The project abstract form is for applicants seeking technical assistance through the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board’s TLC program or a from ULI-Washington’s Technical Assistance Panels. Project abstracts are not a requirement for either program, but potential applicants are strongly encouraged to provide an abstract. COG/TPB staff will review the abstracts and provide applicants with feedback toward final application submissions for either program.

For more information about both programs, click TLC and ULI-TAP.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

- **Connectivity Around Future VRE Stations**
  - If TLC, indicate the type of project (check one) and amount of requested funding:
    - [ ] PLANNING
    - [ ] DESIGN:
    - REQUESTED FUNDING: $60,000

**PROJECT ABSTRACT**

Virginia Railway Express (VRE) is currently conducting the Gainesville-Haymarket Extension Study, evaluating an 11-mile extension of the VRE commuter rail service on its Manassas Line, which is vital to achieving the goals of the VRE System Plan 2040 to improve and expand service, address emerging ridership markets, and advance VRE’s role as part of a multimodal regional network. Along this extension of the Manassas Line, the proposed Innovation Park and Gainesville VRE stations are two key station areas that have tremendous potential for community and economic development. Innovation Park is a biotechnology hub anchored by the George Mason University Science and Technology Campus and is also the location of a future town center, of which the PWC Planning Office has received comprehensive plan amendments and rezoning requests to expand. The Gainesville study area is adjacent to the Norfolk Southern Railroad track currently under evaluation in the Gainesville-Haymarket Extension Study. Both study areas are designated as regional activity centers by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Together, Prince William County and VRE propose to utilize consulting services through the Transportation and Land Use Connections Program to create a corridor/TOD plan to guide the character of the development connecting the future town centers to the VRE stations including density, form, land use, and transit options. The process will include stakeholder participation in the creation of planning and design alternatives. An integral component of the study will be to evaluate the potential for last mile transit connections from the VRE stations to the town centers via bicycle, pedestrian, bus, or transit.

The County and VRE are confident that the plan will allow the town centers around these stations to develop in a sustainable way and provide the best opportunity for placemaking and multi-modal connectivity in a rapidly growing region.