



Commuter Choice

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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OVERVIEW

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022

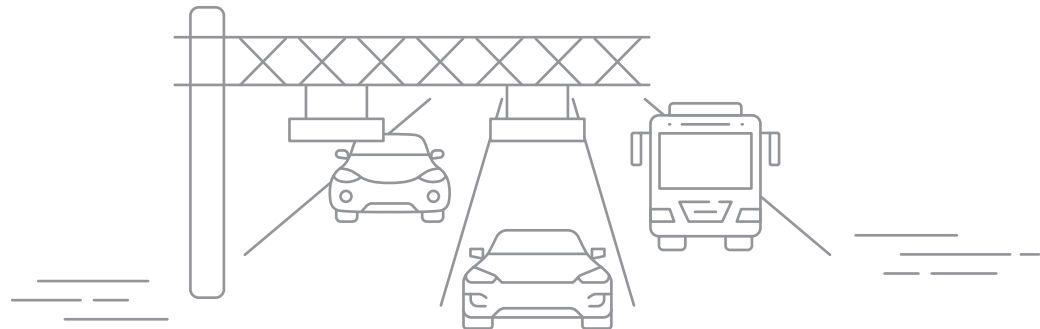


Commuter Choice, a trailblazing, innovative and competitive grant program, reinvests Express Lanes toll revenues in public transit and other transportation improvements along the I-66 and I-395/95 corridors in Northern Virginia.

A partnership between the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Commuter Choice improves commuters' travel in some of the most congested corridors in the nation. NVTC selects projects for funding through a competitive process that considers each project's ability to support the program's goals of moving more people, supporting diverse travel choices and enhancing mobility, transportation safety and travel reliability.

Commuter Choice projects benefit Express Lanes toll payers in two main ways:

1. By offering more options, toll road users and transit riders can choose the means of travel that gets them to the places that they want to go.
2. By moving people more efficiently, Commuter Choice projects lessen congestion and support more consistent travel speeds for Express Lanes users.





Letter from the Executive Director

The Commuter Choice team at NVTC wrapped up Fiscal Year 2022 on an optimistic note. Even as travel patterns around the region continue to evolve, we saw several bright spots in our program.

For one, toll revenues in both the I-66 and I-395/95 corridors have reached late 2019 levels, affording more revenue for projects that improve travel for Northern Virginia residents and workers in both corridors. While our region’s transit providers continue to adapt to lower peak-period ridership, a number of our projects are once again meeting or exceeding their peak-period goals, with some providing substantial benefit to off-peak travelers as well. Commuter Choice-funded projects moved over five times as many people each weekday this spring as they did a year ago.

As we mark five years since Commuter Choice began, we’ve also estimated for the first time the broader benefits of our funding to Northern Virginia’s economy, commuters’ pocketbooks and the environment. The impact of the \$92.7 million we’ve invested in expanded travel options to date is impressive. Our projects have so far saved Northern Virginia commuters 894,000 hours of travel time, led to 82.5 million fewer vehicle miles traveled, saved commuters \$12 million in fuel costs, lowered greenhouse gas emissions by 69% relative to drive-alone travel and avoided over 100 automobile crashes.

It’s important to remember that we’re in the early years of multi-decade investments that will benefit generations of people who live, work and travel in Northern Virginia. We’re excited that our \$15.1 million I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects approved in June includes \$7 million for two rail capital improvements providing benefits for decades to come.

As we look toward our next I-395/95 Commuter Choice call for projects this fall, we’re engaging with applicants over potential capital projects that would align well with program requirements and make measurable improvements to our regional transportation network.

And as our region’s Express Lanes network continues to grow, with I-66 Outside the Beltway and I-95 Fredericksburg extensions soon to open, we’re excited to support jurisdictions and transit operators in our region in providing new options that will allow more commuters to take advantage of these megaprojects’ travel speed and reliability advantages.



Kate Mattice
Executive Director




I-66 COMMUTER CHOICE

FY 2023-2024
PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

\$15.1
MILLION AWARDED

7 PROJECTS

OVER
4,000
DAILY TRIPS IN
THE CORRIDOR





Newly funded projects leverage major Commonwealth and regional investments in the road and rail transit networks

I-66 Commuter Choice in FY 2022

With I-66 toll revenues picking steadily back up throughout FY 2022, NVTC and the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved a \$15.1 million I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects in June. Our largest awards for this round include \$7 million to complete the funding for a second entrance at the Ballston-MU Metro station that will improve access to nearby transit-oriented development and a new parking facility at the Manassas Park Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station that will help restore VRE ridership by also supporting a large mixed-use development adjacent to the station. Taken together, these two awards leverage over \$160 million in other committed Commonwealth, regional and local funds.

I-66 Commuter Choice projects saw marked improvements in performance in FY 2022 and, with the help of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes opening in December 2022, are poised to provide even greater travel time savings and reliability for commuters moving forward. This round, the I-66 Commuter Choice Program awarded funding to continue three Fairfax Connector and OmniRide express bus routes, a temporary fare-reduction campaign for commuter bus routes originating in Prince William County and a segment of the I-66 Trail at the Vienna Metro station, all of which will leverage the Commonwealth's historic investment in transforming Outside the Beltway travel while also benefitting I-66 Inside the Beltway toll payers.



Key I-395/95 Commuter Choice investments exceeded performance expectations in FY 2022

I-395/95 Commuter Choice in FY 2022

I-395/95 Commuter Choice continues to see strong transit ridership and usage trends among its funded projects while the region settles into new travel patterns. Commuter Choice-supported projects at OmniRide and DASH met and exceeded person throughput targets, a welcome indicator that program funding remains critical in providing commuters with alternative travel options in the I-395/95 corridor and that Northern Virginia transit operators are effectively identifying service improvements that garner strong ridership. In particular, DASH's enhanced, all-day service on two local routes (Lines 35 and 36) and OmniRide's express bus services from Stafford and Prince William Counties (Routes 543, 942 and D-200) performed well throughout the year and especially in spring 2022.

NVTC expects a fully funded I-395/95 Commuter Choice FY 2024-2025 program, for which the call for projects will open in November 2022. To encourage capital project applications — in part to ensure permanent investments that will benefit commuters for decades to come and a balance of transit operations and other types of projects as required under the program's governing agreement — NVTC staff began discussions with eligible applicants early this summer to workshop possible capital project ideas that would be a good fit for the program. NVTC looks forward to a robust set of applications when the Call for Projects closes in January 2023, with program approval slated for June 2023.

Northern Virginia's Transit Providers Adapt to New Patterns and Challenges

NVTC tracks regional travel trends and supports Commuter Choice applicants and funding recipients in responding to evolving needs for transit service and other travel options.

Bringing Back Service Brings Back Riders

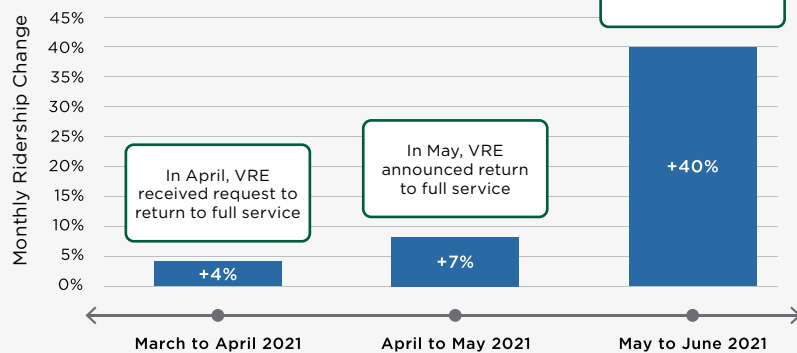
Convenient transit service fosters ridership growth. For instance, Virginia Railway Express ridership increased markedly following full restoration of pre-pandemic service levels in June 2021. Commuter Choice projects, which are operated by several of Northern Virginia's transit providers, are again at full service levels where practicable and their performance was up significantly in spring 2022 relative to spring 2021.



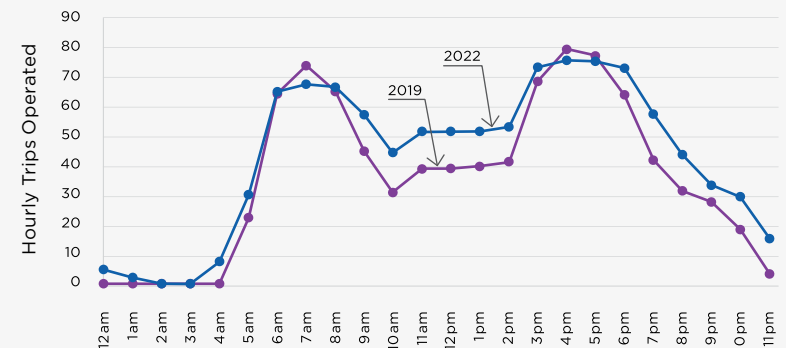
But Riders' Needs Have Changed

Northern Virginia transit ridership is now spread more evenly throughout the day. DASH and the City of Alexandria recognized this trend quickly and redesigned the DASH network in September 2021 to emphasize frequent all-day service on core routes. DASH ridership rebounded to pre-pandemic levels by spring 2022. The Commuter Choice team supports eligible applicants in crafting project proposals whose benefits can extend to both peak- and non-peak-period travelers.

VRE RIDERSHIP GREW WITH RESTORATION OF FULL SERVICE



DASH PROVIDED MORE MIDDAY AND EVENING SERVICE IN 2022 THAN 2019

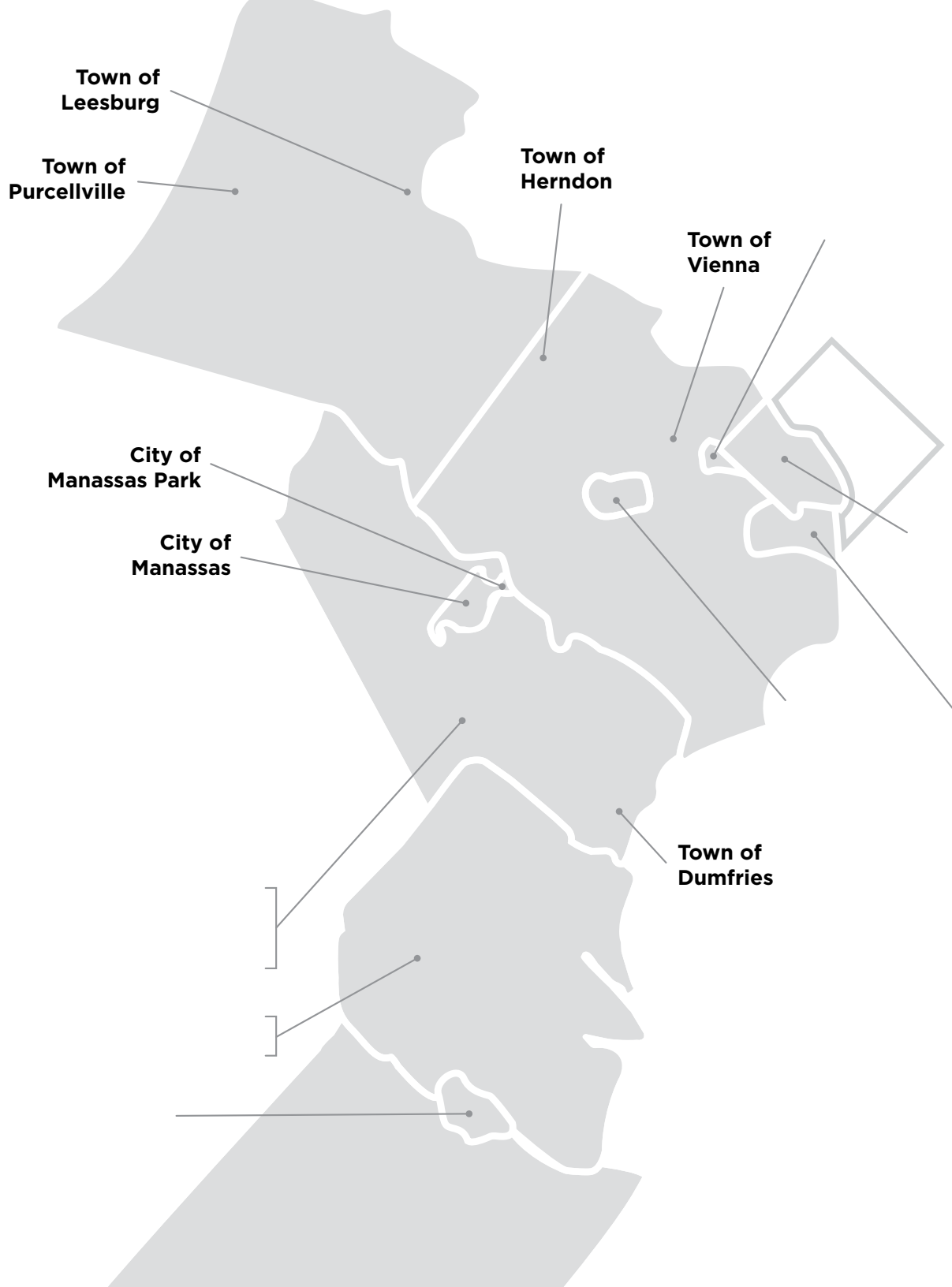




Active Projects

as of June 30, 2022

- Bus Service
- Access to Transit
- Rail Capital
- Park-and-Ride
- Roadway Operations
- TDM



BUS SERVICE

- 1 **Arlington County - Enhanced Bus Service on Metrobus 3Y: Lee Highway-Farragut Square** I-66
Funding: \$1,040,000
- 2 **DASH - Enhanced Bus Service from Van Dorn Metro to the Pentagon** I-395
Funding: \$5,734,000
- 3 **DASH - Enhanced Bus Service from Mark Center to Potomac Yard** I-395
Funding: \$3,650,000
- 4 **Fairfax County - New Bus Service from Stringfellow to L'Enfant Plaza** I-66
Funding: \$4,326,000
- 5 **Fairfax County - New Bus Service to the Pentagon with Gambrill and Backlick North Park and Ride Improvements** I-395
Funding: \$4,926,903*
- 6 **Fairfax County - Fairfax Connector Express Bus Service between Vienna/Fairfax-GMU and Pentagon Metrorail Stations** I-66
Funding: \$3,452,618
- 7 **Fairfax County - Fairfax Connector Government Center -Downtown DC, Route 699** I-66
Funding: \$5,276,336*
- 8 **Fairfax County - Enhanced Bus Service for Route 371: Lorton to Franconia-Springfield Metro Station** I-395
Funding: \$2,496,529
- 9 **Fairfax County - New Bus Service from Reston South to Crystal City** I-66
Funding: \$5,110,800
- 10 **FRED Transit - New Bus Service from Route 208 Park and Ride Lot to Fredericksburg VRE** I-395
Funding: \$1,218,800
- 11 **Loudoun County - Loudoun County Transit Metro Connection from New Purcellville Park and Ride** I-66
Funding: \$1,774,990*
- 12 **Loudoun County - Stone Ridge Enhanced Transit** I-66
Funding: \$2,472,970*
- 13 **Loudoun County - New Bus Service from Purcellville to DC** I-66
Funding: \$949,482
- 14 **Loudoun County - New Bus Service from Stone Ridge to Pentagon** I-66
Funding: \$1,257,226
- 15 **OmniRide - Gainesville to Pentagon Commuter Service** I-66
Funding: \$6,020,700*
- 16 **OmniRide - Enhanced Bus Service from Gainesville to DC** I-66
Funding: \$1,519,100
- 17 **OmniRide - New Bus Service from Haymarket to Rosslyn** I-66
Funding: \$913,800*
- 18 **OmniRide - Enhanced Bus Service from Dale City to Ballston** I-395
Funding: \$543,431*
- 19 **OmniRide - Enhanced Bus Service on Prince William Metro Express** I-395
Funding: \$997,176*
- 20 **OmniRide - Enhanced Bus Service on Route 1 Local** I-395
Funding: \$1,674,669*

- 21 **OmniRide - New Bus Service from Staffordboro to Downtown D.C.** I-395
Funding: \$4,537,508*
- 22 **OmniRide - New Bus Service from Staffordboro to the Pentagon** I-395
Funding: \$4,200,073*

ACCESS TO TRANSIT

- 23 **City of Fairfax - Bike Share Implementation** I-66
Funding: \$460,000
- 24 **City of Fairfax - CUE Access and Technology Improvements** I-66
Funding: \$965,000
- 25 **Fairfax County - I-66 Corridor Vienna/Merrifield Bike Share Expansion** I-66
Funding: \$497,100
- 26 **City of Falls Church - Expanded Transit Access, Bike Share** I-66
Funding: \$500,000

RAIL CAPITAL

- 27 **Fairfax County - McLean Metro Station North Entrance** I-66
Funding: \$1,000,000

PARK-AND-RIDE

- 28 **Prince William County - Horner Road Park and Ride Lot Expansion** I-395
Funding: \$2,800,000
- 29 **Spotsylvania County - New Park and Ride Lot in Massaponax** I-395
Funding: \$1,100,000

ROADWAY OPERATIONS

- 30 **Arlington County - U.S. 29 HOV and Bus-Only Lane in Rosslyn** I-66
Funding: \$710,000

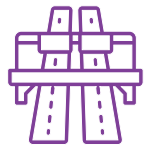
TDM

- 31 **Arlington County - Expanded TDM Outreach to the I-66 Corridor** I-66
Funding: \$2,050,000*
- 32 **Fairfax County - TDM Strategy - Fare Buy-Down on Bus Service from Reston North to Crystal City** I-66
Funding: \$154,500
- 33 **NVRC - New TDM Outreach Campaign for Military Facilities** I-395
Funding: \$396,184
- 34 **OmniRide - TDM Strategy - I-395/95 Corridor Vanpool Monthly Incentive** I-395
Funding: \$604,800
- 35 **OmniRide - TDM Strategy - I-66 Corridor Vanpool Parking Benefit** I-66
Funding: \$85,000
- 36 **Prince William County - New TDM Outreach to the I-66 Corridor** I-66
Funding: \$200,000

**denotes the total funded amount for projects funded in multiple rounds*

Benefits of Commuter Choice Funding

Commuter Choice-supported projects rebounded strongly in 2022 and continued to serve the region's commuters with reliable service. Over 4,000 more people moved through the two corridors each day this spring – **more than five times** 2021 figures.



22

**Transit, Access
To Transit & TDM
Projects in Service
in Spring 2022**

4,000+

PEOPLE moved each
weekday



850 PEOPLE

13 Projects



3,200 PEOPLE

9 Projects

\$24 MILLION

in regional economic
benefits from reduced
travel delay



100

automobile
crashes avoided



↓69%

greenhouse gas
emission reduction
relative to single-
occupancy trips



82 MILLION

fewer vehicle
miles traveled



\$12 MILLION

in fuel cost savings
for commuters



3.5 MILLION

trips on the I-66 &
I-395/95 corridors



900,000

hours of travel time savings



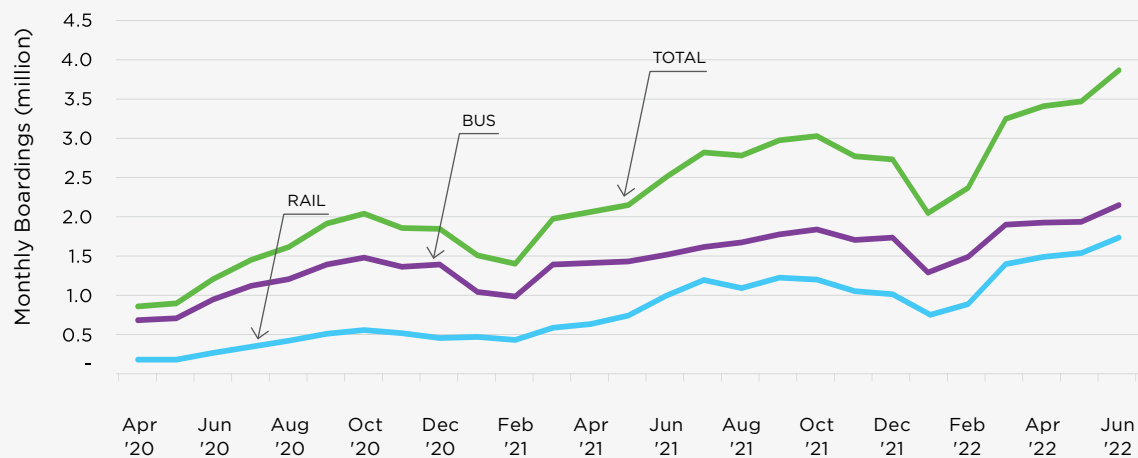
Yet, Commuter Choice's benefits extend well beyond daily ridership to include tangible improvements to the economy and quality of life in Northern Virginia. Using nationally recognized tools, we estimate that our \$92.7 million in awards to date have resulted in substantial benefits to the region.

Benefits of Commuter Choice Funding *(cont.)*

Commuter Choice in Context: Northern Virginia Transit Ridership Continues to Climb

As major employers in the region announced and implemented initial return-to-office plans in spring 2022, overall Northern Virginia transit ridership grew considerably. From January to June 2022, combined bus and rail boardings for all transit services in Northern Virginia nearly doubled, from just over 2 million to nearly 4 million boardings per month. Compared to June 2021, year-over-year monthly bus and rail boardings were up 54% in Northern Virginia.

TRANSIT BOARDINGS IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA



Source: Department of Rail and Public Transportation OLGA data

Commuter Choice Projects moved many more people each weekday in Spring 2022 compared to Spring 2021:



3x
as many



7x
as many

94% of surveyed regional commuters who use alternatives to driving alone recognize the benefits they receive from doing so—such as saving money and having a better quality of life.

Source: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board 2022 State of the Commute Survey Draft Report

Leading the Way: Project Highlights in 2022



DASH Lines 35 and 36

DASH and the City of Alexandria launched a revamped route network in September 2021 that greatly simplified and improved local bus service in Alexandria, with Commuter Choice funding enabling 10- to 15-minute all-day, daily service on two key routes: Line 35 between Alexandria's West End and the Pentagon and Line 36 between the Mark Center and Potomac Yard. Since the improvements launched along with fare-free travel on all DASH service, ridership on both routes increased massively from that of the previous iterations of the routes (even pre-pandemic), and is above the projections that DASH provided with the funding applications. Taken together, expanded service on the two routes is supporting over 2,000 additional trips on an average weekday.



OmniRide Routes from Stafford County

In 2021, OmniRide received Commuter Choice funding to continue two highly successful express commuter routes originating in northern Stafford County, Routes 543 and 942. Traveling to downtown Washington and the Pentagon, these routes saw over 500 average daily riders in spring 2022, more than doubling their expected



ridership. These two projects started in late 2019 with Commuter Choice funding and currently support 11 daily trips in the I-395/95 corridor. Each route saw consistent ridership throughout the early stages of the pandemic and continues to be a vital resource to the some of the region's longest-distance commuters.

Rail Capital Investments in the I-66 Corridor

NVTC's I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects, approved in June 2022, included a total funding commitment of \$7 million to capital improvements that will support the Metrorail and VRE systems. The \$7 million not only reflects the largest allocation to capital projects in the program's history, but also leverages over \$160 million in other federal, state and local funding, freeing up Commonwealth and other regional funding sources to invest in other vital transportation projects. The Manassas Park VRE parking garage and second entrance at the Ballston-MU Metro station are critical, regional investments that, thanks to I-66 Commuter Choice funding, are fully financed and ready to proceed to construction. Both will help enable infill development close to transit, affording new residents more ways to get around.

Looking Ahead to 2023 and Beyond



Supporting the Needs of Northern Virginia Commuters

Transit ridership data from FY 2022 showed that peak-period commute travel in the region saw the most significant downturns during the COVID-19 pandemic and has been the slowest to recover. However, Commuter Choice-supported projects are continuing to see rebounding ridership including many that are out-performing regional trends. NVTC will continue to assist eligible applicants develop project concepts that respond to the changing needs of the region's commuters.



Spreading the Benefits of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes

The region's transportation infrastructure continues to expand, offering more travel options as commuters settle into new travel patterns. In December 2022, the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes will open, ensuring greater trip reliability for long-distance commuters, especially those originating in Prince William County and traveling on OmniRide express routes as they will also benefit from a fare buy-down campaign funded by I-66 Commuter Choice.



A Transformative I-395/95 Commuter Choice FY 2024-2025 Program of Projects

The next I-395/95 Commuter Choice program kicks off in fall 2022. We expect at least \$45 million available for new transportation investments that move more people through the corridor each day. This level of funding will support strategic, transformative investments to Northern Virginia's transit infrastructure. To encourage a robust suite of applications that will benefit commuters for decades to come, staff has begun to discuss capital project concepts with eligible applicants on the I-395/95 corridor.



Preparing for the 95 Express Lanes Extension

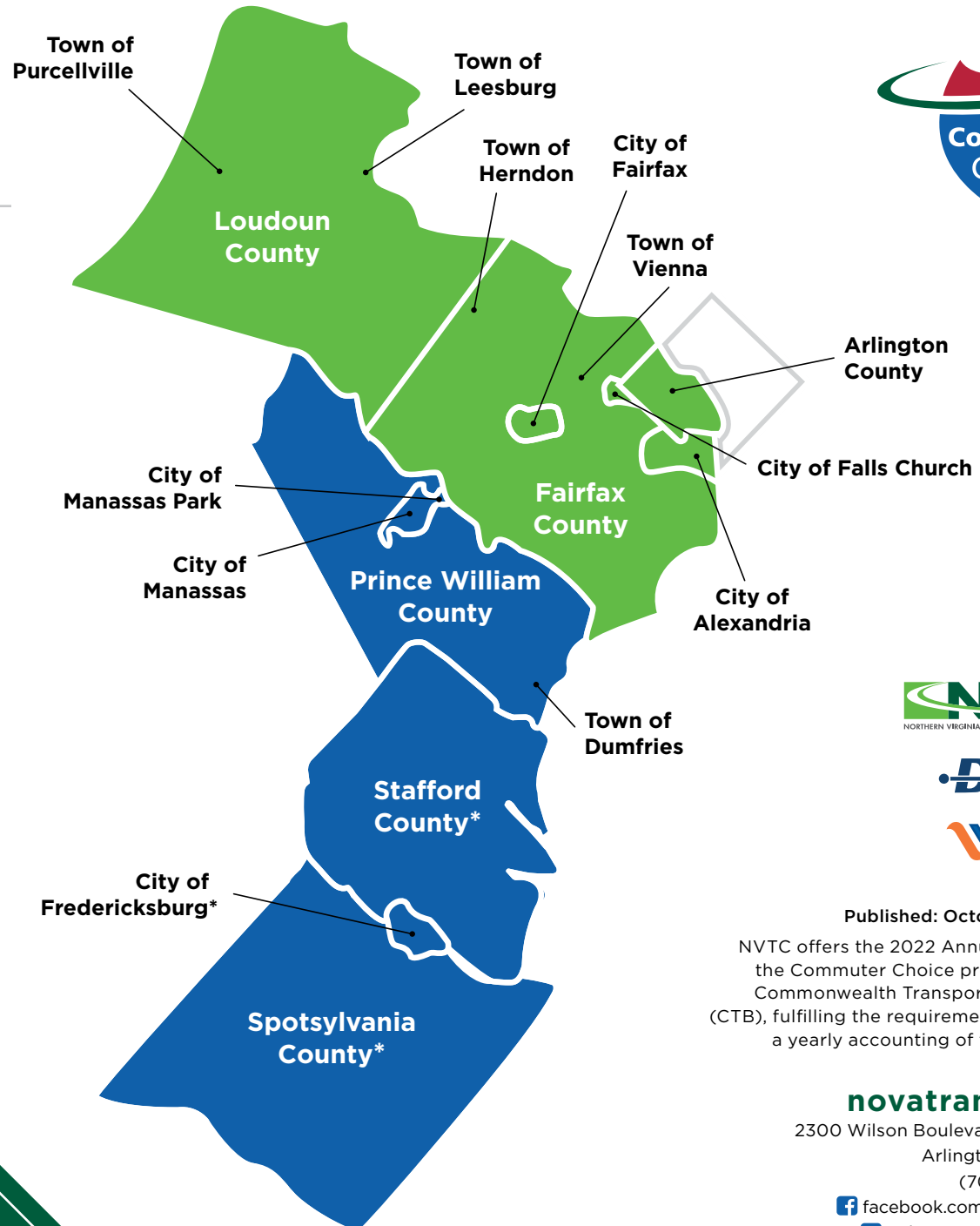
The 10-mile 95 Express Lanes extension to southern Stafford County — “FredEx” — is nearing completion, paving the way for new opportunities for express bus service and capital investments in the I-95 corridor. NVTC looks forward to supporting localities and transit providers in leveraging the 50 miles of continuous Express Lanes to afford commuters fast, reliable travel times when FredEx opens in 2023.

Eligible Applicants

Transit Agencies



**denotes jurisdiction eligible for Commuter Choice on the I-395/95 corridor only*



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NVTC offers the 2022 Annual Report of the Commuter Choice program to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), fulfilling the requirement to provide a yearly accounting of the program.

novatransit.org

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FY 2022 Status Summaries of Commuter Choice Projects

For up-to-date information, please visit

<https://novatransit.org/CCProjects>



New or Enhanced Bus Service Projects

Commuter Choice funds the operation of brand-new local, commuter and on-demand bus routes and the incremental costs of improvements, such as more frequent service or route extensions, to such routes that were already in place. The routes bring commuters into and through the I-66 Inside the Beltway or I-395/95 corridor.

The program supports up to 24 months of operations at a time, after which services must successfully re-compete for funding to continue with Commuter Choice support. Commuter Choice funding also supports capital expenses related to new and enhanced bus services. Capital expenses can include the purchase of buses, the construction or leasing of spaces at park-and-ride lots and improvements to bus stops to improve passenger comfort and information.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Enhanced Bus Service on Metrobus 3Y: Lee Highway-Farragut Square

Funding \$1,040,000

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Improves the peak-period frequency of Metrobus 3Y, a peak-direction route that operates between the East Falls Church Metro Station and downtown Washington, D.C. via U.S. 29. Commuter Choice was to support operation of expanded service for two years.

Project Status

The Metrobus 3Y service expansion operated between December 2019 and March 2020, with increased ridership over that period. Although Metro restored partial service on the route in September 2021, Arlington County does not expect demand to warrant restoration of the Commuter Choice project's frequent service levels and is therefore preparing to close out the project.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA/DASH

Enhanced Bus Service from Van Dorn Metro to the Pentagon

Funding \$5,734,000

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Expands DASH's restructured West End-Pentagon bus service (Line 35) to every 10 minutes on weekdays and 15 minutes on weekends along the entire route, improving connectivity for riders from the West End/Beauregard area of Alexandria to the Van Dorn Street and Pentagon Metrorail stations. Commuter Choice funding supports two years of enhanced operations and capital improvements along the route - improved bus stop amenities, new real-time arrival displays at busy stops and upgrades to existing signal priority equipment.

Project Status

Service on DASH Line 35 commenced in September 2021 with DASH's route redesign launch and has been the network's top performing route in terms of average daily ridership over much of FY 2022, with ridership increases on each day of the week. Using a combination of Commuter Choice, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation's Transit Ridership Incentive Program to support fare-free operations and other funding, enhanced service on this route will continue through at least August 2023.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA/DASH

Enhanced Bus Service from Mark Center to Potomac Yard

Funding \$3,650,000

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Expands daily service on DASH's restructured West-End - Potomac Yard route, which serves the Mark Center and Shirlington transit centers and soon the Potomac Yard Metrorail station,

to every 15 minutes every day of the week. Commuter Choice funding supports two years of enhanced operations, installation of real-time arrival displays and other improvements to bus stops.

Project Status

Service on DASH Line 36 commenced in September 2021 with DASH's route redesign launch. While Commuter Choice funding roughly doubled service on the route, weekly ridership has more than doubled. Using a combination of Commuter Choice, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation's Transit Ridership Incentive Program to support fare-free operations and other funding, enhanced service on this route will continue through at least August 2023.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

New Bus Service from Stringfellow to L'Enfant Plaza

Funding \$4,326,000

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Establishes new express bus service from the Stringfellow Park and Ride to L'Enfant Plaza in Washington, D.C., with 10 morning and 10 evening peak-direction trips that provide access to major employment areas, including federal agencies along the National Mall and Seventh Street SW. Commuter Choice has funded operation of the new route for two years and the purchase of six buses to enable the new service.

Project Status

Ridership on the new Route 697 has grown gradually since service began in August 2020 but has not approached the levels anticipated at the time of application. Once the current Commuter Choice funding is spent down, Fairfax County will maintain service for a brief period with its own resources, thereby increasing its overall financial commitment to the route, and expects to pursue further I-66 Commuter Choice support in the next funding round.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

New Bus Service to the Pentagon with Gambrill and Backlick North Park and Ride Improvements

Funding \$4,926,903

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Creates direct Fairfax Connector peak-period express bus service between the Backlick North Park and Ride lot and the Pentagon, with installation of secure bicycle parking and wayfinding improvements at the lot. Commuter Choice has funded operation of the new route for a total of four years, the purchase of four buses to enable the new service and the installation of secure bicycle parking at the park-and-ride lot.

Project Status

Route 396, which began operation in January 2020, operated at full service throughout FY 2022 and saw increasing ridership throughout the year. By early summer 2022, ridership had reached 160 average daily riders on weekdays, about half of the route's target.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

Fairfax Connector Express Bus Service between Vienna/Fairfax-GMU and Pentagon Metrorail Stations

Funding \$3,452,618

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Creates a new nonstop service, the Fairfax Connector 698 route, from the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metrorail station to the Pentagon Transit Center to enhance connectivity and access to transportation hubs, with 10 inbound and 10 outbound trips. Commuter Choice has funded the operation of the new route for two years and the purchase of four buses to enable the new service.

Project Status

Route 698 began service in January 2019. Like other Fairfax Connector transit routes, Route 698 operated at full service and saw ridership increase throughout FY 2022. Operation of the route will continue with funding from the I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects. Fairfax County is exploring funding options to extend the route to the Stringfellow Park-and-Ride.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

Fairfax Connector Government Center – Downtown DC, Route 699

Funding \$5,276,336

I-66 FY 2017-2018 and FY 2020 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Provides express bus service from the Fairfax County Government Center park-and-ride lot to major regional employment and educational centers - including The George Washington University campus, U.S. Department of State and World Bank - in Washington, D.C. This Fairfax Connector bus service provides 13 morning rush-hour inbound trips and 13 afternoon rush-hour outbound trips, with departures roughly every 15 to 20 minutes. Commuter Choice has funded operation of the new route for a total of four years and the purchase of five buses to enable the new service.

Project Status

Route 699, which began operation in December 2017, operated at full service throughout FY 2022. Ridership increased gradually and steadily throughout the year, though daily figures remain significantly below pre-pandemic levels, when the route was very popular with central

Fairfax County commuters for the direct, reliable service that it offers. Once the current Commuter Choice funding is spent down, Fairfax County will maintain service for a brief period with its own resources, thereby increasing its overall financial commitment to the route, and expects to pursue further I-66 Commuter Choice support in the next funding round.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

Enhanced Bus Service for Route 371: Lorton to Franconia - Springfield Metro Station

Funding \$2,496,529

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Shortens headways to every 15 minutes on weekdays on the Fairfax Connector Route 371, which operates between the Lorton Park and Ride lot and the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station. Commuter Choice funding supports two years of enhanced operations, the purchase of one bus and the expansion of Capital Bikeshare to the Franconia-Springfield area with four new stations.

Project Status

Fairfax County plans on commencing the enhanced service upon the delivery of new vehicles in fall 2023. Planning for the bikeshare expansion is underway.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

New Bus Service from Reston South to Crystal City

Funding \$5,110,800

I-66 FY 2022 Program of Projects

Project Description

Supports two years of operating costs for express bus service between the Reston South Park and Ride lot and employment areas in Arlington, namely the Pentagon, Pentagon City and Crystal City. Funds also support the purchase of six buses to operate the 10 morning and 10 evening peak direction trips.

Project Status

Fairfax County plans on commencing the new service upon the delivery of new vehicles in FY 2024.

CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG

New Bus Service from Route 208 Park and Ride Lot to Fredericksburg VRE

Funding \$1,218,800

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Creates and supports two years of a nonstop bus service between the Route 208 Park and Ride lot in northeastern Spotsylvania County and the Fredericksburg Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station. The project includes the purchase of two small buses, upgraded bus stop amenities and bicycle parking, providing better access to transit and mobility options for commuters.

Project Status

FRED Transit suspended VRE feeder service at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and it has not yet been reinstated. FRED continues to monitor VRE ridership to determine whether to move forward with this project.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Loudoun County Transit Metro Connection from New Purcellville Park and Ride

Funding \$1,774,990

I-66 FY 2019 and FY 2021 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Establishes a new bus service that connects riders from the Purcellville Park and Ride lot directly to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station. Commuter Choice has funded approximately four years of the route's operation. Commuter Choice also funded the lease of the park-and-ride lot until Loudoun County purchased it in late 2021.

Project Status

Service on the new route began in November 2018. Loudoun County has operated reduced service on this route since late 2020, with ridership slow to rebound since the pandemic. Once the Metro Silver Line Phase 2 extension opens in late 2022, the County will reroute the service to connect with Metrorail at the new Ashburn station and will restore full service on the route, better serving western Loudoun County commuters with convenient access to the region's rail network.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Stone Ridge Enhanced Transit

Funding \$2,472,970

I-66 FY 2017-2018 and FY 2020 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Establishes commuter bus service from the Stone Ridge II Park and Ride lot in Aldie. The lot, funded in part by Commuter Choice, triples the commuter parking capacity in the Dulles South area and includes passenger amenities such as bus shelters and bike lockers to encourage ridership and help resolve first- and last-mile issues. Commuter Choice has supported a total of approximately four years of operations as well as construction of the park-and-ride lot.

Project Status

Loudoun County Transit resumed service on the route in May 2022, with two morning and two afternoon trips. Ridership picked up gradually in the first several weeks of the restored service.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

New Bus Service from Purcellville to DC

Funding \$949,482

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Connects commuters from the Purcellville Park and Ride lot to major employment areas in Downtown Washington, D.C., including the State Department and the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. The route will feature one morning and one evening peak-direction trip. Commuter Choice funds the purchase of one bus and two years of operations.

Project Status

The new service began in August 2021. By spring 2022, ridership had increased and was above the route's target on peak travel days, showing a recovering market for long-haul commuter service from western Loudoun County.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

New Bus Service from Stone Ridge to Pentagon

Funding \$1,257,226

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Creates an express bus connection from the Stone Ridge II Park and Ride lot to the Pentagon, where riders can access multiple Metrorail lines, other regional bus providers and government shuttle routes. The route features two morning and two evening peak-direction trips. Commuter Choice funds the purchase of one bus and two years of operations.

Project Status

This new service began in August 2021. The route saw limited but gradually increasing ridership over FY 2022.

OMNIRIDE

Gainesville to Pentagon Commuter Service

Funding \$6,020,700

I-66 FY 2017-2018, FY 2020 and FY 2021 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Establishes a commuter bus service that connects residents in Gainesville, a rapidly growing community, to the Pentagon and Navy Yard in Washington, D.C. Commuter Choice has supported the purchase of four buses and approximately six years of operations.

Project Status

The Gainesville to Pentagon commuter bus service, which began service in December 2016, has been among OmniRide's most successful routes. Ridership grew throughout the year and saw over 300 riders per day, a high proportion of the route's pre-pandemic ridership target, in early summer 2022. Operation of the route will continue with funding from the I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects, with ridership expected to grow due to faster and more reliable service once the 66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes open.

OMNIRIDE

Enhanced Bus Service from Gainesville to DC

Funding \$1,519,100

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Adds two morning and two evening peak-direction buses between the Cushing Road Gainesville Commuter Lot and major employment areas in Washington, D.C., including the State Department, the World Bank and the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. Commuter Choice funds support the purchase of two buses and two years of operations with additional trips on the route.

Project Status

OmniRide is operating two of the four expansion trips given lower demand on this route. Ridership grew gradually over FY 2022.

OMNIRIDE

New Bus Service from Haymarket to Rosslyn

Funding \$913,800

I-66 FY 2020 and FY 2021 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Express bus service from the Haymarket Park and Ride lot, with 230 available spaces, connects commuters in Haymarket and Gainesville to the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor. Additional points of interest include stops at the Ballston, Clarendon, Court House and Rosslyn Metrorail stations and the Arlington campus of George Mason University. Commuter Choice has supported a total of approximately three years of operations.

Project Status

The route began service in July 2019. OmniRide has operated reduced service on the route over much of the last two years due to modest demand. Operation of the route will continue with funding from the I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects, with ridership expected to grow due to faster and more reliable service once the 66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes open.

OMNIRIDE

Enhanced Bus Service from Dale City to Ballston

Funding \$543,431

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Continues two morning and two evening trips from eastern Prince William County to employment areas in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor and the Pentagon. The route serves three commuter lots, including Horner Road, Telegraph Road and Dale City. Commuter Choice has supported approximately four years of enhanced operations.

Project Status

OmniRide operated full service on this route in FY 2022 and saw rebounding ridership throughout the year. By spring, ridership on the expansion trips was just above target levels, with about 60 weekday trips.

OMNIRIDE

Enhanced Bus Service on Prince William Metro Express

Funding \$997,176

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Increases rush-hour service frequency on OmniRide's express route and connects to the OmniRide Transit Center in Dale City, Potomac Mills Mall and the Franconia-Springfield Metro station. Buses will now arrive every 20 to 25 minutes during peak periods rather than 35 to 40 minutes. Commuter Choice funding has supported a total of approximately four years of operations.

Project Status

Expanded service began in October 2019, just prior to the 395 Express Lanes' opening. OmniRide operated full service on this route in FY 2022 and saw rebounding ridership throughout the year. In spring 2022, the service expansion was supporting nearly 200 weekday trips, well above projections.

OMNIRIDE

Enhanced Bus Service on Route 1 Local

Funding \$1,674,669

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Expanded service began in October 2019, just prior to the 395 Express Lanes' opening. Increases rush-hour service on OmniRide's Route 1 local route between Woodbridge and Quantico, serving Prince William County's major north-south spine and linking residential and retail concentrations. Commuter Choice funding has supported the purchase of one bus to support the additional service and a total of approximately four years of operations.

Project Status

OmniRide operated full service on this route in FY 2022 and saw rebounding ridership throughout the year. In spring 2022, the service expansion was supporting nearly 100 weekday trips, well above projections.

OMNIRIDE

New Bus Service from Staffordboro to Downtown D.C.

Funding \$4,537,508

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Introduces OmniRide commuter express bus service between the Staffordboro Commuter Lot, which previously only served slugs and carpools, and major employment areas in downtown Washington D.C. including Metro Center, Archives, Smithsonian and L'Enfant Plaza. Commuter Choice funding has supported the purchase of four buses and a total of approximately four years of operations.

Project Status

This route, which began service in October 2019, maintained much of its pre-pandemic ridership. In summer 2021, OmniRide increased service on the route from four daily roundtrips to five morning and six afternoon trips. As of spring 2022, the route had reached nearly 300 daily riders, well above ridership targets.

OMNIRIDE

New Bus Service from Staffordboro to the Pentagon

Funding \$4,200,073

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 and FY 2022-2023 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Introduces OmniRide commuter express bus service between the Staffordboro Commuter Lot, which previously only served slugs and carpools, and the Pentagon. Commuter Choice funding has supported the purchase of four buses and a total of approximately four years of operations.

Project Status

This route, which began service in October 2019, maintained much of its pre-pandemic ridership. In summer 2021, OmniRide increased service on the route from four to six daily roundtrips. As of spring 2022, the route had reached nearly 300 daily riders, well above ridership targets.



Access to Transit Projects

Commuter Choice supports projects that improve pedestrian and bicycle access from residential areas to nearby transit stations, hubs and stops in the I-66 inside the Beltway and I-395/95 corridors. Access to transit projects include the construction of new trails/paths, capital and operating expenses of bike share expansions and the installation of bicycle parking facilities at stations.

CITY OF FAIRFAX

City of Fairfax Bike Share Implementation

Funding \$460,000

I-66 FY 2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Supports the addition of four bike share stations in the City of Fairfax within the two-mile 'bike shed' of the Vienna Metrorail station. The stations will help residents and visitors connect to Metrorail, commuter buses and regional trails and add to the extensive Capital Bikeshare network, including a nearly complete expansion project in Fairfax County. Commuter Choice supports the purchase, installation and operation of new bike share locations.

Project Status

The City of Fairfax is finalizing contracts to purchase bike share equipment and is incorporating public feedback into final site selection.

CITY OF FAIRFAX

CUE Access and Technology Improvements

Funding \$965,000

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Improves access and comfort at CUE bus stops through the installation of shelters, benches, signage and real-time transit information displays. The project includes funding for a marketing campaign to increase awareness of CUE. Commuter Choice funding supports implementation of the access and technology improvements.

Project Status

The City of Fairfax is preparing to begin construction of the bus stop improvements in fall 2022, which will include new shelters in several locations. The city is also working with WMATA to install real-time information signage at the Vienna Metrorail station.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

I-66 Corridor Vienna/Merrifield Bike Share Expansion

Funding \$497,100

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Adds 10 new bike share stations, connecting residents to the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU and Dunn Loring-Merrifield Metrorail stations and regional trails. Commuter Choice is supporting the purchase and installation of the new bike share stations.

Project Status

The County constructed one bike share location in late 2021 and is in the process of obtaining permits and license agreements ahead of installation of the remaining locations.

CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Expanded Transit Access, Bike Share

Funding \$500,000

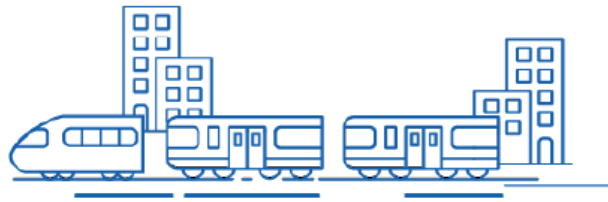
I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Supports operations of Capital Bikeshare stations in the City of Falls Church, near the East Falls Church and the West Falls Church Metrorail stations. The bike share stations fill a gap in the regional bike share network, increase travel options and reduce demand on the local highway system. Commuter Choice supports five years of operating assistance and maintenance for bike share locations in the city.

Project Status

The five years of Commuter Choice support for operations ended on June 30, 2022 and the City of Falls Church is preparing to close out the project. The city intends to utilize other resources to continue bike share operations.



Rail Capital Projects

Commuter Choice supports rail capital improvements to Metro and/or VRE facilities, including new station entrances, access enhancements and other projects that contribute to moving more people along the I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395/95 corridors.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

McLean Metro Station North Entrance

Funding \$1,000,000

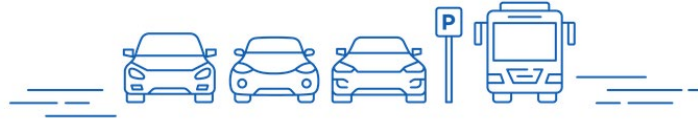
I-66 FY 2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Supports the addition of a second entrance to the McLean Metrorail Station on Scotts Crossing Road, reducing the time needed to access the station from the north. With up to 2,000 prospective residents moving into the redeveloping area north of the current station, this project will create a shorter, more convenient walk to the Metro and increase its visibility.

Project Status

The County has executed a construction agreement with Metro and expects work to begin in fall 2022. Construction of the new entrance is anticipated to take about a year.



Park-and-Ride Projects

Commuter Choice supports projects that construct or enhance park-and-ride lots with the ability to serve I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395/95 commuters. These park-and-ride lots support transit operations and TDM strategies such as express bus service, vanpool and carpool.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Horner Road Park and Ride Lot Expansion

Funding \$2,800,000

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Provides for the establishment of an additional 100 parking spaces at the Horner Road commuter lot through new construction and the reconfiguration of existing facilities, including improved access for pedestrians. The project will support ridership growth on several OmniRide bus services as well as traditional and casual carpooling.

Project Status

Prince William County recently assessed baseline lot utilization and is preparing to begin design work on the lot expansion. The County will coordinate with VDOT, which maintains the lot and has identified the need for improvements to the lot in recent studies, on the design and construction.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

New Park and Ride Lot in Massaponax

Funding \$1,100,000

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Expands the transportation network by completing the financing for a new 715-space park and ride lot near Route 1 and Spotsylvania Parkway, along with funding awarded through the Virginia SMART SCALE program. Vanpools and carpools would be the primary users for the lot, with the potential for commuter bus service in future years.

Project Status

Construction is underway on the park-and-ride lot and the project is on schedule to be completed by May 2023.



Roadway Operations Projects

Commuter Choice supports strategies to improve roadways' operations and safety that parallel or connect with I-66 inside the Beltway or I-395/95. Such methods include capital projects to reconfigure roads and intersections for greater efficiency and safety and enhanced incident-response strategies to improve travel time reliability. Roadway operations projects also include bus-only lanes and other strategies to boost transit ridership by improving transit travel times.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

U.S. 29 HOV and Bus-Only Lane in Rosslyn

Funding \$710,000

I-66 FY 2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Establishes peak-period, peak-direction high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/bus-only lanes on Langston Blvd. (U.S. 29) through pavement treatment, restriping and signage. The project's focus is a segment of Langston Blvd. between North Veitch Street and Rosslyn that carries up to 60 buses during the rush hour, including Arlington Transit (ART), Metrobus and Loudoun County Transit buses.

Project Status

Arlington County is working with VDOT and DRPT to determine whether to move forward with the project.



Transportation Demand Management Projects

Commuter Choice supports projects that reduce drive-alone commute trips in the I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395/95 corridors through education and outreach on alternative options and incentives to entice changes in travel behavior. Many such campaigns are employer-based, while others aim to provide information to commuters in a specific area or attract new riders to a particular transportation mode, such as vanpools. Although transportation demand management (TDM) is a category of project, other project categories may incorporate TDM elements, such as an introductory fare-free period or localized marketing efforts at the start of a new bus service.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Expanded TDM Outreach to the I-66 Corridor

Funding \$2,050,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018, FY 2019 and FY 2020 Programs of Projects

Project Description

Expands Arlington County's transportation demand management (TDM) program, branded Commute66, and targets commuters bound for locations along the I-66 corridor inside the Beltway and Washington, D.C. to reduce single-occupant car trips through the corridor. Commuter Choice supports education, outreach and marketing activities, centered recently on vanpool formation and mode-shift incentives.

Project Status

Arlington County began its Commute66 program in 2017. During FY 2022, Arlington County focused its efforts on Sustain & Save, a monthly incentive for eligible commuters that shift from driving alone to other means of travel. To date, Commute66 activities have not resulted in a marked quantifiable increase in I-66 corridor person-throughput. Arlington County is assessing the feasibility of alternate, directly measurable strategies, such as a targeted fare buy-down campaign, for the funding remaining on the project as an alternative to closing out the project.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

TDM Strategy - Fare Buy-Down on Bus Service from Reston North to Crystal City

Funding \$154,500

I-66 FY 2022 Program of Projects

Project Description

Supports a TDM strategy to reduce the fare of the Fairfax Connector express bus service between the Reston North Park and Ride and several stops in Arlington County, including the Pentagon, Pentagon City and Crystal City. Prior to Commuter Choice funding, the fare for the route was \$7.50. Commuter Choice funds are reducing the fare to \$4.25, aligning the value with other express bus services offered by Fairfax Connector.

Project Status

Fairfax County will begin the fare buy-down on October 1, 2022, as part of its fall schedule change, and will market the reduced fares over social media.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION (NVRC)

New TDM Outreach Campaign for Military Facilities

Funding \$396,184

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Provides outreach, marketing and educational services to specifically foster ridesharing and transit use by the 115,000 personnel working at local military bases, including Joint Base Myer Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir/Fort Belvoir North and Marine Corps Base Quantico. Funds from Commuter Choice on the I-395/95 corridor support staffing and incentives for outreach to military facilities around increasing ridesharing and transit use.

Project Status

NVRC faced significant challenges implementing an effective TDM effort with military bases along the corridor, in part due to limited access to the facilities during the pandemic. As a result, NVRC has decided to end the project and will close it out in early FY 2023.

OMNIRIDE

TDM Strategy I-395/95 Corridor Vanpool Monthly Incentive

Funding \$604,800

I-395/95 FY 2022-2023 Program of Projects

Project Description

Incentivizes the formation of new and returning vanpools that travel through the I-395/95 corridor. The project establishes general subsidies of up to \$400 per month and, if applicable, parking costs of up to \$200 per month for trips using the I-395 corridor, including those terminating in downtown Washington, D.C.

Project Status

Vanpool Alliance saw a substantial increase in vanpool applications throughout FY 2022, surpassing Vanpool Alliance's ridership projections. By early summer 2022, 26 vans and 140 riders were enrolled in the program.

OMNIRIDE

TDM Strategy - I-66 Corridor Vanpool Parking Benefit

Funding \$85,000

I-66 FY 2022 Program of Projects

Project Description

Encourages vanpooling by offsetting expensive parking rates in major employment areas. Vanpool Alliance will provide a \$200 a month incentive payment to newly formed, eligible vanpools that travel along the I-66 corridor into Arlington and Washington, D.C. Commuter Choice funds are supporting the TDM strategy for up to two years.

Project Status

There are no vanpools enrolled in the program to date (and no project expenditures), largely due to the lack of a rebound in vanpooling on the I-66 corridor. Vanpool Alliance staff intend to market the incentive program in early FY 2023 in anticipation of new vanpools forming ahead of the opening of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

New TDM Outreach to the I-66 Corridor

Funding \$200,000

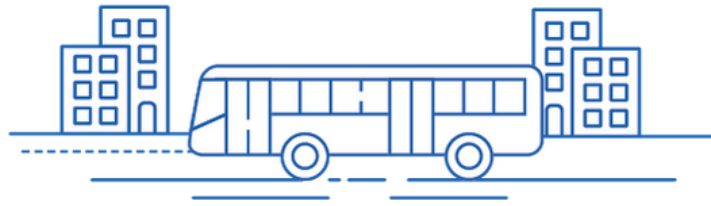
I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

Establishes a commuter-focused transportation demand management (TDM) program, encompassing online, print materials and advertising, that will increase awareness and promote regional travel choices. Prince William County will target the funds to promoting a directly measurable County-led fare buy-down campaign that just received I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 funding.

Project Status

Prince William County is preparing to procure a consultant for the program. The County anticipates beginning outreach and promotion activities in early 2023 coinciding with the full opening of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes and the launch of the fare buy-down campaign.



Projects Beginning in FY 2023

I-66 Commuter Choice FY 2023-2024 Program of Projects –
 Approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board in June 2022

Recipient and Project	Approved Funding Amount	Overview
<p>City of Manassas Park Manassas Park VRE Station Parking Garage</p>	<p>\$2,500,000</p>	<p>Commuter Choice funding will support the construction of a parking garage at the Manassas Park VRE Station. The garage will primarily provide additional parking capacity to meet long-term VRE ridership demand, though it will also help to support the master-planned Village at Manassas Park mixed-use development underway around the station, which includes over 800 new residential units.</p>
<p>Arlington County Ballston-MU Metrorail West Entrance</p>	<p>\$4,500,000</p>	<p>Commuter Choice funding will support the construction of a second entrance to Ballston-MU Station at the intersection of North Fairfax Drive and North Vermont Street in Arlington. The proposed second entrance, which will be nearly a quarter-mile west of the existing entrance, will shorten the walk for commuters in a transit-oriented area with ongoing high-density, walkable redevelopment and add bus stops to facilitate smooth transfers.</p>

Recipient and Project	Approved Funding Amount	Overview
<p>OmniRide Renewal of Bus Service from Gainesville to Pentagon and Navy Yard</p>	<p>\$2,560,449</p>	<p>Funded in the FY 2017, FY 2020 and FY 2021-2022 cycles of I-66 Commuter Choice, this project supports the continued operation of OmniRide’s popular express bus service between the University Boulevard Park and Ride lot in Gainesville and the Pentagon and Navy Yard. The route has seen rebounding ridership in FY 2022 that is expected to grow further once the Outside the Beltway Express Lanes open in late 2022. This renewal will continue operations support for 24 months, with an enroute stop to be added in the Manassas area at the new Balls Ford Road commuter lot.</p>
<p>Fairfax County Renewal of Bus Service from Vienna Metrorail Station to Pentagon</p>	<p>\$1,232,850</p>	<p>Initially funded in FY 2019, this bus service renewal will provide 24 months of continued funding support for 10 morning and 10 evening peak direction, express bus trips between Vienna Station and the Pentagon Transit Center. This service, like others to the Pentagon, retained a greater share of its riders than other Northern Virginia commuter transit services during the COVID-19 public health emergency and saw ridership rebound during FY 2022.</p>
<p>OmniRide Renewal of Bus Service from Haymarket to Rosslyn</p>	<p>\$947,554</p>	<p>A renewal of a bus service funded in the FY 2020 and FY 2021-2022 cycles of I-66 Commuter Choice, this project supports four morning and four evening peak direction, express bus trips between the 230-space Heathcote commuter lot in Haymarket and the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor. The 24-month extension of operations support will add a stop at the University Boulevard commuter lot with direct access to the new Outside the Beltway Express Lanes, allowing Gainesville commuters also to take advantage of the route’s convenient connections to major employers, Metrorail and the Arlington campus of George Mason University.</p>

Recipient and Project	Approved Funding Amount	Overview
<p>Prince William County TDM Strategy - Fare Buy-Down on I-66 Commuter Bus Service</p>	<p>\$650,000</p>	<p>Support for this project will attract more Prince William County commuters to transit by cutting fares in half on five OmniRide routes for the first 10 months that the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes are open. These routes together offer over 30 roundtrips each day and will utilize the new Express Lanes, shortening commute times between park-and-ride lots in western Prince William County and major employment clusters Inside the Beltway. This fare buy-down project, which Prince William County will promote through a prior Commuter Choice funding award for TDM activities, will reduce one-way fares from \$6.90 to \$3.45 per trip.</p>
<p>Fairfax County Trail Access to Vienna Metrorail Station</p>	<p>\$2,200,000</p>	<p>Commuter Choice funding will facilitate the construction of a nearly one-mile segment of the I-66 Trail between the Nutley Street interchange at the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Station and Blake Lane. The I-66 Trail is a bicycling and walking path that will parallel I-66 between Centreville and the I-495 Beltway and connect several other on-and off-street paths in Fairfax County. The trail will create a safe, attractive route to Metrorail by bicycle or foot for commuters making their way to destinations in the I-66 Inside the Beltway corridor.</p>



Completed Projects

The following projects have been completed or otherwise closed out. They include infrastructure improvements and technology deployments that are now in place, limited duration TDM programs that have ended, and transit service improvements that are now either being funded through other sources or have concluded.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Peak Period Service Expansion to Metrobus Route 2A, Washington Boulevard-Dunn Loring

Funding \$1,000,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Increased bus frequency and shorter route run times increased peak-period frequency to every 10 minutes from 15. The 2A operates on US 29 and Washington Boulevard, adjacent to I-66, and connects three jurisdictions with three Metrorail stations. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported two years of operating costs for the expanded bus service.

Project Status

Support for this project, enabling 15-minute peak-period headways, ended in June 2019. Overall ridership on the Metrobus 2A route increased between spring 2018 and spring 2019, from approximately 2,100 weekday trips to nearly 2,300.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Peak Period Service Expansion to ART Bus Route 55

Funding \$450,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Buses were added to the ART 55 route to increase peak-period, peak-direction service and attract new riders along Langston Boulevard and connect commuters to the East Falls Church and Rosslyn Metrorail stations. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported operating costs of expanded service for two years.

Project Status

Support for this project ended on June 30, 2019 when additional trips averaged nearly 200 weekday passengers. Arlington County continues to maintain the 12-minute peak-period service with other funding.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Bus Stop Consolidation and Accessibility Improvements, Lee Highway and Washington Boulevard

Funding \$462,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Replaced and retrofitted underutilized and closely spaced bus stops (approximately 30) along the Langston Boulevard and Washington Boulevard corridors with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant improvements to reduce travel times and attract new bus riders. Approximately 33 bus stops were retrofitted with bus stop pads, pedestrian facilities and added enhanced passenger amenities, including shelters, benches and new lighting fixtures. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported capital costs related to the project.

Project Status

Arlington County completed improvements to 33 bus stops in the Langston Boulevard and Washington Boulevard corridors in fall 2020. Upgrades improvements included the addition of ADA-compliant passenger landing pads and pedestrian facilities such as enhanced sidewalks, curb ramps and crosswalks.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Multimodal Real-Time Transportation Information Screens

Funding \$250,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Multimodal real-time transportation screens, which provide dynamic information, were planned for Metrorail stations, high-utilization bus stops and residential and office buildings in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported the purchase of screens and the first year of service costs.

Project Status

Arlington County concluded the project in early 2021 with 13 new screens out of a target of 50 installed and I-66 toll information added to 11 existing information screens in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor. The County encountered challenges that were not anticipated at the time of application in finding hosts for the displays.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

I-66 Corridor Intelligent Transportation System Enhancements

Funding \$400,000

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Improved Arlington's real-time traffic monitoring system by enhancing the intelligent transportation systems infrastructure so the county can better respond to special events and incidents in the corridor. Also allowed Arlington to share video feeds and data easily with county residents and regional partners like the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and both the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT). I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported technology and equipment costs, including count stations, Bluetooth detectors and the installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV), and the costs to report and share data with partner agencies.

Project Status

Arlington County concluded the project after installing the intelligent transportation systems equipment. A platform for sharing the data was also developed as a part of the project.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Commuter Store at the Pentagon Transit Center

Funding \$211,962

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Funding supported 12 months of operations of Arlington County's Commuter Store at the Pentagon Transit Center, which provided travel information, sales and assistance to visitors, employees and commuters passing through the Transit Center's bus terminal.

Project Status

The Pentagon Commuter Store was open with Commuter Choice funding from January 2020 to January 2021, helping to serve essential travel needs during the pandemic.

ARLINGTON COUNTY

Traffic Management Center

Funding \$400,000

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Upgrades to Arlington County's Traffic Management Center allowed the county to maximize its new intelligent transportation system (ITS) capabilities by centralizing data from field devices

and responding to incidents as observed in real-time. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported staff resources for the Traffic Management Center’s monitoring and incident response for two years.

Project Status

Arlington County staffed the center during morning and afternoon peak-periods between February 2019 and September 2021, during which time incident data collection and incident management improved.

CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Metrobus Route 3T Extension and Service Expansion

Funding \$845,754

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

The expanded 3T route offered bi-directional, peak period service with 24-minute headways and restored direct Metrobus service between West Falls Church-VT and East Falls Church Metrorail stations. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported the route's extension and reduced headways.

Project Status

The extension operated between January 2019 and March 2020. Metro implemented more frequent service and a revised routing on the Metrobus 28A in September 2021 as part of its service restoration plans that address the local transportation needs that the Metrobus 3T extension was intended to serve.

CITY OF MANASSAS

Bicycle Parking Improvements at Manassas VRE Station

Funding \$55,000

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Sheltered bike racks, up to 10 bicycle lockers and a bicycle repair stand were added to provide safe and convenient long-term bicycle parking, making bikes more attractive as a first- and last-mile option for Virginia Railway Express and Amtrak riders. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported the acquisition and installation of bicycle racks, lockers and other amenities.

Project Status

The City of Manassas completed the project in October 2020, following the installation of a bicycle shelter and eight bicycle racks on the station platform and bicycle lockers and wayfinding signage inside the adjacent station garage.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA/DASH

Enhanced Bus Service on AT-1 Plus: West End to Van Dorn Metro

Funding \$3,040,000

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

Increased the frequency, extended hours and improved bus stop amenities on the DASH AT-1 Plus bus service, improving connectivity for riders from the West End/Beauregard area of Alexandria to the Van Dorn Metrorail station. The route paralleled the I-395 corridor and stops at shopping areas, educational centers and the Mark Center. I-395/95 Commuter Choice funds supported approximately 20 months of expanded service and capital costs related to the project.

Project Status

DASH's improved AT-1 Plus route helped fulfill needs for better public transportation along I-395 in Alexandria's West End. Service improvements were launched in October 2019 and resulted in a 39% increase in weekly ridership by early 2020. The frequent, convenient service allowed the route to keep a much greater share of its ridership during the pandemic than the DASH system as a whole. DASH received I-395/95 Commuter Choice FY 2022-2023 funding to provide more frequent daily service and extend the route to the Pentagon Metrorail station that took effect in September 2021 as part of the implementation of DASH's redesigned bus network.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA/DASH

Enhanced Bus Service on AT-9: Mark Center to Potomac Yard

Funding \$1,949,000

I-395/95 FY 2020-2021 Program of Projects

Project Description

This project improved all-day service frequency and extended the hours of service on DASH's AT-9 local bus route, which served significant employment, shopping and educational sites in the I-395 corridor. The project also installed four real-time bus arrival information displays at bus stops along the route. I-395/95 Commuter Choice funds supported approximately 20 months of expanded service as well as capital costs related to the project.

Project Status

Enhancements to the crosstown AT-9 route in Alexandria improved commuters' connections with north-south transit services in the I-395 corridor. Service improvements were launched in October 2019 that resulted in a 77% increase in weekly ridership by early 2020. The frequent, convenient service allowed the route to keep a much greater share of its ridership during the pandemic than the DASH system as a whole. DASH received I-395/95 Commuter Choice FY 2022-2023 funding for more frequent daily service between the West End of Alexandria and Potomac Yard that took effect in September 2021 as part of the implementation of DASH's redesigned bus network.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Transportation Demand Management

Funding \$623,000

I-66 FY 2017-2018 Program of Projects

Project Description

Expanded a transportation demand management (TDM) program, called I SHARE 66, and provided incentives to Loudoun County residents - such as reduced fares on express buses into D.C. or to Metrorail stations, a SmarTrip® card promotion for new transit riders and financial rewards for new carpools and vanpools - to get commuters out of their single-occupant vehicles. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported program marketing and commuter incentives.

Project Status

The I SHARE 66 TDM program supported over 190,000 fare-free Loudoun Metro Connection transit rides, established a vanpool and numerous carpools and offered complimentary SmarTrip® cards for new commuter bus riders.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Loudoun County Transit Metro Connection Route 88X Extension to Dulles South

Funding \$1,706,040

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Extended Loudoun County Transit's 88X service to a new western terminus in the Dulles South area and maintains 28-minute headways to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station during peak periods. Commuter Choice supported operation of an additional bus on the route that allowed for the route extension.

Project Status

Loudoun County operated expanded service on Route 88X between November 2018 and March 2020, with favorable ridership. Since then, demand has not supported the restoration of expanded service. Loudoun County plans to split the Route 88X as part of a service restructuring that will take effect when the Silver Line Phase 2 project opens and has closed out the Commuter Choice project.

OMNIRIDE

On-Demand Commuter Lot Shuttles in Prince William County

Funding \$1,087,796

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Gainesville/Haymarket neighborhoods were to be connected to nearby commuter lots via free, on-demand shuttles. Funding was to cover the purchase of vehicles, onboard vehicle hardware, transit operation and promotion.

Project Status

OmniRide opted in October 2020 against proceeding with the project given delays in initiating the procurement for technology for the shuttles and less need for the service given recent park-and-ride capacity expansions in the Gainesville/Haymarket area.

OMNIRIDE

Flexible Vanpool Program

Funding \$317,600

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

OmniRide intended to develop and provide rostering and fare payment software to allow riders registered with one vanpool to ride with another and unregistered riders to catch a one-time ride. I-66 Commuter Choice funds were to support software and hardware procurement and vanpool promotion.

Project Status

OmniRide opted in October 2020 against proceeding with the project given delays in initiating the procurement for the ride matching technology and diminished interest in dynamic ridesharing in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

OMNIRIDE

OmniRide Linton Hall Metro Direct Bus Service Enhancement

Funding \$134,200

I-66 FY 2019 Program of Projects

Project Description

Increased service (one additional AM peak-period and PM peak-period trip) on OmniRide's Metro Direct route between Linton Hall and the Tysons Corner Metrorail station to serve more riders during I-66 construction and support transit and transportation demand management plans. I-66 Commuter Choice funds supported transit operating costs of additional trips for two years.

Project Status

The additional trips began operating in July 2019 and project support concluded at the end of 2021. Half-fare subsidies from the Virginia Department of Transportation during I-66 Outside the Beltway construction helped boost ridership in the first several months of service.

OMNIRIDE

I-66 Slug Line Campaign

Funding \$287,800

I-66 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Project Description

OmniRide intended to develop a marketing and communications plan to promote slug lines at four commuter lots, to encompass social media management, engagement with regional stakeholders and outreach to the public. I-66 Commuter Choice funds were to support marketing and outreach around encouraging casual carpooling or slugging in the I-66 corridor in anticipation of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Express Lanes opening in 2022.

Project Status

OmniRide's governing body opted not to proceed with procurement for the project in June 2020. As such, the project has been canceled.