

# Jermantown Road Multimodal Improvements Project

North of US 50 (Fairfax Boulevard) to the City Line

City Council Work Session



#### CITY COUNCIL SESSION

#### Agenda

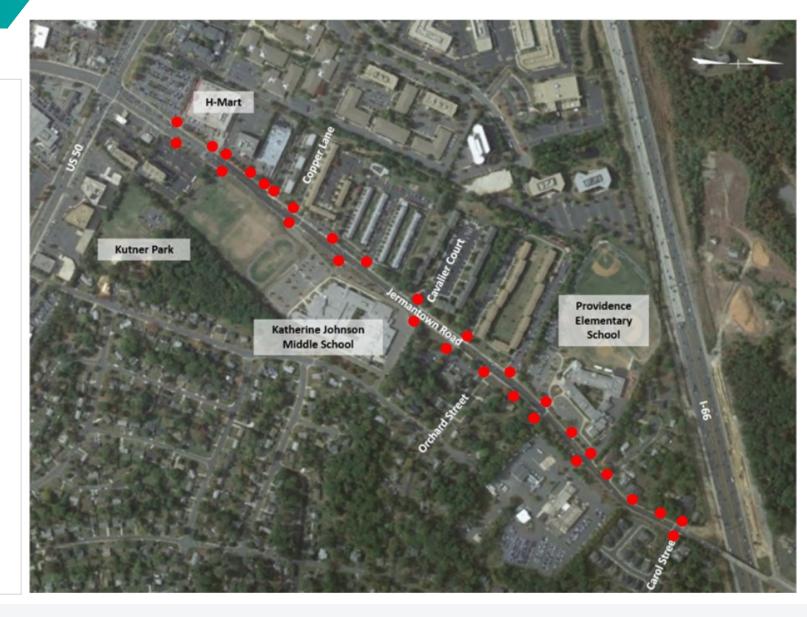
- Project Introduction
- Project Background & History
- Existing Conditions & Challenges
- Proposed Design



# Corridor Overview

#### Project Corridor

- Minor Arterial | 0.8 miles
- 30 mph posted speed
- Two- to Three-lane roadway
  - One-lane in each direction
  - Two-way center left turn lane
- Social / Civic Network
- Retail & Commercial Buildings
- Multi-Family Residential Properties
- 30+ Access Points

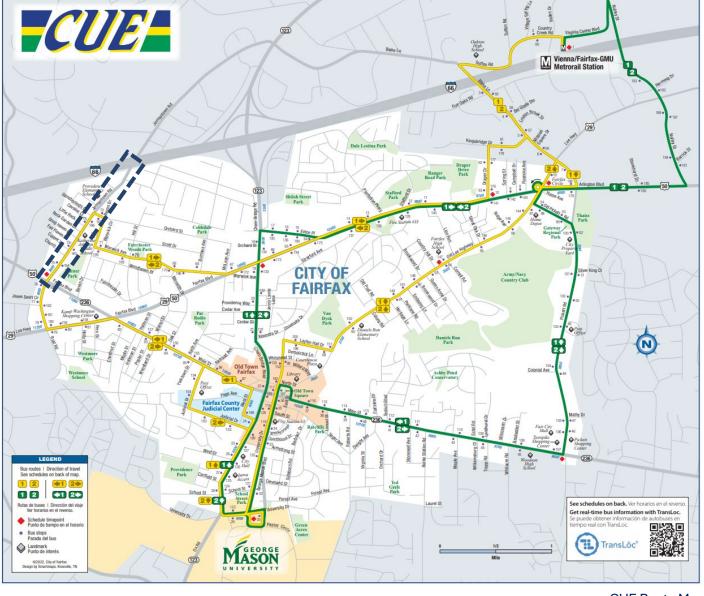




#### Transit

- CUE Gold Route & WMATA 2B Route
- Existing Stops
  - H-Mart Entrance / Kutner Park
  - Fairhaven Court (Johnson MS Entrance)
  - Cavalier Court (Orchard Street)
  - Carol Street (WMATA Only)

DAILY BOARDINGS & ALIGHTINGS											
(Weekday Avera	ge)										
	SB	NB									
At Cavalier Court Stop 73 (SB), 166 (NB)	82	44									
At Fairhaven Court Stop 74 (SB), 165 (NB)	59	43									
At Kutner Park / H-Mart Ent. Stop 75 (SB), 164 (NB)	20	64									



**CUE Route Map** 



#### Households & Land Use

- Approx. 500 households on
   Jermantown Road within project limits
  - 5 large multi-family complexes
- Approx. 620 households within ¼ mile

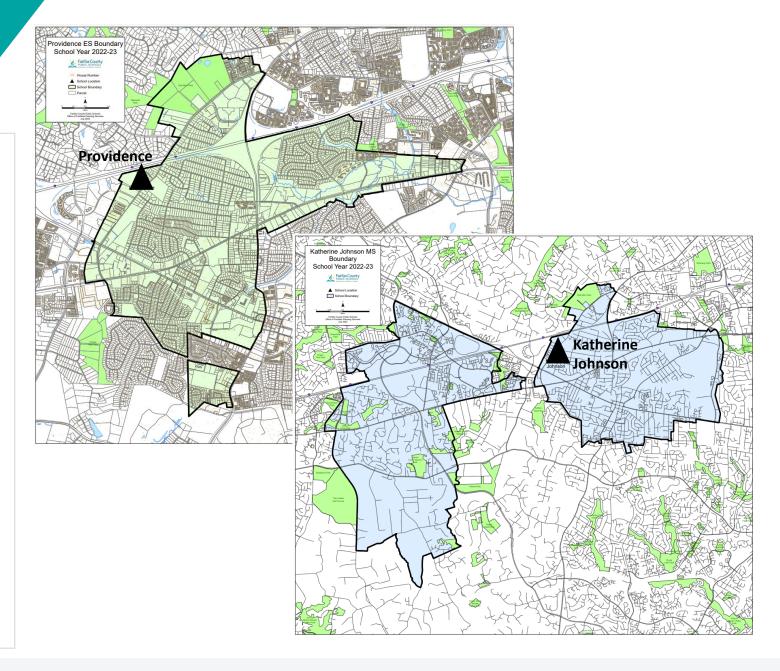
JERMANTOWN RD. CORRIDOR	
HOUSING UNITS	
Churchill Mews Apts.	20
Copperfield Square Apts.	77
Oxford Row Condos	100
Cavalier Court Apts.	128
Gainsborough Court Apts.	151
Jermantown Village (SFD)	15
Other SFD on Jermantown Rd.	3
TOTAL	494





#### Social / Civic

- Katherine Johnson MS
  - Approx. 1050 students
  - 10% walkers (114 students)
- Providence ES
  - Approx. 860 students
  - 16% walkers (142 students)
- Kutner Park
  - Tennis | Volleyball | Field | Playground
  - Rentable: Garden Plots | Picnic Area
- Oakmarr Rec Center (County)





# City Plan Goals

- Comprehensive Plan
- Multimodal Plan
- Kamp Washington Plan

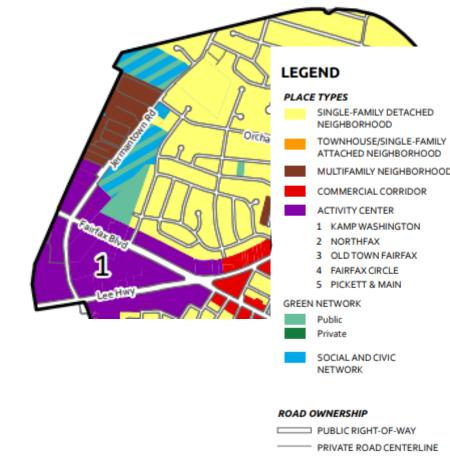
#### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

#### 2035 Comprehensive Plan

**Future Land Use Map** 

#### Community Appearance, Land Use, and Parks & Rec Goals

- Action CCAC 1.1.6: Provide pedestrian and bicycle connections to nearby neighborhoods
- Action N 2.1.1: Identify opportunities for future open space and trails in neighborhoods that are currently deficient in offering these amenities
- Action N 2.1.2: Expand existing pedestrian network to increase connectivity within neighborhoods and to other destinations
- Action SI 2.2.1: Promote walking and trail use as part of a healthy community initiative.
- Action PR1.1.3 Enhance public access to parks and recreational facilities by making necessary infrastructure improvements.
- Action PR1.1.4 Partner with the Department of Public Works on efforts to improve pedestrian and bicycle networks throughout the City.





#### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

#### Multimodal Goals

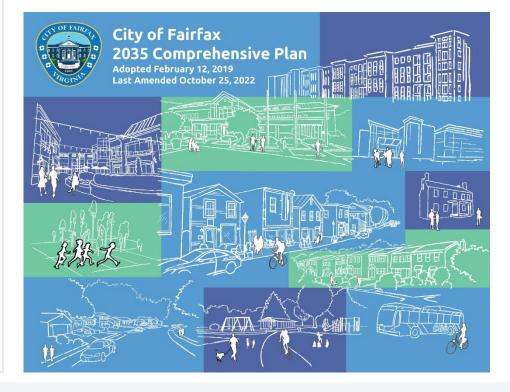
- Action MM 1.1.5: Improve the Blake Lane-Jermantown corridor
- Action MM 2.1.1: Fill critical gaps in the pedestrian network.
- Action MM 2.1.3: Enhance safe routes to school, to transit, and to community facilities.
- Action MM 2.1.4: Improve pedestrian crosswalks
- Action MM 2.2.4: Provide wayfinding, trail blazing and traffic calming/ safety, and nonmotorized facility improvements to provide connections between parks and trails.
- Action MM 3.2.1: Increase non-motorized connections to between neighborhoods, communities, and local activity centers
- Action MM 3.2.3: Increase the number, safety and frequency of pedestrian crossings, including across major streets.
- Action MM 3.3.3: Ensure quality street design in both the pedestrian zone and travel zone of the street



#### **Guiding Principle:**

In 2035, Fairfax is a city with...
options for residents to easily, safely,
and efficiently move within and between
neighborhoods either by walking, bicycling,
taking public transportation or driving







#### **MULTIMODAL PLAN**

#### Multimodal Plan

- Jermantown Road
  - Regional Corridor
  - Widening Project
  - Proposed Sidepath

#### FIGURE 14 TRANSPORTATION POLICIES AND PROJECTS



Regional Corridors

Continue to participate in regional planning efforts to improve the Blake Lane Jermantown Road corridor, pursue improvements to Braddock Road to facilitate its operation as a critical regional corridor, complete the Government Center Parkway, and improve safety and ensure continued efficiency of Pickett Road as a regional north-south corridor and important truck route.



City Major Corridors

Implement complete streets improvements to safely accomodate all roadway users on Fairfax Boulevard, Chain Bridge Road, Old Lee Highway,



Local Activity Centers



Break up large blocks to a more walkable scale. Pursue expanded secondary, tertiary, and non-motorized network opportunities.



Consolidate vehicular access points



Provide new pedestrian-only connections



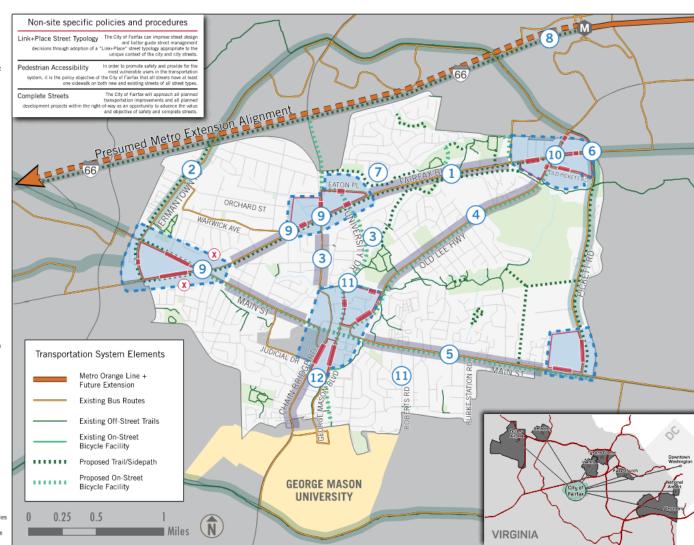
Specific Projects



2. Widen Jermantown Road

and Pickett Road

- 3. Construct adequate pedestrian facilities from Old Town to Fairfax Boulevard
- 4. Implement Old Lee Highway multimodal improvements
- 5. Study Main Street bicycle facility feasibility
- 6. Improve pedestrian crossing at Fairfax Blvd
- 7. Complete the George T. Snyder Trail
- 8. Support the study of a MetroRail extension to serve Fairfax City stakeholders
- 9. Address safety and operational deficiencies at major intersections
- 10. Improve vehicular and pedestrian safety at Fairfax Circle
- 11. Address neighborhood intersection deficiencies
- 12. Extend South Street between University Drive and Chain Bridge Road

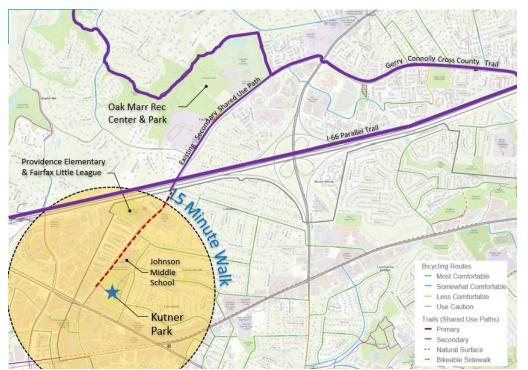




# KAMP WASHINGTON SMALL AREA PLAN

#### THE KUTNER PARK HUB

- Prioritize developments that are mixed-use and pedestrian-oriented with emphasis on views and engagement of Kutner Park as the main placemaking anchor.
- Implement streetscapes along Fairfax Boulevard and Jermantown Road that can help link this area to the residential and commercial elsewhere in the study area.
- Explore street improvements such as improved tree canopy and enhanced pedestrian access to Kutner Park from within the study area.



### **THE VISION PLAN: NEAR TERM**





# Project Background

- Project History
- Project Goals

Jermantown Road over I-66 Bridge

Coordination in 2016 between City

and County on bridge typical section

Shared Use Path & Wide Sidewalk

I-66 Parallel Trail construction to be

connects the City and County

Four vehicle lanes

completed in 2023

Regional Connectivity





August 31, 2016

Ms. Susan Shaw Mega Projects Director Northern Virginia District Office Virginia Department of Transportation 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Re: Jermantown Road Bridge over Interstate 66

Dear Ms. Shaw:

On behalf of Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax, we are writing in regards to the Jermantown Road Bridge over I-66 and the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project. Jermantown Road is a four-lane facility in Fairfax County north of I-66, while it is mostly a two-lane facility in the City of Fairfax between I-66 and Route 50. The jurisdictional boundary between the County and the City is located just south of the bridge. Therefore, the bridge itself is in the County. However, any changes to the roadway would impact both of our jurisdictions.

On July 26, 2016, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized an amendment to the County Transportation Plan to show the Jermantown Road Bridge over I-66 as a four-lane bridge. The County is taking this action to amend the County Transportation Plan, so that it is clear that the bridge should ultimately be four lanes. This is consistent with past County policy to widen Jermantown Road north of I-66 to four lanes. Additionally, in its comment letter on the I-66 Tier 2 Corridor Improvement Project, dated June 12, 2015, the City requested that VDOT consider widening the bridge on Jermantown Road to four lanes (two in each direction) so that the City is not precluded from making future capacity improvements on Jermantown Road in the City in the future. The City is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan, and intends to include the widening of Jermantown Road as part of the update.

In January 2016, VDOT responded to the City stating that the I-66 project team would continue to coordinate with the City to ensure that future widening of the bridge is not precluded. Additionally, the typical section for the Jermantown Road Bridge in the Final RFP, dated July 29, 2016, contains a graphic showing a cross section of both a two lane bridge and four lane bridge with future widening. This graphic contains a note stating "Design shall accommodate future widening as shown below."

Ms. Susan Shaw, P.E. August 31, 2016 Page 2 of 2

Given the actions taken by our localities, we would like assurance from VDOT that, at a minimum, the project design will demonstrate clearly how the future widening of the bridge can occur. It is unclear from the graphic how this would be accomplished. We also believe that building the full cross section during the construction of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway project could result in a significant cost savings and minimize the time period that the bridge would be under construction. As such, we are also requesting that a full assessment of the difference in time and cost that could be achieved by constructing a four lane bridge as part of the initial project.

We look forward to working with VDOT in solving the problems along the I-66 corridor. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Leonard Wolfenstein at (703) 877-5674 or by email at Leonard, Wolfenstein@fairfacounty.gov or Wendy Block Sanford at (703) 385-7889 or by e-mail at Wendy.Sanford@fairfaxva.gov.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sharon Bulova Fairfax County Board of Supervisors City of Fairfax

Members, Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County Members, City Council, City of Fairfax Edward L. Long Jr., County Executive, Fairfax County Robert Sisson, City Manager, City of Fairfax Robert A. Stalzer, Deputy County Executive, Fairfax County Catherine A. Chianese, Assistant County Executive, Fairfax County

I-66 Trail

**Existing Primary Trails** 

Planned trails by

Bicycle & pedestrian connection from

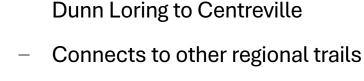






PROJECT LOCATION







Fairfax County Border

#### Jermantown Road Bridge

- Northern terminus of project
  - Tie in at Carol Street
- Under Construction by I-66 Project
  - NB: 2 lanes
  - SB: 1 lane and wide shoulder (accommodates 2<sup>nd</sup> lane in future)



Jermantown Road Bridge Rendering - Looking East Source: Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Website



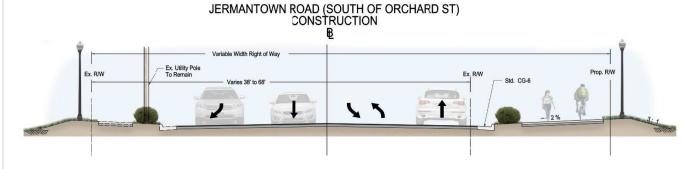
#### Corridor History

- Phase 1 Johnson MS to Orchard | 2008
- Phase 2 US 50 and Jermantown Road | 2015
- Conceptual Planning Study (Phase 3) | 2018
  - Spot Improvement & Boulevard Options
  - Spot Improvements Selected
    - SB right turn lane south of Orchard St.
    - NB through lane north of Orchard St.
    - Multi-modal improvements
- NVTA Funding Obtained: \$21M

#### **Modal Components**

Vehicles Transit Pedestrians Cyclists



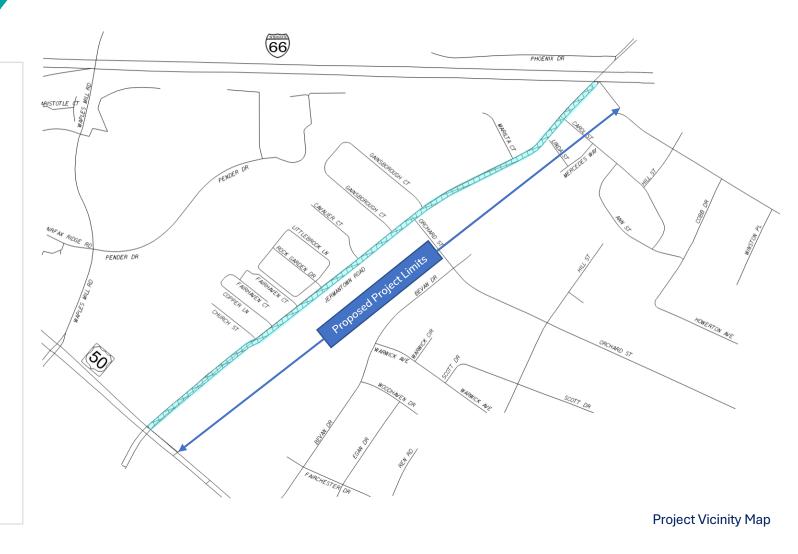


Concept Study Typical Section – Selected Alternative



#### Project Goals

- Improve current roadway operations for all travelers
- Plan for future demand and travel needs
- Maintain connections to the County
- Maintain and improve transit operations
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle safety and connectivity



Corridor Challenges & Key Metrics

#### Corridor Challenges

- Capacity / Operations
  - Ave. Annual Daily Traffic: 14,000 veh
- Access Management
  - Closely Spaced Entrances
  - Signalized Intersections with Closely
     Offset Unsignalized Intersections
- Multimodal Access
  - Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossings
  - Pedestrian Facility Gap
  - Limited bicycle accommodations
- Crash History

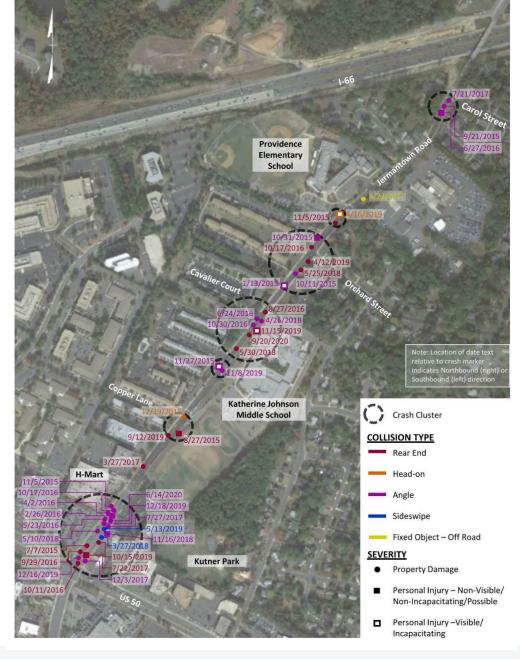


Closely Spaced Entrances along Jermantown Road



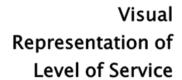
#### Crash History

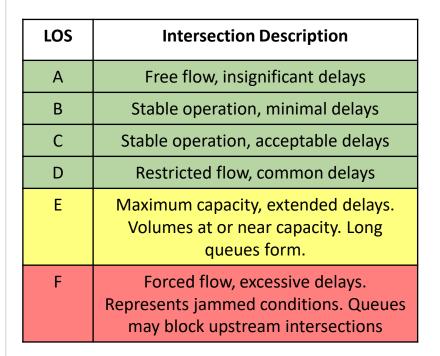
- 44 crashes 2015 to 2019 (No fatalities)
- Angle crashes (52%) | typically most severe type of crash
  - Driver fails to yield right of way to another
  - Typically occur when one vehicle is turning
  - Common at unsignalized intersections and driveways
- Rear-end crashes (36%)
  - Driver hits the vehicle in front of it
  - Often lead vehicle is stopped or moving at slow speed
  - Common in corridors with many access points
- Both types support the need for access management improvements

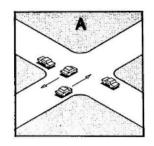


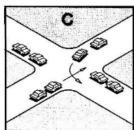
#### Vehicle Capacity

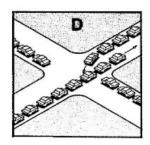
- Level of Service (LOS)
  - Measured in seconds of delay per vehicle
  - Graded A through F
  - LOS D acceptable for urban setting
- Queue length
  - Measured in feet (distance of backup)
- Issues to Address on Jermantown Rd.
  - Queues are longer than turn lanes
  - Failing LOS in the future if no improvements are made to corridor
  - School kiss & ride complicates traffic operations along Jermantown Rd.

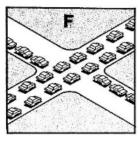










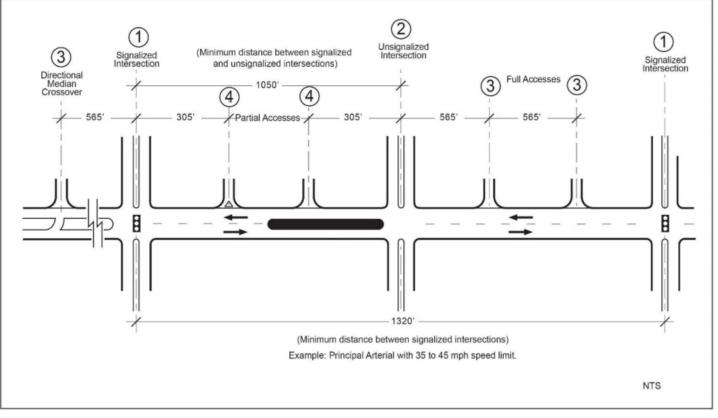


SOURCE: "A Policy on Design of Design of Urban Highways and Arterial Streets" - AASHTO, 1973 based upon material published in "Highway Capacity Manual", National Academy of Sciences, 1965.



#### Access Management

- Spacing between intersections
- Increased distance improves conditions
  - Allows for longer left turn lanes
  - Increases reaction time
  - Increases intersection efficiency
  - Reduces conflict points & increases safety for all users
- Issues to Address on Jermantown Rd.
  - Closely Spaced Entrances
  - Signalized Intersections with Closely
     Offset Unsignalized Intersections



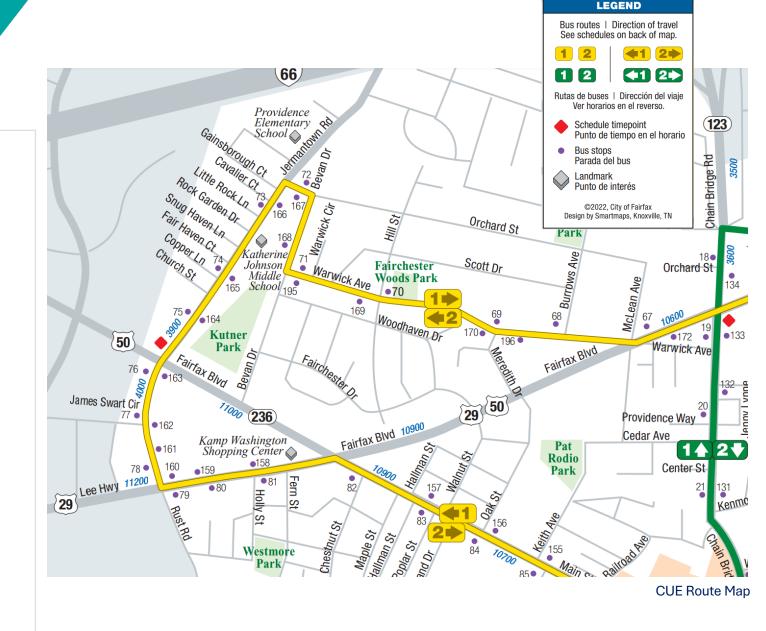
VDOT Road Design Manual – Spacing Standards

Existing Corridor does not meet City or State access spacing requirements



#### Transit

- Ridership / Satisfaction
- Stop placement & ridership
  - Frequency of stops impacts route length
  - Ridership impacts stop placement
  - Amenities improve comfort
  - Comfort encourages ridership
- Issues to Address on Jermantown Rd.
  - Duplicative stops
  - Stops without any amenities





#### Multimodal Access

- Pedestrians, Bicycles
- Dedicated space improves safety & access
  - Encourages walking and biking
  - Provides safe crossing locations
  - Provides safe access to schools
  - Reduces conflict points
- Issues to Address on Jermantown Rd.
  - Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossings
  - Pedestrian Facility Gap
  - Limited bicycle accommodations
  - Lack of regional connectivity



Jermantown Road at Johnson Middle School Entrance – Looking to the North (Source: Google Maps)



Jermantown Road at H-Mart Entrance – Looking to the South (Source: Google Maps)























# Improvements Under Consideration

- Capacity Improvements
- Access Improvements
- Bike/Pedestrian Improvements
- Transit Improvements

#### SCREENING

#### Screening Tools

- FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures
- Crash Reduction Factor (CRF)
  - Expected percentage decrease in crashes due to a countermeasure
- Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations
  - FHWA Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations
- Traffic Operations Analysis Results
- Signal Warrant Analysis

Table 1. Application of pedestrian crash countermeasures by roadway feature.

									Po	oste	ed (	Spe	eed	Li	mit	an	d A	AD	T							
	Vehicle AADT <9,000							Vehicle AADT 9,000-15,000										Vehicle AADT >15,000								
Roadway Configuration	≤30 mph   35 mph			≥40	≥40 mph			≤30 mph			h 35 mph			≥40 mph			≤30 mph			35 mph			) mph			
	0	2		0			1			0			0			1			0			1			1	
2 lanes (1 lane in each direction)	4	5	6		5	6		5	6	4	5	6		5	6		5	6	4	5	6		5	6		5 6
(Tidile iii eddii dii ediloli)				7		9	0		0				7		9	7		0	7		9	7		9		6
	0	2	3	0		8	1		8	1		3	1		8	1		8	1		6	1	-	8	1	€
3 lanes with raised median (1 lane in each direction)	4	5			5			5		4	5			5			5		4	5			5			5
(1 lulie ili euch direction)				7		9	0		0	7		9	0		0	7		0	7		9	0	(	0		6
3 lanes w/o raised median	0	2	3	0		8	1		8	1		3	1		8	1		8	1		8	1	-	8	1	6
(1 lane in each direction with a	4	5	6		5	6		5	6	4	5	6		5	6		5	6	4	5	6		5	6	5	6
two-way left-turn lane)	7		9	7		9			0	7		9	0		0			0	7		9			0		6
	0		0	0		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1		0	1	-	8	1	€
4+ lanes with raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)		5			5			5			5			5			5			5			5			5
(2 of filore laties in each direction)	7	8	9	7	8	9		8	0	7	8	9	0	8	0		8	0	7	8	0		8 (	0		8 😧
	0		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1		8	1	-	8	1	6
4+ lanes w/o raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)		5	6		5	0		5	0		5	0		5	0		5	0		5	0		5 (	0		5 6
(2 or more lanes in each direction)	7	8	9	7	8	9		8	0	7	8	9	0	8	0		8	0	0	8	0		8 (	0		8 6
Given the set of conditions in a c	ell.									1	Hia	h-v	isib	ilitv	cro	ssw	alk	mai	rkin	as.	nark	ing	rest	rict	ions	on
	,	e is		and	lida	te					cro	SSW	alk	app	oroa	ch,	ade	quo				ne liç				
treatment at a marked uncontrolled crossing location.						_		nd crossing warning signs																		
							2		Raised crosswalk Advance Yield Here To (Stop Here For) Ind yield (stop) line								vo Fox) Dodostviano sico									
considered, but not mandated or required, based upon						3		or) I									Pedestrians sign									
engineering judgment at a marked uncontrolled							4	In-Street Pedestrian Crossing sign																		
crossing location.										Cui								9	9							

 Signifies that crosswalk visibility enhancements should always occur in conjunction with other identified countermeasures.\*

The absence of a number signifies that the countermeasure is generally not an appropriate treatment, but exceptions may be considered following engineering judgment.

- 5 Curb extension
- 6 Pedestrian refuge island
- 7 Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB)\*\*
- 8 Road Diet
- 9 Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)\*\*

Source: FHWA Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations



#### **VEHICLES**

#### Traffic Operations

- Level of Service
  - Achieve LOS D or better for AM & PM peak
  - Consider LOS during school peak
- Existing Signal Locations
  - US 50 (just outside project limits)
  - H-Mart Entrance
  - Orchard Street
- Potential Intersection Improvements
  - Carol Street
    - Does not meet warrants for signal
    - Looking at alternative safety measures



Existing Signalized Intersection at H-Mart Entrance – Looking to the North (Source: Google Maps)



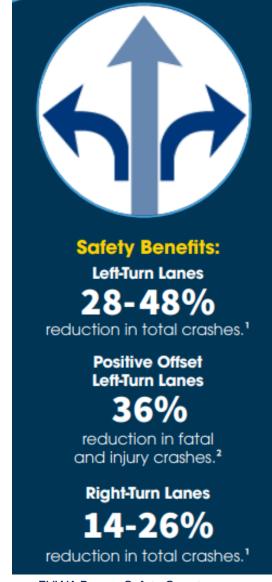
Existing Signalized Intersection at Orchard Street - Looking to the North (Source: Google Maps)



#### **VEHICLES**

#### Capacity / Safety

- Replace two-way left turn lane with median & individual left turn lanes
  - CRF: reduces angle crashes by 35%
- Add SB right turn lanes
  - Individual right turn lanes where possible
  - Allows for pavement removal / green space
  - CRF: reduces rear-end crashes by 30%
- Lengthening existing turn lanes
  - Allow for longer queues
  - Reduce speed differential
- Widening to add a second through lane NB



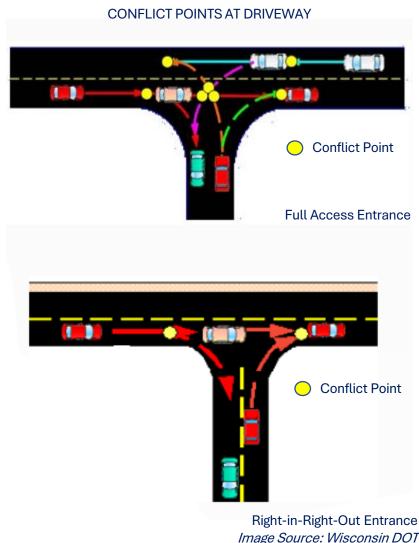
Source: FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures

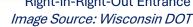


#### **VEHICLES**

#### Access

- Reduce Conflict Points
  - Consolidate driveways where possible
    - 2 potential locations
  - Convert full access driveways to right-in-right out configuration
    - CRF: reduces all crash types by 45%
    - 2 potential locations
- Shift entrances to create 4-leg signalized intersections
  - Relocate entrances that are too close to signals
  - 2 potential locations







#### PEDESTRIAN / CYCLISTS

#### Considerations

- Corridor meets traffic volume threshold for bikes to be separated
- Proximity to Schools & Parks
  - All ages and abilities facilities
- Sidewalk on one side
- Sidepath / SUP on one side







Sidepath Rendering

Sidepath / SUP serves both bicyclists and pedestrians Sidewalk serves pedestrians



#### PEDESTRIAN / CYCLISTS

#### Crossing Considerations

- Signalized (Controlled) Locations
  - H-Mart Entrance / Kutner Park
  - Orchard Street
- Unsignalized (Uncontrolled ) Locations
  - Increase signing
  - Consider Higher Visibility Markings
  - Consider Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)
- Consider proximity of crossings to bus stops





# **CONSIDERATION: RRFB**



Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

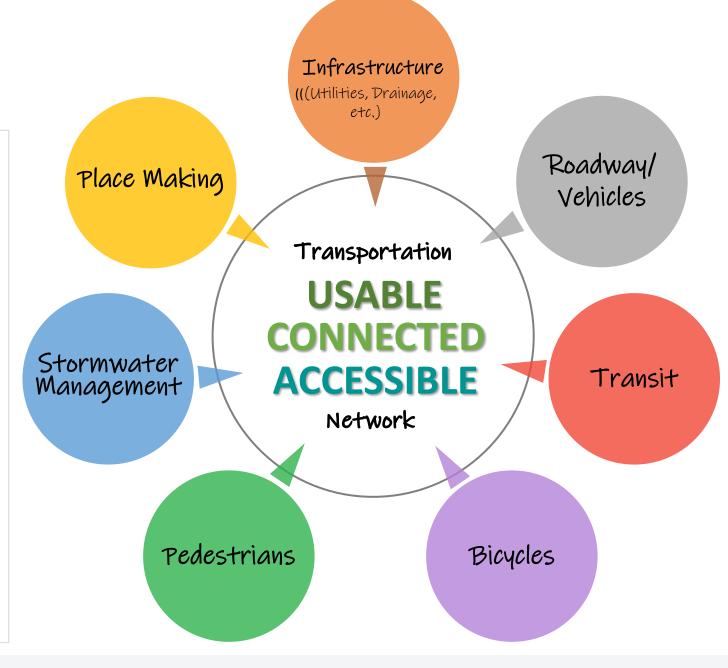


Project Status & Next Steps

#### **PROJECT STATUS**

#### Current Work & Next Steps

- Concept Development
- Project Outreach underway
  - Schools & City Parks
  - Impacted Commercial & Multi-Family
     Property Owners
- Coordination with I-66 Team on-going
- Environmental Assessment beginning
- Public Engagement Meeting May 31





# Questions?