

# 495 EXPRESS LANES NORTHERN EXTENSION PROJECT (495 NEXT)

## Project Update Meetings

Virginia Department of Transportation  
Transurban  
Lane Construction

### Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 8

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

### In-Person Meeting

Thursday, April 11

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Presentation at 7 p.m.

# Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **495 NEXT Project Overview and Features**
- **Construction Overview**
- **Revegetation Conceptual Plan**
- **Transportation Management Plan (TMP)**
- **Coordination with Nearby Projects**
- **Public Outreach Tools and Resources**
- **Question and Answer Session**

# Northern Virginia Express Lanes

- **Additional capacity and congestion relief**
- **New faster and more reliable travel options**
- **Dynamic system with variable tolls to manage demand and keep lanes free flowing for all express lanes users**
- **Moves more people, not just vehicles**



## **Express Lanes Drivers**

Vehicles with fewer than 3 people can choose to use the express lanes by paying a toll, receiving a faster and more reliable trip.



## **HOV-3+ and Motorcycles Travel Toll Free**

Carpools with 3 or more occupants, and motorcycles, can travel the express lanes for free anytime.



## **Buses Travel Toll Free**

Faster and more reliable travel creates new opportunities and benefits for buses (who travel for free) on express lanes.



## **Funding Support for Enhanced Transit in Corridors**

Transit payments in project agreements allow toll revenues to fund transit and multimodal improvements.

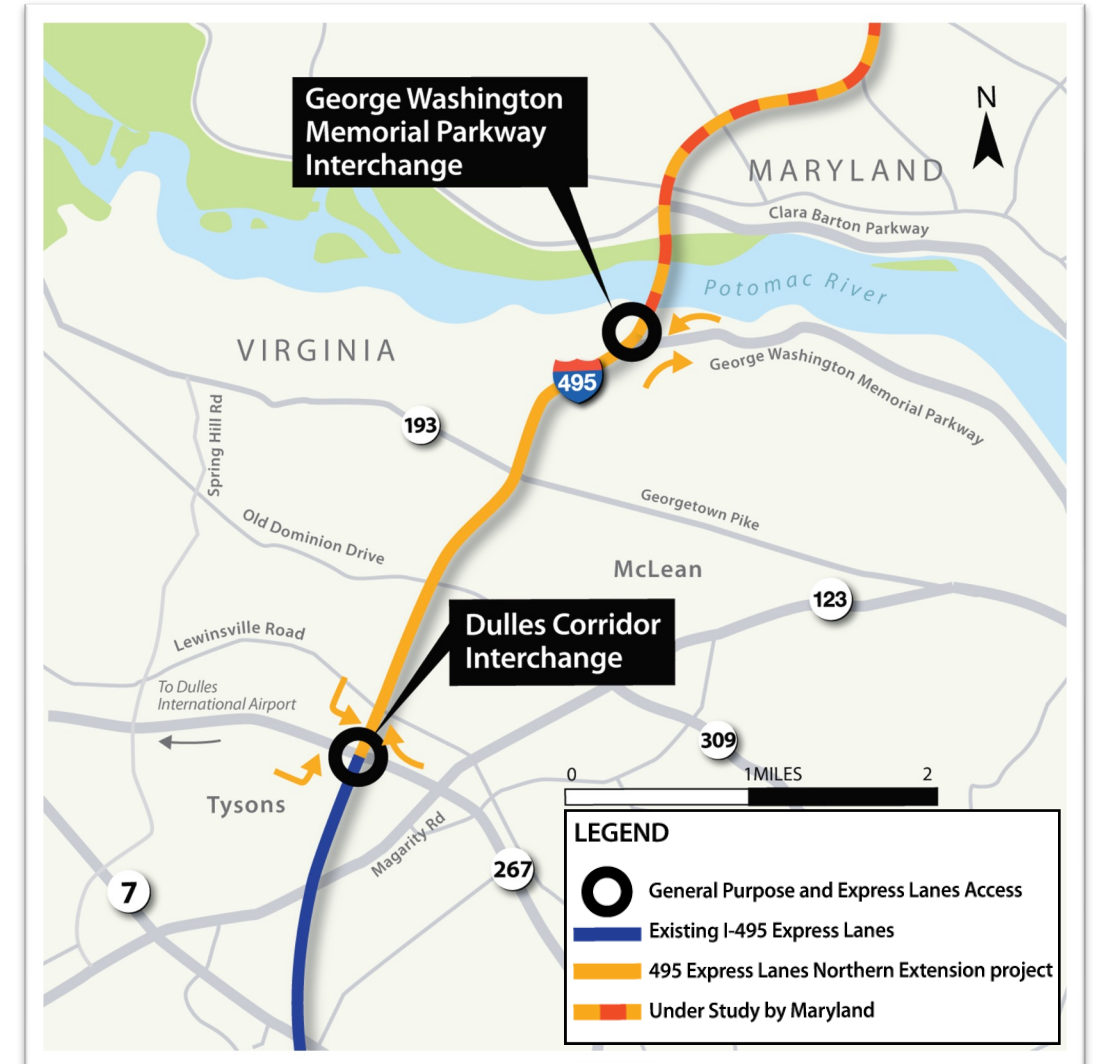


## **Transit & Multimodal Elements Included in Project Scope**

Transit and multimodal features such as new commuter parking lots, shared-use paths and bus service can be incorporated into project scopes.

# 495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project (495 NEXT)

- Approx. \$660 million, 2.5-mile extension of 495 Express Lanes from Dulles Corridor interchange to George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) near the American Legion Bridge
- Public-private partnership project between VDOT and Transurban through 2087
- Express Lanes scheduled to open late 2025
- Project completion in mid-2026



# 495 NEXT Project Benefits

## 2025 Benefits Independent of Maryland Project

- **Moves more people**
- **Provides time savings for express lanes users during peak periods**
- **Reduces cut-through traffic on local roads**
- **Improves safety and operations**
  - New direct access ramps to express lanes at DTR and George Washington Memorial Parkway interchanges, eliminating merge across four lanes to access express lanes
  - New roadway features, such as increased acceleration and deceleration lanes, and new auxiliary lanes

Source: VDOT Traffic and Transportation Technical Report, 2020

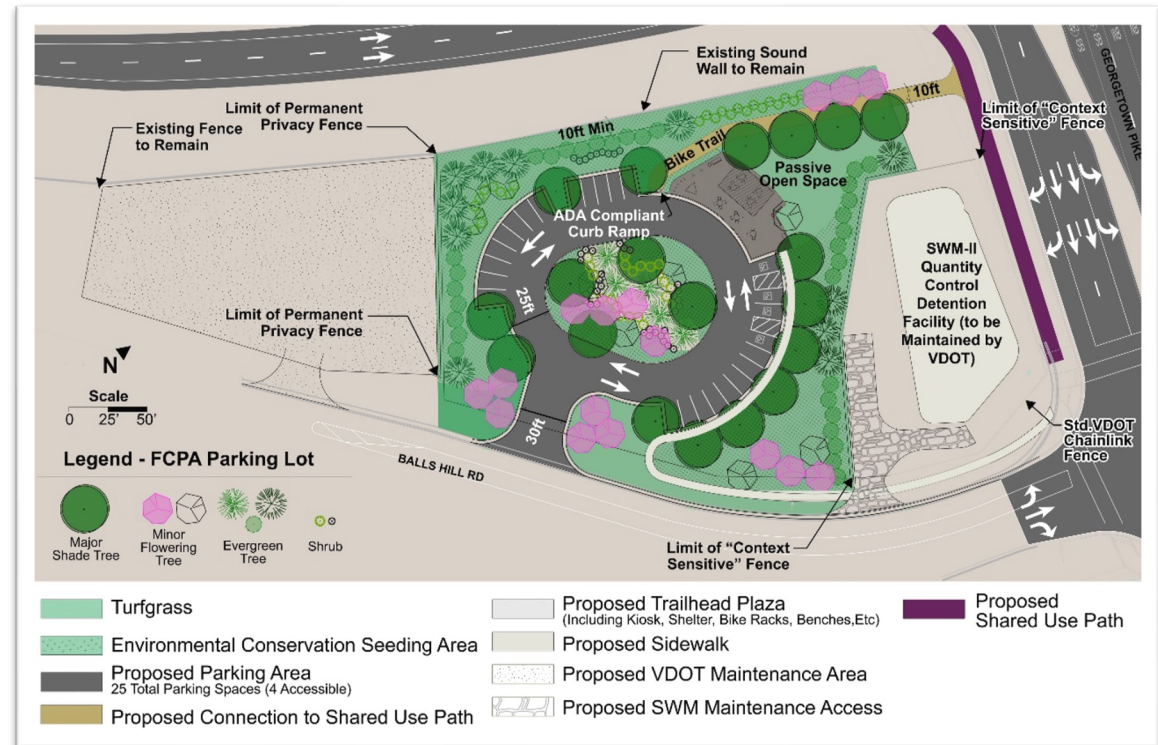
# Environmental Commitments

- Transurban provided \$1.387M to Fairfax County for restoring approximately 3,000 linear feet of Scott's Run
- Stabilize stream banks at two locations along Scott's Run



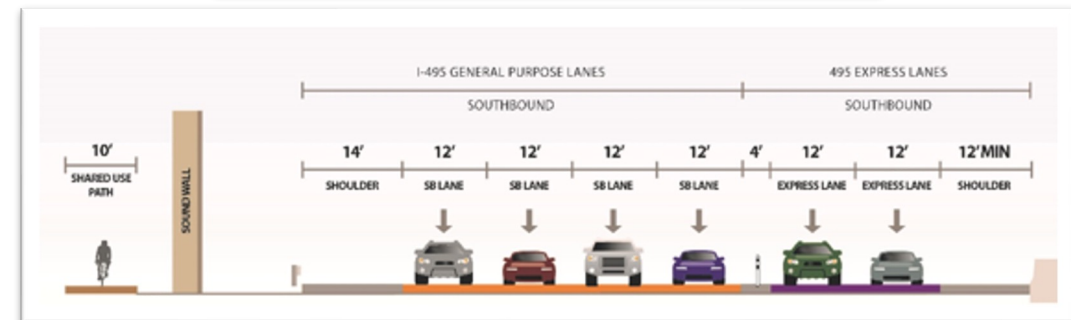
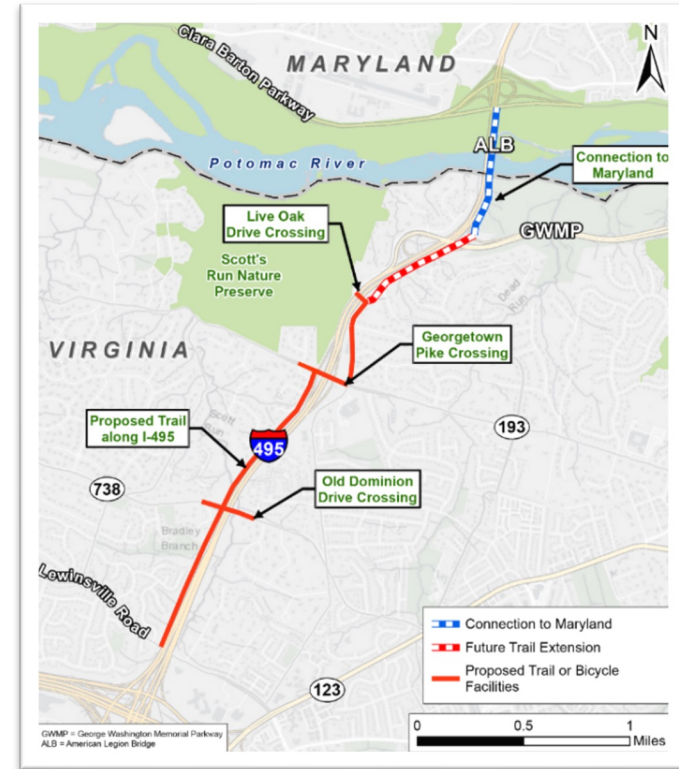
## Fairfax County Park Authority Replacement Land

- Create parking and trail connection to Scott's Run and new bike and pedestrian shared-use path
- VDOT Maintenance Yard with privacy fence next to park



# Bicycle and Pedestrian Shared-Use Path

- **Design coordinated with Fairfax County to advance county bike plan**
- **Shared-use path added along I-495 corridor**
  - Shared-use path behind the noise wall between Lewinsville Road and Live Oak Drive
  - Connection to future crossing at American Legion Bridge to Maryland
- **New and improved bike and pedestrian facilities on bridges over I-495**
  - Old Dominion Drive (VA 783)
  - Georgetown Pike (VA 193)
  - Live Oak Drive
  - Lewinsville Road
- **Completion of shared-use path and new Scott's Run Nature Preserve parking lot: early 2026**



# Overall Construction Schedule

- Started construction: **March 2022**
- Remove noise walls and clear trees to widen Beltway: **late 2022-early 2024**
- Install drainage, perform earthwork, construct new lanes outside current I-495 alignment: **2023-2024**
- Shift traffic to outside lanes to enable construction of inside lanes: **late 2024-early 2025**
- Open Express Lanes: **late 2025**
- Complete overall project: **mid 2026**



A crew lays down base asphalt for the future GW Parkway to southbound I-495 ramp (March 2024)

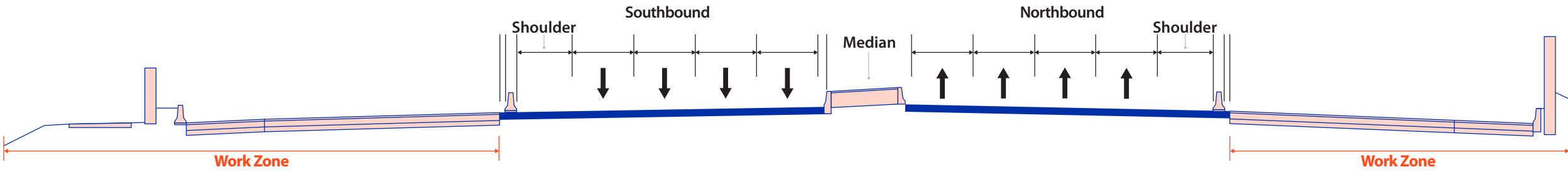


# I-495 (Capital Beltway) Traffic Shift

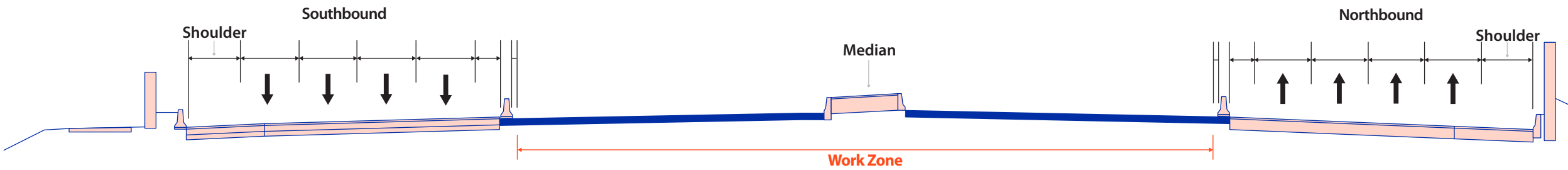
Shift traffic to outside lanes to enable construction of inside, future express lanes in late 2024-early 2025

## I-495 (Capital Beltway) Traffic Shift Planned for Late 2024-Early 2025

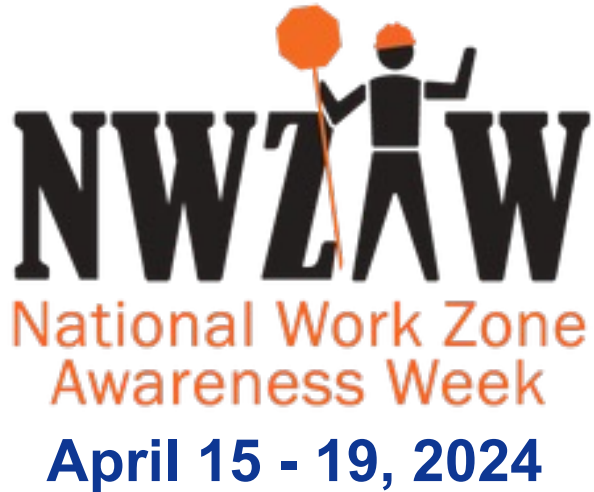
### PHASE 1: TRAFFIC SHIFTED INSIDE, CONSTRUCTING OUTSIDE LANES



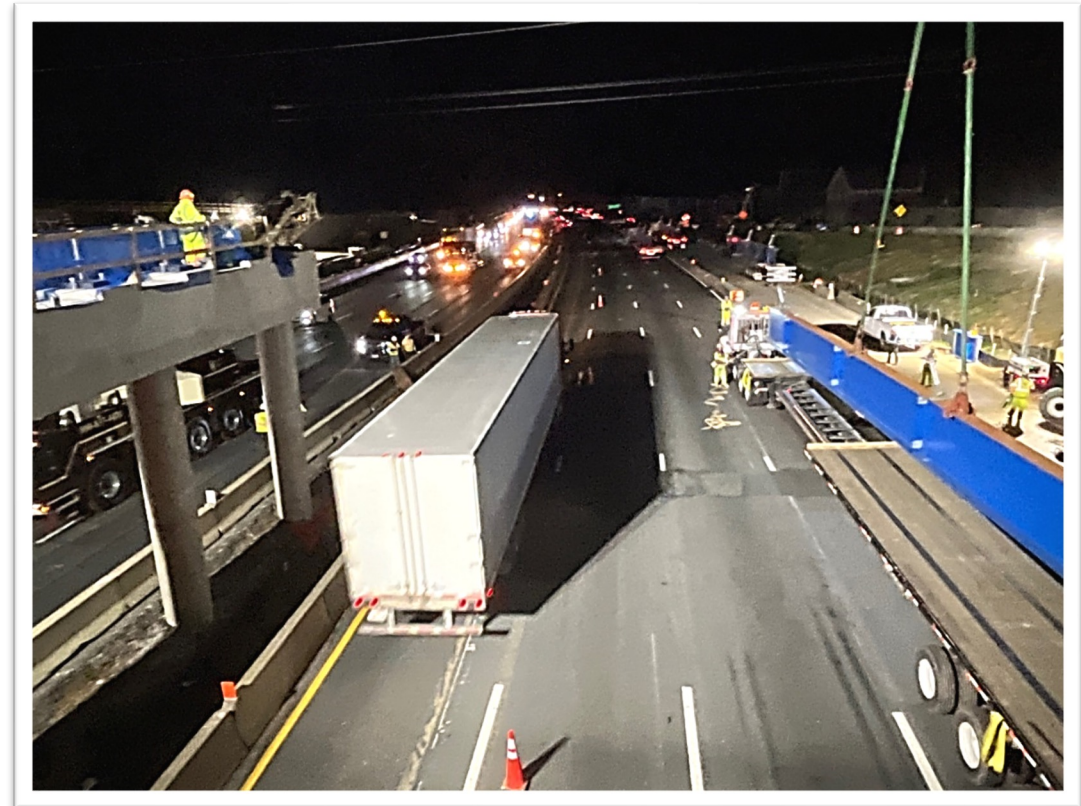
### PHASE 2: TRAFFIC SHIFTED OUTSIDE, CONSTRUCTING INSIDE LANES



# 495 NEXT Work Zone Safety



- 2.5-mile active construction zone
- Work activities occurring during day and nighttime hours
- Constrained area with reduced shoulders, lane closures and traffic shifts
- Keeping workers and drivers safe is everyone's responsibility
- Slow down, use caution and stay alert



Nighttime bridge girder construction operation in 495 NEXT work zone (April 2024)

# Bridge Construction Work

## Replace old bridges with upgraded new bridges featuring wider sidewalks and trail connections

- Drive piles, complete abutments: **early-mid 2024**
- Lift and place bridge girders:
  - Georgetown Pike: **late March-early April**
  - Live Oak Drive: **early-mid April**
  - Old Dominion Drive: **fall 2024**
- Install deck, barriers, signage and lane markings: **mid-late 2024**
- Switch traffic onto new bridges, demolish old bridges: **late 2024-early 2025**

## Improve existing Lewinsville Road Bridge with wider sidewalk



An excavator shovels crushed stone behind a retaining wall next to the western abutment of the new Georgetown Pike bridge (March 2024)

# Live Oak Drive Remaining Construction

- Complete waterline and drainage work where the alignment of a short stretch of Live Oak Drive will be shifted
- Perform earthwork to level the area
- Install road foundation, pave and mark new length of Live Oak Drive
- Switch traffic: mid May 2024
- Demolish remaining walls and retired pavement
- Construct retaining walls to enable GW Memorial Parkway ramps to be built



A newly completed water line adjacent to the Langley Swim & Tennis Club awaits earthen fill. (March 2024)

# Noise Wall Progress

## Noise wall construction: early 2023-early 2025

### Progress as of March 2024:

- More than 90 sections of new noise wall installed on northbound I-495 between Old Dominion Drive and Georgetown Pike
- More than 130 noise wall posts mounted between Old Dominion Drive and Live Oak Drive bridges, panels to be installed



Top Image: New noise wall along northbound I-495 between Old Dominion Drive and Georgetown Pike (March 2024)



Bottom Image: More than 90 noise wall posts installed along northbound I-495 between Georgetown Pike and Live Oak Drive (March 2024)

# Noise Wall Installation Planned Timeline

**SB I-495 between GW Parkway and Georgetown Pike**

**Start:** Mid 2024  
**Finish:** Late 2024

**SB I-495 Georgetown Pike and Old Dominion Drive**

**Start:** Mid 2024  
**Finish:** Early 2025

**SB I-495 between Old Dominion Drive and Lewinsville Road**

**Start:** Mid 2024  
**Finish:** Late 2024

**NB I-495 between Georgetown Pike and GW Parkway**

**Start:** Mid 2024  
**Finish:** Early 2025

**NB I-495 between Old Dominion Drive and Georgetown Pike**

**Start:** Late 2023  
**Finish:** Late 2024

**NB I-495 between Lewinsville Road and Old Dominion Drive**

**Start:** Mid 2024  
**Finish:** Early 2025



# What Neighbors Should Expect

- Pile driving, saw-cutting and other noise-producing work
- Occasional overnight bridge demolition
- General construction noise and other impacts
- Excavations across local roads with steel plates maintaining access
- Brief overnight closures of local bridges
- Periodic one-lane conditions on local roads with flaggers directing traffic in alternate directions

**495 ExpressLanes**  
NORTHERN EXTENSION

February 15, 2024

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS NEAR  
OLD DOMINION DRIVE BRIDGE IN MCLEAN**

Overnight Pile Driving and Multi-Lane Closures for the  
I-495 Bridge over Scott's Run Planned for February 19-24

I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) Project

**What's Happening?**

Pile driving to construct the new Beltway bridge over Scott's Run is planned to occur during overnight hours next week, February 19 through 24. Scott's Run passes under the Beltway approximately 200 feet north of the Old Dominion Drive Beltway overpass.

Multi-lane overnight closures on the Beltway are needed from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekends, to safely perform this work.

**What Should Neighbors Expect?**

Pile driving involves hammering steel piles into the ground to support the foundation of the future bridge. When active, neighbors will hear hammer strikes every few seconds.

All construction work is dependent on weather conditions and other factors.

The 495 NEXT team appreciates the community's understanding during this unavoidably impactful work. Planned to occur over a total of four nights (with a break in the middle to relocate equipment), the team is committed to finishing overnight pile driving as quickly as possible.

This phase of pile driving will occur immediately adjacent to the Beltway, requiring multiple overnight multi-lane closures.

**Stay Connected**

495NorthernExtension@VDOT.Virginia.gov  
John Undeland, Lane Construction: 703-785-3461  
Construction Information Line: 703-592-6430

@VaDOTNOVA  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
/groups/vdotnova

SIGN UP FOR PROJECT EMAILS

# What Motorists Should Expect

## Ongoing Traffic Impacts

- Mid-day and overnight lane and shoulder closures
- Multi-lane closures and intermittent traffic stoppages on I-495 (Beltway) during overnight hours
- Lane shifts on I-495, new bridges, ramps and adjacent local roads

## Planned Extended Traffic Impacts

- **Georgetown Pike Interchange**
  - Weekend long closure of bridge and ramps
  - Planned on or about summer 2024
  - Major outreach, marked detours
- **Northbound I-495 near Tysons**
  - Weekend long major lane reduction
  - Planned on or about fall 2024
  - Major outreach, marked detours



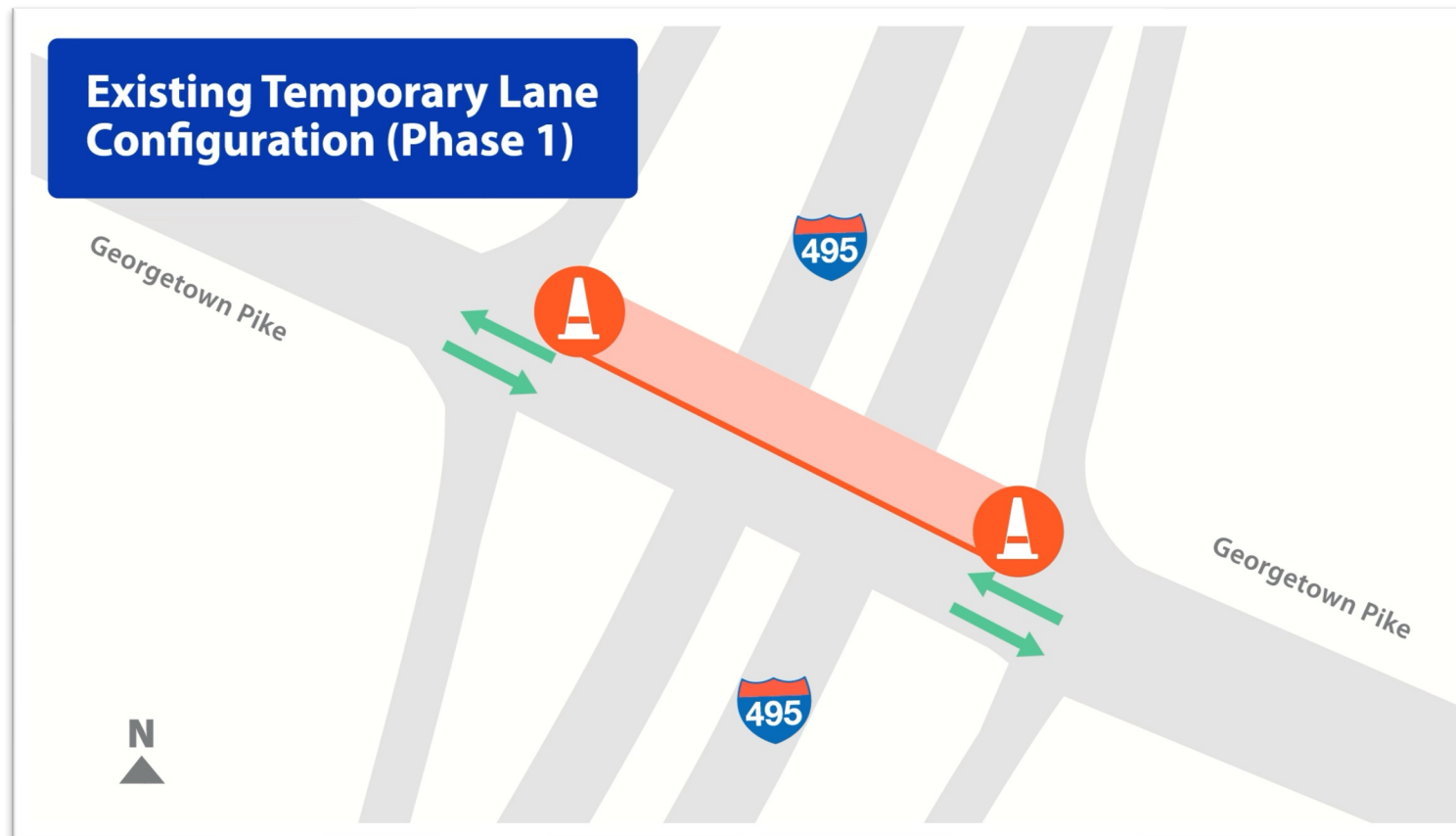
Typical afternoon congestion on northbound I-495 (October 2024)

**Sign up at [495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov](https://495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov) to receive lane closures and traffic alerts**



# Georgetown Pike Bridge Construction Phases

- Building new bridge over I-495 in phases to keep traffic moving
- Final bridge configuration scheduled to open in late 2025



# Georgetown Pike Bridge Construction

- Place girders: **late March/early April**
- Install deck, barriers, signage and lane markings: **spring/summer 2024**
- Switch traffic onto new northern portion of bridge: **summer 2024**
  - Restore right-turn only lane from WB Georgetown Pike to NB I-495
- Demolish existing southern portion of bridge: **late 2024**
- Complete new southern portion of bridge: **mid 2025**
- Switch traffic onto final configuration of bridge: **late 2025**



# 495 NEXT Corridor Revegetation Conceptual Plan

## Clearing and Tree Removal

- Clearing began Summer 2022, 95% complete

## Revegetation Plan

- Conceptual revegetation plan being developed by landscape architects
- Plant selection will focus on native, habitat-appropriate species
- Revegetation areas are primarily determined based on roadway/utility proximity and environmental limitations

## Plant Species Selection

- Plant selections are categorized by habitat designation based on following criteria:
  - Safety
  - Roadway and Utility Features
  - Growth Habits

# Revegetation Design Considerations

## Safety

- Ensure vegetation will not impact site distance for drivers or pedestrians
- Ensure vegetation will not impact structural integrity of slopes
- Ensure that mature trees will not block roadway if they fall

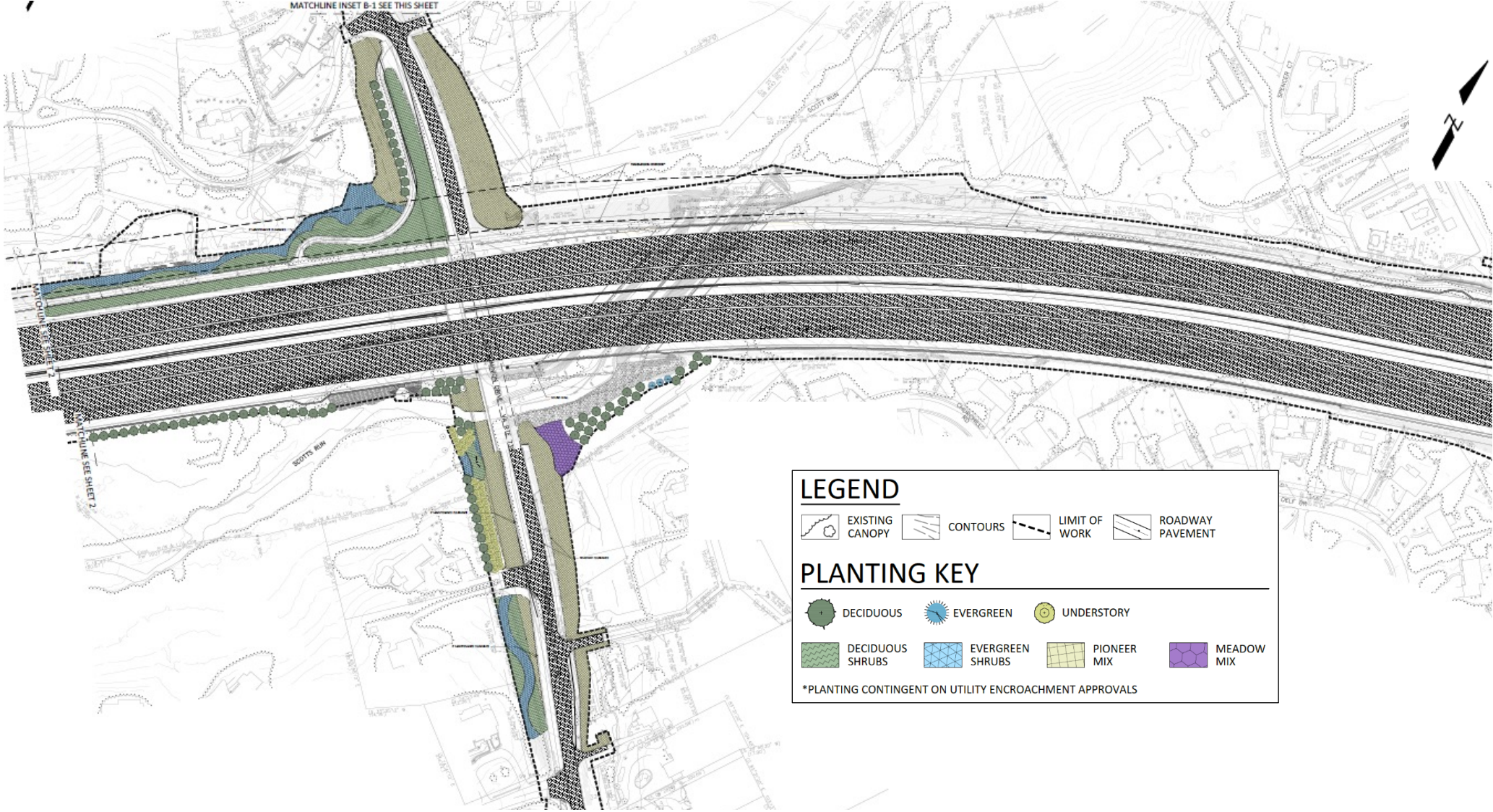
## Roadway/Utility Features

- Ensure that plantings will not affect drainage patterns
- Provide for reasonable maintenance access
- Avoid conflicts with overhead and underground utilities

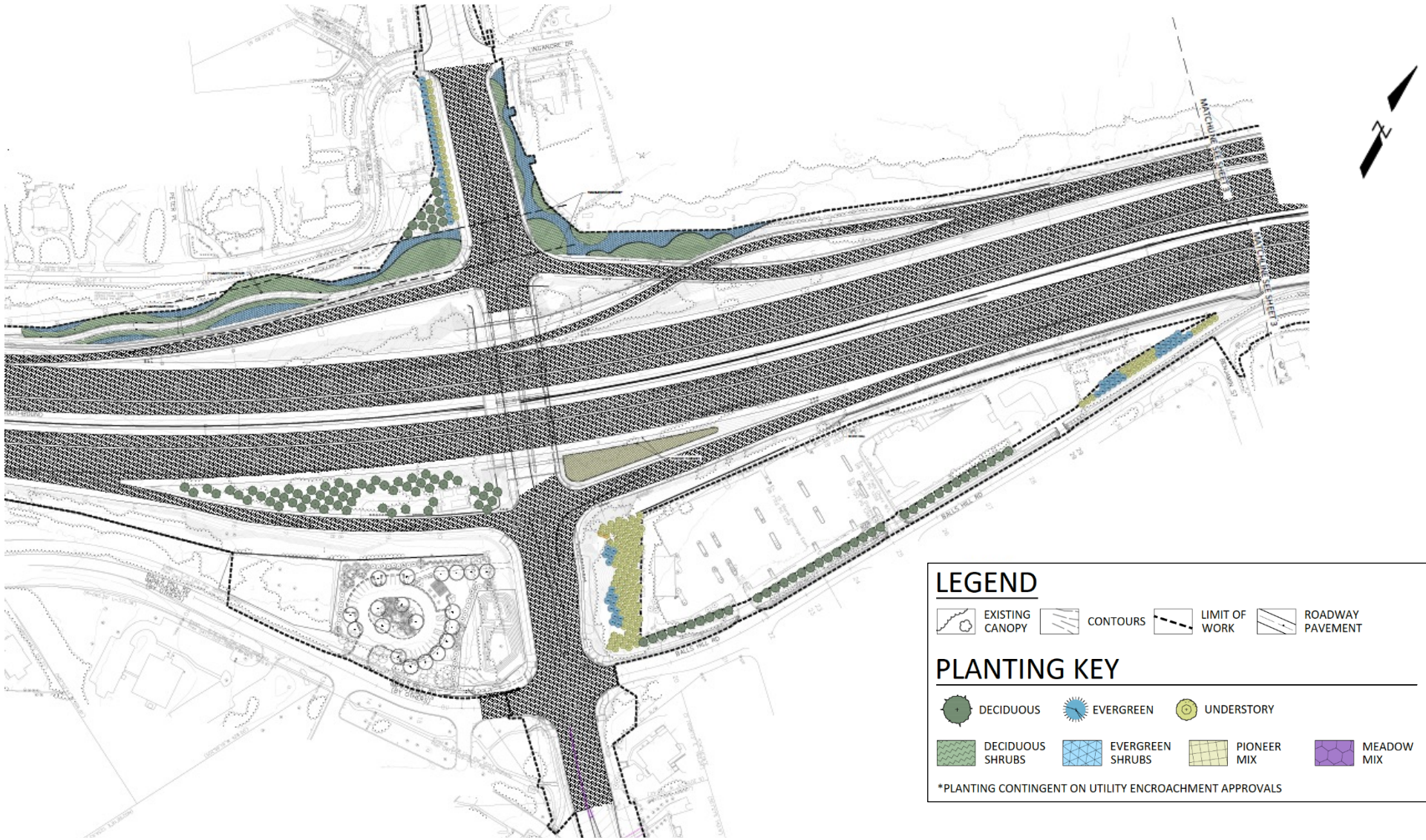
## Plant Species Selections

- Match plant species to specific soil conditions (wet or dry)
- Select species that are tolerant of roadside conditions and weather treatments
- Consider growth patterns of species including mature heights and widths, and critical root zones
- Incorporate local native species

# Old Dominion Drive Revegetation Conceptual Plan



# Georgetown Pike Revegetation Conceptual Plan



# Live Oak Drive Revegetation Conceptual Plan

**LEGEND**

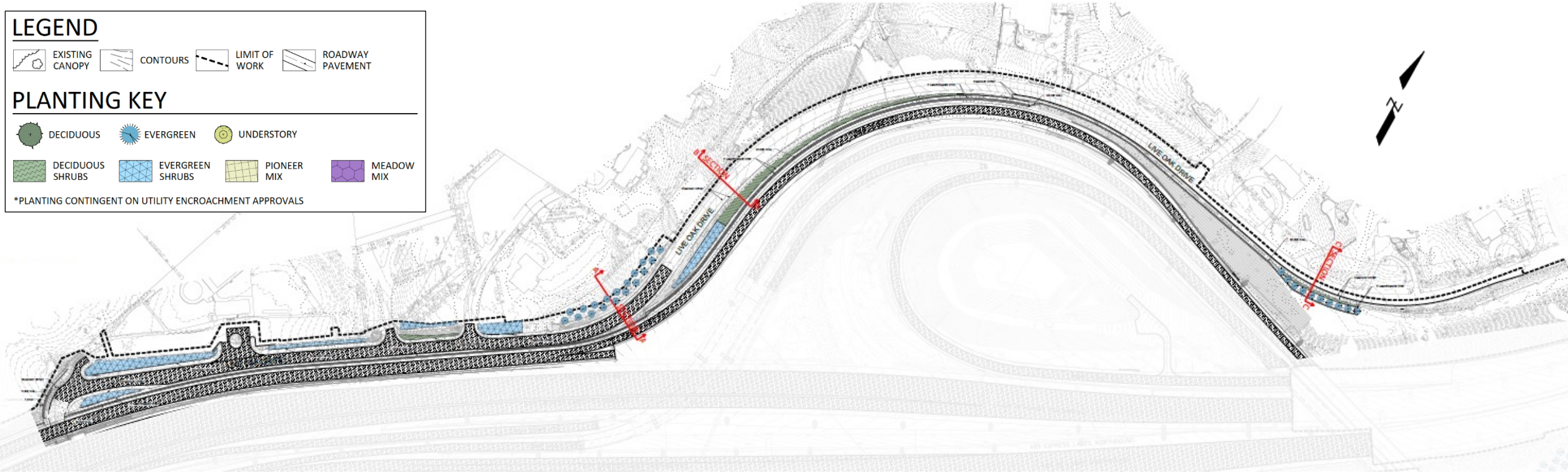
EXISTING CANOPY    CONTOURS    LIMIT OF WORK    ROADWAY PAVEMENT

**PLANTING KEY**

DECIDUOUS    EVERGREEN    UNDERSTORY

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS    EVERGREEN SHRUBS    PIONEER MIX    MEADOW MIX

\*PLANTING CONTINGENT ON UTILITY ENCROACHMENT APPROVALS



# 495 NEXT Revegetation Design Factors

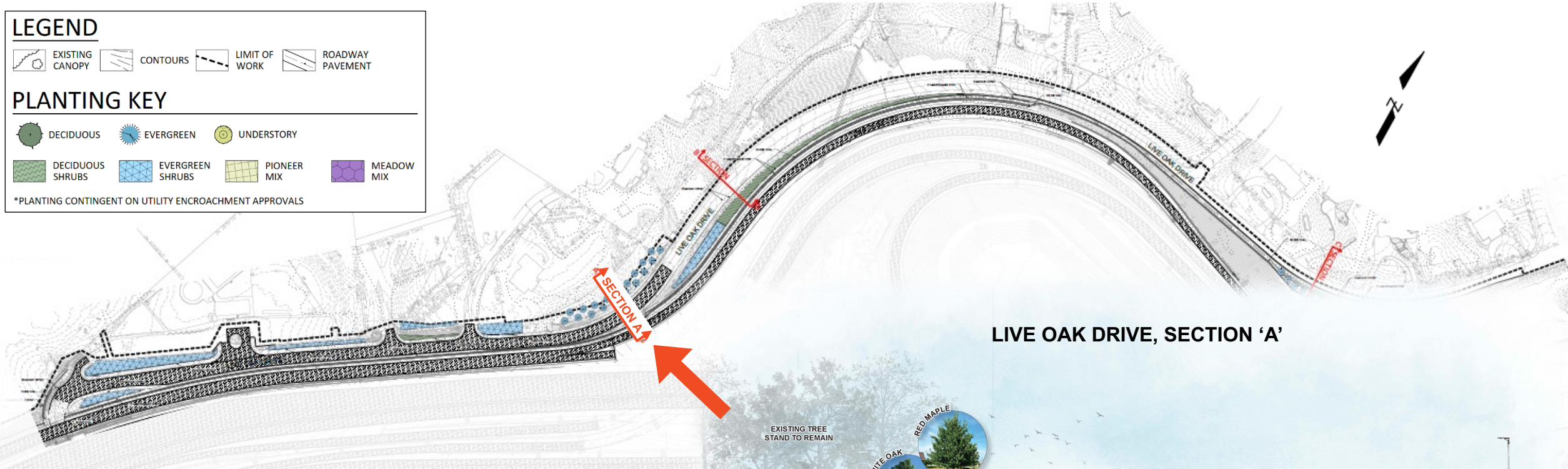
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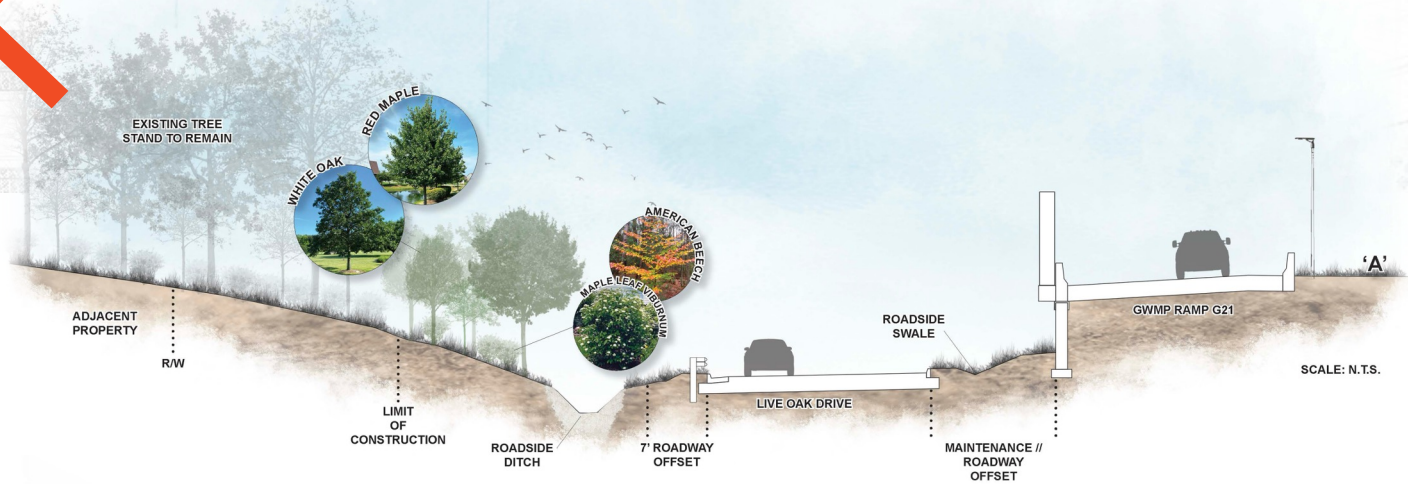
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- MEADOW MIX

\*PLANTING CONTINGENT ON UTILITY ENCROACHMENT APPROVALS



LIVE OAK DRIVE, SECTION 'A'





# 495 NEXT Revegetation Design Factors

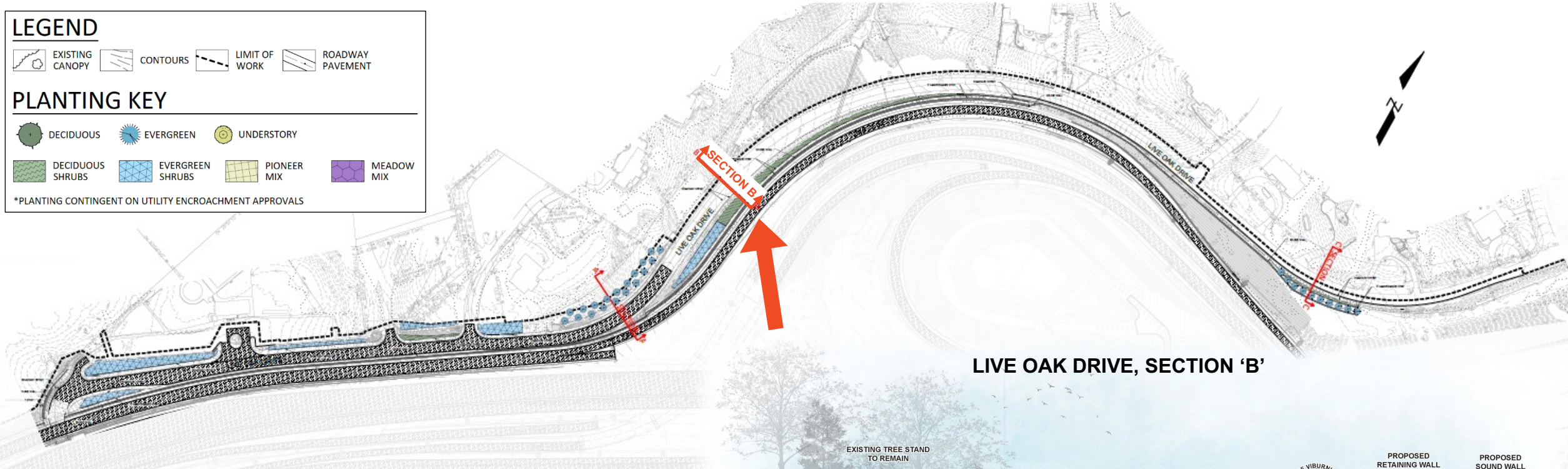
**LEGEND**

- EXISTING CANOPY
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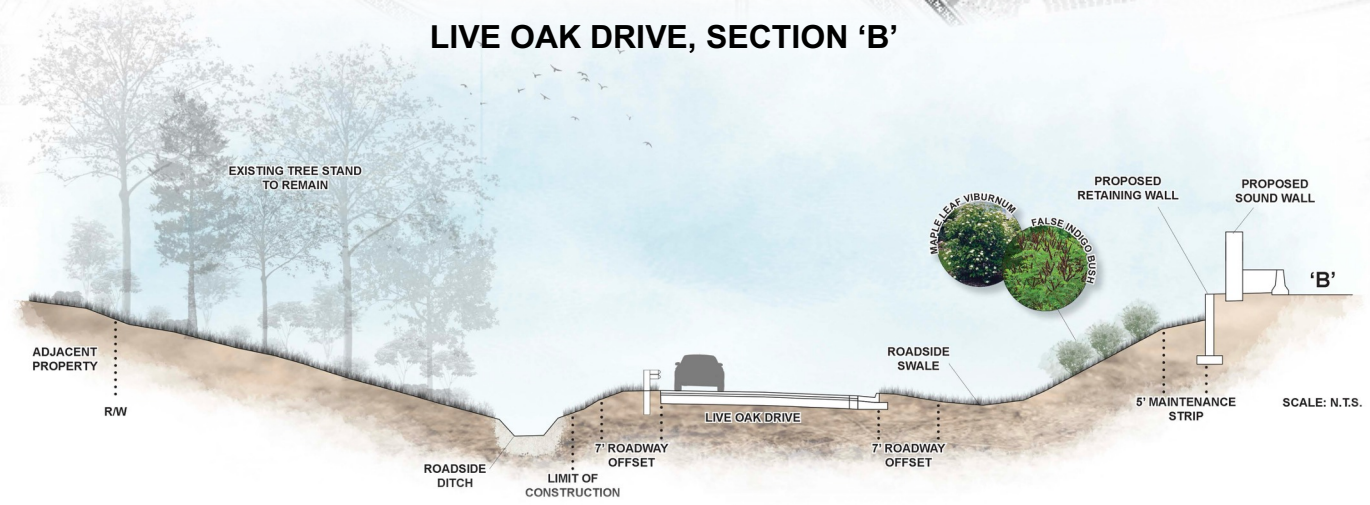
**PLANTING KEY**

- DECIDUOUS
- EVERGREEN
- UNDERSTORY
- DECIDUOUS SHRUBS
- EVERGREEN SHRUBS
- PIONEER MIX
- MEADOW MIX

\*PLANTING CONTINGENT ON UTILITY ENCROACHMENT APPROVALS







LIVE OAK DRIVE, SECTION 'B'










# 495 NEXT Revegetation Design Factors

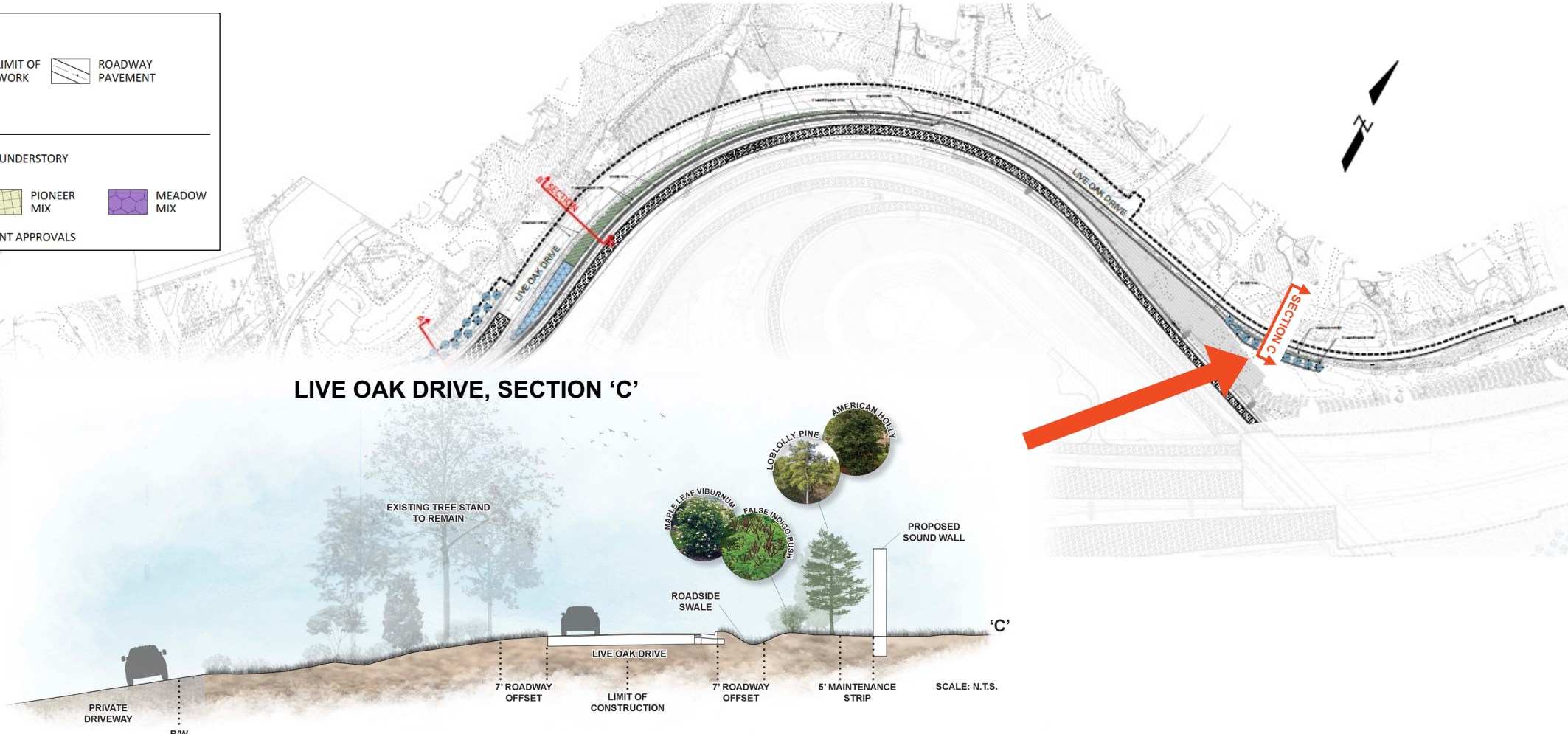
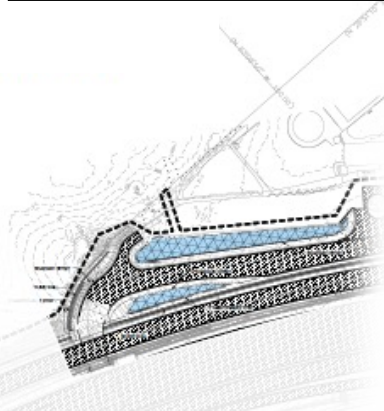
## LEGEND

-  EXISTING CANOPY
-  CONTOURS
-  LIMIT OF WORK
-  ROADWAY PAVEMENT

## PLANTING KEY

-  DECIDUOUS
-  EVERGREEN
-  UNDERSTORY
-  DECIDUOUS SHRUBS
-  EVERGREEN SHRUBS
-  PIONEER MIX
-  MEADOW MIX

\*PLANTING CONTINGENT ON UTILITY ENCROACHMENT APPROVALS



LIVE OAK DRIVE, SECTION 'C'

# Sample Plant Materials

## CANOPY



## EVERGREEN



## UNDERSTORY



## DECIDUOUS SHRUBS



## EVERGREEN SHRUBS



## MEADOW MIX



## PIONEER MIX



# 495 NEXT Revegetation Plan Next Steps

## Community Engagement

- Work with local officials to conduct more focused discussions with interested community members on the conceptual revegetation plan

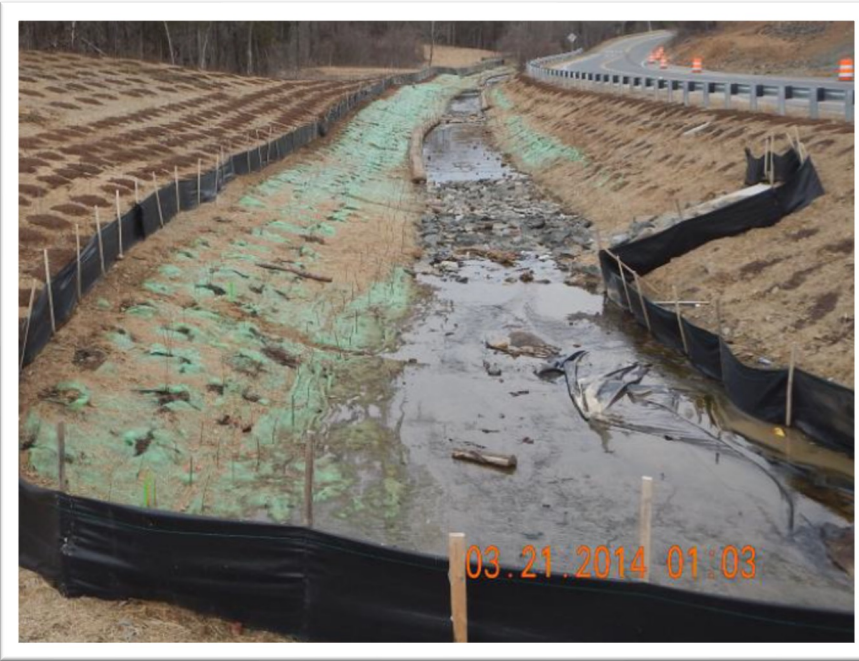
## Finalize Revegetation Plan

- Post final revegetation plan on the project website

## Implement Revegetation Plan

- Factors affecting planting installation include, but are not limited to:
  - Completion of construction activities and final grading
  - Appropriate time of year
  - Weather conditions
  - Availability of plantings

# Revegetation Growth Progression



**Installation**



**Establishment**



**3-Year Maturity**

# 495 NEXT Transportation Management Plan

## Maintenance of Traffic

## Traffic Operations and Incident Management

## Local Network Operations and Traffic Analysis

## Mitigation Strategies Implemented at Georgetown Pike

- Monitoring and adjusting traffic signal timing at Georgetown Pike and Balls Hill Road
- Moved stop bar at Georgetown Pike and northbound I-495 ramp
- Repainted cross hatching at Georgetown Pike and Balls Hill Road intersection
- Funding and coordination with Fairfax County Police Department for increased on-site presence
- Supplemental Safety Service Patrol on I-495



Examples of VDOT supplemental Safety Service patrol (SSP)



# 495 NEXT Transportation Management Plan

## New commuter bus service between Tysons and Bethesda launching this summer

- Route 798 will be operated by Fairfax Connector
- Commonwealth committed \$5.2M for purchasing buses
- Transurban to provide \$2.2M per year for bus service operations
- Route will run on the 495 Express Lanes and over the American Legion Bridge

## Carpool and vanpool incentives available through Commuter Connections and Vanpool Alliance



Optimize Your Ride  
as We Improve 495.



Carpool, vanpool,  
or telework  
while construction  
continues on I-495.

# George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) Coordination

National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is rehabilitating the GWMP from Spout Run Parkway to I-495

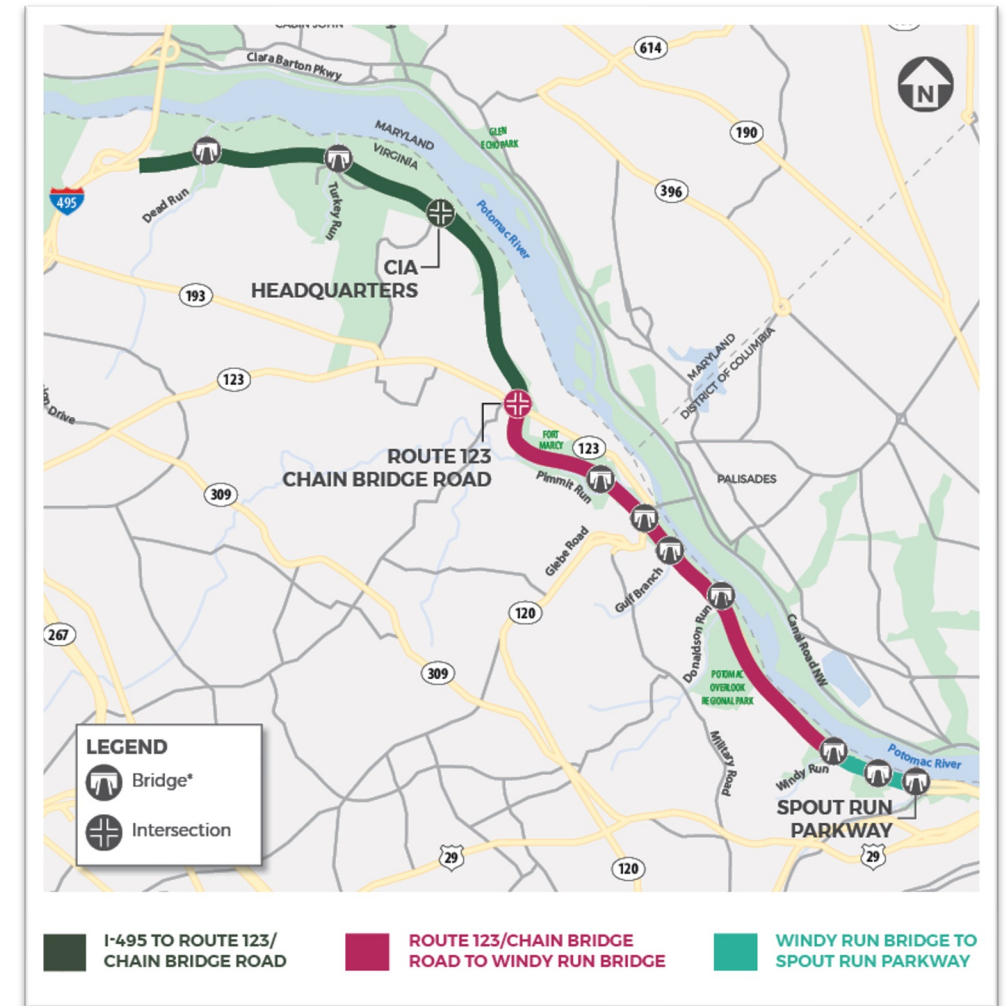
- Major roadway construction
- Bridge rehabilitation

**Maintenance of traffic plans**

- Traffic switch occurred in January 2024

**Project completion is anticipated in late 2025**

**Regular coordination meetings**



Visit the project website at [nps.gov/gwmp/learn/management/north-parkway-rehabilitation.htm](https://nps.gov/gwmp/learn/management/north-parkway-rehabilitation.htm)



# VDOT Coordination with Maryland

**VDOT currently focused on signage agreement for Virginia's 495 NEXT project**

**Bi-state agreement will define how Virginia's 495 NEXT project and Maryland's American Legion Bridge and I-270 Corridor Program will interface**

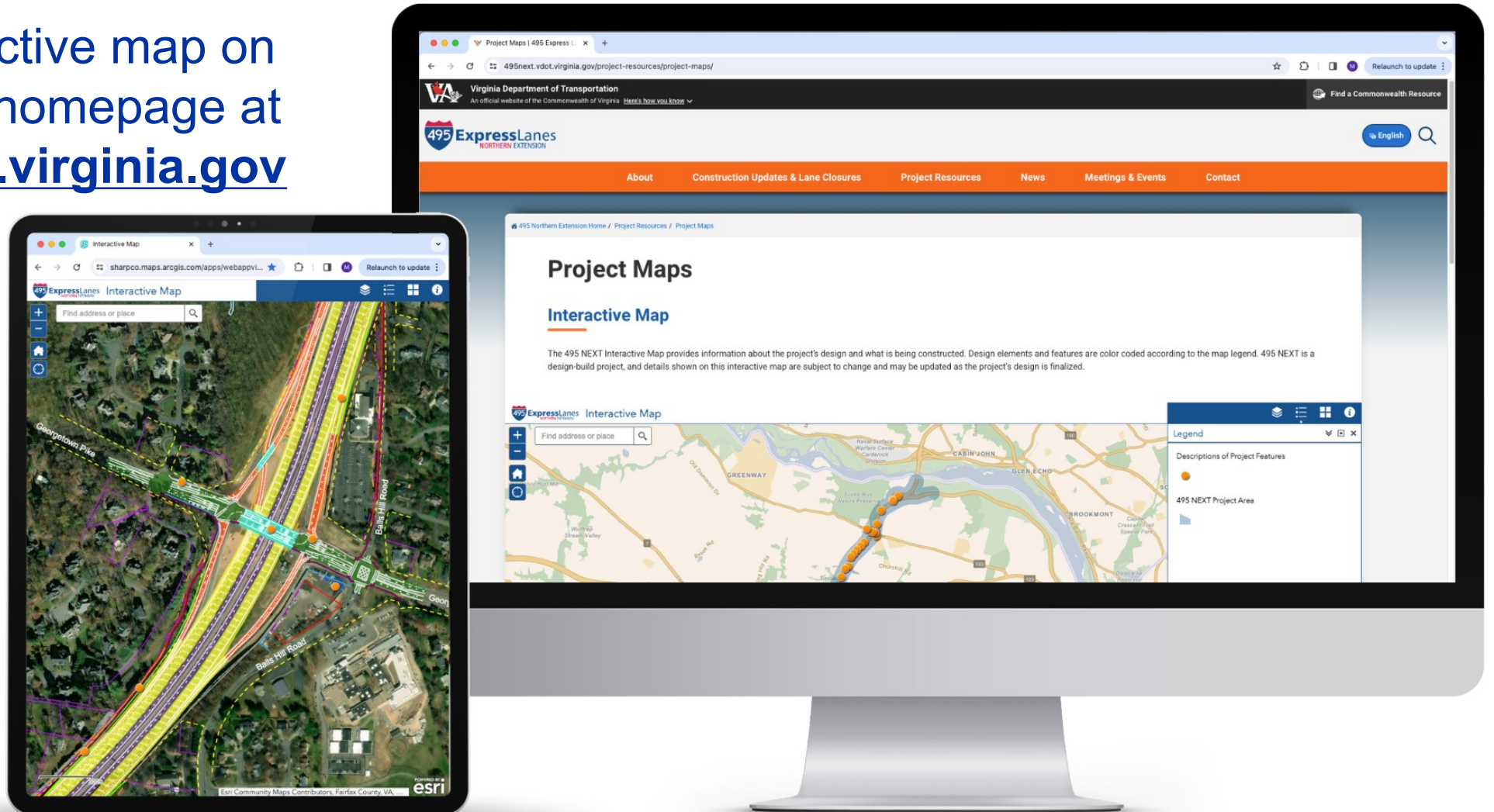
- VDOT continues to coordinate and collaborate with Maryland and Fairfax County to ensure best outcome for the public



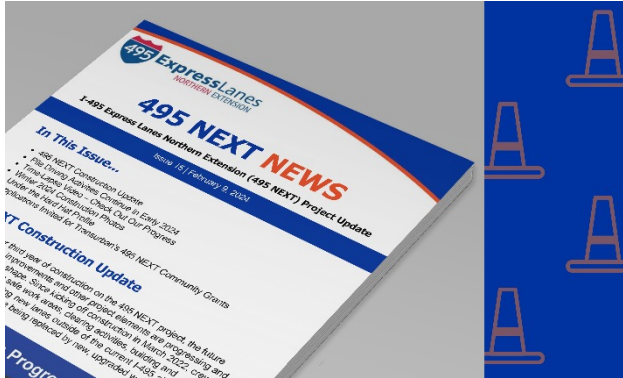
# 495 NEXT Interactive Map

View the interactive map on the 495 NEXT homepage at [495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov](https://495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov)

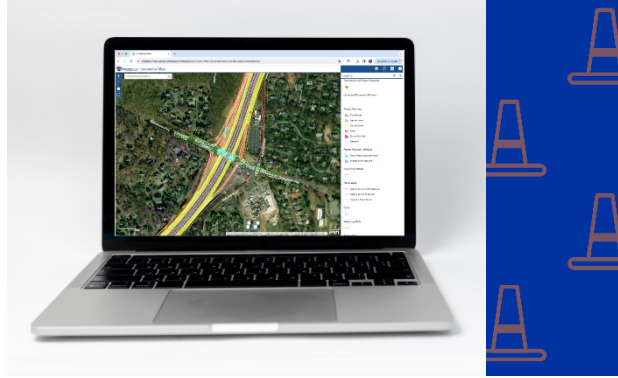
[View the Map Online](#)



# Staying Informed



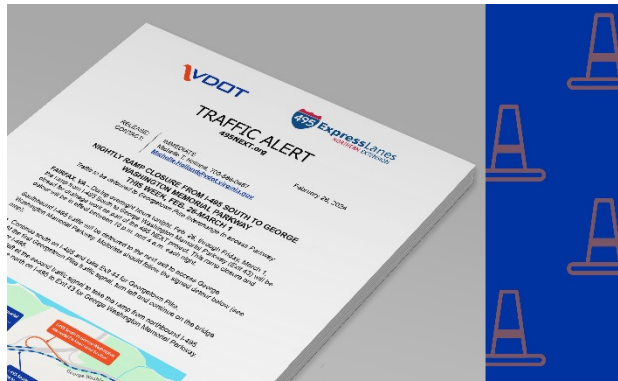
**Newsletters & Weekly Lane Closure Reports**



**Interactive Map Showing Project Design**



**Community and Neighborhood Outreach**



**News Releases & Media Outreach**

## Resources and Contacts:

- **Website:** [495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov](https://495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov)
- **Email:** [495NorthernExtension@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:495NorthernExtension@VDOT.Virginia.gov)
- **Construction Information Line:** 703-592-6430 (monitored daily)
- **VDOT:** Michelle Holland, 703-586-0487
- **Transurban:** Amanda Allen, 571-249-8784
- **Lane:** John Undeland, 703-785-3461



**Subscribe to project update emails here**



# April 2024 Public Meetings

## Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 8

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Visit [495next.vdot.virginia.gov](https://495next.vdot.virginia.gov) for the meeting link and details on how to participate.

## In-Person Meeting

Thursday, April 11

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Presentation at 7 p.m.

Langley High School Cafeteria  
6520 Georgetown Pike  
McLean, VA 22101



Virginia Department of Transportation