

# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of planning for the University Boulevard Corridor is to express the Master Plan vision and identify planning methods for revitalizing communities in the study area. This study complements the international corridor planning and revitalization studies being prepared in Prince George's County, such as the "International Corridor Community Legacy Plan" and the "International Corridor Planning Study." This planning study will help the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning to think comprehensively about future projects that are needed to implement the Master Plan vision for the community.

The study area includes portions of the Takoma Park, East Silver Spring, and Four Corners Master Plan areas that are located along University Boulevard and Piney Branch Road in Montgomery County (see Map 1). The area is bounded by I-495, Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park, the Prince George's County boundary, Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park, and extending to Franklin Avenue and Colesville Road. It includes the Long Branch Task Force project area, taking in the Indian Spring neighborhood in the Four Corners area. The study area also includes a portion of the City of Takoma Park located between Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park and University Boulevard.

**Part One** describes the vision and recommendations of the three area Master Plans. The report provides consolidated maps from these Master Plans. The appendix includes a summary of updated demographic and community data from the Year 2000 Census highlighting the diversity of the area population.

**Part Two** identifies, implementation methods, and follow-up studies that may be needed. The report identifies shared issues in the bi-County area, including the major issues that have emerged from the numerous studies and projects that are currently in process. The report identifies implementation methods, including actions and projects that implement the Master Plans. The report identifies opportunities for inter-jurisdictional coordination. It also proposes follow-up studies, such as future planning initiatives that grow out of ongoing area projects. Some initiatives, such as the Bi-County Transitway (former Purple Line), may lead to Master Plan amendments.

During both phases of this study, staff have participated in the Long Branch Task Force and coordinated with Prince George's County and City of Takoma Park planning efforts. Staff participated in various outreach efforts to study the issues that presently affect those who live in this community—both long-term residents and those who are relatively new arrivals, and encompassing both single-family and apartment dwellers in the area.