

I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit and TDM Study

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit and TDM Study (the Study)?

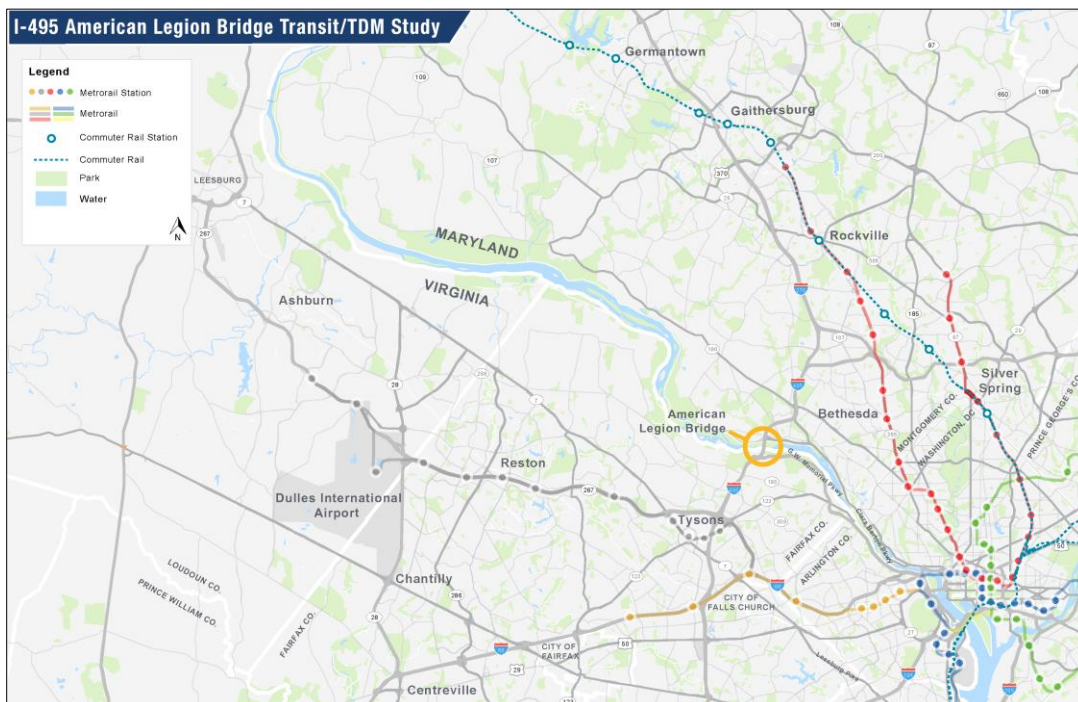
The Study is a joint effort between the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to study a range of current and potential future transit and transportation demand management (TDM) solutions that could be implemented for travel across the I-495 American Legion Bridge (the Bridge).

What is the purpose of the Study?

The purpose of the Study is to identify a range of current and future potential multimodal solutions using the Bridge that could be implemented to reduce congestion, improve trip reliability and regional connections, and enhance existing and planned multimodal mobility and connectivity.

What areas are included in the Study?

The study area focuses on the American Legion Bridge and I-495 west and south of I-95 in Maryland and north of I-95/I-395 in Virginia. The study area spans several jurisdictions, including Frederick and Montgomery Counties in Maryland, and Fairfax County, City of Fairfax, City of Falls Church, and Loudoun County in Virginia, and includes key transit destinations and major activity centers including Tysons, Bethesda, Dulles International Airport, Reston, Rockville, and Silver Spring. The complete study area is shown in the map below.



What is the timeline/schedule for the study?

Work on the Study began in May of 2020, and the Final Report is expected to be completed in early 2021.

How does the Study relate to the work being done as part of the I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Study and I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension?

The Study is completely separate from the I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Study and the I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension but is intended to complement these efforts.

What options are being considered as part of the Study?

A range of technologies including bus service, autonomous shuttles, microtransit express bus, commuter and parking information, transit signal priority, carpool/vanpool, and other commuter assistance programs are being considered as part of the Study.

How can the public provide input?

An initial public survey was conducted in August 2020 and a second survey is active through December 2020. The public can provide input through participation in [Survey 2](#). Keeping track of [the Study](#) is easy by connecting to DRPT's Major Initiatives Webpage. The study webpage includes a [stakeholder comment link](#).

How will public feedback be used in the Study?

DRPT and MTA will seek feedback on potential solutions that will be used, in coordination with technical studies, to inform the Study's final list of potential mobility options.

When would projects be implemented?

The potential recommendations will be grouped into three implementation horizons:

- Near-Term: Prior to the opening of the Managed Lanes up to and over the Bridge in both Maryland and Virginia
- Mid-Term: In conjunction with the opening of the Managed Lanes up to and over the Bridge in both Maryland and Virginia
- Long-Term: Following opening of the Managed Lanes How much will it cost to implement transit/TDM projects?

How will project be funded?

The projects will be funded through sources to be determined by Maryland and Virginia and may be incorporated into their negotiations with the concessionaires for the managed lanes.

How can I request a project briefing for my organization?

Briefings can be requested from either study manager:

- Ciara Williams (DRPT): ciara.williams@drpt.virginia.gov
- Zachary Chissell (MDOT/MTA): zchissell@mta.maryland.gov