



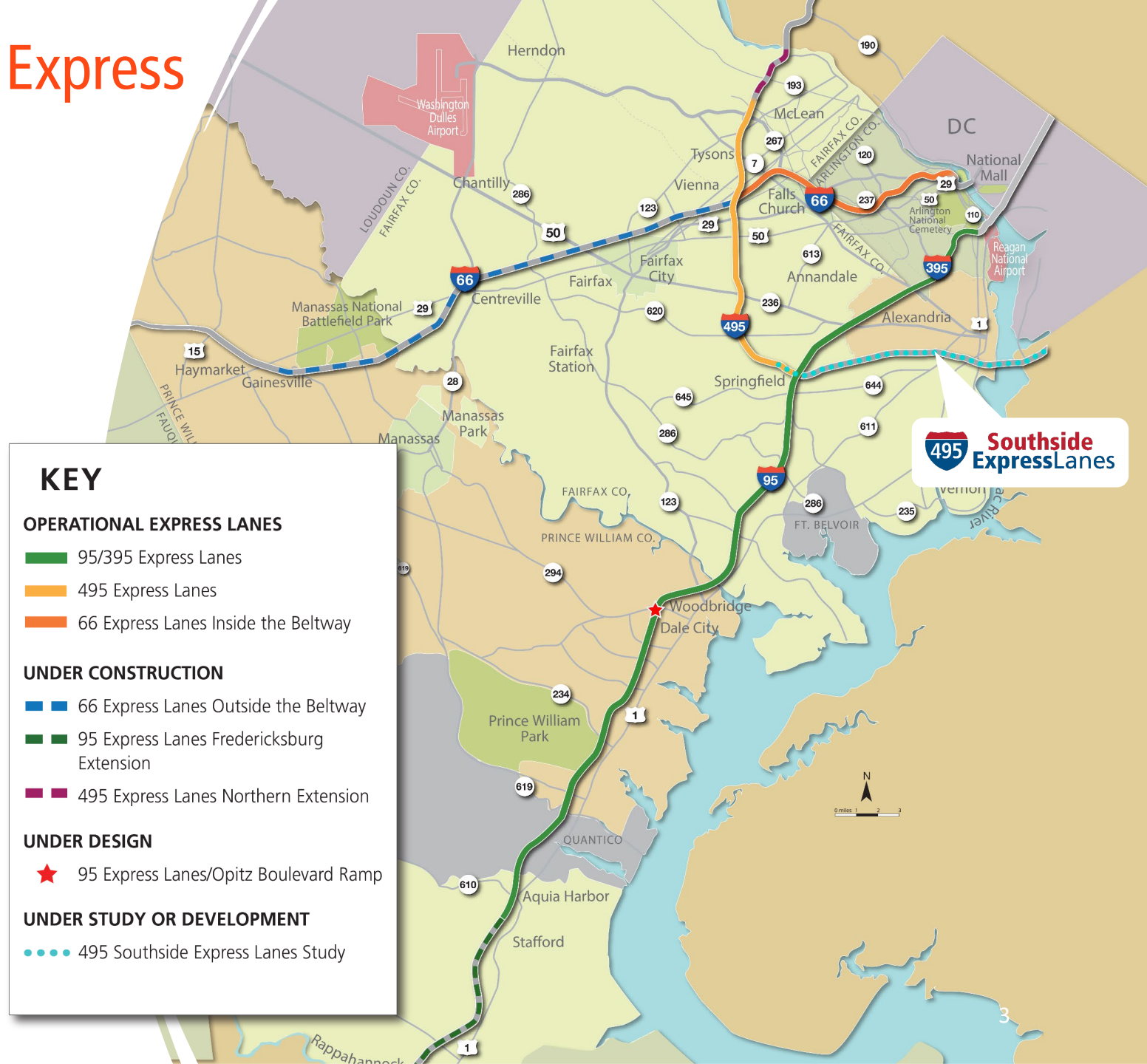
495 SOUTHSIDE EXPRESS LANES STUDY
IN-PERSON PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
May 19, 23 & 25, 2022

- Background
- Overview
- NEPA Approach
- Timeline
- Stay Involved
- Q&A



Northern Virginia Regional Express Lanes Network

- 90+ mile Express Lanes network planned in Northern Virginia
- 62 miles in service
 - I-95, I-395, I-495, I-66 Inside the Beltway
- 35 miles under construction
 - I-66 Outside the Beltway
 - I-95 to Fredericksburg
 - I-495 Northern Extension
- Under design
 - I-95 Express Lanes/Opitz Boulevard Ramp
- Under study
 - I-495 Southside Express Lanes
- Three independent operators



Study Background

- The 495 Southside Express Lanes Study (495 Southside Study) is an environmental study to potentially extend the Express Lanes system on the southern section of I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway)
- VDOT is coordinating the study with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA), Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), and other federal, state and local agencies in Virginia and Maryland
- This Study is included in:
 - VDOT's current Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP)
 - National Capital Region's Visualize 2045 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) – added June 2021, study only



DRPT is advancing a separate study that will:

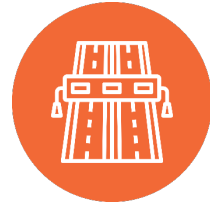
- Inventory existing rail transit service, bus transit service, park and ride facilities and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs
- Evaluate current ridership/effectiveness, as well as future forecast growth and travel patterns
- Identify new transit and TDM enhancements that will provide more multimodal travel choices
- Evaluate options identified in transit planning studies by transit service providers in the study corridor
- Coordinate closely with Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration and with members of the public and regional stakeholders

Study Area

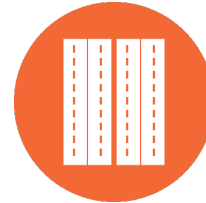
- 11 miles of the southern section of I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway)
- Springfield interchange (I-95/I-395/I-495) in Fairfax County, VA to the MD 210 interchange in Prince George's County, MD



The 495 SEL Study will evaluate transportation improvements that:



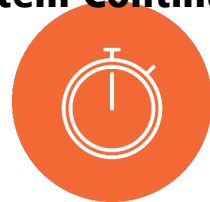
Provide Express Lanes System Continuity



Provide Additional Travel Choices



Reduce Congestion



Improve Travel Reliability



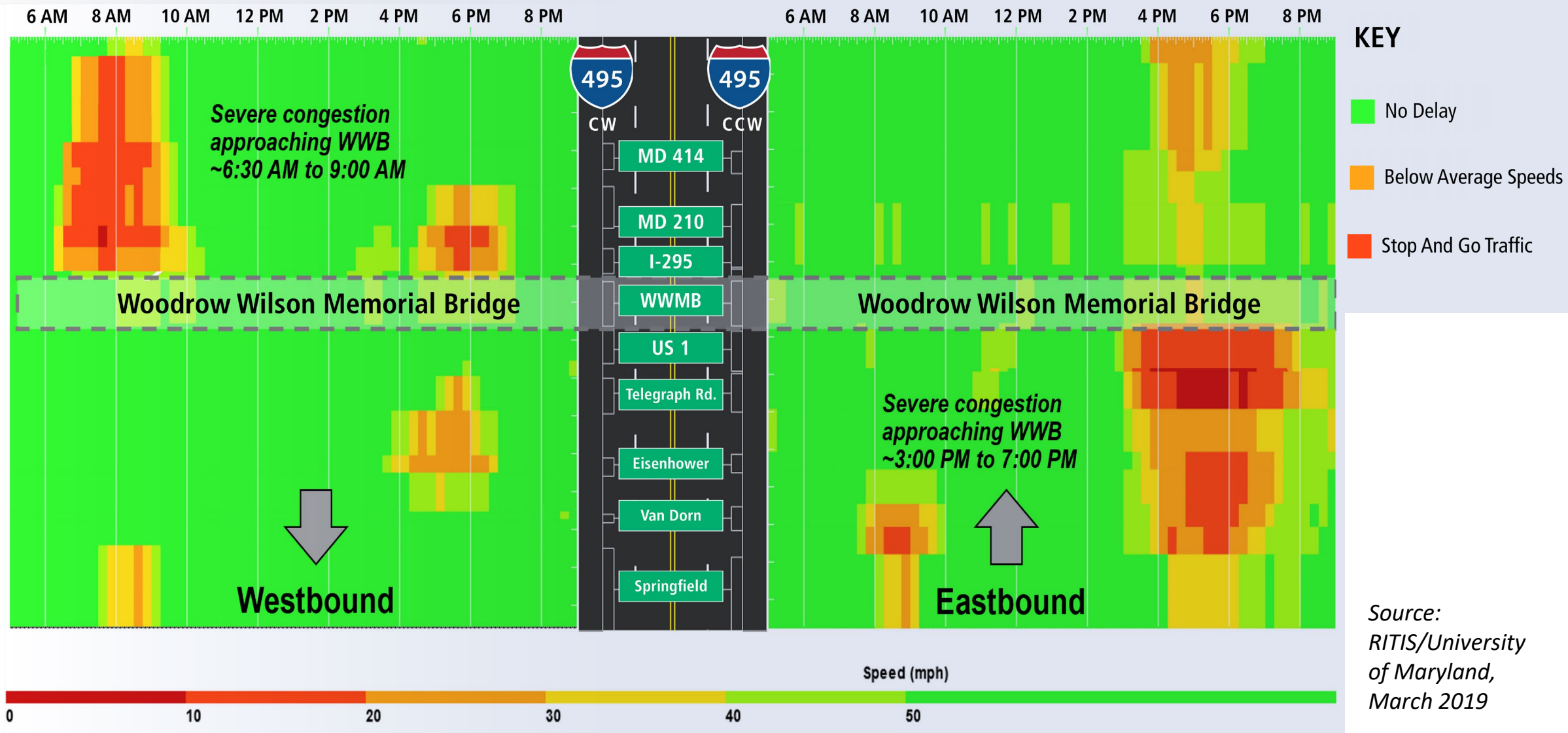
Improve Safety



Provide Consistency with Local and Regional Plans

These goals will form the basis of the Study's Purpose and Need and be informed by the public and agency input.

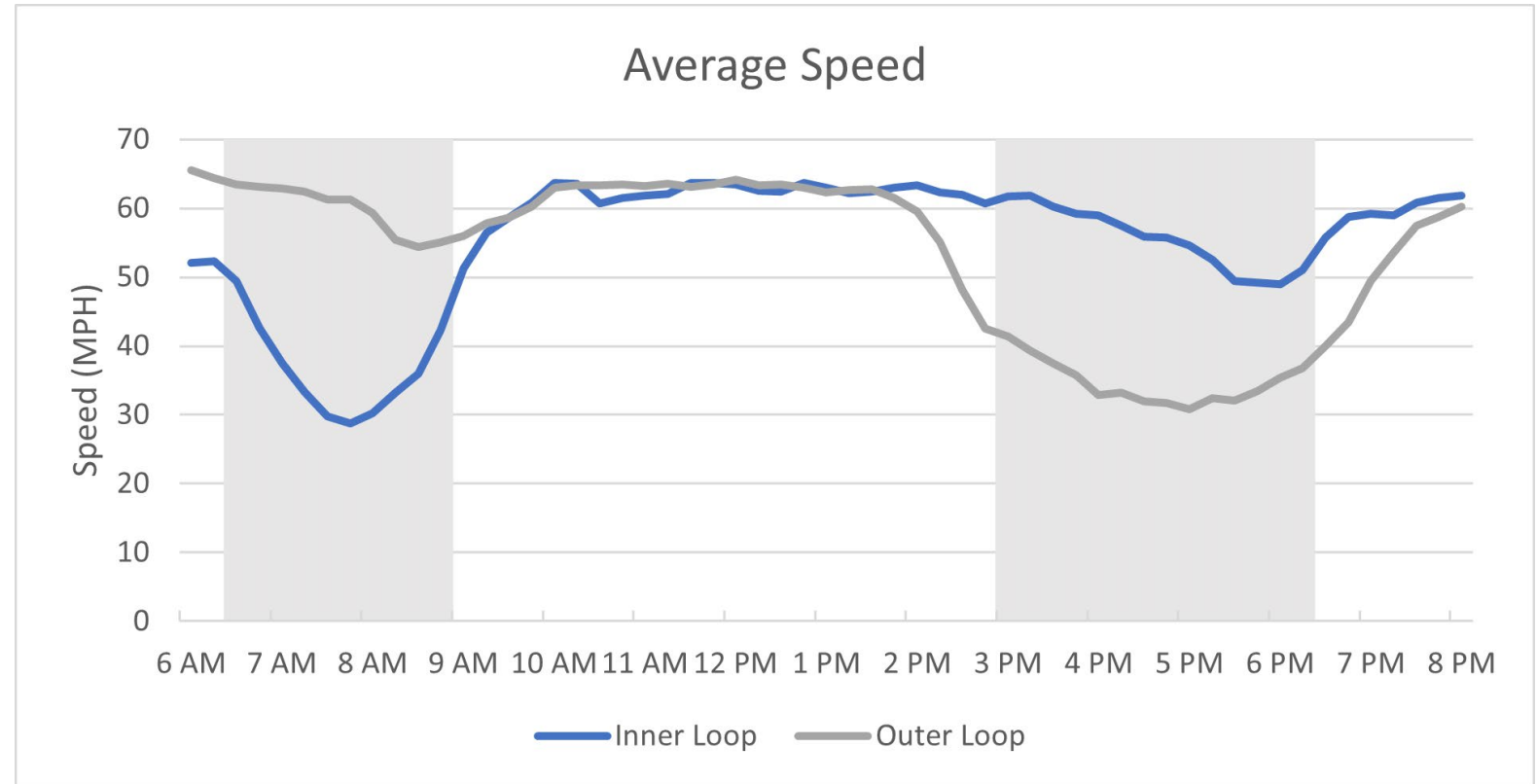
Typical Weekday Traffic Congestion



Source:
RITIS/University
of Maryland,
March 2019

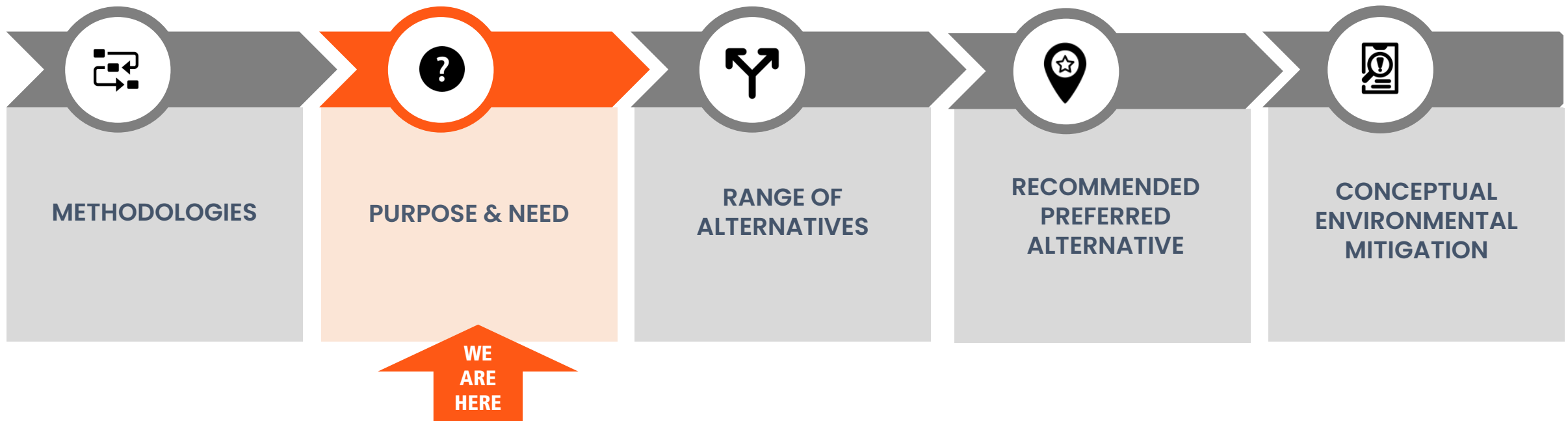
Typical Weekday Travel Speeds

- Average travel speeds through the entire study area as low as 30 MPH during the AM and PM peak periods
- Congestion increases normal travel times



Source: RITIS/University of Maryland, March 2019

VDOT will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to satisfy requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



Potential Improvements

VDOT will evaluate:

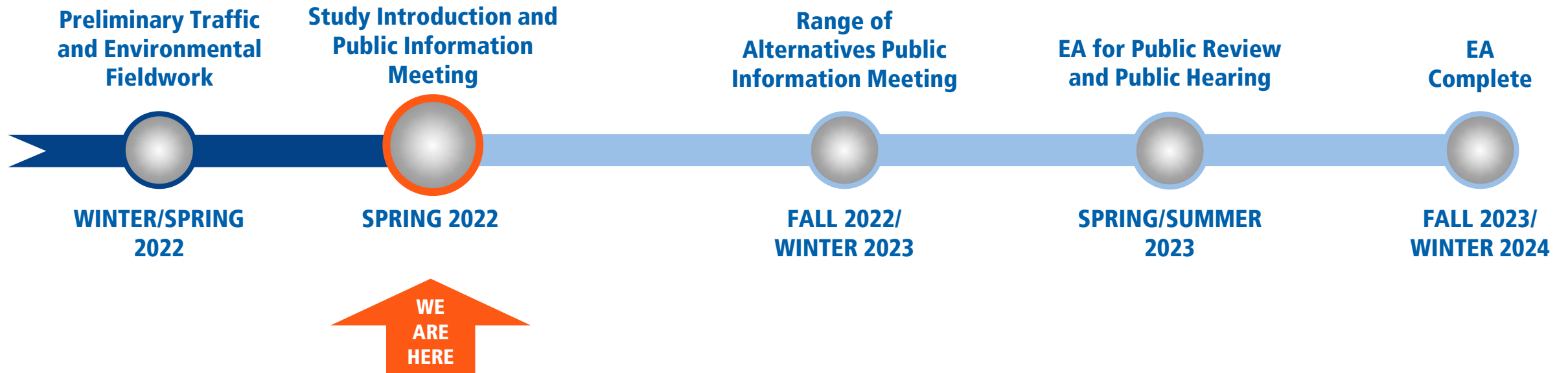
- Existing and no-build conditions
- Extending the Express Lanes
- Adding Express Lanes access at several locations



VDOT will evaluate:

	<p>Air Quality</p>	<p>Local and regional impacts from carbon monoxide (CO), mobile source air toxins (MSATs), and greenhouse gases (GHGs).</p>	<p>Multiple alternatives for environmental impacts and ability to meet the Study's Purpose and Need</p>	<p>Potential effects on natural resources including streams, wetlands, water quality, floodplains, threatened and endangered species, and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p>Potential effects to under-served communities, including minority and low-income populations, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations.</p>
	<p>Noise</p>	<p>Potential future noise from transportation impacts and possible noise barriers to mitigate noise impacts.</p>	<p>Existing and future traffic volumes, congestion, travel delays, and safety.</p>	<p>Potential impacts from known and potential hazardous materials, hazardous waste and contamination.</p>	<p>Potential impacts that can be addressed in the reasonably foreseeable future including land use development and local comprehensive plans.</p>

Study Timeline



Let Us Know Your Thoughts



Complete a public opinion survey/comment form at www.virginiadot.org/495southside or at the in-person public information meetings



Provide comments orally or in writing at the virtual or in-person public information meetings



Submit comments by email to: 495southsideexpresslanes@vdot.virginia.gov



Submit comments by mail to:
Nick Nies, AICP
VDOT 495 Southside Express Lanes Study Project Manager
9030 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 220
Richmond, VA 23235



Call VDOT at: 703-691-6715

All comments must be received by June 21, 2022.

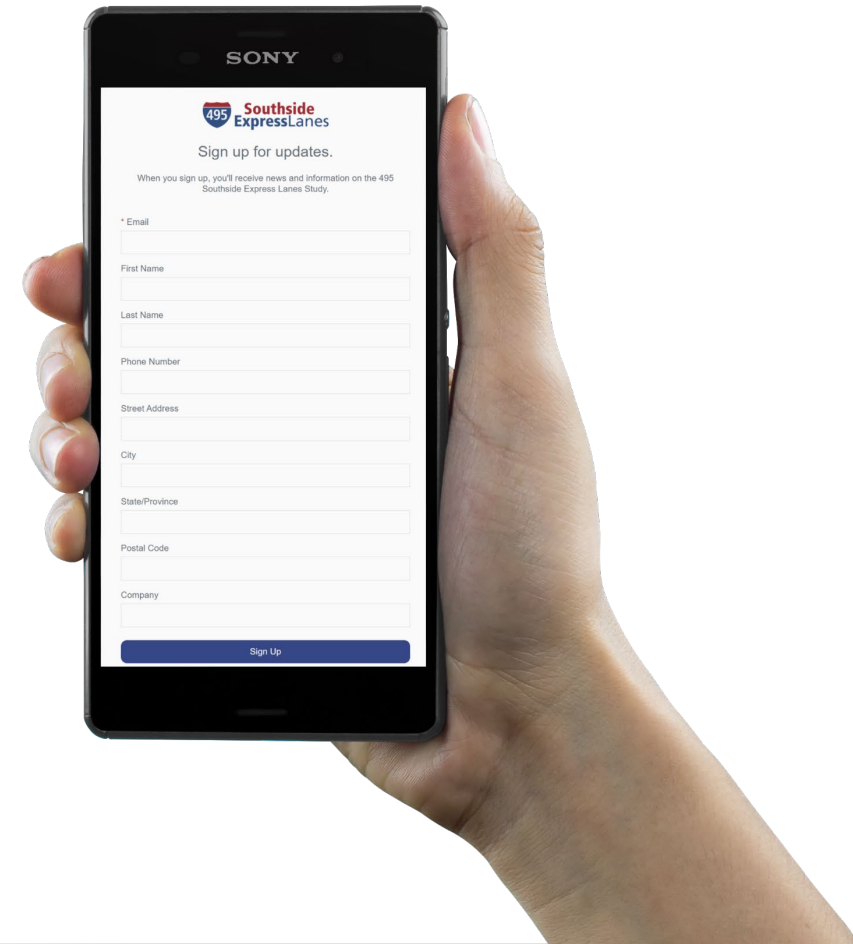
Stay Involved

- Visit the study website for updates
- Sign up for the e-newsletter
- Participate in future public involvement opportunities
- Contact us with questions or to request a community meeting

viriniadot.org/495southside

495southsideexpresslanes@vdot.virginia.gov

703-259-3752



THANK YOU

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