

# Alexandria Transit Vision Plan

## ATC (DASH) Board of Directors Meeting

June 12, 2019



# Key Questions for ATC Board of Directors

1. What is the appropriate balance between “Ridership”-oriented service and “Coverage”-oriented service for the future Alexandria bus network?
2. What is the appropriate level of service growth for the Alexandria bus network through 2030?
3. What is the appropriate level of service growth for the short-term implementation plan (FY 21 / FY 22)?



# Ridership-Coverage Balance

- Policy question, not a technical question.
- No specific routes or network elements are being approved
- Ridership % should be the target for 2030 and beyond.
- Board can pick any point on Ridership-Coverage spectrum (Concepts provide illustrations of 70% & 90% Ridership)
- Board can also provide guidance on specific needs that should receive special consideration (e.g. seniors, residents with limited mobility, etc).



# Levels of Future Investment

- What should the target level of investment be in terms of the percentage increase in annual service hours by 2030?
- What should the target be for the short-term implementation plan in FY 2021 – FY 2022?
- Are there specific needs that should be addressed with additional funds?
- *Note: Board may provide recommendations for target percentages for service growth, but final decision will be made by City Council during annual budget processes.*



# ATV Decision-Making Process

	Docket Item	Transportation Commission	ATC Board of Directors
Second Round of ATV Outreach	Review/Adoption of Formal ATV Decision-Making Process	-	April 10, 2019 <b>(Action Item)</b>
	Staff-Provided Project Update, Outreach Summary & Public Hearing(s)	April 17, 2019	May 8, 2019
	Recommendation/Adoption of Final Network Parameters, Inclusive of Any Specific Directives	May 15, 2019 <b>(Action Item)</b>	June 12, 2019 <b>(CRITICAL DECISION POINT)</b> <b>(Action Item)</b>
Final Round of ATV Outreach	Joint TC/ATC Board Work Session for Final ATV Draft Network	Sept/Oct 2019	Sept/Oct 2019
	Public Hearing(s) for Final ATV Draft Network, ATC Board Final Directives	Oct/Nov 2019	November 2019 <b>(CRITICAL DECISION POINT)</b>
	Final Report, Recommendation/ Adoption of ATV Final Network	Nov/Dec 2019 <b>(Action Item)</b>	December 2019 <b>(Action Item)</b>

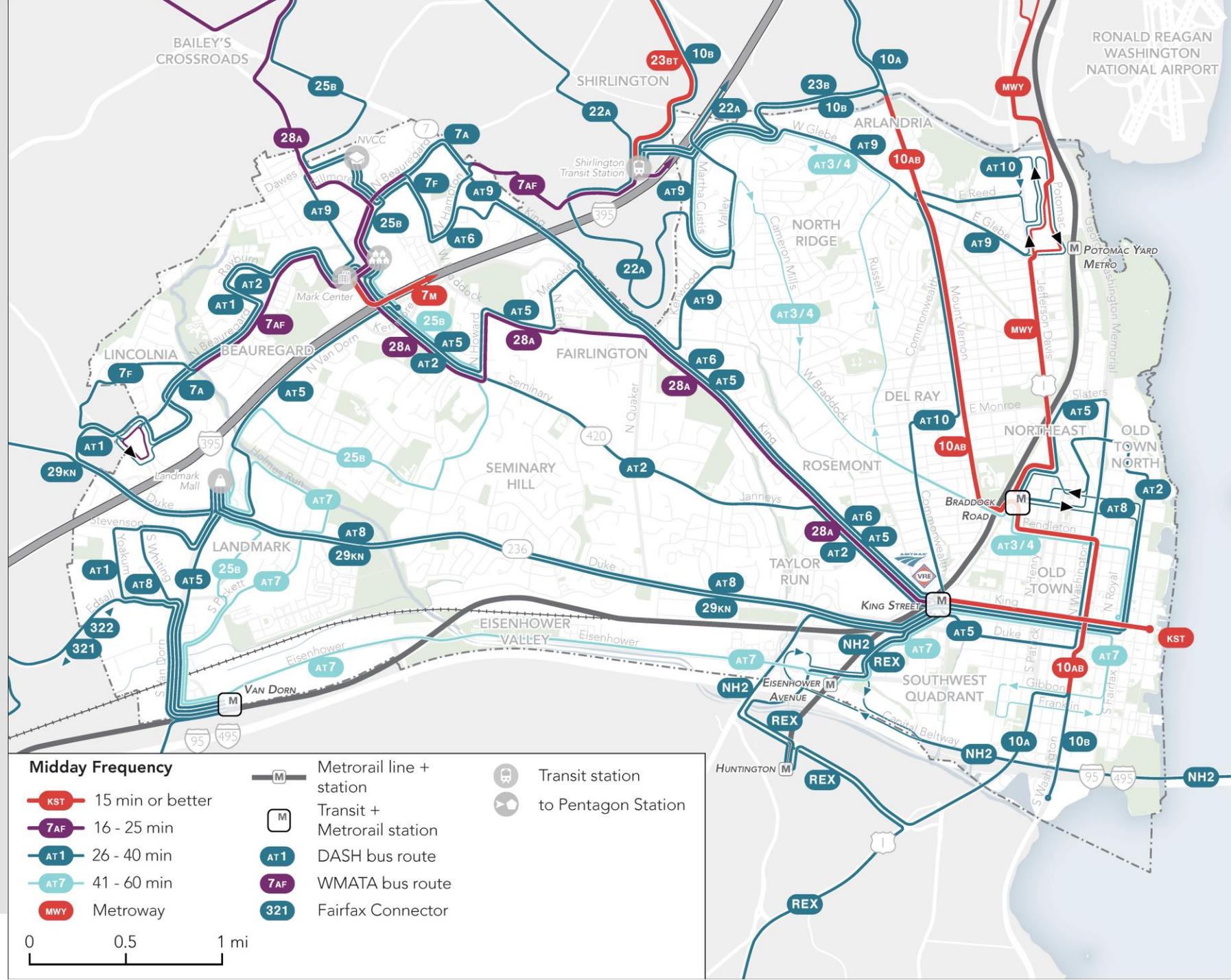


# Network Concepts



# Existing Network (50% Ridership)

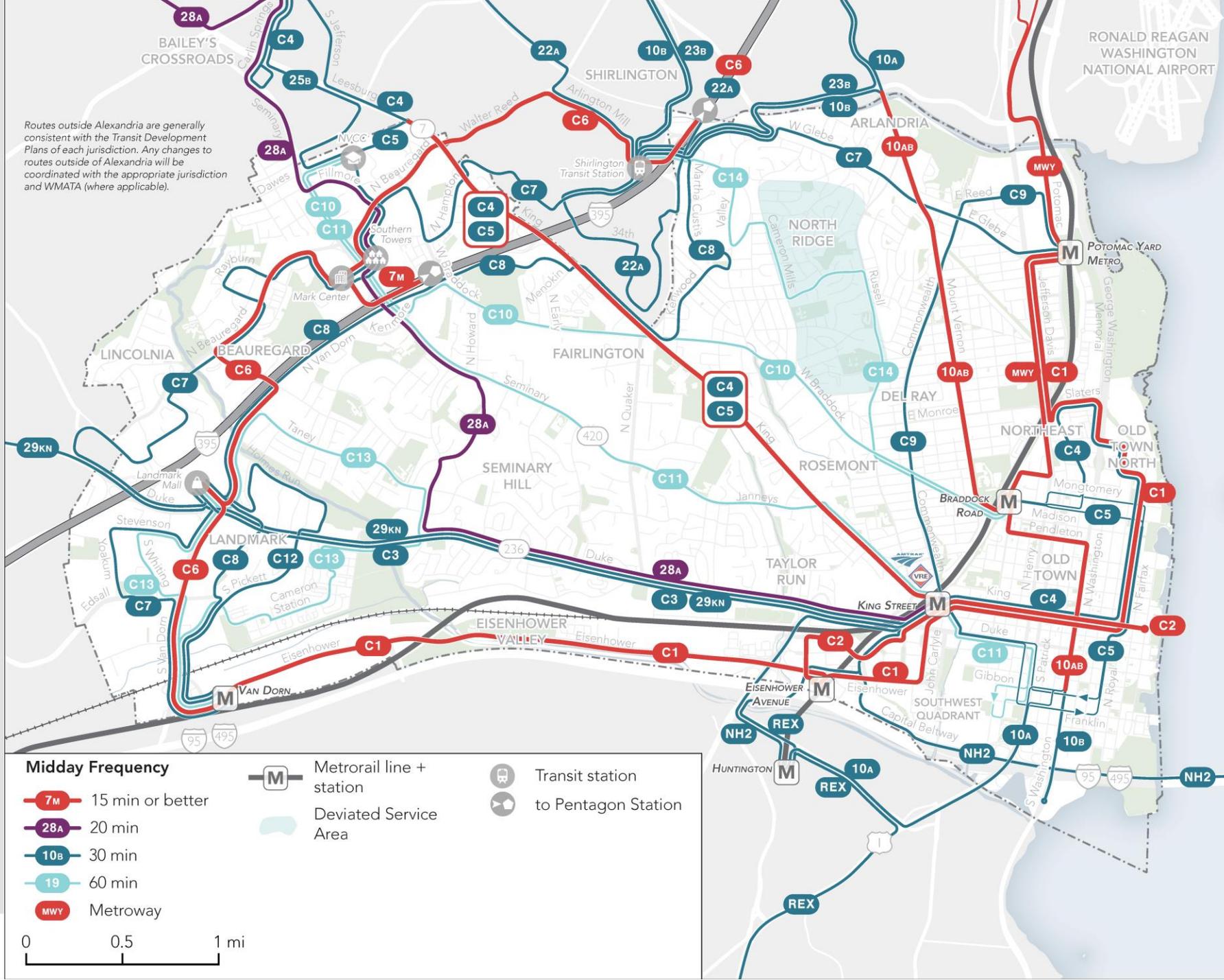
All-day Routes  
Midday Frequency



# Coverage Concept (70% Ridership)

## All-day Routes Midday Frequency

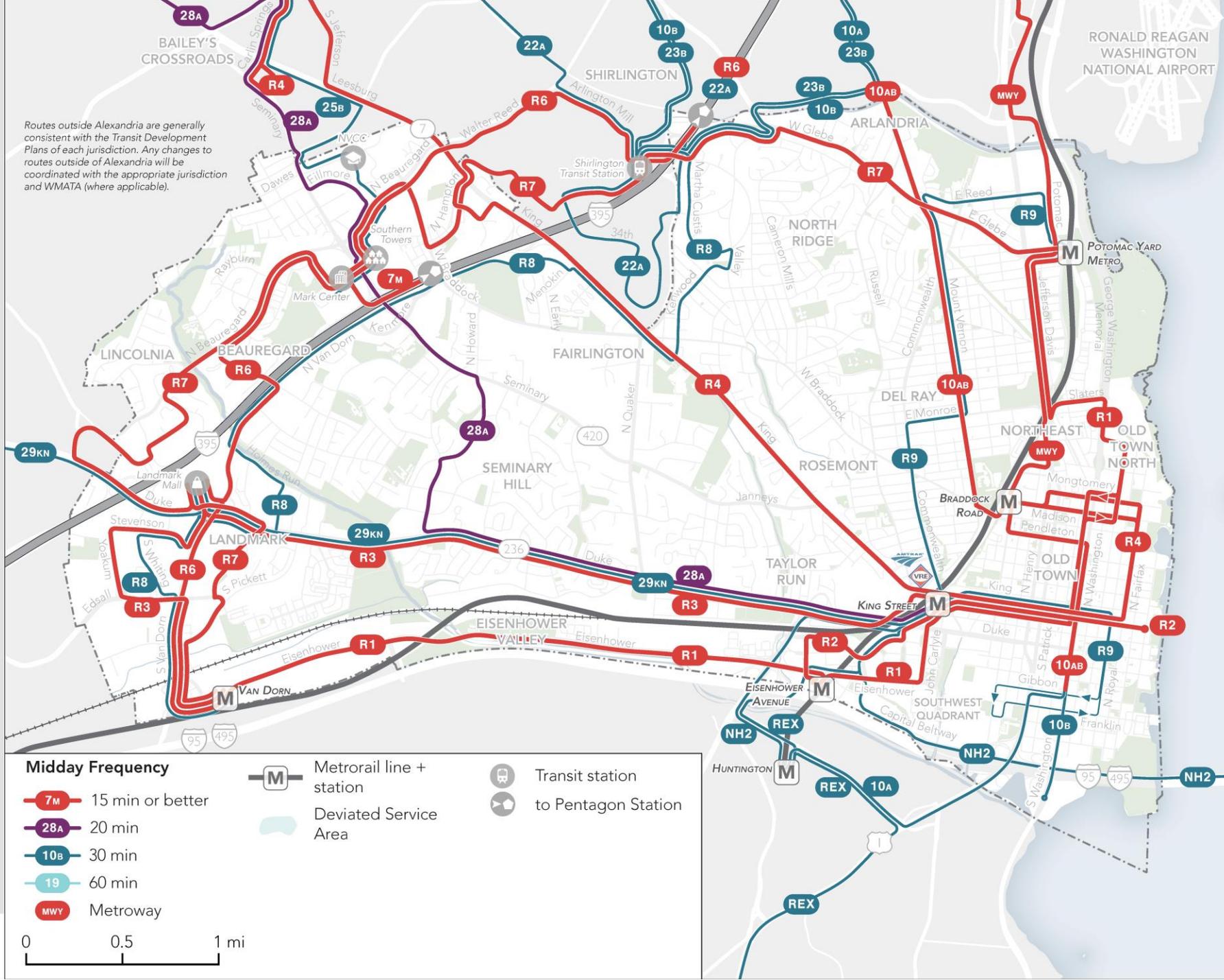
PEAK ROUTES ARE NOT SHOWN ON THIS MAP BUT ARE STILL INCLUDED IN BOTH CONCEPTS. PEAK ROUTES ARE SHOWN ON A SEPARATE PEAK OVERLAY MAP.



# Ridership Concept (90% Ridership)

All-day Routes  
Midday Frequency

PEAK ROUTES ARE NOT SHOWN ON THIS MAP BUT ARE STILL INCLUDED IN BOTH CONCEPTS. PEAK ROUTES ARE SHOWN ON A SEPARATE PEAK OVERLAY MAP.



# Outreach Summary



# Outreach Summary (February – April 2019)

- Stakeholder workshop
  - Held February 26<sup>th</sup>
  - 26 community participants
- 16 pop-up events
  - Van Dorn Metro
  - Braddock Metro
  - Landmark Plaza
  - City Hall (twice)
  - King Street Metro (twice)
  - Southern Towers
  - NVCC - Alexandria
  - Arlandria
  - Eisenhower Metro
  - Potomac Yard
- 3 community meetings
  - March 5 – Hammond Middle School
  - March 6 – Armstrong Recreation Center
  - March 7 – Nannie J. Lee Center
- 2 public hearings
- MetroQuest online survey (English and Spanish versions)
- Website, email, social media, etc
- Onboard presence (audio/flyers)
- Nextdoor Outreach
- Leadership briefings
  - February 13<sup>th</sup> – Joint meeting with Alexandria Transportation Commission and DASH Board
  - February 26<sup>th</sup> – City Council briefing
- 10 briefings for key comm. groups
- DASH bus driver open house



# ATV Outreach Round 2 by the Numbers

- 37 meeting attendees / 135 views
- 16 pop-up events / 500+ flyers
- 1,200 distinct survey responses
- 150+ email comments
- 6 letters from community groups
- 3,500+ unique webpage views
- 21,000+ DASH online engagements (54% Twitter / 46% Facebook)
- 8 email blasts to City & DASH lists

The screenshot displays the 'Alexandria Transit Vision' web application interface. The main content area is titled 'Midday Network Comparison' and features three tabs: 'Today's DASH Network', 'Ridership (Midday)', and 'Coverage (Midday)'. The 'Ridership (Midday)' tab is active, showing a map of Alexandria with red lines representing frequent routes. A text box above the map describes the 2030 midday service concept, including six frequent all-day routes and two frequent routes to the west/northwest. To the right of the map is a survey section titled 'Please rate this scenario:' with a five-star rating system. Below the map is a section for 'No priorities selected, at random:' with five priority sliders: 'Shorter Walks' (red arrow pointing left), 'Buses Come More Often' (green arrow pointing right), 'Fewer Transfers' (red arrow pointing left), 'Consistent Routes All Day' (green arrow pointing right), and 'More Weekday Service' (green arrow pointing right). The interface includes a progress bar at the top, a navigation menu on the left with options like 'WELCOME', 'PRIORITIES', 'CONCEPTS', and 'QUESTIONS', and a 'WRAP-UP' button on the right.



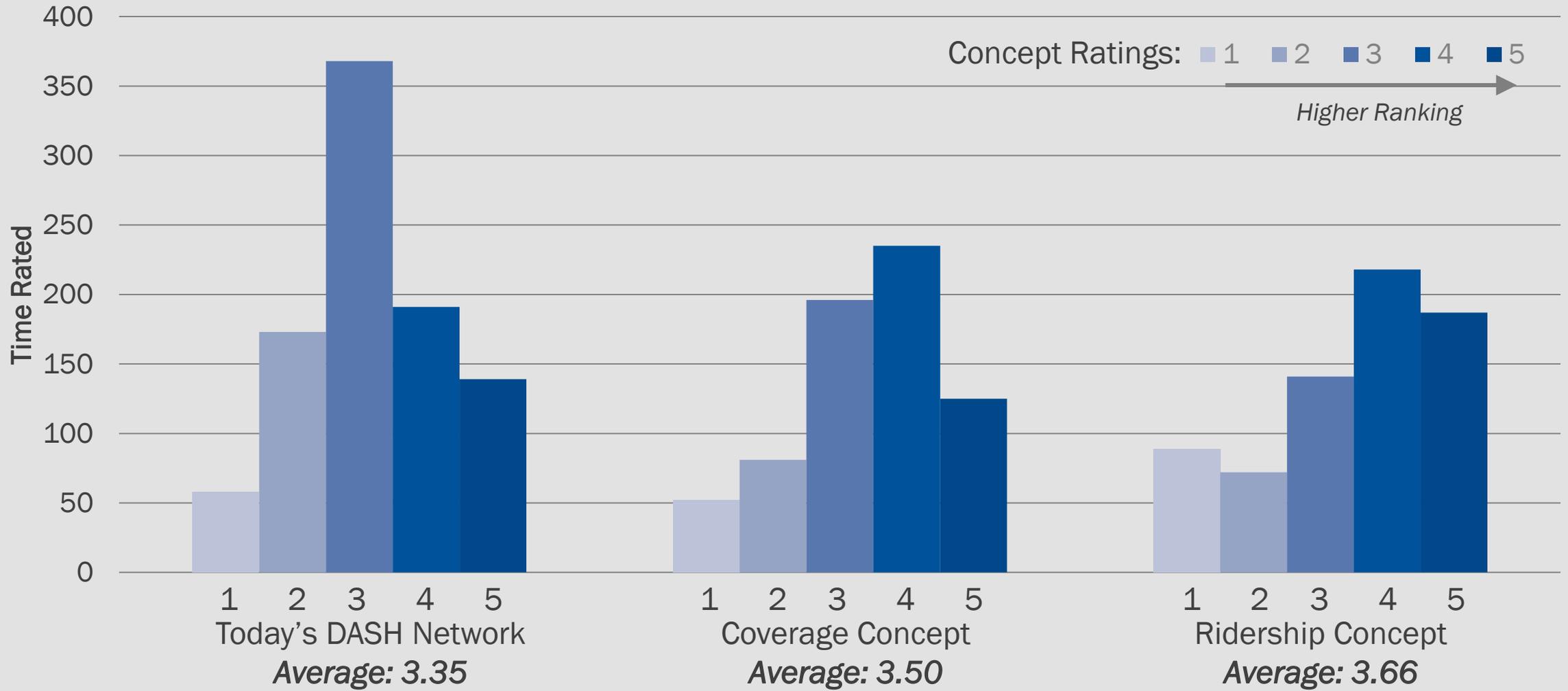


# What did we hear? What were the key issues?

- General public is split with slight lean towards “Ridership”
- Stakeholder group has distinct preference towards “Ridership”
- Community group support for “Ridership” concept
- Concern about impact of concepts on seniors and persons with limited mobility.
- Some confusion (Peak overlap map, Concepts vs. Proposals)
- Major concerns from Parkfairfax and North Ridge regarding potential changes to weekday peak service to Pentagon.



# MetroQuest Survey – Concept Ratings



# Stakeholder Workshop #2 Summary

- 73% prefer the ridership concept and 14% prefer the coverage concept.
- 50% *strongly* prefer the ridership concept.
- Top 3 priorities for stakeholders during meeting polling were:
  - More frequency on weekday midday and evenings
  - More frequency on weekday peak times
  - More frequency on weekends
- 81% support additional service, even if it meant paying for it in taxes or fees.



Source: Stakeholder Meeting Poll – 22 Respondents

# Staff Recommendations

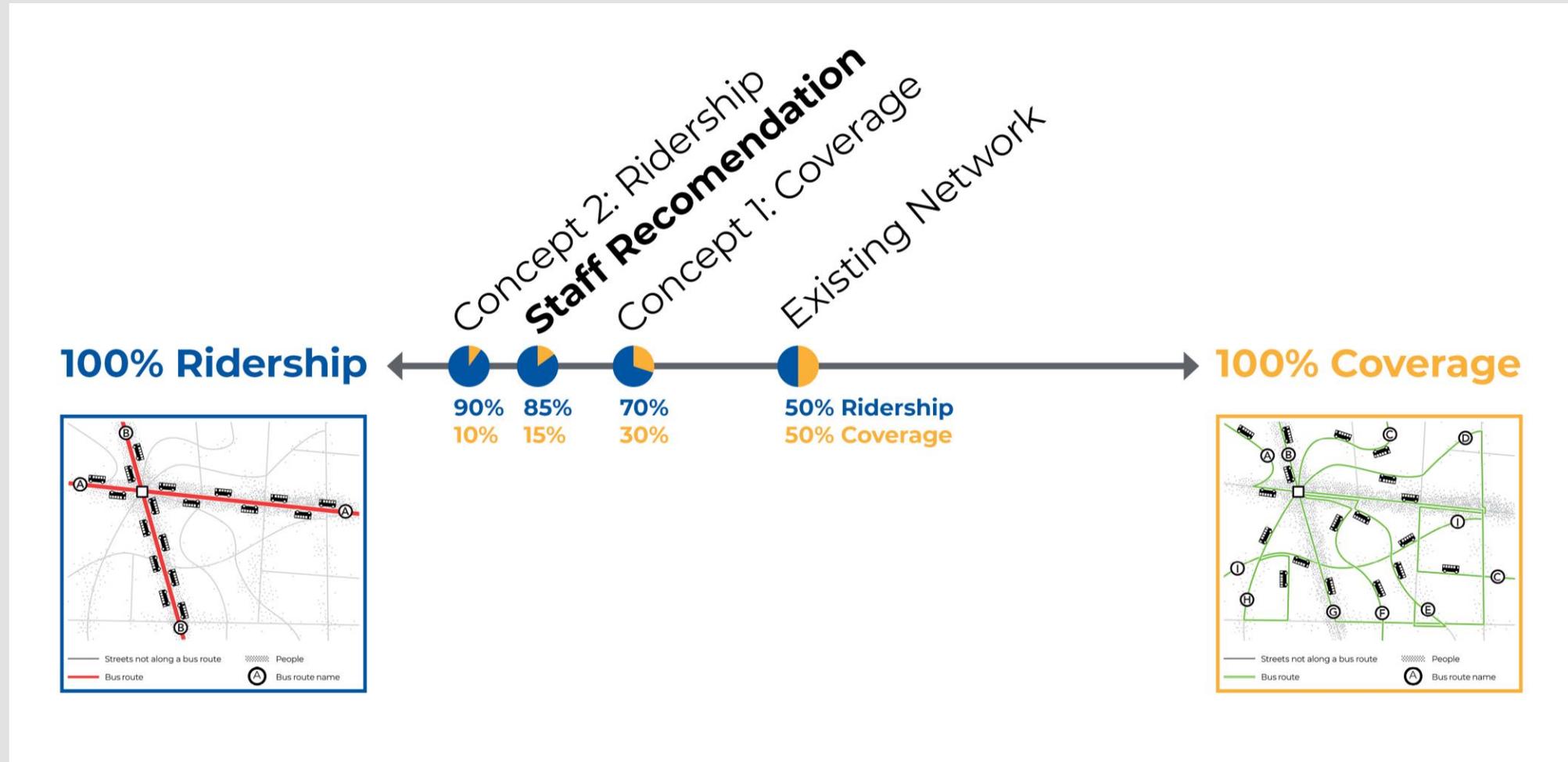


# Staff Recommendations

1. What is the appropriate balance between “Ridership”-oriented service and “Coverage”-oriented service for the future Alexandria bus network? **85% Ridership + 15% Coverage**
2. What is the appropriate level of service growth for the Alexandria bus network through 2030? **25%**
3. What is the appropriate level of service growth for the short-term implementation plan (FY 21 / FY 22)?  
**8% increase over next two years (+4% annually)**



# Staff Recommendation for Ridership-Coverage Balance



# Why 85% Ridership & 15% Coverage?

- General public split with slight lean towards “Ridership”
- Stakeholder & community groups support “Ridership” concept
- Overall Benefits of Increased Ridership Productivity
- Alignment with Major City Goals and Initiatives
- Impact on Minority & Low Income Residents
- Major Improvements to Off-Peak and Weekend Service
- Concerns over impact of “Ridership” concept (90%) on seniors and disabled persons could be mitigated with +5% coverage



# Level of Investment Recommendations

- **25% increase target in service hours by 2030**
  - 5% more than service level assumptions for network concepts.
  - Additional 5% increase in service hours could be used to maintain productive peak services to the extent possible.
  - Would demonstrate strong commitment to future bus network.
- **8% short-term increase target in service hours by FY 2022**
  - Allows for significant short-term service improvements with minimal corresponding service cuts or reallocations.
  - Will need to balance with other FY21 costs (Labor, Electric Buses)
  - Could be partially offset by additional funding (I-395, W.E.T., etc)



# Next Steps



# Process Update

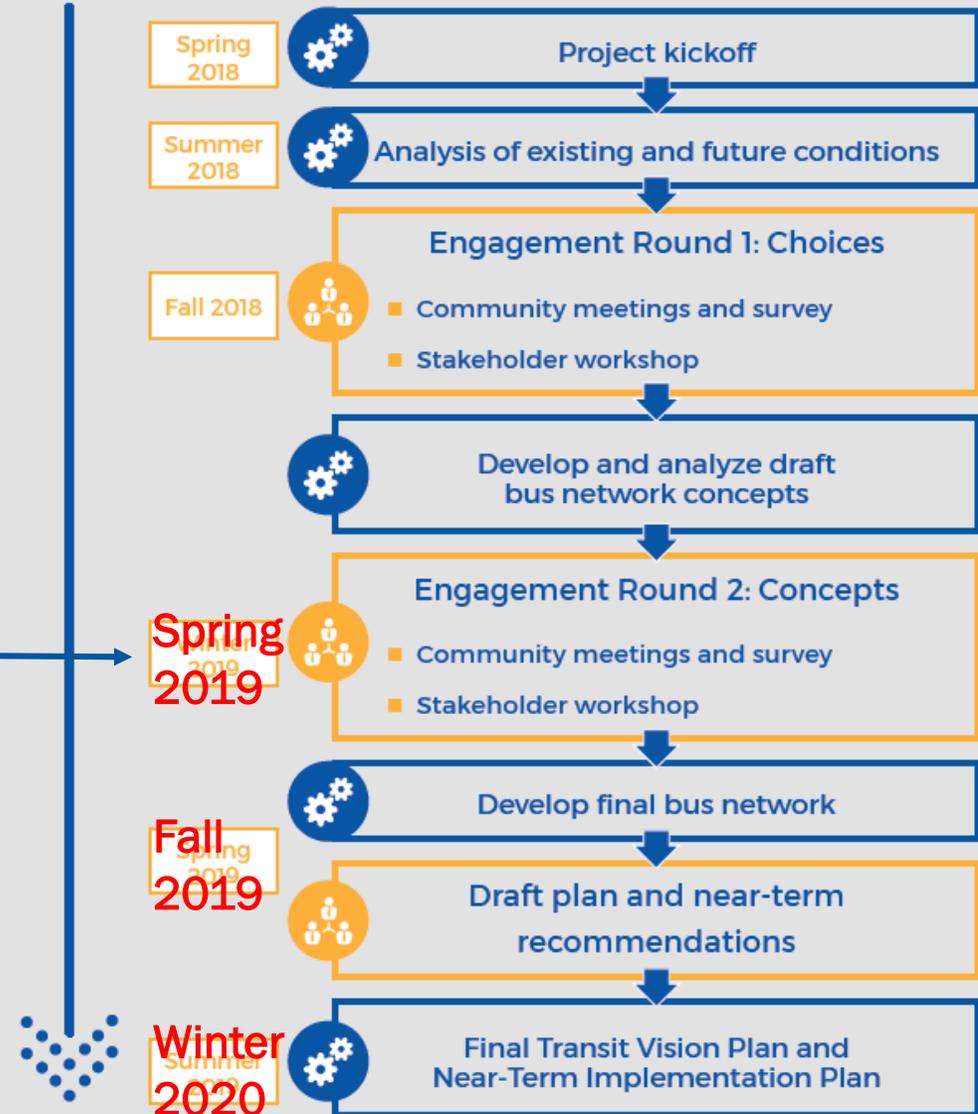
- Analyzed existing & future conditions
- Completed Choices Report & 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Outreach
- Developed two bus network concepts
- Completed Concepts Report & 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Public Outreach

Throughout the plan there will be:

- Updates to the project website
- Civic engagement opportunities
- Coordination meetings with other jurisdictions and transit providers
- Briefings to City leadership

We are here

-  Technical Work
-  Engagement



# Alexandria Transit Vision Plan

- Project Website – [www.dashbus.com/transitvision](http://www.dashbus.com/transitvision)
- Project Emails – [transitvision@alexandriava.gov](mailto:transitvision@alexandriava.gov)
- Project Updates – Sign up for DASH/ATV email updates at [www.dashbus.com/dash-news/](http://www.dashbus.com/dash-news/)

