



OLD LEE HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION STUDY CITY OF FAIRFAX

APPENDIX A – NORTHERN VA REGIONAL BIKEWAY AND TRAIL NETWORK STUDY

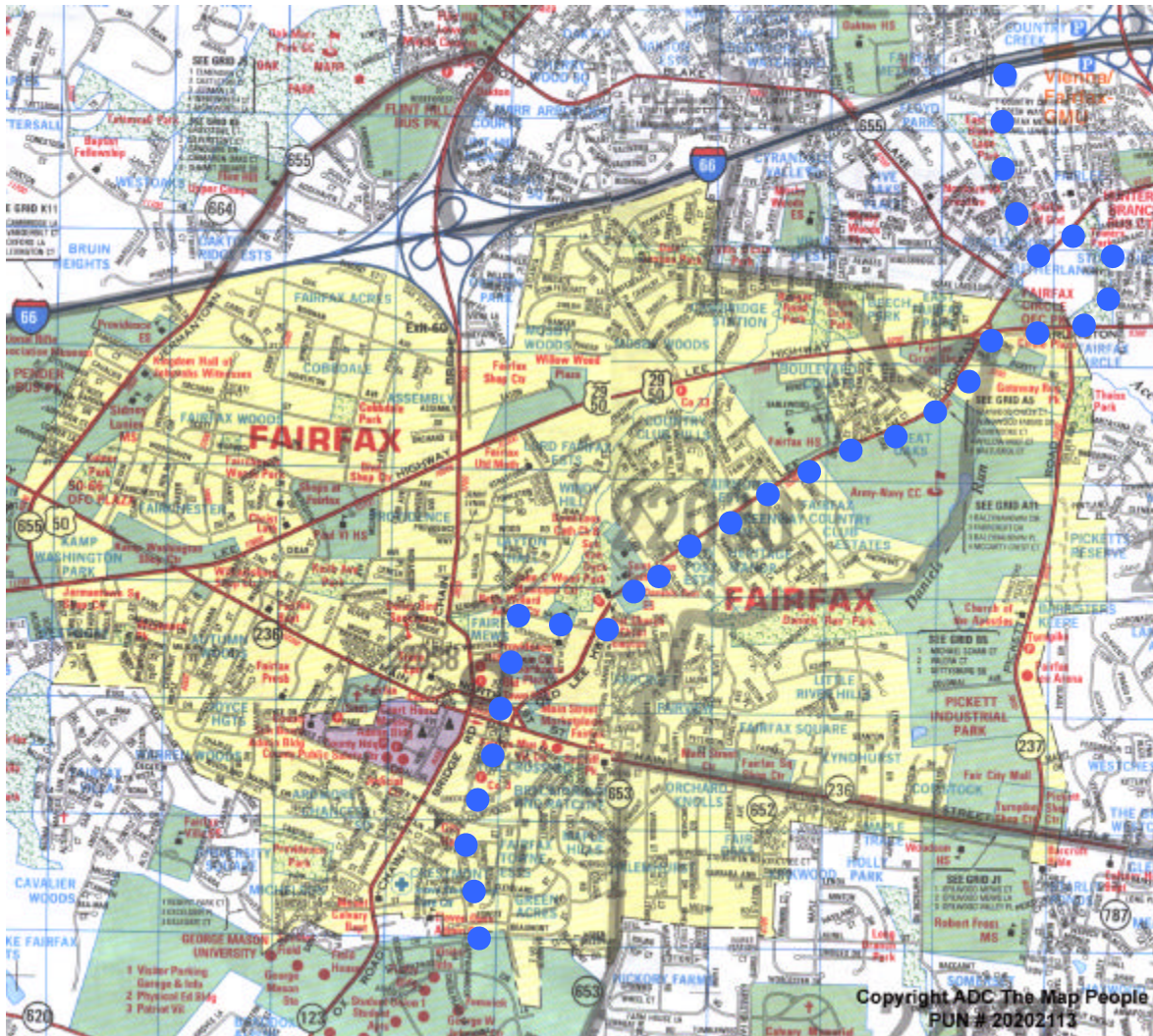
Northern Virginia Regional Bikeway and Trail Network Study, Final Report, VDOT, 11/19/03, Appendix A, Demonstration Project Case Studies, p. 73 – 76.

Northern Virginia Regional Bikeway & Trail Network Study
Vienna Metro to GMU Connection
Via Old Lee Highway / University Drive
Fairfax County / City of Fairfax

Segment Length = Approximately 5 miles

Background

This study explores the feasibility of a more direct connection for bicyclists between the Vienna Metro and George Mason University (GMU) south of the City of Fairfax. GMU is located approximately 5 miles south of the Vienna Metro. This is an easy biking distance; however, there is no clear, direct connection along the local roads that pass through Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax.



Improved bicycling facilities along this corridor would enhance the connection between regional transit and the university, which has more than 21,000 students many of whom commute. This route would also pass through the east side of the City of Fairfax, serving the Historic Downtown

and the area near Fairfax High School. This corridor was ranked in the highest category for latent demand for bicycling in this jurisdiction. The following analysis recommends the most feasible routing for this bikeway, however a more detailed study will be needed in the future in order to address several implementation issues.

Existing Conditions

The City of Fairfax has suggested that the best connection between GMU and the Vienna Metro is via Old Lee Highway and University Drive. Based on the fieldwork conducted for this study, this route does appear to be the best alternative. This section therefore examines existing conditions along this proposed route.

From the Vienna Metro Station, the first portion of the route follows an existing trail segment from the west side of the Metro station through East Blake Lane Park to the edge of the city. This trail is in good condition for bicyclists.

From East Blake Lane Park, cyclists would follow Old Lee Highway between Arlington Boulevard and Layton Hall Drive. The land uses along this section are residential with schools, churches, police departments and other governmental uses. A shared use path exists along much of the northwest side of the road, however its width and condition vary considerably. At some points, the path is as narrow as four feet. In other areas, it is as wide as eight feet. The configuration of Old Lee Highway varies as well with travel lanes ranging from ten to fifteen feet. Shoulder widths vary and turn lanes are present at some intersections. Layton Hall Drive would provide the less than 0.5-mile connection to University Drive. Layton Hall Drive has 22-foot lanes and parking is permitted.



Path along Old Lee Highway near Daniels Run Elementary School



University Drive in downtown Fairfax looking south

Between Layton Hall Drive and GMU, University Drive is primarily a 4-lane undivided roadway with travel lanes ranging from ten to fourteen feet. Within the historic downtown area, the corridor is constrained by sidewalks, buildings and utilities. University Drive becomes

residential once past the downtown area and the travel lanes widen to 23 feet. On-street parking is permitted as shown in the following photo.

Recommended Improvements

A combination of shared use paths and bike lanes is recommended for this route. The existing pathway along Old Lee Highway should be widened and resurfaced and the remaining gaps should be completed along Old Lee Highway to Layton Hall Road in the City of Fairfax. To connect from Old Lee Highway to University Drive, bike lanes should be installed along Layton Hall Drive. Layton Hall Drive is 44 feet wide and thus provides adequate space to accommodate parking lanes and bike lanes on both sides. A connection along Layton Hall Drive from Old Lee Highway to University Drive will provide two benefits: 1) enable bicyclists to avoid the complex intersection of North/Main and Old Lee Highway in the downtown area; and 2) provide access to the trail that runs through Van Dyck Park (beginning at the corner of Layton Hall Drive and University Drive).

From Layton Hall Drive, bike lanes should continue down University Drive through downtown Fairfax and toward GMU. A number of constraints exist along this section including constrained right-of-way, utilities, and narrow travel lanes. These constraints may necessitate a gap in the bike lanes for a couple of blocks near Main Street where bicyclists would share lanes with vehicles. If so, signage will be important to assisting bicyclists in finding where the bike lanes begin again. South of downtown to GMU, bike lanes are more feasible within the existing roadway.

Establishing a signage system for this entire route will be very important, especially on the northern end where bicyclists will need to enter the trail through the park. The goal of this signage should be to make it possible for people to bicycle between the Vienna Metro and GMU without a map.

Due to the variable roadway configuration and right-of-way constraints, a more detailed feasibility study of this corridor will be necessary to implement the recommended improvements.



University Drive near GMU

Current and Future Bicycle Level of Service Conditions

A Bicycle LOS analysis was not possible for this corridor due to the wide variation in roadway cross-sections on the main roads and lack of AADT data for most sections.

Key Issues for Implementation

As mentioned above, a number of issues will need to be resolved in order to implement the shared use path and bike lane recommendations. A summary of these constraints is provided below.

- A number of steep grades, utilities and right-of-way constraints exist along Old Lee Highway.
- Varying roadway configuration at the intersections along the route will impact bike lanes and the safety of shared use path crossings. Detailed design work will be necessary to address these issues.
- The narrow right-of-way and utilities in downtown Fairfax may limit the ability to install bike lanes for a short segment of the route.
- Clear signage will be critical to making this a user-friendly route.



OLD LEE HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION STUDY CITY OF FAIRFAX

APPENDIX B – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



Old Lee Highway Transportation Study: Citizen Workshop 1



Meeting Information:

Date: December 4, 2003

Location: City Hall, Room 306
City of Fairfax
10455 Armstrong Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

Time: 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Mingle:	7:30 – 7:45
Introduction – Presentation:	7:45 – 8:15
Workshop Groups:	8:15 – 9:15
Questions:	9:15 – 9:30

Workshop Purpose:

To inform you, the public, on the project scope and discuss key community issues.



Project Scope / Timeline:

ID	WBS	Task Name	November					December				January				February				Ma											
			26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29										
1	1	Task I - Project Initiation	[Gantt bar from Nov 26 to Nov 23]																												
2	1.1	Project Kick-off Meeting	[Task bar from Nov 26 to Nov 26]																												
3	1.2	Data Collection and Site Visit	[Task bar from Nov 27 to Nov 27]																												
4	1.3	Citizens Workshop	[Task bar from Nov 28 to Nov 28]																												
5	1.4	Stakeholder Meetings	[Task bar from Nov 29 to Nov 29]																												
6	2	Task II - Preliminary Design	[Gantt bar from Dec 1 to Dec 25]																												
7	2.1	Traffic Analysis	[Task bar from Dec 1 to Dec 1]																												
8	2.2	Hydraulic and Hydrologic Analysis	[Task bar from Dec 2 to Dec 2]																												
9	2.3	Preliminary Geometric Design/Typical S	[Task bar from Dec 3 to Dec 3]																												
10	2.4	Preliminary Plan Development	[Task bar from Dec 4 to Dec 4]																												
11	2.5	Citizens Workshop	[Task bar from Dec 5 to Dec 5]																												
12	3	Task III - Final Documentation	[Gantt bar from Dec 26 to Feb 1]																												
13	3.1	Final Preliminary Plan Development	[Task bar from Dec 26 to Dec 26]																												
14	3.2	Final Documentation	[Task bar from Dec 27 to Dec 27]																												
15	3.3	Public Meeting	[Task bar from Dec 28 to Dec 28]																												

Current Work Completed:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Project Kickoff Meeting | November 5 |
| 2. Turning movement counts on Old Lee Highway at 12 intersections | November 12 – 13 |
| 3. Traffic volume counts on Old Lee Highway | November 12 - 14 |
| 4. Site visit | November 20 |
| 5. Accident data collected | November 20 |
| 6. Two Stakeholder meetings: | |
| a. Schools | December 2 |
| b. City Agencies (Fire, Police, etc.) | December 3 |
| 7. Public Workshop | December 4 |
| 8. Preliminary review of data collected | December 5 |
| a. Accidents | |
| b. Current / Revised Comprehensive Plan | |
| c. Farcroft Development Plans | |

Written Comments:

Written comments or questions should be sent to:

Mr. David Summers, PE
 City Engineer
 City Of Fairfax
 10455 Armstrong Street
 Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Thank you for your time and effort in this process! All comments are welcome.



CURRENT WORK:



Study Area:

- City of Fairfax near Old Town
- Old Lee Highway: Layton Hall Drive to Ridge Avenue
- 1.4 miles

Problem Identification:

Existing roadway is problematic due to inconsistent widths and inappropriate sections. The roadway is difficult to navigate on foot or on bicycle, having non-uniform sidewalks, trail widths, and lacking connection points.

Project Goals:

- To reduce and make uniform the width of Old Lee Highway between Ridge Avenue and Layton Hall Drive;
- To introduce pedestrian-friendly facilities; and
- Improve safety along a roadway bordered by mature, residential communities, schools and churches.

Objectives:

1. Improve safety, considering multi-modal aspects.
2. Make the number of vehicle travel lanes consistent.
3. Narrow Old Lee Highway by eliminating excessive pavement at many of the intersecting streets.
4. Implement traffic calming measures fitting to neighborhood.
5. Reduce outside neighborhood “through traffic”.
6. Determine issues important to neighborhood.
7. Improve pedestrian and bicycle access.
8. Improve aesthetic quality of neighborhood.
9. Consider access for disabled.
10. Provide more green space.



PROJECT HISTORY:

Citizens' Report, Fall 2002:

1. Study Purpose: To improve the safety and appearance of Old Lee Highway between Layton Hall Drive and Accotink Creek
2. Objectives:
 - a. Consistent two-lane width from police station to high school with curbs
 - Shorter crosswalks (also more)
 - Prevents passing on right along sections of expansive pavement
 - Improves appearance of corridor
 - Traffic calming
 - Curbs prevent passing on shoulders while providing finished appearance
 - b. Independent from above, consider measures to aid residents in safely leaving side streets, such as 25 mph speed limit and 4-way stop or traffic light.

Citizens' Report Suggested Roadway Section (vertical view):





Please provide us comments and feedback for the following nine questions:

1. What is the most important issue for you in improving the streetscape of Old Lee Highway; for example, landscaping, reducing traffic, improving pedestrian access, improving safety, etc.?
2. What other objectives (besides those listed on the previous page) would you like to see fulfilled?
3. Do you use your car to access your neighborhood via Old Lee Highway?
4. Do you use your car on Old Lee Highway for any other purpose; for example, to get to a local business?
5. Do you currently access Old Lee Highway as a pedestrian or bike-rider? Please estimate share usage of Old Lee Highway for pedestrian (___%), bicycle (___%), and car (___%), bus (___%), summing to 100%.
6. If the roadway was improved for pedestrian or bicycle use, would use you it more in either of these cases? Please re-estimate share usage of Old Lee Highway for pedestrian (___%), bicycle (___%), and car (___%), summing to 100%, based on improvements.
7. What other site-specific improvements do you think are necessary; for example, marked pedestrian crossing?
8. Do you have any other comments?



Old Lee Highway Transportation Study: Citizen Workshop 2



Meeting Information:

Date: February 12, 2004

Location: City Hall, Room 306
City of Fairfax
10455 Armstrong Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

Time: 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Mingle: 7:30 – 7:45

Introduction – Presentation: 7:45 – 8:00

Review & Discuss Conceptual Designs: 8:00 – 9:00

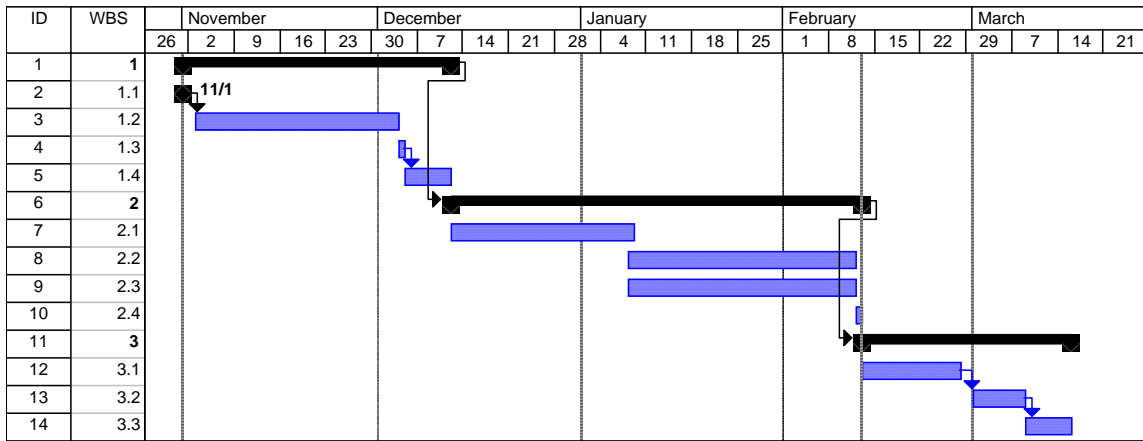
Final Draft Conceptual Design: 9:00 – 9:30

Workshop Purpose:

To discuss Conceptual Scenarios and reach consensus on a Preferred Scenario.



Project Scope / Timeline:



Current Work Completed:

1. Project Kickoff Meeting November 5
2. Turning movement counts on Old Lee Highway at 12 intersections November 12 – 13
3. Traffic volume counts on Old Lee Highway November 12 - 14
4. Site visit November 20
5. Accident data collected November 20
6. Two Stakeholder meetings:
 - a. Schools December 2
 - b. City Agencies (Fire, Police, etc.) December 3
7. Public Workshop 1 December 4
8. **Preliminary review of data collected** **December 5 – 31**
9. Preliminary Design January 1 – February 11
10. Stormwater Runoff Analysis January 1 – February 11
11. Public Workshop 2 February 12

Written Comments:

Written comments or questions should be sent to:

Mr. David Summers, PE
 City Engineer
 City Of Fairfax
 10455 Armstrong Street
 Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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PROJECT OVERVIEW:



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- Old Lee Highway: Layton Hall Drive to Ridge Avenue
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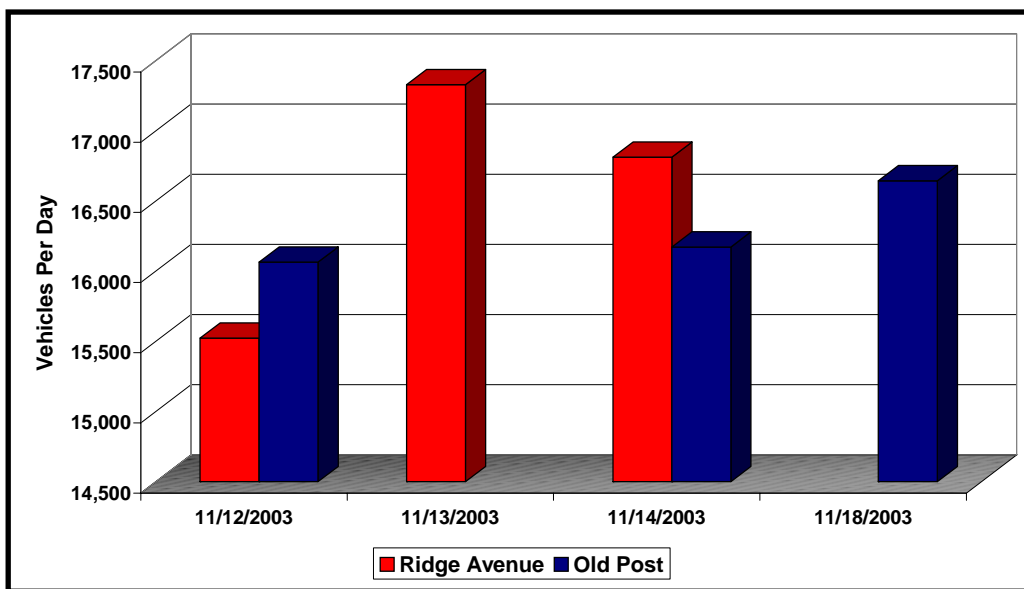


DATA COLLECTED / INFORMATION REVIEWED:

Questionnaire's Primary Reponses:

- Reduce traffic volumes / congestion
- Remove expansive pavement
- Better / marked crosswalks
- More traffic enforcement
- Landscaping

Daily Volume Counts:



Crosswalk Distances:

