

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Welcome! Thank you for joining us.
We will be getting started shortly...

Tenleytown Multimodal Access Project

May 24, 2022

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Tenleytown Multimodal Access Project

Community Meeting #1
May 24, 2022



Welcome to our virtual public meeting!

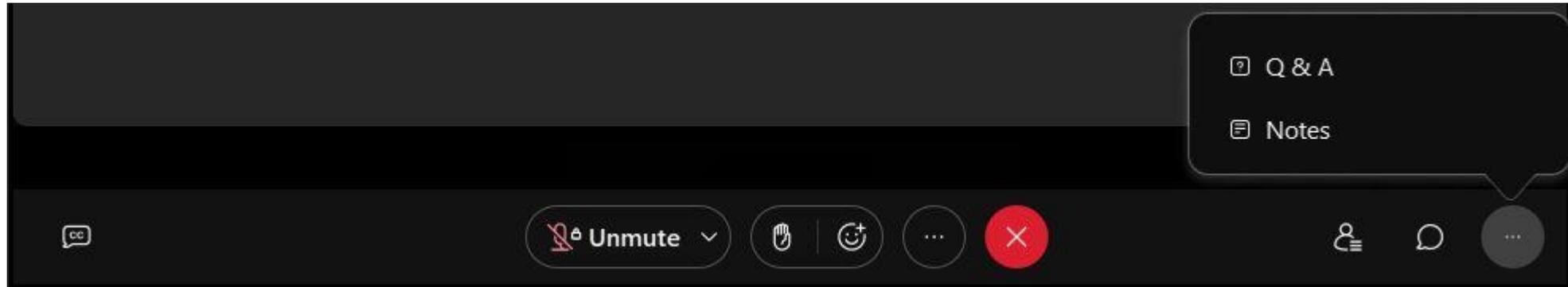
To begin, we will review some basic controls to help you participate on this platform.

Please Note: This is an open meeting and as required by DC Code 2-578, this meeting is being recorded, and the recording will be made available to the public.

- The video file (with both audio and video) will be shared on DDOT's YouTube Channel ([YouTube.com/DDOTVideos](https://www.youtube.com/DDOTVideos)) within 7 days after the meeting has ended.
- This meeting is being livestreamed to DDOT's Facebook page: [Facebook.com/DDOTDC](https://www.facebook.com/DDOTDC)
- If you do not wish to have your voice recorded, please do not ask to speak. You may enter any questions or comments in the Q&A which we will review shortly.

If you need technical support during this meeting, please call 202-309-3491

Using Webex – Audio & Video



Audio/Muting

- Everyone is on mute. You cannot unmute yourself. We can unmute you during the Q&A and Comment period. This helps ensure the meeting runs smoothly and there are no auditory disruptions during the presentation.
- To request to speak, you will need to use the **Raise Hand** feature.

Closed Captions

- Webex has automatic system-generated Closed Captions available during the meeting. **Click the CC icon** in the lower left corner of the window to turn on Closed Captions. There are additional settings so you may adjust the appearance of the captions if needed.
- Using the Webex Mobile Application? **Click the 3 dot (...) icon, scroll down and select the Closed Captions option.** Make sure the toggle switch is blue.

Video

- Your video camera is off by default, and you will not be able to share video.

Using Webex – Raise Hand



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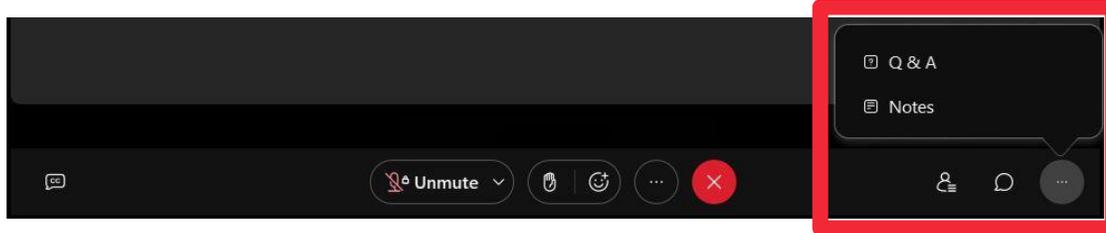
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Using Webex – Q&A



If you have a question during the presentation, send it via the Q&A feature.

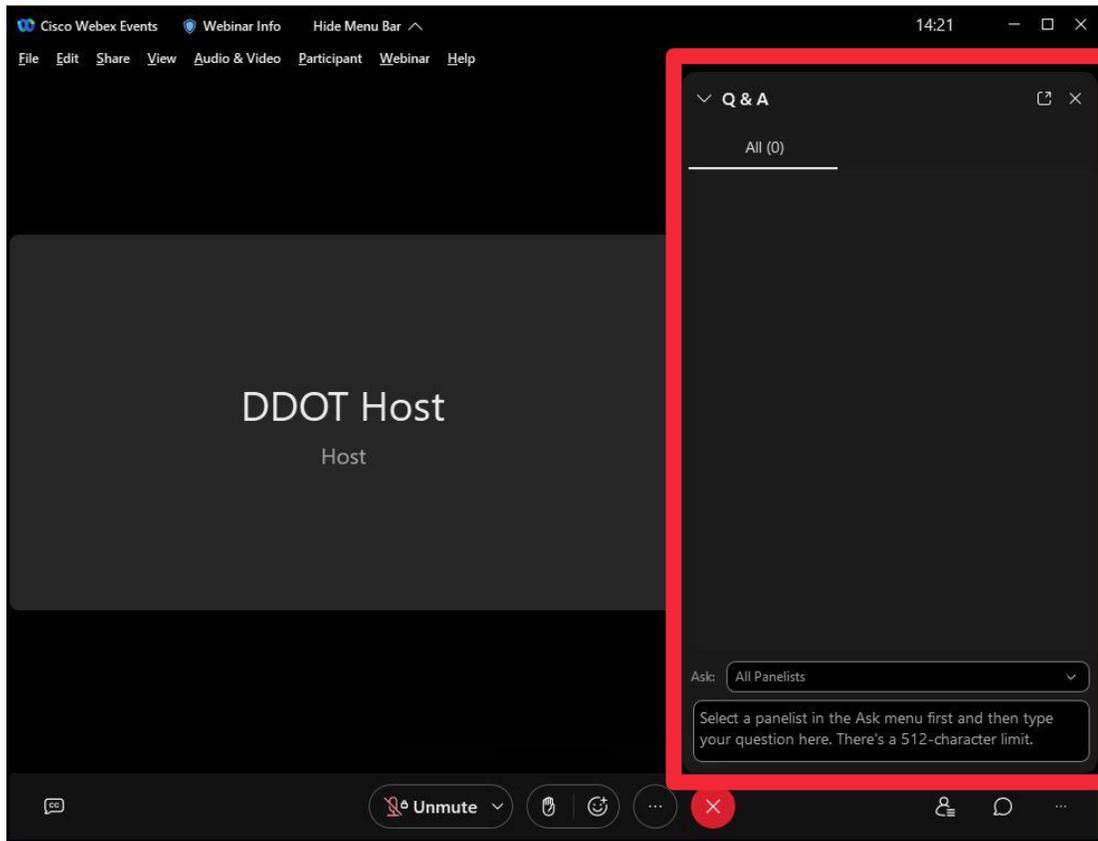
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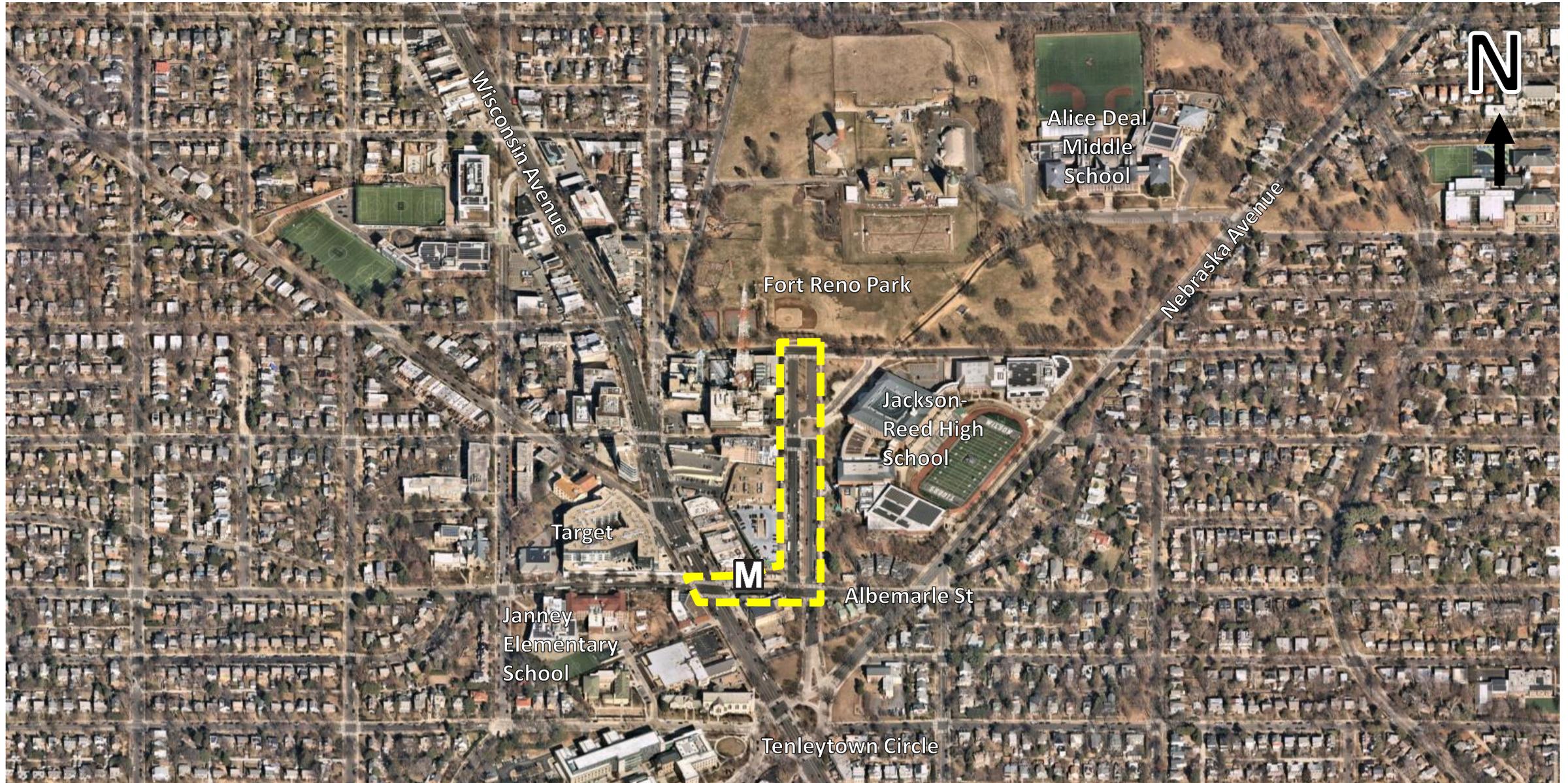
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Project Overview
3. Current Conditions
4. Previous Studies
5. Scope of Current Effort
6. Next Steps
7. Questions & Discussion



Project Overview & Current Conditions

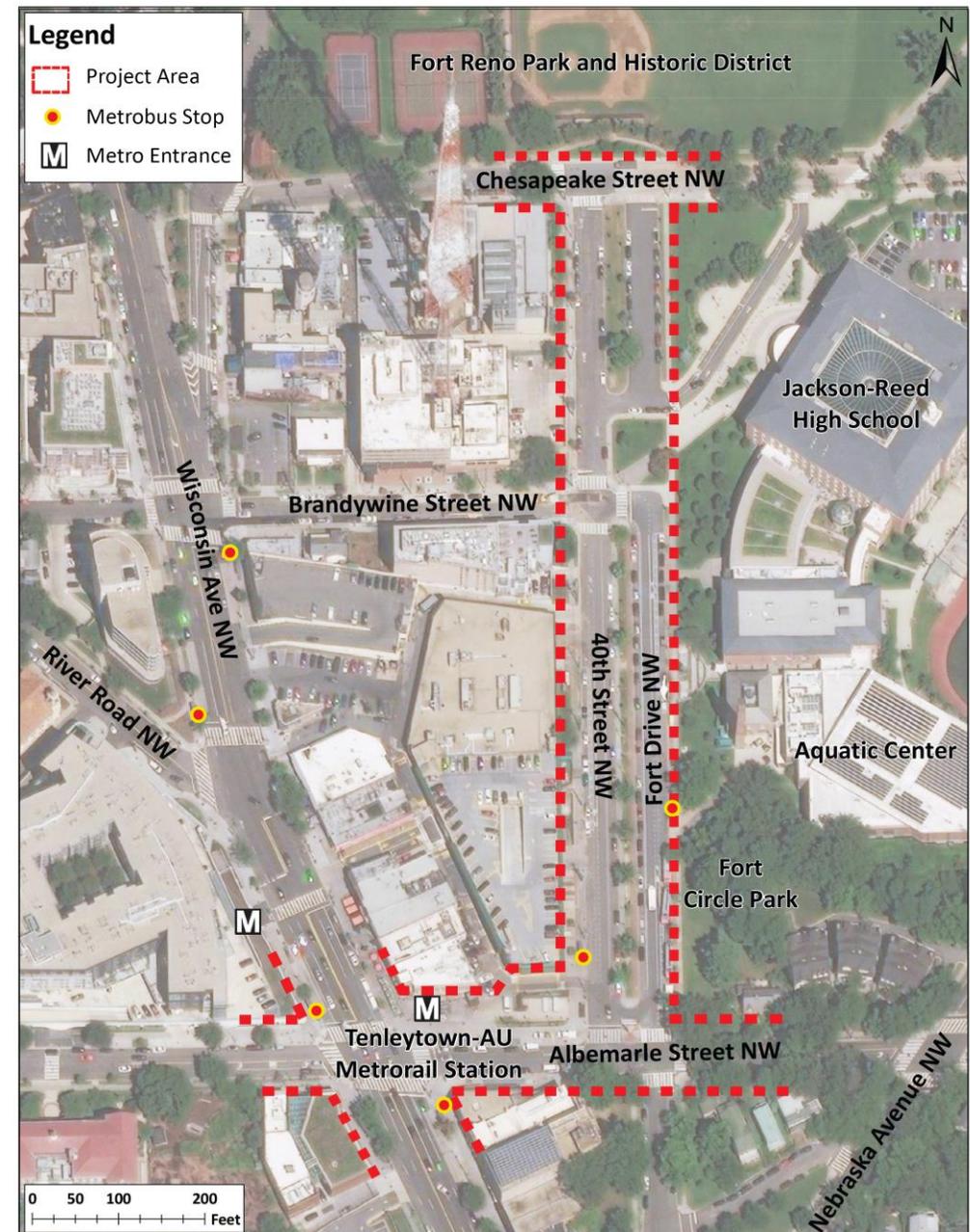
Project Area



North Facing View

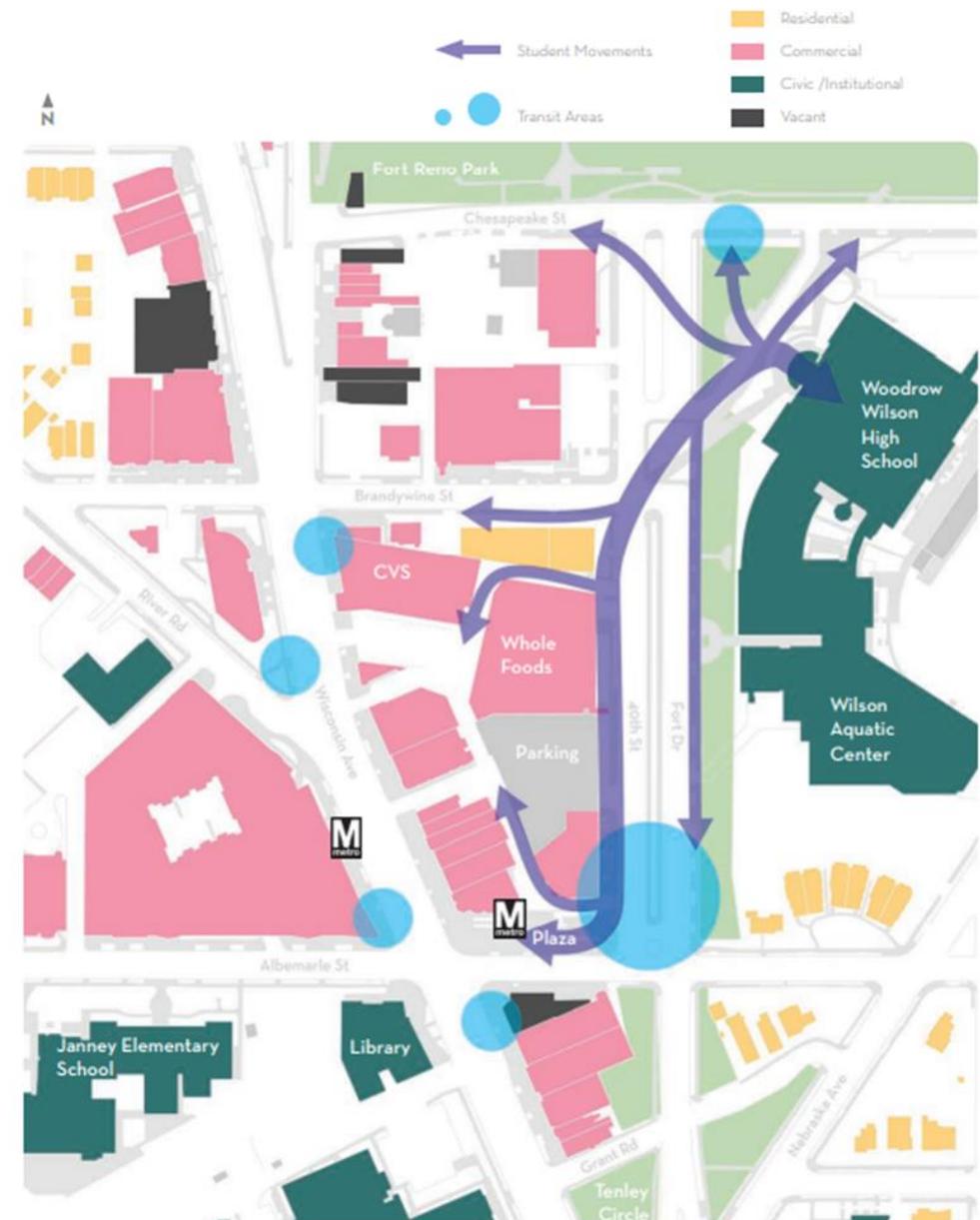
Overview & Project Elements

- Through this project, DDOT is **developing pedestrian, streetscape, and multimodal safety and access improvements** for the area surrounding the east entrance of the Tenleytown-AU Metrorail station
- **Improvements may include:**
 - Improved public spaces
 - Better sidewalk design
 - Improved intersections
 - High-visibility crosswalks
 - Improved bus shelters and bus layover space
 - Streetscape and landscaping
 - Enhanced bicycle infrastructure
 - Safer curb cuts and driveways



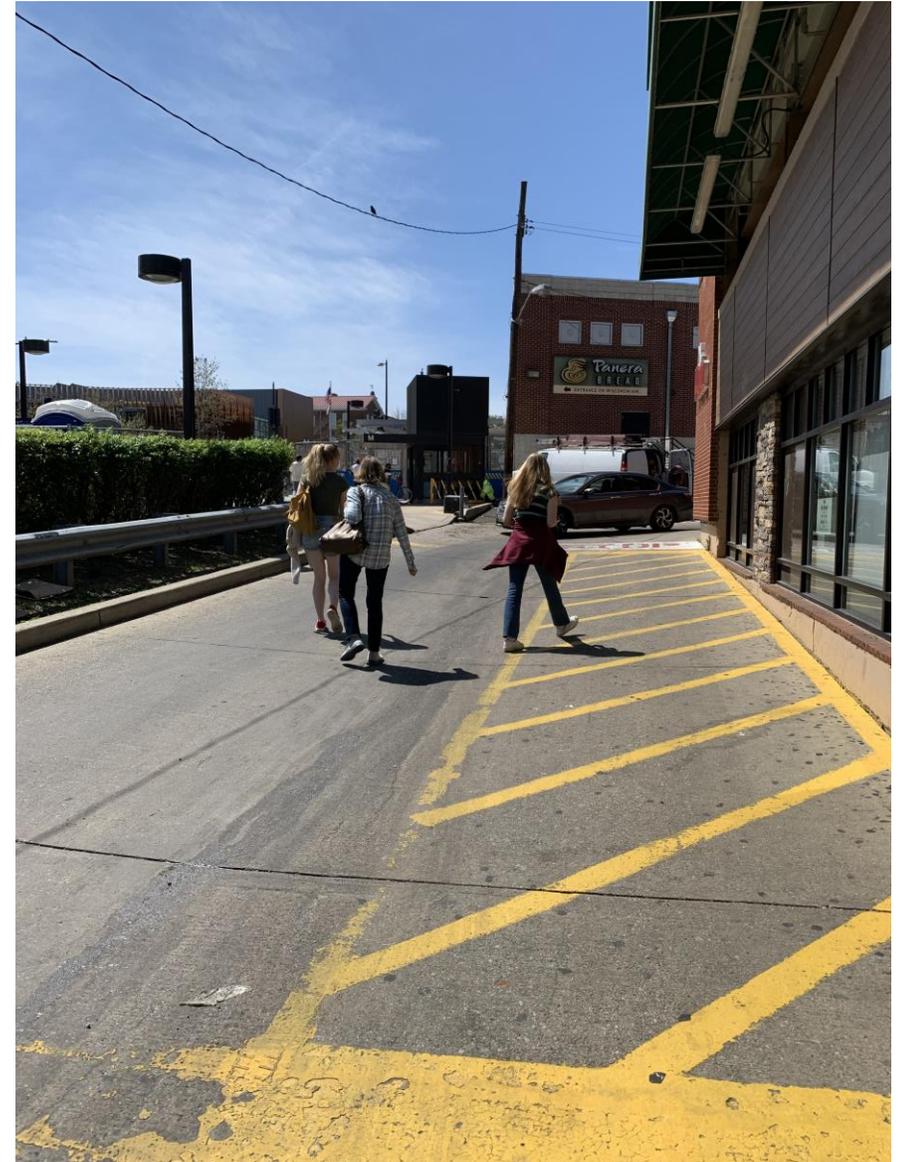
Current Conditions – *Walking*

- **Variety of destinations** adjacent to project area (high school, aquatic center, transit locations (bus stops & Metrorail), residences, and businesses)
- School dismissal results in major boost to pedestrian activity in the area. Approximately **5000 students** travel through the project area on an average school day
- Metro station has almost **equal amount** of weekday riders entering and exiting during peak periods



Current Conditions - *Walking*

- **Pedestrian safety improvements** and general **public realm enhancements** are needed
- Locations of **pedestrian-vehicular conflict points**
 - Alley network between Wisconsin Avenue and 40th Street
 - Break in median between 40th Street and Fort Drive near Albemarle
 - Midblock crossings of 40th/Fort between Albemarle and Brandywine



Current Conditions - *Biking*

- Bicycle lanes on 40th/Fort are **unprotected** with several potential conflicts
- Bicyclists traveling southbound along 40th Street must make **difficult traffic maneuvers** to turn left onto eastbound Albemarle Street
- **Capital Bikeshare** stations are nearby but not right outside the station

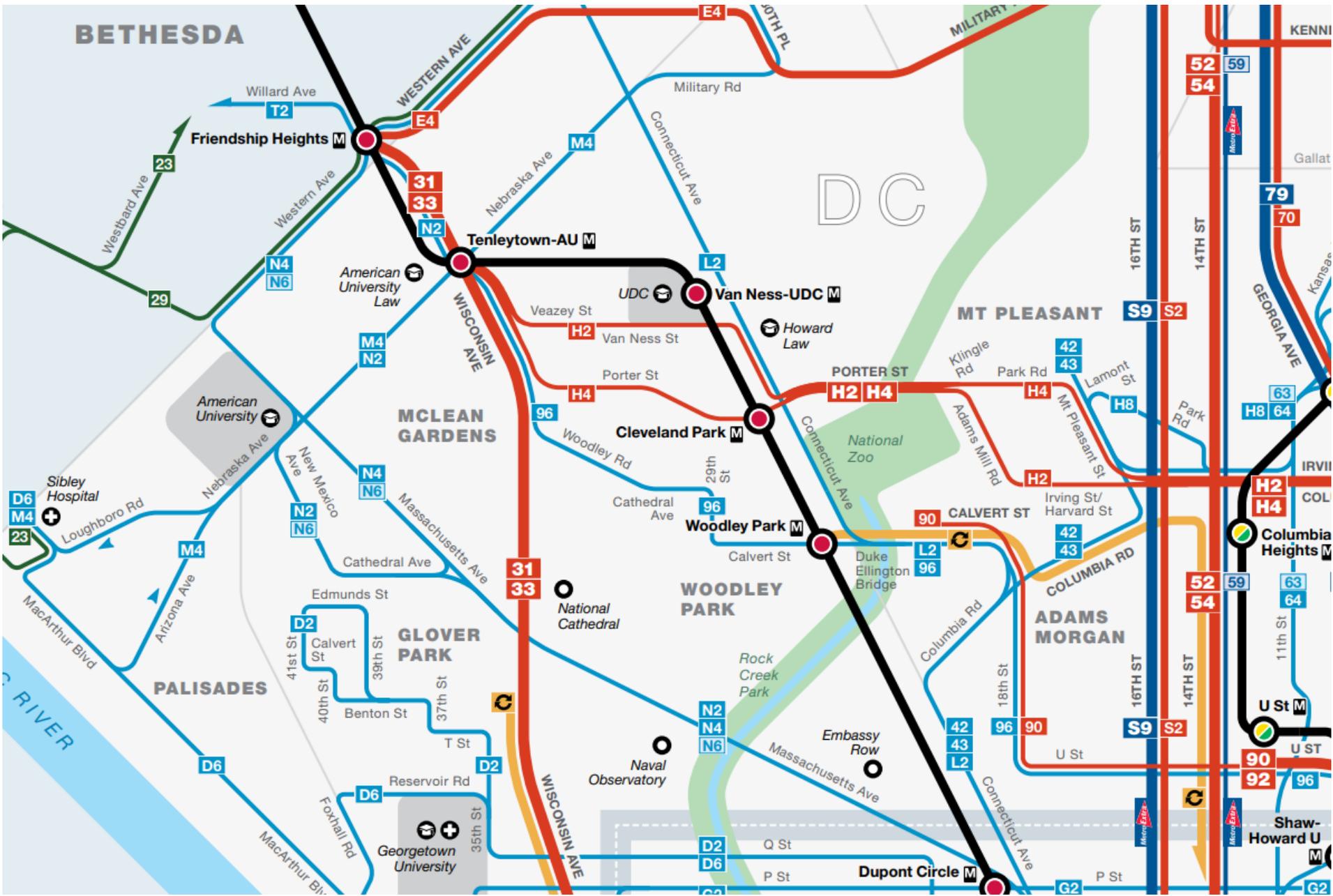


Cyclist on 40th St turning left onto Albemarle St

Current Conditions - *Bus*

- **WMATA Metrobus**
 - Tenleytown is a critical transit hub
 - Metrorail connection
 - North-south routes on Wisconsin and Nebraska Avenues
 - Crosstown bus routes
 - Several routes terminate here
 - Weekday service: varies between 6-35 minutes
- **American University Shuttles**
 - Weekday service: about 15 minutes
- **Sibley Hospital Shuttle**
 - Weekday service: about 40-45 mins

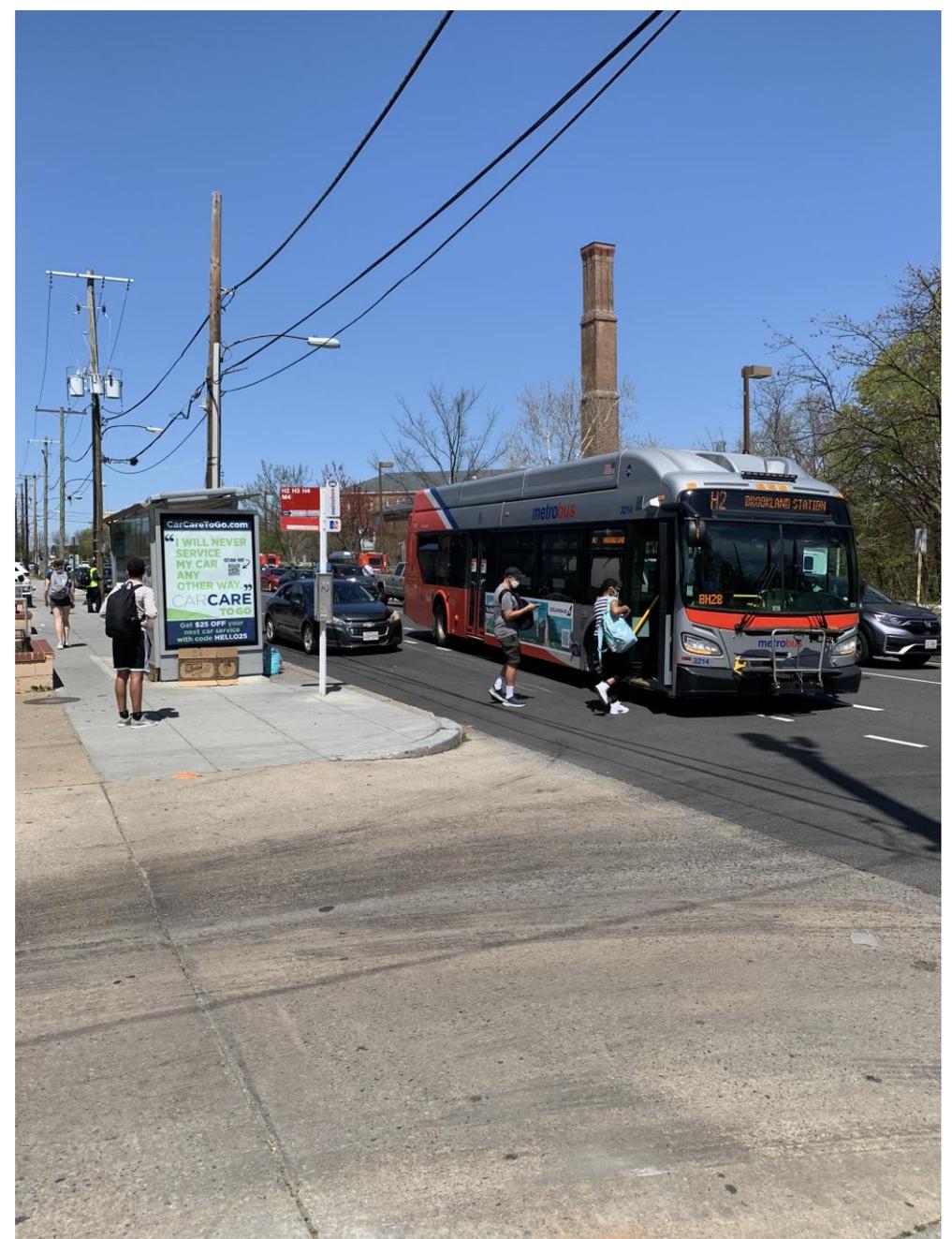




WMATA Metrobus routes

Current Conditions - *Bus*

- Current **existing bus facilities are inadequate** for the number of bus users
- **Some bus stops lack basic amenities**, such as benches and shelter
- **Bus layover space** is needed for routes that terminate here



Current Conditions - *Driving & Parking*

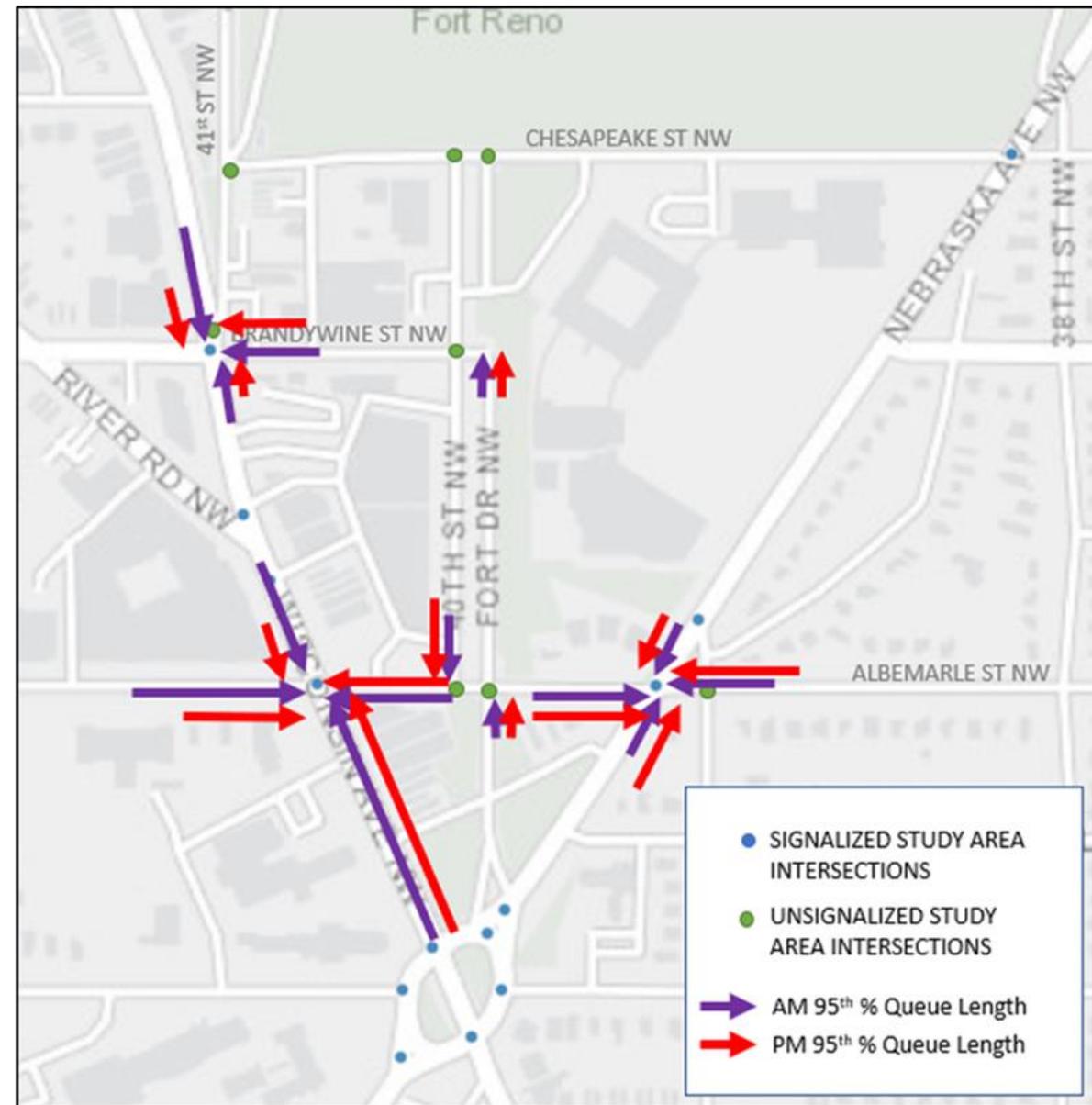
- **Sightlines** at the intersection of 40th Street and Fort Drive with Albemarle Street are limited and unclear for vehicles
- Albemarle between 40th/Fort often **congested**
- **Inconsistent parking regulations** along 40th Street and Fort Drive due to varied ownership



40th St and Fort Dr queuing during morning peak hour

Current Conditions – *Driving & Parking*

- Peak hour observations show that traffic from **morning school drop-offs** added to queues that extend almost to Albemarle Street
 - Queuing slowed progress of bus movements
- **Queues on Albemarle Street** extend to crosswalks and intersections
 - Impacts pedestrian safety
 - Leads to congestion at 40th/Fort intersection



Traffic Queuing Analysis

Previous Studies

Related Studies

DC Comprehensive Plan

- Proposed minimizing off-street parking, more dedicated space for transit, access/amenity improvements around the Metro station, wider sidewalks, and bicycle improvements

Rock Creek West II Livability Study

- Recommended redesign of 40th Street/Fort Drive, including restructuring of parking, transit areas, and traffic flow

moveDC

- Included several improvements related to transit, parking, pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, access and circulation, traffic, and Vision Zero/Safety concerns

AU Comprehensive Transportation Reviews

- Studied transportation impacts of AU relocation of the Washington School of Law to the Tenleytown Campus

Tenleytown Public Life Study

- Examined the Tenleytown station area to determine **how well it acts as a place for people**
- Led by the DC Office of Planning with assistance from University of Maryland-College Park School of Architecture
- **Proposed strategies:**
 - Make facades more engaging
 - Design a Tenleytown plaza for people
 - Pilot temporary activations
 - Celebrate build features through design
 - Enhance comfortable movement
 - Enhance the alley network



Pairs and groups were most prevalent during the hours before and after school (8am and 3pm).



Less than 2% of people moving were observed on bikes. Most people on bikes were observed to be riding on sidewalks. Only 0.4% of people moving were noted to be using skateboards or scooters.



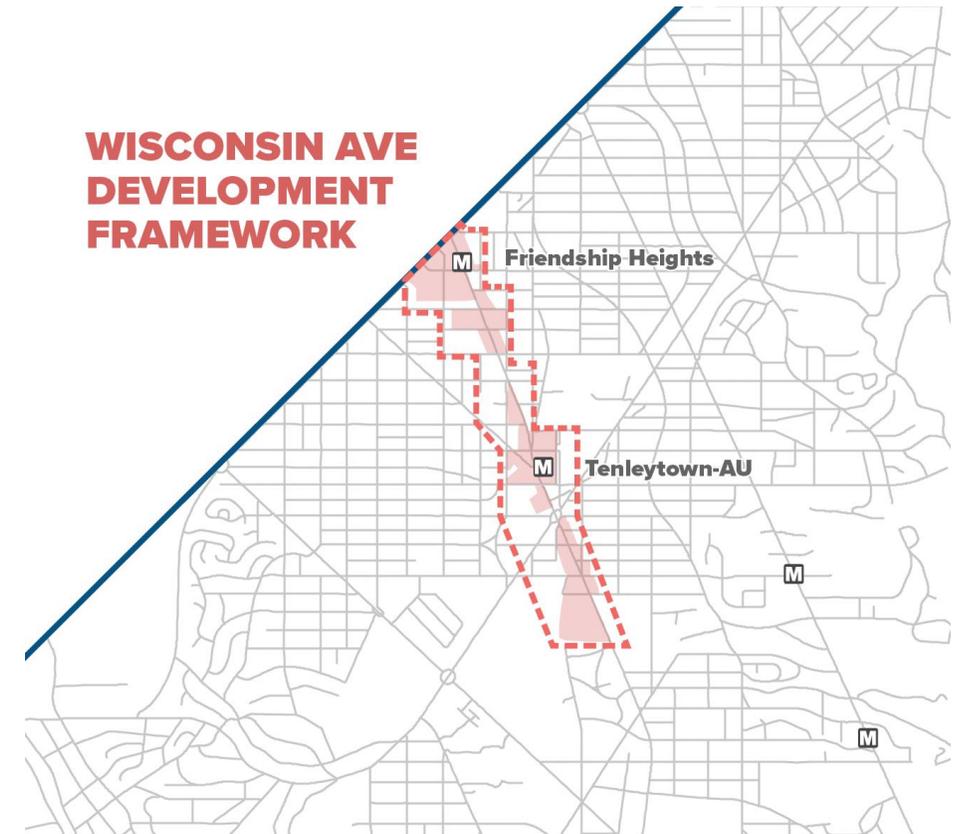
A steady stream of people were moving through the alleys throughout the day, reflecting all perceived ages, with a notable spike during the hours of 6pm and 7pm, likely coinciding with evening errands.



Tenleytown Plaza is a very social place, especially at the 3pm hour after school is dismissed, when the highest proportion of stationary people are talking.

Wisconsin Avenue Development Framework

- Study will **inform new zoning** to implement approved land use changes from the recently updated Comprehensive Plan to provide opportunities for new housing
- Focus on areas around Tenleytown and Friendship Heights Metro stations
- Study will include **commercial action strategy** and **public realm plan**
- **DDOT will coordinate with OP** on their study, which is being conducted concurrently with this project
- Community engagement expected to start **mid-2022**



WMATA Tenleytown Access Study

- Examined station access improvements that can **accommodate all modes of transportation** for both current and future access needs
- Completed in **two phases** – 2014 and 2016
- 2016 report proposed **a series of improvements and interventions** to improve safety and access in the area



2016 WMATA Conceptual Site Plan

Bus Improvements

1. Five bus bays
2. Bus shelters with arrival information
3. Bus lane on Fort Drive
4. Bus layover space

Pedestrian Improvements

5. Improved crosswalks
6. Expanded pedestrian plaza
7. Multi-use path along Fort Drive/40th Street
8. More green space & trees
9. Reduced crossing distances
10. Fence to separate pedestrian plaza from alley



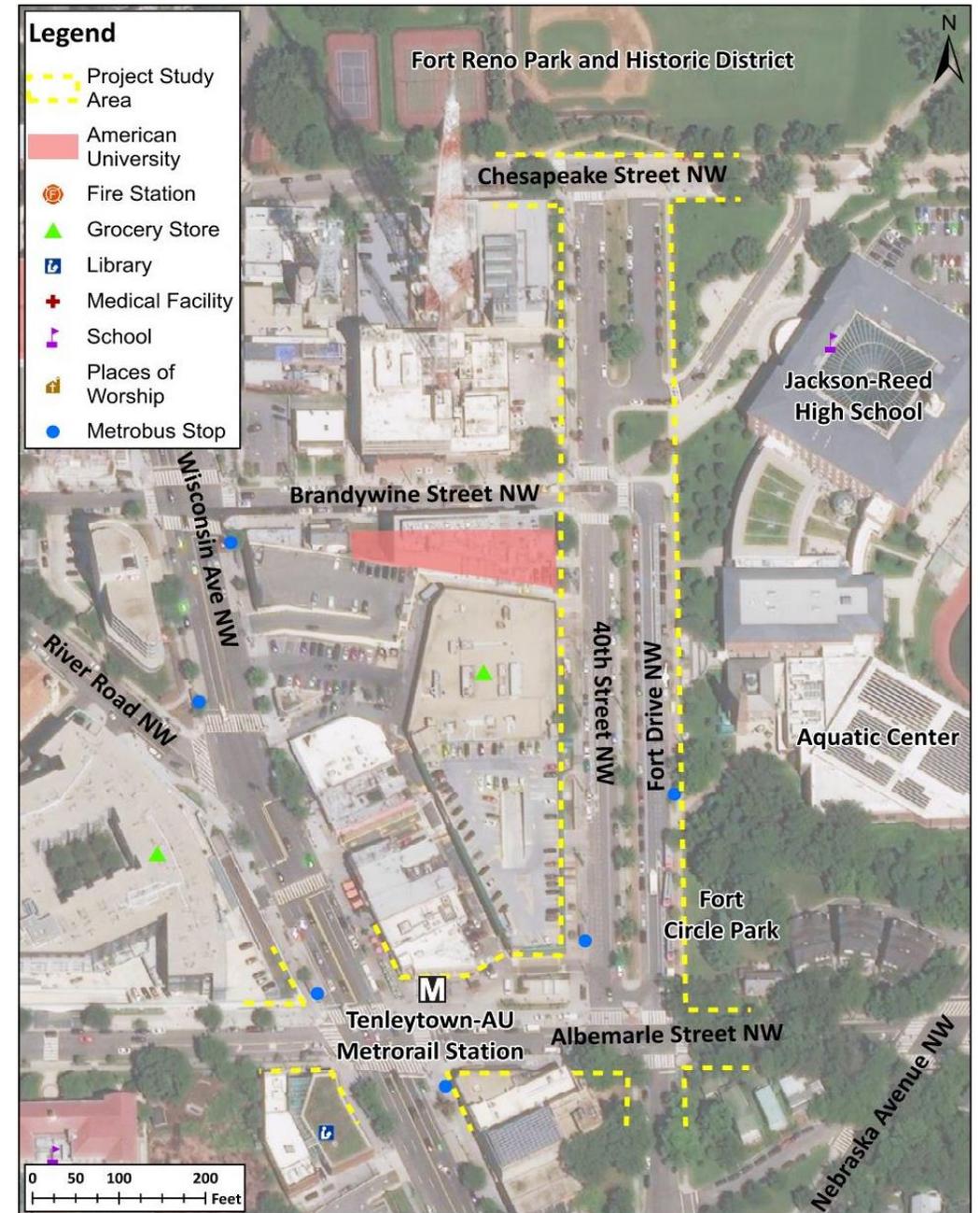
Project Study Area North of Brandywine Street



Scope of Current Effort

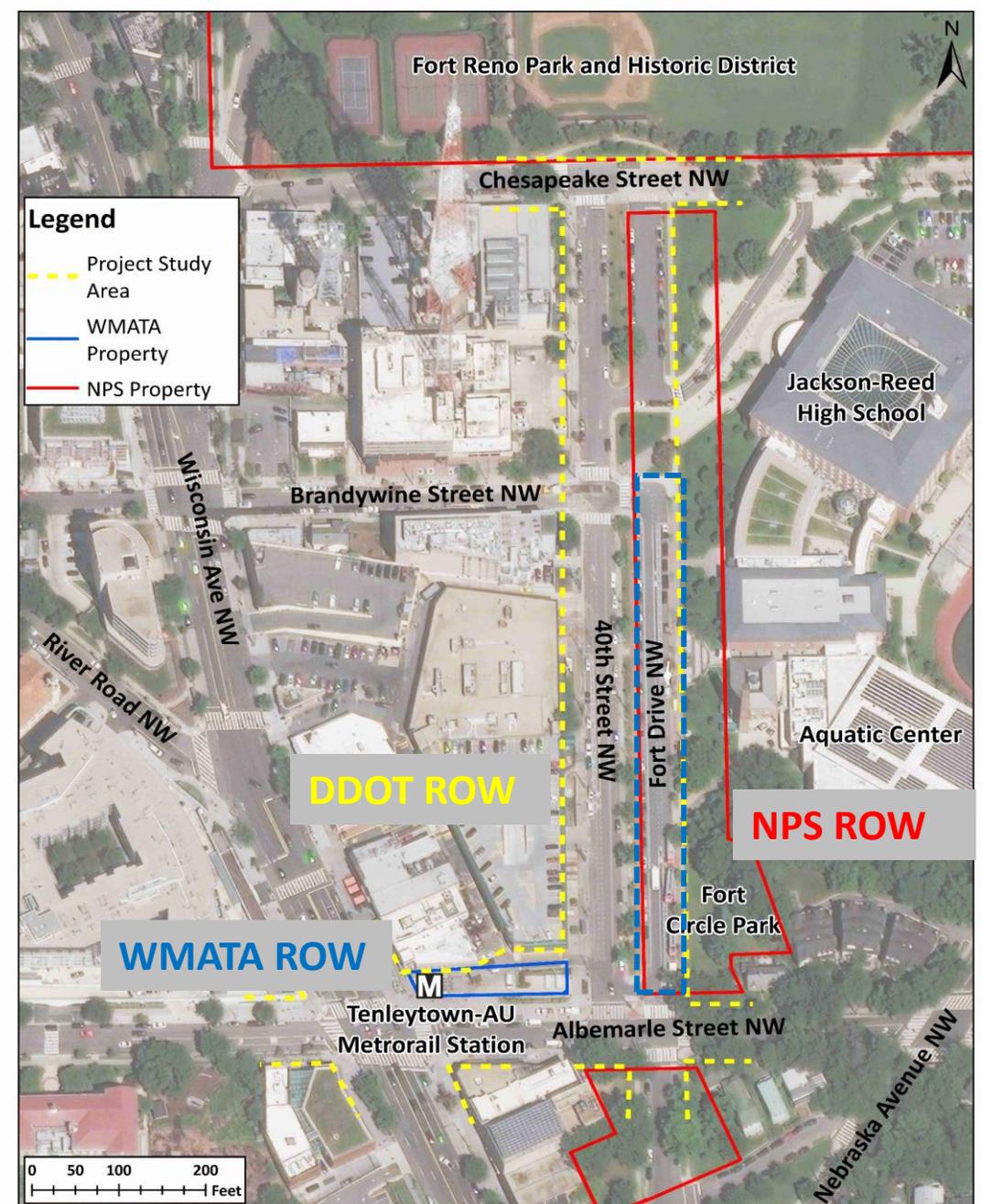
Scope of Current Effort

- **Refine plans** from previous WMATA studies
- Complete detailed **transportation analysis**
- Develop **concept design** for project area
- Confirm agency roles for use and maintenance of **right-of-way**
- Complete **environmental documentation**



Scope of Current Effort

- Right-of-way (ROW) ownership and responsibilities
 - WMATA ownership of Metrorail plaza
 - NPS ownership of land east of Fort Drive and Fort Reno Park
 - Fort Drive – owned by NPS with WMATA easement between Albemarle and Brandywine
 - DDOT ownership of 40th Street and remaining project area



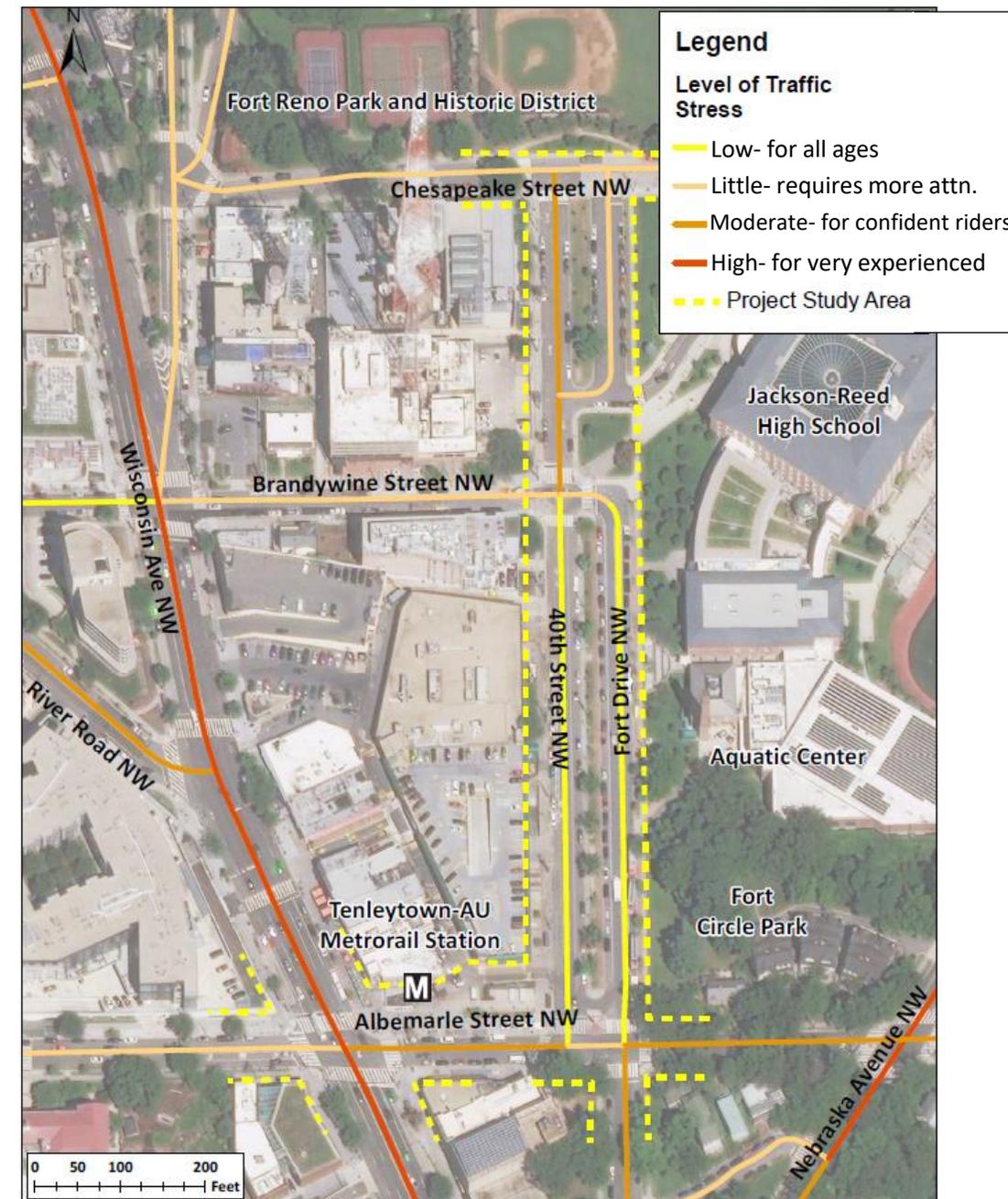
Existing Conditions Transportation Analysis

Multimodal Considerations:

- Walking infrastructure
- Transit services and related amenities
- Bicycle infrastructure
- Parking
- Freight access
- Safety analysis

Traffic Operations Analysis:

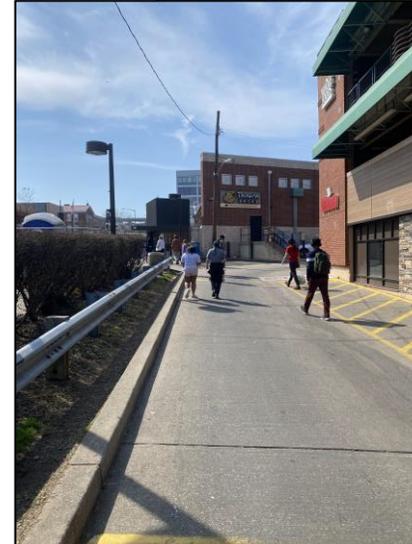
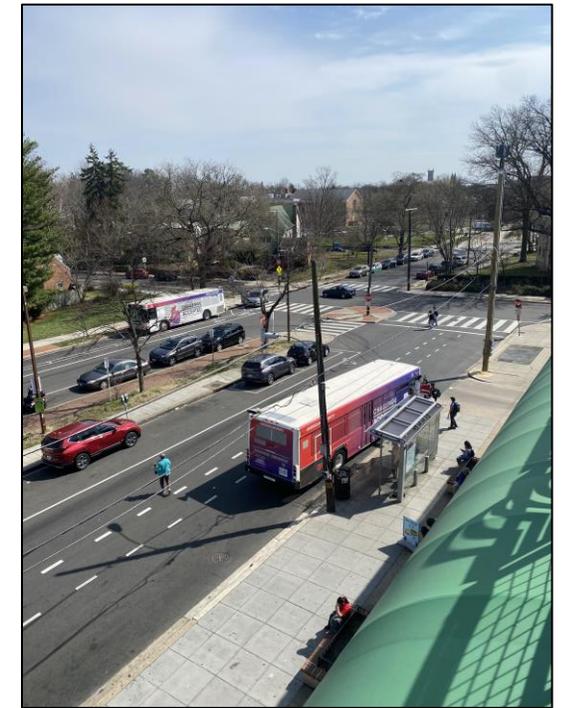
- Traffic levels
- Locations of delay and conflict



Existing Conditions Transportation Analysis Highlights

Key Findings:

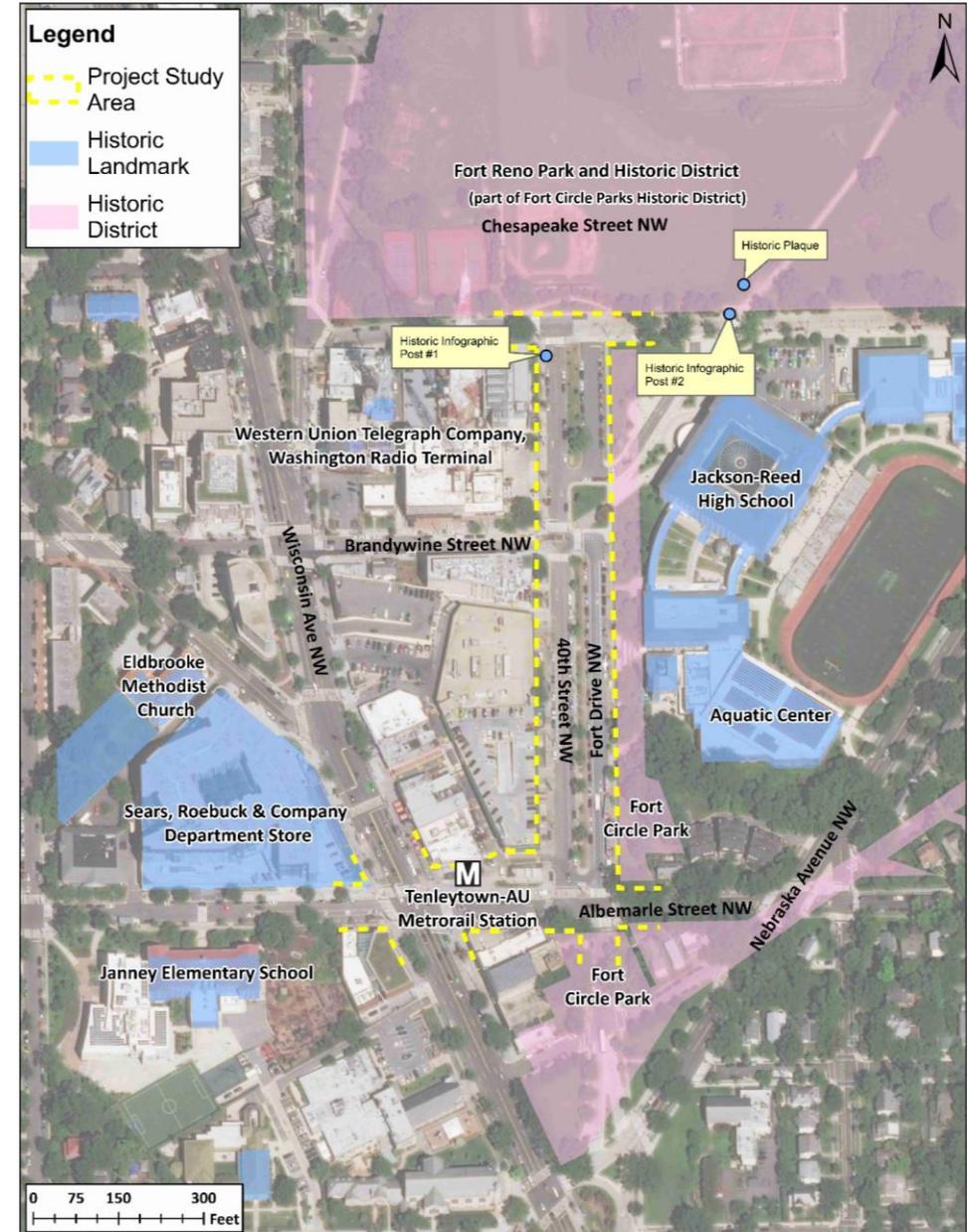
- Vehicle backups impacted crosswalks and visibility for pedestrians
- School drop-off caused backups on Fort Drive
- Bicycle movements were challenging due to bus interactions and 40th/Fort/Albemarle intersection
- Pedestrians cross mid-block outside of marked crosswalks
- Pedestrians walk in the alley next to Wawa with a blind corner for vehicles



Existing Conditions Environmental Inventory

Document Describes:

- Land Use and Community Facilities
- Visual Context
- Pedestrian Access and Transportation
- Parks and Recreational Facilities
- Historic Resources
- Wildlife, including Threatened or Endangered Species
- Socioeconomics
- Hazardous Materials
- Water Resources



Next Steps

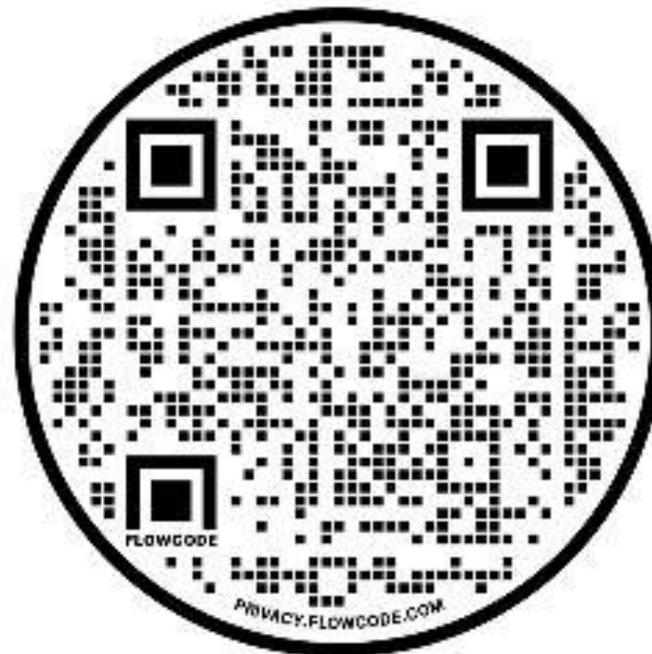
Project Timeline

- **Today:** Kickoff project with the public. Receive comments, questions, and ideas
- **Summer 2022:** Review public comments and refine concepts
- **Fall 2022:** Public meeting to present draft concept plan
- **Winter 2023:** Final public meeting to present final concept plan



Feedback Form Open through June 10

Access the feedback form by scanning the QR, or go to:
surveymonkey.com/r/GC5JFFB



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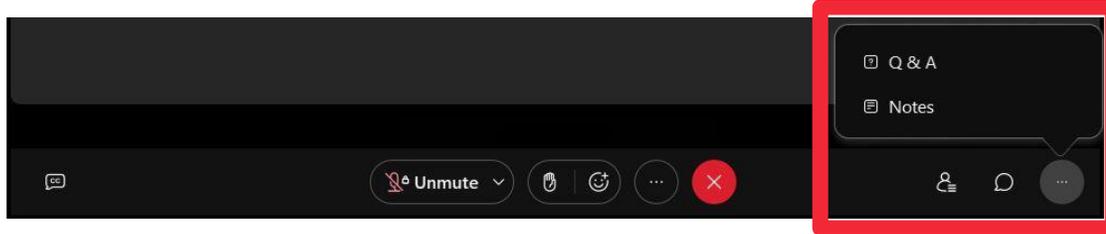
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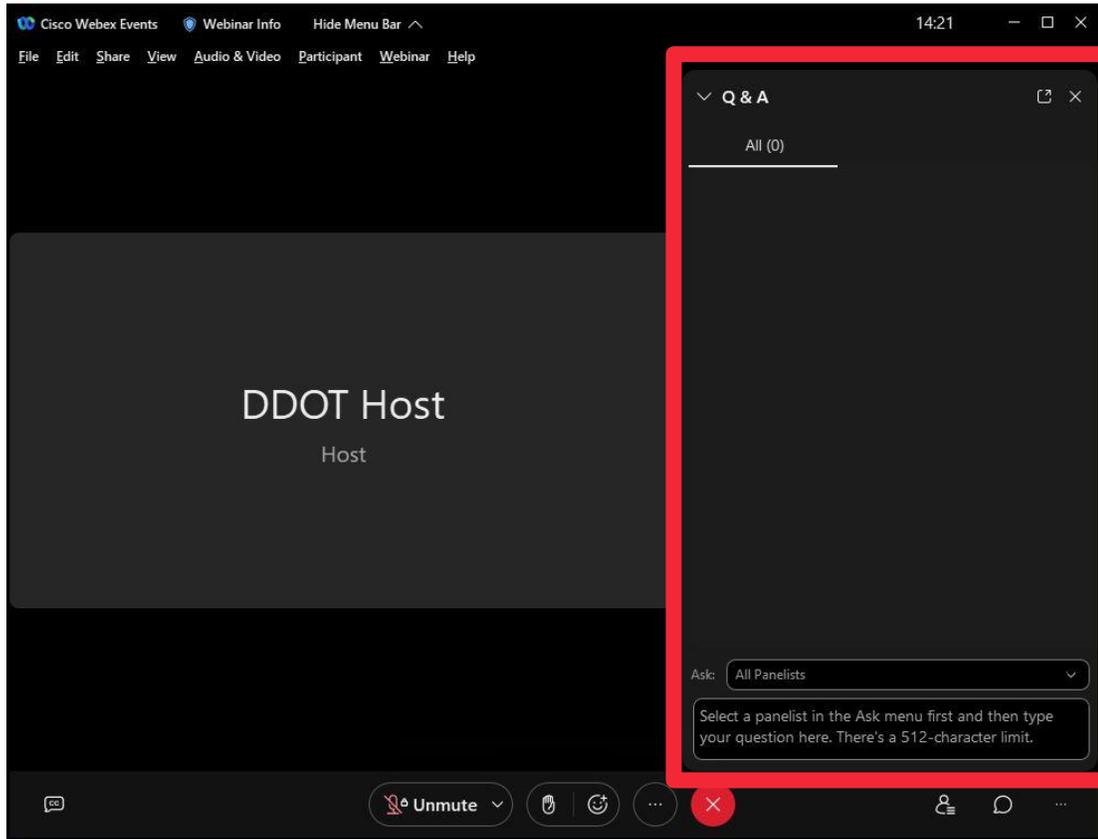
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Title VI – rebrand.ly/TenleytownMultimodalAccess-Comments

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Title VI Public Involvement Questionnaire

The District Department of Transportation is committed to providing all citizens, regardless of race, color, age, gender, or national origin, the opportunity to participate in and respond to transportation plans, programs, and activities that may affect their community. To help us make sure we are reaching our goal and maintaining compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all relevant federal and local nondiscrimination laws, we ask that you voluntarily complete the following information. DDOT's Title VI Coordinator will handle the information you provide with confidentiality. For more information regarding DDOT's Title VI Program, please contact DDOT's Transportation Equity and Inclusion Division at 202.671.2700 or ddot@dc.gov.

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Project/Meeting Name & Date

Tenleytown Multimodal Access Project, May 24, 2022, 7:00pm-8:30pm

Was this meeting held at a convenient time?

Yes

No

Next

Clear form

As a recipient of Federal assistance, DDOT must ensure that all of its programs, activities and public meetings are conducted in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This Act ensures nondiscrimination based on race, color or national origin. The Title VI Public Meeting Participant Questionnaire is used to help DDOT ensure that we are informing the public and conducting our meetings in a nondiscriminatory manner, in compliance with Title VI.

Project comments and/or concerns may also be submitted through this form. We appreciate anyone who is willing to complete the form.

Thank you for your participation.



Q & A



Thank you!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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(202) 671-4580

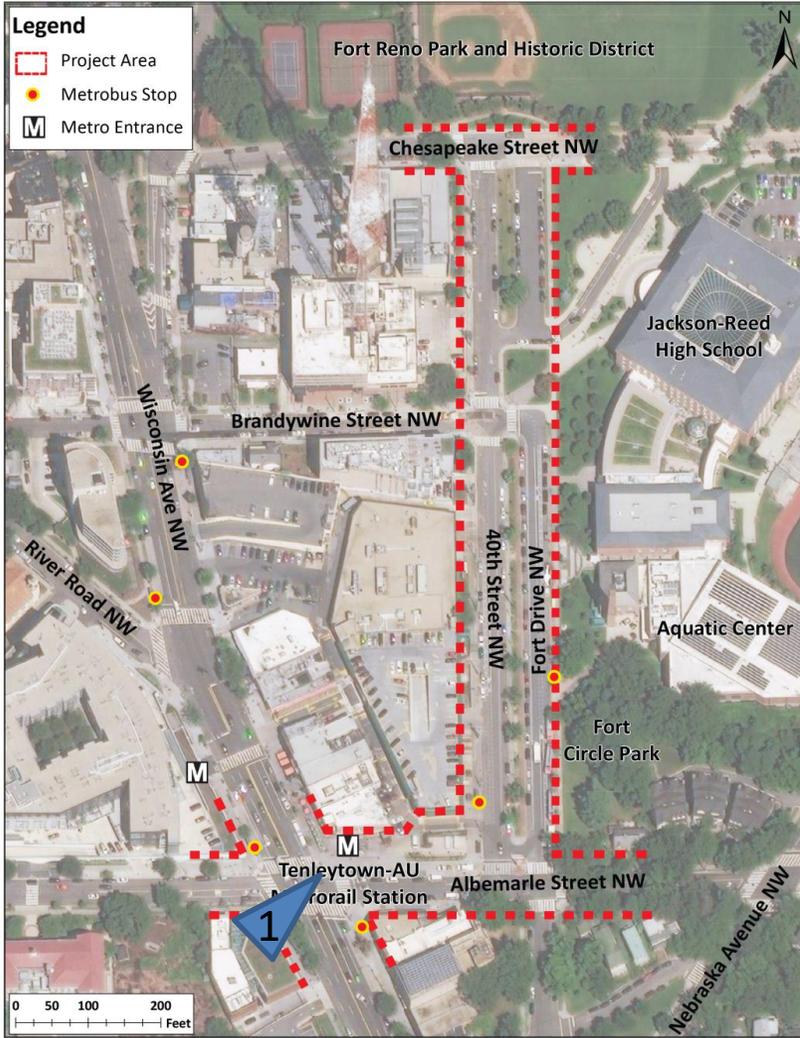




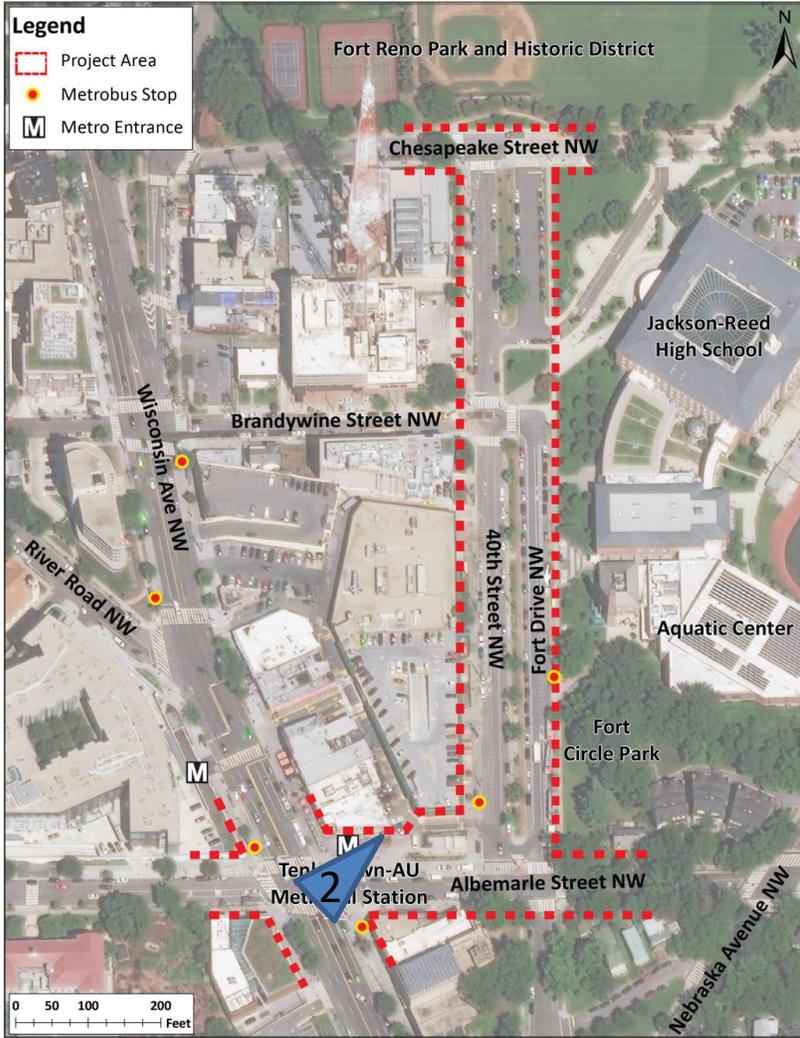
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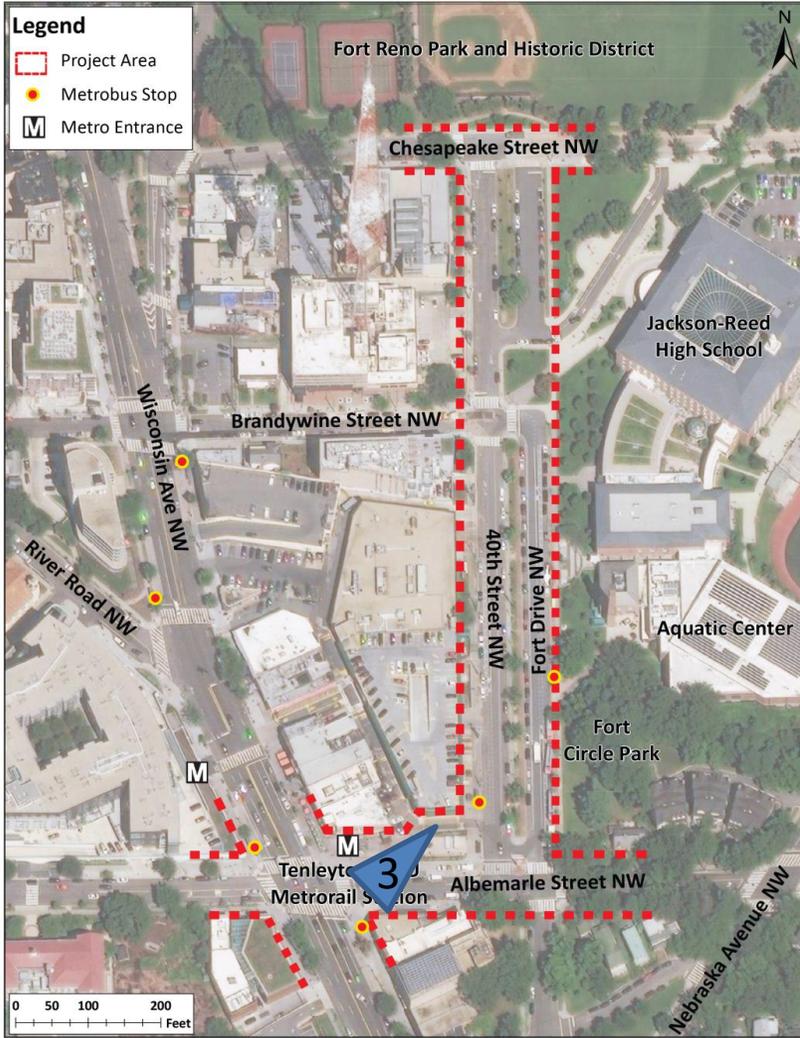
Virtual Walk



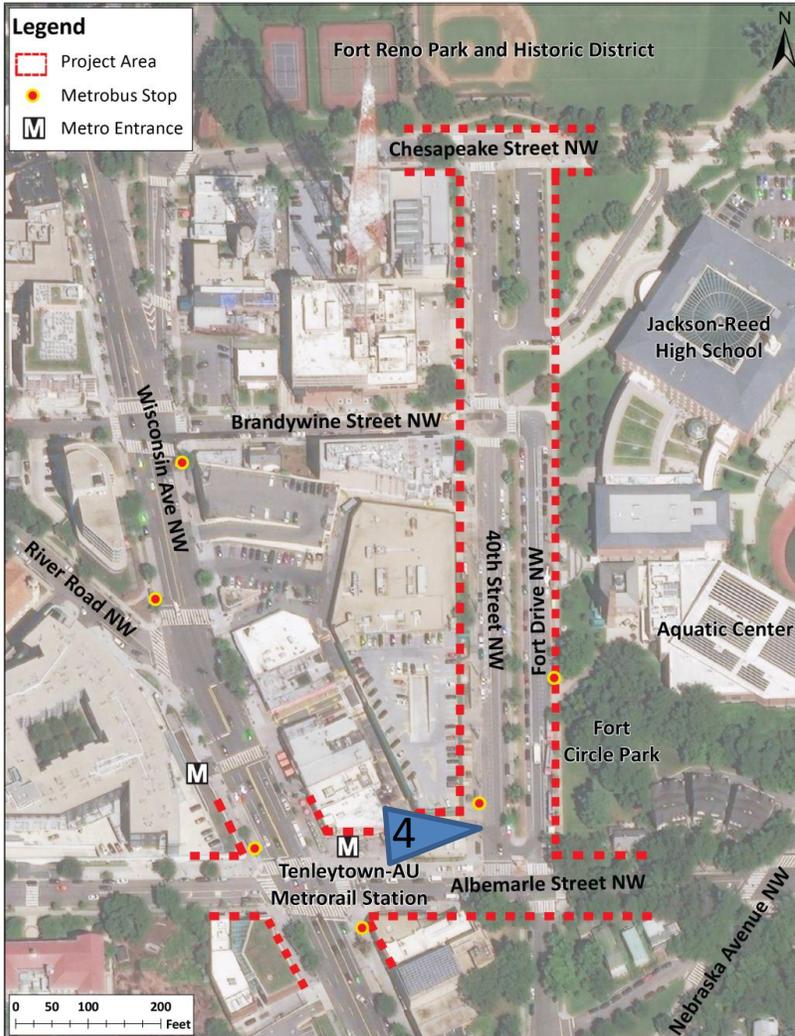
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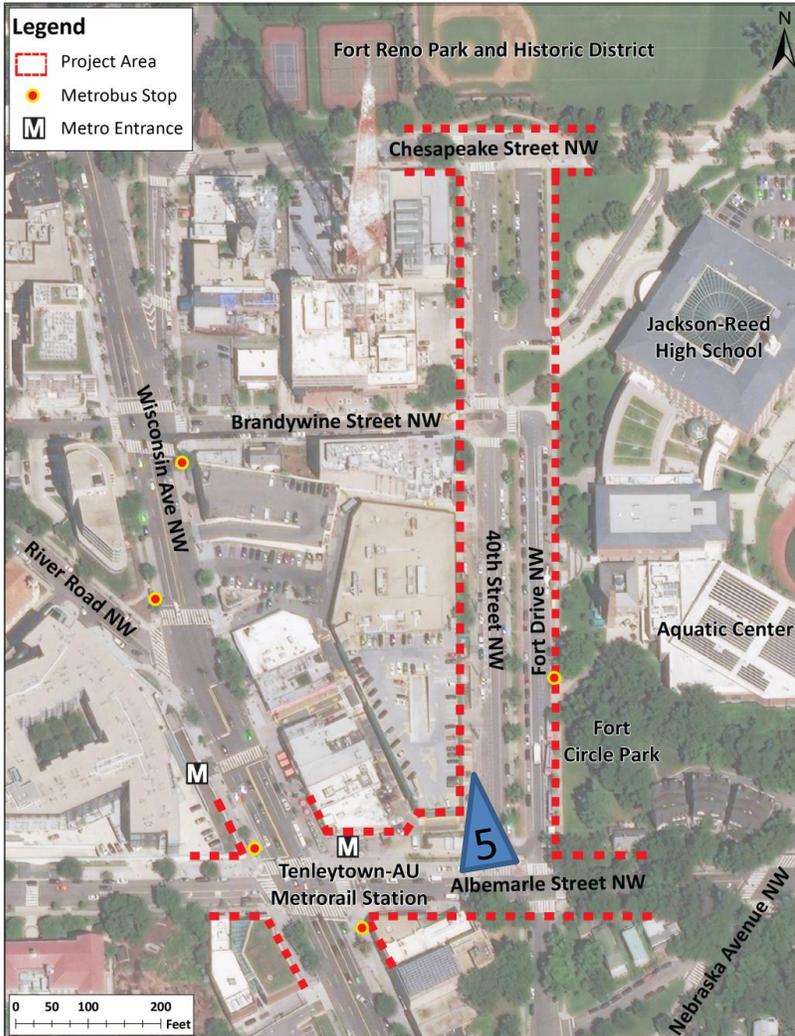
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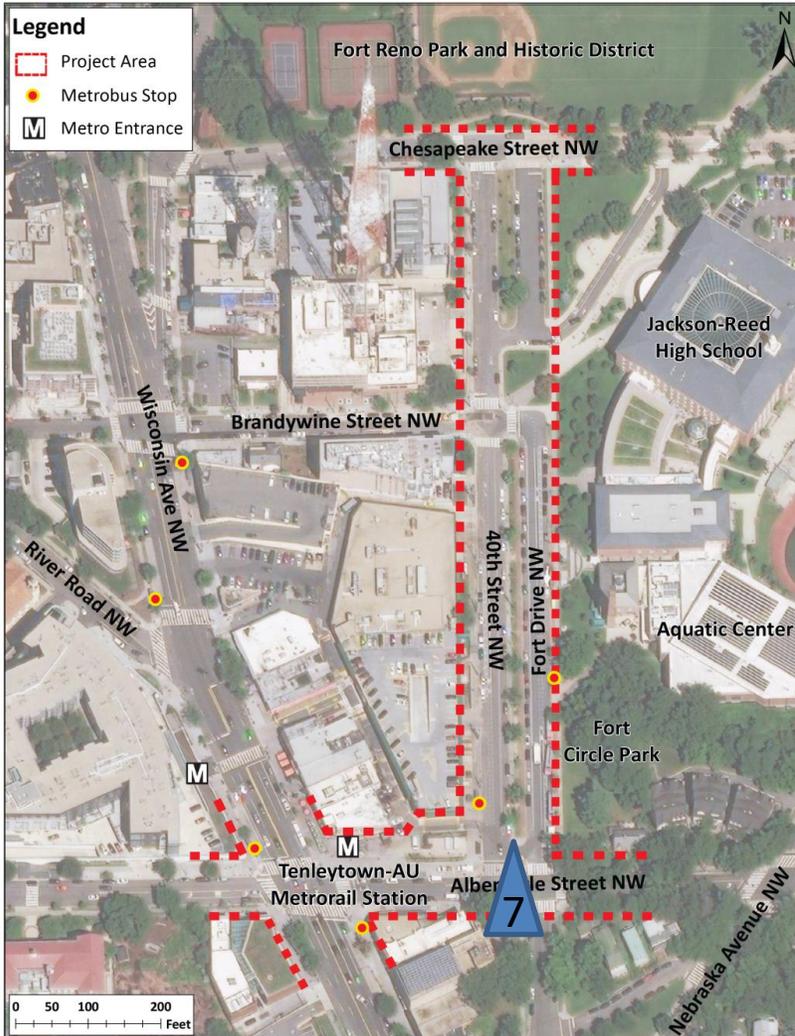
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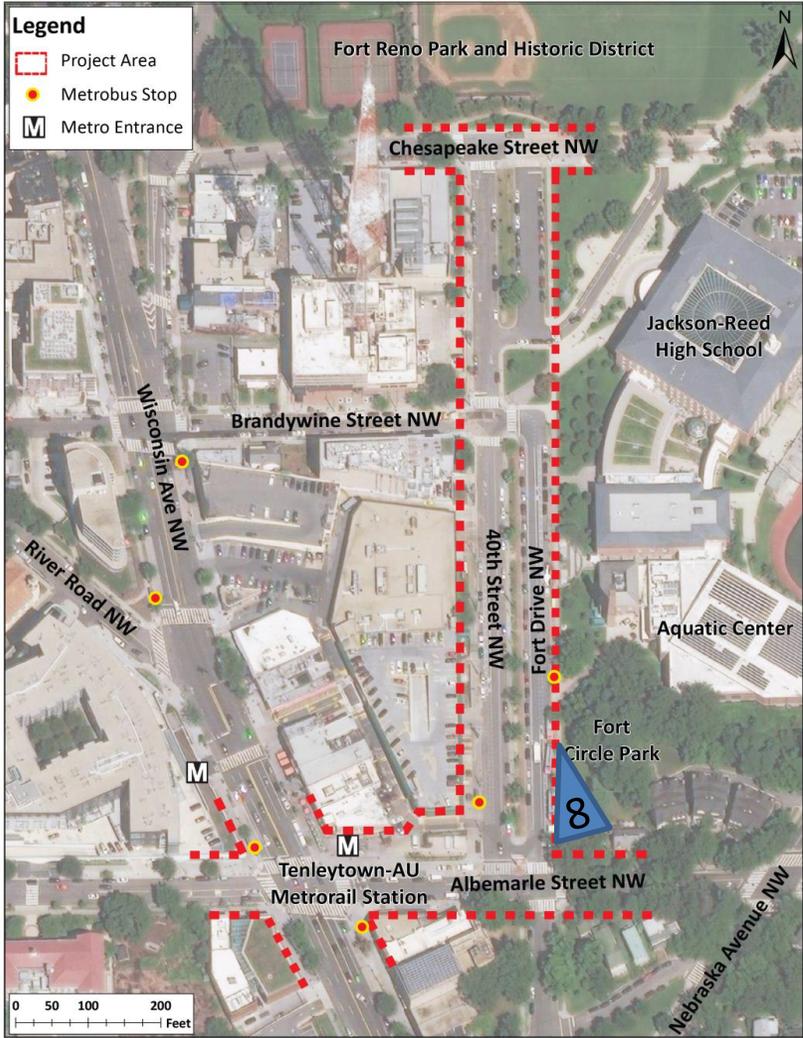
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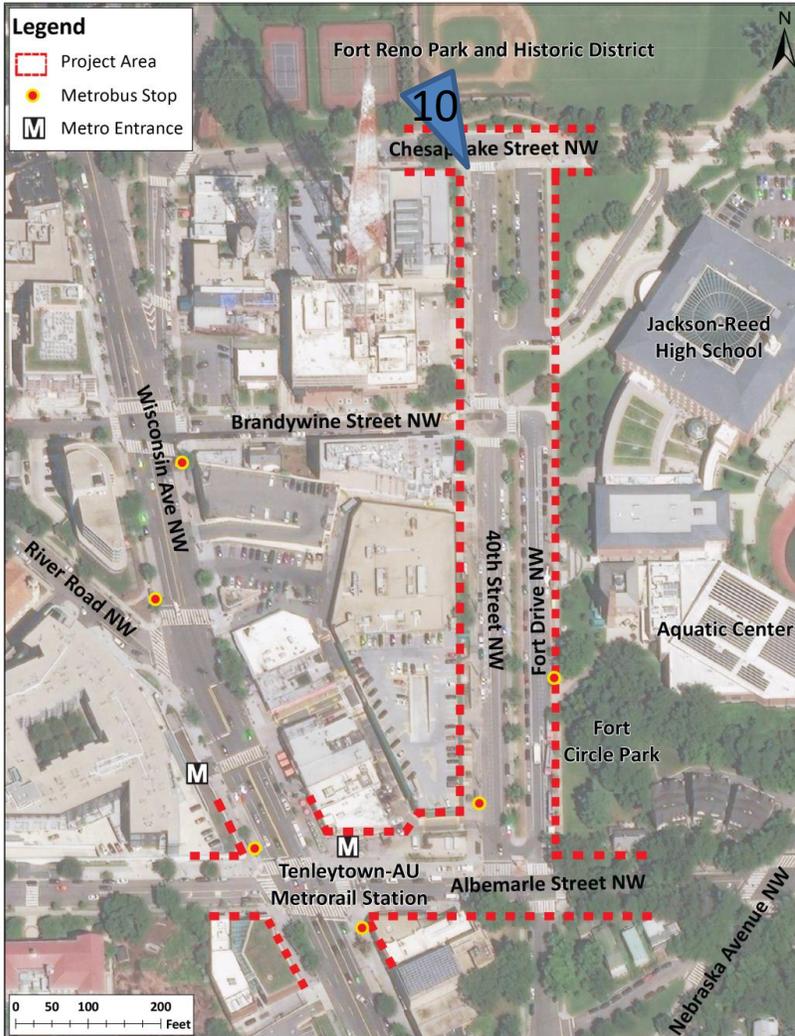
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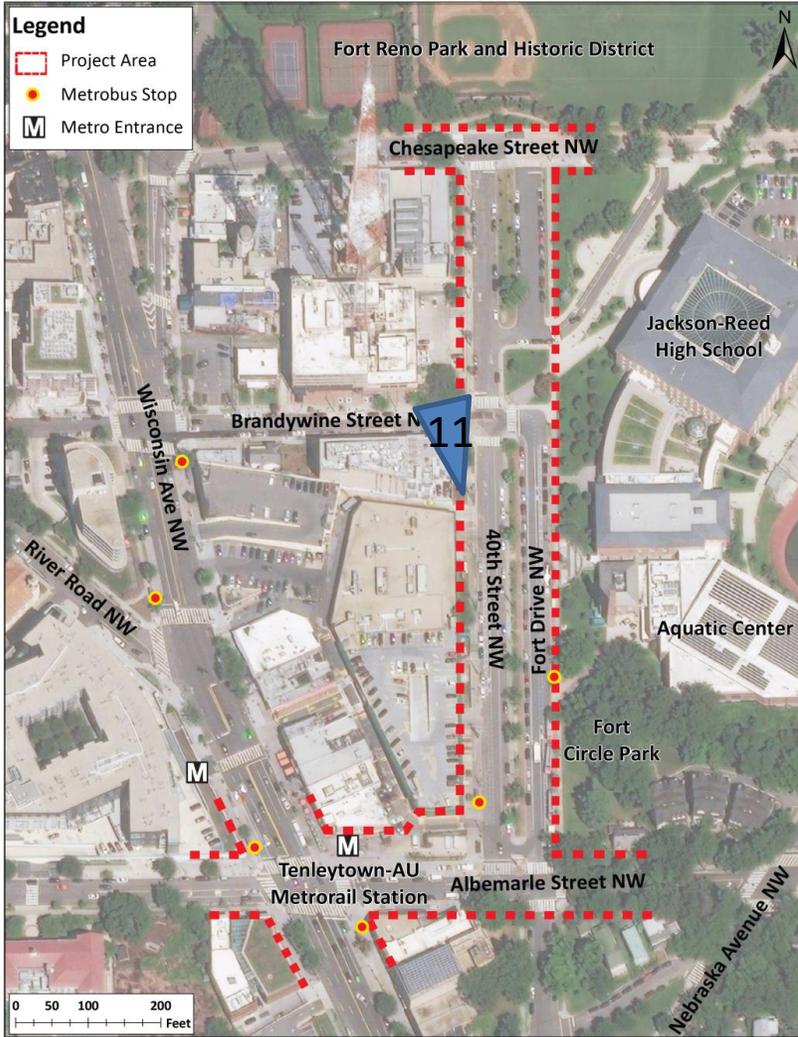
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