

About this Guide

We've all been there: You exit a crowded Metro train, only to realize that the escalator is a few hundred feet down the platform. By the time you get there, you're stuck in line behind a group of tourists.

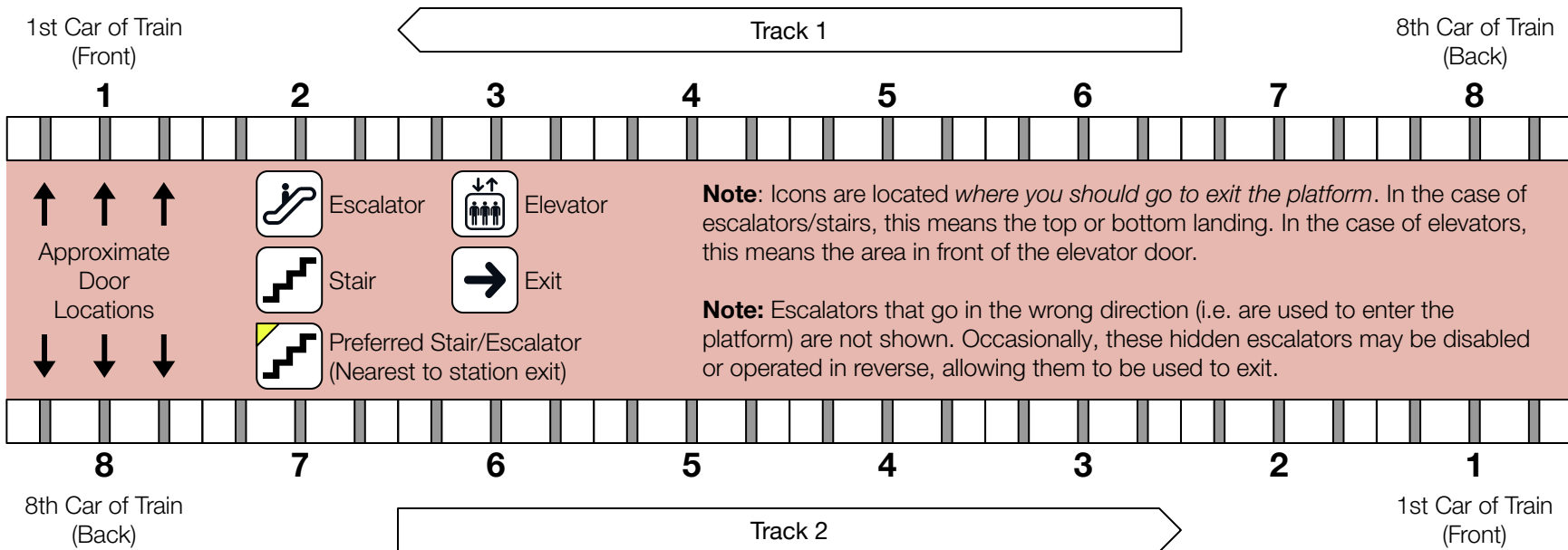
There's a better way! If you plan ahead and choose your train car carefully, you can wait at the door closest to your exit. You'll be the first person off of the platform at every station!

This guide helps you do just that. It maps the locations of platform exits (such as escalators and elevators) for every DC Metro station relative to a parked 8-car train.

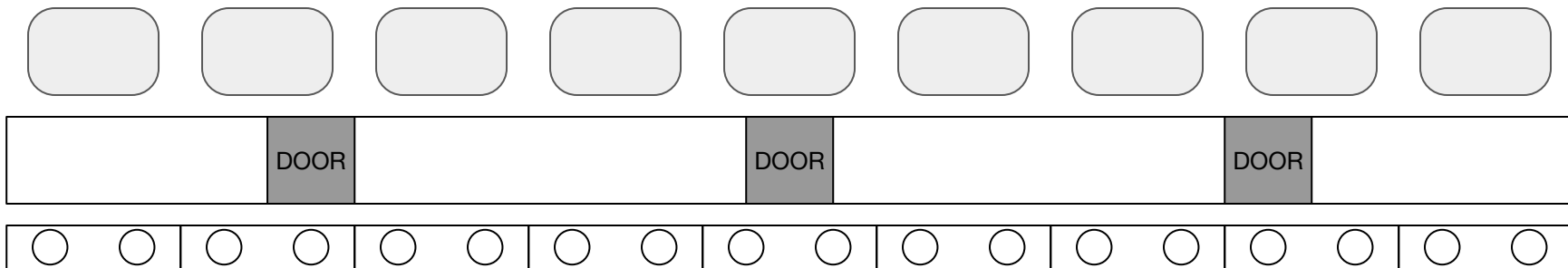
Am I a bit crazy for actually mapping out all 98 stations to an accuracy of 4-5 ft? Definitely. But the flashing platform lights, mostly uniform throughout the system, provide a useful measuring stick. **Let me know if you notice issues or have ideas for improvement!** I'm on reddit at u/eable2 (and am not WMATA).

Updated August 2023

How to Read a Station Diagram



How to Find Where to Stand to Wait for your Train



The edge of a **600 ft station platform** contains **72 pairs of flashing lights**. In underground stations, there will also usually be **72 arch coffers** on the wall/ceiling aligned with these light pairs. Since the platforms accommodate 8-car trains, each **75 ft railcar** will line up to **9 light pairs**.

While waiting for your train, you can use the **Railcar Door Location Table** (next image) to figure out where to stand for the car that you want.

Exceptions: Braddock Road, Cheverly, and Pentagon stations have alternative light arrangements due to unpaired lights at the ends of the platforms. As a result, Pentagon's arch coffers are not aligned with its platform light pairs.

Railcar Door Location Table

Each number represents a platform light pair. Light pairs where railcar doors will be are shown in **bold**.

Railcar 1 (Front)									Railcar 2								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Railcar 3									Railcar 4								
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Railcar 5									Railcar 6								
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Railcar 7									Railcar 8 (Rear)								
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72

BL

SV

Addison Road

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

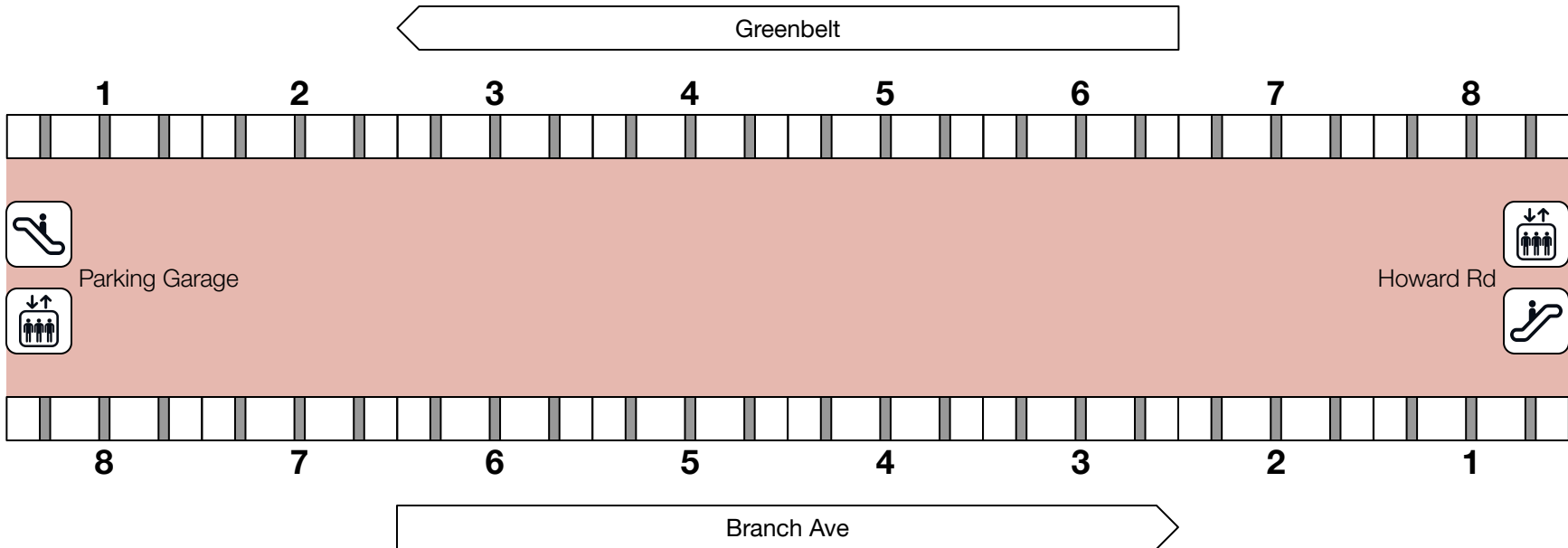
3

2

1

Largo

Anacostia



GR

YL

Archives

Greenbelt/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Branch Ave/Huntington

Arlington Cemetery



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Franconia-Springfield

Largo

8

7

6

5

4

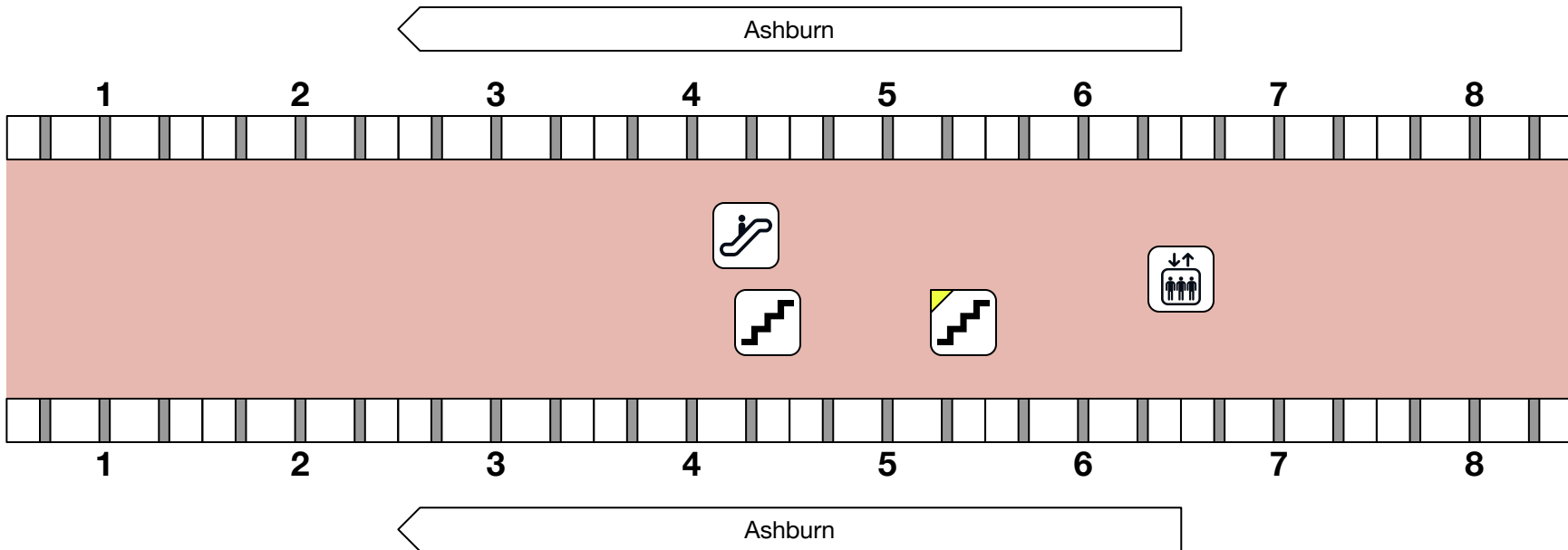
3

2

1



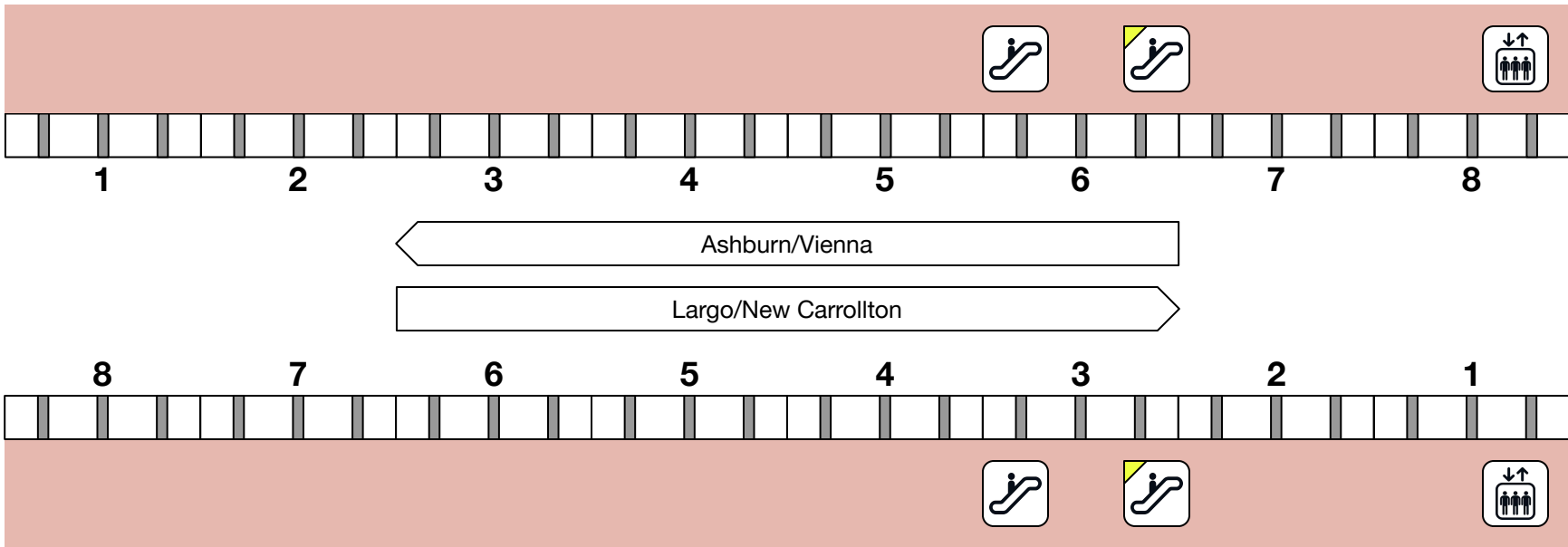
Ashburn



OR

SV

Ballston-MU



BL

SV

Benning Road

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Bethesda

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



South Entrance (under construction)



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

BL

YL

Braddock Road

Largo/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

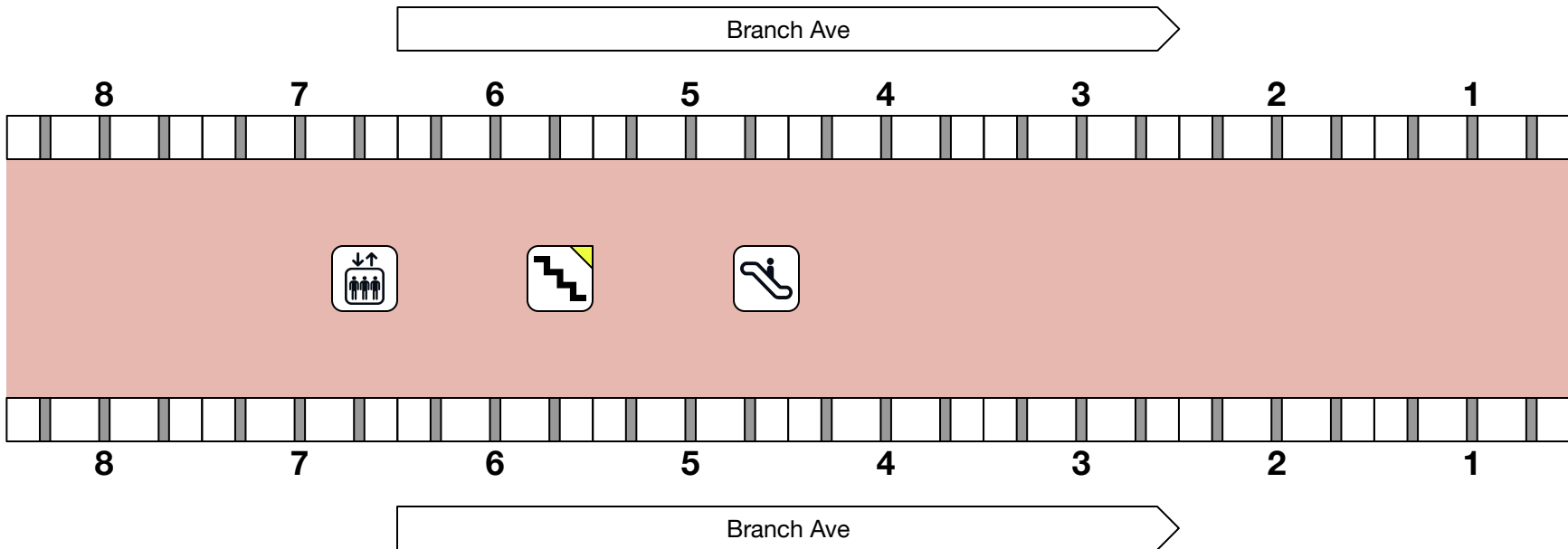
3

2

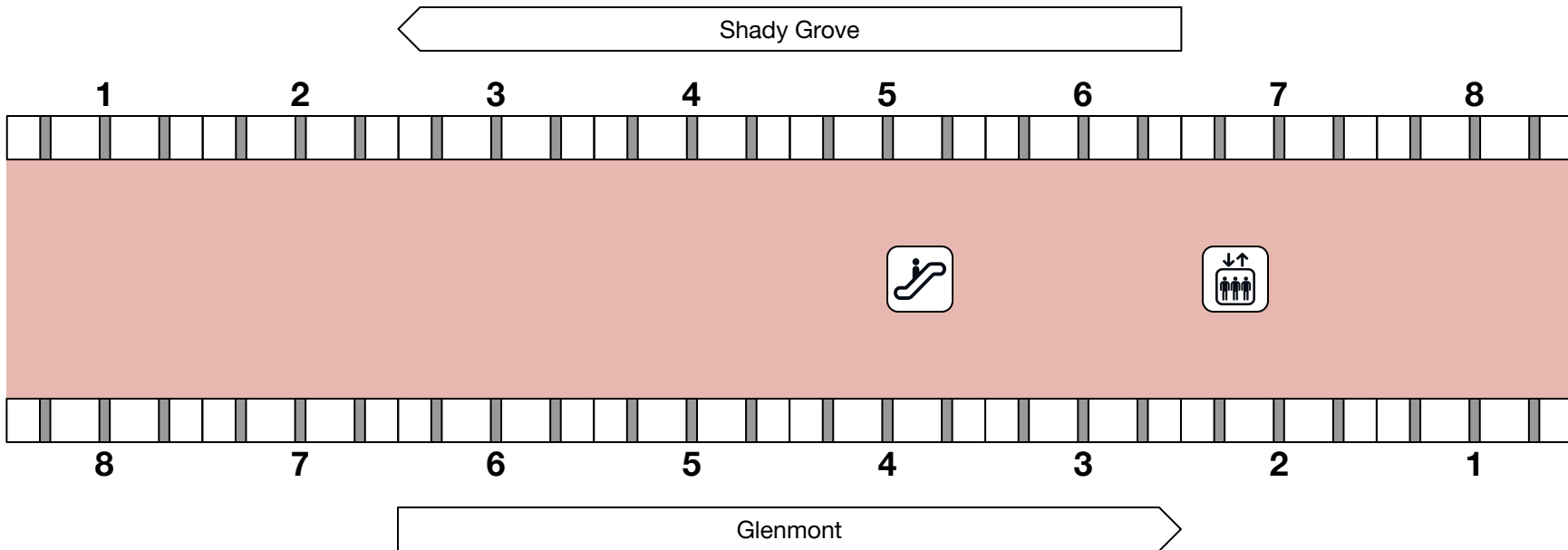
1

Franconia-Springfield/Huntington

Branch Avenue



Brookland-CUA



BL

SV

Capitol Heights

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Capitol South

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

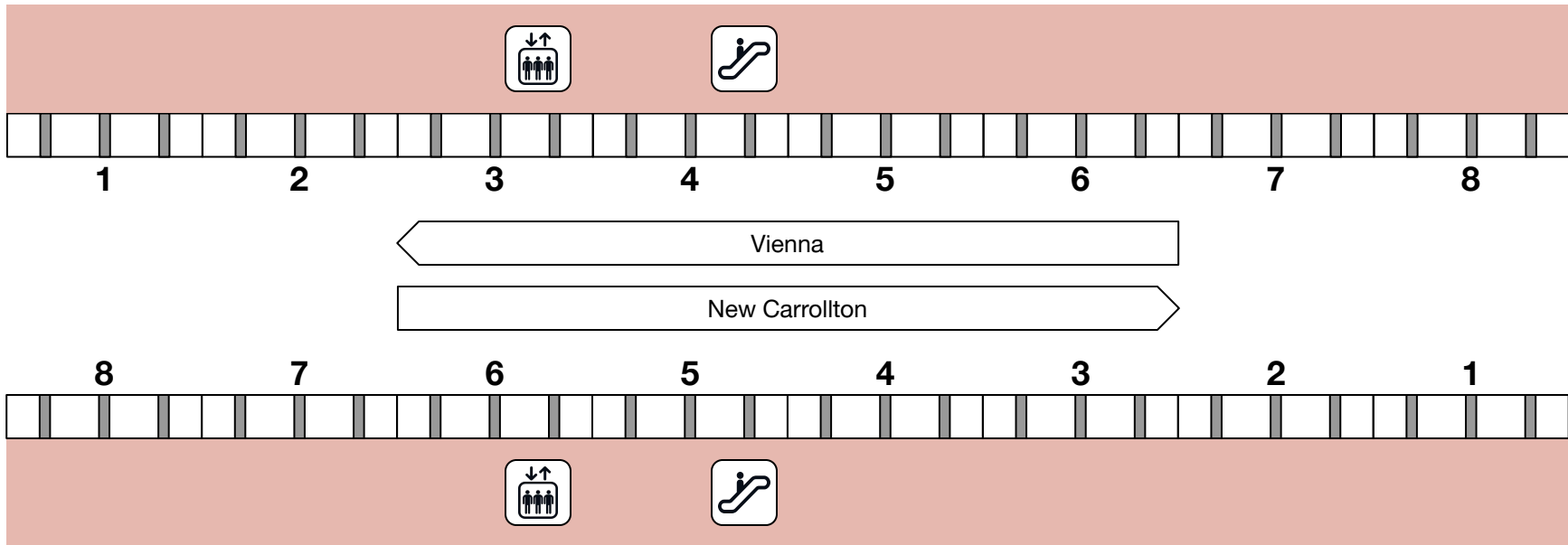
2

1

Largo/New Carrollton

OR

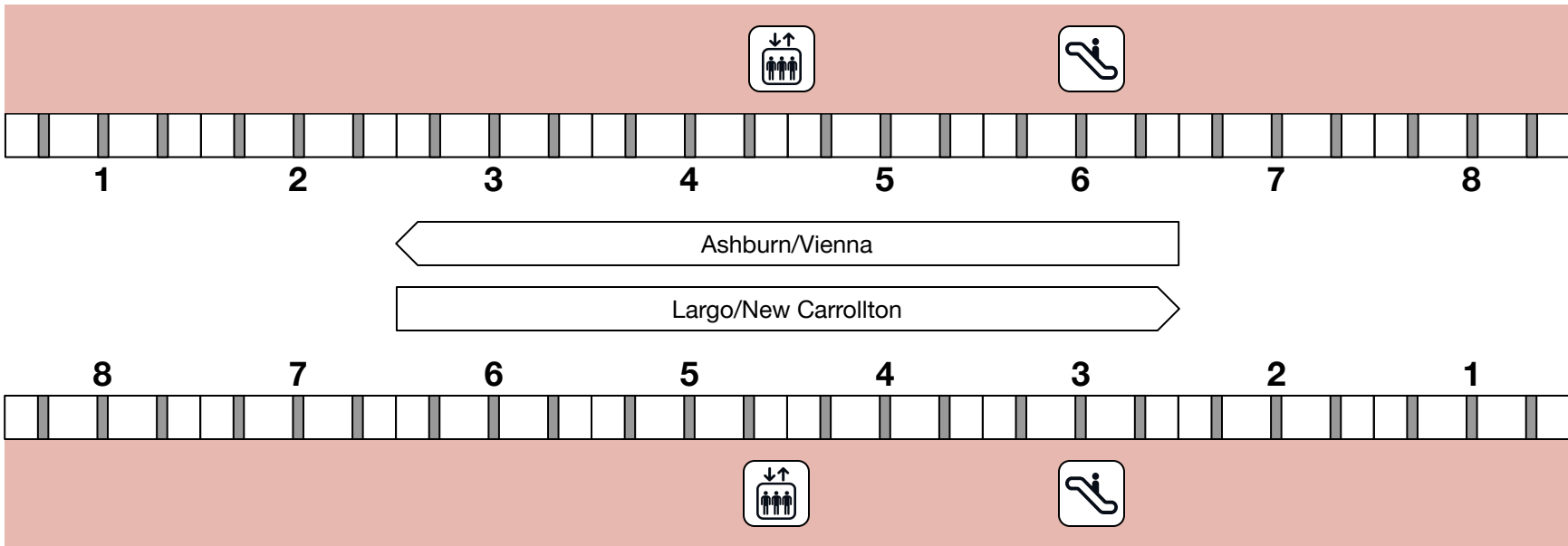
Cheverly



OR

SV

Clarendon



Cleveland Park

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

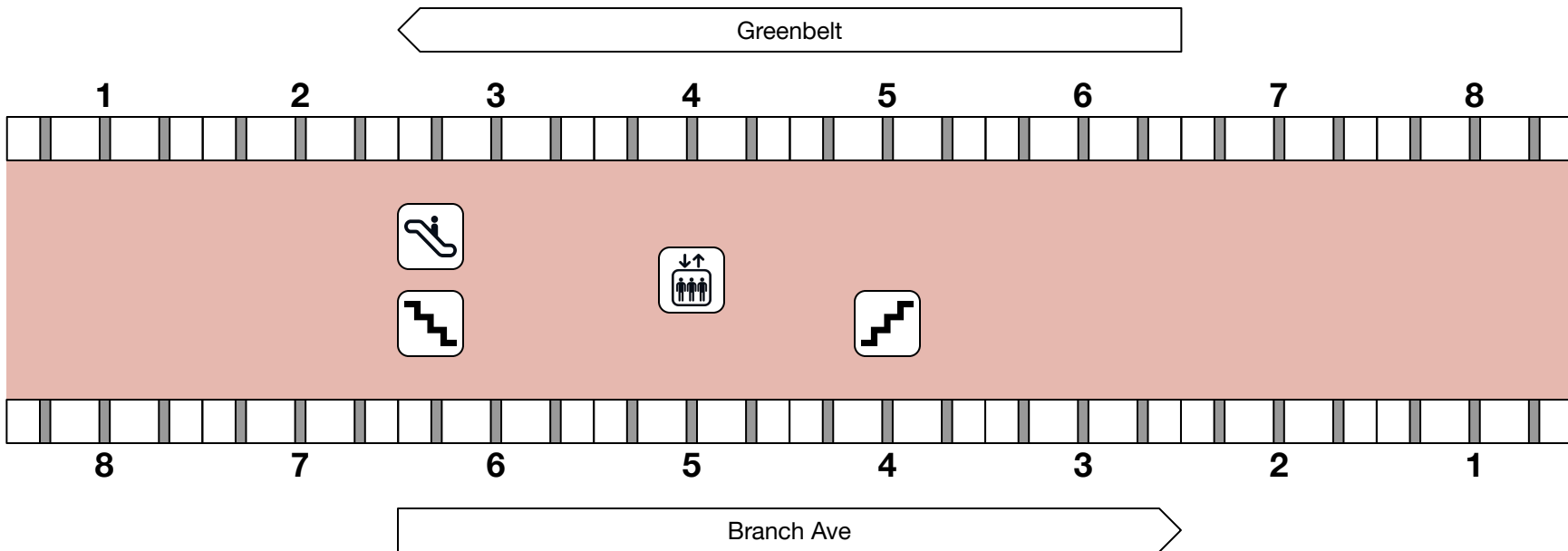
3

2

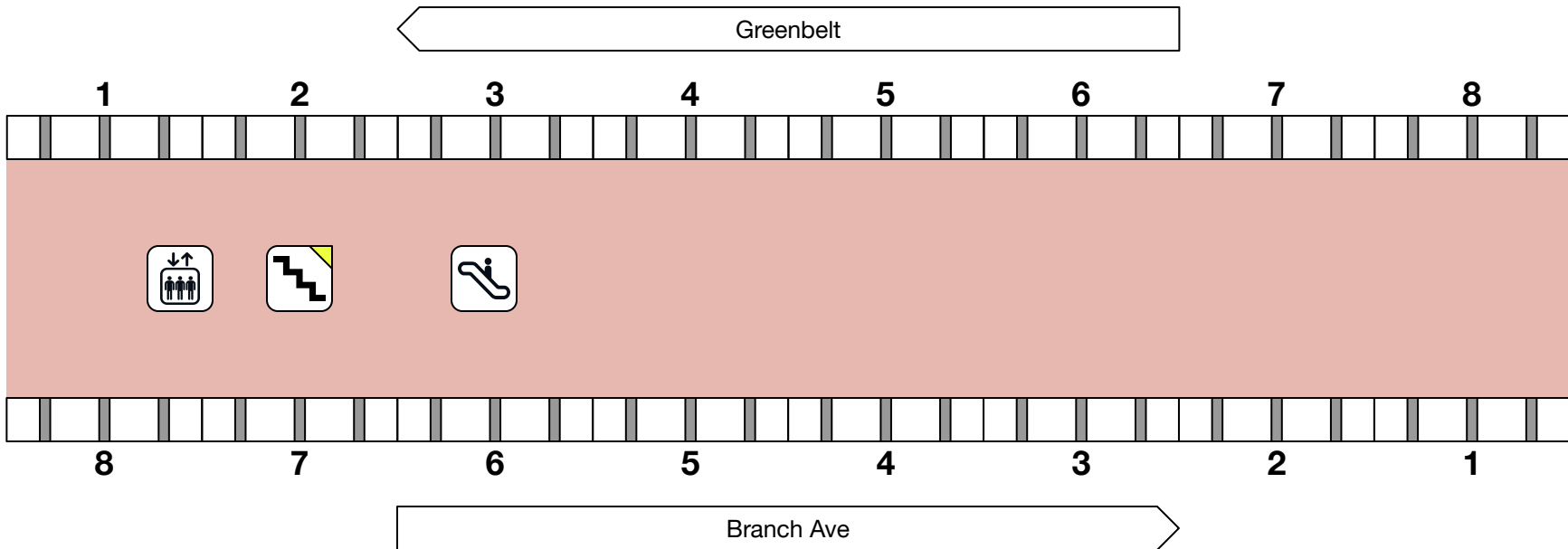
1

Glenmont

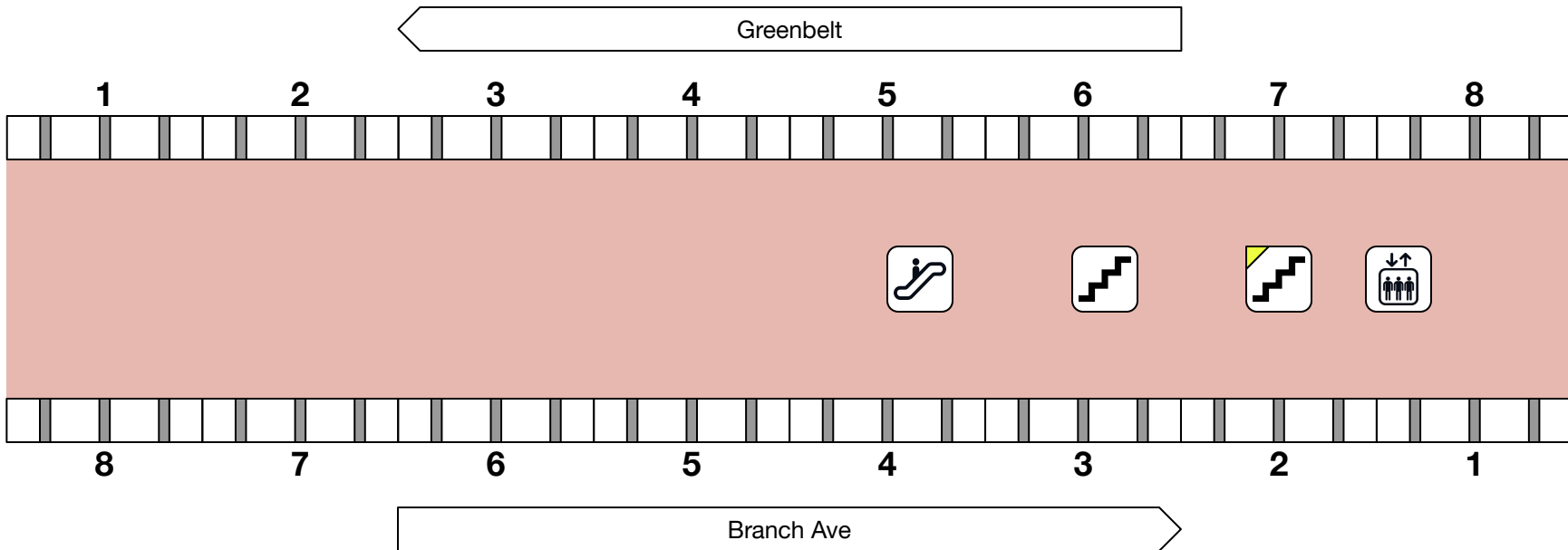
College Park–University of Maryland



Columbia Heights



Congress Heights



OR

SV

Court House

Ashburn/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

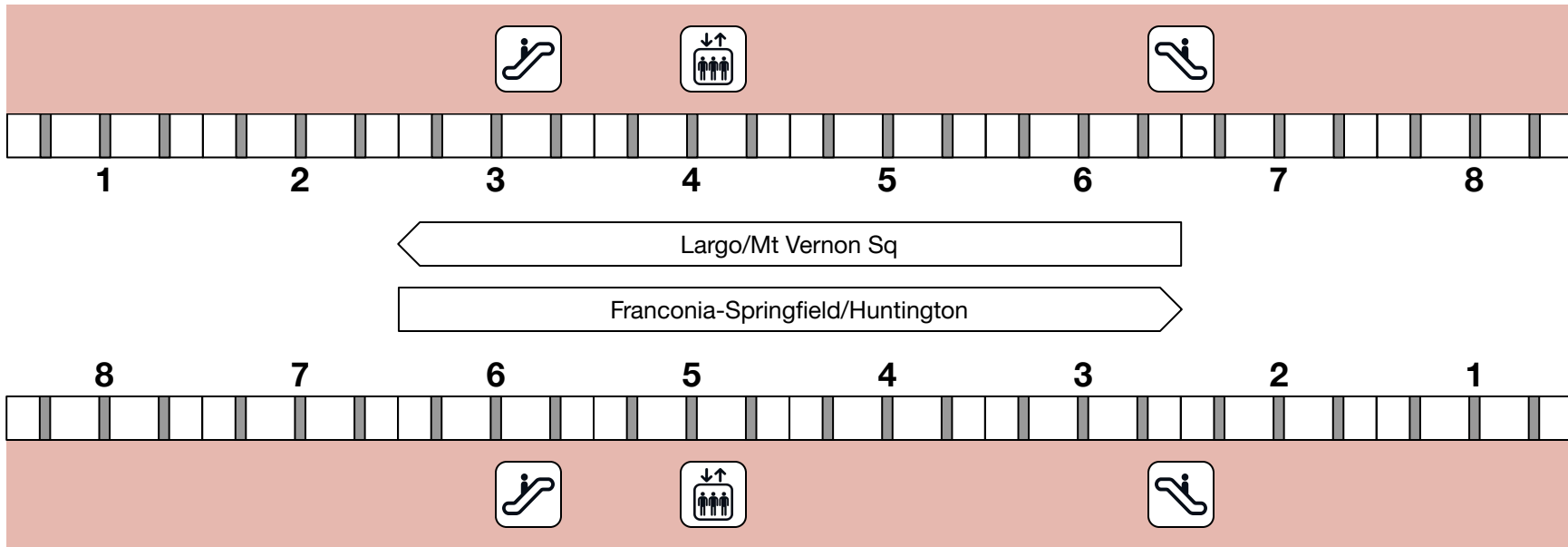
1

Largo/New Carrollton

BL

YL

Crystal City



OR

Deanwood

Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

New Carrollton

BL

SV

Downtown Largo

Largo

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Dulles International Airport

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

OR

Dunn Loring

Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

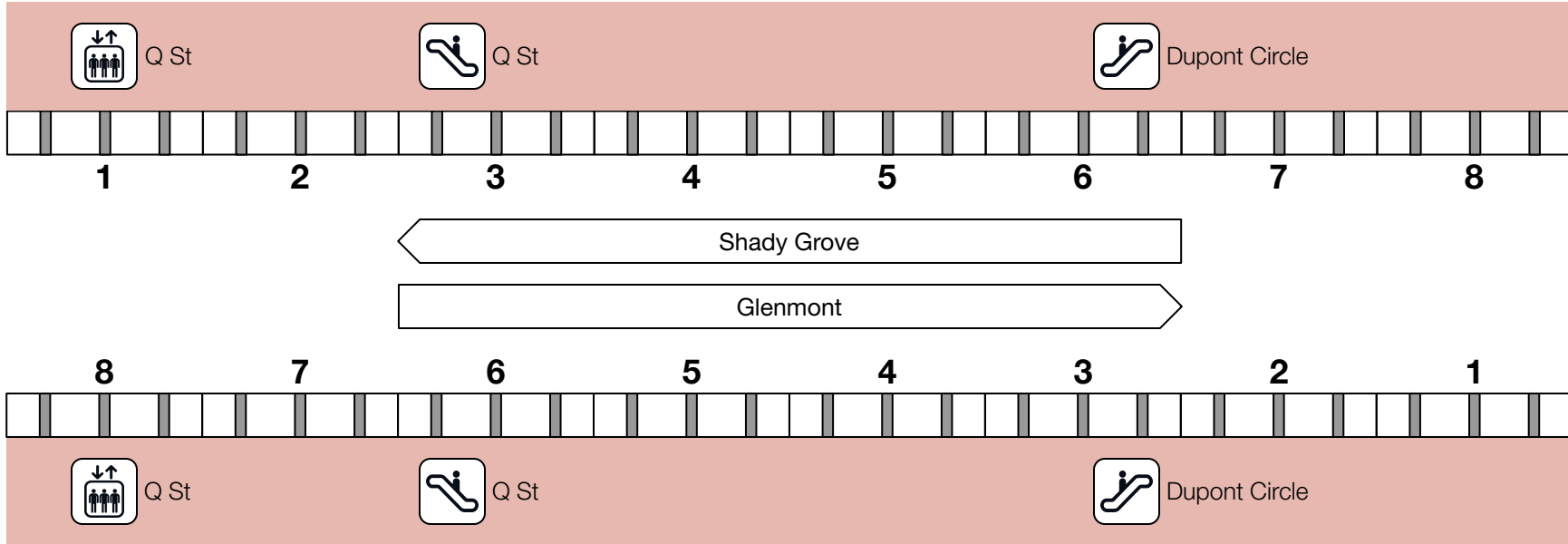
3

2

1

New Carrollton

Dupont Circle



OR

SV

East Falls Church

Ashburn/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo/New Carrollton

Eastern Market

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

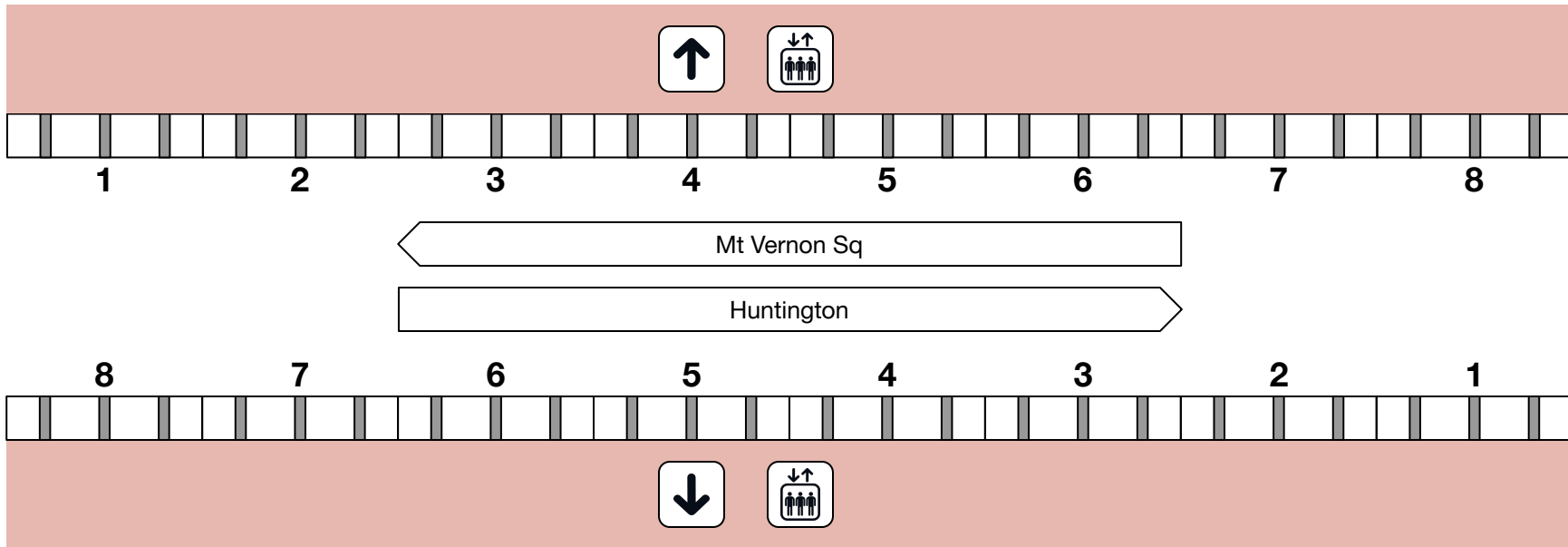
3

2

1

Largo/New Carrollton

Eisenhower Avenue



Farragut North

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



North Side L St

South Side L St



K St

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Farragut West



18th & I



18th & I



17th & I

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

Largo/New Carrollton

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



18th & I



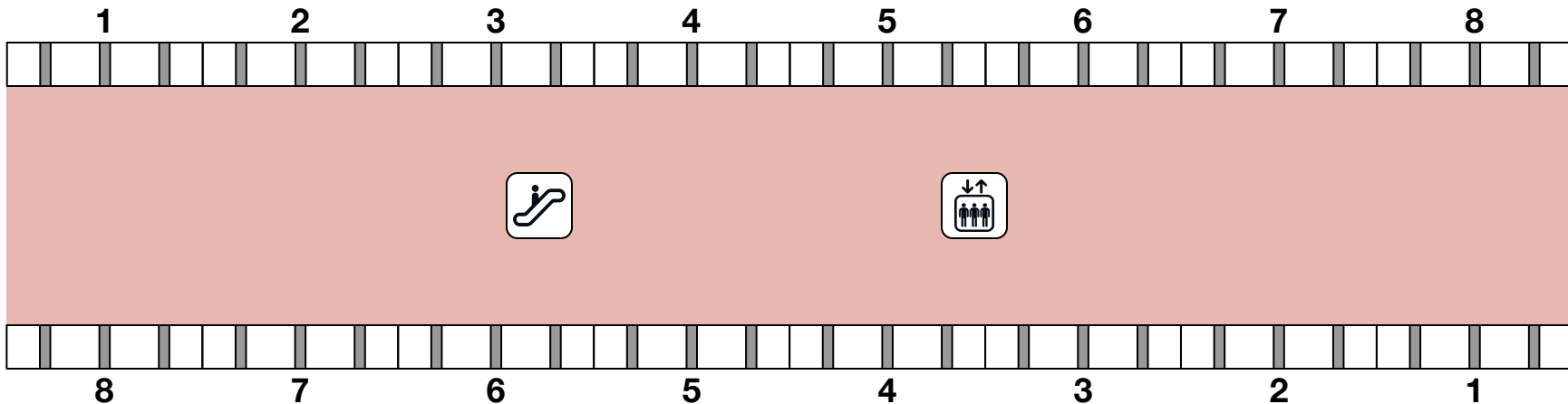
18th & I



17th & I

Federal Center SW

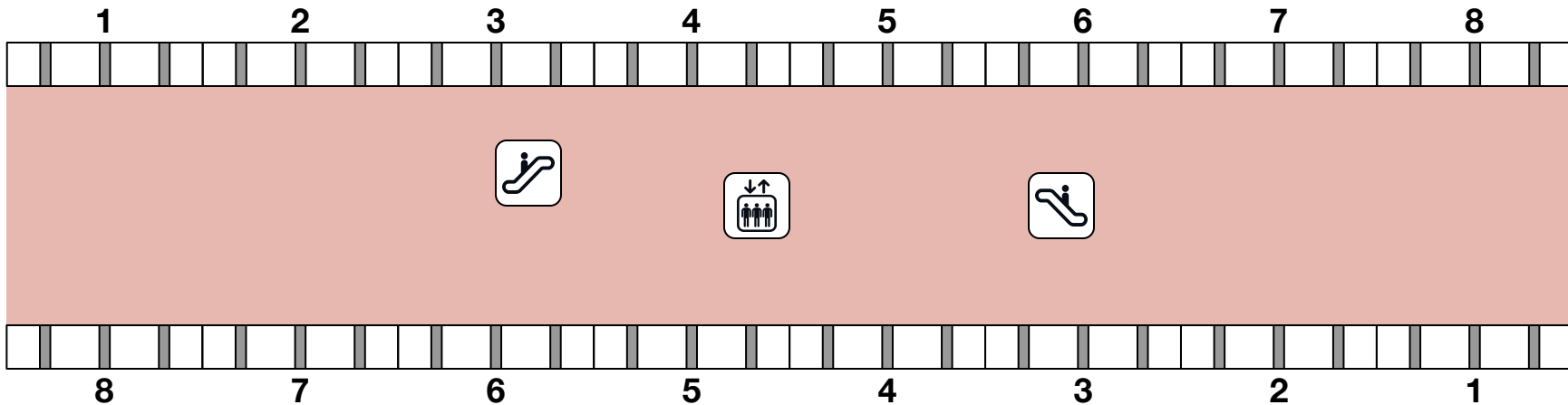
Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna



Largo/New Carrollton

Federal Triangle

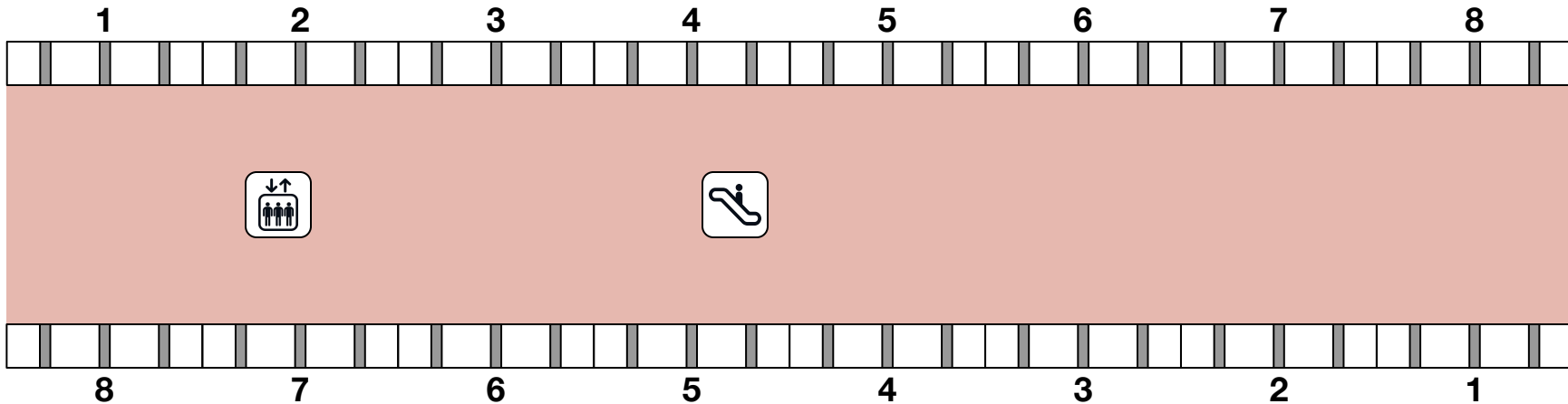
Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna



Largo/New Carrollton

Foggy Bottom-GWU

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna



Largo/New Carrollton

Forest Glen

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Fort Totten (Lower Level)

Greenbelt

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



Branch Ave

Fort Totten (Upper Level)

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Franconia-Springfield

Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



1

2

3

4

5

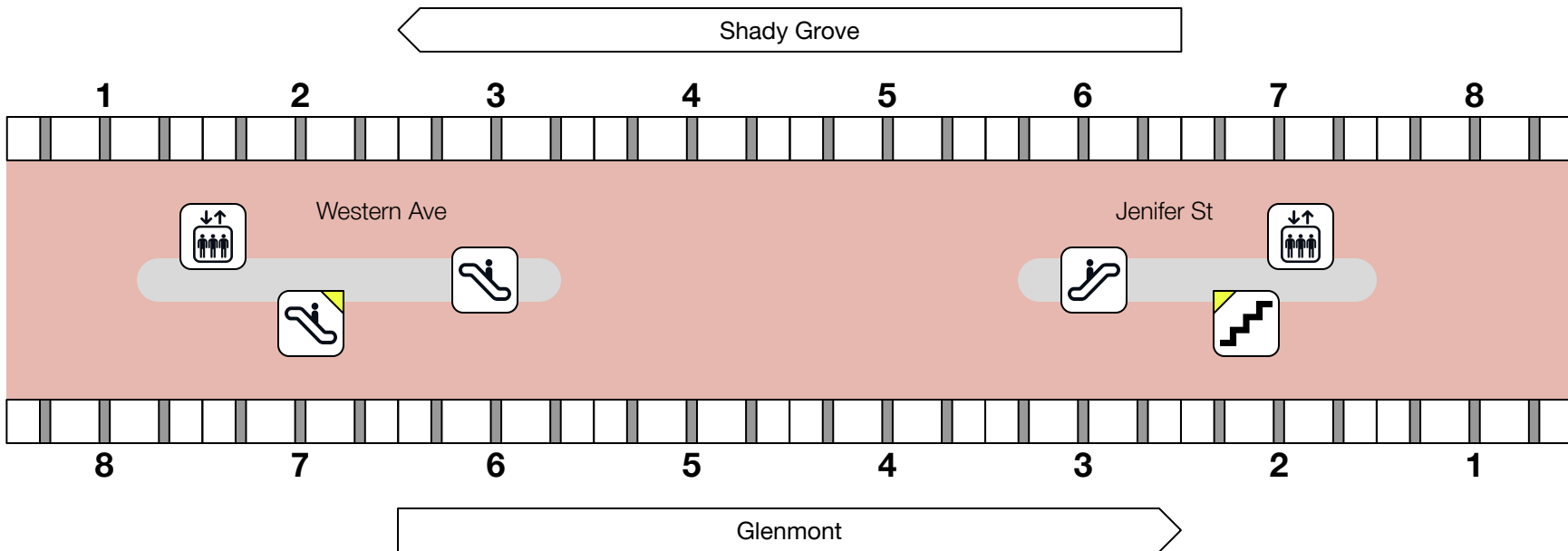
6

7

8

Franconia-Springfield

Friendship Heights



GR

YL

Gallery Place (Lower Level)

Greenbelt/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

RD Trains to Shady Grove
7th & H, 9th & G

RD Trains to Glenmont
7th & H, 9th & G

7th & F

Elevator to
Platform Only

Elevator to
Platform & Street

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Branch Ave/Huntington

Gallery Place (Upper Level)



9th & G

All GR/YL Trains, 7th & F, 7th & H
Elevator to Platform Only



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Shady Grove

Glenmont

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

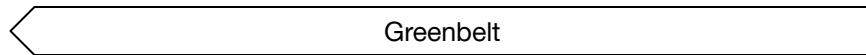


9th & G

All GR/YL Trains, 7th & F, 7th & H
Elevator to Platform & Street



Georgia Avenue-Petworth



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

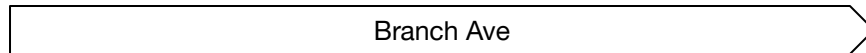
5

4

3

2

1



Glenmont

Glenmont

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



8

7

6

5

4

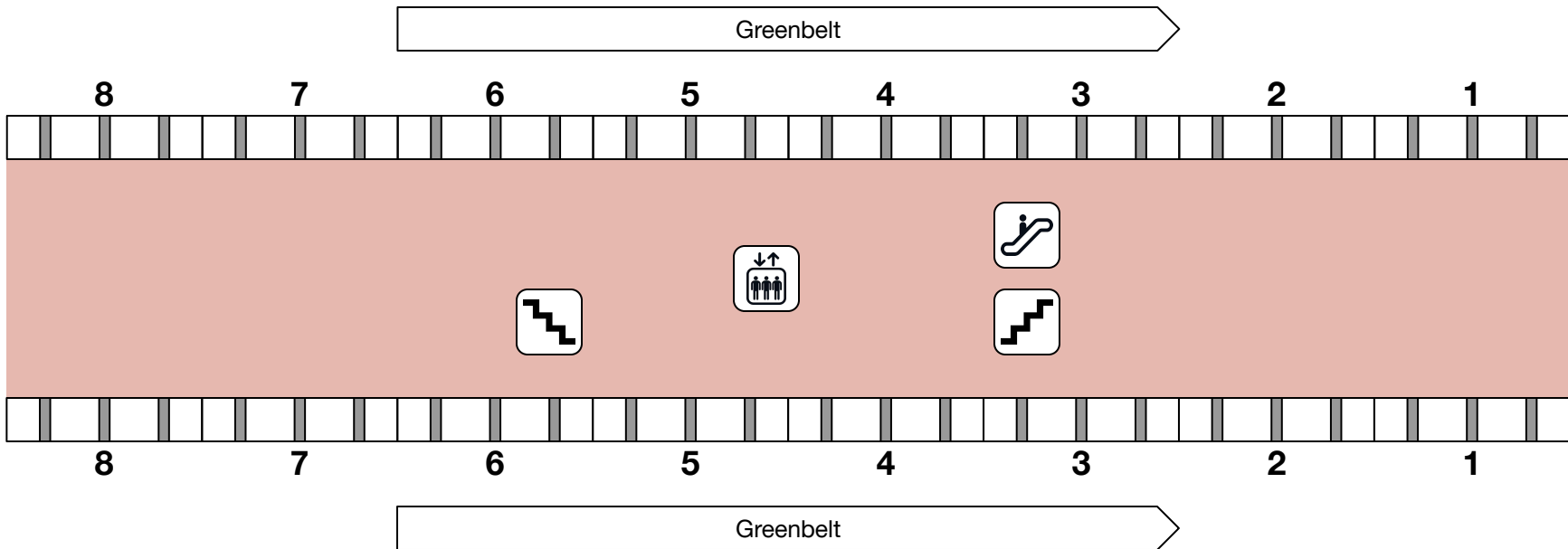
3

2

1

Glenmont

Greenbelt



Greensboro

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Grosvenor-Strathmore

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

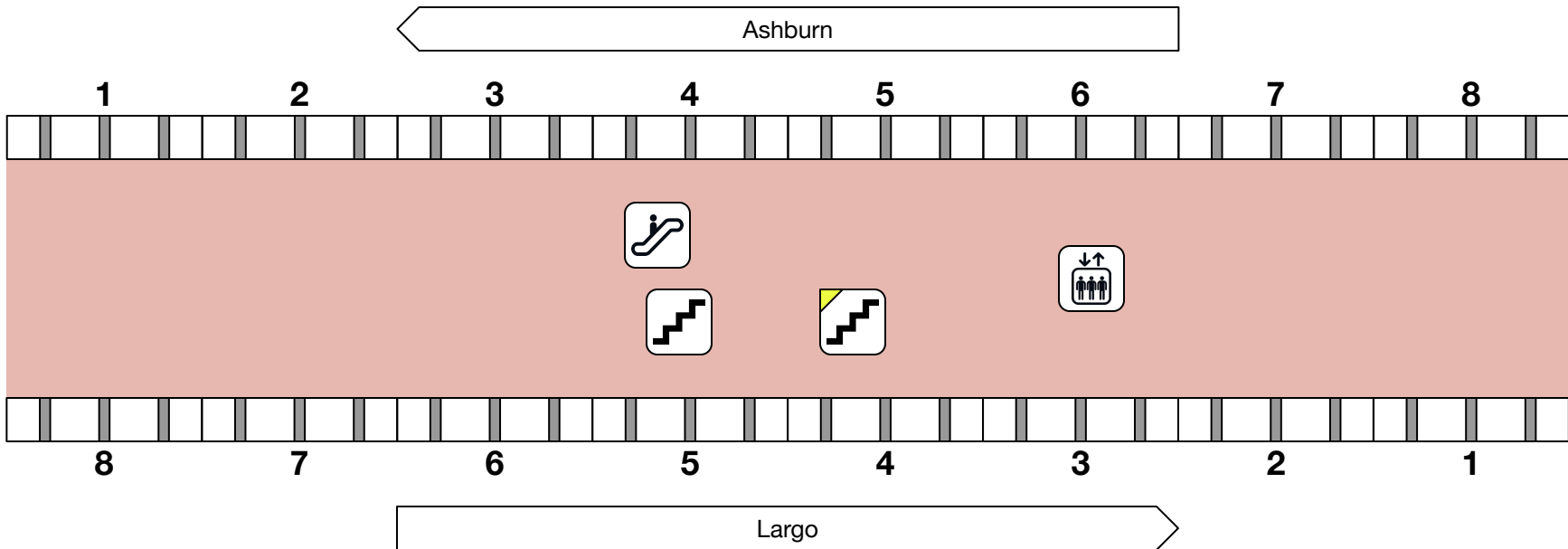
3

2

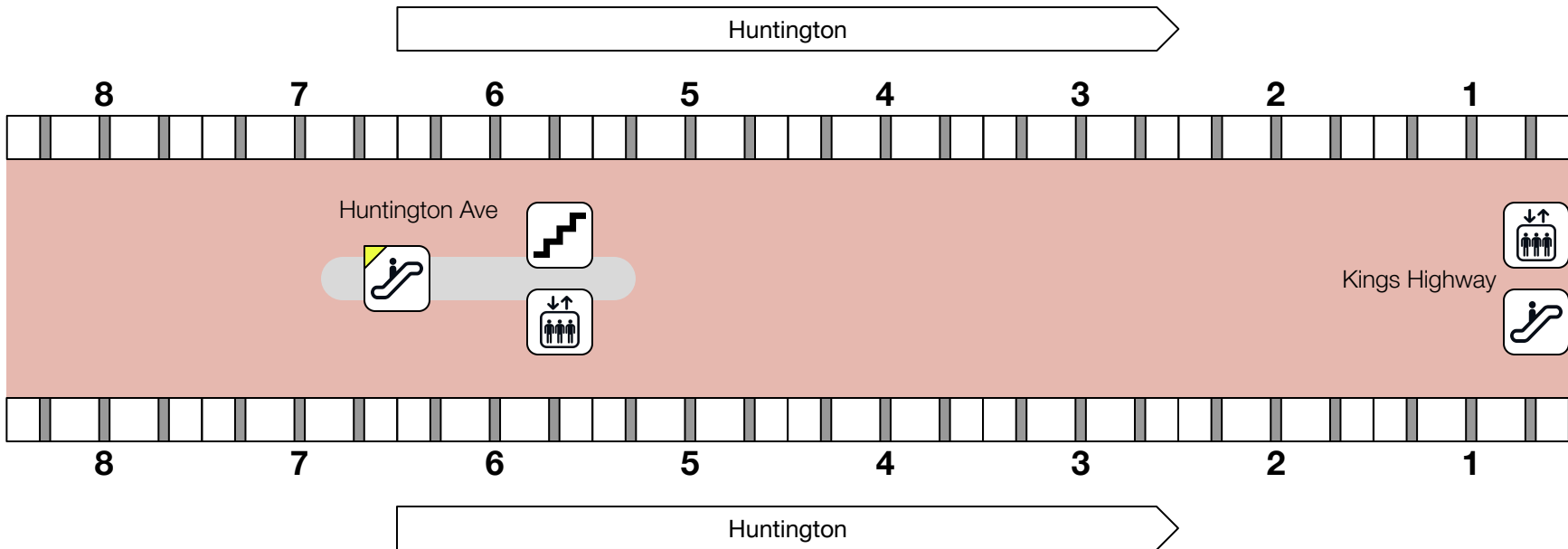
1

Glenmont

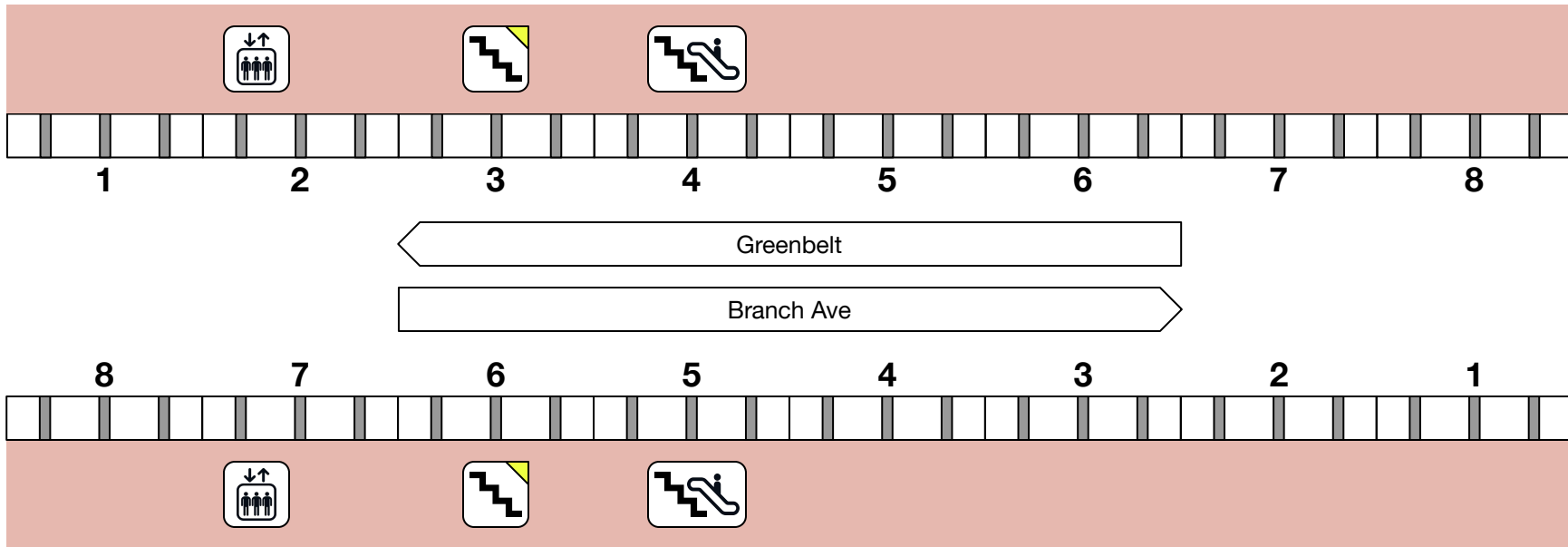
Herndon



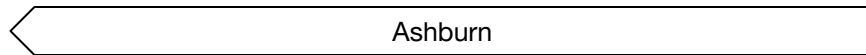
Huntington



Hyattsville Crossing



Innovation Center



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

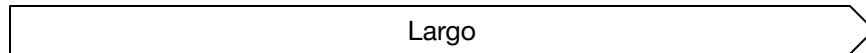
5

4

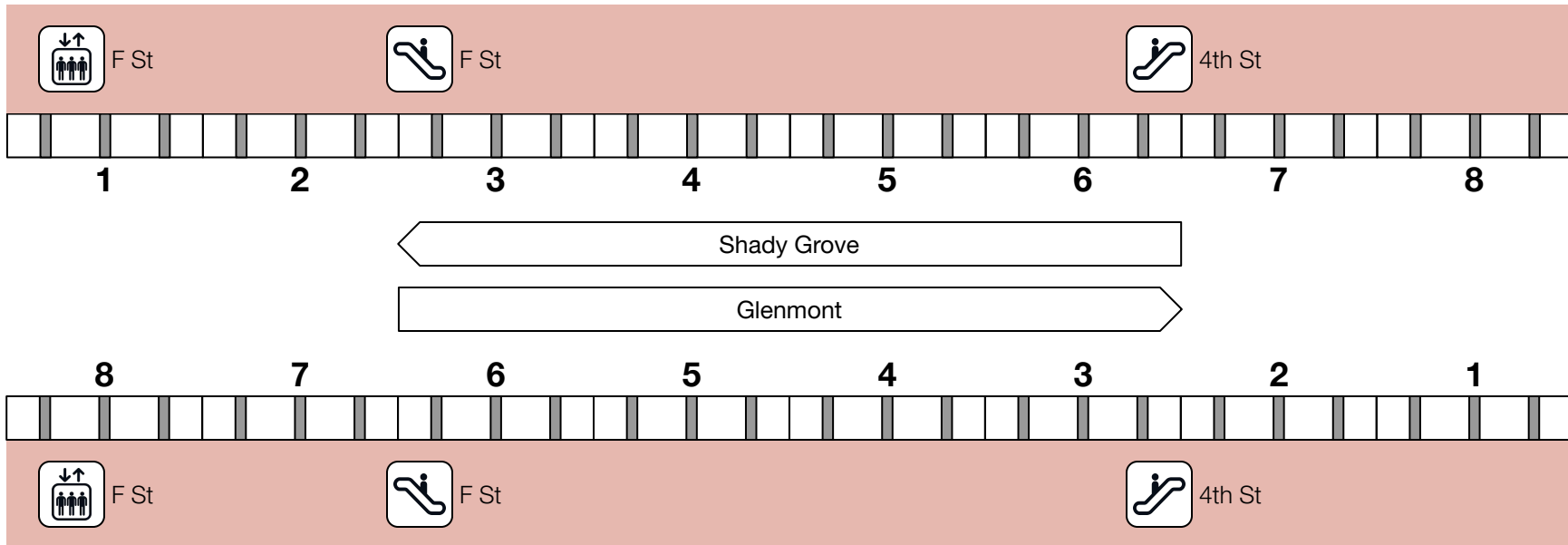
3

2

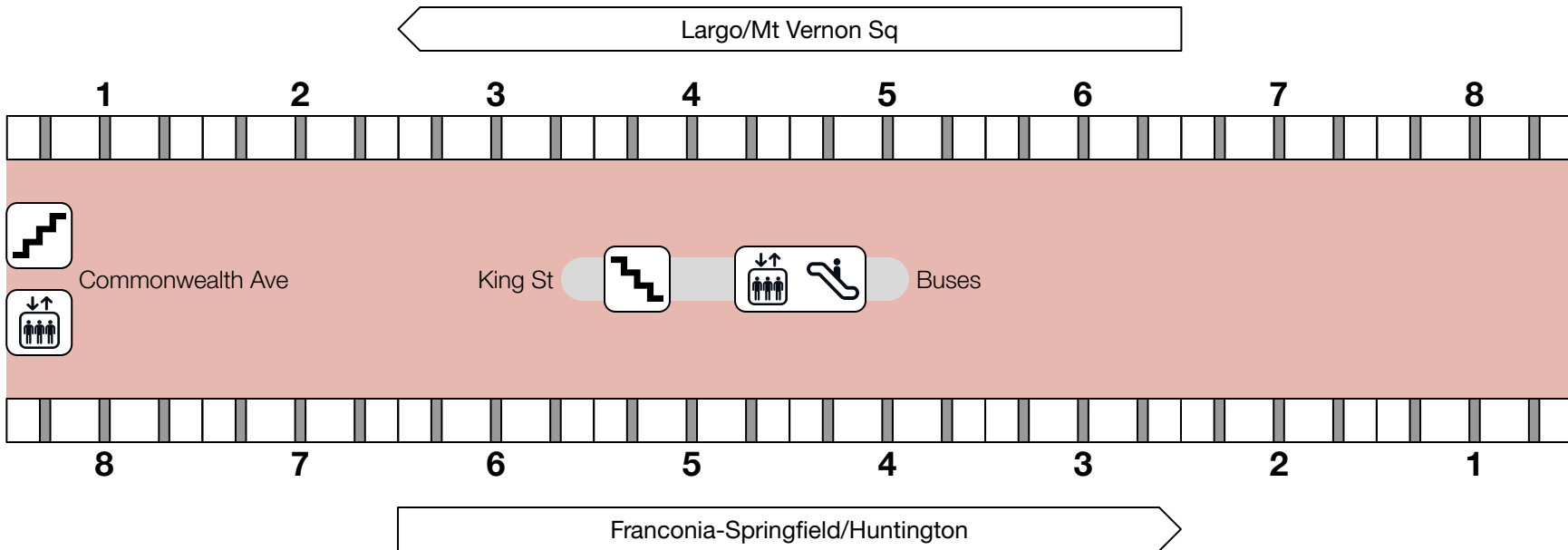
1



Judiciary Square

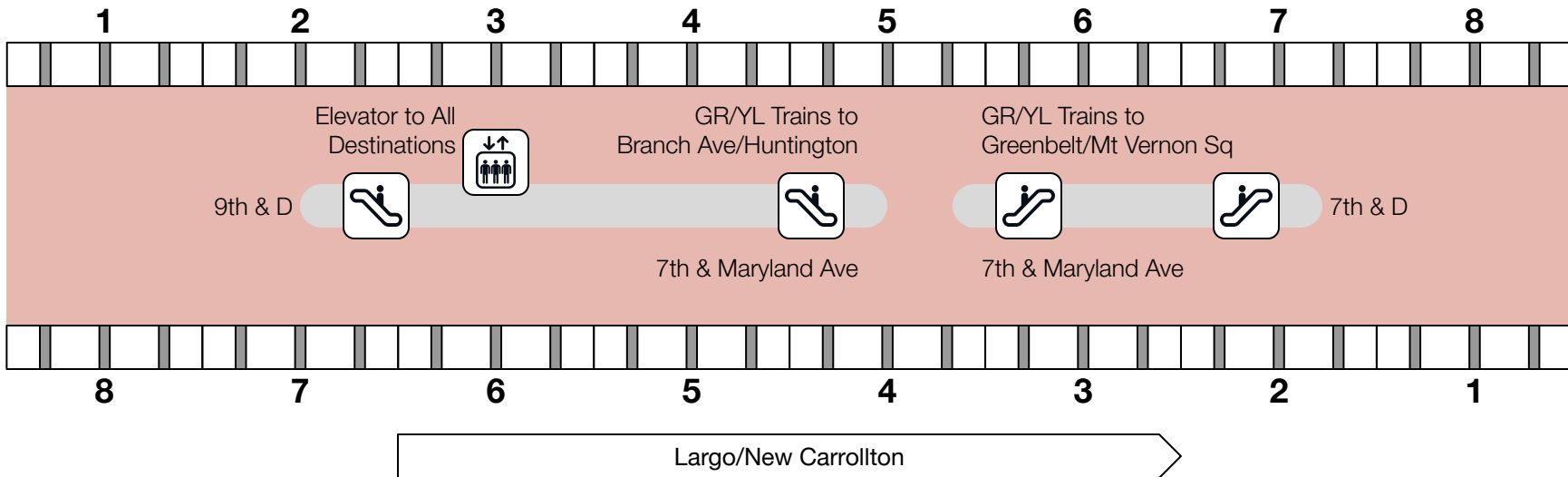


King Street-Old Town



L'Enfant Plaza (Lower Level)

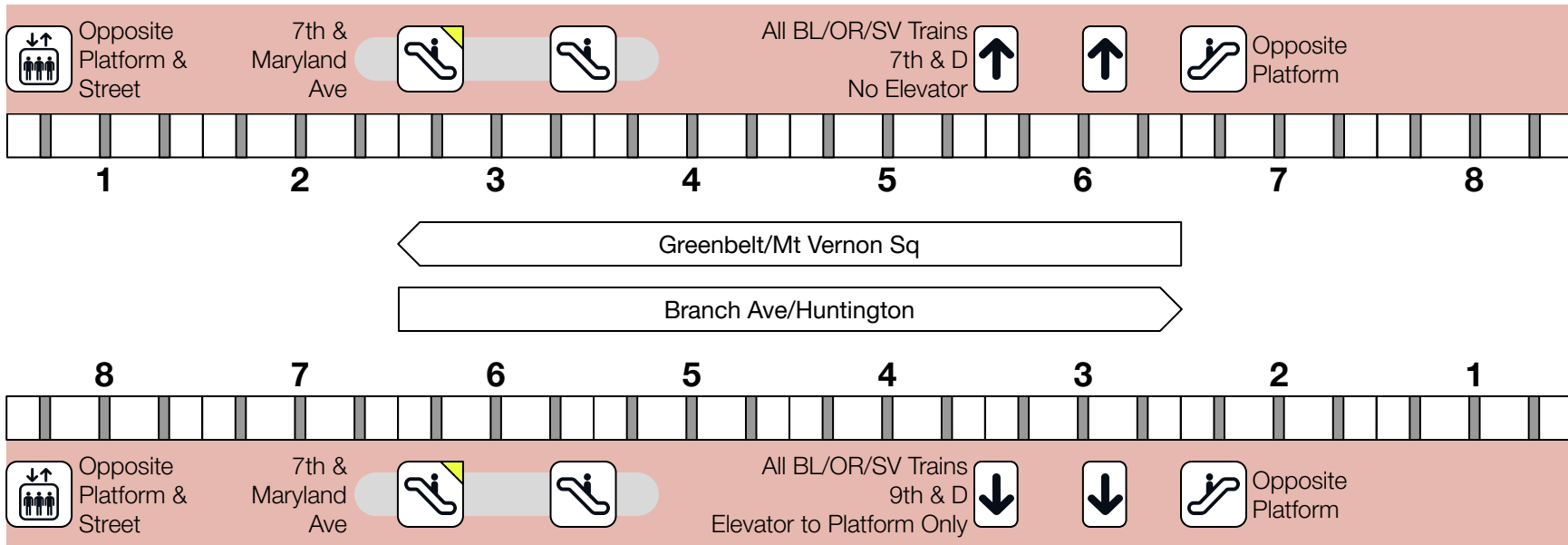
Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna



GR

YL

L'Enfant Plaza (Upper Level)



OR

Landover

Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

New Carrollton

Loudoun Gateway

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

McLean

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

McPherson Square

Vermont Ave



14th & I



14th & I



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

Largo/New Carrollton

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Vermont Ave



14th & I



14th & I



Medical Center

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

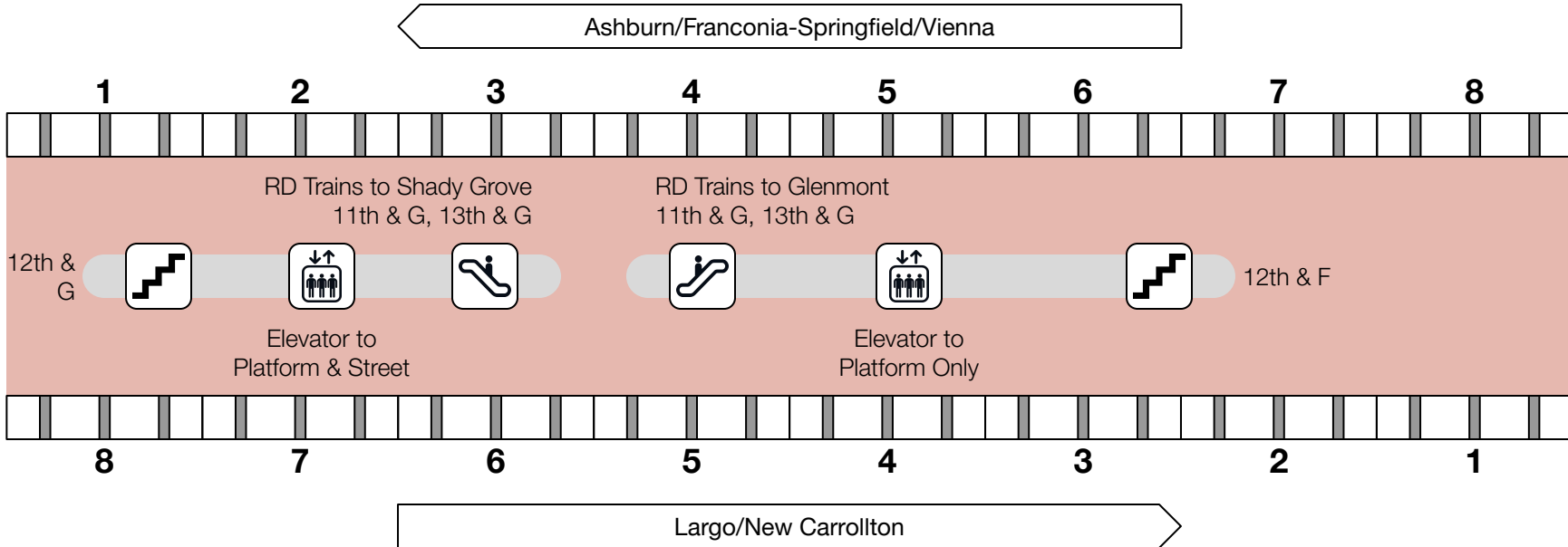
3

2


1

Glenmont

Metro Center (Lower Level)



Metro Center (Upper Level)

13th & G  All BL/OR/SV Trains
12th & G   Elevator to
Platform & Street  11th & G

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Shady Grove

Glenmont

8

7

6


5

4

3

2

1

13th & G  All BL/OR/SV Trains
12th & F   Elevator to
Platform Only  11th & G

OR

Minnesota Avenue

Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

New Carrollton

BL

SV

Morgan Boulevard

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

GR

YL

Mount Vernon Square

Greenbelt/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

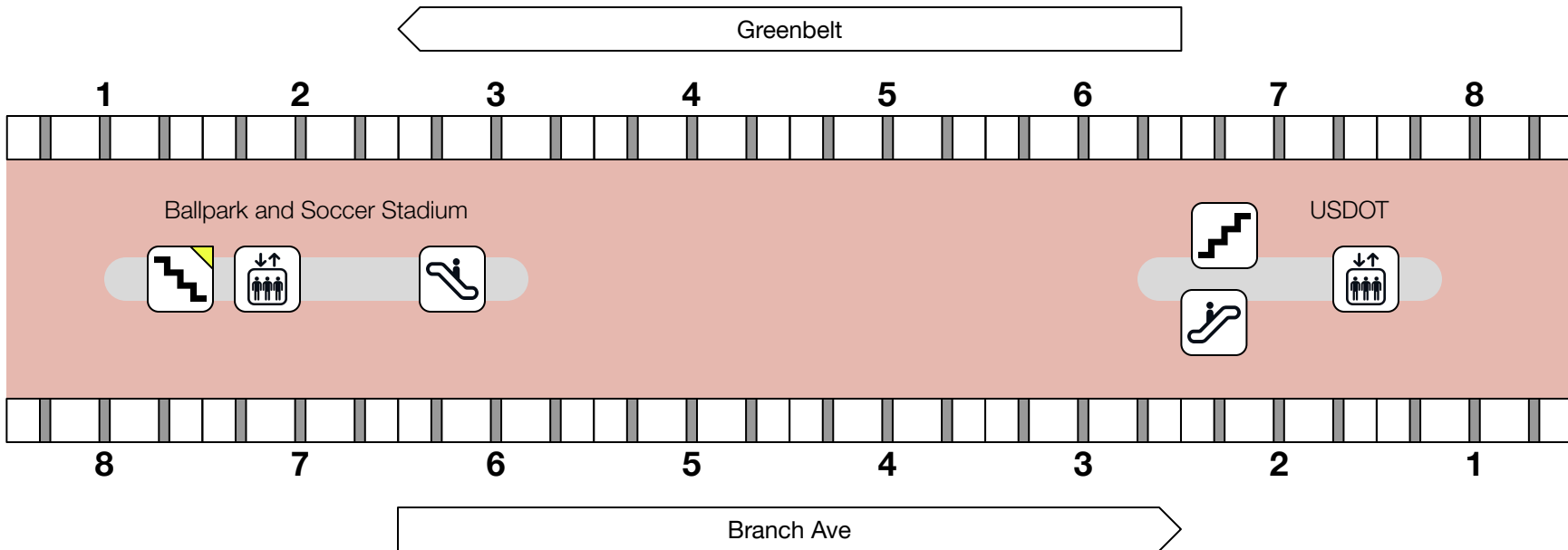
3

2

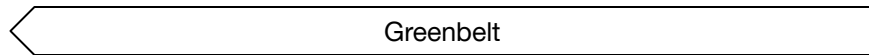
1

Branch Ave

Navy Yard-Ballpark



Naylor Road



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

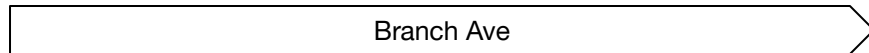
5

4

3

2

1



OR

New Carrollton

New Carrollton

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



8

7

6

5

4

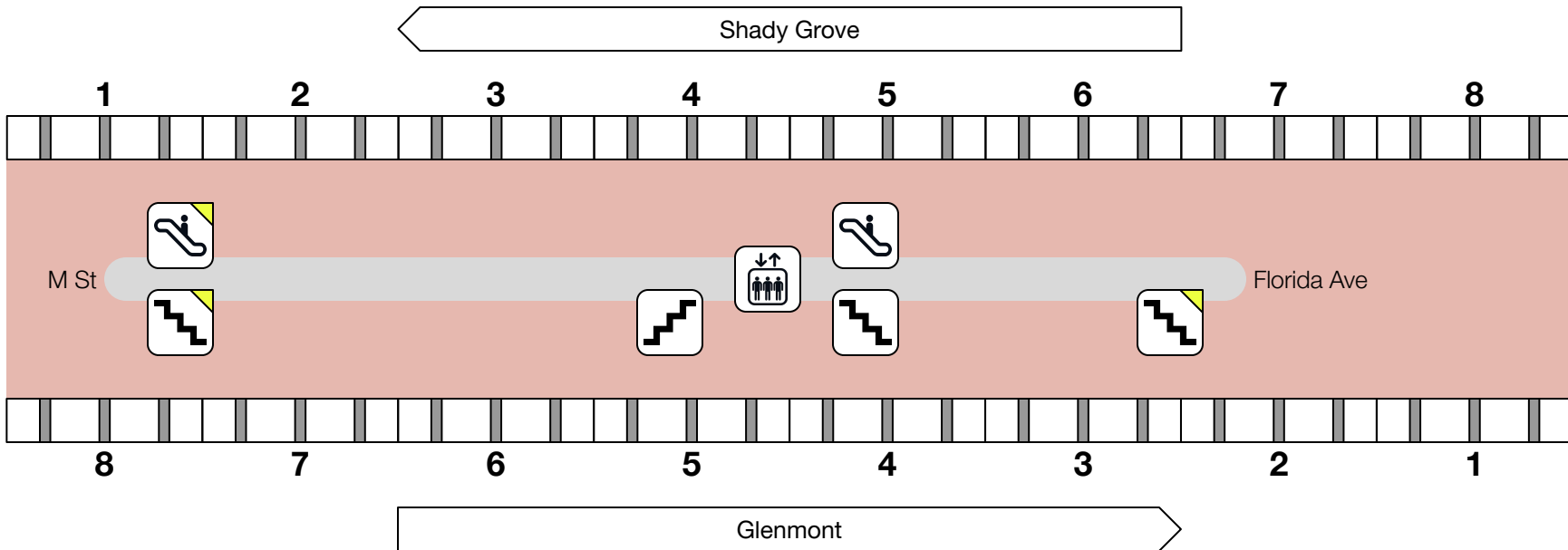
3

2

1

New Carrollton

NoMa-Gallaudet U



North Bethesda

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

BL

YL

Pentagon

Largo/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

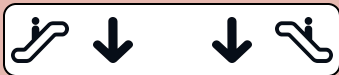
6

7

8



Path to Station Exit



Escalators to Platform Only



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Franconia-Springfield/Huntington

BL

YL

Pentagon City



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Largo/Mt Vernon Sq

Franconia-Springfield/Huntington

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



Potomac Avenue

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo/New Carrollton

BL

YL

Potomac Yard



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Largo/Mt Vernon Sq

Franconia-Springfield/Huntington

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



Reston Town Center

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Rhode Island Avenue

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Rockville

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

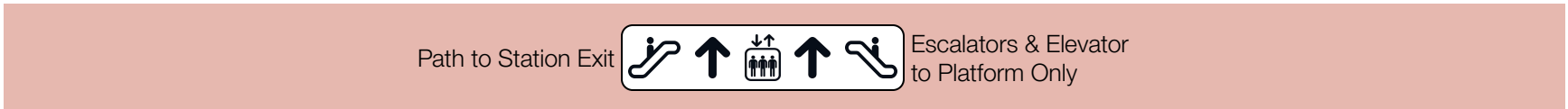
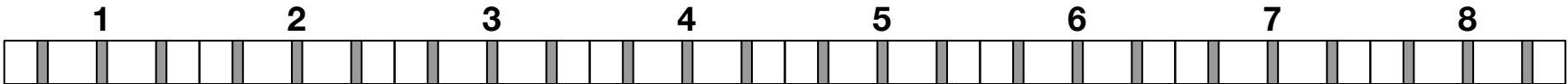
2

1

Glenmont

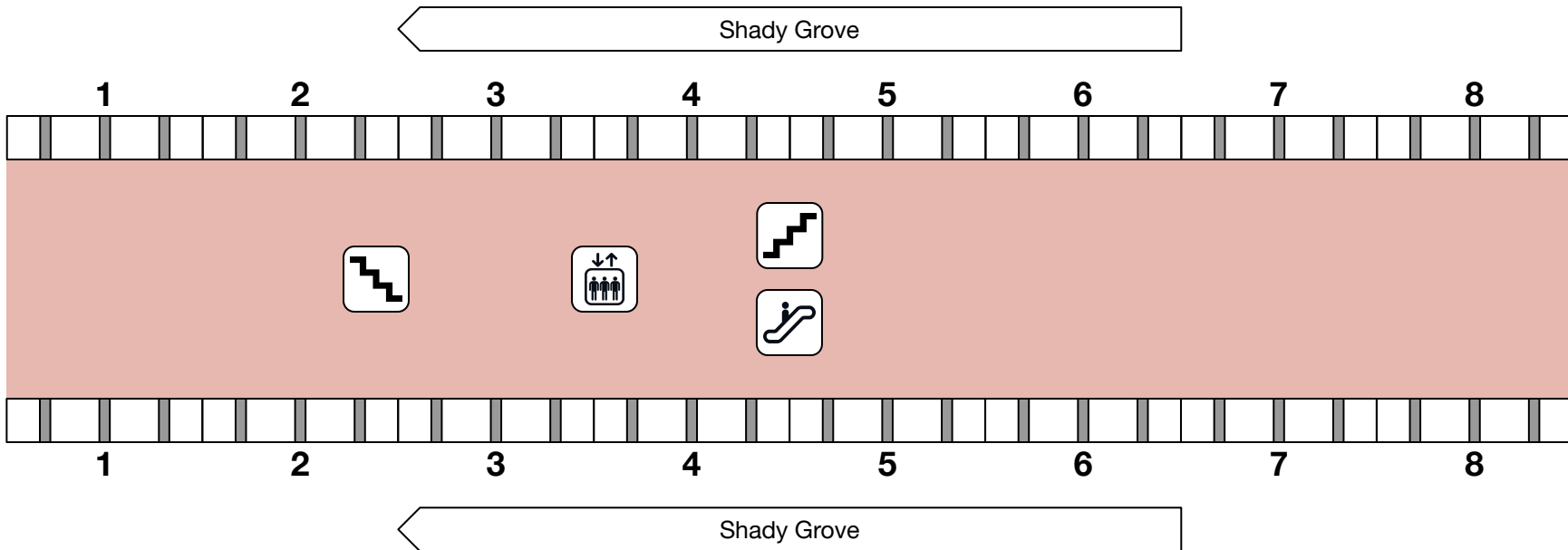
Rosslyn

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

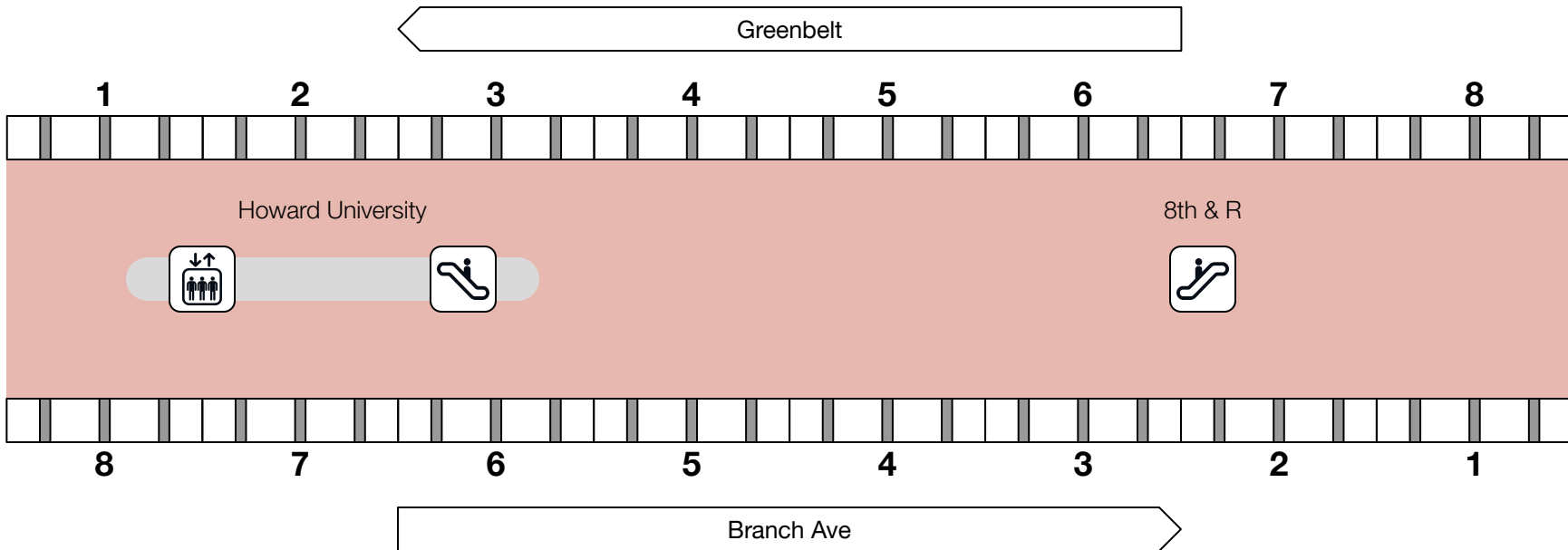


Largo/New Carrollton

Shady Grove



Shaw-Howard University



Silver Spring

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Transit Center (Under Construction)



South Side Colesville Rd



North Side Colesville Rd



8

7

6

5

4

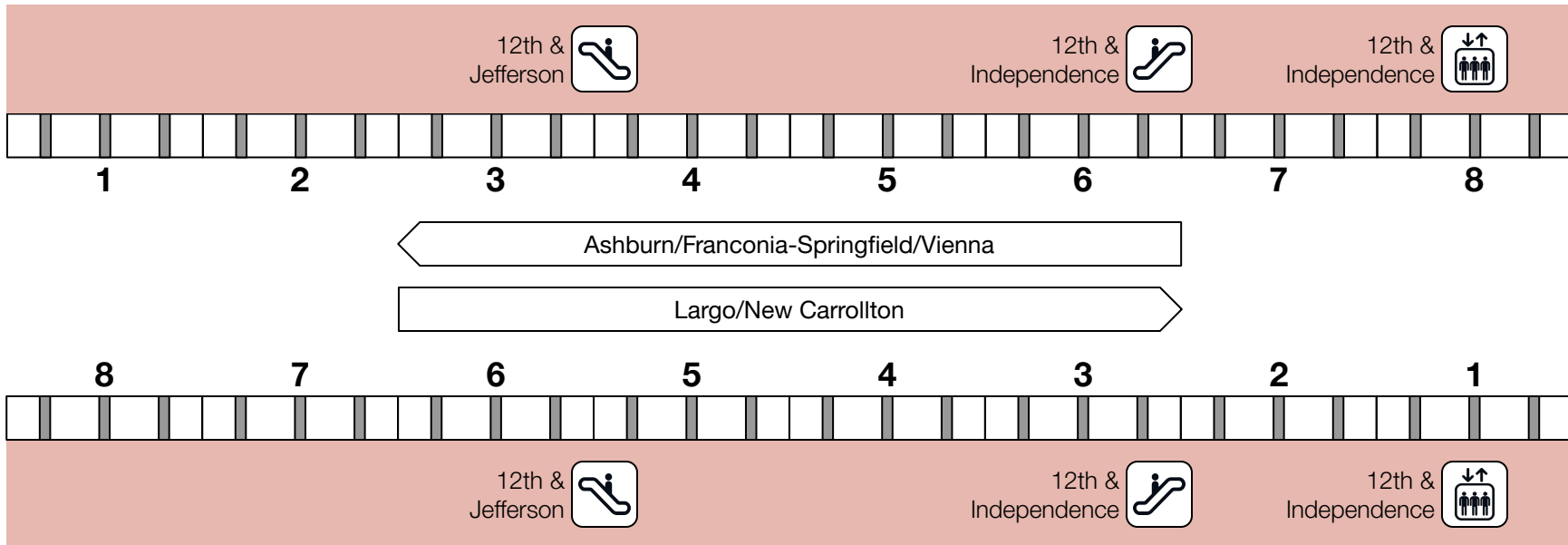
3

2

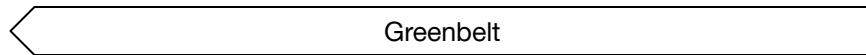
1

Glenmont

Smithsonian



Southern Avenue



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

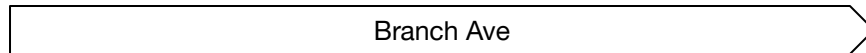
5

4

3

2

1



Spring Hill

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Stadium-Armory

Ashburn/Franconia-Springfield/Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

C St



Stadium
Armory



8

7

6

5

4

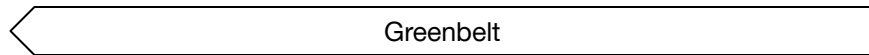
3

2

1

Largo/New Carrollton

Suitland



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

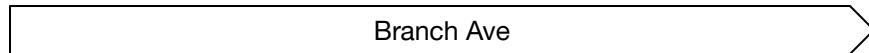
5

4

3

2

1



Takoma

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Tenleytown-AU

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Twinbrook

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

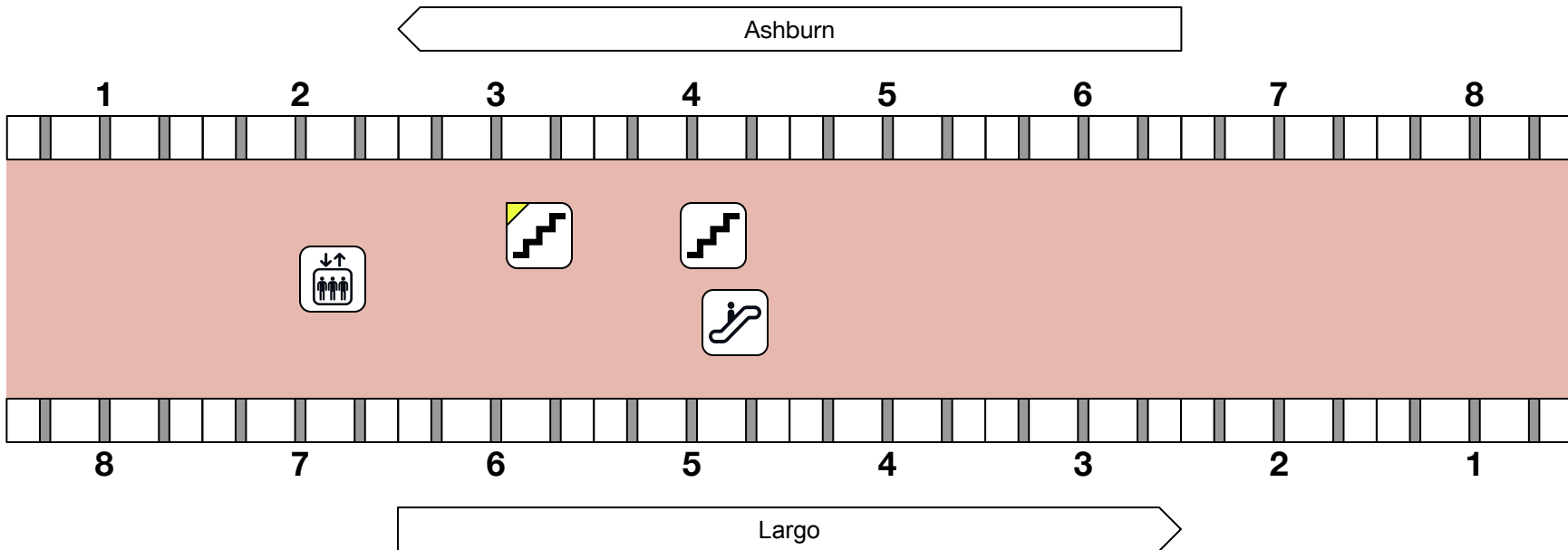
3

2

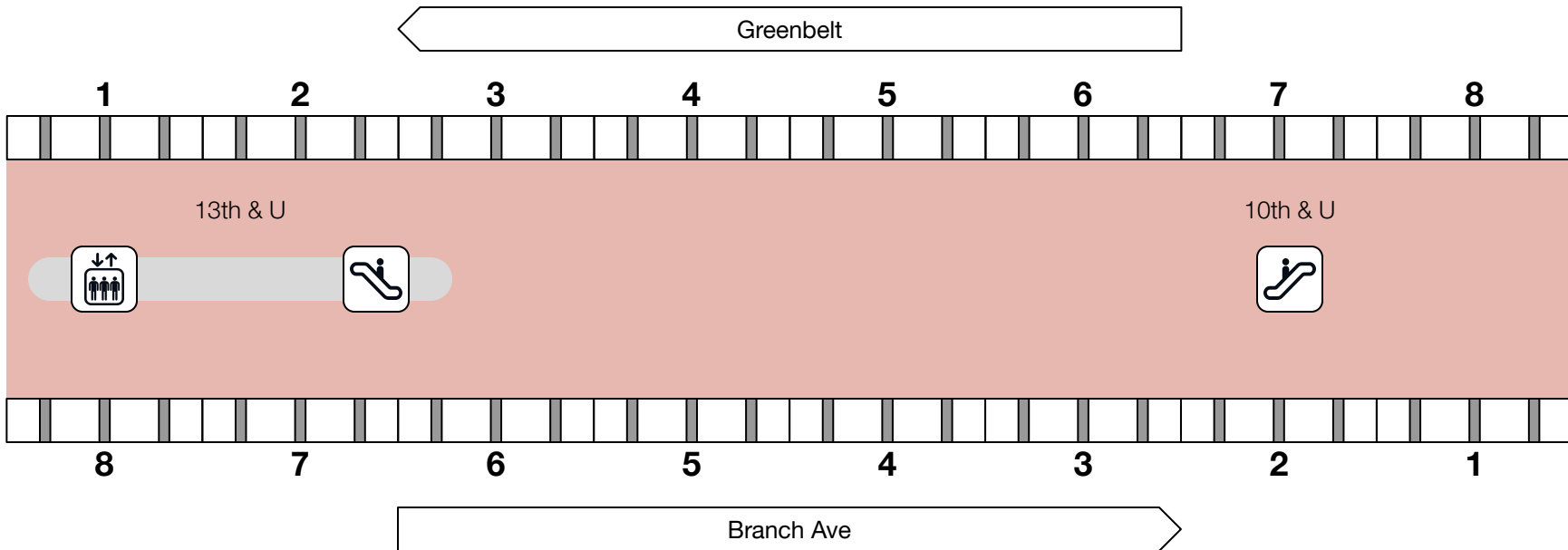
1

Glenmont

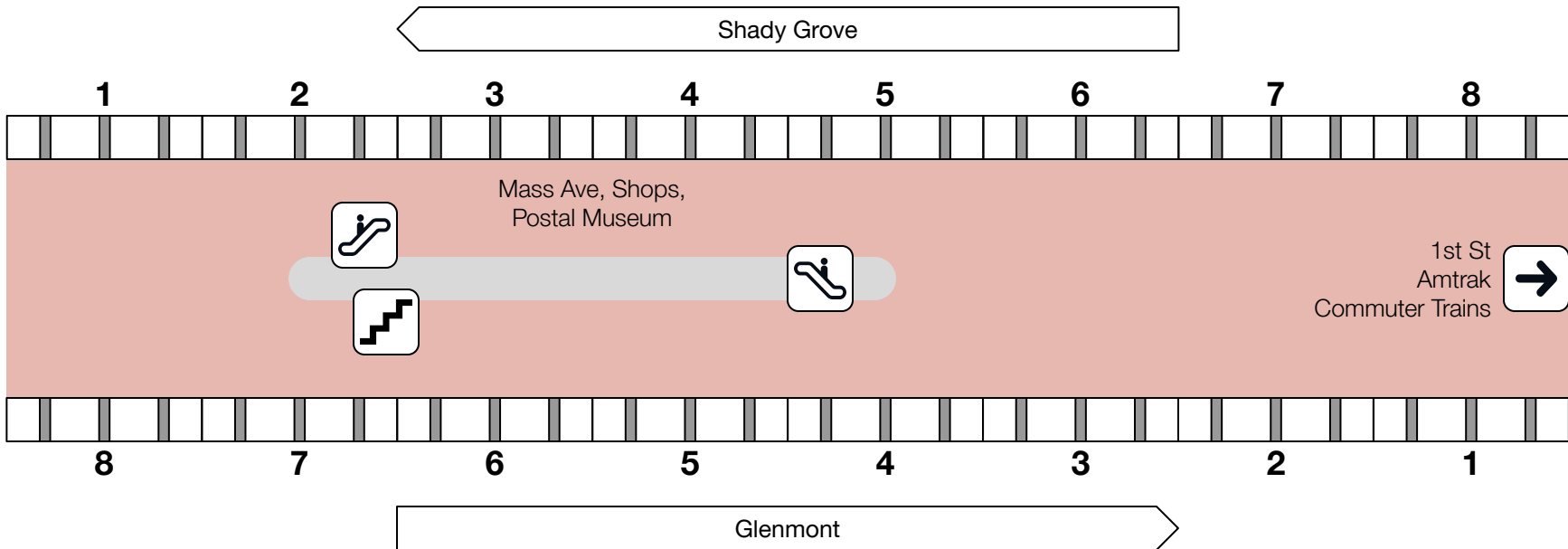
Tyson's



U Street



Union Station



Van Dorn Street

Franconia-Springfield

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

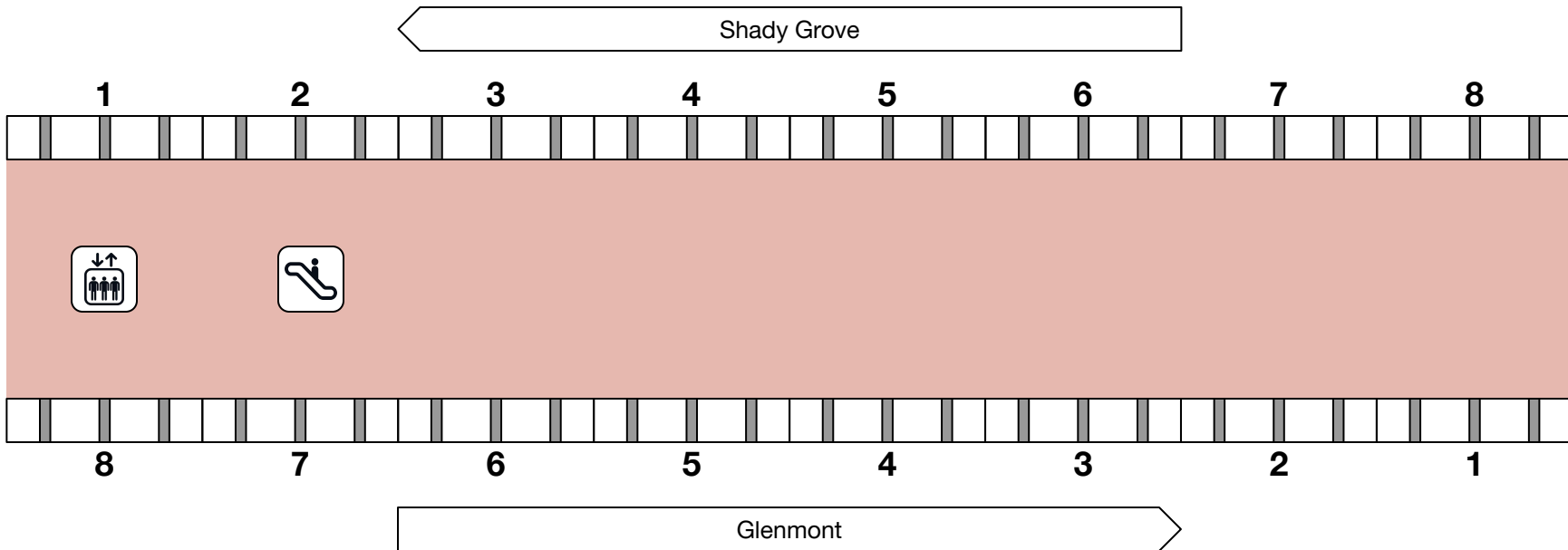
3

2

1

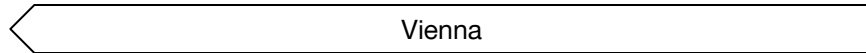
Largo

Van Ness-UDC



OR

Vienna



1

2

3

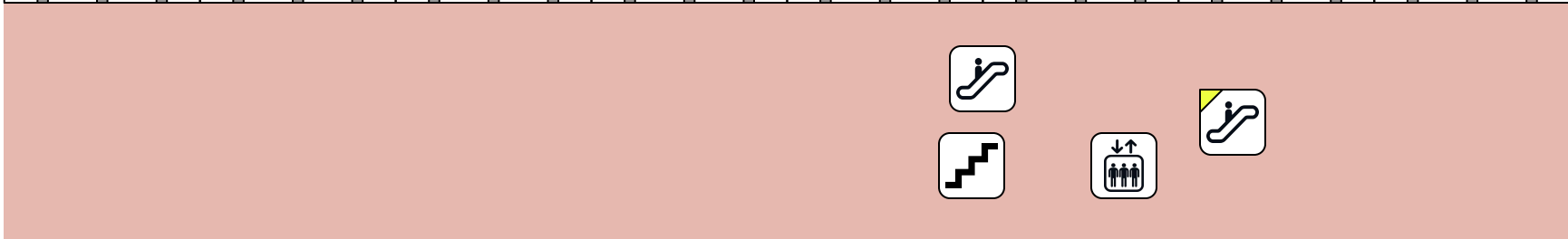
4

5

6

7

8



1

2

3

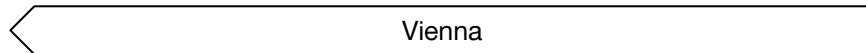
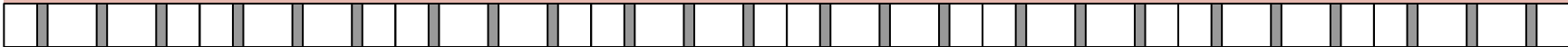
4

5

6

7

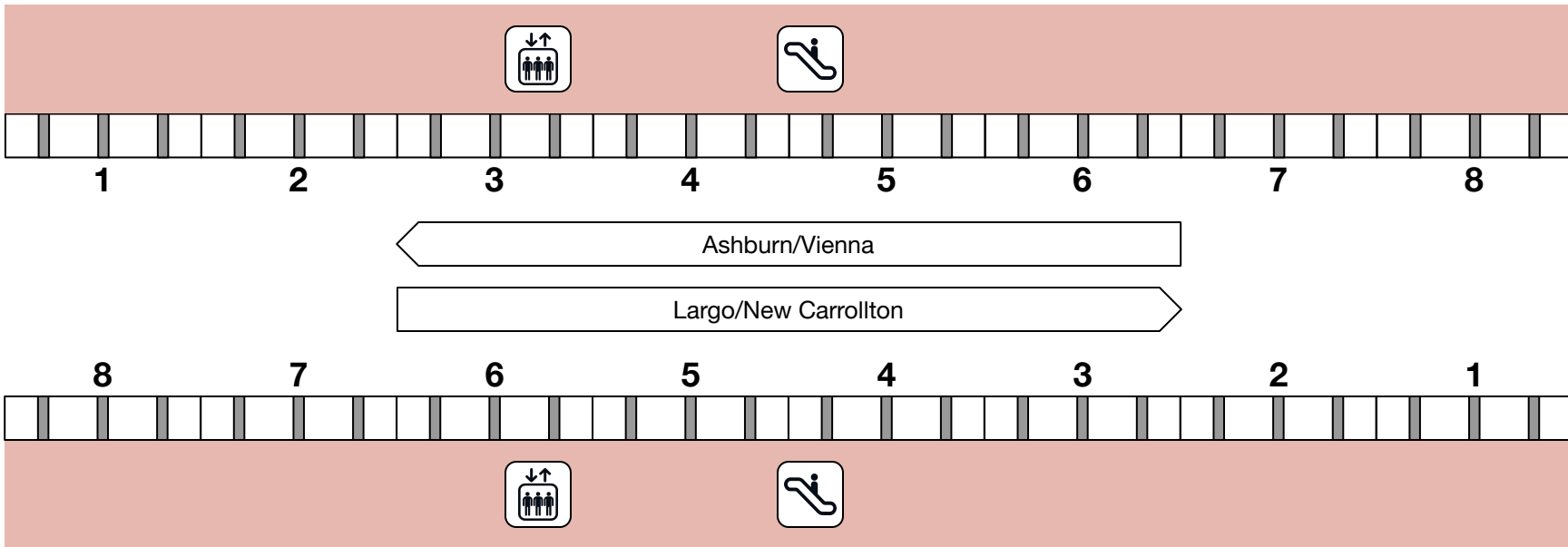
8



OR

SV

Virginia Square-GMU





Washington National Airport

Largo/Mt Vernon Sq

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



Terminal 2
C/D/E Gates



Terminals 1 & 2
A/B/C Gates



Terminal 2
C/D/E Gates



Terminals 1 & 2
A/B/C Gates



8

7

6

5

4

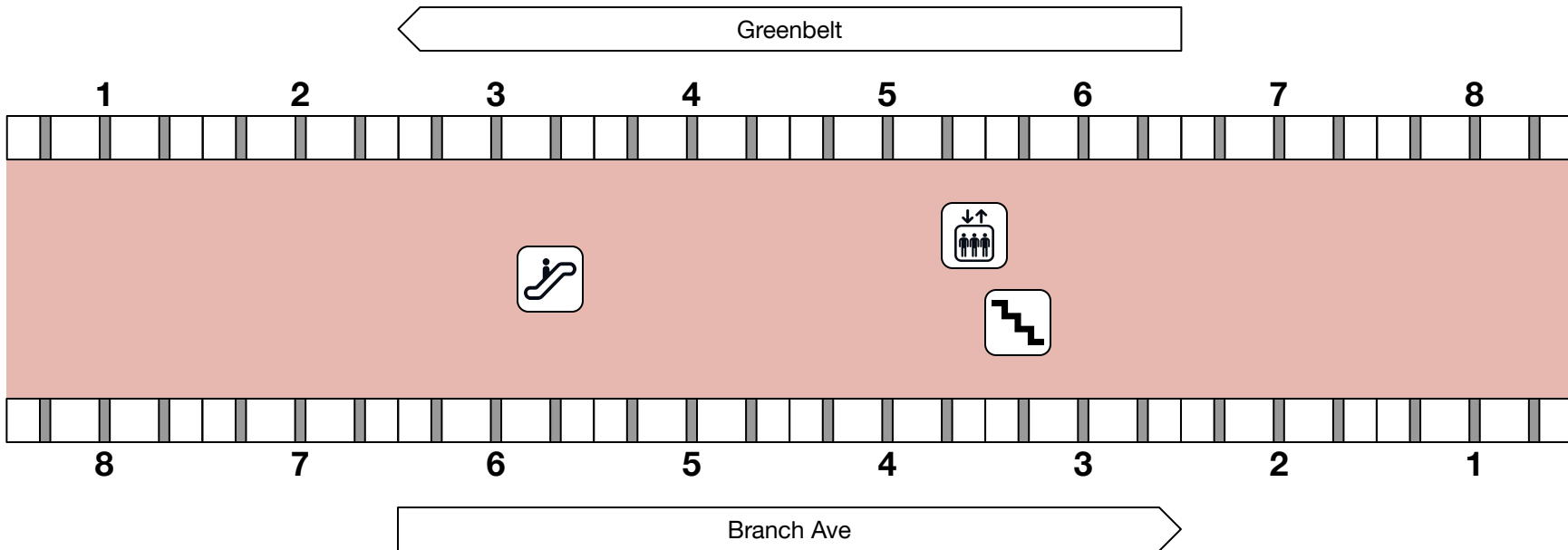
3

2

1

Franconia-Springfield/Huntington

Waterfront



West Falls Church

Vienna

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

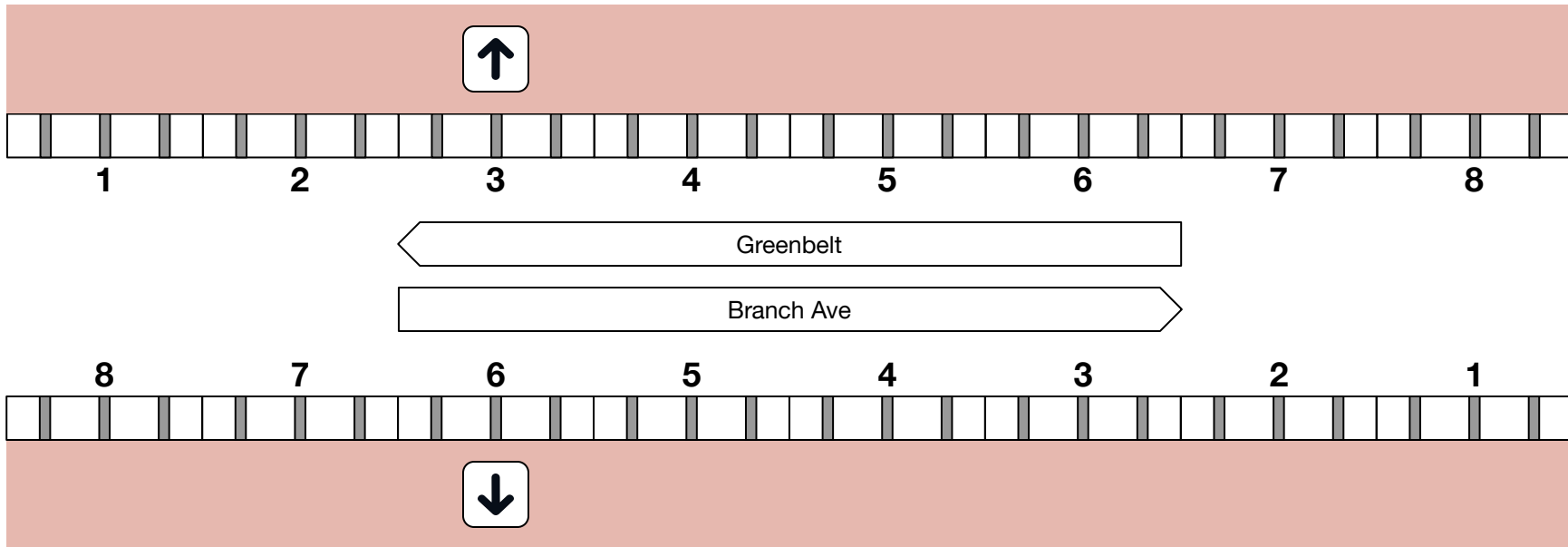
3

2

1

New Carrollton

West Hyattsville



Wheaton

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont

Wiehle-Reston East

Ashburn

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Largo

Woodley Park

Shady Grove

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8



8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Glenmont