

I-95 Express Lanes Fredericksburg Extension (Fred Ex)

Public Hearing

September 25, 2017



Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

Provide information and gain public input:

- Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Design concepts
- Overall project update and schedule

Opportunities to provide formal comments for the public record:

- Submit written comments on the comment sheet
- Provide oral comments following the presentation or to a court reporter

The transcript from tonight's meeting will be used to obtain design approval from the Chief Engineer and then presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board.



Background

- Comprehensive Agreement executed in 2012 with 95 Express Lanes, LLC (95 Express) for 95 Express Lanes contemplated potential future extension of the 95 Express Lanes
- On August 22, 2017, VDOT and 95 Express signed an Advanced Development Framework Agreement outlining roles and responsibilities



Atlantic Gateway: Partnering to Unlock the I-95 Corridor (FASTLANE/TIGER Grants)

Virginia was selected to receive \$165 million dollar federal grant to improve more than 50 miles of the I-95/I-395 Corridor from Fredericksburg to the Pentagon.

Extend I-95/I-395 Express Lanes

DOT

- South to Fredericksburg (approx. 10 miles)
- North to the Pentagon (approx. 7 miles)
- Improve commuter rail service on VRE and Amtrak
- Construct third track in Fairfax County (approx. 8 miles)
- Design Improvements to Long Bridge (Potomac Crossing) (approx. 6 miles)
- Increase capacity on I-95/I-395 General Purpose Lanes
- Widen I-395 between Duke Street and Edsall Road
- Add new lanes across Rappahannock River
- Expand bus service and commuter parking spaces in the corridor

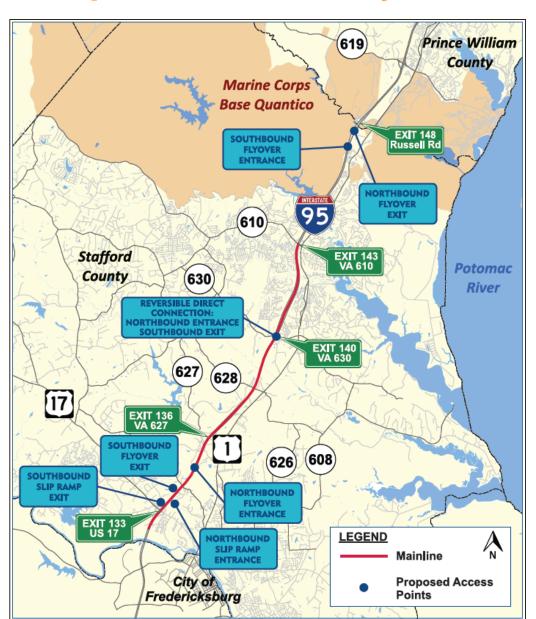








Express Lane Study Area





Purpose and Need

- Reducing daily congestion and accommodating travel demand more efficiently
- Providing greater reliability of travel times
- Expanding travel choices by increasing the attractiveness and utility of ridesharing and transit usage, while also providing an option for single- and double-occupant vehicles to bypass congested conditions



Environmental Analysis

Environmental Resource	Impact Estimates – Build Alternative
Property Impacts	Impacts to ~38 acres from 51 properties; No total acquisitions.
Cultural Resources	No adverse effect to historic properties (Effect determination will be coordinated with DHR following public comment period)
Environmental Justice	11 of 12 Census Blocks identified as having minority populations. Impacts will not be disproportionate or adverse.
Noise	Impacts to 190 noise-sensitive receptors; ~1.2 miles of sound barriers identified as reasonable/feasible
Wetlands	Impacts to ~3.2 acres of wetlands
Floodplains	Impacts to ~20.6 acres of 100-year floodplains that are already impacted by existing I-95
Wildlife/Wildlife Habitat	Impacts to ~83 acres of forested habitat (mostly in I-95 median)
Threatened, Endangered, and Special Status Species	Impacts to: ~177 acres of potential Northern Long-Eared Bat habitat; ~32.5 acres of Small Whorled Pogonia habitat; ~0.3 acres of harperella habitat; ~0.3 acres of freshwater mussel habitat
Hazardous Materials	21 sites of potential environmental concern

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I-95 Fred Ex Traffic Volumes and Benefits

- Large increases projected in daily traffic on I-95 corridor by 2042 (40,000 to 50,000 vehicles per day (vpd))
- Moves More People: Build Alternative increases throughput over No Build Alternative by 10,000 to 15,000 vpd (8 to 10 percent)
- Reduces Congestion: Build Alternative reduces General Purpose (GP) volumes by approximately 10 percent compared to No Build
- Provides Travel Choices: Express Lanes volumes vary from 26,000 up to 42,000 vpd within Study Corridor



I-95 Fred Ex Travel Times

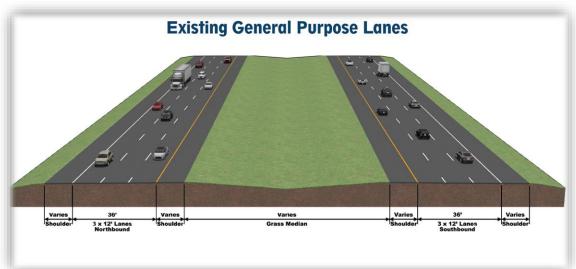
- Improves Travel Times: Build Alternative reduces GP travel times by 15 to 20 percent
- Increases Choices and Reliability: Build Alternative (Express Lanes) offers time savings of 35 to 50 percent over GP lanes

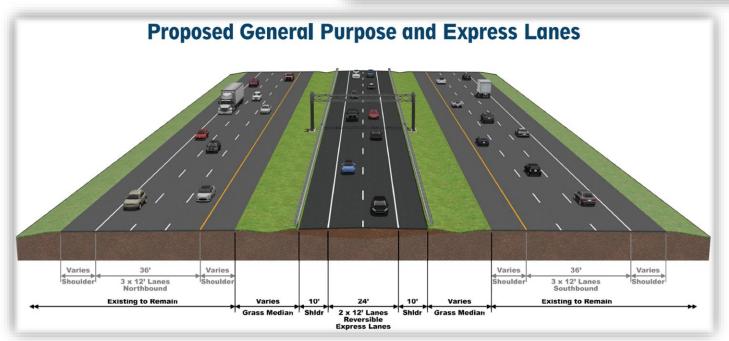
Direction & Time Period	Existing		2042 No Build		2042 Build		
	GP	Express	GP	Express	GP	Express	Express Savings
NB AM	26	-	37	-	32	16	16 min
SB PM	30	-	32	-	25	16	9 min

Corridor travel times from Rappahannock River to North of Exit 148 (approximately 18 miles).



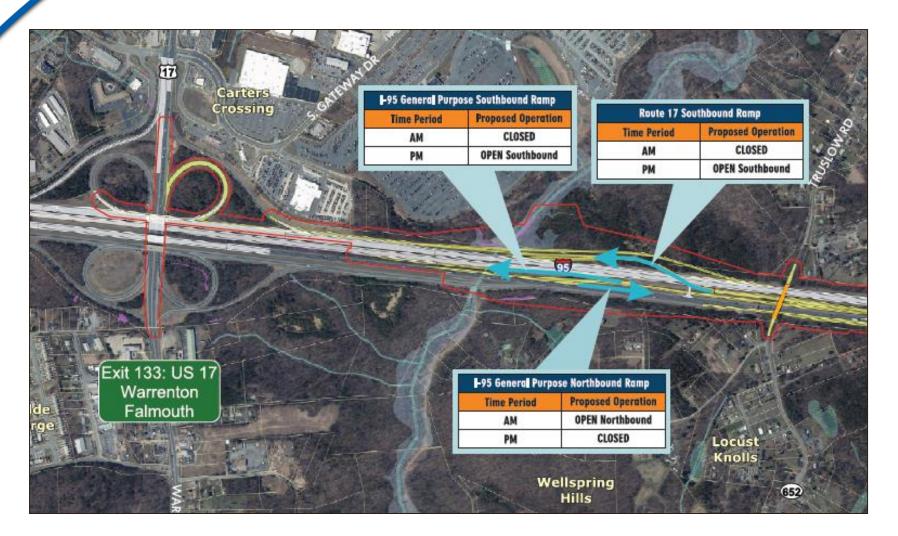
Typical Sections





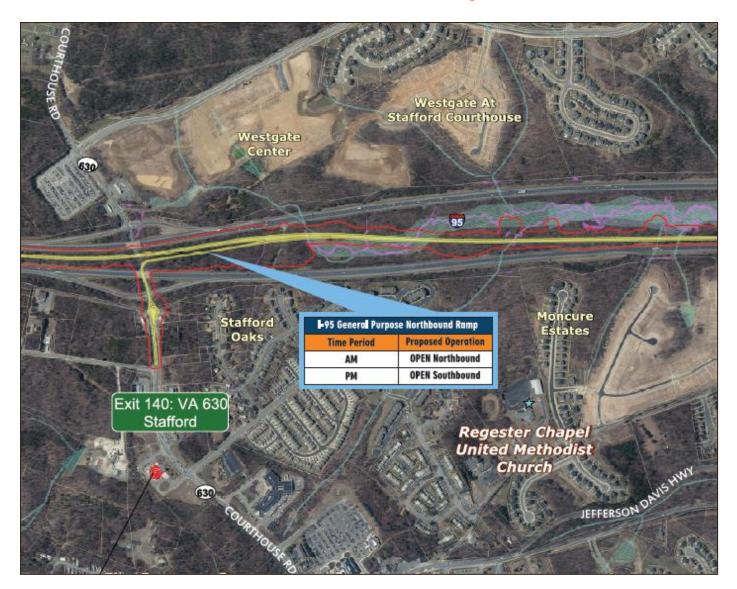


Access Points: Exit 133 (Route 17)





Access Points: Exit 140 (Courthouse Road)





Access Points: Exit 148 (Russell Road)





Key Milestones

Key Milestones	Begin Dates		
Public Outreach and Technical Coordination	Ongoing		
Begin NEPA – Environmental Assessment	January 2016		
Public Information Meetings	March 21 & 22, 2017		
Public Hearings	September 25, 2017		
Regional Long-Range Plan Decision	October 2017		
Final NEPA Decision (anticipated to be a Finding of No Significant Impact FONSI)	January 2018		
Procurement	Late 2017		
Begin Construction	Spring 2019		
Project Completion	2022		



How Express Lanes Work

EXPRESS LANES OPERATIONS CENTER

- Real-time data is collected
- Information is analyzed and a toll is calculated and displayed on the pricing signs
- The pricing ensures free-flowing travel speeds

MANAGING TRAFFIC

- There are federal requirements to maintain minimum travel speeds and therefore there is no maximum toll rate
- Dynamic tolls help to ensure requirements are met
- Tolls during off-peak hours cover operating and maintenance costs

SENSORS

- Sensors will be located approximately every 1/3 mile
- Sensors measure traffic volumes, speeds and how crowded the lanes are

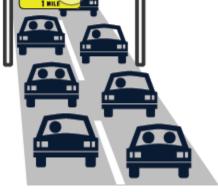


SOUTH

TOLL PRICES

- On-road technology collects data to price specific trips
- As traffic increases, toll prices increase to manage demand
- Toll prices adjust as often as every 15 minutes





EXPRESS LANES

REGULAR LANES



I-95 Corridor Project Summary

Project	Status	Completion Date	
I-95 Express Lanes Southern Terminus	Under Construction	Summer 2018	
I-95 Safety Improvements at Route 3 (Exit 130)	Under Construction	January 2019	
I-95/Route 630 (Courthouse Road) Interchange Reconstruction	Under Construction	July 2020	
I-95 Southbound Collector-Distributor Lanes – Rappahannock River Crossing	In Procurement	2022	
I-95 Express Lanes Fredericksburg Extension (Fred Ex)	In Design	2022	



How to Provide Comments

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 10, 2017

Tonight

- Submit written comments on the comment sheet
- Provide comments following the formal presentation or individually to the court reporter

Mail

Mail written comments to VDOT Fredericksburg District,
 Attn: Krishna Potturi, 87 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Email

 Email your comments or questions to <u>I95fredex@vdot.virginia.gov</u>

^{*}Please reference "I-95 Express Lanes FredEx" in the subject line of all correspondence.



Thank You for Coming