

Spring 2011 Update of the Columbia Pike Transit Initiative

Since the November 2010 public meetings, the project team has:

- Incorporated public comments into the project alternatives and their evaluation. Examples include:
 - Location and spacing of proposed transit stops.
 - Relative merits of the alignment and facility location options under consideration.
 - Sensitivity of residents to nearby transit facilities.
- Met with project stakeholders, community associations and property owners, and conferred with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
- Conducted additional technical analyses.
- Completed preliminary Alternatives Analysis (AA) assessment and Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluations.



What is the status of the Pike Transit Initiative?

The project schedule has been extended due to additional stakeholder coordination and required structural and technical analyses. This extra analysis gives us better information from which to make decisions. Some examples of the team's work efforts include:

- Determining a need to complete further engineering at Four Mile Run Bridge and Skyline Plaza, along the proposed alignments. This additional technical work will clarify what level of improvements is needed as planning and design for the project advances.
- Exploring another potential site in Arlington for an operations and maintenance facility. This provides the project some flexibility in the event that one of the previously identified sites becomes unavailable.
- Incorporating changes to the alignment proposed in the [Columbia Pike Multimodal Street Improvement Project](#), sponsored by Arlington County. This will accommodate better bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the east end of Columbia Pike.
- Coordinating regionally to ensure interoperability among new surface rail systems, ease of transfer with a common fare collection system and common signage, and use of compatible equipment and systems. This will create opportunities for cost savings through joint procurements.

What are the next steps?

Work for the remainder of the year will encompass:

- Finalizing additional structural and technical analyses.
- Completing analyses of potential operation and maintenance facilities.
- Preparing capital and operating cost estimates for the alternatives.
- Determining the best entity and formalizing the project's sponsorship.
- Meeting with and providing updates to the project Policy Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, and Community Coordination Committee.
- Continuing to meet with stakeholders and community associations to inform, answer questions, and receive comments from the public ([Contact Us](#)).
- Preparing final revisions to the Draft AA/EA prior to submitting it to the FTA for review and approval.
- Providing opportunities for public review and comment of the Draft AA/EA. This document should be available to the public by the end of the year.
- Preparing for the Public Meetings for review of the Draft AA/EA.



Learn More

- Visit www.piketranst.com and look out for the revised project schedule.
- Review the updated Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQs](#)).
- Provide your email address so you can stay better informed ([Contact Us](#)).
- Request a project briefing for your organized group ([Contact Us](#)).