Study will explore options for enhanced transit along Route 7

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) is conducting a study that will assess the needs of travelers along the Route 7 corridor in Northern Virginia. The Route 7 Corridor Transit Study explores travel in the area between Tysons and the City of Alexandria and will result in the development of potential options to improve mobility and accessibility to and along Route 7.

Enhanced transit service along Route 7 has been a NVTC priority for many years. A high quality transit option can connect people and businesses to economic opportunity, improve regional mobility and help relieve congestion. The objective of this study is to assess the viability of implementing an option for improved transit and, if a feasible project is identified, possibly prepare it for entrance into the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Project Development process.

The analysis of traveler needs along Route 7 is being conducted in multiple phases. The first phase of the study included an initial screening and analysis of transit modes and a preliminary look at viability. Based on the Phase I screening process, only two high-capacity transit modes were advanced for further evaluation under the current study: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Light Rail Transit (LRT). Phase II will evaluate these modes and take a more in-depth look at the potential for implementing enhanced transit in the corridor.

Study includes in-depth analysis of travel needs
To help analyze the viability of implementing enhanced transit on Route 7, this study will include:

- Ridership Forecasts
- Cost Estimates
- Funding Options & Strategies
- Federal Funding Evaluation
- Evaluating the Alternatives
- Project Delivery Options

At the end of Phase II, the study will determine if either of the two transit modes identified in Phase I will effectively and efficiently address the existing transportation needs along the Route 7 corridor and accommodate future travel demands. In addition to technical analysis, community input will help guide study decisions by shaping the vision for enhanced transit along the corridor.

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