

# Beauregard Small Area Plan

WWW.ALEXANDRIAVA.GOV/BEAUREGARDPLAN

### Proposed Changes to the intersection of Beauregard Street at Seminary Road:

As part of the Beauregard Small Area Plan, changes to the intersection of N. Beauregard Street at Seminary Road are proposed to improve traffic flow within this area. These improvements, also known as the "ellipse," are part of a larger system of transportation improvements, including pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and other road improvements throughout the plan area.

#### 1. How does the Ellipse function?

- Left turns from Seminary Road to Beauregard Street (in both directions) are eliminated, and redirected as right turns that loop around (similar to a traffic circle) to northbound or southbound Beauregard Street.
- Left turns from Beauregard Street to Seminary Road (in both directions) would continue to operate similar to how they operate today.
- Through traffic on both Seminary Road and Beauregard Street would continue to operate as it does today.
- Pedestrian crossings would be accommodated on both Seminary Road and Beauregard Street and intersections would be signalized.

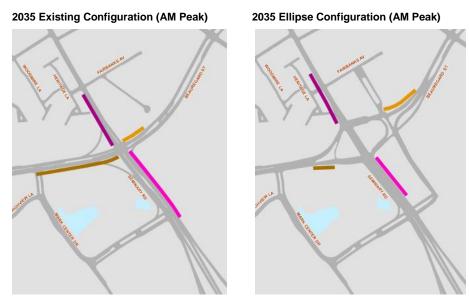
Figure 1 - Proposed Ellipse Configuration



#### 2. What are the benefits of the Ellipse?

- The ellipse configuration reduces potential automobile and pedestrian conflict points due to the elimination of left turns from Seminary Road.
- Provides more capacity for vehicle stacking and improves overall traffic operations along both Seminary Road and Beauregard Street. The exhibit below shows the vehicle stacking in 2035 without the ellipse (existing configuration), and with the proposed ellipse.
- Pedestrian crossings across Seminary Road are shorter and safer due to the elimination of the westbound triple left turns and free right turn lanes.
- Provides a solution that accommodates traffic and prevents impacts to the Interstate 395 (I-395).
- The turning movement of the ellipse (primarily right turns) is safer than the existing configuration.

Figure 2 - Comparison of Vehicle Stacking at Seminary Road/Beauregard Street



### 3. How does the Ellipse relate to the existing street intersection?

- The existing landscaped area on the northwest corner of Seminary Road at Beauregard Street is included within the City's right-of-way. The ellipse configuration is roughly the size of the existing intersection. The ellipse reconfigures the existing landscaped area. (Figure 3)
- The ellipse requires only a minimal amount of additional dedicated right-of-way.



Figure 3 - Proposed Layout of Ellipse compared to Existing Configuration

#### 4. Are there examples of an Ellipse in other areas?

- Similar types of traffic operations have been implemented internationally, and within the U.S.
- Regionally, there are examples of similar roadway operations in Washington D.C., such as at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue NW at Nebraska Avenue NW (Figure 4); Wisconsin Avenue NW at Nebraska Avenue NW, and at Massachusetts Avenue SE at Minnesota Avenue SE.

## 5. Why does the Ellipse cost \$27 million?

- The ellipse is still at a very early conceptual planning stage.
- The cost estimates assume a higher contingency at this early stage due to uncertainties of construction details.
- As the ellipse progresses to a higher design level, the contingency will be reduced. Any cost savings that may be achieved can be used toward other improvements in the plan area.

Note: Yellow lines represents the proposed ellipse

Figure 4 - Proposed Layout of Ellipse compared to Ward Circle

### **Community Expressed Issues or Questions of the proposed Ellipse**

- Questions about how the ellipse will operate
- Ability for pedestrians and bikes to cross the ellipse
- Size of the ellipse
- Impacts to adjacent properties
- Impact to the existing landscaped areas
- Weaving issues with the ellipse
- Cost of the ellipse
- How will transit work with the proposed ellipse?