



# PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is studying the State's 42-mile section of the Capital Beltway (I-495/I-95) from the American Legion Bridge to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The existing eight-lane roadway provides an essential link on the national highway system and serves local, regional, and interstate travel in the Washington, D.C. area. Traffic is projected to increase to about 300,000 vehicles per day on some sections of the Beltway by the year 2025.

## Study History:

- 1995-2000** Multi-modal studies conducted and Public Meetings held
- 2001-2002** Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration approved separation of rail and highway studies and started development of highway improvement alternates
- 2003** Express Toll Lanes added to list of alternates to be considered

Currently, SHA is evaluating Express Toll Lane alternates to address the projected traffic demand more effectively.

## Study Schedule:

- May 2004** Public Open Houses
- Fall 2004** Workshops to present alternate mapping and potential impacts
- Spring 2005** Draft environmental document completed
- Spring/Summer 2005** Hold Location/Design Public Hearing