The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) proposes to implement a new 7.4-mile fixed guideway BRT project on Richmond Highway corridor from the terminus of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Yellow Line at Huntington Station to Ft. Belvoir, a major US Army installation. The Project includes the construction of new BRT-dedicated median lanes, a dedicated fleet of 60-foot BRT buses, nine BRT stations, roadway widening, improvements to existing sidewalks, construction of new sidewalks and bicycle facilities, and the associated improvements of stations areas. The estimated Project capital cost is $730 million, of which FCDOT plans to seek around 39 percent ($285 million estimated) in New Starts funds. The anticipated start year of revenue service is 2028.

The existing transit service in the corridor is slow and unreliable due to the lack of dedicated right-of-way, particularly during peak hours. Transit, including the existing limited stop express service, is disadvantaged by heavy traffic conditions reducing its utility for all riders and making it a less attractive option for choice riders. The FCDOT believes that adding high quality BRT with dedicated right-of-way will provide more transit choices and better connectivity with faster and reliable service.

The locally preferred alternative was selected in January 2015. It was subsequently included in the region’s fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in October 2018. FCDOT hopes to complete the environmental review process with receipt of a Documented Categorical Exclusion (CE) in summer 2020, receive a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2022, and begin revenue service in 2028.