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# *Purple Line*

Coalition for Smarter Growth  
Next Generation of Transit  
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# Purple Line Project Update

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- Purple Line Overview
- Project Benefits
- Station Designs



# Project Overview

16 mile east-west light rail line inside the Capital Beltway between Bethesda and New Carrollton serving major activity centers:

- Bethesda
- Takoma/Langley Park
- Silver Spring
- UMD/College Park
- New Carrollton



# Project Overview

- Purpose and Need
  - Provide faster, more direct and more reliable east-west transit service connecting major activity centers
  - Provide better connections to Metrorail
  - Provide better connectivity to the communities between the Metro lines

# Project Overview

- Light Rail Transit
  - Electric railway system.
  - Flexible and can operate in mixed traffic, in dedicated lanes or a separate right-of way.
  - Safe for pedestrians to cross because it is powered by overhead wires.



- Two-car trains (~190 ft. total)
- Low floor vehicles
- Stations approx. 200 ft. (Metro 600 ft)

# Project Overview

- Operations
  - Fully grade-separated running way from Bethesda to Silver Spring
  - In-street running in median in separate right of way with protective ramped curbs and cobbled pavers
  - Almost entirely at-grade, one short tunnel
  - Traffic signal priority
  - Aerial structures over railroads

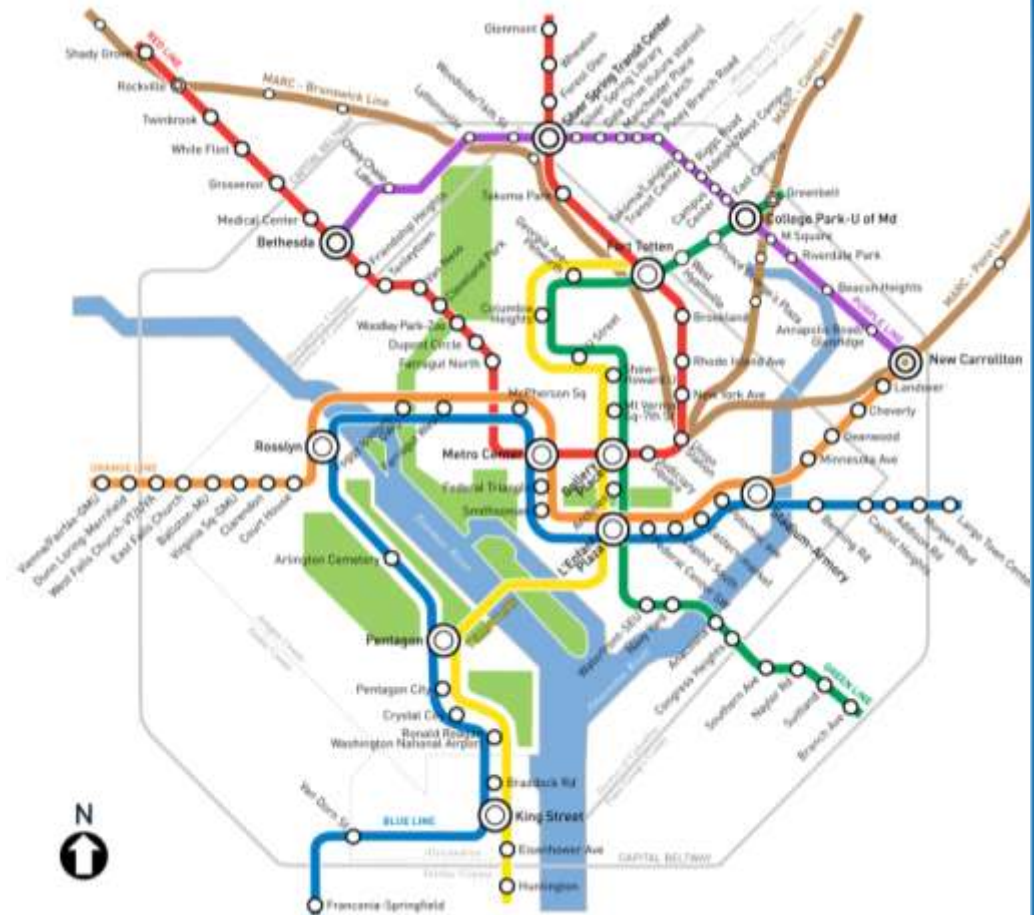
# Project Overview

## Purple Line Planning Schedule



# Project Benefits - Mobility

- Links 4 branches of the Metro
  - Red Line at Bethesda
  - Red Line at Silver Spring
  - Green Line at College Park
  - Orange Line at New Carrollton
- Connects to all three MARC lines
  - Brunswick at Silver Spring
  - Camden Line at College Park
  - Penn Line at New Carrollton
- Connects to Amtrak Northeast Corridor at New Carrollton
- Connects to regional and local bus services





# Project Benefits

- Improved access and connectivity to major activity centers
- Faster, more reliable travel times

## Approximate Current Travel Times in Minutes

<u>Location</u>	<u>Bus</u>	<u>Purple Line</u>
Bethesda-Silver Spring	17	9
Silver Spring-College Park Metro	40	38
College Park Metro-New Carrollton	20	16

By 2040, bus travel times are expected to increase by 30-40% in the AM and PM peak-traffic times respectively.

# Project Benefits

- Ridership Estimates

- Entry into PE

- 2030 Daily Boardings 60,100

- Completion of FEIS

- 2030 Daily Boardings 69,300

- 2040 Daily Boardings 74,160

- Approximately 30% of riders will also use a portion of their trips on Metrorail

# Project Benefits

- Purple Line benefits would not only include the creation of new businesses and employment
- They also would include:
  - Environmental Quality
  - Sustainability



# Project Benefits

- Support Community Revitalization and Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
- Provides a major stimulus to the local economy, while promoting Maryland's **Smart, Green and Growing Initiative**
  - Growth Management
    - Reduces sprawl, preserve open space and natural resources
  - Transportation Efficiency
    - Reduces fuel consumption, improves travel times
  - Economic and Environmental Sustainability
    - Access to jobs, homes and recreation
    - Helps reduce air and water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions related to climate change

# Station Design

- Design and Elements
  - Well lit, attractive safe areas
  - Pleasant patron experience
  - Distinguishable from Metro
  - Durable, low maintenance materials
  - Center platform or side platform
  - Communications including next train information
  - Ticket vending machines
  - Safety & security coverage

# Station Design - Bethesda

- Direct connection between Purple Line and Metro Red Line
  - A surface trail was selected due to physical constraints, cost and risk of carrying trail through tunnel
  - A new 5- to 7-foot-wide sidewalk is included through the tunnel



# Station Design - Bethesda



# Station Design – Silver Spring Transit Center

- Platform will be 80 feet above Colesville Road
- Developed signature design to address need for adequate weather and wind protection





# Station Design - Riverdale Park Station



# Station Design Lyttonsville Station



# Station Design - UMD



# Thank you!

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