



# Welcome

## Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program

Druid Heights CDC Update Meeting

February 24, 2024



Please scan QR code to join our mailing list!

# Today's Discussion

- Overview of Frederick Douglass Tunnel (FDT) Program
- Updates on construction activities
- Program design details
- Upcoming Program activities and ways to stay connected
- Opportunity to ask questions to the Program team



# About Amtrak: America's Railroad



- 500+ destinations across 46 states and 3 Canadian provinces
- 20,000 employees
- 28.5 million passengers

# Program Overview

# Program Background

- Existing tunnel is 150 Years old....Nearly as old as Druid Hill Park!
- Carries 9 million MARC & Amtrak passengers per year on the Northeast Corridor (NEC) (MARC's Penn Line)
- Top Issues:
  1. Deteriorating structure
  2. Excessive water infiltration
  3. High maintenance (frequent outages)
  4. No redundancy & resiliency
  5. Bottleneck (capacity + slow speeds)
  6. Too small to add fire/life safety systems



# Program Overview

## The Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program will modernize a key section of the Northeast Corridor (NEC)

- 10 miles of rail improvements along the NEC
- ~2 miles of new tunnel per bore in West Baltimore (two tunnel bores)
- New and improved railroad infrastructure
- New ADA-accessible West Baltimore MARC Station
- All electric passenger trains through new tunnel tubes
- State-of-the-art modern fire/life safety systems
- 5 Bridge replacements in Baltimore City (2 roadway, 3 railroad bridges)
- 11 Baltimore City roadway modifications
- Noise barriers in Midtown Edmondson and Greater Rosemont communities



# Program Benefits



\$50 million for  
**COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS**



Local jobs centers to train the **WORKFORCE**



Increased **ACCESS TO REGIONAL JOBS** for Baltimore City residents



Approximately **20,000 JOBS GENERATED** over the course of construction



Construction of a new **ADA-ACCESSIBLE** West Baltimore **MARC STATION**



**IMPROVEMENTS** to roadway and bridge **INFRASTRUCTURE**



**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** addition of electrified trains and solar powered facilities and stations



**ACCESS TO SALVAGE MATERIALS** for residents of Midtown Edmondson and Edmondson Avenue Historic Districts



**RELIABILITY, REDUNDANCY and RESILIENCY** for MARC and Amtrak trains



Construction of a **NEW TUNNEL**, named in honor of Frederick Douglass



**IMPROVED TRIP TIME.** Travel from Baltimore to Washington in under 30 minutes



Complete **MODERNIZATION** of Amtrak's **NORTHEAST CORRIDOR** in West Baltimore





# Community Investment Program (CIP)

**Purpose:** To mitigate the environmental impacts of the Program as required under the **Record of Decision** and support the West Baltimore communities within a ¼ mile of the Program alignment that are impacted by the Program (½ mile for transportation projects)

**It is our objective to make investments that:**

- Have a positive economic and environmental impact on West Baltimore communities and residents
- Provide job skills, workforce training, and workforce development to employ residents of West Baltimore
- Enhance and improve the communities impacted by the Program

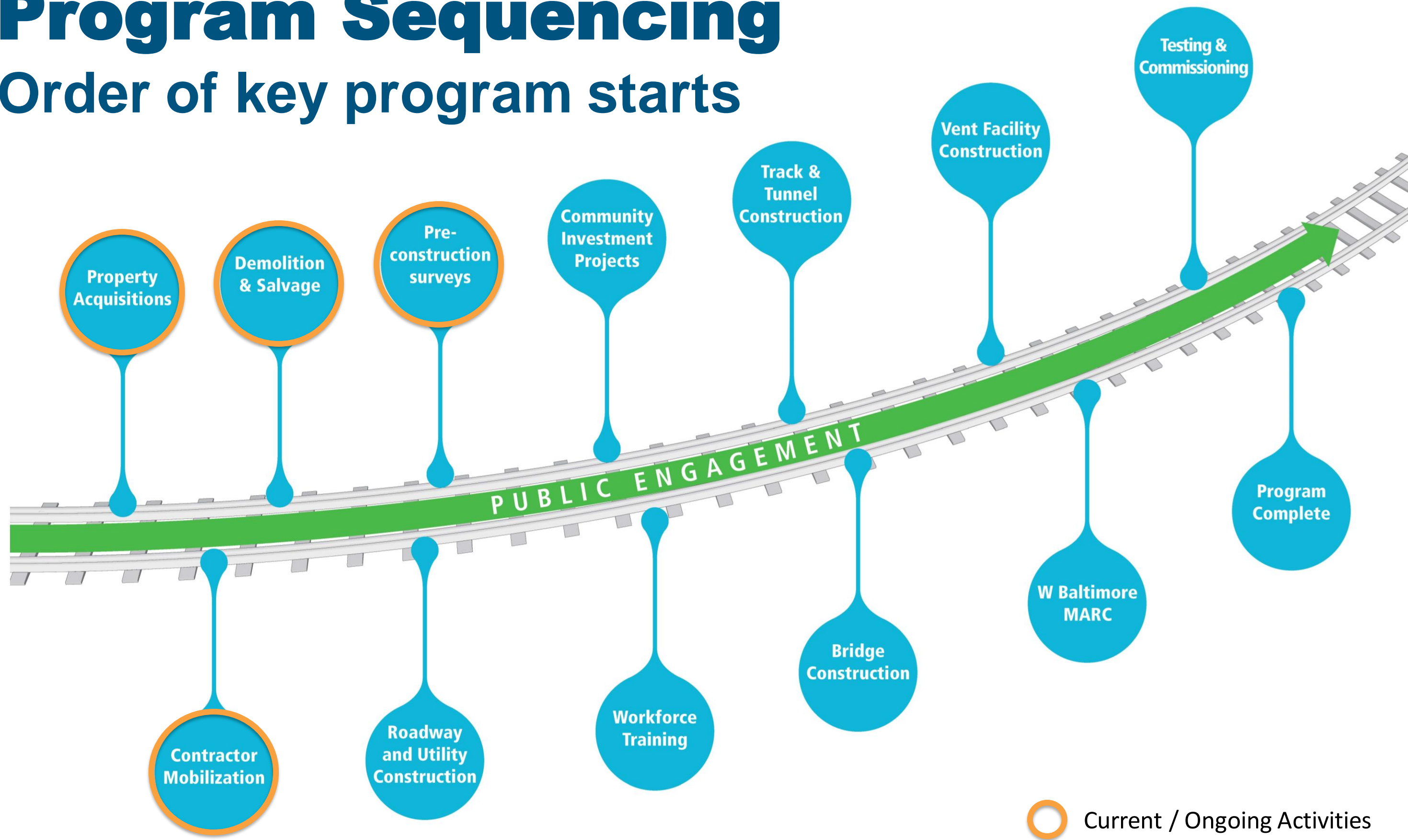
# Community Investment Program (CIP)

## CIP Overview

- \$50M Total Budget (over the life of the FDT Program)
- Two components:
  - Community Grants
  - Direct Investments
- 6 Key Focus Areas
  1. Community Development
  2. Workforce Development
  3. Parks & Recreation
  4. Community Garden/Vacant Lots/Open Space
  5. Transportation
  6. Historic Preservation

# Program Sequencing

## Order of key program starts



# Construction & Demolition Updates

# Construction/Demolition Updates

- Property Security
- Amtrak has started demolition
  - 5 properties on 1000 blk N Payson Street
  - 1 property on W North Avenue
  
- Will update property owners and residents immediately adjacent to work (preliminary notices sent via letter at end of 2023)
  - Doorhangers or letters on impacted block (timing dependent)

# Ventilation Facilities

Ventilation facilities are an important feature of a tunnel system. In the unlikely event of an emergency in the tunnel, these National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 130) standards require ventilation facilities to provide safe and efficient evacuation routes between the tunnel and street level.

## Key features of the ventilation facilities include:

- Access to the tunnel for the Baltimore City emergency services
- Egress (via a plenum – a small tunnel with a staircase leading passengers and workers in the tunnel to surface/street level)
- Fire standpipe (fire hydrant connection)
- Ventilation fans to circulate fresh air into the tunnel and, in the event of fire or smoke emergency in the tunnel, also extracts smoke from the tunnel
- Emergency lighting

# AERIAL VIEW OF INTERMEDIATE VENTILATION FACILITY AT W. NORTH AVENUE

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS TUNNEL PROGRAM - INTERMEDIATE VENTILATION FACILITY PRELIMINARY DESIGN



# VIEW OF INTERMEDIATE VENTILATION FACILITY ALONG EUTAW PLACE

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS TUNNEL PROGRAM - INTERMEDIATE VENTILATION FACILITY PRELIMINARY DESIGN





# What To Expect - Construction

As work ramps up on the Program, we will continue to coordinate with the community on several items related to construction activities. Upcoming communications with the

## Property Demolitions

- Notification of work to adjacent properties
- Equipment mobilization
- Traffic / Roadway detours

## Roadway Modifications

- Feedback on reconstruction of Jordan Street

# What To Expect - Engagement

As work ramps up on the Program, we will provide several opportunities for the community to hear information on Program elements and provide feedback. These include:

## Coordination with Baltimore City

- Planning Commission
- CHAP presentation- March 12, 2024
- City Council – real estate acquisitions from the City

## Public Update Meetings

- Public Open House- February 29, 2024
- Rotating Bi-monthly meetings starting in March 2024
- Meet the Contractors- March 13, 2024

## Community Investment Program

- Additional program details will be made public mid 2024

# Register for our upcoming meetings

February 29, 2024 South Approach Meeting



March 13, 2024 Meet the Contractor Meeting



# Stay Connected



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Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program



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**Thank you for joining us.  
We look forward to working with you on  
this important Program!**