

Western Bus Garage Replacement Project

Community Meeting #1
Project Kick-Off

January 31, 2023



Meeting Etiquette: In-Person

Help keep this meeting productive and respectful:

- Please adhere to the Q&A protocol:



Raise your hand to ask a question



Speak clearly into the microphone



Allow presenters, and those speaking, to finish

- When speaking:
 - Maintain a civil tone
 - Be mindful of time

Meeting Etiquette: Virtual

Help keep this meeting productive and respectful:

- Please adhere to the Q&A protocol:



Request to speak by typing your name in the chat

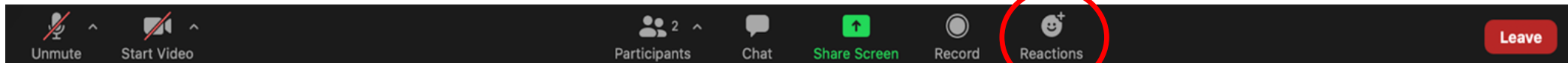
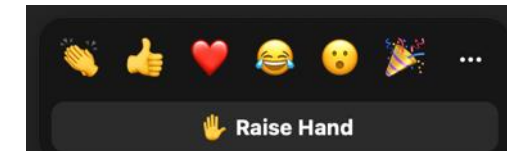


Type questions directly into the chat



Use the raise hand feature in Zoom

To raise your hand while dialing in, **press *9**



- When speaking:
 - Maintain a civil tone
 - Be mindful of time

Agenda – Project Kick-Off Meeting

-  Introduction & Western Bus Garage Background
-  WMATA Bus Facilities Rehabilitation Program
-  Future Garage Site & Next Steps
-  Community Engagement Plan
-  Q&A Listening Session

Project Speakers



Saba Gyemfi
Communications
Specialist



Ray Alfred
Vice President
Bus Maintenance



Liz Price
Vice President
*Real Estate &
Development*

Metro's Transit Facilities at Friendship Heights

1936 Western Bus Garage opens

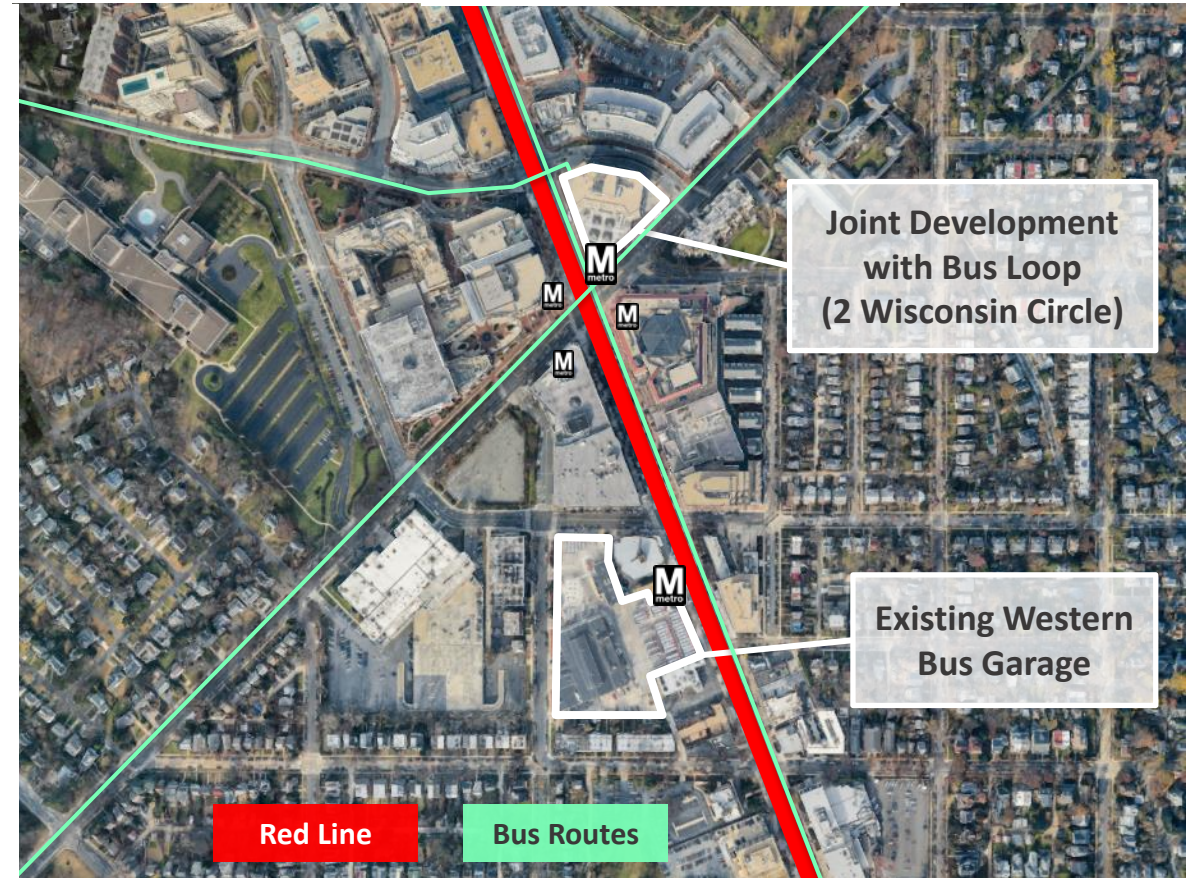
1984 Rail station opens

1984 Metro Joint Development opens
(2 Wisconsin Circle w/bus loop)

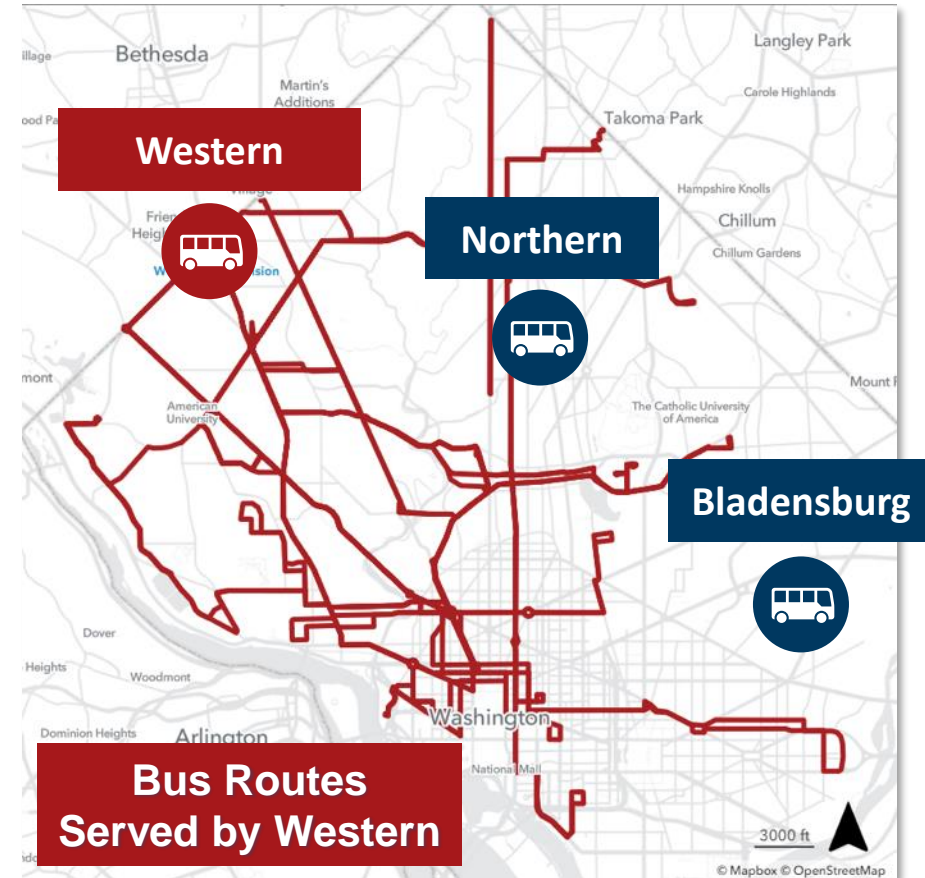
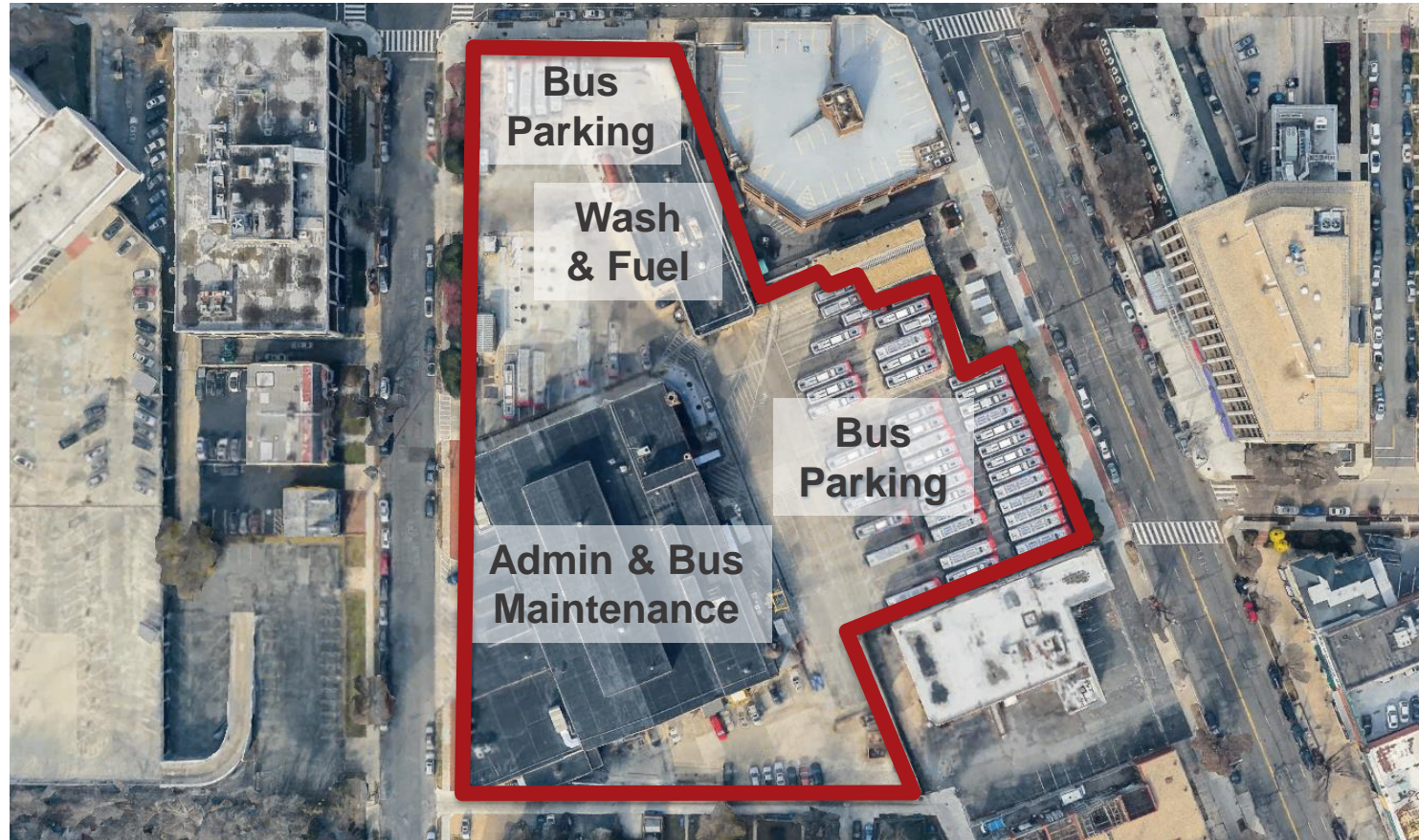
Station Ridership

Rail @ 30% pre-COVID levels

Bus @ 60% pre-COVID levels



Western Supports 117 Buses & 16% of DC Bus Routes



Western Bus Garage Needs to be Replaced



~90 years old &
costly to upkeep



Insufficient space for
operational needs



No space to support
zero-emission buses



Inadequate employee
facilities

Metro's Bus Facility Rehabilitation Program

- Aging garages need replacement to sustain transit operations—including bus maintenance/repair, wash, fuel, and overnight bus parking
- Northern & Bladensburg renovations underway
- Western added in 2022; to be replaced with similar capacity and support functions

Program Goals

- Create safer, sustainable and efficient bus operations & maintenance facilities
- Support transition to 100% zero-emission buses



Bladensburg Bus Garage



Northern Bus Garage

Zero-Emission Buses

- Metro is converting its bus fleet to be 100% zero-emissions by 2045
- A zero-emission bus has no "tailpipe" emissions
- The new Western Bus Garage will open as a 100% zero-emission bus facility



Northern Bus Garage Groundbreaking (Jan 2023)

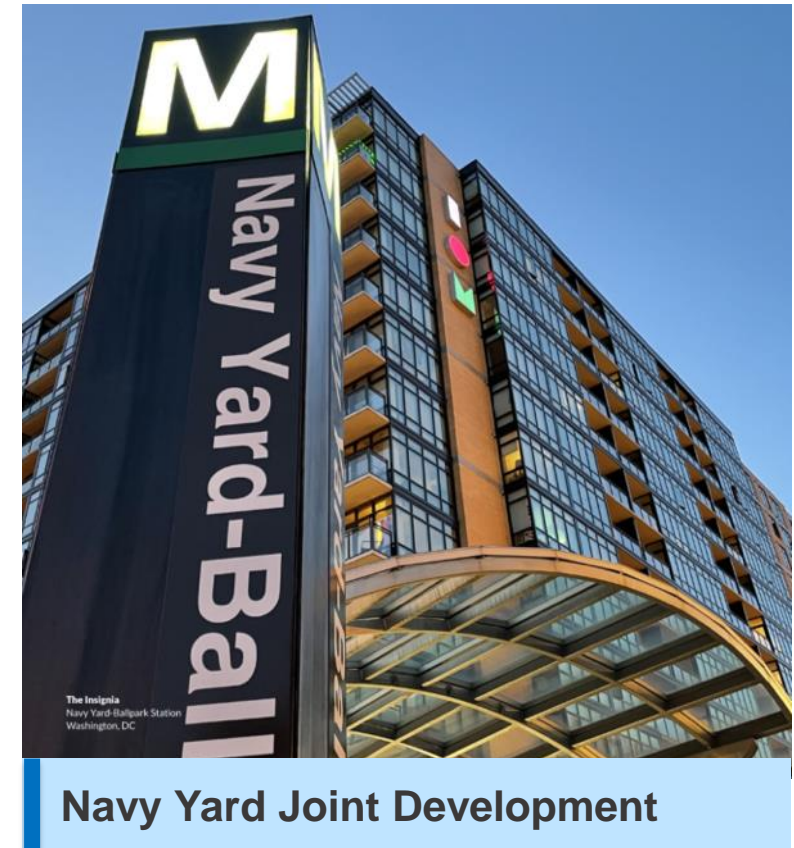
Metro's Office of Real Estate & Development

- Manages real estate assets (e.g., parking, bus loops, etc.)
- Promotes mixed-use development ("Joint Development")

17 million sq. ft. of mixed-used development to date
\$194 million in annual local & state taxes
5 million annual Metro trips generated

Role in WBG Replacement Project:

- Acquisition of property for future bus garage
- Exploration of housing and retail opportunities
- Lead future development on current garage site
- Coordinate with the District and local community



Rebuilding Western on Current Site is Not Feasible



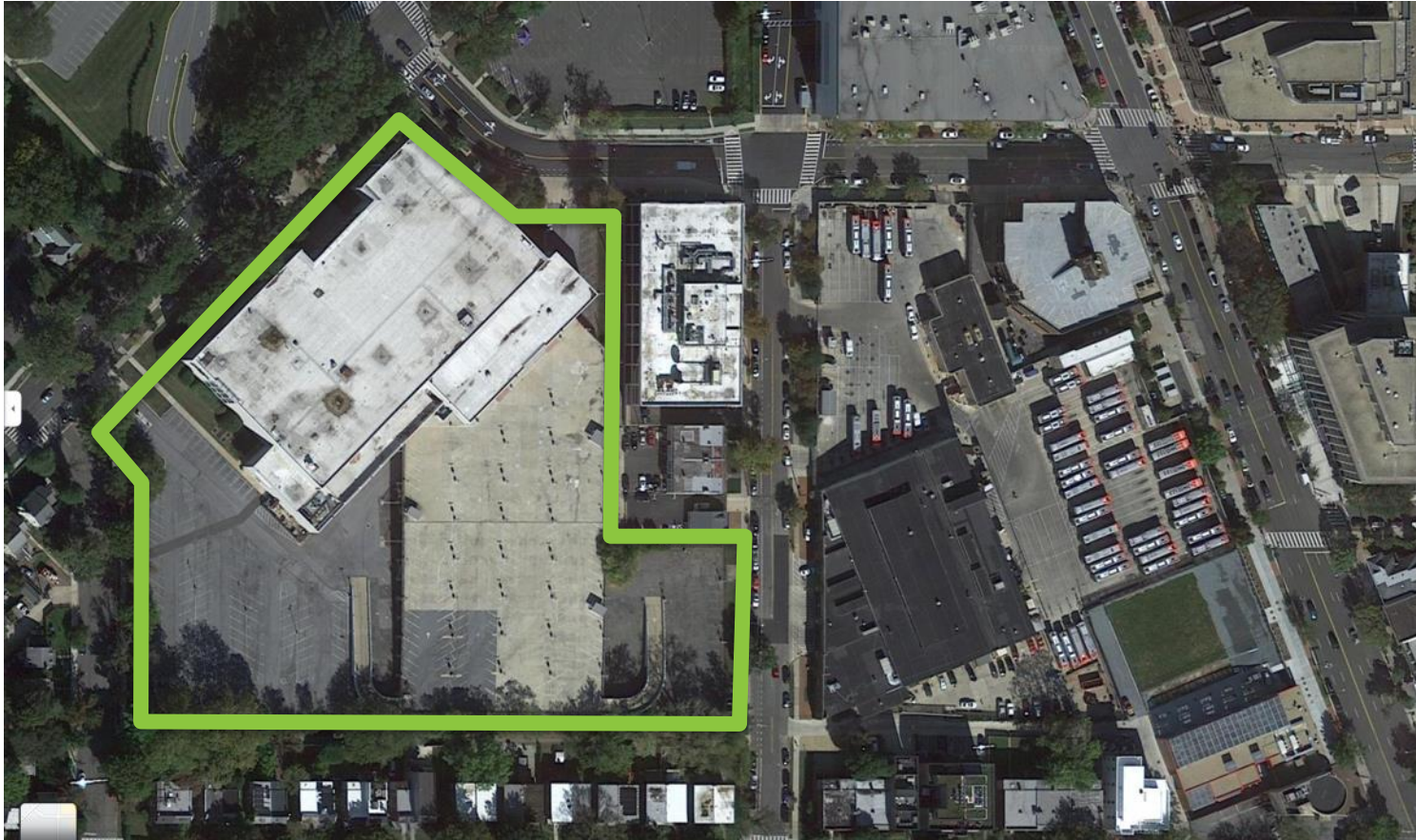
- X** Zero-emission buses cannot be accommodated within current facility
- X** Property size & irregular shape requires more levels/floors
- X** Requires temporary facility for operations during construction
- X** Difficult to incorporate other uses (e.g., housing, retail, etc.)

Other Sites Evaluated Have Significant Challenges



- X** Located too far from bus routes
- X** Increased non-revenue bus trips & operational costs (“dead-heading”)
- X** Environmental issues
- X** Federal property restrictions
- X** Complex permitting

Lord & Taylor Selected as Preferred Site



- ✓ Larger size supports more efficient multi-story bus garage layout
- ✓ Accommodates transition to 100% zero-emission buses
- ✓ Construction can occur without impacting existing operations
- ✓ Potential to incorporate other uses (e.g., retail, housing, etc.)
- ✓ Allows for redevelopment of existing site along Wisconsin Ave

Key Issues Still to be Addressed



- ➔ Site acquisition
- ➔ Site access
- ➔ L&T historic nomination
- ➔ Funding
- ➔ Community input

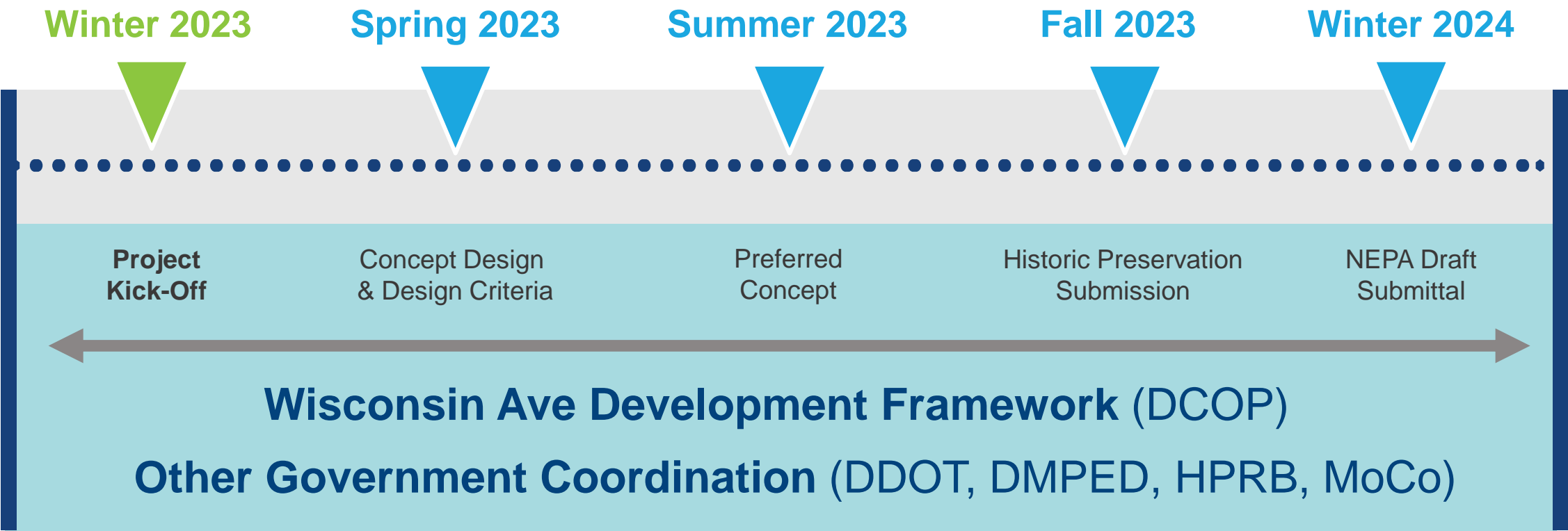
Tentative Project Schedule & Key Milestones



Timeline is subject to change to account for regulatory approvals
NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act











Conceptual Planning & Community Engagement



Timeline is subject to change to account for regulatory approvals



Community Engagement Priorities

Project Awareness	Collaborative Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project website wmata.com/WesternBusGarage Quarterly community workshops Quarterly e-newsletters Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community outreach Share & evaluate concept options Gather & respond to feedback Select preferred concept

Q&A Listening Session

What should WMATA consider when planning the future Western Bus Garage?



In-person

- Raise your hand if you'd like to ask a question
- Share written comments on thematic boards



Virtual

- Type comments directly into the chat
- Raise your hand if you'd like to ask a question

Existing WBG Site
Future L&T Site
Access & Circulation
Urban Design
Environmental
Other/Miscellaneous

How to Follow-Up on the Project



Next Steps

- Quarterly e-newsletter
- Develop concepts for future bus garage



Sign Up For Project Updates

[wmata.com/
WesternBusGarage](https://wmata.com/WesternBusGarage)



Spring 2023 Community Workshop

Present future
bus garage
concept options