

Expanding The Bethesda Trolley Trail

Woodglen Dr & Nicholson Ln to Twinbrook Feasibility Study



North Bethesda Transportation Management District (TMD) Meeting

April 20, 2022



Agenda

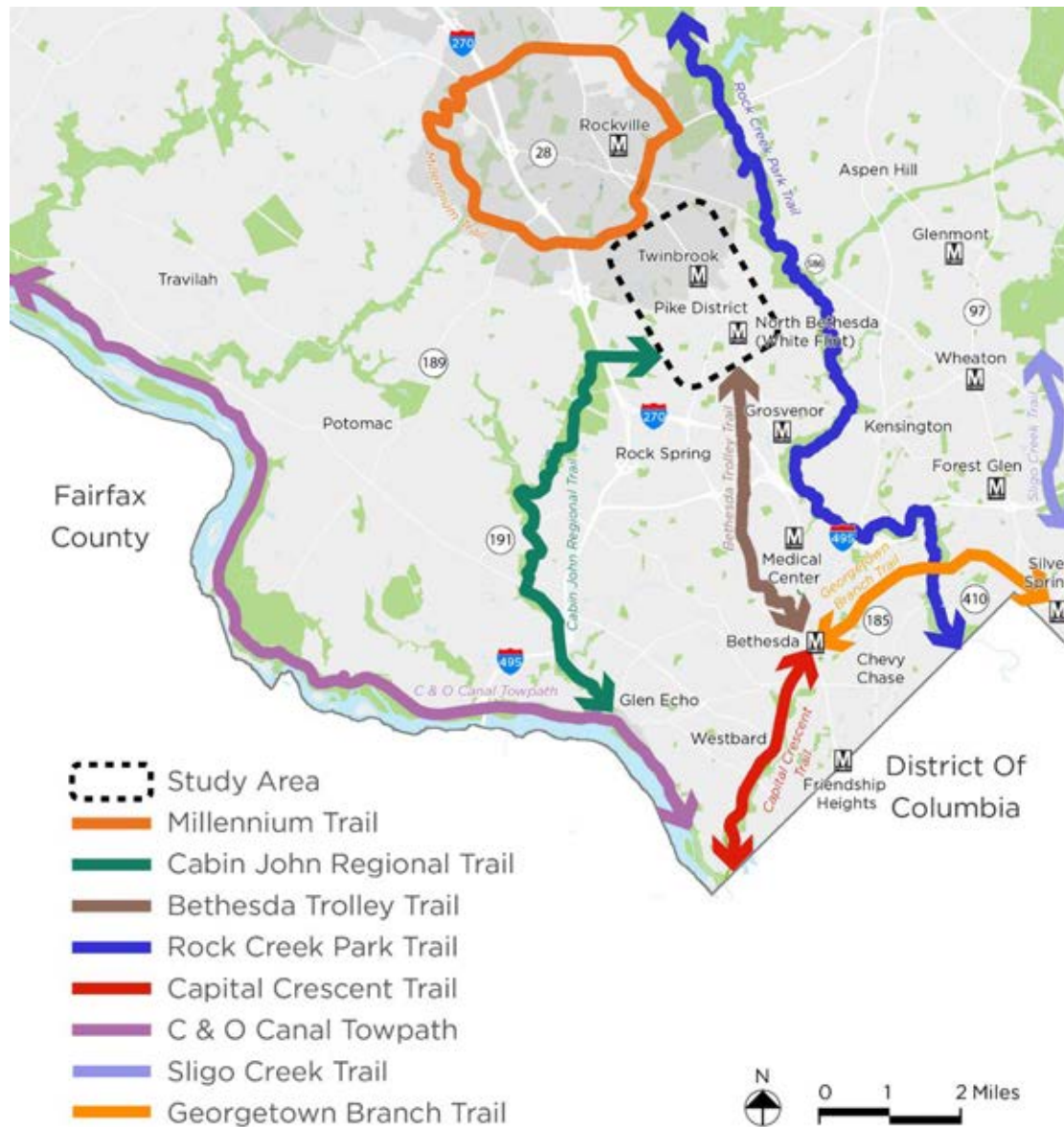
- Project Goals
- Study Area
- Project Background
- Scope & Schedule Overview
- Next Steps
- Questions/Discussion



Project Goals

- Explore alignment alternatives to expand the Bethesda Trolley Trail (BTT) and develop a wayfinding plan to connect to regional trails and neighborhoods.
- Evaluate existing and proposed off-road and on-road bicycle facilities between Edson Ln and Woodglen Dr to Twinbrook Metro station.
- Identify gaps in the overall bicycle network in North Bethesda.
- Engage major stakeholders and community members to gather feedback.

Key Link in the Trail Network



Project Background

Trolley To Trails

—Timeline of the Trolley—

1890

- The Georgetown and Tenallytown Railway Company operated trolleys along Wisconsin Avenue in Georgetown to the DC boundary.
- The Tenallytown and Rockville Railroad operated trolleys in Bethesda.

1897-1900

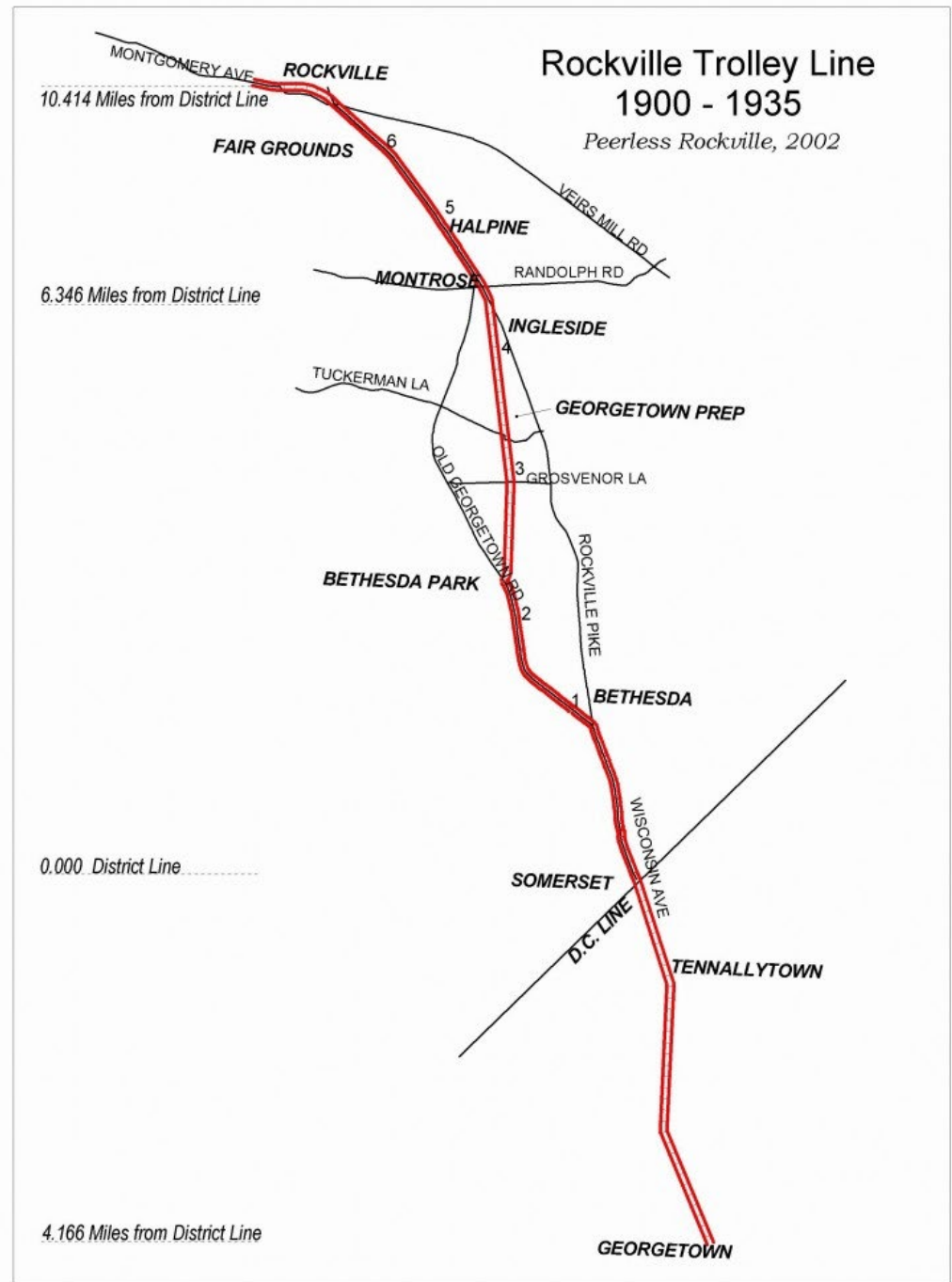
- The two railroads merged and completed an extension to the county seat of Rockville.
- Trolleys ran from Georgetown to Rockville.

1902

- The Washington Railway and Electric Company acquired the merged railroads in 1902, and later became part of Capital Transit.

1935

- In 1935, the Rockville trolley line ceased operation.



Trolley To Trails

—Timeline of the Trail—

1978

- Countywide Bikeways Master Plan recommended to design a trail along rail ROW.

Early 2000s

- Construction of The Bethesda Trolley Trail begins

2005

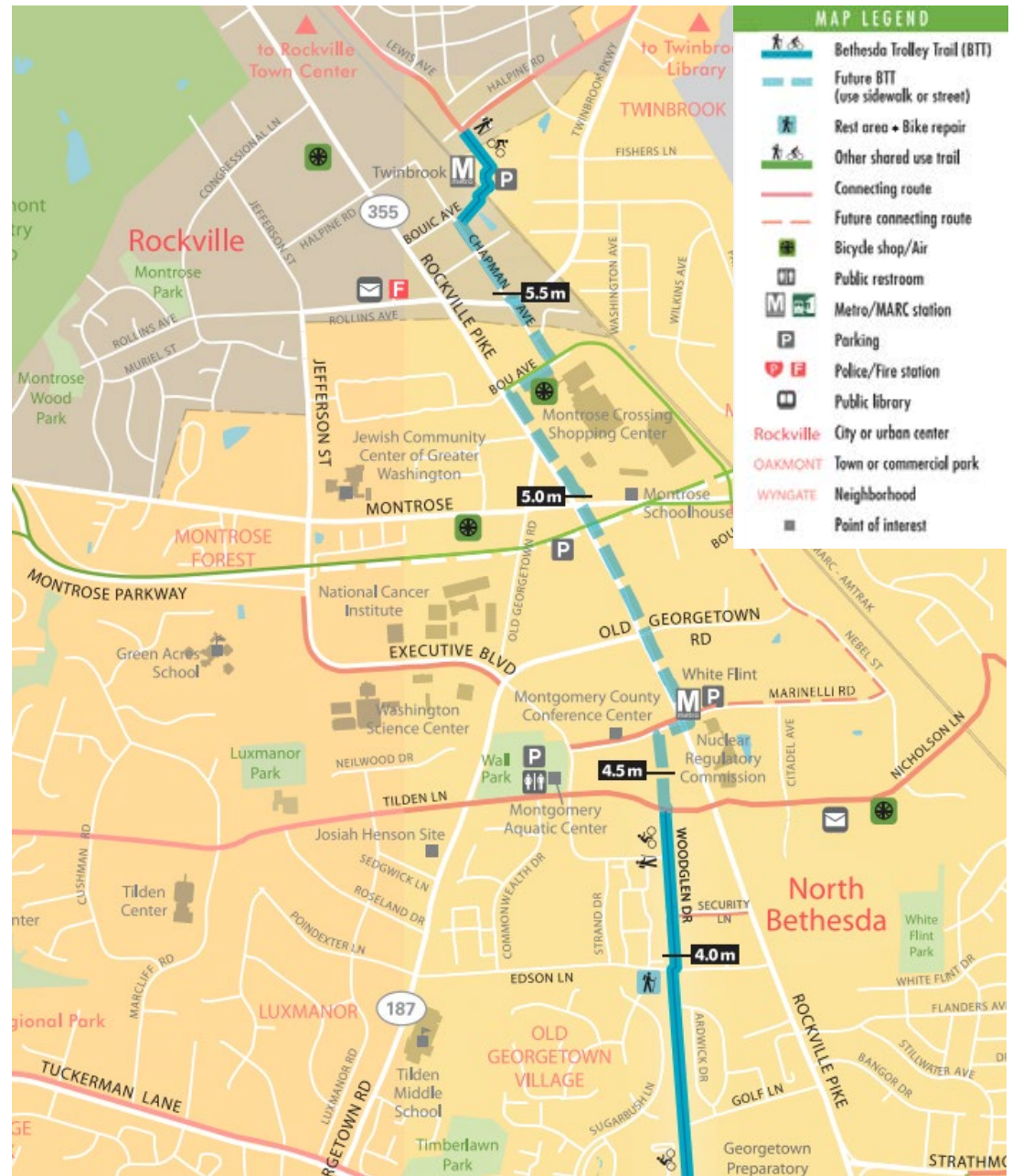
- Trail construction from Cedar Ln intersection to the intersection of Randolph Road begins.

2008

- Southern edge of the trail is built connecting Battery Lane Urban Park and Rugby Ave.

2009

- Shared use path along Rockville Pike is constructed.



Trolley To Trails



Trolley Rail ROW intersecting Rockville Pike in North Bethesda. (Early 1900s)

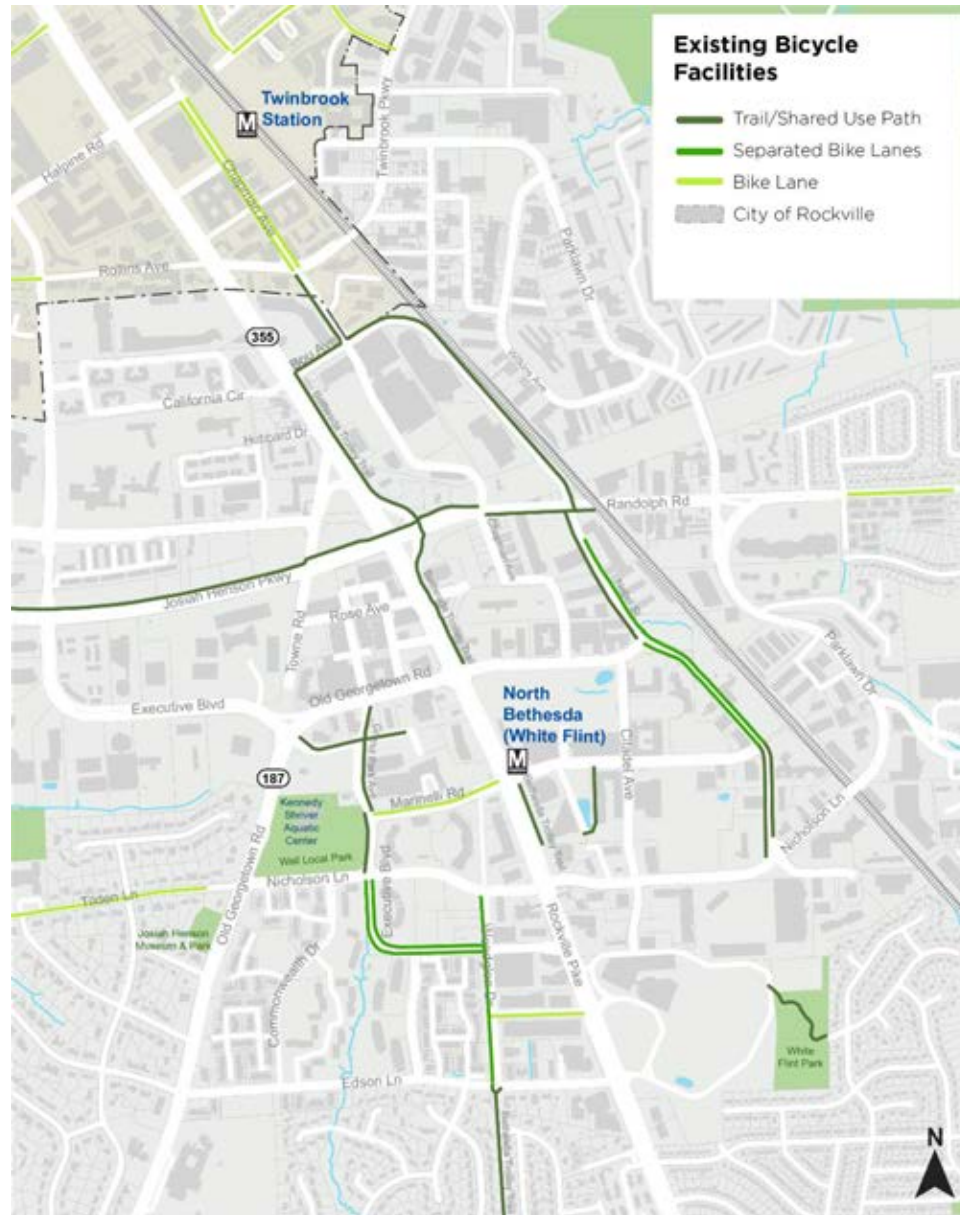
Source: Photo by Lewis Reed, 1910. Courtesy of Reed Bros. Dodge History Blog, <https://reedbrothersdodgehistory.wordpress.com/>.



Bethesda Trolley Trail and Woodglenn Dr intersecting Rockville Pike in North Bethesda. (2022)

Source: Google Earth

Bike Network in North Bethesda



Existing Bicycle Facilities in North Bethesda



County-wide Bicycle Master Plan Recommendations 10

Recently Implemented Bikeways in North Bethesda



Marinelli Road Bike Lanes (2013-2014)
(Source: MCDOT)



Woodglen Drive Two-Way Separated Bike Lanes (2014)
(Source: MCDOT)



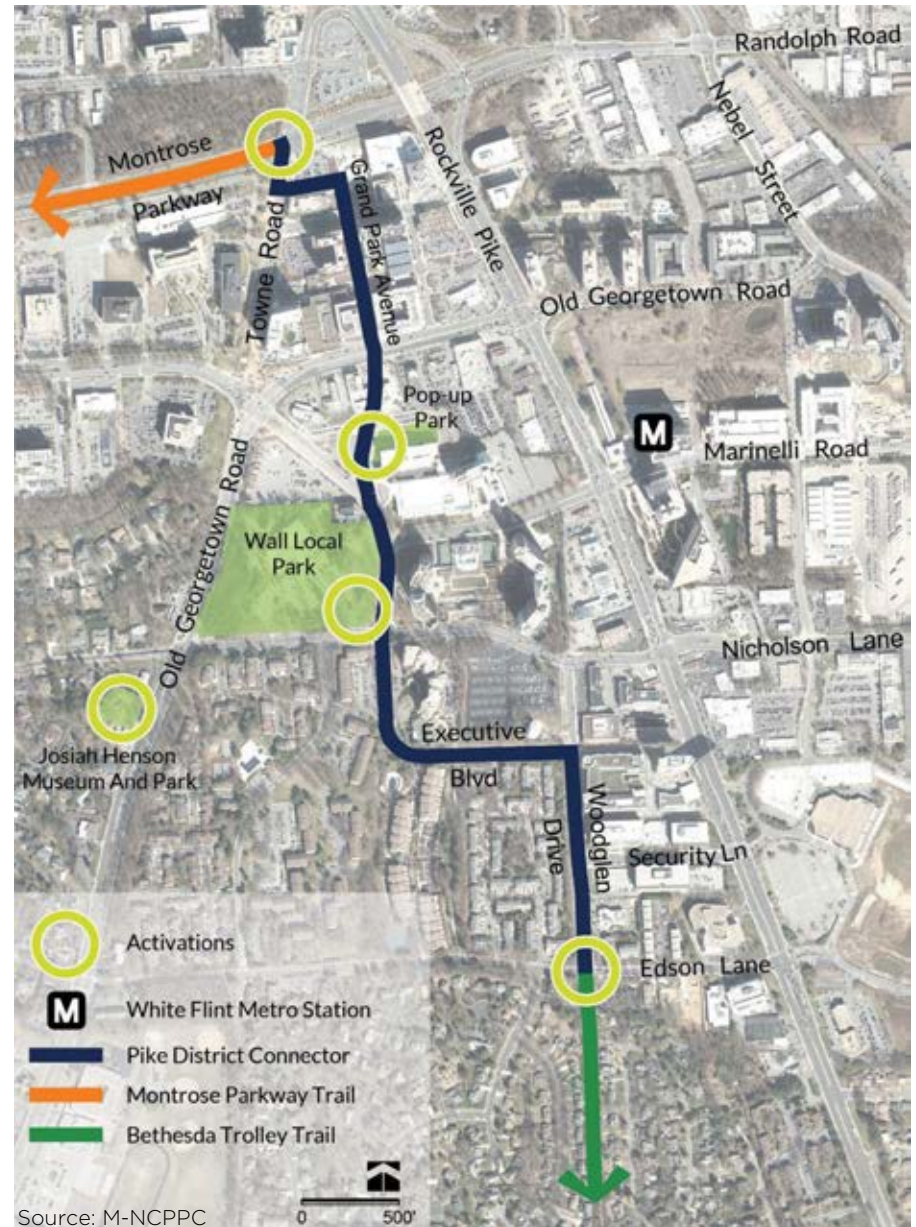
Nebel Street One-Way Separated Bike Lanes (2016)
(Source: MCDOT)



Executive Boulevard One-Way Separated Bike Lanes (2019)
(Source: MCDOT)

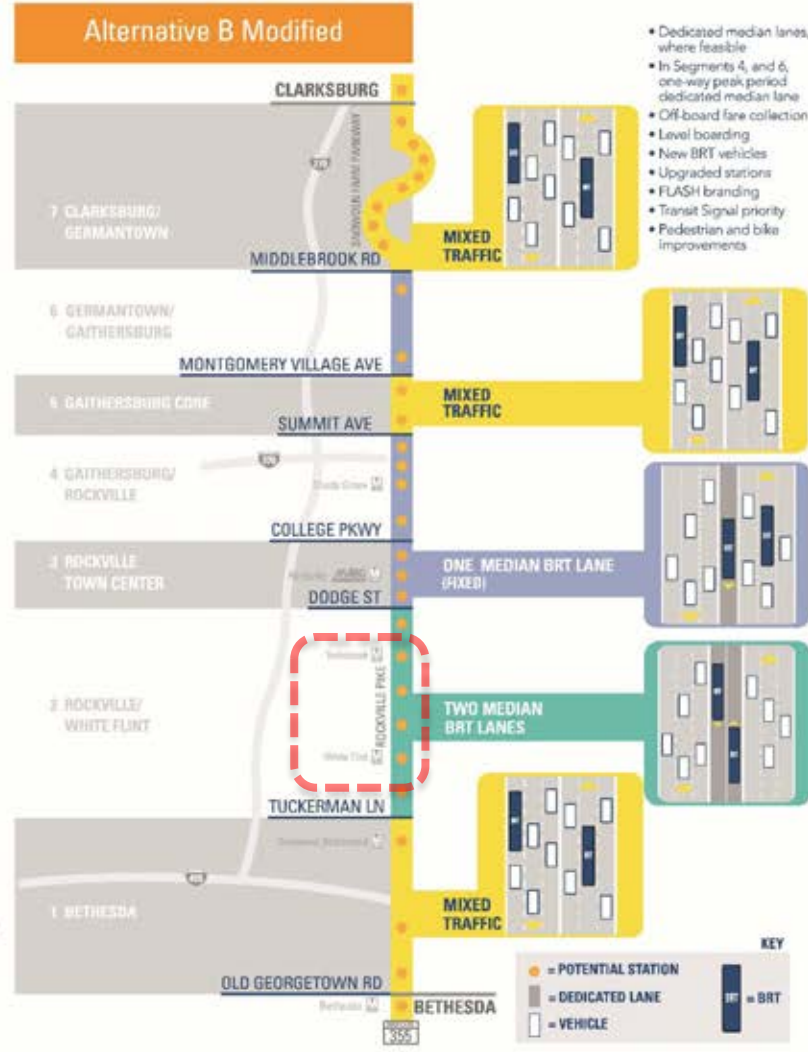
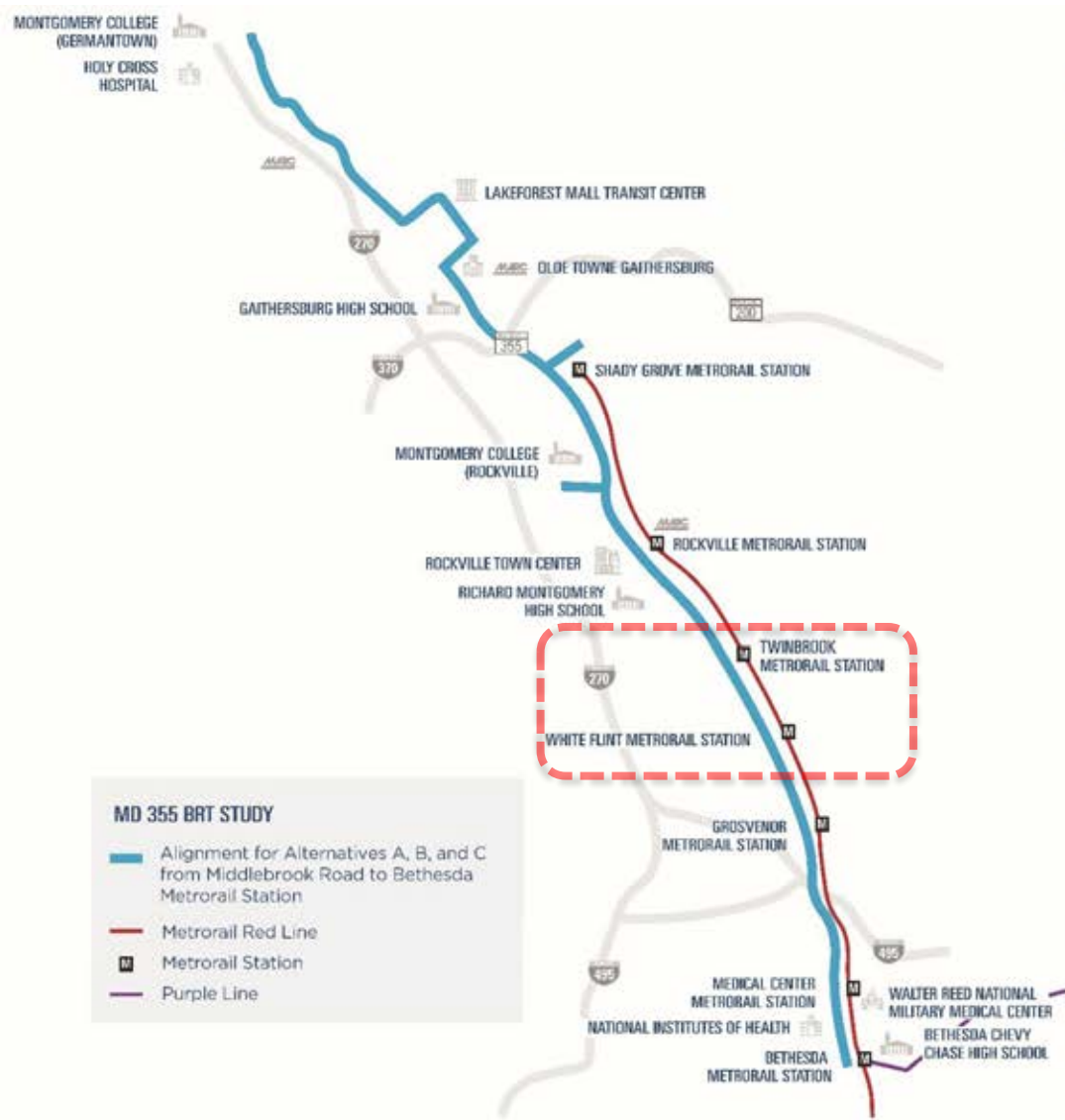
Pike District Connector

M-NCPPC is partnering with the MCDOT and the Better Block Foundation to temporarily connect the Bethesda Trolley Trail to the Montrose Parkway Trail and activate hubs at key intersections along the way.

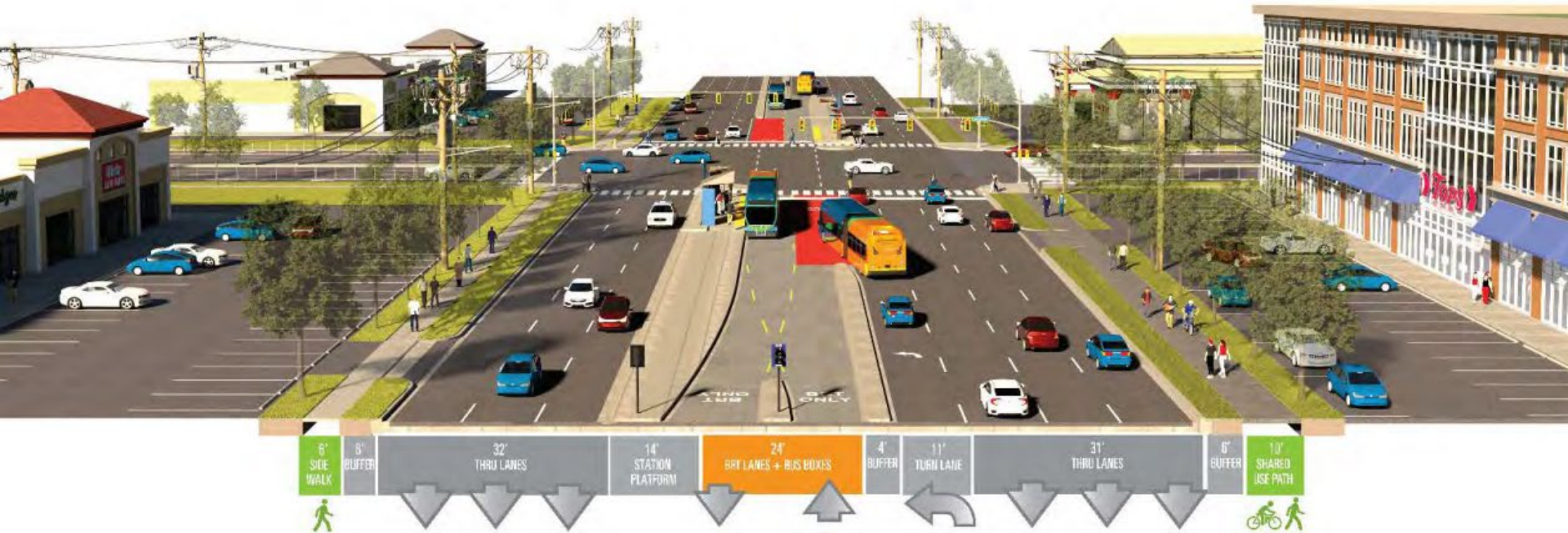


Pike District Connector

Rockville Pike (MD 355) BRT Project

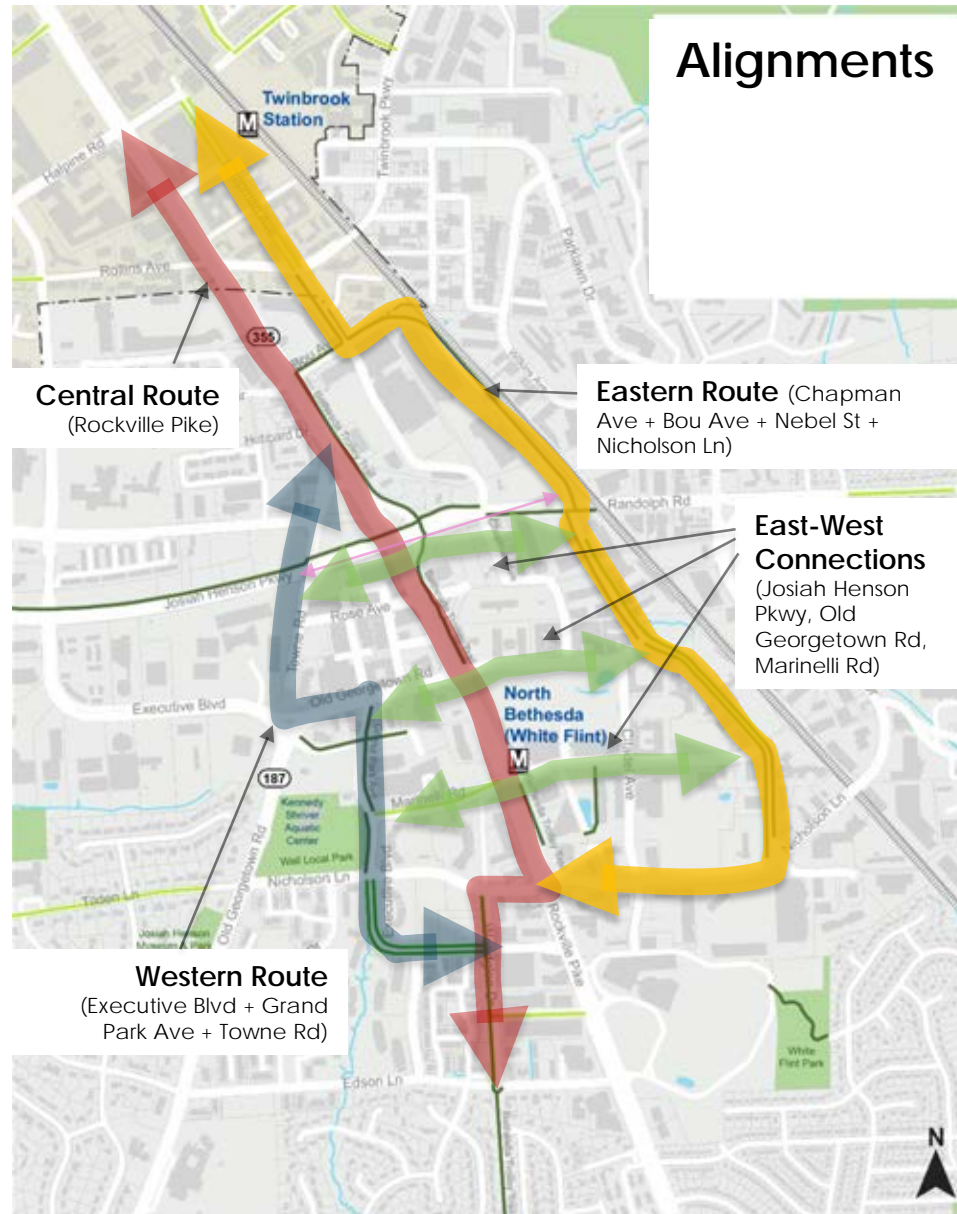


Rockville Pike (MD 355) BRT Project



- 2 median running BRT Lanes
- 10' wide shared use path on the east side
- 6' wide sidewalk on the west side
- No on-street bicycle facility

Expanding The Bethesda Trolley Trail



Developing a Wayfinding Plan for The Bethesda Trolley Trail



Bethesda Trolley Trail - Wayfinding Sign (Source: MCDOT)



Frome Street Bikeway; Adelaide, Australia - Wayfinding Sign (Source: urbanandpublic.com)



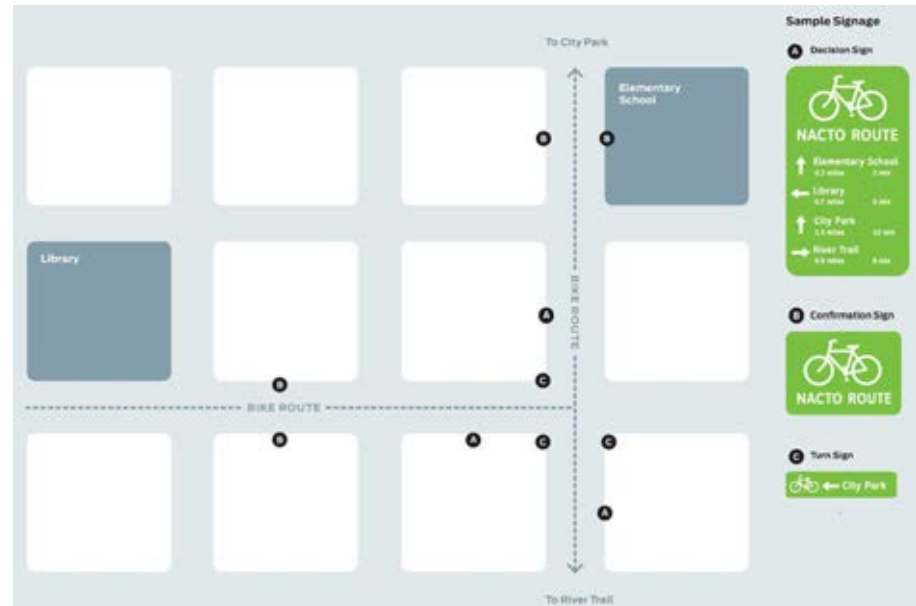
Bethesda Trolley Trail Waysides and Kiosk Sign (Source: MCDOT)



Razorback Greenway, Fayetteville, AK - Wayfinding Sign (Source: www.bikenwa.org)



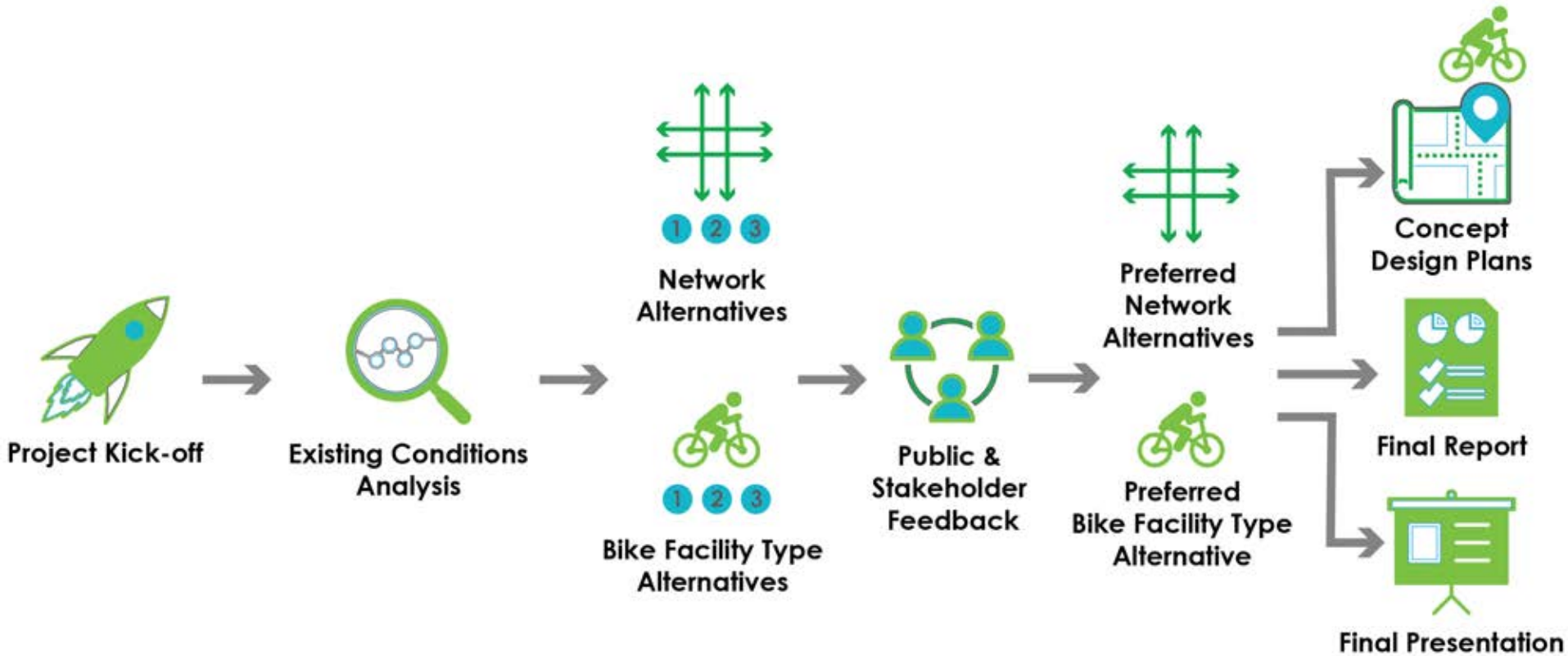
Big Dry Creek Trail; Westminister, CO - Wayfinding Sign (Source: e3signs.com)



Wayfinding Guidance from NACTO (Source: nacto.org)

Scope & Schedule Overview

Planning Process



Schedule

Task	2022		2023									
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Task 1 Project Kick-Off Meeting & Project Initiation	█											
Task 2 Existing Conditions Analysis	█	*	█	█								
Task 3 Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement		█	█	#1	█	█	█	#2	█	█		
Task 4 Alternatives Development				█	█	█	█					
Task 5 Final Report and Concept-Level Design Plans									█	█	█	
Submit the Draft Final Report to MDOT for Review											█	
Review and Submit the MDOT Final Report and Grant Close-out Materials												█


 We are here

* Walking tour – April 29, 2022

Next Steps

- Walking Tour of the Study Area (April 29, 2022)
- Review Relevant Previous Plan & Studies (April & May 2022)
- Existing Conditions Analysis (April & May 2022)
- Stakeholder Engagement (April & May 2022)
- 1st Public Meeting (June 2022)

Thank You!

Questions & Discussion

Patricia D. Shepherd, AICP

Capital Projects Manager/Bikeways Coordinator

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

E-Mail: patricia.shepherd@montgomerycountymd.gov