

## **ITEM 8 - Information**

May 20, 2015

### Briefing on Metro's Connecting Communities Key Performance Indicator, Walkability Research, and Station Area Strategic Investment Plan

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** Receive briefing.

**Issues:** None

**Background:** Metro's strategic goal to "connect communities" seeks to improve regional mobility by enhancing access to our transit system. This briefing will explain the framework for measuring this goal, explore new research on walkable station areas that builds the case for station connectivity, and discuss a new study that leverages the TPB's recent TCSP study (Item 7 above) by compiling and prioritizing walk/bike access projects within a half mile of all of Metro's 91 stations.



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

# Connecting Communities through Walkable Station Areas

Transportation Planning Board  
May 20, 2015

Kristin Haldeman, Metro Office of Planning

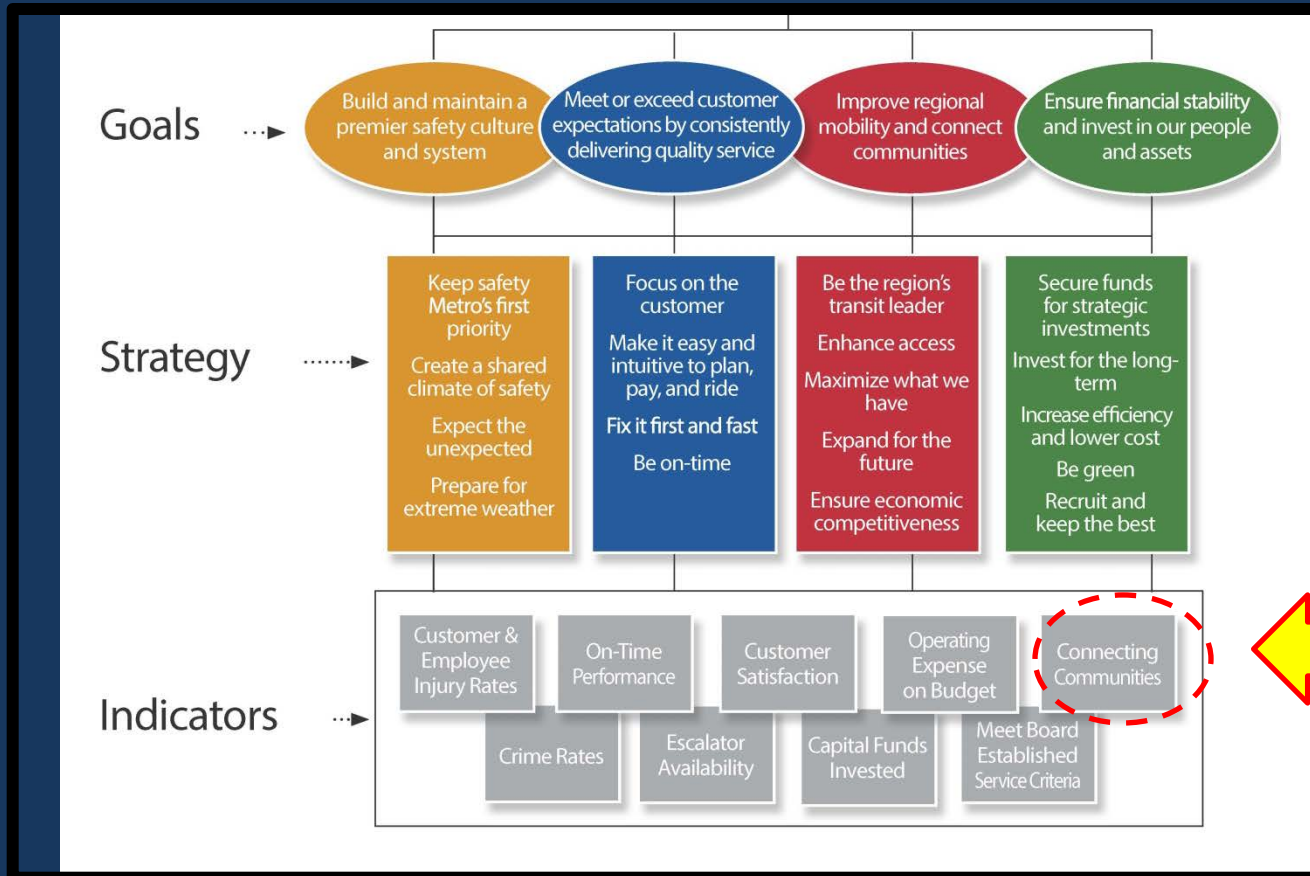


# Agenda

- Metro's Connecting Communities Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
- Walkshed Research
- Station Area Strategic Investment Plan Project



# Metro's Strategic Goal Framework





# Why Connecting Communities Matters

- Access to Metro means access to opportunity
- Concentrating growth near transit maximizes use of regional infrastructure
- Connecting communities to transit attracts more ridership
- More ridership contributes to lower carbon footprints





# Connecting Communities Defined

## Grow Near Transit

- Transit-oriented development
- Zoning
- Planning



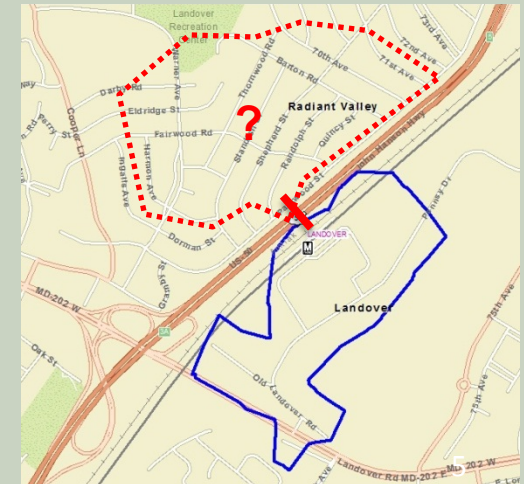
## Expand Transit

- Expand bus routes
- Build new Metrorail lines and stations



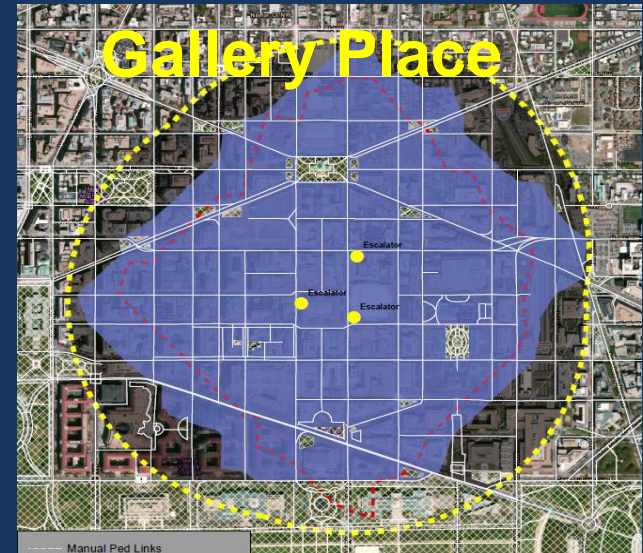
## Improve Access to Your Stations

- Fix pedestrian barriers
- Build paths and sidewalks

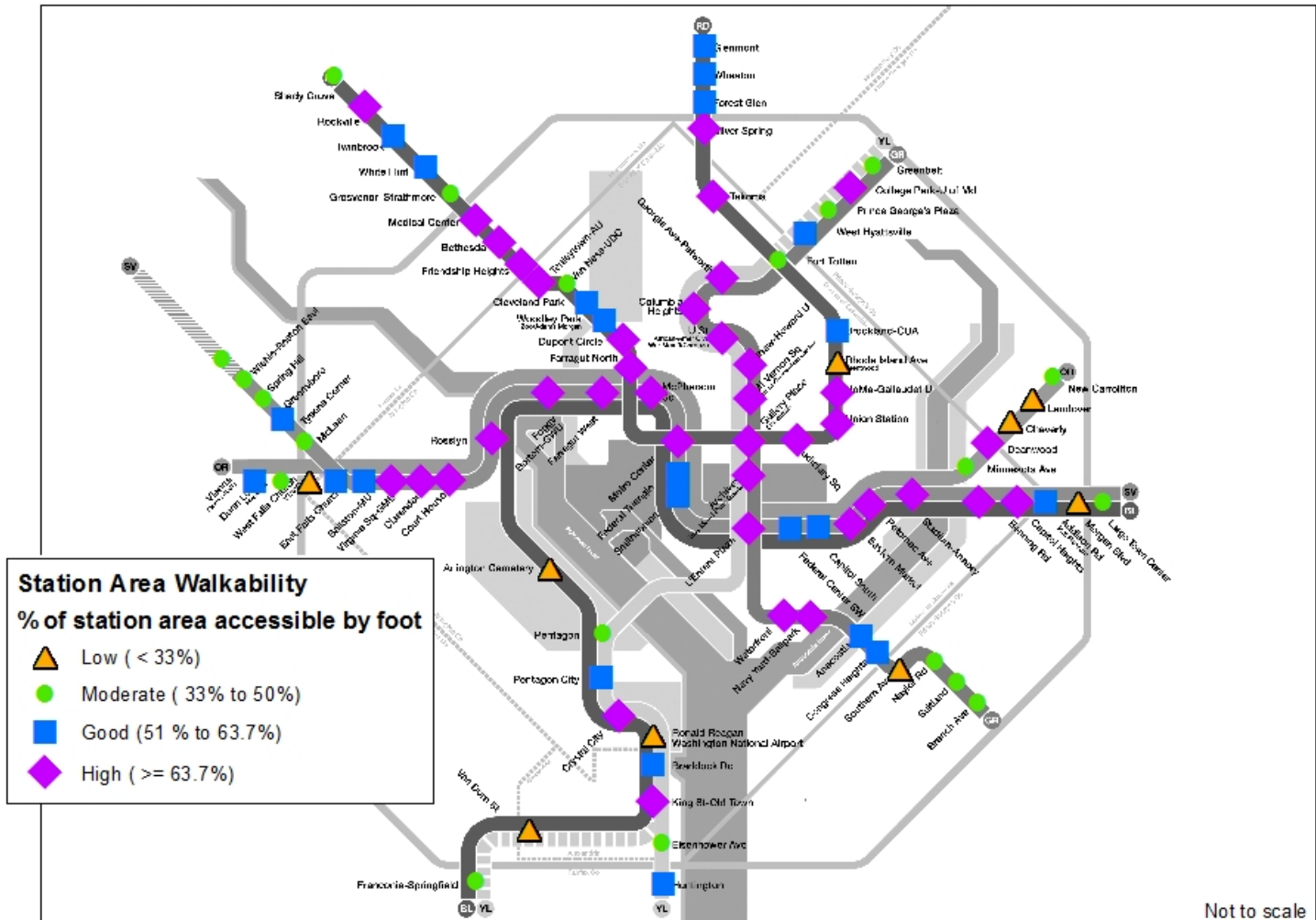


# Refining Station Walk Sheds

- Walking distance ½ mile from rail station
  - *Accounts for actual network – not as crow flies*
- Eliminate undevelopable land from calculation
- Add in ‘social’ connections
- Calculate ‘coverage ratio’



# Results, Walk Shed Coverage







# Land Use and Ridership Connection: Making the Case

- Land use near transit directly results in walk ridership at Metrorail stations

**Ridership = 7 Trips/ 10 Households**



# Improving Residential Access: Southern Avenue

## Existing Shed

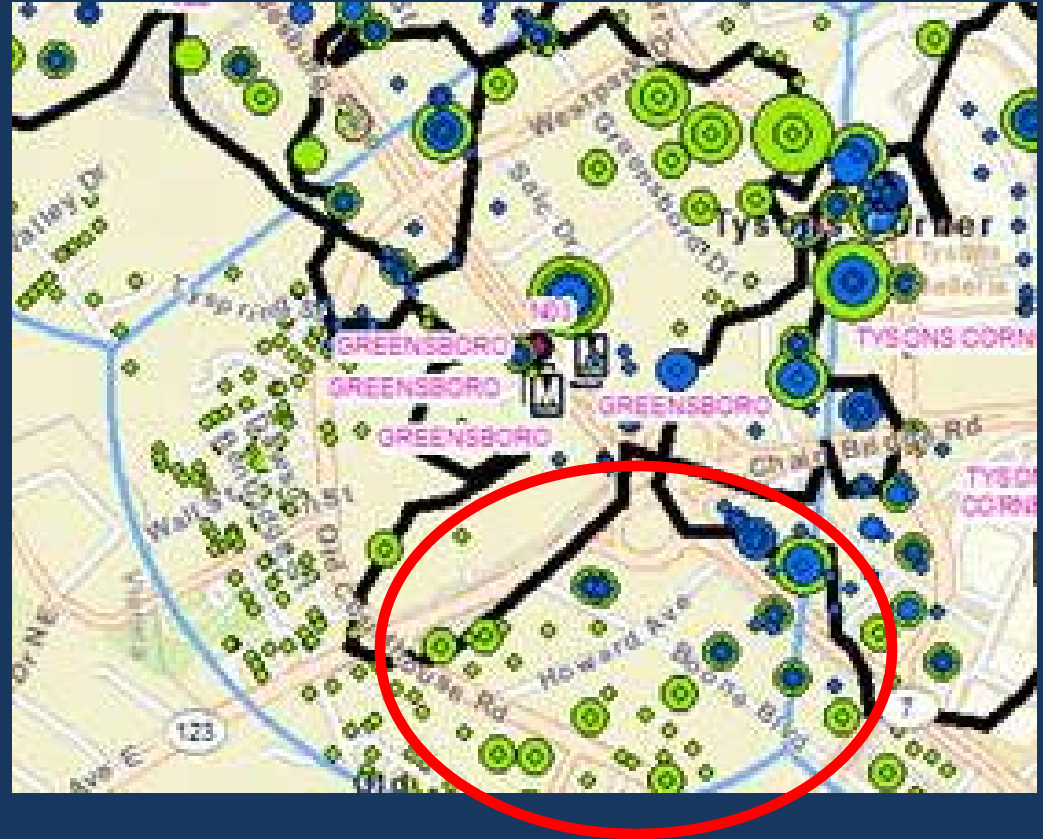


## Shed with Connection



# Improving Jobs Access to Greensboro Station

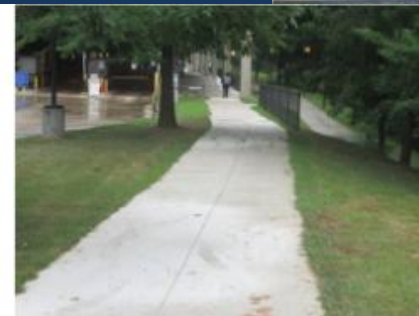
- No sidewalks along Route 7 south of Route 123
- 4,800 jobs within ½ mile of station, but outside shed
- 1,000 potential trips per day
- \$875K in potential annual revenue





# Station Area Strategic Investment Plan

- *Build off TCSP project – inventory remaining 67 stations*
- Estimate project costs
- Prioritize projects
- Create updatable interactive map





# Prioritization Criteria

- Safety
- Walk shed/ ridership growth
- Directness
- Feasibility/ cost
- Access & equity





**THANK YOU**