



# Flash BRT Update

TPB Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee

November 24, 2020

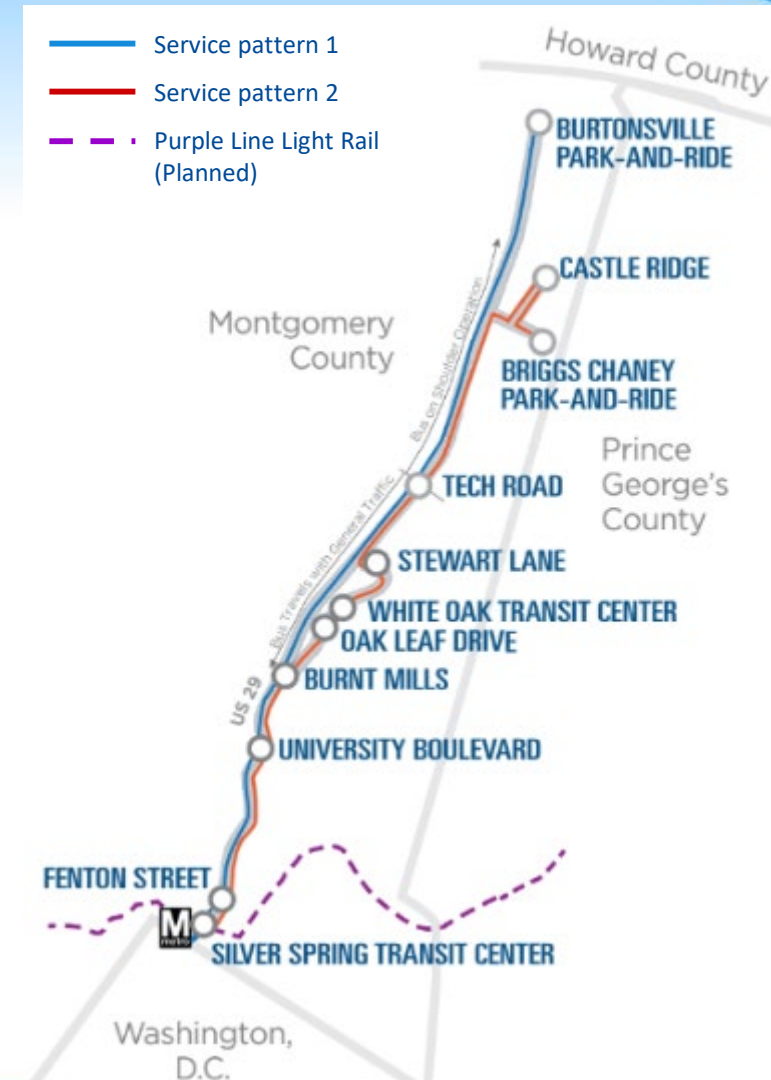
# Agenda

- US 29 Flash Project Update
- UP 29 Flash Marketing
- Other projects
- Q&A



# US 29 Flash

- 14 miles from the Silver Spring Transit Center to Burtonsville
- Two service patterns:
  - Burtonsville to Silver Spring
  - Briggs Chaney to Silver Spring
- Frequent all-day service
  - 7 days/week
  - 7.5 minutes peak; 15 minutes off-peak
- 11 Stations (18 platforms)
- Bus on shoulder north of Tech Road (~40%)



# US 29 Flash Features

New, enhanced vehicles that accommodate bicycles onboard and are equipped with Wi-Fi and USB ports



Community-friendly design with enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities



New, comfortable stations that provide weather protection

Near-level boarding through all doors



Pre-payment kiosks, and real-time transit information (via message boards)



Transit Signal Priority (TSP)





## US 29 Flash Timeline

- Planning started 2015
- Awarded \$10 Million TIGER grant April 2018
- Completed design October 2018
- Construction began December 2018 using Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR)
- Buses delivered October 2019
- Start of service October 14, 2020



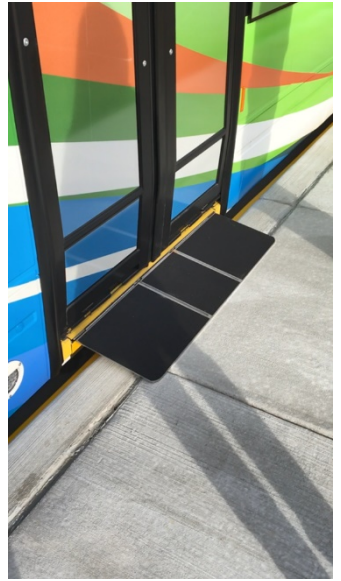


















Click link to view video - <https://youtu.be/2m5jQT-wMJU>







How to Launch a  
New Service

**in a pandemic**





**KRISTINE AONO**  
ARTS ON THE BLOCK



**DAN REED**  
SILVER SPRING RESIDENT



Flash Video



**HUBBARD CASTER**  
INSTRUCTOR / OPERATOR  
MCDOT TRANSIT SERVICES





wtop news



FLASH BUS LAUNCHES TODAY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY



INAUGURAL RIDE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY STARTS FLASH BUS SERVICE

@NBCWASHINGTON

4:56 73° 4 NBC

M

By L  
Oct

MENU SEARCH

dcist

OCT 13, 10:00 AM

# A New Type Of Bus Service Is Launched In Montgomery County This Week

Jordan Pascale

SHARE

Jordan Lindsay  
jlindsay@mymcmedia.org

mcm  
montgomery community media  
mymcmedia.org



# Launch Day

🥁 Drumline 🥁



💙💚 Bus Parade 💚💙







# Flash Ambassadors





Aaron Landry @s4xton

Six passengers on @MCDOTNow Flash's inaugural trip from Silver Spring. Bike racks inside, Wi-Fi, and the whole thing has that glorious New Bus Smell. Bus driver walked through before departure and we all shared a thumbs up! 👍👍👍👍



12:14 PM · Oct 14, 2020

“I love the service.”

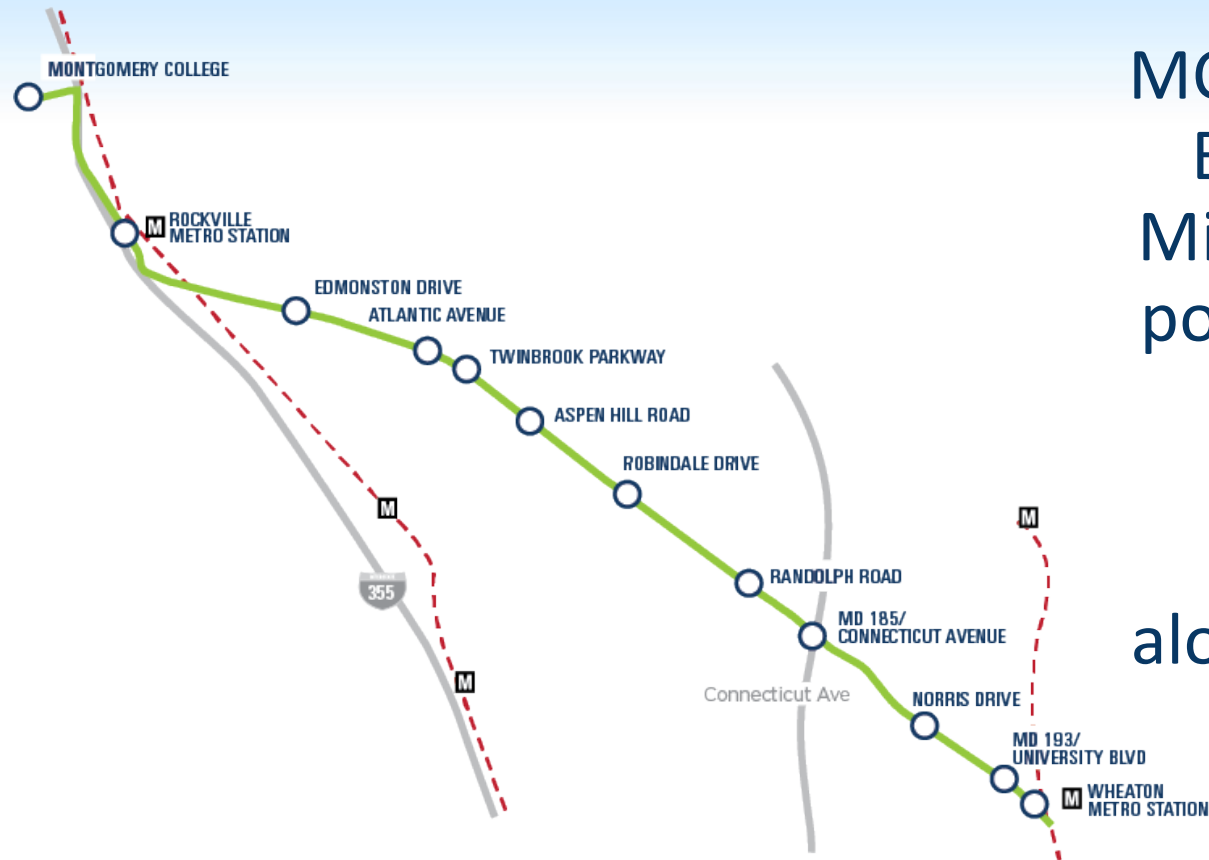
“The best thing that has happened in White Oak in a while.”

“I love the bike racks inside the bus.”

“This makes me want to ride the bus again.”



# Veirs Mill Road BRT Project



MCDOT is designing a BRT line along Veirs Mill Road and a short portion of MD 355 to meet the needs of residents and businesses along this busy route.



# Veirs Mill Road BRT Project

**35% Design**

FALL 2020 TO FALL 2021

**Final Design**

MID-2022 TO LATE 2023

**Construction**

MID-2024 TO LATE 2026

\*schedule is contingent on receiving funding





# MD 355 BRT Project

Segment	Geographic Description
7	Clarksburg to Middlebrook Road
6	Middlebrook Road to MD 124
5	MD 124 to Summit Avenue
4	Summit Avenue to College Parkway
3	College Parkway to Dodge Street
2	Dodge Street to Grosvenor Metrorail
1	Grosvenor Metrorail to Bethesda Metrorail





# MD 355 BRT Project

- June 2019 County Council voiced a preference for Alternative B Modified
  - Median BRT
    - Dual lane south of Rockville
    - Single lane north of Rockville
    - Snowden Farm Parkway to Clarksburg
- Corridor design-grade survey initiated March 2020, completed October 2020
  - Surface utilities and features
  - Topography
- Continuing to advance design of corridor within CIP schedule
  - Basis of Design Modifications
  - Focus is on completing Preliminary Design of Bethesda/North Bethesda to Gaithersburg/Germantown by end of 2022
  - Complete environmental documentation for Preliminary Design project by end of 2022
  - Consider entering project into FTA New Starts program, which could fund up to half of project cost
  - Concurrently advance planning/design for Germantown/Clarksburg segments in coordination with I-270 Managed Lanes, Corridor Forward, and GSSC Transit Improvements to occur by the end of FY24

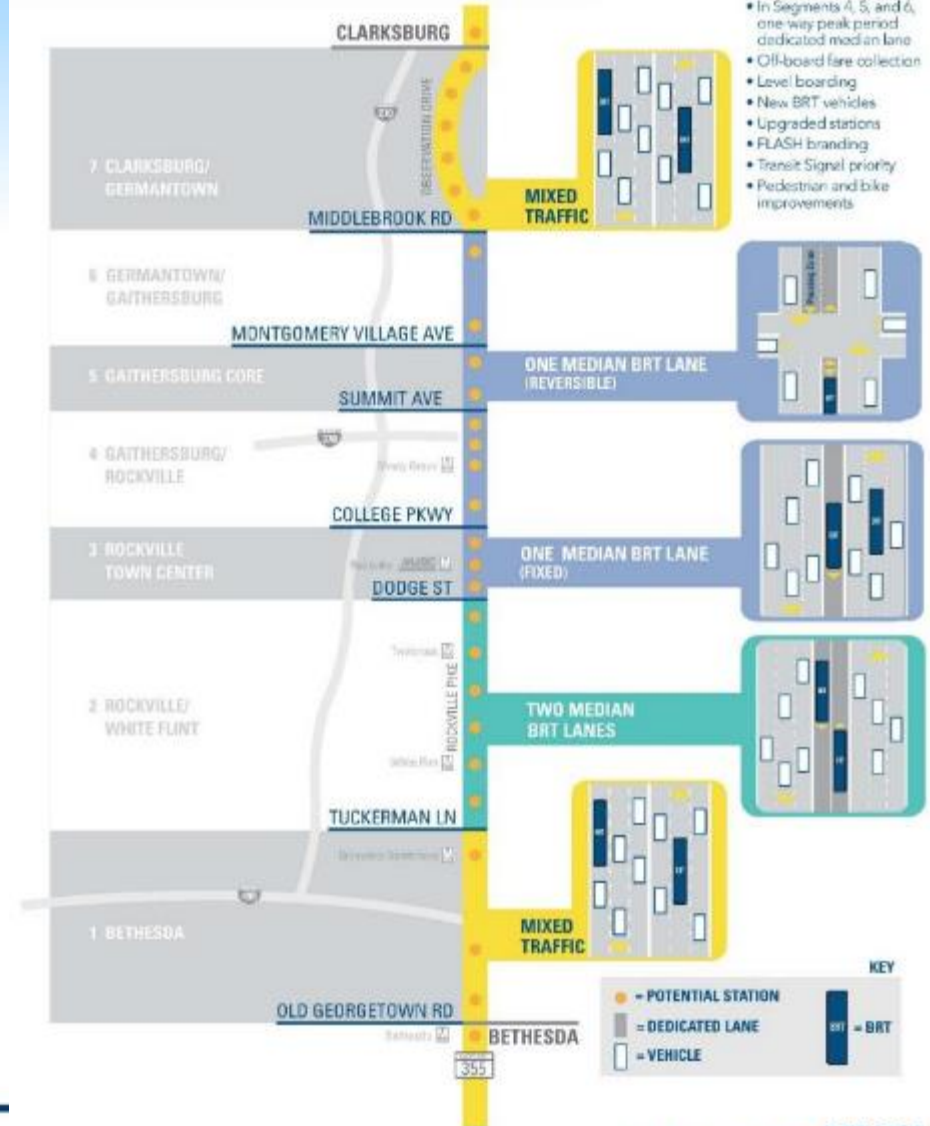


# MD 355 BRT Project

- Median Alternative (B) *Modified*
  - FLASH operates in dedicated Median lanes where feasible.
  - Single, reversible, peak direction dedicated lane north of Rockville (Segments 4-6)
  - Additional Transit Signal Priority
  - Upgraded stations
    - Off-board fare collection
    - Level boarding
  - Flash vehicles and branding

## MD 355 CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES

### Alternative B Modified - One BRT Median Lane



# MD 355 BRT Project





# Continuing Work

- Continue to advance design on MD355 and Veirs Mill Road projects
- Briefing to Council Transportation & Environment Committee in December on US29 Managed Lanes
- Continue development of Great Seneca Science Corridor transit improvements
- New Hampshire Avenue BRT planning scheduled for FY22-24
- North Bethesda Transitway planning scheduled for FY24-25



Questions?



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