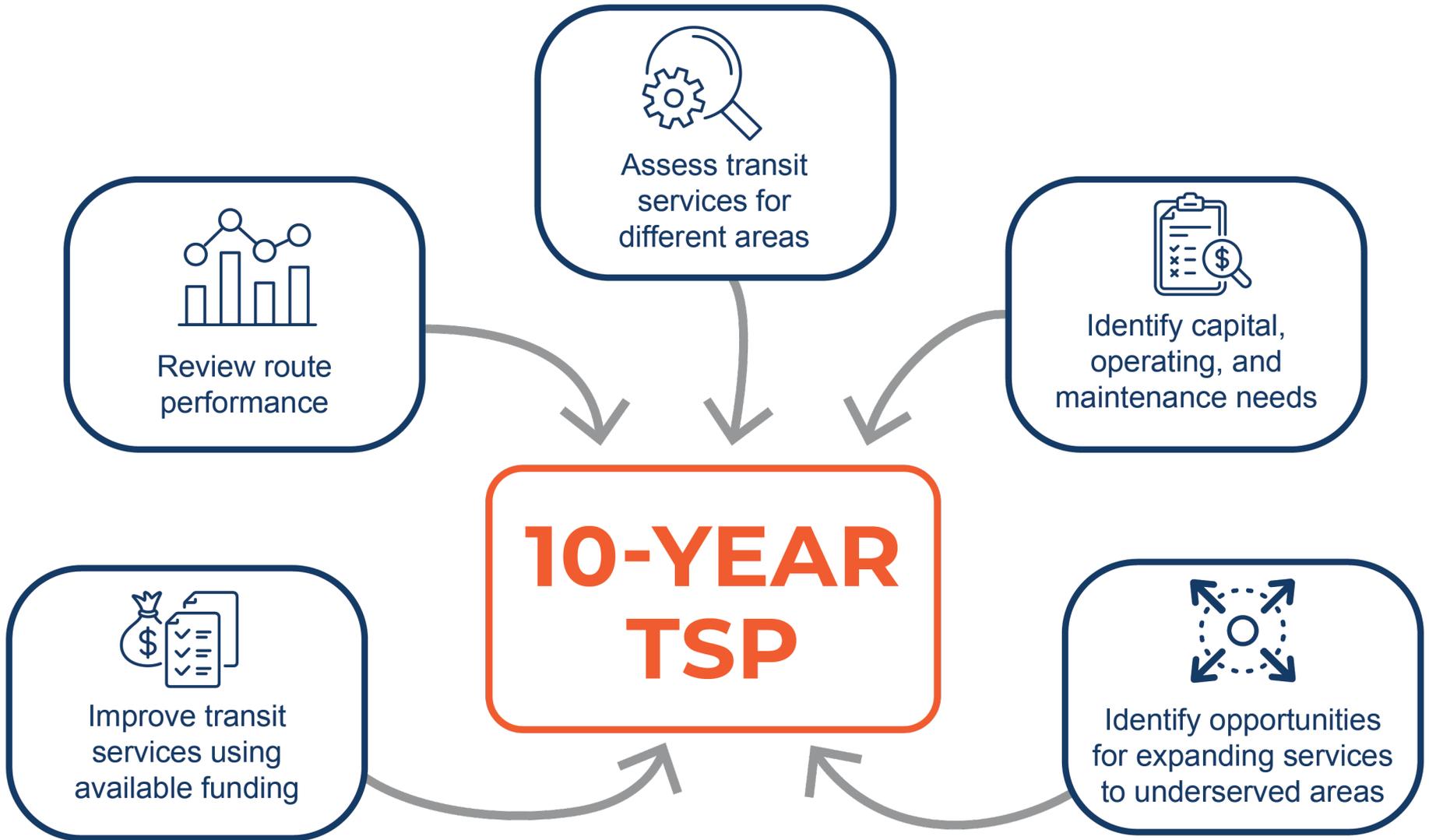
- 66% minority
- Median household income: \$45,000
- 19% speak English “Less than very well”



# Transit Service Monitoring

- Vehicle load
- Vehicle headway
- On-time performance
- Service accessibility
- Vehicle assignment
- Distribution of transit amenities







# THEMES AND GOALS



**CHOICE**

Provide transportation choices for people travelling short and long distances

**QUALITY**

Provide high-quality public transportation service

**EFFICIENCY**

Create efficient and cost-effective transportation choices

**SAFETY**

Ensure and improve safety for Fairfax Connector riders throughout the system



# Outreach



## Market Survey

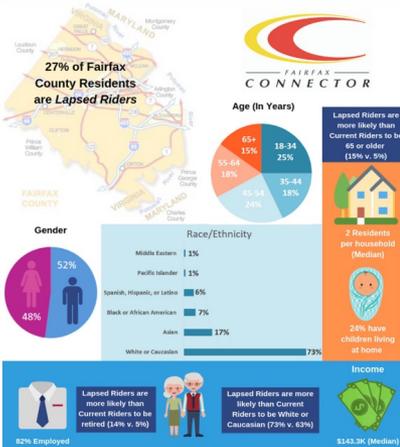
- Fall 2018: 2,600 responses
- Gathered data on why residents do not ride buses
- Used to determine what measures could be used to attract non-riders and reconnect with lapsed riders

## Onboard Survey

- Spring - Summer 2019: 2,550 responses
- Collected information on passengers' origins, destinations, preferences, and demographic characteristics
- Used for planning to increase ridership and improve the customer experience

## Online Survey and Public Meetings: Specific to Reston – Herndon Effort (Silver Phase 2)

- Conducted three rounds of online surveys: 1,700 responses
- Conducted three rounds of public meetings and outreach





# What We Heard: Service Improvements

## Connectivity

Adjust routes:

- Key community locations
- Realign routes with travel patterns

## Faster Travel

Adjust routes:

- Realign routes to be more direct
- Reduce unneeded travel patterns

## Greater Span of Service

Adjust hours of service:

- Increase service hours on key routes to improve access and mobility

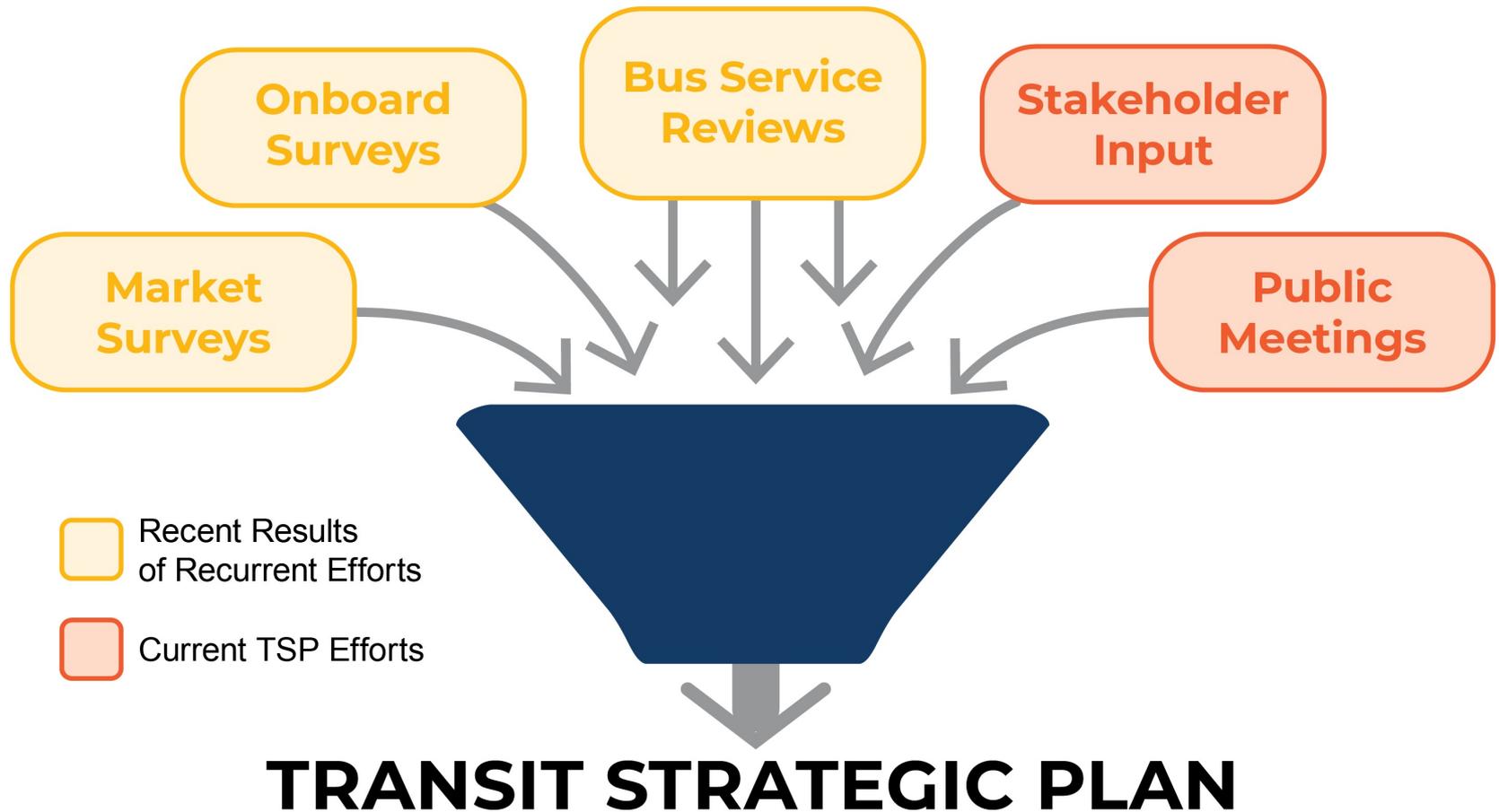
## Increased Frequency

Adjust service:

- Add additional buses to key routes to increase frequency

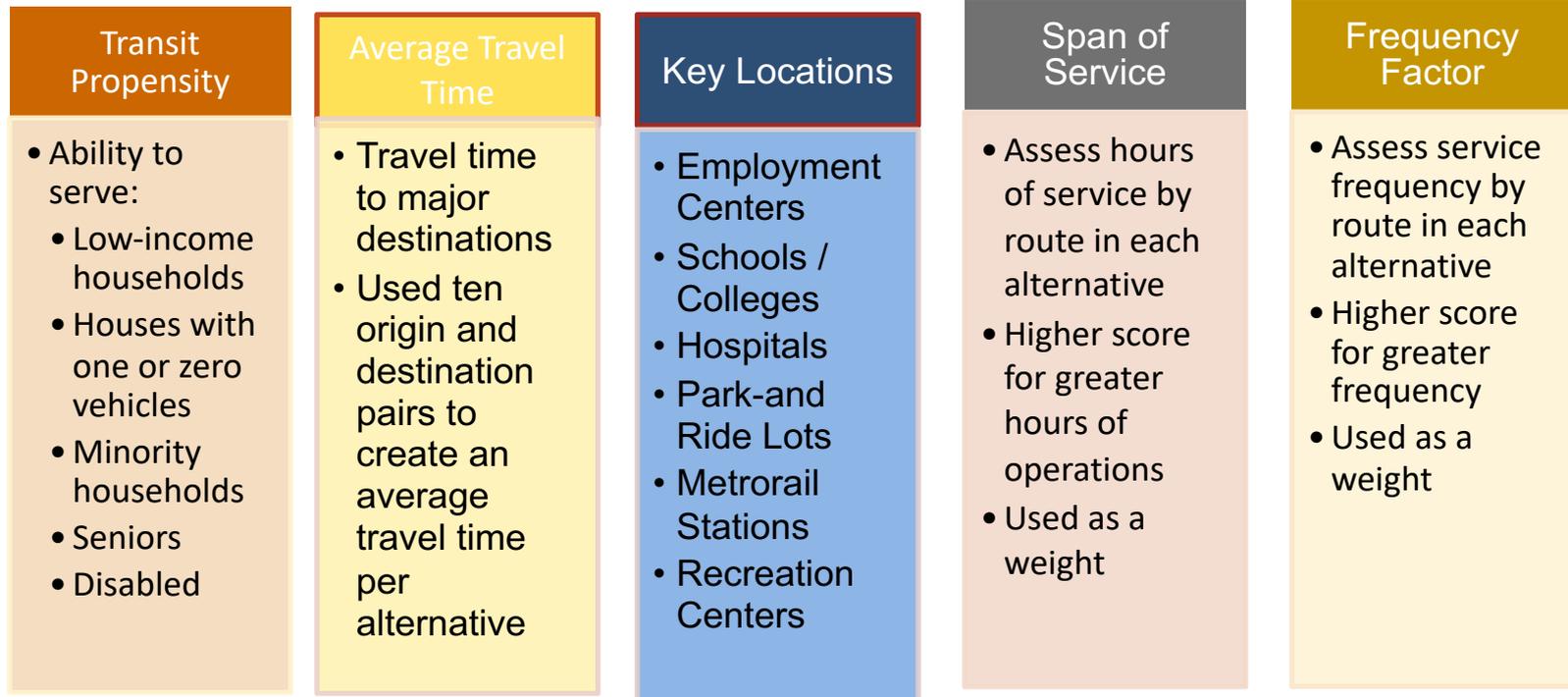


# YOUR INPUT & PLANNING PROCESS



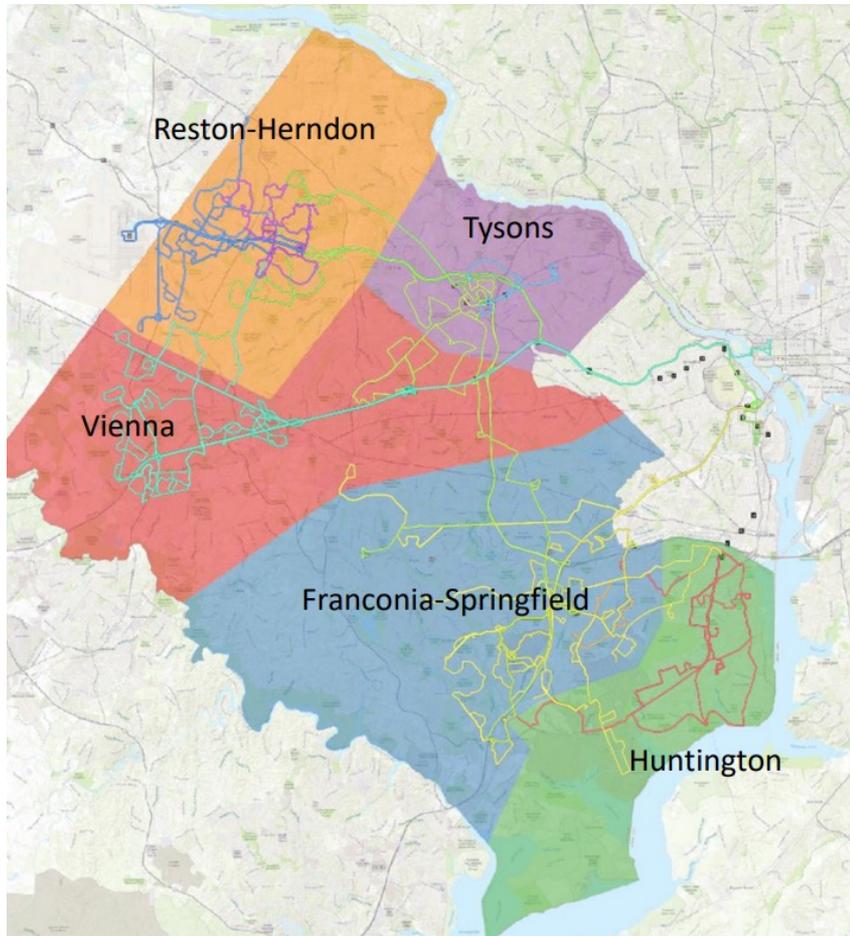


# Alternatives Evaluation





# BUS SERVICE REVIEW



## Franconia-Springfield

- Preferred Plan (*Developed*)

## Reston-Herndon

- Preferred Plan (*Developed*)

## Centreville-Chantilly-Vienna-Tysons (CCVT)

- Alternatives (*Developed*)
- Preferred Plan (*In Process*)

## Huntington

- Have long-term recommendations from Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) feeder plan
- Will identify short & medium-term recommendations in TSP



# TSP SURVEY

- Travel Patterns
  - Less Frequent Riders vs. Frequent Riders
- Opportunities for Improvements
  - Your priorities
  - Your preferences
- Demographics
  - Who does Fairfax Connector serve?

**Fairfax Connector Transit Strategic Plan - Public Outreach Round 1**

Fairfax County is creating a transit strategic plan to guide public transit service improvements over the next 10 years. Whether you are a current rider, a past rider, or if you have never tried the bus system before, we want your input! Your feedback, in addition to recent transit studies, will help us plan for transit needs in Fairfax County.

OK

7. Which of these areas need improvement based on your experience riding Fairfax Connector **prior to any travel behavior changes you may have made in response to COVID-19?**

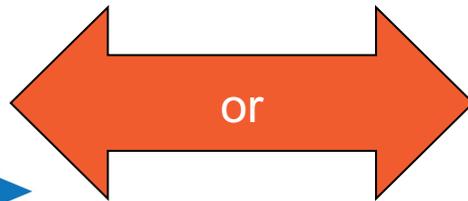
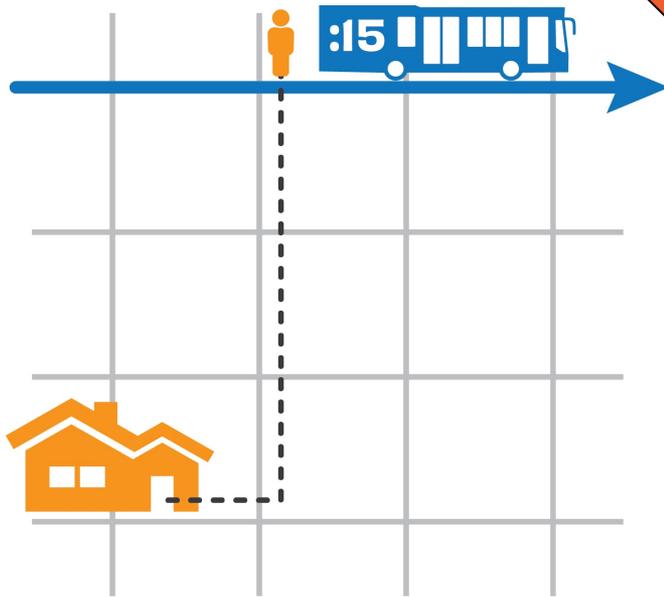
	Does not need improvement	Needs minor improvement	Needs major improvement
Information about how to ride the bus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More service <b>where</b> I want	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More service <b>when</b> I want	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More frequent bus arrivals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More easily accessible bus stops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ways to pay fares	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Comfort or safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>		



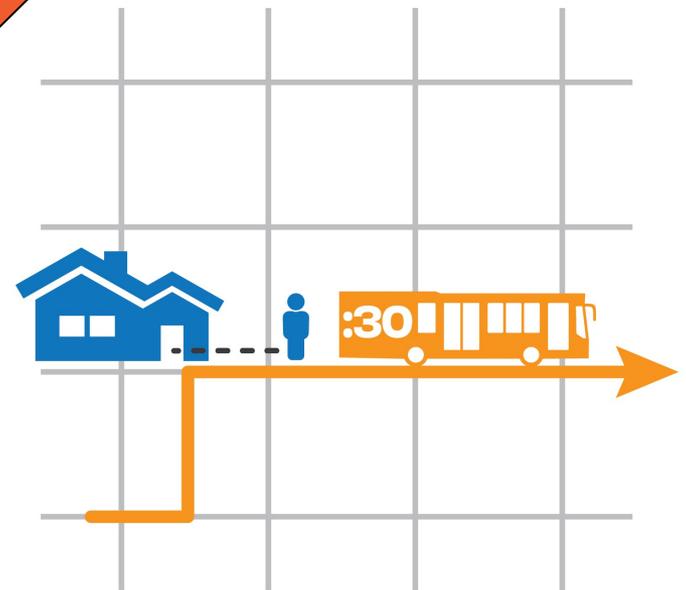
# TSP SURVEY

Your Preferences:  
When it comes to WALKING to the bus stop vs. WAITING for the bus, I prefer...

More frequent service, even if it means a longer walk



A short walk to my bus stop, even if it means less frequent service



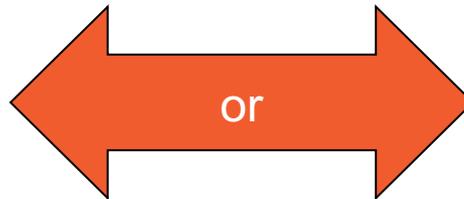
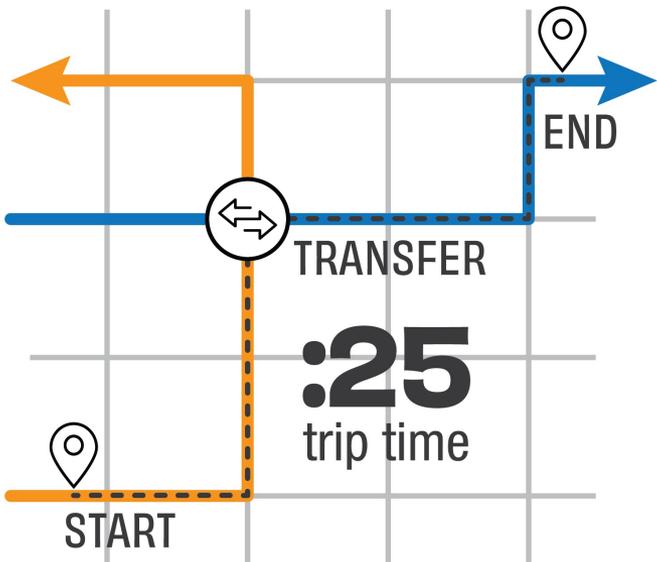


# TSP SURVEY

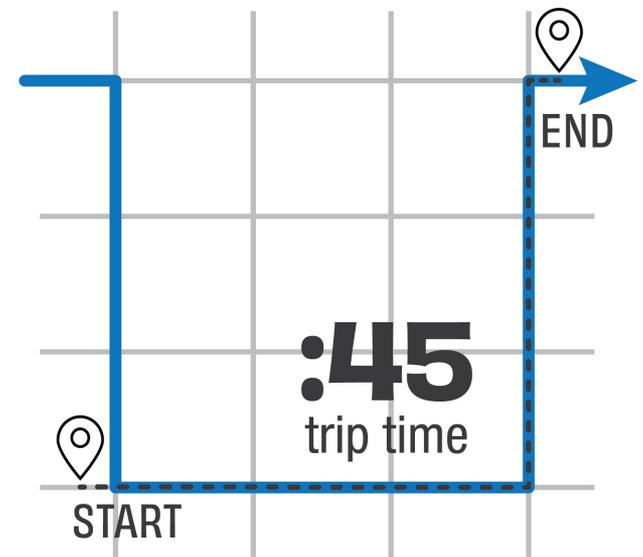
## Your Preferences:

When it comes to TRANSFERRING buses vs. OVERALL travel time, I prefer...

Transferring to another bus to reach my destination if it means my complete trip will take less time



Not transferring to another bus to reach my destination, even if it means my complete trip will take more time





# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

*Photo © Evert Barnes*