

Appendix C-4: MD 355 Multimodal Crossing Study – Summary Purpose and Need

On July 7, 2010 the Montgomery County Department of Transportation finalized the [Summary Purpose and Need](#) statement for the MD 355 Multimodal Crossing Study. This document identifies the purpose and need and the goals and objectives of the study, which will be used to select the preferred option for improving the crossing.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to improve access and mobility between the east and west sides of Rockville Pike at the Medical Center Metrorail Station.

The need for the project is to:

1. Enhance access to mass transit facilities
2. Improve the mobility and safety of pedestrians and bicyclists crossing MD 355
3. Improve traffic operations at the intersection of MD 355 / South Drive / South Wood Rd

Goals and Objectives

The primary goals and objectives of the study are to:

- Improve pedestrian mobility between NNMC, NIH, and Medical Center Metrorail Station facilities through improved crossing of MD 355
- Improve pedestrian safety within the project area by minimizing conflicts with vehicular traffic
- Improve traffic operations to and from NNMC and NIH/Medical Center Metrorail Station at the MD 355/South Wood Road/South Drive intersection

The secondary goals and objectives of the study are to:

- Promote alternative modes of transportation such as rail, bus, car/vanpools, pedestrians and bicycle commuting
- Improve efficiency with which emergency and transit vehicles move between the NIH and NNMC campuses

The secondary goals and objectives are not central to the Purpose and Need, but are still important considerations. These attributes should not be used as the main factor in determining which alternatives should be analyzed or carried forward, but can be used in order to support selection of a preferred alternative.