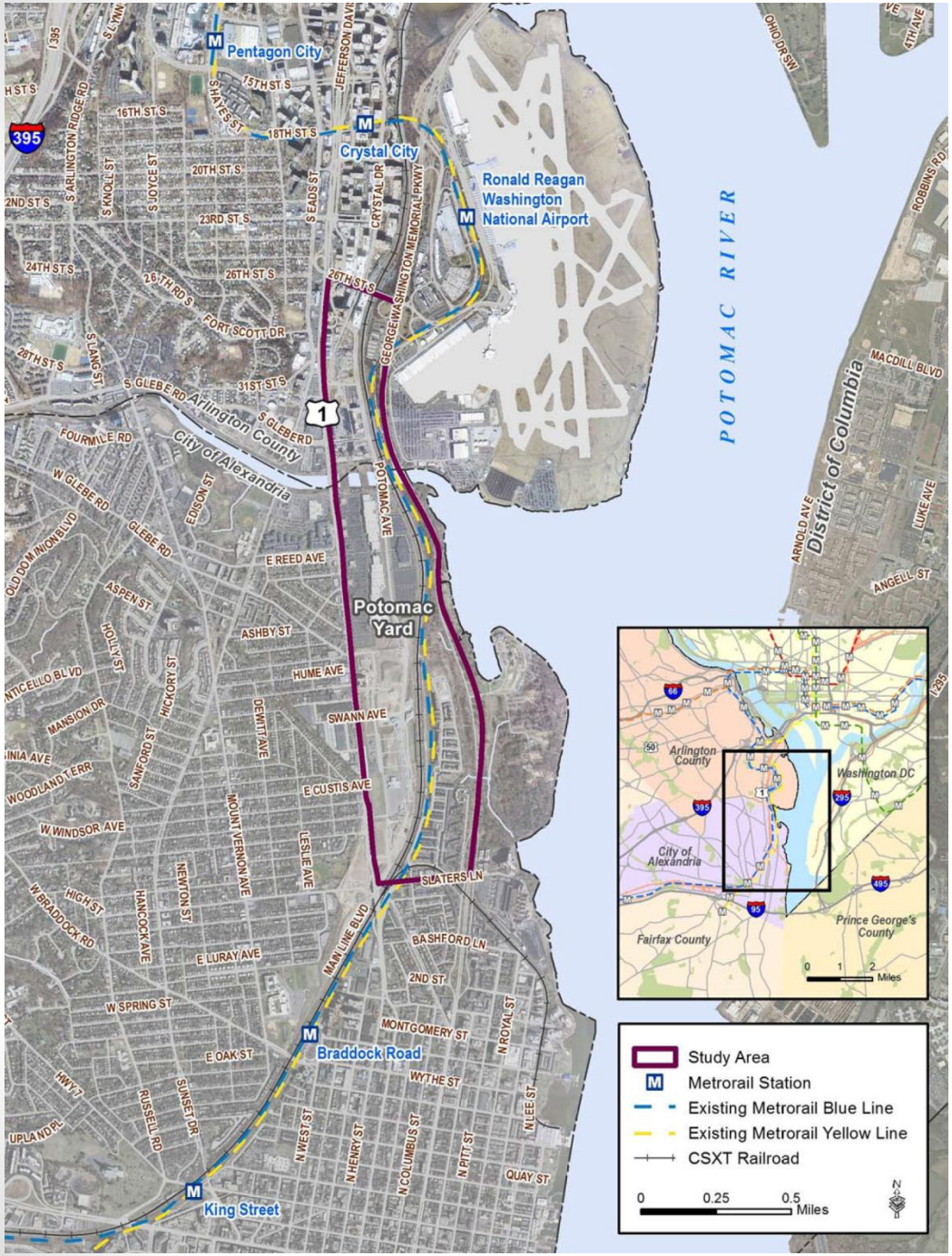
# Potomac Yard Metrorail Station
## Environmental Impact Statement

PYMIG Meeting

June 10, 2013

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Review of Project to Date
- Public Outreach Process
- Schedule
- Next Steps




# Study Area

Study area bounded by:

- Route 1 on the west
- George Washington Memorial Parkway on the east
- Slaters Lane on the south
- Ronald Reagan National Airport Access Road on the north

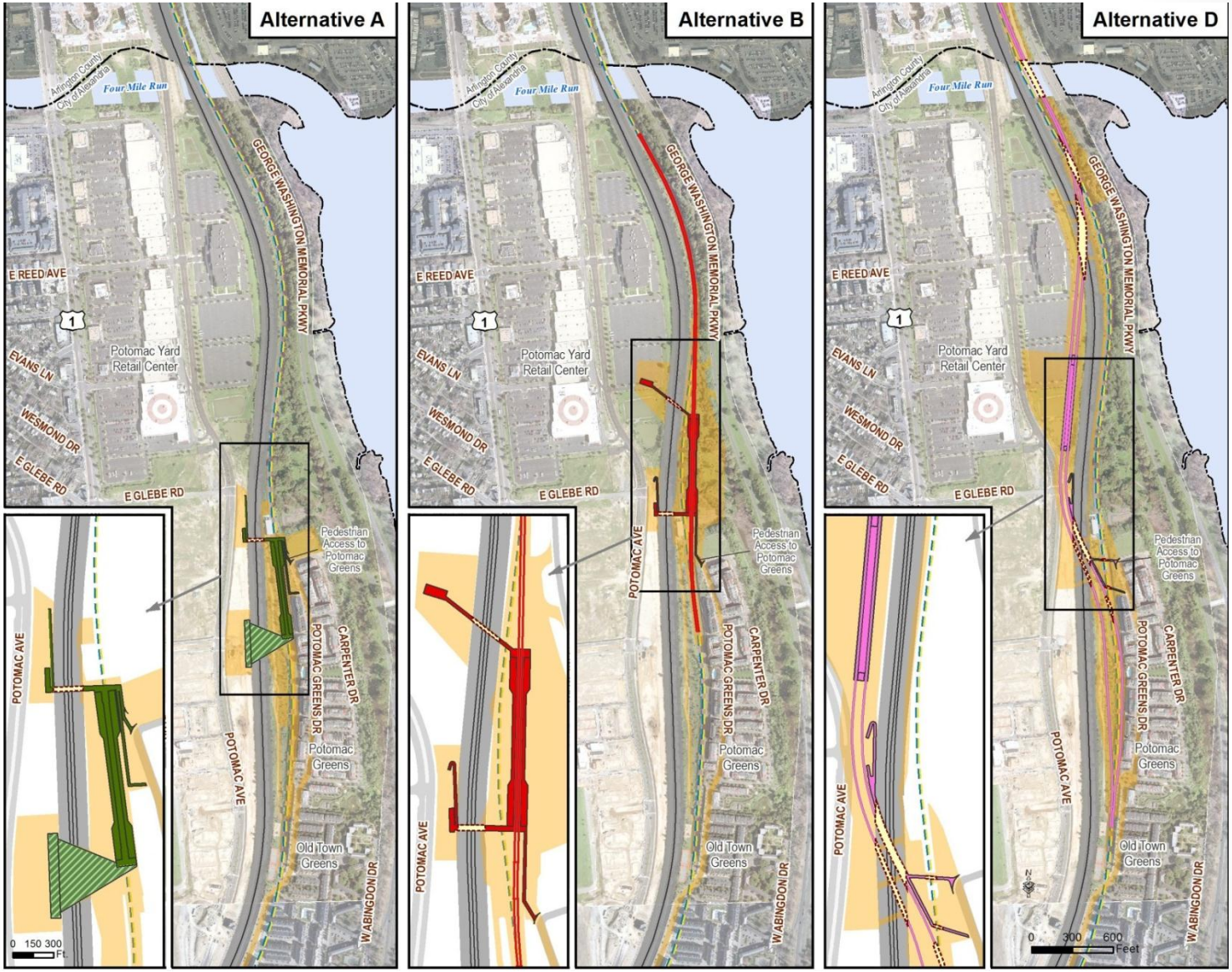
# EIS Process

EIS Scoping & Alternatives Refinement
Draft EIS
Public Hearing & Comment on Draft EIS
Final EIS
Record of Decision (ROD)
Ongoing Agency Coordination and Public Involvement
2011
2012-2013
We are here
Fall 2013
Winter-Summer 2014
Fall 2014

# Agency Roles

- **City of Alexandria:** Project sponsor and joint lead agency
- **Federal Transit Administration (FTA):** Lead federal agency
- **National Park Service (NPS):** Cooperating agency
- **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA):** Cooperating agency

# Build Alternatives




**Note: A No-Build Alternative is also under consideration**

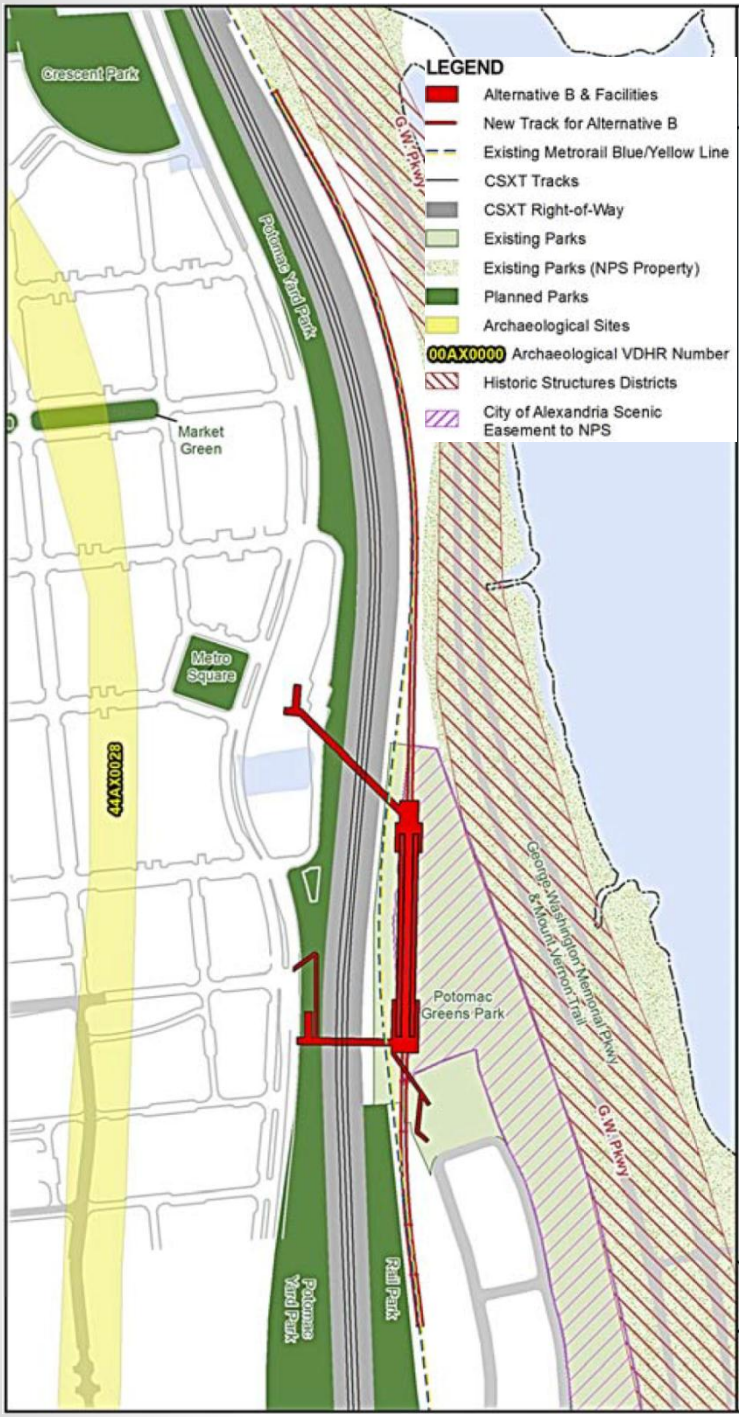
# Preliminary Impacts to Key Resource Areas

- Key resource areas addressed in the Draft EIS
  - Visual Resources
  - Scenic Easement
  - NPS Land
  - Parks
  - Cultural Resources
  - Local Plans
    - Parks
    - Approved Plans
  - Noise and Vibration
  - Waters of the U.S. (Wetlands)
  - Construction Access and Staging

# Visual Resources

# Visual Resources

- No-Build
  - Potomac Yard development will be seen from George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP)
- Build Alternatives
  - Station and future Potomac Yard development will be seen from some GWMP viewsheds but vegetation will partially screen station

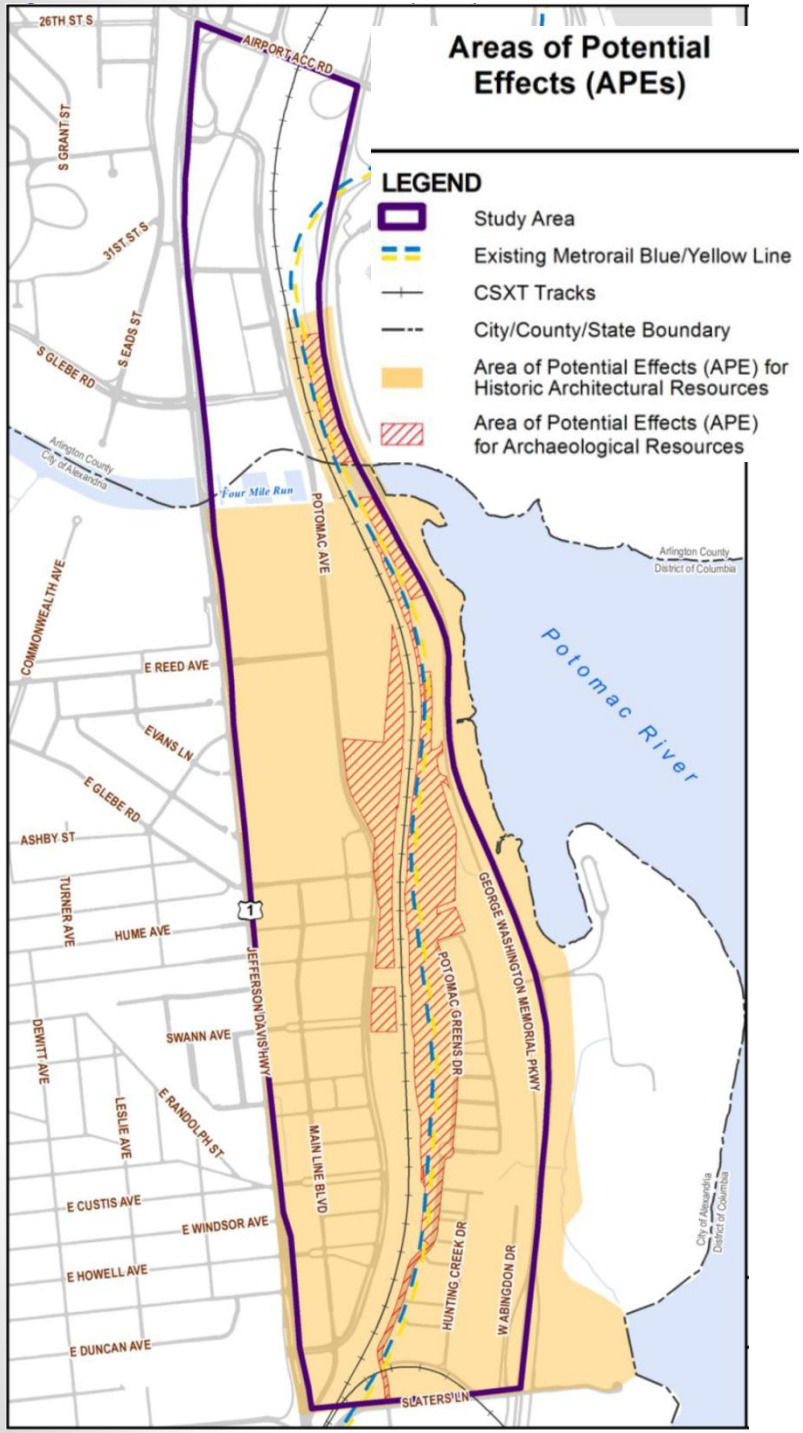



# Scenic Easement and Fee Simple NPS Land

- Greens Scenic Easement
  - Impacts under Alternative B only
- Fee Simple NPS Land
  - Impacts under Alternative B (as currently designed) and Alternative D

# Parks

- Potomac Yard Park
  - City-owned park
  - Impacts under Alternatives A and B due to pedestrian bridge touchdowns
  - Touchdowns would need to be coordinated with park design
  - Impacts under Alternative D due to tracks and facilities




# Cultural Resources

## George Washington Memorial Parkway

- Known by 2 names within study area:
  - Mount Vernon Memorial Parkway
  - Parkways of the National Capital Region
  - Identified as cultural resources
  - Section 106 analysis underway

# Local Plans

- CDD 10 – Potomac Yard/Potomac Greens Small Area Plan
- CDD 19 – North Potomac Yard Small Area Plan
- City of Alexandria Master Plan
  - Alternative B is consistent with local plans
  - No-Build, Alternative A and Alternative D are not consistent with Local Plans

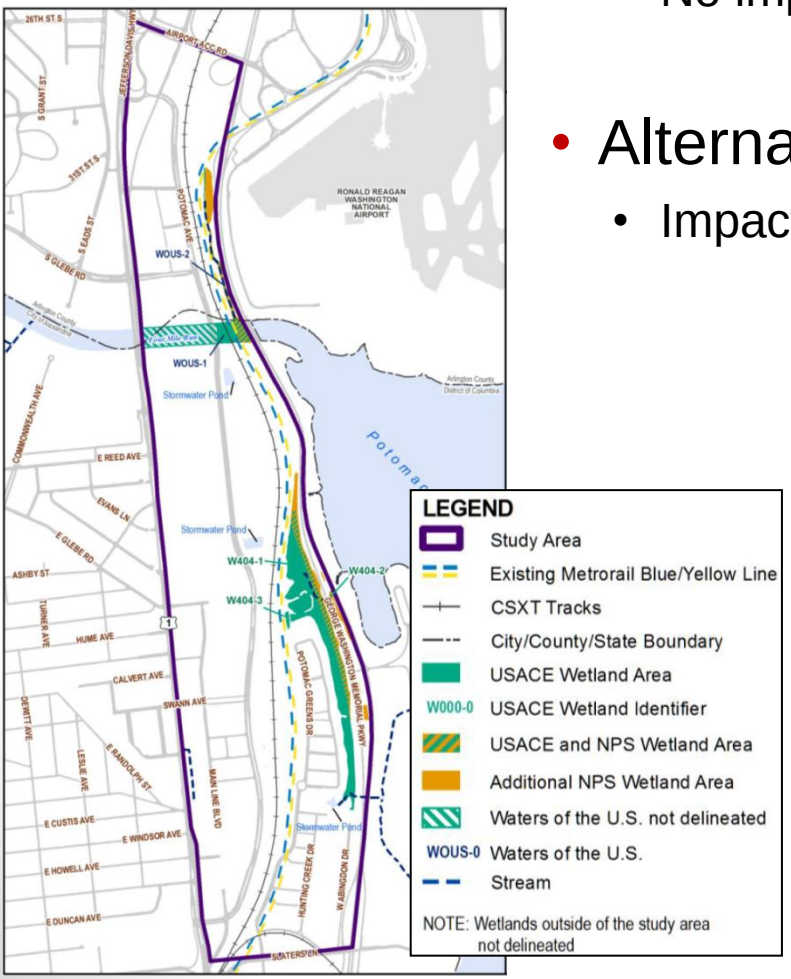
# Noise &Vibration

- No-Build and Build Alternatives:
  - Noise & vibration affects residences close to Potomac Greens Park
- Alternatives A and D:
  - Additional impacts to proximate residences due to the location of track/station

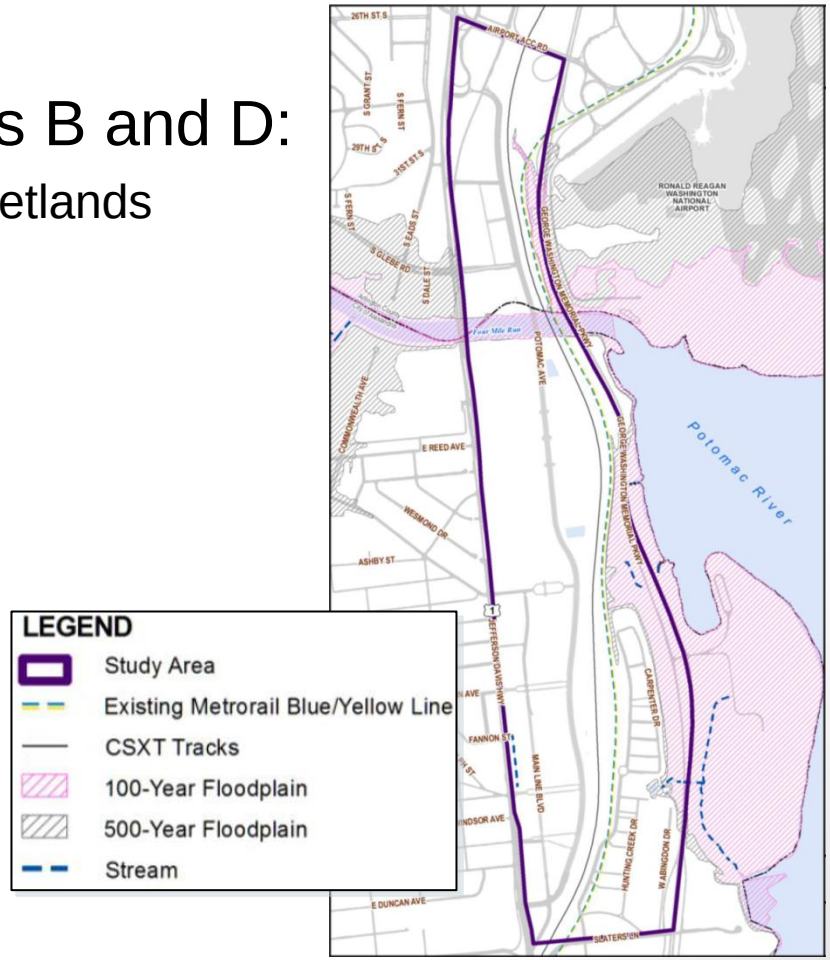
# Waters of the U.S. (Wetlands)

- No Build and Alternative A:
  - No impacts
- Alternatives B and D:
  - Impact to wetlands

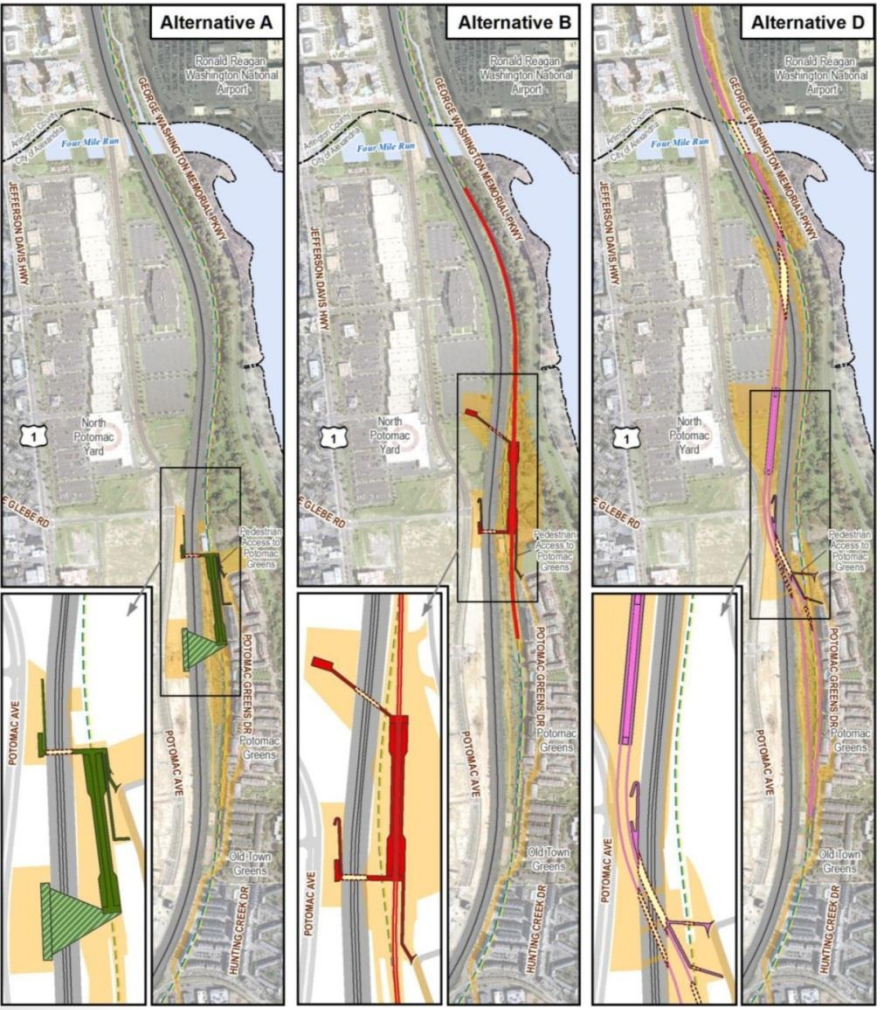
**Wetlands**




**Floodplain**



# Construction Access and Staging




- Construction traffic on City roadways for all Build Alternatives
- Alternatives A and B could be constructed without access from the Parkway
- Some construction work outside of normal work hours and single tracking
- Vegetation will be removed for construction
  - To be replaced after construction
- Will result in temporary impacts related to noise, vibration, water resources, parkland, air quality, visual quality

# Additional Studies

- Visual Landscape Assessment
- Design options for Station

# Proposed Public Outreach

- Draft EIS anticipated in Fall 2013
  - Project Summary document & FAQs
  - Community Guide to the Draft EIS
  - Social Media
  - E-news
  - Community Meetings
    - PYMIG
    - Boards and Commissions
    - Stakeholder groups
    - Project-sponsored public hearing
    - City Council public hearing
    - Others as needed

# Proposed Public Outreach

- Community Workshops: Fall 2013
  1. Land use, neighborhoods, soils, hazardous materials, and economic impacts
  2. Wetlands, scenic easement, parks, visual, and cultural impacts
  3. Transportation, noise/vibration, air quality, construction, and secondary/cumulative impacts
- Comments
  - Formal written comments will be taken at workshops and project-sponsored public hearing
  - Written comments can be emailed to comments@potomacyardmetro.com at any time
  - All comments will be documented and addressed in the Draft EIS

# Estimated Schedule

| Milestone | Estimated |
|---|---|
| Draft Environmental Impact Statement | Fall 2013 |
| Community Education and Discussion Workshops | Fall 2013 |
| Project Draft EIS Public Hearing | Fall 2013 |
| City Council Public Hearing on Preferred Alternative | Late 2013 |
| City Council determination of Preferred Alternative | Late 2013 |
| Final Environmental Impact Statement | 2014 |

# Next Steps

- Release of Draft EIS
- Community Workshops
- Project Public Hearing

- Next PYMIG meeting (tentatively early fall, 2013)

For more information on this project or other capital or planning projects in Potomac Yard:

www.alexandriava.gov/potomacyard

For the project website see:
www.potomacyardmetro.com