The County's estimated total budget for this project, including preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, construction, and the overall management of the project, is $24,200,000. This is a County project funded by NVTA with no state or federal funding.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Location: University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway (Route 234) intersection in Prince William County, Virginia

Project Limits along Prince William Parkway: Approximately 5,000 feet
- From: 1,200 feet east of the existing Wellington Road intersection
- To: 1,500 feet east of the existing University Boulevard intersection

Project Limits along University Boulevard: Approximately 1,500 feet
- From: 500 feet west of the existing Innovation Drive intersection
- To: The eastern leg of the existing Hornbaker Road (Route 660) intersection

Purpose and Need: The purpose of this project is to relieve existing and projected traffic congestion as well as improve safety at the University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway intersection. The improvements are necessary to reduce congestion and the number of crashes at the intersection, improve traffic operations in the project area, and increase roadway and pedestrian connectivity.

Project Budget: The County’s estimated total budget for this project, including preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, construction, and the overall management of the project, is $24,200,000. This is a County project funded by NVTA with no state or federal funding.

Note that both Prince William Parkway and University Boulevard are designated as east-west roadways.
The project will improve safety and operational performance at the University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway intersection, as well as increase pedestrian and roadway connectivity, by designing and constructing the proposed improvements listed below. In general, the proposed improvements extend along Prince William Parkway for a total of approximately 5,000 feet and along University Boulevard for approximately 1,500 feet, including its intersections with Discovery Boulevard and Hornbaker Road.

- One additional lane in each direction on Prince William Parkway within the project limits, for a total of three lanes in each direction.
  - The additional lanes will add capacity and allow for the addition of dedicated right-turn lanes to and from Prince William Parkway.
- A new 2,000-foot four-lane divided roadway (the new Discovery Boulevard) from the existing intersection of Discovery Boulevard at University Boulevard to a new proposed intersection with Prince William Parkway, with new signals at each of the terminal intersections.
  - The new roadway will enable left turns to be eliminated at the intersection of University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway.
  - The roadway typical section for the new Discovery Boulevard will include two 12-foot travel lanes divided by a grass median with adjacent 2-foot curb and gutter in each direction.
  - One side of the new Discovery Boulevard will include a 10-foot shared use path, and the other will include a 5-foot sidewalk, both of which will tie into existing sidewalks and/or trails.
  - Signal and intersection modifications, such as changes to lane operations, signing, and striping, to the existing intersections of University Boulevard with Prince William Parkway and with Hornbaker Road.
  - These modifications are required for vehicle access to and from the new Discovery Boulevard to accommodate the elimination of left turns at University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway.

In addition, the project will provide drainage improvements along the roadway including properly sized roadside ditches to treat and retain major storm events. Stormwater management facilities will be provided and nutrient credits purchased to improve water quality throughout the corridor. Lighting at the new signal locations, relocation of existing overhead signs, and landscaping will also be provided.

Prince William County has evaluated the existing environmental context and constraints and completed an assessment of potential environmental consequences of the project through the Local Environmental Review Process (LERP). Major considerations include the following:

- Portions of the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Prince William Parkway and University Boulevard would be cleared for construction of the new Discovery Boulevard; however, these forested lands are designated for future development under the land use category of “regional employment center” in the 2008 Prince William County Comprehensive Plan.
- Private and public developments are located in the general area surrounding the project; and no homes, businesses, farms, or nonprofit organizations would be displaced.
- The proposed project would not induce significant foreseeable alterations in land use, planned growth, development patterns, or natural or cultural resources.

Within the project limits, Prince William Parkway currently carries an average of 44,000 vehicles per day, and University Boulevard carries 12,000 vehicles per day. For the period between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2018, there were a total of 76 crashes within the study area; over 80 percent of these crashes occurred at the intersection of University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway.

This project will relieve traffic congestion and reduce the number of crashes in the project area by:

- Increasing capacity on Prince William Parkway by adding one lane in each direction.
- Removing left turns at the intersection of University Boulevard and Prince William Parkway, which creates fewer vehicle conflict points.