

CUE Transit Development Plan (TDP)

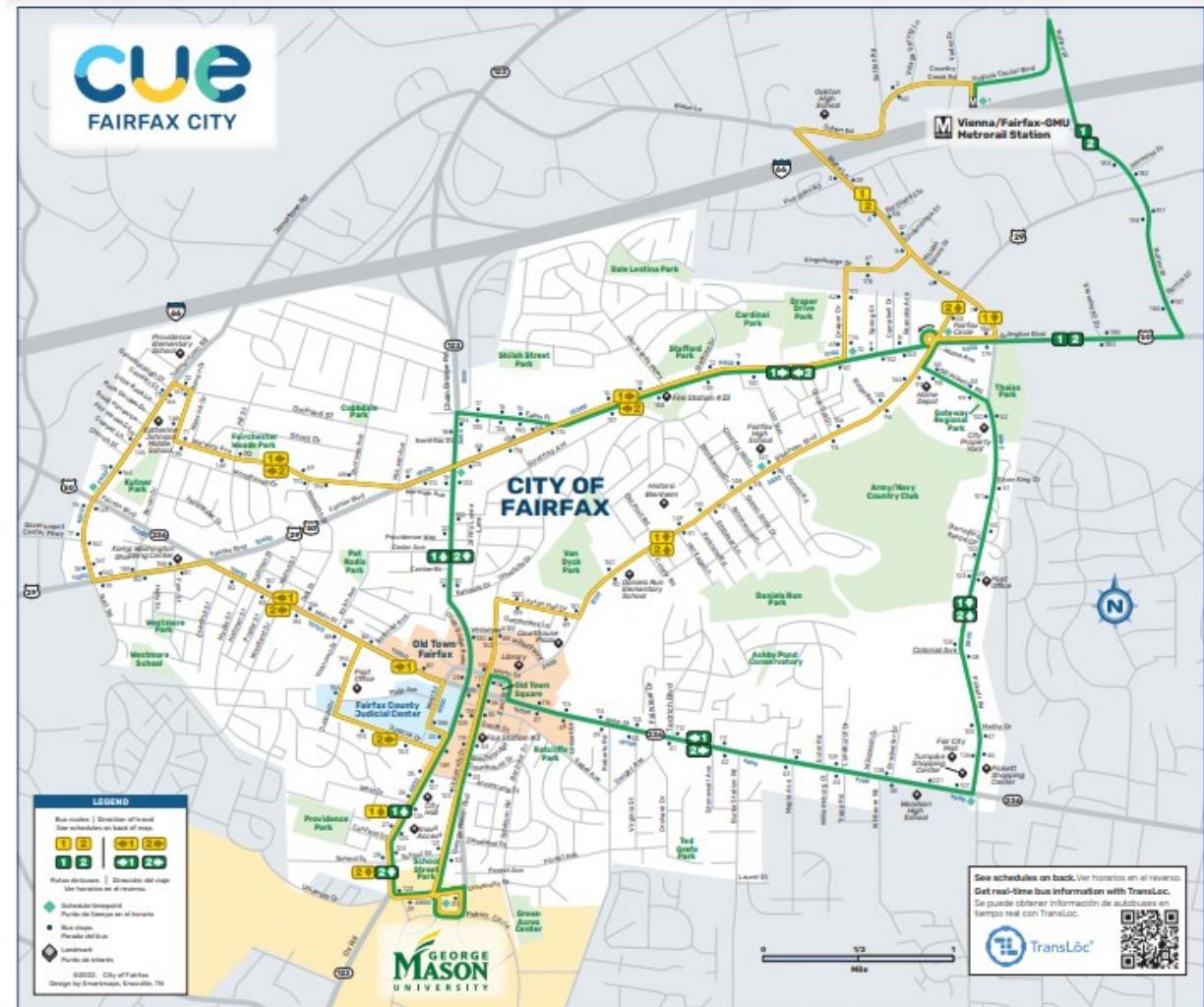
TPB Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee – January 27, 2026



cue
FAIRFAX CITY

CUE Background

- Established in 1980
- Four loop routes
- Operates 7 days/week
 - 5am – 11pm M-F (every 33-65 min)
 - 8am – 8pm Sat (every 60-65 min)
 - 10am - 6pm Sun (every 60-65 min)
- Fleet of 12 buses (up to 8 in service)
- Owned and directly operated by the City of Fairfax



An Opportunity to Plan CUE's Future

The last Transit Development Plan (TDP) was completed in 2017.

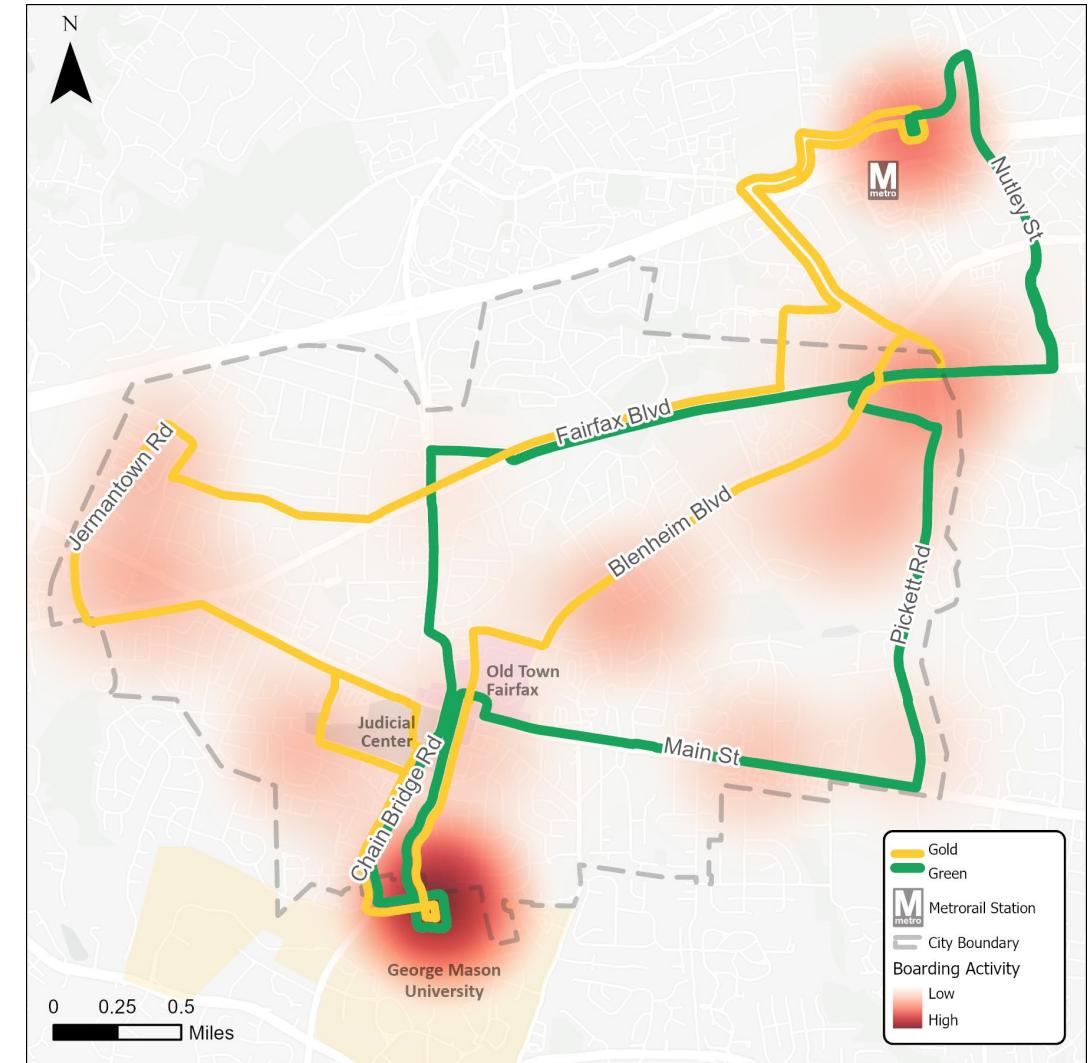
This TDP aims to:

- Evaluate and update CUE's goals, objectives, and services
- Analyze recent changes in demographics, travel patterns, and growth
- Coordinate with recent changes to regional transit systems
- Meet Virginia DRPT requirements



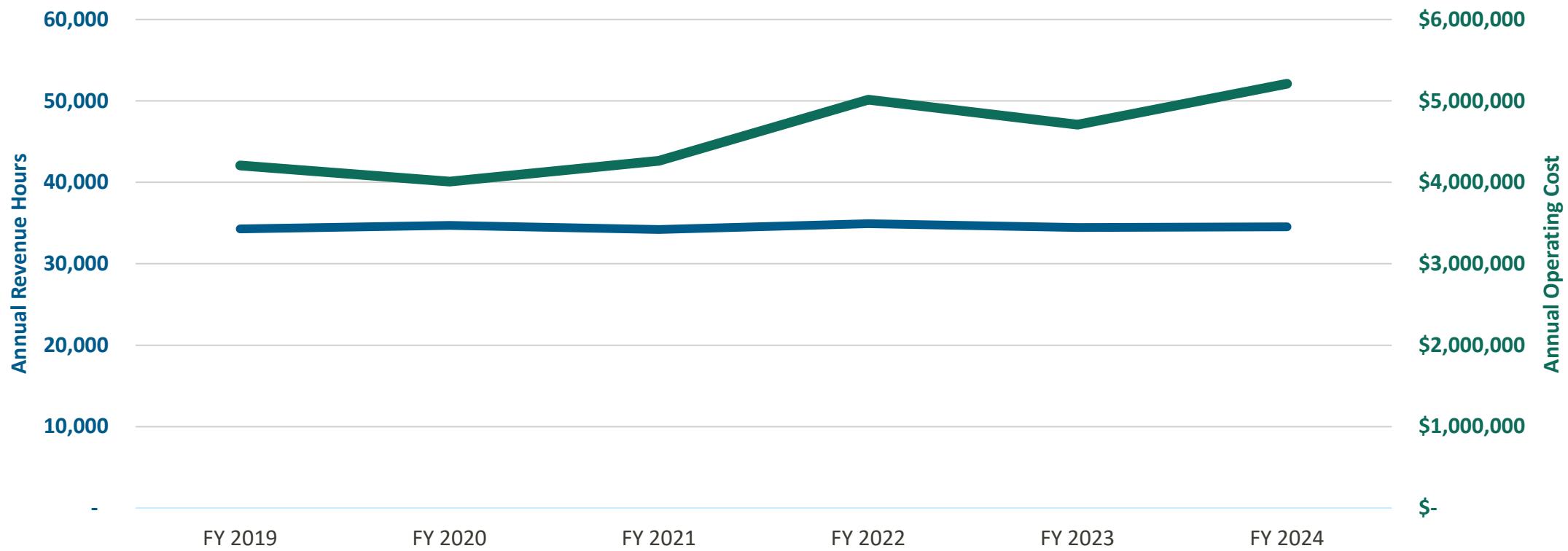
CUE Ridership Hot Spots

- George Mason University
- Vienna Station
- High-Density and Mixed-Use Areas
 - Fairfax Circle
 - Old Town/Judicial Center
 - Pickett & Main
 - Kamp Washington
 - Jermantown



Resources

Revenue hours have remained flat while **operating costs** have increased.



Key Challenges



Irregular headways (33-34' peak and 61-65' off peak)



Limited weekend span and frequency



On-time performance drops on weekday afternoons



Transit demand limited to select segments and nodes

Key Priorities & Opportunities



Upgrade frequencies and relax speeds to ensure schedule reliability



Simplify routes while prioritizing one-seat rides

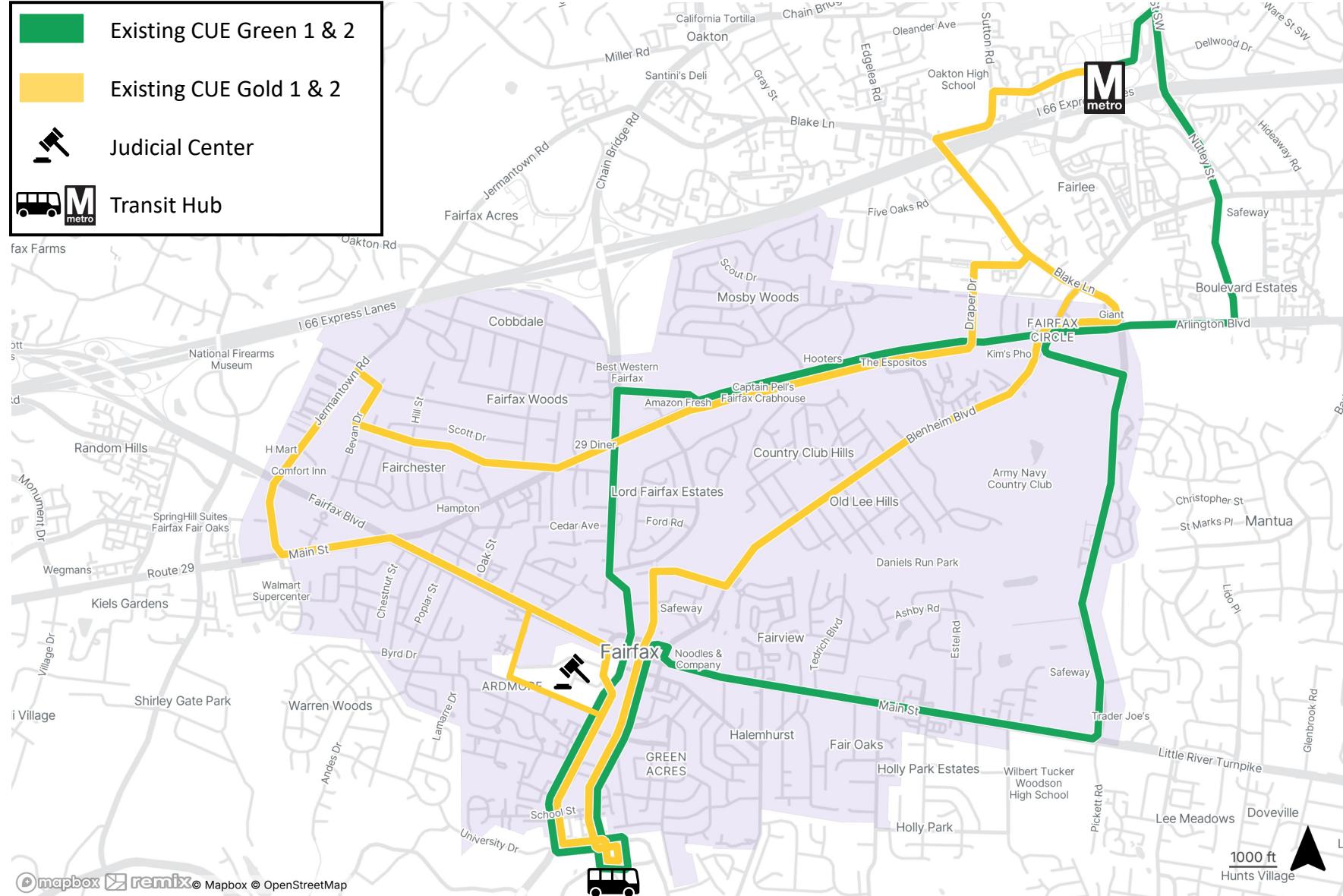
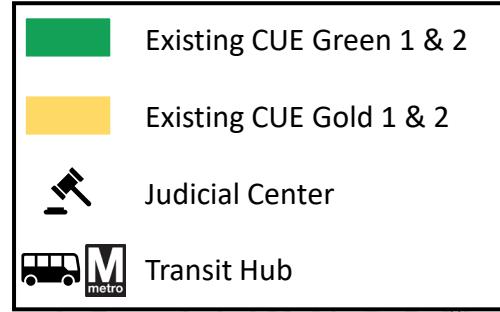


Remain cost neutral while limiting loss of service



Complement Metrobus, GMU Shuttle, and Fairfax Connector

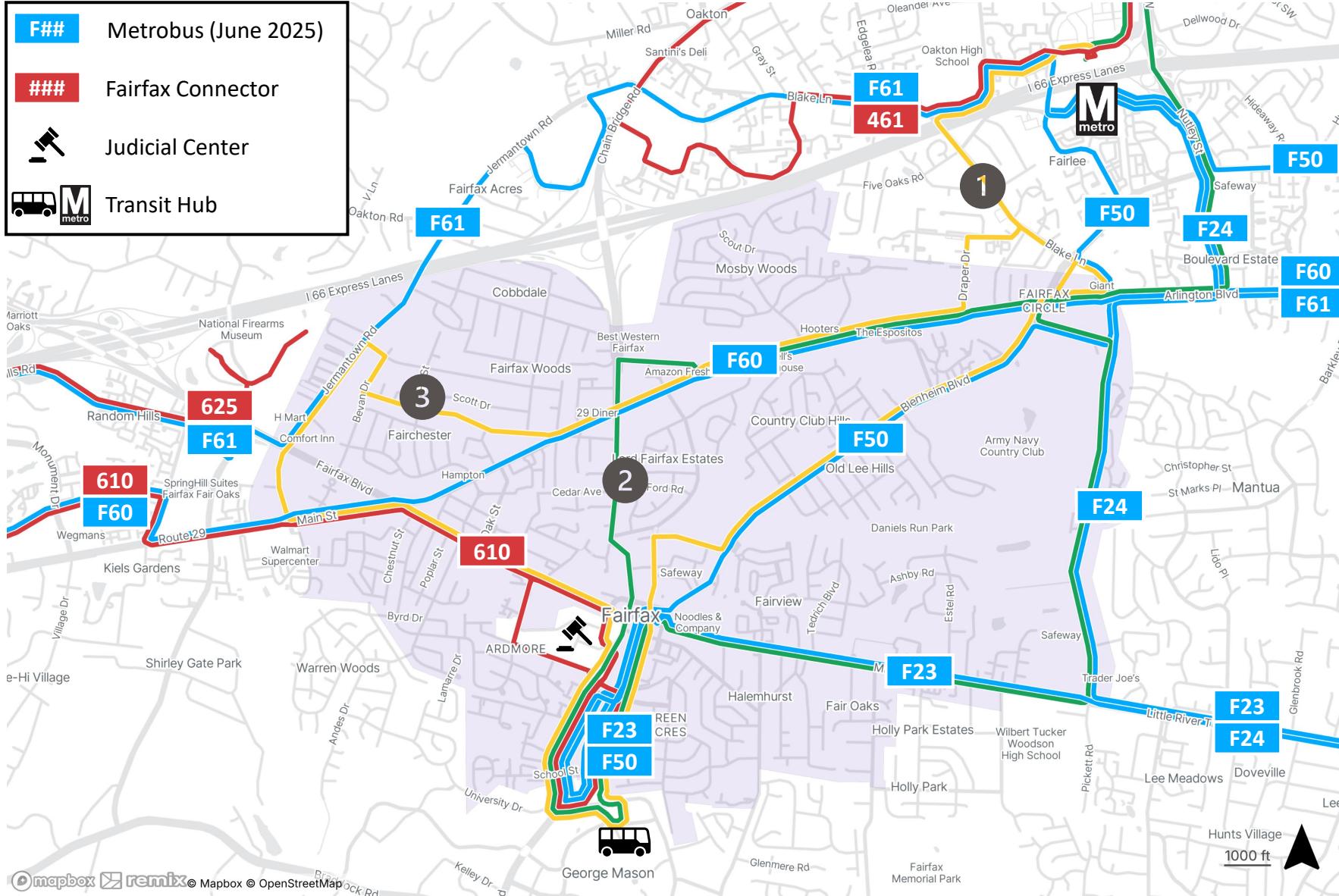
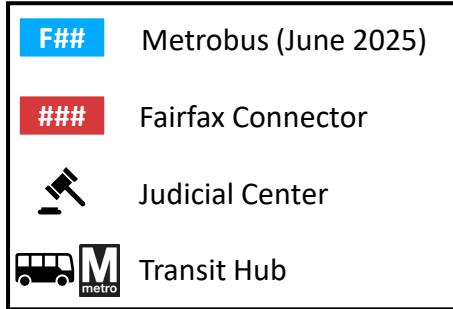
Existing CUE Service



- Coverage across most of the city
- All trips serve GMU and Vienna Metro
- Indirect loop routes result in long travel time for many riders
- Service is not frequent

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Metrobus + Fairfax Connector + Existing CUE



CUE, Metrobus, and/or Connector overlap on most major corridors

- F50 (new route) only on weekdays

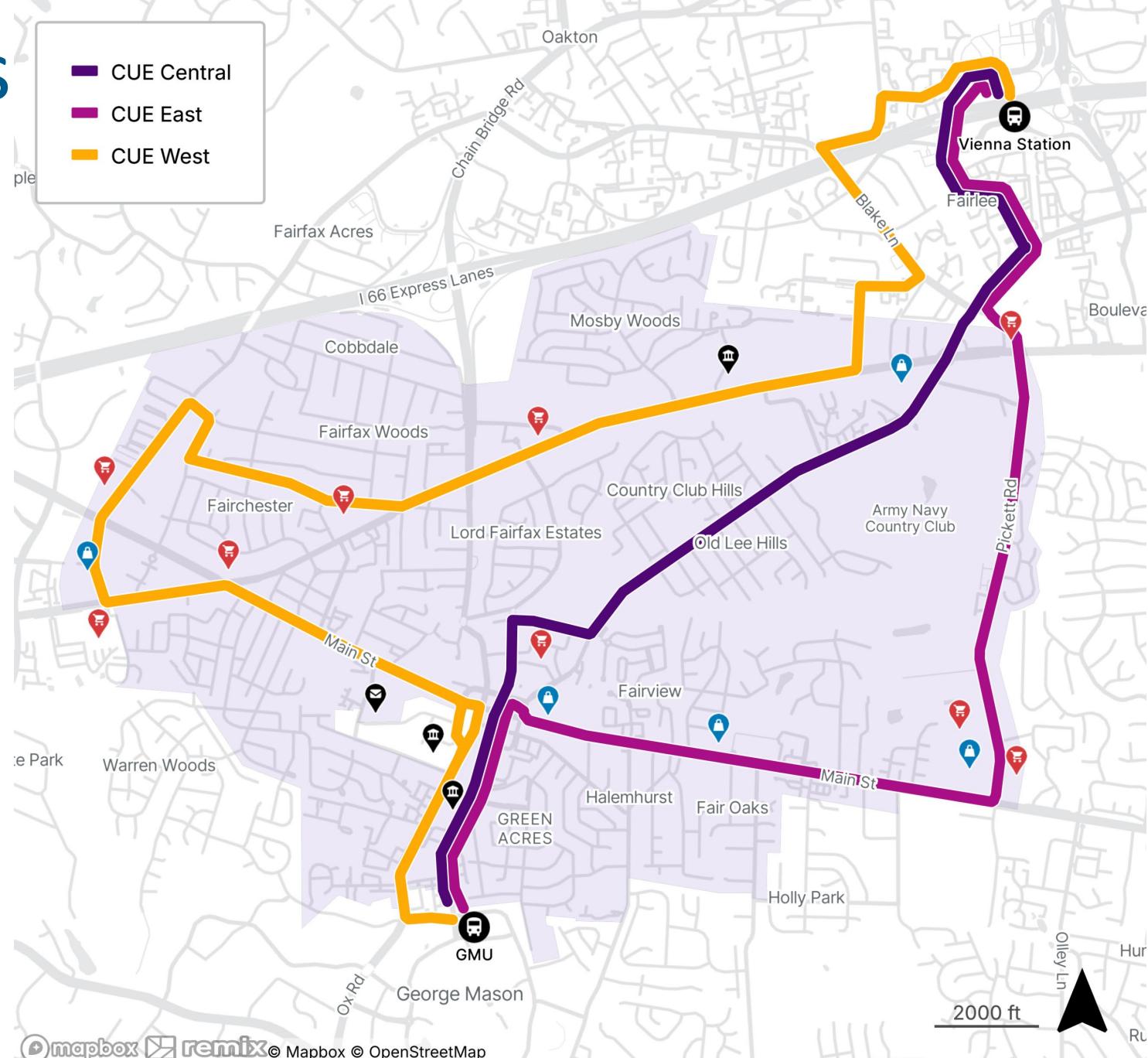
Areas served by CUE only

- 1 Blake Lane between I-66 and Fairfax Blvd
- 2 Chain Bridge Road between Fairfax Blvd and Main Street
- 3 Warwick Ave

CUE

Proposed CUE Routes

- 3 bi-directional streamlined routes
- One-seat rides between Vienna Metro and GMU for all routes
- Improved weekday frequencies
 - **20 mins from 2-7pm for CUE West**
 - 30 mins before 7pm for other routes
- Fewer bus stops to maximize speed, accessibility, and operational safety
- Maintains coverage in most areas

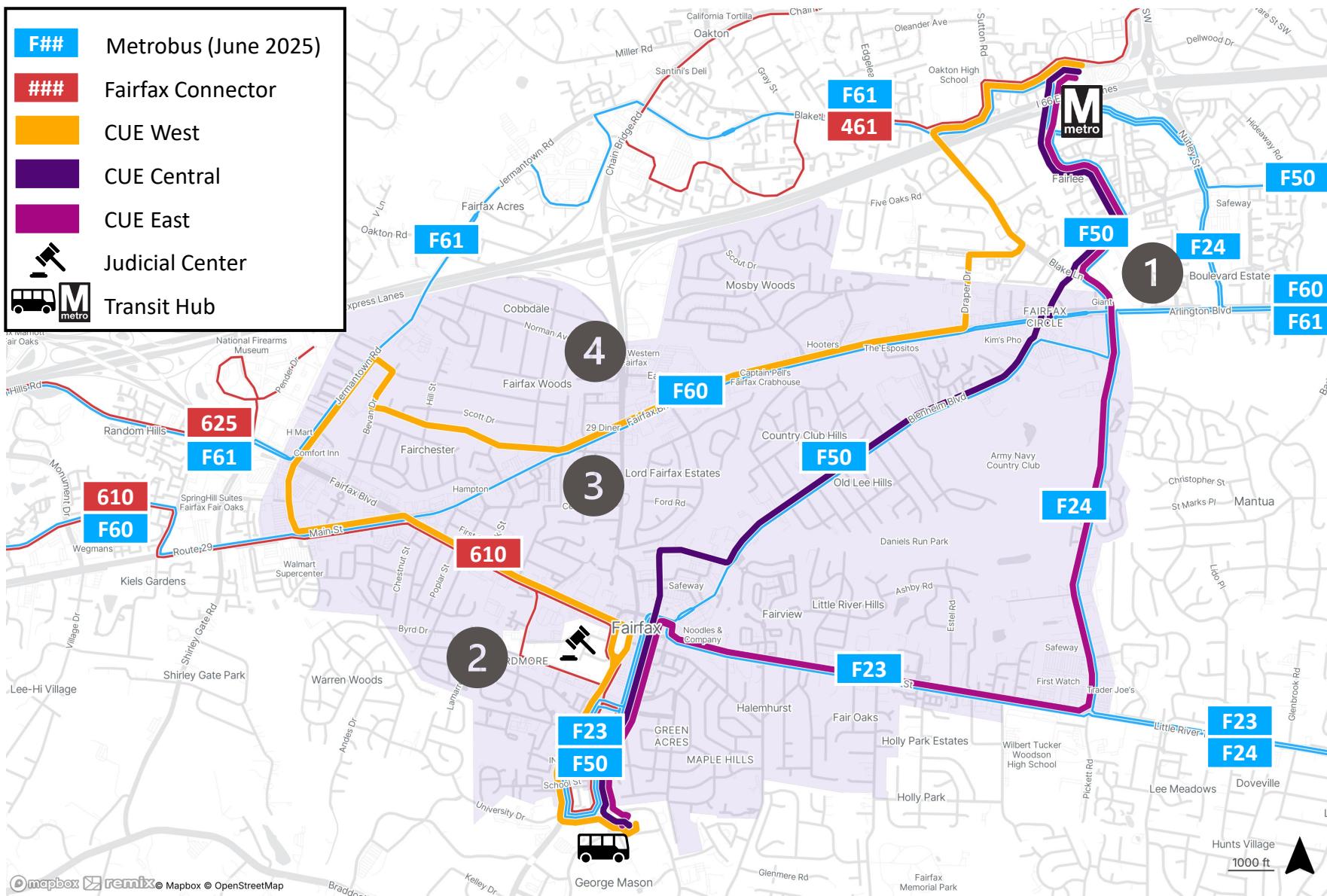
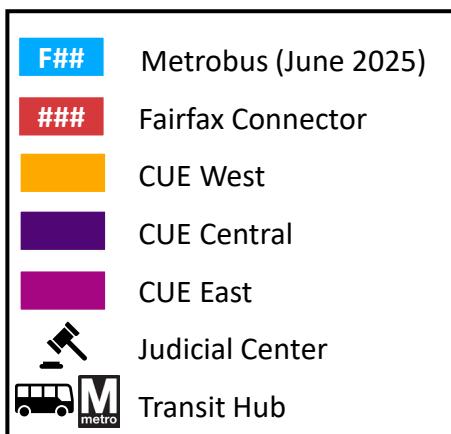


Expanding Access to Frequent Service

Metrics (CUE service only)	Existing	Proposed
Residents within ¼ mi. of any bus stop	37,200	33,300
Residents within ¼ mi. of frequent service	0	20,400
Jobs within ¼ mi. of any bus stop	26,300	23,200
Jobs within ¼ mi. of frequent service	0	16,300
Minority Population within ¼ mi. of any bus stop	20,460	18,315
Minority Population within ¼ mi. of frequent service	0	11,420
Low-Income Population within ¼ mi. of any bus stop	5,580	5,330
Low-Income Population within ¼ mi. of frequent service	0	3,060

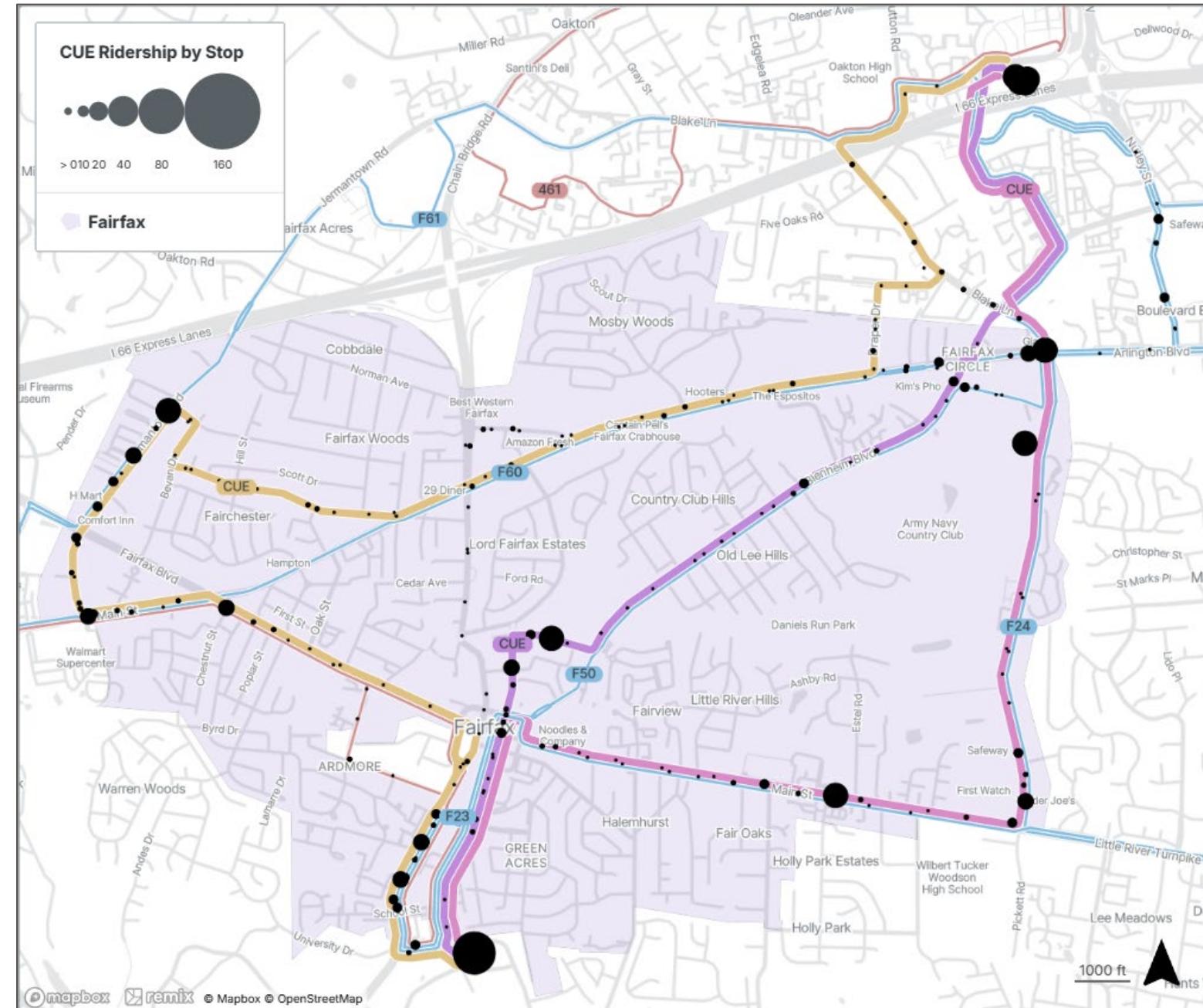
Frequent service = 20 minutes or better; population and jobs not limited to City of Fairfax

Anticipated Tradeoffs



Comparison to Existing Ridership

- More frequent service to key ridership hotspots such as GMU, Old Town, and Vienna Metro
- Approx. 96% of existing CUE boardings are within a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of new CUE stops or existing regional bus routes
- Most areas of service loss covered by Metrobus or Fairfax Connector



Next Steps

- Evaluating minor upgrades to existing routes for better baseline comparison
- Additional testing of proposed headways

