



# DC2RVA Project Update

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Transportation Planning Board Technical Committee Meeting

May 1, 2015

# Agenda

- Project Overview
- Schedule
- Current Activities
- Next Steps



# Project Overview

- SEHSR Corridor**
- Richmond to Raleigh**  
Tier II EIS
- Richmond to Hampton Roads**  
Tier I EIS

- Washington, D.C. to Richmond**  
Tier II EIS
- Charlotte to Atlanta**  
Tier I EIS
- SEHSR Extended**  
Feasibility Studies Complete

Washington D.C.

Richmond

Raleigh

Charlotte

Atlanta

Columbia

Jacksonville

# Southeast High Speed Rail (SEHSR)

# NEPA | Tiered Approach



## Tier I Program-Level Document

- Program is being introduced that may have far reaching affects.
- Large physical area is being addressed.
- Looks at general environmental conditions and general levels of impact.
- Site-specific details have not yet been identified or designed.

## Tier II Project-Level Document

- Performed when a specific project is investigated in detail.
- Impacts are quantified and analyzed and potential mitigation measures are identified.
- Documentation and decisions lead to Record of Decision (ROD), permitting, final design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction.

# Project Snapshot



- 123-Mile Corridor
- Northernmost Segment of the SEHSR Corridor
- Connects to the Northeast Corridor
- Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review
- Ridership and Revenue Review
- Station Area Improvements
- Service Frequency



*Project Sponsor:*



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

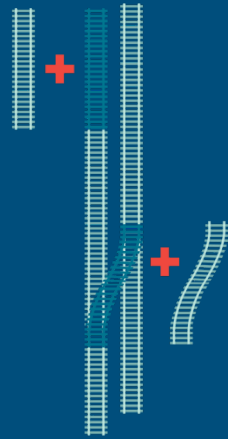
*Lead Federal Agency:*



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Railroad Administration**

# Improvement Concepts

Construction of additional main line tracks and crossovers.



Straightening of curves.



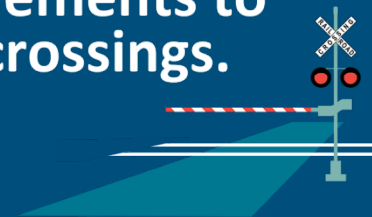
Station area improvements.



Improvements to sidings and signals.



Improvements to grade crossings.



# Challenges

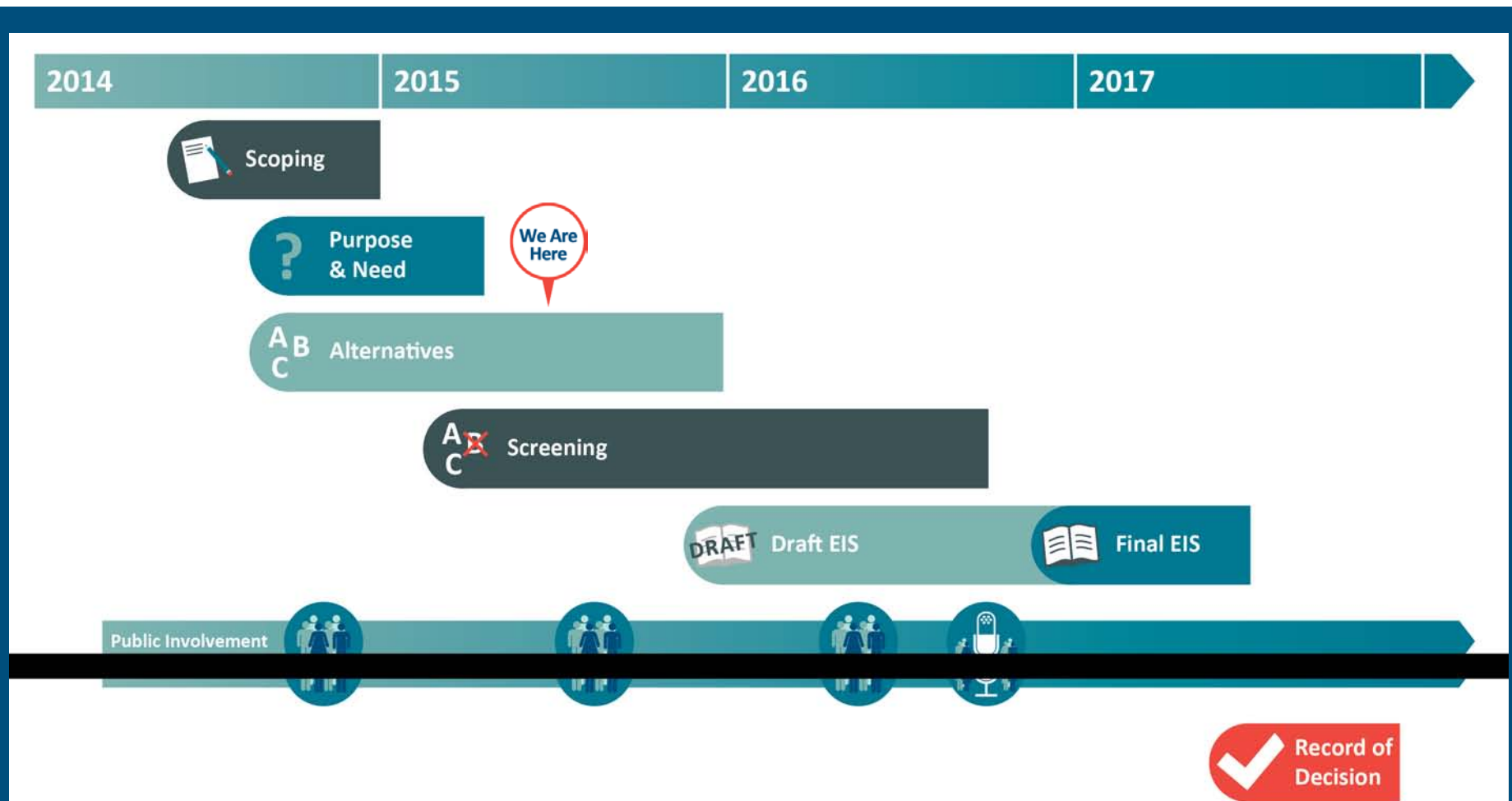


- Updating key elements of the 2002 SEHSR Tier I EIS
- Effectively applying past studies
- Addressing unresolved corridor issues
- Considering future VRE, Amtrak, and freight rail plans



# Schedule

# Project Update | Where Are We Now?



# Current Activities

# Service Goals

## Service Goals



Reliability



Travel Time

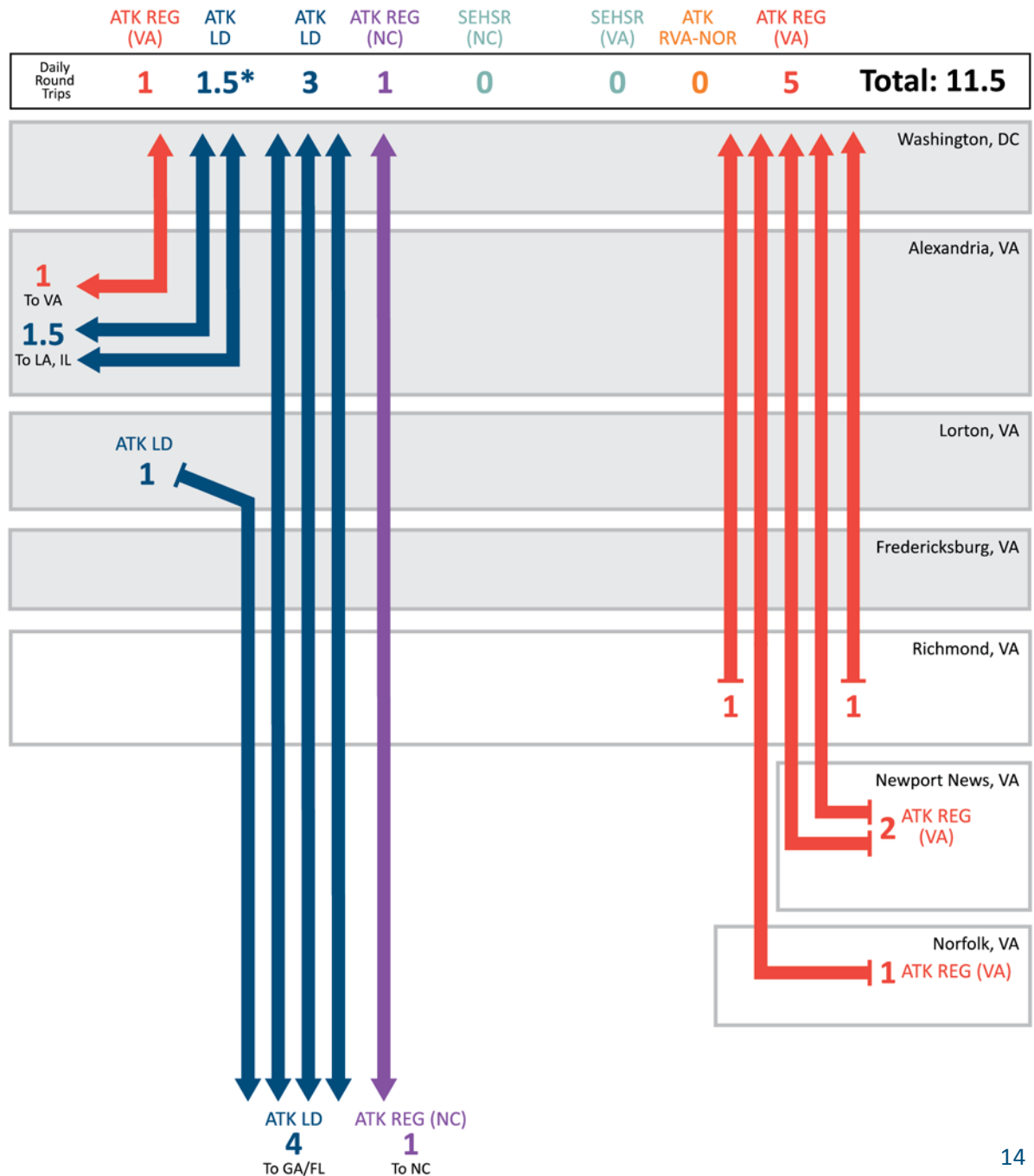


Frequency











# Intercity Passenger Train Frequencies 2015

- Amtrak Long-Distance (ATK LD)
- State-supported Amtrak Regional Service, Virginia (ATK REG VA)
- State-supported Amtrak Regional Service, North Carolina (ATK REG NC)
- Richmond-Norfolk Shuttle (ATK RVA-NOR)
- Southeast High Speed Rail (SEHSR)
- Existing train extended to Norfolk
- City also served by VRE commuter trains
- \* Operates 3x/week

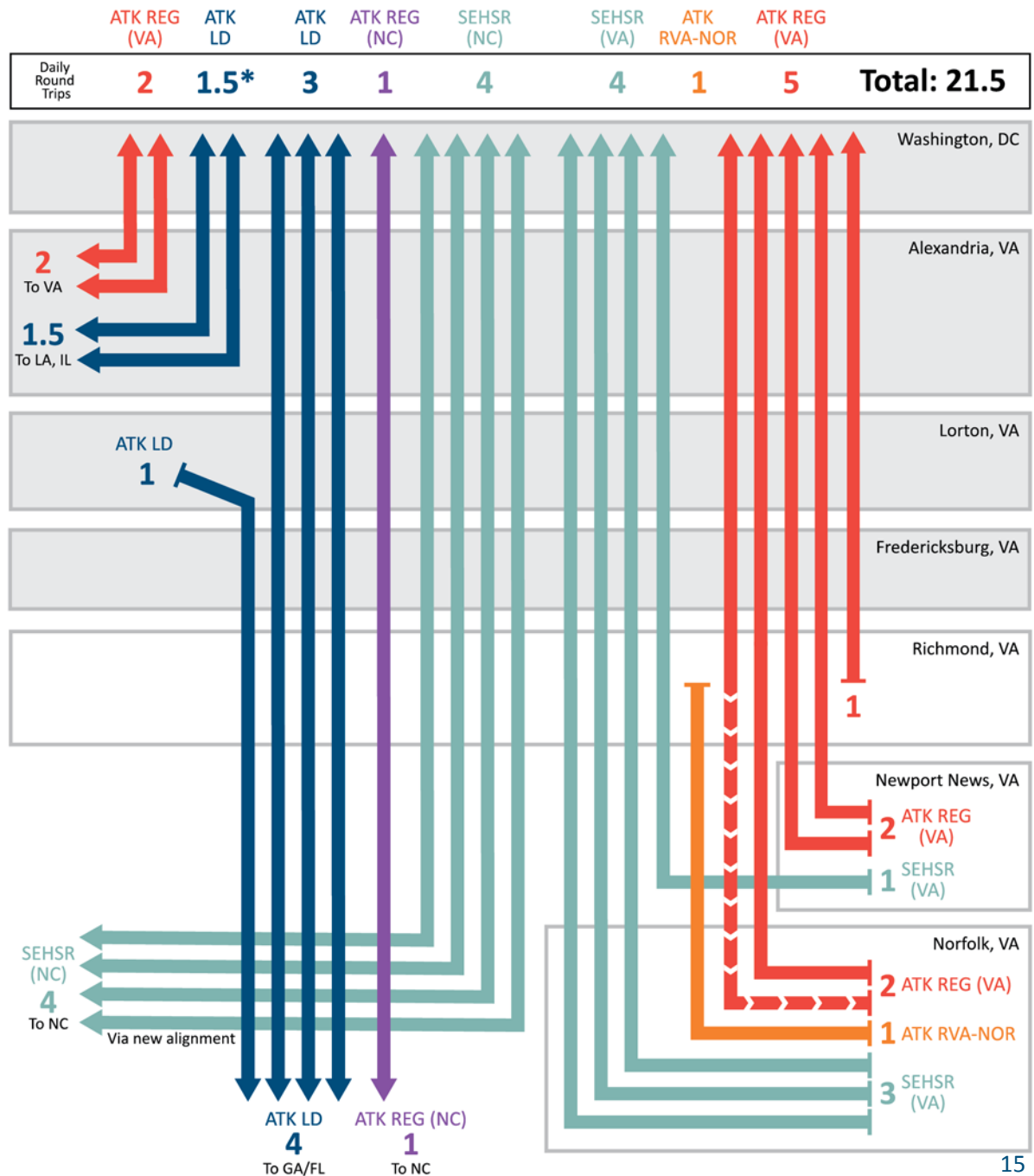


# Intercity Passenger Train Frequencies Future

-  Amtrak Long-Distance (ATK LD)
-  State-supported Amtrak Regional Service, Virginia (ATK REG VA)
-  State-supported Amtrak Regional Service, North Carolina (ATK REG NC)
-  Richmond-Norfolk Shuttle (ATK RVA-NOR)
-  Southeast High Speed Rail (SEHSR)
-  Existing train extended to Norfolk
-  City also served by VRE commuter trains
-  Operates 3x/week

## Changes from 2015

- 8 new SEHSR round trips
  - 4 to NC
  - 3 to Norfolk
  - 1 to Newport News
- 1 new Regional round trip to Lynchburg via Norfolk Southern
- One new Richmond-Norfolk Shuttle



# Define Alternatives

## Design Options

- Rail Alignment
- Stations
- Road/Rail Crossings

## Service Options

- Frequency of Service
- Schedule
- Station Stops



# Rail Alignment Screening Process

**A**  
**B**  
**C** Develop Preliminary Track Alignment Options

**A**  
~~**B**~~  
**C** Stage I Screening - Fatal Flaw

**A**  
~~**B**~~  
~~**C**~~ Stage II Screening - Order of Magnitude Impacts

**A**  
~~**B**~~  
**C** Stage III Screening - Infrastructure Constraints

~~**A**~~  
**B**  
**C** Stage IV Screening - Area Options

# Next Steps

# Next Steps | June Public Meetings

## Alexandria – Monday, June 1, 2015

Hilton Alexandria Old Town  
1767 King Street

## Fredericksburg – Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Dorothy Hart Community Center  
408 Canal Street

## Richmond – Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Department of Motor Vehicles  
2300 W. Broad Street

*\*Open House format from 5:00 to 7:30 pm each evening.*



# Next Steps | Screening Continues

## Rail Alignment Screening Process

AB  
C Develop Preliminary  
Track Alignment Options

A~~X~~  
C Stage I Screening - Fatal Flaw

AB  
~~X~~C Stage II Screening -  
Order of Magnitude Impacts

A~~X~~  
C Stage III Screening -  
Infrastructure Constraints

~~X~~B  
C Stage IV Screening -  
Area Options

- Continue screening alternatives to identify narrowed range of reasonable alternatives
- These reasonable alternatives will be presented for comment at a third set of public meetings

Questions?