

Transitway Extension to Pentagon City Project

Segment IIA: 12th Street S. from S. Eads St to S. Fern St

60% Design Public Engagement – February 2022

Project Background

The Crystal City-Potomac Yard (CCPY) Transitway is a premium transit corridor which features high-frequency Metroway premium transit service from the Crystal City Metrorail Station in Arlington County to the Braddock Road Metrorail Station in the City of Alexandria. The Transitway corridor includes dedicated lanes and transit stations with raised platforms and custom shelters. The Transitway serves routes operated by WMATA's Metrobus and Arlington's ART buses.

Arlington County and Alexandria, which own and operate the Transitway infrastructure in their respective jurisdictions, designed and built the Transitway in multiple phases. The Transitway Extension to Pentagon City will complete Arlington's northern extension connecting the existing northern terminus of the Transitway in Crystal City to Pentagon City.

Goals and Basis

The goal of the Transitway Extension is to provide premium transit service to support high density, mix-used redevelopment in northern Crystal City and Pentagon City.

The Transitway Extension's alignment along 12th Street S. was approved by the County Board in the 2010 Crystal City Sector Plan and reaffirmed with adoption of the FY 2017-2026 Transit Development Plan and Capital Improvement Plan.

Public Engagement

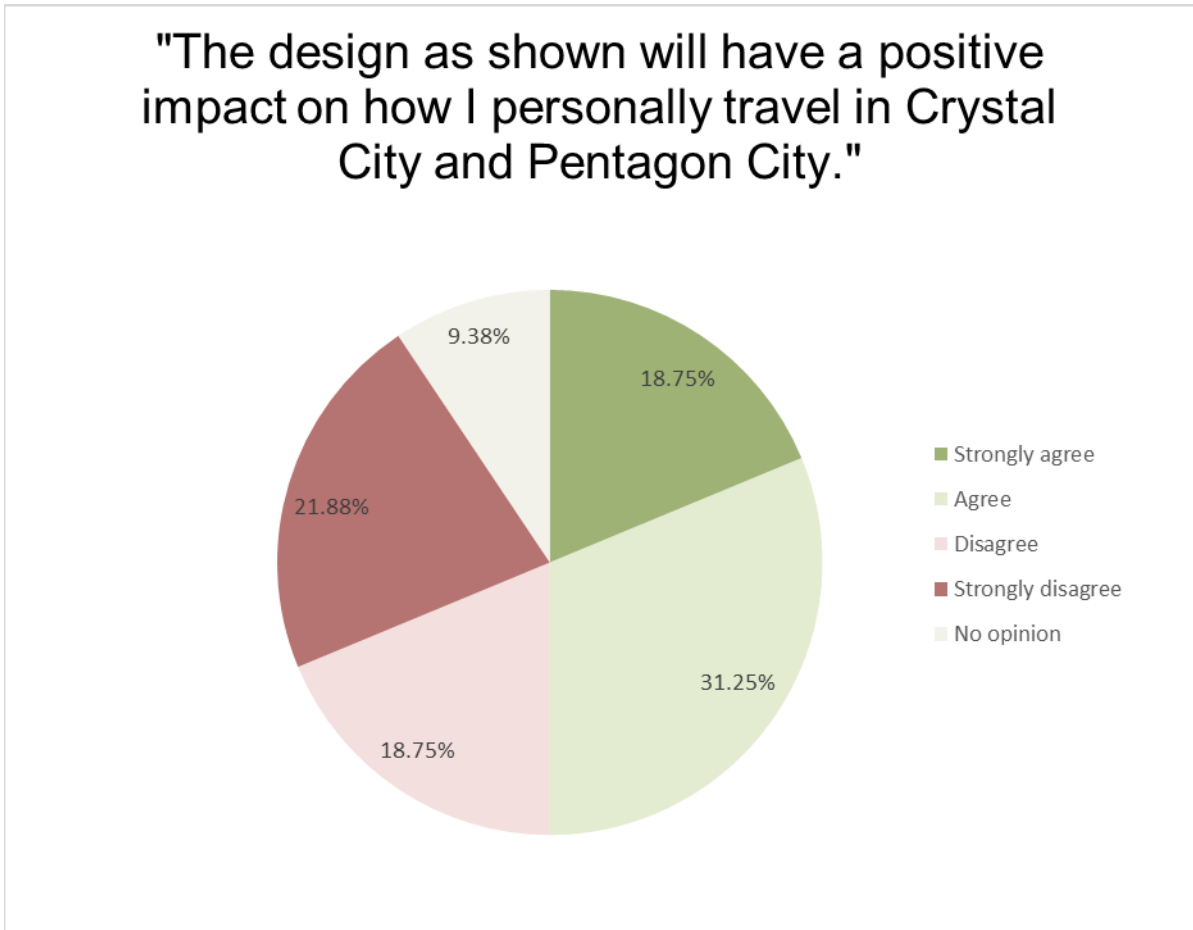
In February 2022, the County's project team held a virtual community meeting presenting the 60% design for segment IIA of the Transitway Extension to Pentagon City. The presentation was accompanied with an online feedback form on the County's website to solicit feedback on the 60% design. The form received 37 responses.

This phase of public engagement gave the project team insight into respondents' demographics, potential users, specific impressions, concerns, and views on the opportunities and constraints for this project.

What We Heard

Overall, public response indicated support for the 60% design. Respondents generally felt that the design would have a positive impact how they will travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.

The following graph depicts responses to the question: *To what extent do you agree with the following statement: The design as shown will have a positive impact on how I personally travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.*

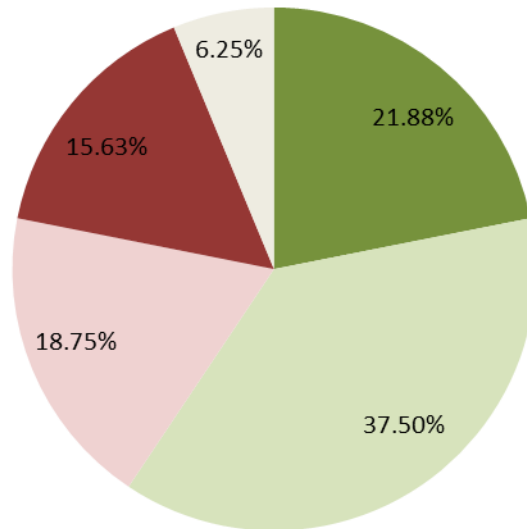


- 50% of respondents "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" with design having a positive impact on how they personally travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.
- 41% of respondents "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" with design having a positive impact on how they personally travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.
- 9% of respondents felt neutral about the design having a positive impact on how they personally travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.

Additionally, residents generally felt that the project as shown would make a positive impact on how people generally would be able to travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.

The following graph depicts responses to the survey question: *To what extent do you agree with the following statement: The design as shown will have a positive impact on how people travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.*

"The design as shown will have a positive impact on how people travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City."



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ No opinion

- 59% of respondents "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" with design having a positive impact on how people will travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.
- 34% of respondents "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" with design having a positive impact on how people will travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.
- 6% of respondents felt neutral about the design having a positive impact on how people will travel in Crystal City and Pentagon City.

Engagement Summary – Open-Ended Feedback

Below is a summary of the feedback we received from the open-ended comment opportunity within the engagement form.

Transit:

- Participants expressed support to the Transitway as primary alternative to walking and as a component of the regional transit infrastructure.
- Some respondents expressed concerns that the current headways for service along the existing transitway do not provide sufficient service for additional capital investment.
- Many respondents expressed confidence that additional dedicated transit lanes would attract more riders on routes serving the corridor.

Safety

- Many remain concerned about cyclist safety along Crystal Drive and 12th street with the implementation of the Transitway due to the exclusion of protected bike lanes.
- Lack of dedicated facilities for people biking and riding micromobility devices may encourage riders of such vehicles to use the sidewalk, creating conflicts with pedestrians.
- *Some respondents expressed concerns about the path of buses using the Transitway Extension, noting the potential for conflict with other road users without operational interventions, and shared a desire to learn more about the planned operations for buses in the Transitway Extension.*
- There is concern that the alignment of the crosswalks on 12th Street S and S Fern St (both directions) may negatively affect the safety of pedestrians at this intersection. Some respondents supported the removal of parking to accommodate dedicated space for other modes.

Street Improvements:

- Some respondents noted the importance of street parking along portions of the corridor to allow for short-term access and pick up-drop off use.
- Other residents noted that plans accommodated short-term parking and pick up-drop off uses along the curb as coming at the expense of dedicated space for other modes, particularly biking.
- Some respondents questioned the need for transitway stations so close to Metrorail stations.

Next Steps

Comments and feedback from the engagement process are being reviewed and applied to the 90% design process, as possible.

The next public checkpoint for this project is expected to occur following the conclusion of Design and Engineering, which is anticipated in Winter/Spring 2023. At this milestone, the project team will share the final design plans for the project, communicate how the feedback received at 60% was reviewed and incorporated during the design process, and update the schedule for future project milestones.

More Information

Project Page:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Uncategorised/Transitway-Extension-to-Pentagon-City>

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