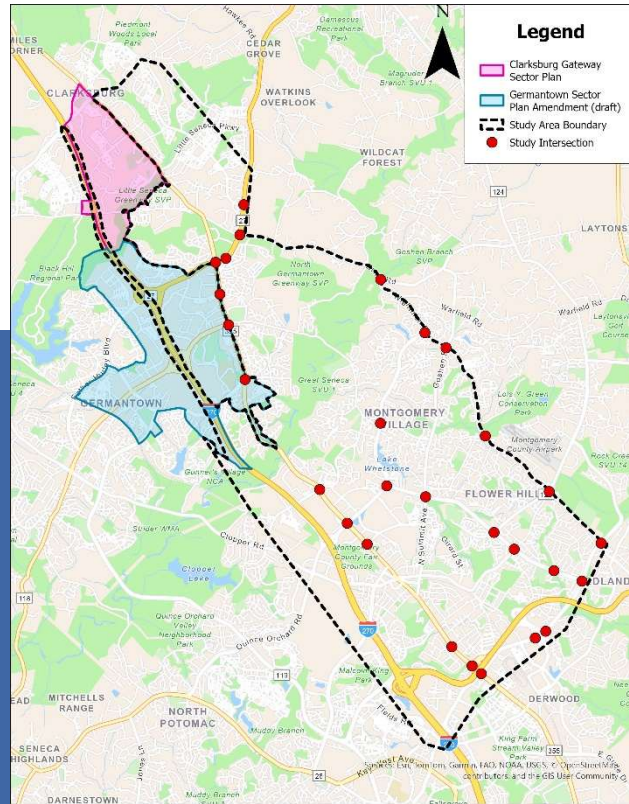


# CLARKSBURG TO MONTGOMERY VILLAGE TRANSPORTATION STUDY – PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK



## Description

Planning Board review and approval of the proposed Scope of Work for the Clarksburg to Montgomery Village Transportation Study.

## Planning Staff

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### Summary:

- Draft Scope of Work prepared in cooperation with the Montgomery County of Transportation.
- This is a follow-on corridor transportation study recommended in the *Master Plan of Highways and Transitways – 2025 Technical Update*.
- County Council approved special appropriation 20-958 for this study on October 28, 2025.
- Draft scope of work includes tasks grouped in two phases with an anticipated schedule.

## INFORMATION

### DRAFT

Draft Scope of Work

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### Planning Division

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### Planning Board Information

MCPB

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## SECTION 1 – PROJECT OVERVIEW

The *Master Plan of Highways and Transitways – 2025 Technical Update* was approved by the County Council in July 2025 and adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in September 2025. Among other things, the master plan removed the unbuilt northern extension of Midcounty Highway, a long-planned highway that would have connected the Clarksburg community (at Ridge Road) with the existing section of Midcounty Highway in Montgomery Village. Recognizing that the removal of this long-planned highway extension could result in insufficient transportation capacity, Recommendation 5A of the master plan states:

“To ensure that there is sufficient transportation capacity to serve existing and future travel demand in the Clarksburg to Montgomery Village corridor, a comprehensive study of travel needs should be conducted to determine whether there is sufficient master-planned transportation capacity to accommodate planned development, as well as the feasibility and timeline of implementing planned and existing master-planned transportation improvements.”

This effort was funded by the County Council as part of special appropriation to the Planning Department’s FY26 operating budget (see Attachment A).

## SECTION 2 – SCOPE OF WORK

Planning staff, in cooperation with the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), developed this draft scope of work for review and approval by the Planning Board. The aim is to build on the soon to be approved *Clarksburg Gateway Sector Plan* as well as ongoing work on the *Germantown Sector Plan Amendment*.

### Study Area

The proposed study area for the project is shown in Figure 1. The study area is roughly bounded by Shady Grove Road on the south, Clarksburg Road (MD 121) and Stringtown Road on the north, I-270 on the west, and the Brink Road/Wightman Road/Snuffer School Road/Muncaster Mill Road corridor on the east, consistent with the boundary is MCDOT’s 2017 [Midcounty Corridor Study Supplemental Study](#). This proposed study includes high-level analysis of capacity issues along I-270 but otherwise excludes detailed traffic analyses in the Germantown and Clarksburg Gateway sector plan areas, as those plans are anticipated to be approved by the County Council before this study is completed and include comprehensive assessments of transportation adequacy. Additionally, the map shows the intersections that are proposed to be evaluated as part of this study.

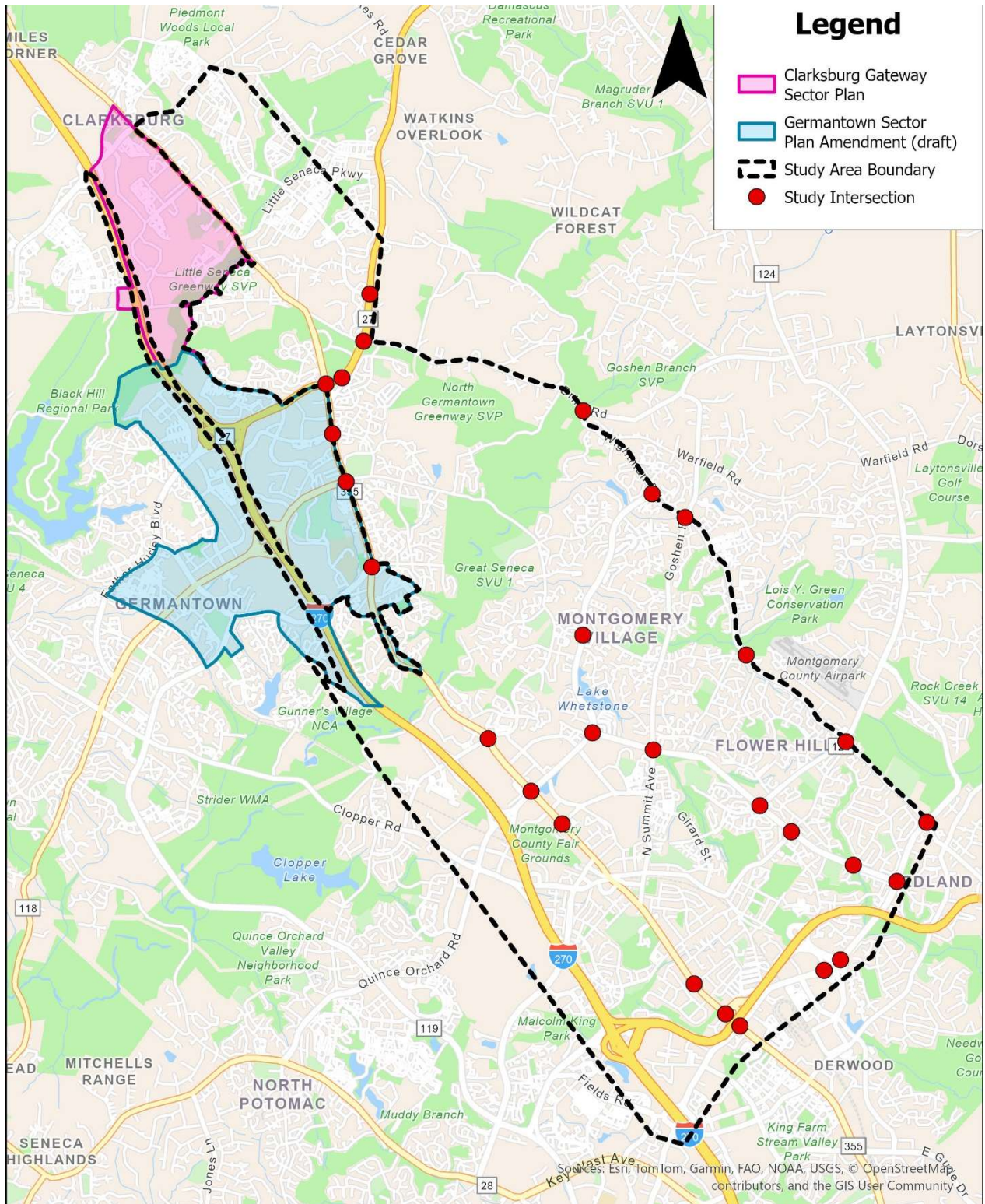


Figure 1: Clarksburg to Montgomery Village Corridor Transportation Study - Proposed Study Area and Intersections

## Tasks

The scope of work has two main parts:

### Part I

The first part of the study will determine whether there is sufficient master-planned transportation capacity to accommodate planned development. It will be led by Montgomery Planning, with support from MCDOT. Key tasks include:

- Public engagement
- Transportation data collection
- Safety analysis
- Existing and future year (2045) transportation forecasts
- Existing and future year (2045) transportation adequacy metrics
- Existing and future year (2045) peak hour capacity analyses
- Development and evaluation of potential alternative transportation infrastructure to address documented deficiencies

Assumptions about future land use and the transportation network will include recommendations from the soon to be approved *Clarksburg Gateway Sector Plan* and the ongoing *Germantown Sector Plan*. The project team will keep abreast of the status of the *Germantown Sector Plan* and will endeavor to modify the assumption to reflect the current state of that plan as it works through the approval process.

Projects that will be considered in Part I include Planned Transportation projects presented to the Planning Board and County Council as part of the 2017 [Midcounty Corridor Study Supplemental Study](#), as shown in Table 1. While recent County programs have focused on building out the transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects, Planning staff anticipate that some motor vehicle improvements, especially Observation Drive Extended, may also be part of the solution.

### Part II

The second part of the study will establish the feasibility and timeline of implementing planned and existing master-planned transportation improvements. It will be led by MCDOT with support from Montgomery Planning. The study will prepare cost estimates for each project and develop a table to identify the challenges that may affect the feasibility of the projects, including but not limited to major environmental constraints, utilities, historic/cultural resources, park impacts, or right-of-way needs. Based on these deliverables, a project implementation schedule will be prepared.

The project will conclude with another round of public engagement to present the draft recommendations, followed by submission of the study to the Planning Board.

## Anticipated Schedule

The anticipated project is intended to be completed within 12 months. The County Council's special appropriation will enable Planning staff to seek consulting assistance on some of the project tasks, and Planning staff will complete a substantial portion of the technical work in-house. With that support in place, staff anticipate the following schedule, which may be refined as work progresses and technical staff availability is confirmed:

- Scope of Work approval Spring 2026
- Transportation Data Collection Spring 2026
- Existing Transportation Conditions Summer 2026
- Transportation Forecasts and Analysis Summer/Fall 2026
- Public Meeting No. 1 Fall 2026
- Draft Recommendations Fall 2026
- Feasibility and Timeline Assessment Fall 2026
- Public Meeting No. 2 Winter 2026/2027
- Planning Board Review Spring 2027

Table 1: Planned Transportation Projects

Project	Extents	Status
<b>Transit Projects</b>		
MD 355 Bus Rapid Transit Northern Segment	Germantown to Clarksburg	Funded for Final Design thru FY 28
MD 355 Bus Rapid Transit Central Segment	Rockville to Germantown	Funded for Construction thru FY 29
Milestone / COMSAT East Clarksburg Connector	Germantown Rd to Stringtown Rd (via Observation Dr)	Master Planned
Manekin West Connector	Germantown Rd to Observation Dr (via Century Blvd)	Master Planned
Red Line Extension	Shady Grove to Germantown	Master Planned
<b>Roadway Projects</b>		
I-270 HOV Lanes Ext	North to City of Frederick	Master Planned
Observation Drive Ext	Waters Discovery Ln to Clarksburg Rd	Funded for 35% Design (Waters Discovery Ln to Little Seneca Pkwy)
MD 355 Bypass	MD 355 (South End) to MD 355 (North End)	Master Planned
MD 355 Widening: 2 lanes to 4 lanes	Little Seneca Pkwy to Roberts Tavern Dr	Master Planned
MD 355 Widening: 2/4 lanes to 6 lanes	Ridge Rd to Little Seneca Pkwy	Master Planned
MD 355 Widening: 4 lanes to 6 lanes	Middlebrook Rd to Ridge Rd	Master Planned
MD 355 Intermittent Service Roads	Montgomery Village Ave to Middlebrook Rd	None
Gateway Center Dr Ext	Observation Dr Ext to Gateway Center Dr	Master Planned
Little Seneca Pkwy Ext	Fair Garden Ln to Petrel St	Funded for 35% Design (Fair Garden Ln to Observation Dr Ext)
Dorsey Mill Rd Bridge	Century Blvd to Observation Dr	Master Planned
Ridge Rd Widening: 5 lanes to 6 lanes	Brink Rd to Snowden Farm Pkwy	Master Planned
Montgomery Village Ave Widening: 4 lanes to 6 lanes	MD 355 to Midcounty Highway	Master Planned
Midcounty Hwy Widening: 4 lanes to 6 lanes	Montgomery Village Ave to Goshen Rd	Master Planned
Goshen Rd Widening: 2 lanes to 4 lanes	Midcounty Hwy to Warfield Rd	Spot Improvements Funded for design FY30
Clarksburg Road at MD 355		Substantial Completion in September 2024
Clarksburg Road/Snowden Farm Parkway		Substantial Completion in September 2024
<b>Interchange Projects</b>		
I-270 and Little Seneca Pkwy		Master Planned
Ridge Rd and MD 355 Interchange		Master Planned
Ridge Rd and Observation Dr Interchange		Master Planned
<b>Bikeway Projects (Select Only)</b>		
MD 355 – Clarksburg Shared Used Path	Stringtown Rd to Snowden Farm Pkwy	Funded for Construction thru FY 26

### SECTION 3 – NEXT STEPS

With approval of the scope of work, staff will add a project webpage onto the Montgomery Planning website where the approved scope of work, study schedule, and progress will be shared as developed at key milestones.

Staff recommends approval of the scope of work for the Clarksburg to Montgomery Village Transportation Study.

### SECTION 4 – ATTACHMENTS

- A. Resolution 20-958 - Special Appropriation to the FY26 Operating Budget Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Clarksburg to Montgomery Village Corridor Transportation Study, \$100,000, October 28, 2025.