



CAPACITY & RELIABILITY STUDY

STUDY BACKGROUND

Metro has begun the Blue/Orange/Silver Capacity & Reliability Study, an exciting and forward-thinking two-year Alternatives Analysis, to meet the Metro System's most urgent needs, both today and in the future.

Looking Ahead

As the region's population and economy grow over the next 20 years, Metrorail ridership on these three lines is projected to increase by 18% (and by 30% during peak periods). Peak trains are already crowded and ridership will increase, but Metro cannot run more trains on the three lines. By acting now to address service limitations on the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines, Metro can both improve near-term service and meet this future growth to maintain improved service levels into the future.

Goals and Outcomes

The goal of this Alternatives Analysis is to identify infrastructure and operational improvements that maintain quality service and meet riders' short- and near-term transit needs. To reach this goal, Metro will develop and evaluate a range of options for providing more frequent and on-time train service, better managing and responding to service disruptions and crowding, and making Metro more energy- and cost-efficient.

To stay informed and get involved, visit wmata.com/BOSstudy

WHY ARE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED ON ?



Serve Ridership Needs

Trains and stations on the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines are already hitting Metro's limits for crowding during peak times...and the crowding will only worsen as the region and its economy continues to grow.



Maintain and Improve On-Time Performance

While on-time performance is improving, increased ridership will worsen the effects of delays when they occur. If Metro cannot improve performance on the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines, future delays will affect all three lines and cause ripple effects on other lines in the system.



Increase Flexibility

The physical constraints on the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines also limit Metro's ability to run different service patterns, including where and how often trains operate. For example, Metro needs more of the type of infrastructure (such as pocket tracks and crossovers) that can allow trains on shared tracks to pass one another, while at the same time lessening the impacts of moving trains around work zones and enabling smarter service patterns for special events. Metro's ability to run varied service patterns such as these could also improve cost-efficiency by building the capacity and flexibility to increase service where demand for it is strong, and to maintain or reduce service levels in other areas until demand increases.



Meet Sustainability Targets

Transit is inherently better for the environment than driving, but there are many ways a transit system can be even greener. Metro's Sustainability Initiative includes both financial and environmental goals to help make Metrorail more cost effective and energy efficient, and the BOS Study will seek to further them.

BL OR SV STUDY PROCESS & TIMELINE

Stakeholders and the public will be actively engaged in helping to identify and evaluate potential alternatives, as well as in selecting a Locally Preferred Alternative. The process will be guided by input from both internal and external advisory committees.



2019 SPRING
PURPOSE & NEED
 Purpose and Need statement defined, based on key issues and trends assessment in the study area.

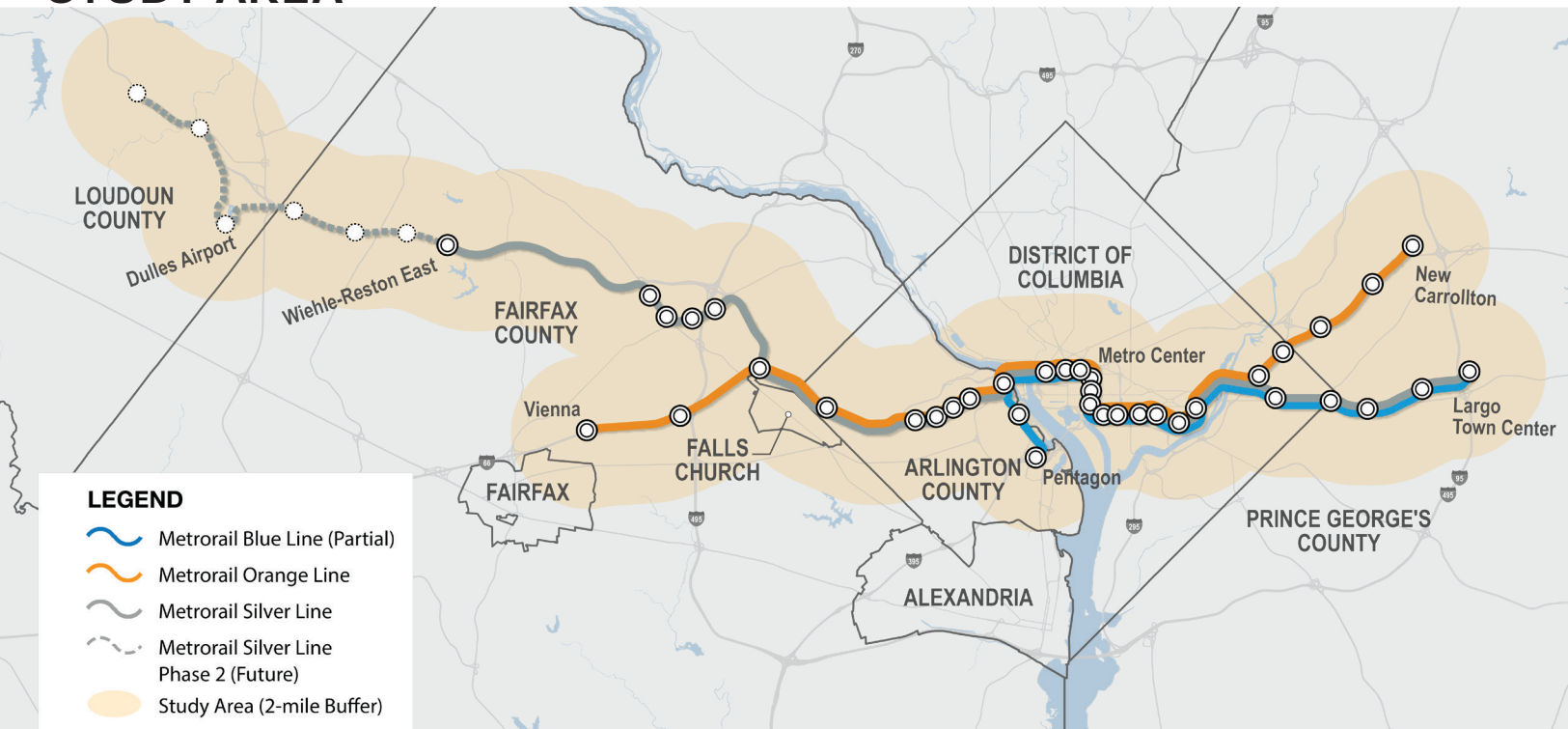
2019 SUMMER
ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT
 Conceptual design for a set of options that address the Purpose and Need.

2019 FALL
ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION
 Comparison of alternatives based on a set of evaluation criteria.

2020 WINTER
COST / BENEFIT ANALYSIS
 Assessment of total construction and operating costs for each alternative against all the benefits it would produce.

2020 SPRING / SUMMER
SELECTION OF PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE
 Selection of preferred solution based on the comparative analysis of alternatives and public/stakeholder input.

STUDY AREA



WHAT IS AN ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS?

An Alternatives Analysis is a process for evaluating the costs, benefits, and impacts of transportation improvements along a transit corridor. This process accomplishes the following:

- A thorough evaluation of Metro's needs and opportunities;
- A range of options for addressing those needs;
- A high level of stakeholder and public engagement;
- The selection of a locally-preferred alternative (LPA); and
- The necessary documentation to apply for federal transportation funds.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

E-mail the Office of Planning at BOSstudy@wmata.com with general questions about the study.

Visit our project webpage at wmata.com/BOSstudy for ongoing updates, feedback opportunities, and to sign up to receive updates on the project.