



STAPLES MILL ROAD SMALL AREA PLAN

Staples Mill Road Small Area Plan Opportunities and Issues Public Meeting

January 13, 2022

Today's Agenda

- Study purpose and need
- Existing conditions
- Future no-build conditions
- Study vision, goals and objectives
- Questions and discussion



Today's Speakers



**Nicole
Mueller**

Planning Specialist



**Rob
Vilak**

District Traffic Engineer



**Meredyth
Sanders**

Project Manager



**Chris Tiesler,
PE, PTOE**

Principal Engineer



**Caitlin Mildner,
AICP**

Planner

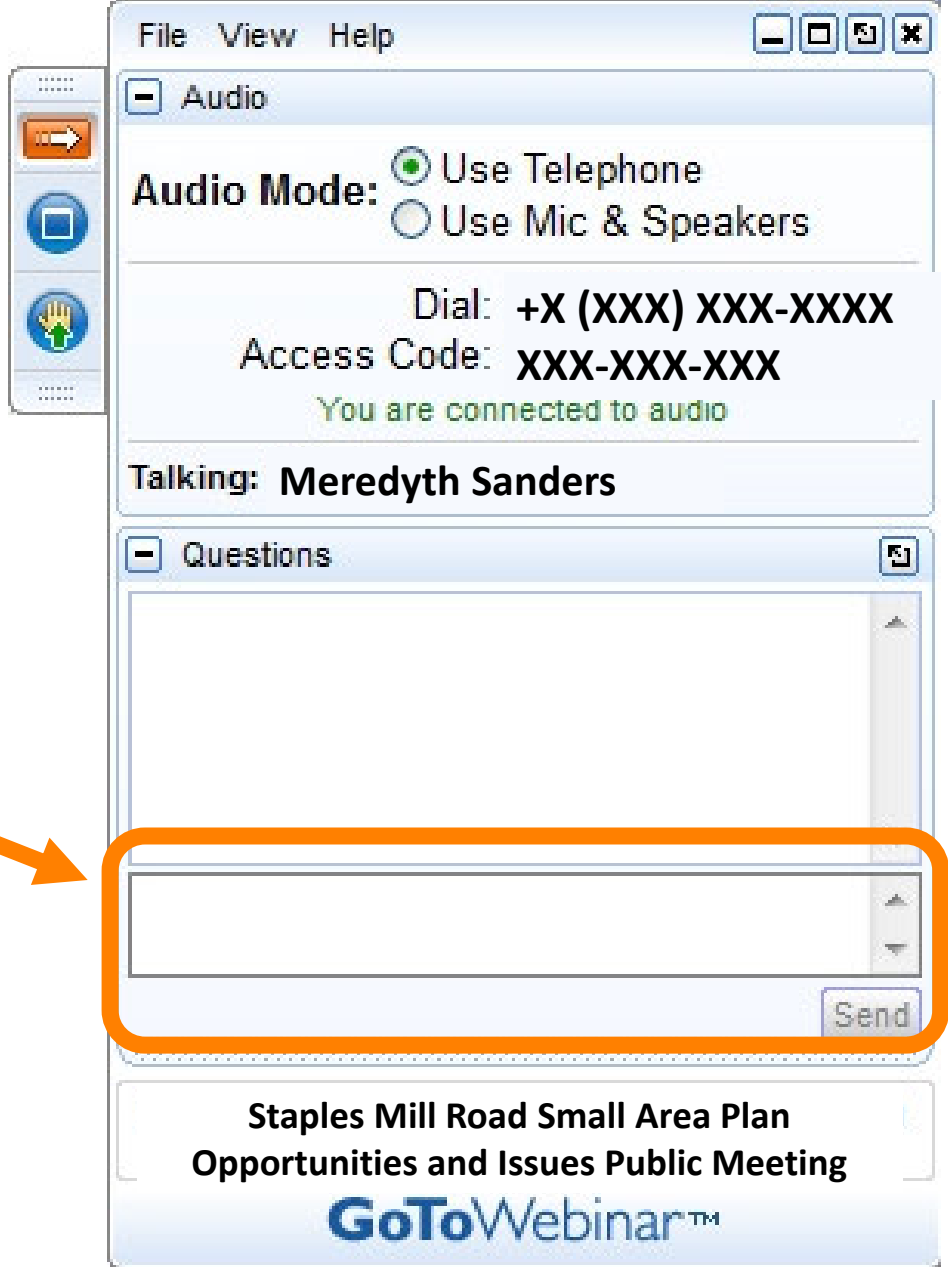
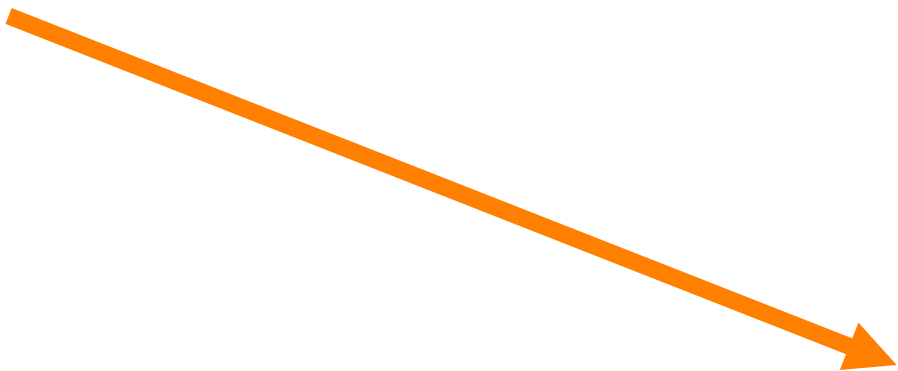
Agency Stakeholders

- Henrico County
- City of Richmond
- Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO)
- Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC)
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
- Federal Highway Administration



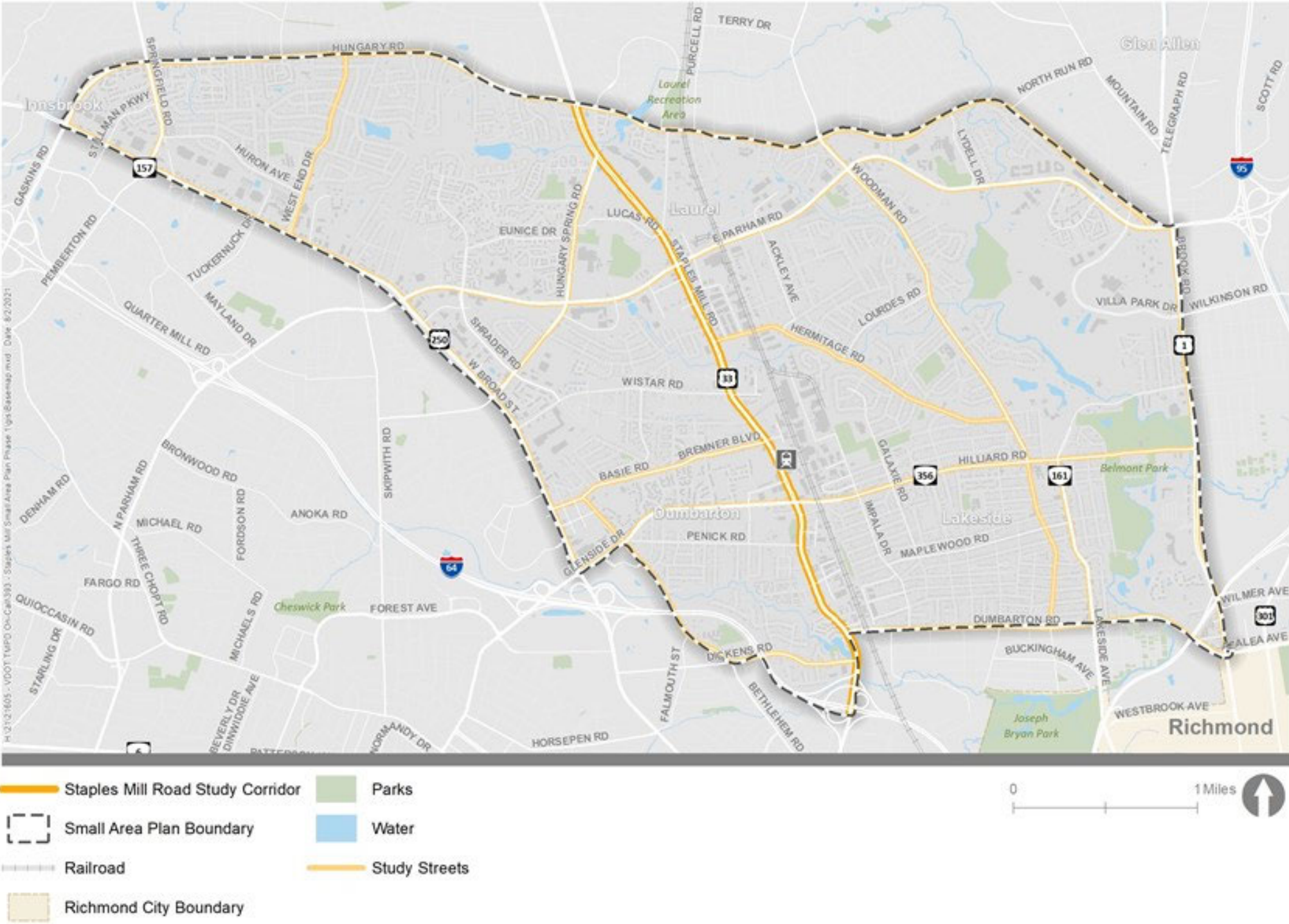
Navigating GoToWebinar

Send questions about the presentation and project through “Questions” Box



Study Area

- 3.7 miles of Staples Mill Road
- 12 square miles of Henrico County
- Connects Henrico County and the city of Richmond
- Regional crossroads via interchanges with Interstate 64 and Interstate 295

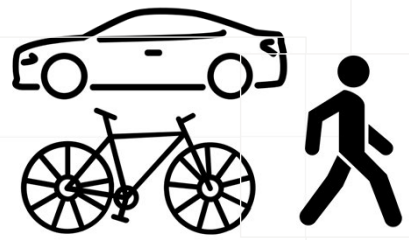


Study Need

- **Transit-oriented development:** a mix of residential, commercial, office, and entertainment centered around and near a transit station. Successful TOD depends on safe, convenient access by all modes (walking, biking, taking the bus, driving).



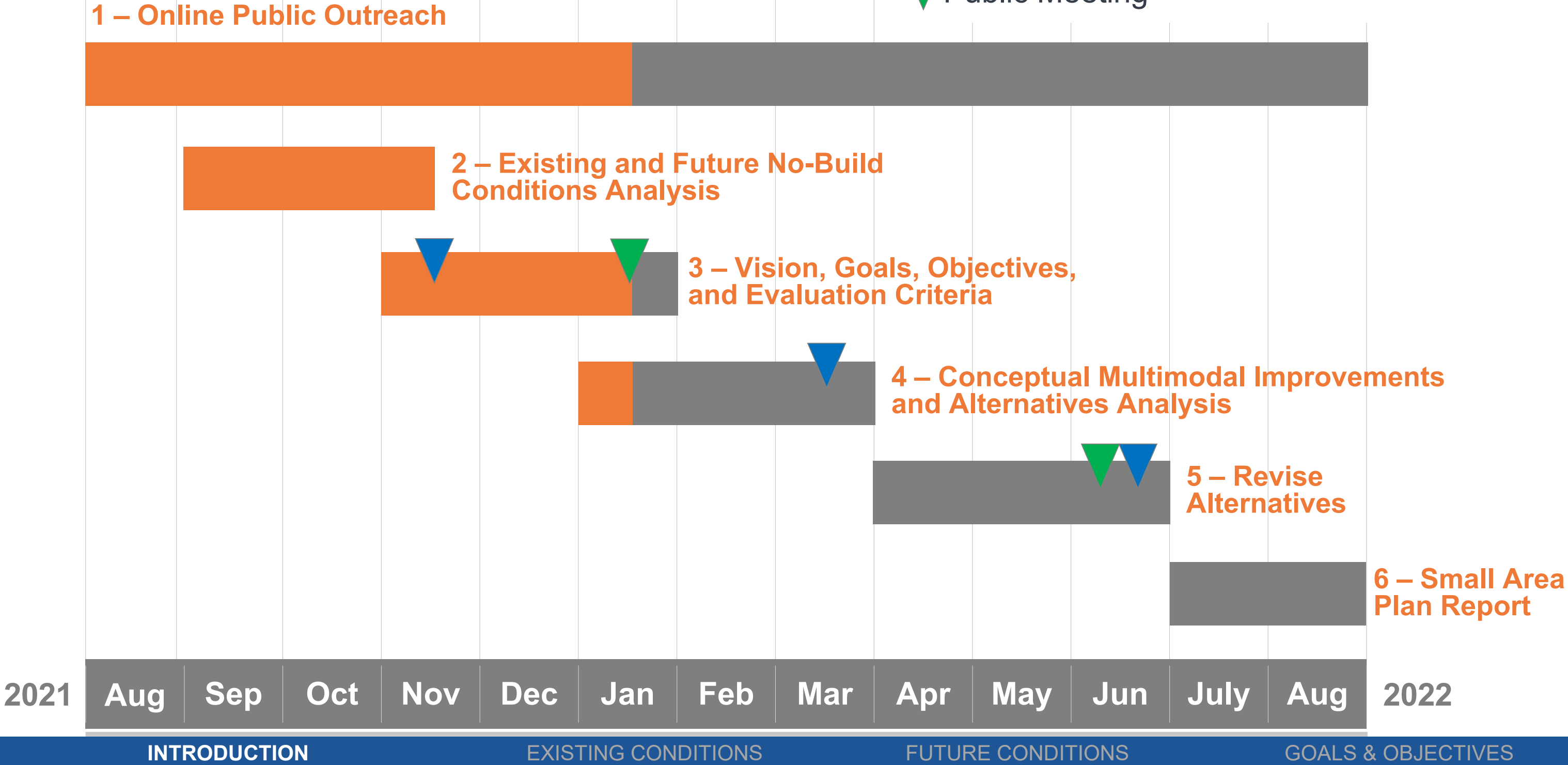
Study Purpose



- Evaluate existing automobile, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian conditions
- Assess future travel projections and development patterns
- Generate alternatives
- Evaluate alternatives against goals and through community input
- Recommend a system of investments

Study Schedule

▼ Stakeholder Group Meeting
▼ Public Meeting



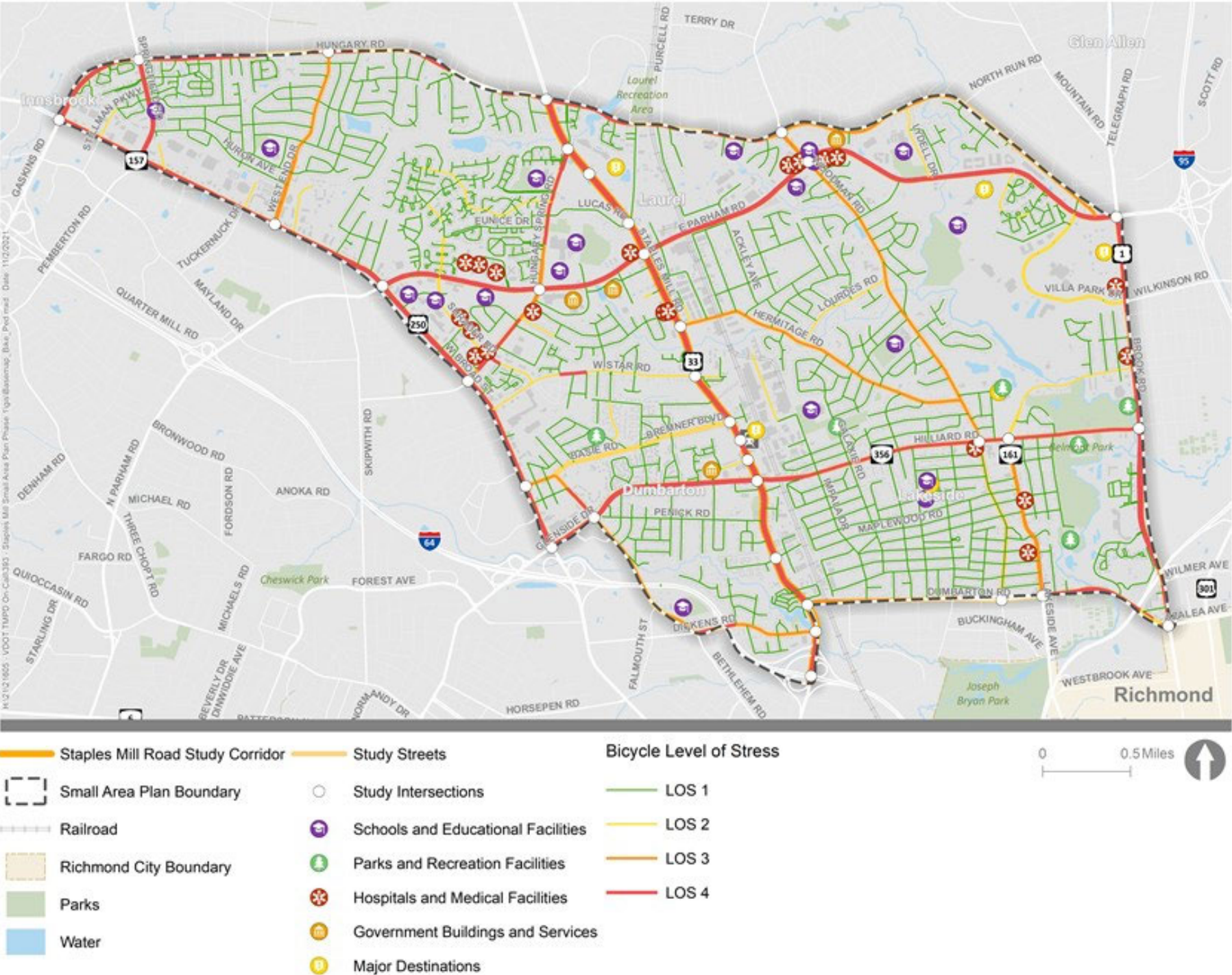
Walking in the Study Area

- Compared to the Greater Richmond Region, **fewer** people walk to work in Henrico County
- Sidewalks located along high speed (45+ mph) traffic
- Accessibility challenges (e.g., substandard sidewalks, curb ramps)
- Just **2** of 34 study intersections have marked crosswalks



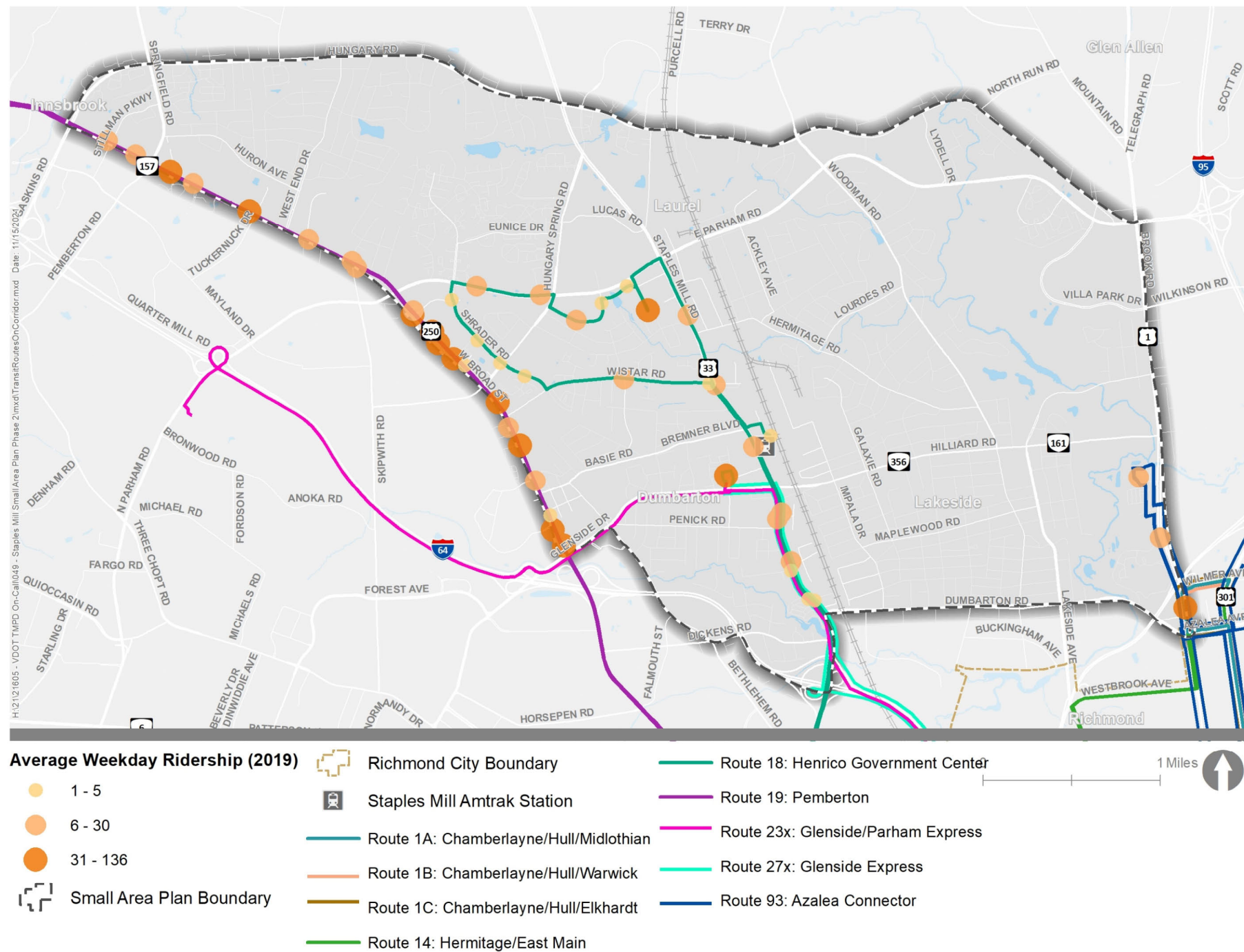
Biking in the Study Area

- Compared to the Greater Richmond Region, **fewer** people bike to work in Henrico County
- Few dedicated bicycle facilities
- Wide, high-speed, high-volume roads separate low-stress neighborhoods
- Community destinations (e.g., schools, shopping, parks) tend to be located on high-stress streets



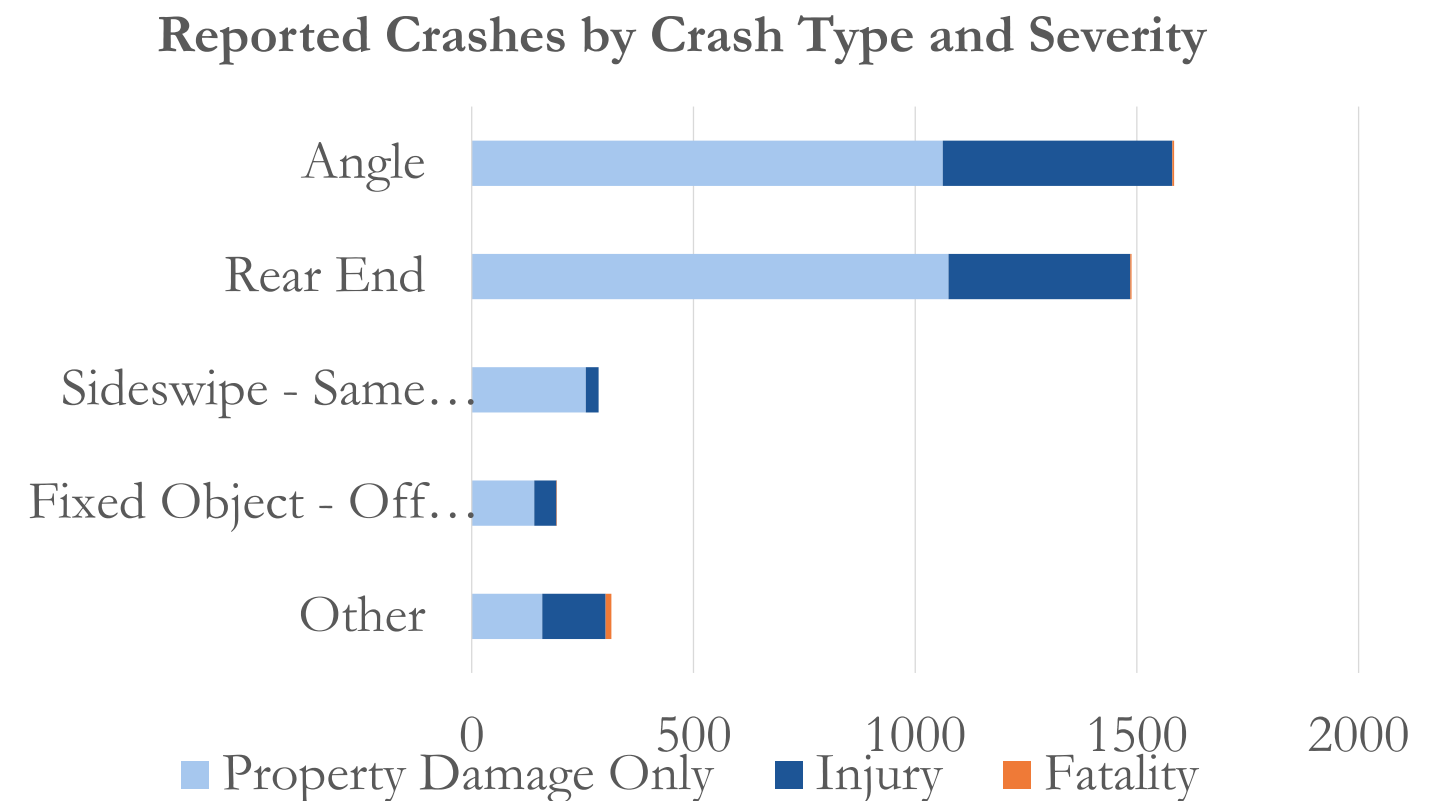
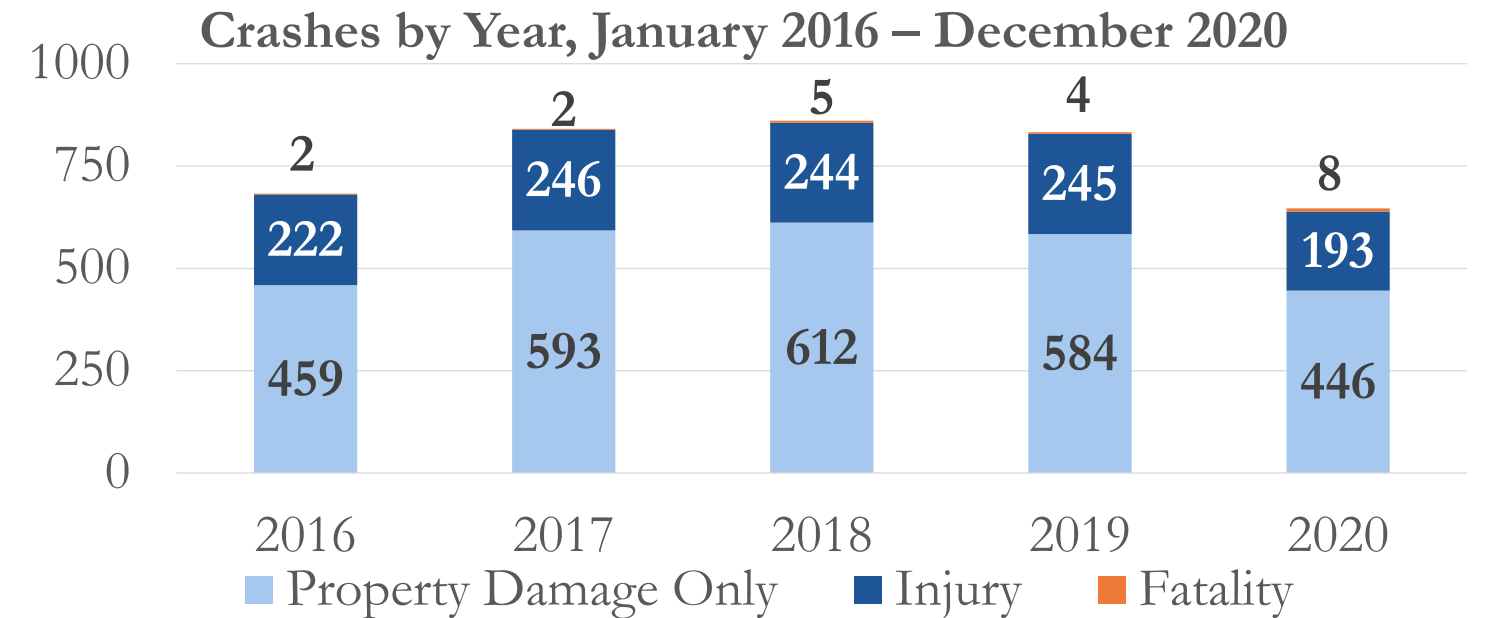
Taking Transit in the Study Area

- 2019 Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC) route and ridership data
- 9 study area routes
- Long transit commutes (37 minutes on average)
- Top destinations near Staples Mill include:
 - Western Government Center
 - Glenside Park & Ride



Safety in the Study Area

- Common crash types include angle crashes (41%) and rear end crashes (38%)
- Compared to total reported crashes, three crash types had higher proportions of injuries and fatalities:
 - Angle (33% injury or fatality)
 - Head on (59% injury or fatality)
 - Pedestrian (100% injury or fatality)



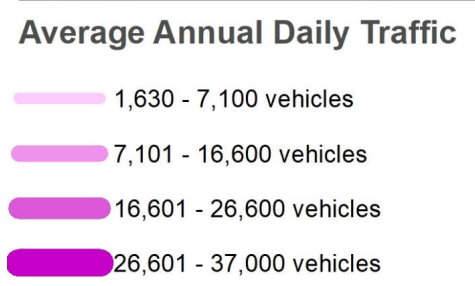
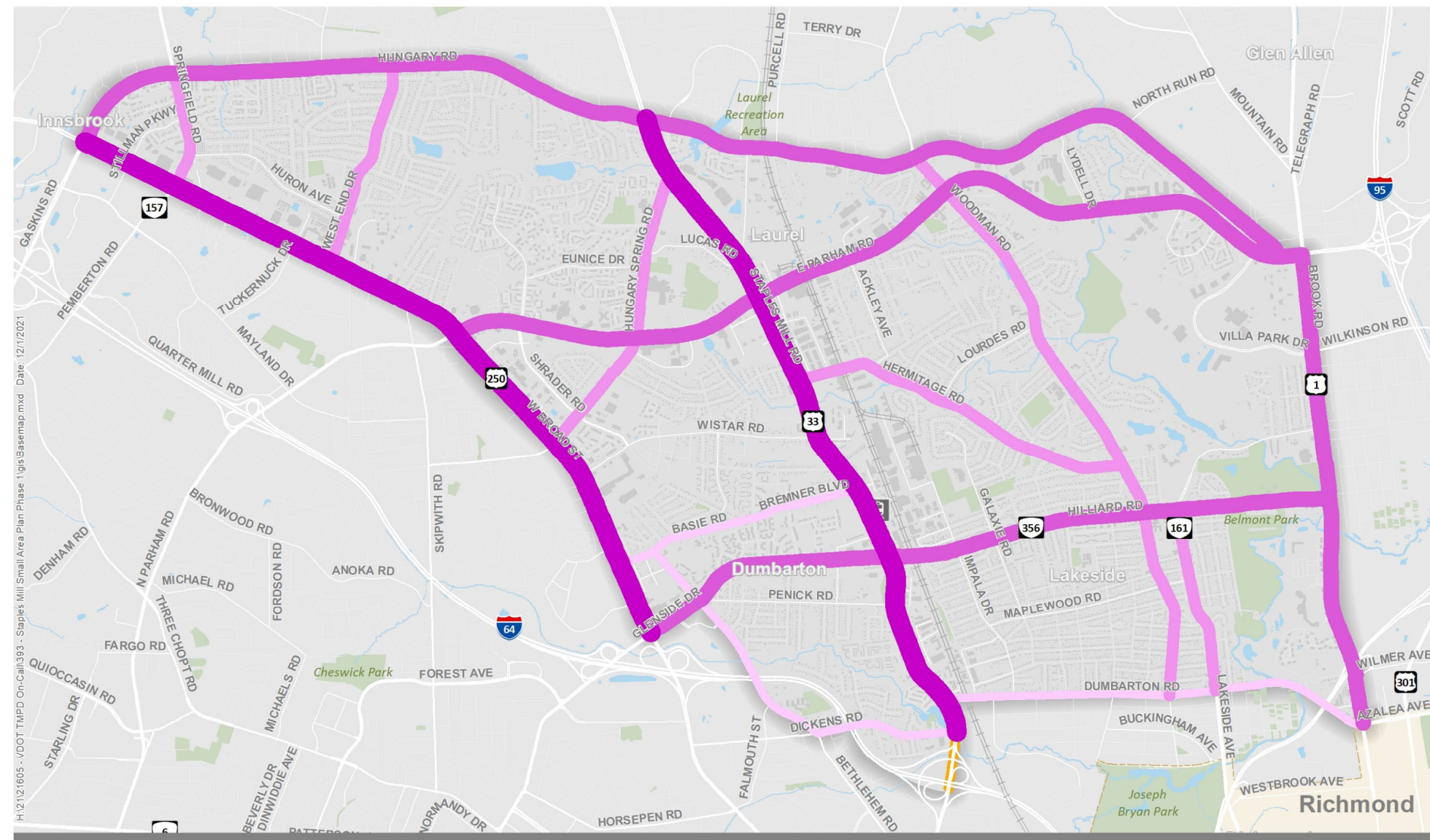
Safety in the Study Area

- Most crashes (88%) occurred at intersections
- Study intersections with high frequency and severity crashes include:
 - West Broad Street
 - Staples Mill Road
 - E Parham Road
 - Glenside Drive/Hilliard Road
 - Hungary Road
 - Dumbarton Road
 - Brook Road (Route 1)



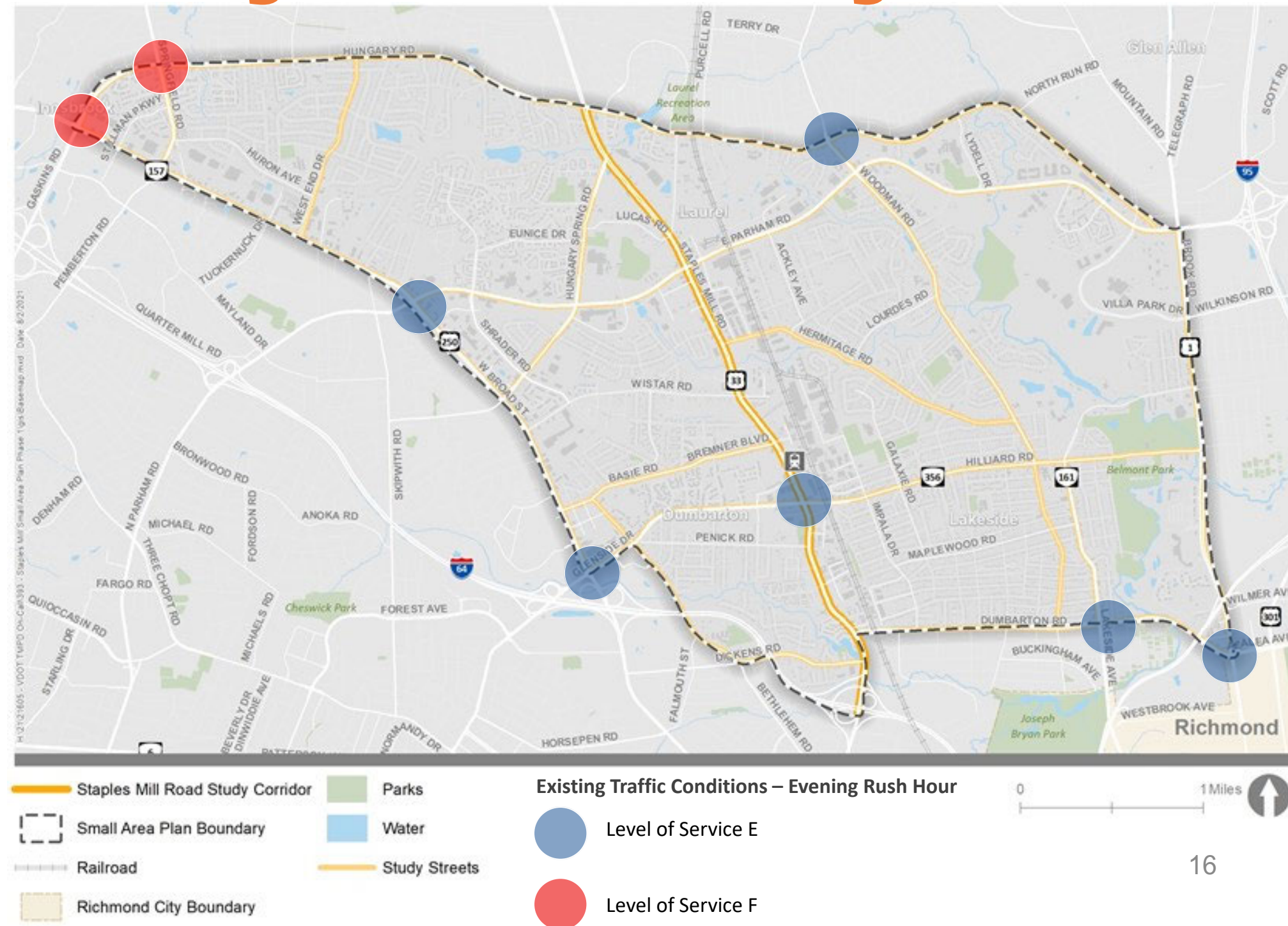
Driving in the Study Area Today

- High-volume roadways connect drivers to local and regional destinations



Driving in the Study Area Today

- High-volume roadways connect drivers to local and regional destinations
- Some intersections experience moderate to high delay during weekday rush hours
- Primarily located on: West Broad Street, Staples Mill Road, Gaskins/Hungary Road, and Dumbarton Road



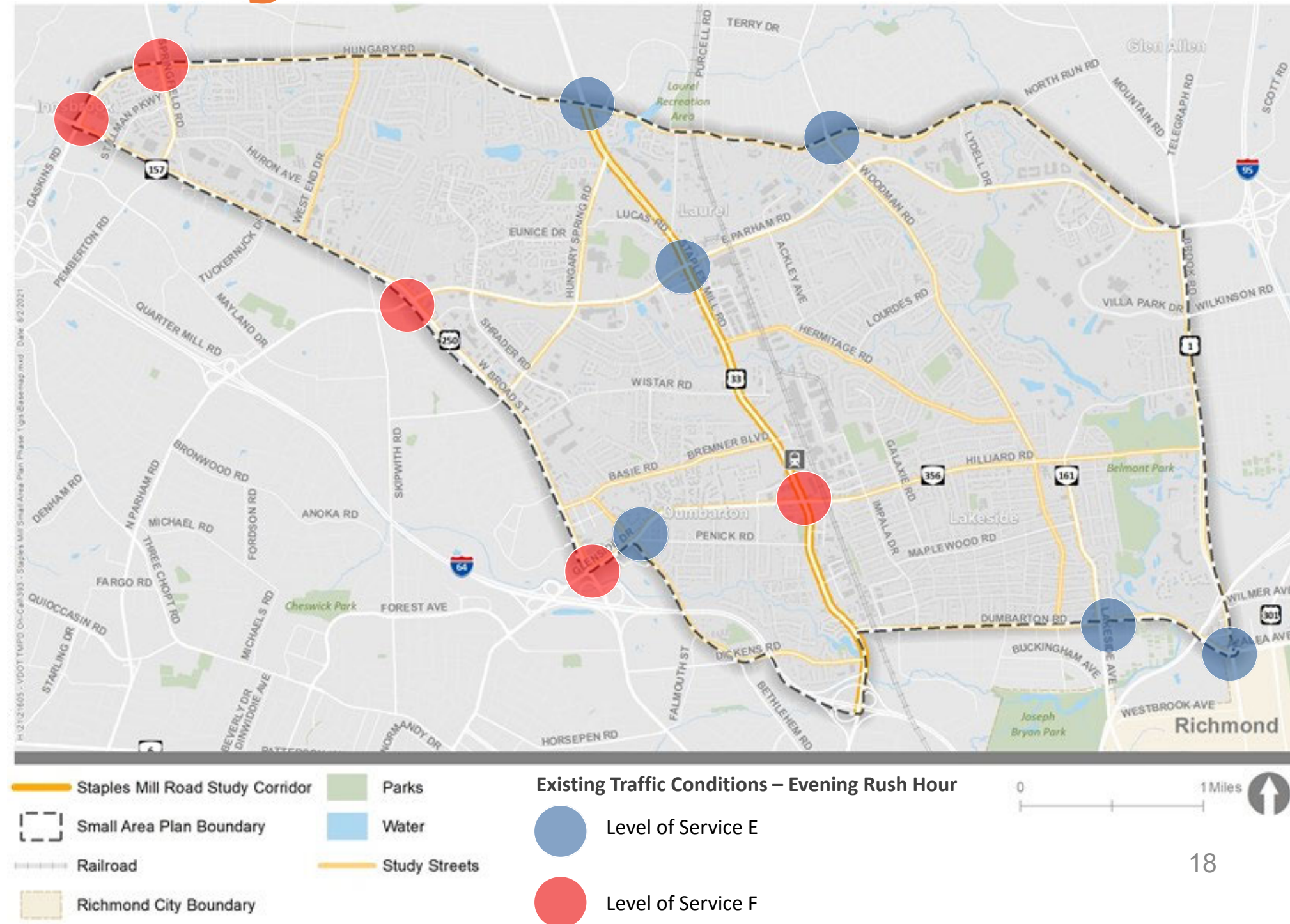
Driving in the Study Area in 2040

- **Future no-build conditions** consider leaving the roadways in their present state with routine maintenance, estimating future travel demand, and calculating future level of service (delays and travel times)



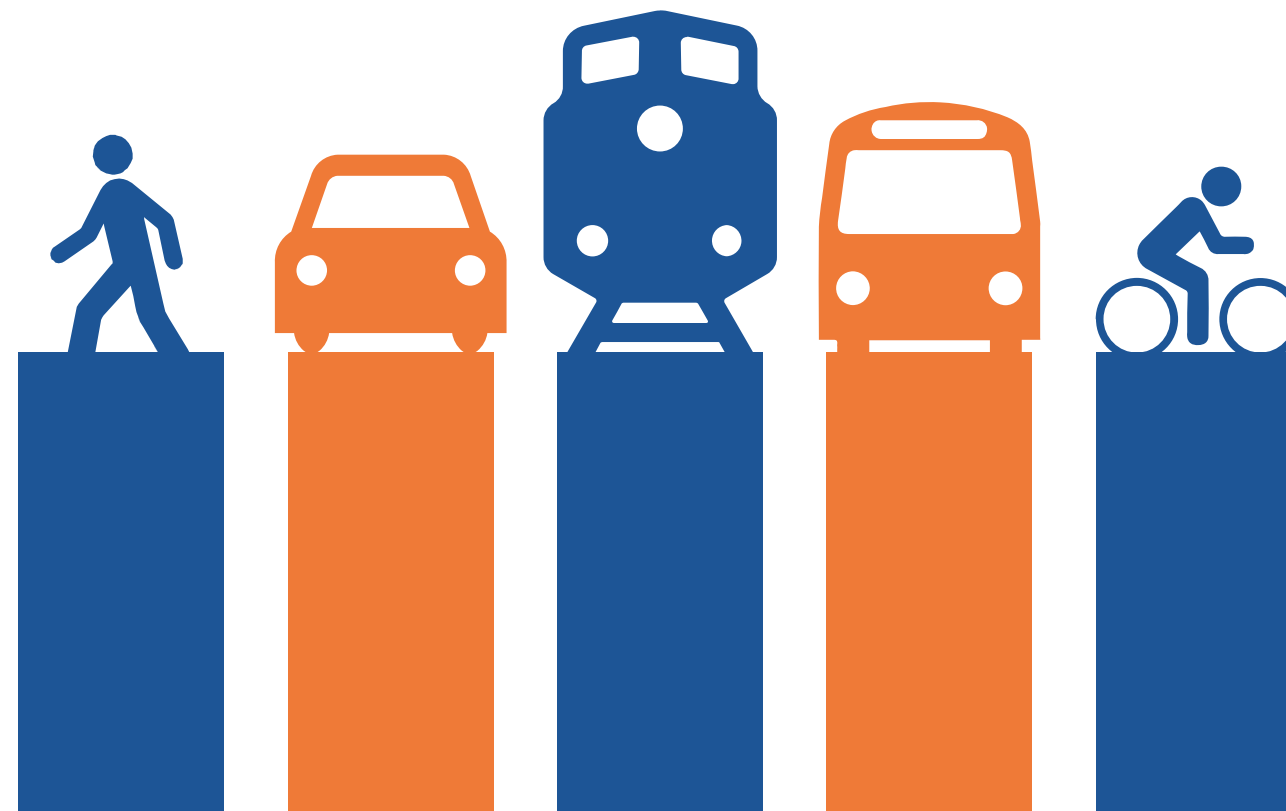
Driving in the Study Area in 2040

- New intersections experience moderate to high delay during weekday rush hours
- Primarily located on: West Broad Street, Staples Mill Road, Gaskins/Hungary Road, Dumbarton Road, Parham Road, and Glenside Drive/Hilliard Road












Study Vision










Staples Mill Road is a *Complete Street* that supports development and provides safe and comfortable travel for all uses and users of the roadway






Study Goals and Objectives

Goals	Objectives
<p>Improve Safety and Comfort</p> 	 Reduce/manage user conflict points
	 Manage and encourage reduction in vehicular travel speeds
	 Provide continuous, separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities
	 Provide protected pedestrian crossing opportunities
<p>Manage Congestion</p> 	 Increase person throughput capacity
	 Reduce travel time variability
	 Make efficient use of right-of-way for all users

Study Goals and Objectives

Goals	Objectives
<p>Support Economic Development</p> 	 Provide access to jobs for users with a range of abilities
	 Provide mode choice in access to employment opportunities
	 Support implementation of the TOD Concept Plan for Staples Mill Road Station
	 Accommodate a higher intensity of development
<p>Foster Community and Environmental Health</p> 	 Encourage mode shift by providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect to existing and future generators
	 Encourage mode shift by providing ADA accessible transit stops
	 Prioritize multimodal investments to and near mixed and low-income housing developments

Study Goals and Objectives

Goals	Objectives
<p>Reflect Community Character</p> 	 Develop transportation alternatives based on community input
	 Solicit community feedback on transportation alternatives

Next Steps

- ▼ Stakeholder Group Meeting
- ▼ Public Meeting

1 – Online Public Outreach



2 – Existing and Future No-Build Conditions Analysis



3 – Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Evaluation Criteria



4 – Conceptual Multimodal Improvements and Alternatives Analysis



5 – Revise Alternatives



6 – Small Area Plan Report



2021 Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun July Aug 2022

INTRODUCTION

EXISTING CONDITIONS

FUTURE CONDITIONS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Next Steps

- Visit and share our website:
https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/richmond/staples_mill_road_small_area_plan.asp
- Fill out our survey (closes January 22, 2022)



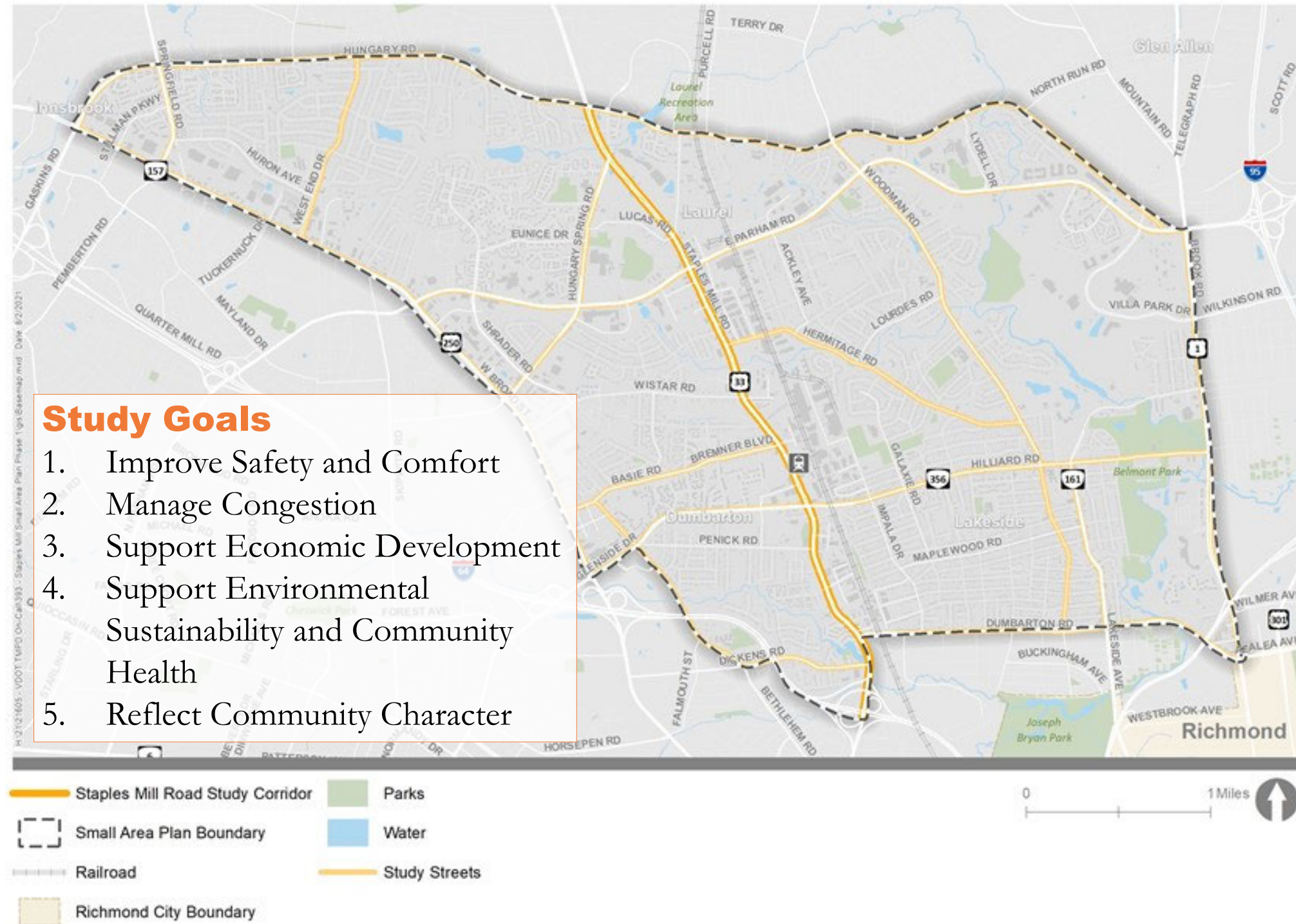
- Check out upcoming public meeting (Summer 2022)
- Download and read study documents

The screenshot shows the VDOT website for the Staples Mill Road Small Area Plan. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Projects, Richmond Projects, and Staples Mill Road Small Area Plan. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a 'Traffic Information' section with a 511 logo and a 'SMART SCALE Dashboard' section. A 'Studies' section highlights the 'Henrico - Staples Mill Road (Route 33) Small Area Plan' with a 'Project at a Glance' sidebar listing details like 'Begin Date August 2021' and 'Est. Completion Date June 2022'. A large 'OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES SURVEY' banner is overlaid on the page, with a 'Take the survey' button and a 'Project Map' inset. The survey introduction slide is also visible, showing a 'WELCOME' message and a 'Next' button.

Discussion

What is your experience in the Staples Mill Road Study Area?

- What are the most challenging locations when you're getting around the study area and why?
- What makes you most uncomfortable when walking, biking, or driving in the study area? For instance, walking next to vehicles, visibility at crosswalks, turning vehicles etc.
- What study goals are the most important to you?



Thank you!

For more information

Contact

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VDOT Richmond District

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