

Prince William County Department of Transportation

Virtual Presentation for Location Public Hearing and Comments

Van Buren Road North Extension

March 14, 2024

Presenters: Andrea Bailey

Potomac District Supervisor

Sherry Djouharian

Prince William County DOT

NEPA / Design Consultants Dewberry Engineers Inc.

Project Purpose, Budget and Timeline

Project Purpose:

- Complete Van Buren Road from the existing intersection at Dumfries Road (Route 234) to the north on new alignment, connecting with the existing intersection at Cardinal Drive
- Provide traffic congestion relief with this north-south alternative route within the busy I-95 and Route 1 corridor
- Enhance mobility within community schools, churches, parks, and shopping
- Include pedestrian facilities as an alternative transportation method
- Improve roadway safety with current design standards

Funding:

- Environmental Study budgeted through local funds
- Full project design budgeted with NVTA funding for \$8 million
- Right-of-Way acquisitions, utility relocations, and construction not funded and schedule not yet identified

Timeline (to date):

July 2021 – Public Information Meeting February 2024 – NEPA Document Approval by FHWA March 2024 – Location Public Hearing



Presentation Agenda



Lead by our Consultant team Dewberry Engineers Inc. we will address the following:

- 1. NEPA Document overview
- 2. Project location and summary
- 3. Roadway alignment overview and key features
- 4. Roadway typical section
- 5. Concept level Traffic Analysis
- 6. Acceptance of NEPA EA for public availability
- 7. Project schedule and next steps
- 8. General information and questions

NEPA Document Overview

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NEPA Class of Action: Environmental Assessment (EA)

- EA Document:
 - Introduction
 - Purpose and Need
 - Alternatives Analysis
 - Existing Conditions and Environmental Consequences
 - Agency Coordination and Comments
- Environmental Field Investigations:
 - Noise: preliminary analysis
 - Cultural Resources: Phase I and Phase II
 - Wetlands and Streams: Jurisdictional Determination
 - Threatened & Endangered Species: Habitat Assessment

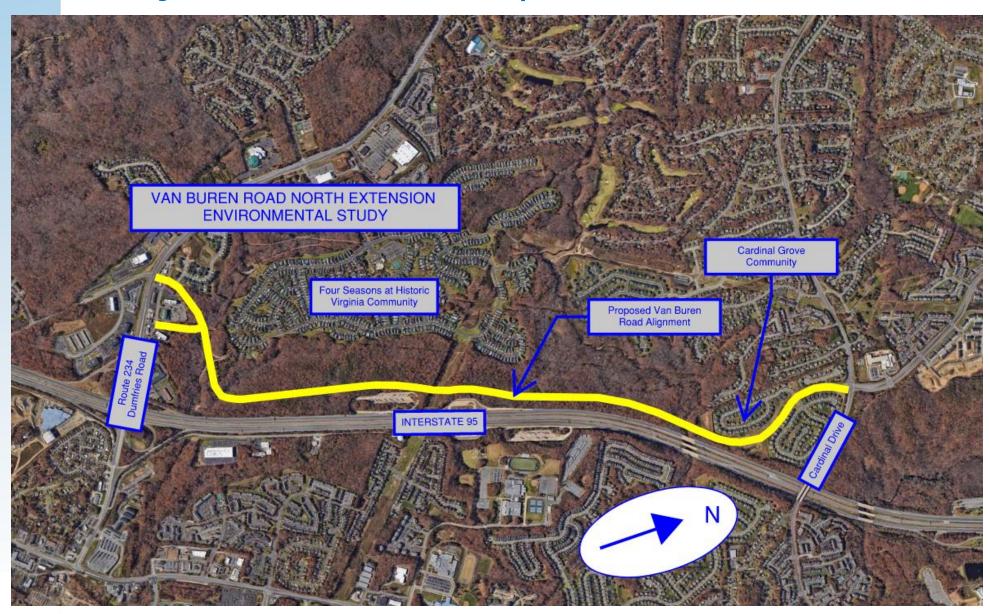
NEPA Document Overview

Preliminary Noise Analysis	A Preliminary noise analysis was completed on June 30 2021, which determined noise abatement consideration is warranted for three receptors, however construction of a noise barrier was determined to not be feasible. During final design and construction of Van Buren Road, a more detailed review will be completed.
Cultural Resources	A Phase I Cultural Resources survey has been completed for the project area. Seven previously recorded archaeological resource sites were identified within the APE. A Phase II survey was conducted on sites 44PW2104 and 44PW2105. Site 44PW2105 was determined eligible for listing on the NRHP; the proposed roadway alignment was shifted to avoid adversely impacting this site. A DHR determination of No Adverse Effect was received from DHR on 6/23/23.
Wetlands & Streams	Wetlands and streams, including Powell's Creek, were identified. An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) (NAO-2021-00347-rdb) was received May 18, 2021. The AJD includes: palustrine forested (PFO) wetlands, palustrine emergent (PEM) wetlands, intermittent streams and perennial streams. Avoidance and minimization efforts were included in the preliminary design and will be refined during the final design and permitting phase of the project.
Floodplains	There are roughly 17 acres of FEMA-mapped floodplain of Powells Creek within the project area. Preliminary designs indicate one set of piers for the proposed bridge would be located within the floodplain. The bridge would not result in a rise in the floodplain water surface elevation. Minimal impacts to the floodplain are anticipated.
Wildlife & Habitat	According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS), Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) and Virginia Department of Conservation Resources (VDCR) databases, there is no critical habitat within the project area. There are no known eagle nests, roosts or concentration areas near the project area. No conservation easements exist within the project area.
Threatened & Endangered Species	According to USFWS, VDWR and VDCR databases, no T&E species have been recorded in the project area. Potential habitat was identified in the project area for the federally-listed Northern Long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), Harperella (<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>), and the small whorled pogonia (<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>). Species surveys will be conducted to confirm presence or absence of small whorled pogonia in the summer of 2024. Additional coordination would be conducted with federal and state wildlife agencies during project permitting, and any conditions or Time of Year Restrictions (TOYR) would be incorporated into the construction of the project.
Hazardous Materials	A search of federal and state databases did not identify any recognized environmental concern (REC) within the study area. Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) per the American ASTM will be conducted on any properties to be acquired for this project.

Based upon these investigations and surveys, a concept level design and alignment was developed to further the study

Project Location Map







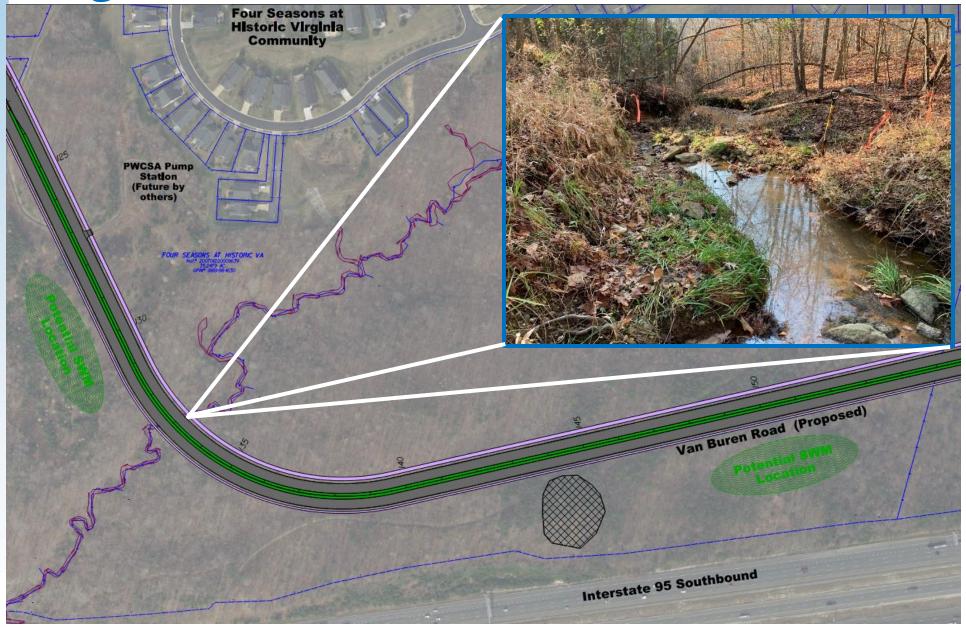
Proposed Van Buren Road Alignment From Route 234 (Dumfries Road) to Cardinal Drive









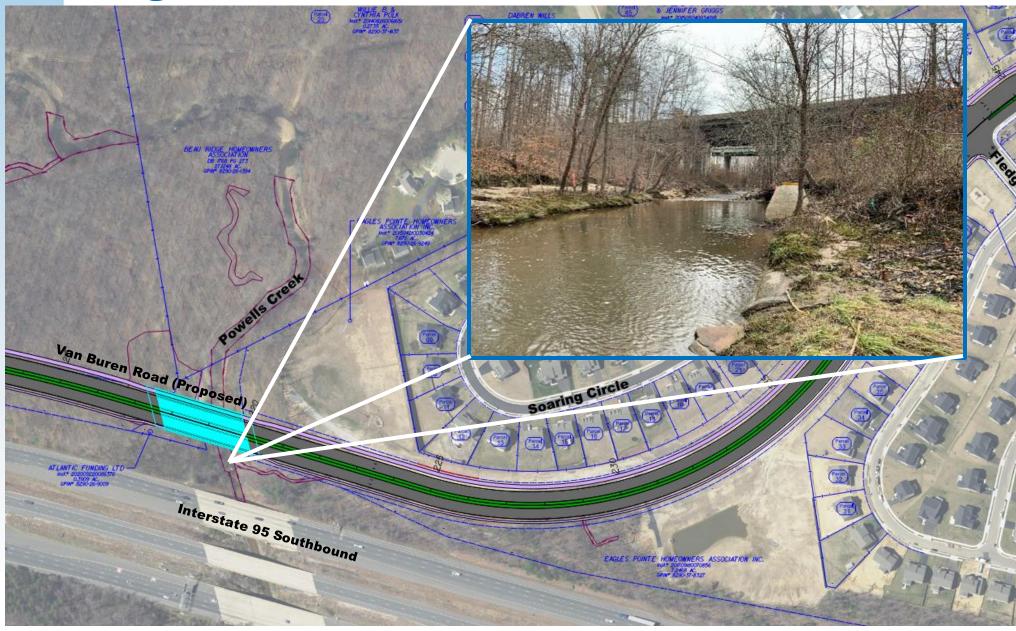










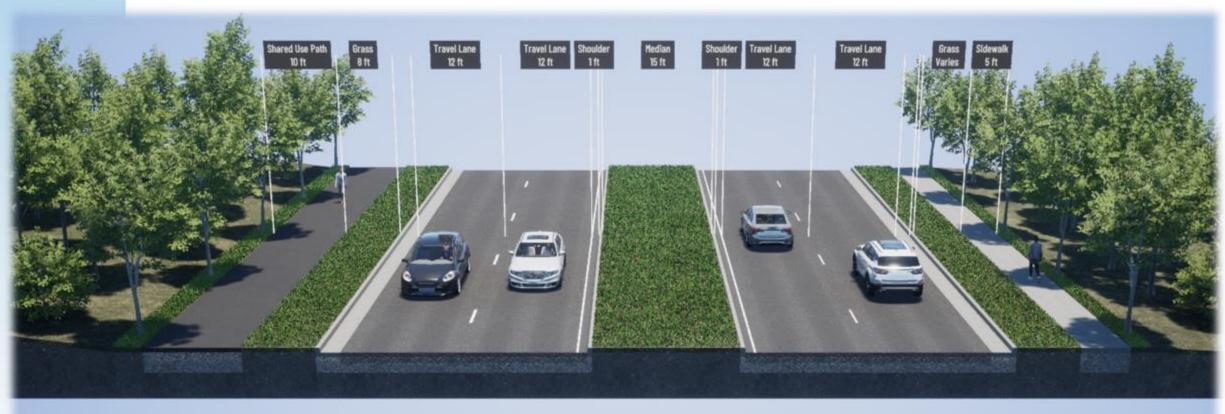






Typical Sections

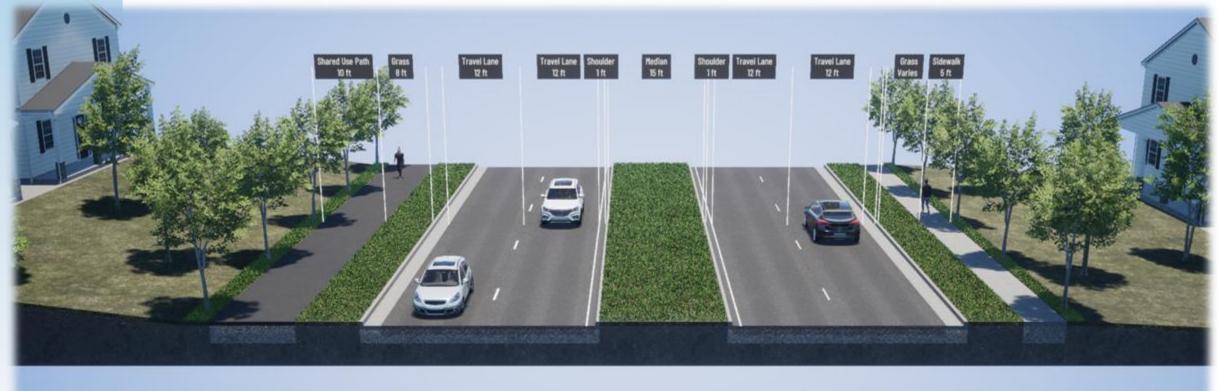




Van Buren Road – Four Lane Divided Roadway with Pedestrian Facilities

Typical Sections





Van Buren Road – Four Lane Divided Roadway with Pedestrian Facilities and Nearby Residential

Conceptual Level Traffic Analysis

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Analyze existing traffic

- Count existing traffic, with COVID-19 guidance from VDOT
- Determine existing levels of service at the existing intersections along Van Buren Road, and within portions of the nearby network

Forecasted future traffic for No Build Condition and Build Condition (with Van Buren Road in place)

- Based on growth rates coordinated with VDOT, regional / historical growth, land use, and known future developments
- Traffic re-distribution is assumed after connection between Route 234 and Cardinal Drive is complete

Traffic Analysis summarized various metrics

 Intersection Level of Service; queue lengths; preferred intersection configurations; and vehicular crash analysis

Final Design of the project will require geometric refinement and additional studies

Acceptance of NEPA EA for Public Availability

After completion of the various studies and conceptual level design



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and Virginia Department of Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Van Buren Road North Extension

Prince William County, Virginia Federal Project No.: TBD State Project No.: 0627-076-321; VDOT UPC: 118643

From: Dumfries Road (Rte 234) To: Cardinal Drive

Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332(2)(C)

Approved for Public Availability

February 5, 2024

Amende & Healt

For Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration



NEPA EA and supporting information available for public review



Conduct Location Public Hearing and receive feedback through the comment period



Final Design is still forthcoming, and Prince William County intends to hold a Design Public Hearing at that time

Project Schedule



Environmental Study:

NEPA Environmental Assessment Document Approval
 February 5, 2024

Location Public Hearing
 March 14, 2024

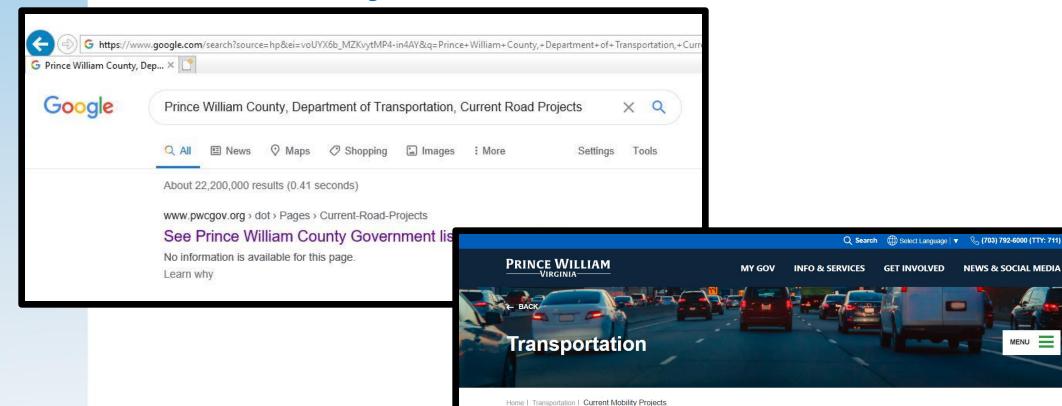
Completion of Public Outreach (Location Public Hearing)
 April 2024

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
 Summer 2024

Final Design has been programmed with an upcoming RFP through Prince William County Department of Transportation. Design to take approx. 2 years.

Schedule for Right-of-Way acquisition, Utility Relocations, and Construction is not determined at this time.

General Project Information



Current Mobility Projects

<u>Current Mobility Projects</u> <u>(pwcva.gov)</u>

Questions, Comments, Concerns?





Questions and Comments are welcome.

For English:

Provide your feedback online or with the formal comment form provided at this evening's meeting.

For Spanish:

Please contact the following individuals:

Ms. Sherry Djouharian

Mr. Ricardo Canizales

Contact information is available on Prince William County's project website and the Location Public Hearing.

We kindly request you to post your feedback by March 29, 2024.