

Welcome to our newsletter which will provide updates and important news during construction.

ON TRACK

Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program



A Letter from Program Leadership

The hard work and dedication of hundreds of individuals supporting the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program team is leading to significant progress. In the coming months, we will feature brief interviews with the people who are at the heart of this vital Program – an investment

that will replace the 151-year-old B&P Tunnel with a modern tunnel for electrified trains. This upgrade will enhance safety, improve travel along Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, and create thousands of good-paying jobs.

We are now in the construction phase and aim to complete demolition activities by the second quarter of 2025. Just a few weeks ago, we began pre-construction work on the southern approach for utility relocation which marks another key step forward. This achievement comes after months of coordination with our contractors, the City of Baltimore, the Federal Railroad Administration, MDOT MTA, BGE, Verizon, and many other stakeholders. Our contractors have started conducting pre-construction surveys and installing equipment to monitor noise and vibrations from construction activities. While we understand that construction can have an impact on surrounding areas, we are committed to minimizing disruptions and working closely with our neighbors to keep them informed and address their concerns.

We are in the process of procuring two Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs), which will begin excavating the new tunnel in late 2026 / early 2027. We look forward to engaging with communities to share how this advanced technology will allow us to safely construct the

new tunnel while minimizing potential construction impacts. There will be exciting opportunities for the public to learn from our experts how TBMs work in a safe and sustainable way around the world.

Since our September newsletter, we've held two community meetings and participated in several community events. On behalf of Amtrak, I'd like to express our gratitude to Mayor Brandon M. Scott and his team for organizing the Fall Cleanup Day. It was a pleasure to participate alongside 20 members of the FDT team, all committed to keeping Baltimore streets clean and neighborhoods healthy. This initiative fostered a strong sense of community, and we look forward to future events that bring us together in service of our shared goals.

Thanks to the hard work of our team, we are looking forward to launching the Community Investment Program application process in 2025. Be on the lookout for information sessions, application writing workshops, and more details on our website later next year. We are also looking forward to launching our partnership with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development and the Maryland Philanthropy Network to provide pre-apprenticeship training and support services to prepare community members for the vast employment opportunities on the FDT Program and careers in construction.

There will be many exciting milestones for the FDT Program in 2025. I would like to express my gratitude for your participation in our outreach events and the feedback you have provided to the Program team. I would like to wish you all the very best in the new year!

Luigi Rosa, Amtrak Assistant Vice President
Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program



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2024 Year in Review

2024 marked the start of early construction activities for the Program, including utility relocations, preconstruction surveys, installation of vibration and noise monitoring equipment, and demolition and site preparation work. We have made tremendous strides to get the construction work started on the Program.



10

**PUBLIC MEETINGS
HOSTED BY AMTRAK**



4

**COMMUNITY
MEETINGS**



23

**STEWARDSHIP
EVENTS**



3

**TRADE
CONTRACTOR
EVENTS**

- Awarded two major contracts – one to Clark Stacy and Witbeck (CSW) who will help build the rail upgrades and the other to Kiewit – Shea Tunnel Constructors (KSTC) who will help build the new tunnel.
- Awarded an important Delivery Partner contract to the ADVANCE joint venture team with AECOM and Jacobs who will help achieve Program outcomes.
- Initiated and hosted a series of bi-monthly in-person and virtual public meetings to share Program information with communities.
- Hosted 10 public meetings and attended more than 30 community events including fairs, festivals, school and community cleanups and more, to foster a collaborative partnership between our team and West Baltimore residents.
- Launched quarterly newsletters to share Program information and offered access to regular updates via email or text message to those who opted-in to receive information.
- Had a Historic Preservation professional identify and catalogue salvageable materials in properties acquired by the Program that could be re-used by residents of the Midtown Edmonson and Greater Rosemont Historic Districts. We look forward to sharing more details soon on how they can be claimed for free.
- Issued a guide to the upcoming Community Investment Program to prepare the community for its launch next year.
- Shared critical elements of the design and solicited input on items including the new bridges, ventilation facilities, and the West Baltimore MARC Station.
- Cheered on young scholars at New Song Academy's Back to School Pep Rally.
- Connected with students at Mary Ann Winterling's Back to School Meet and Greet and engaged with students at Carver Vocational Technical High School to explore careers with Amtrak.
- Rolled up our sleeves and helped spruce up neighborhoods at several stewardship events like the Druid Heights Community Development Corporation Spring Clean-up and the Requity Foundation Inc. Community Clean-up.
- Revamped the FDT Program website in response to community feedback.
- Launched Construction Lookaheads via email to provide community members with advance notification of important construction activities happening in the community.



Looking Ahead to 2025

Our team is gearing up for a bustling year of construction in 2025. We will remain proactive in alerting the community of work and increase our in-person engagement as construction ramps up. We will strategically place signage and doorhangers in the community to share more about the timing of this work. You can stay updated if you sign up for email and text message alerts.

Starting early next year, we will begin larger-scale mobilization of the construction teams. Some early activities include:

- Installation of noise and vibration monitoring equipment on or adjacent to properties and utilities (with owner permission) to measure baseline conditions.
- Utility relocations to shift electric, gas, water, sewer, and communications utilities out of the way of the new tunnel. This work will require the temporary closure of N. Pulaski Street.
- The lowering of W. Mulberry Street and construction of a new railroad bridge over W. Mulberry Street in the vicinity of the West Baltimore MARC Station.
- The launch of training and educational sessions to prepare for grant applications for the Community Investment Program.



Community Engagement and Stewardship Opportunities

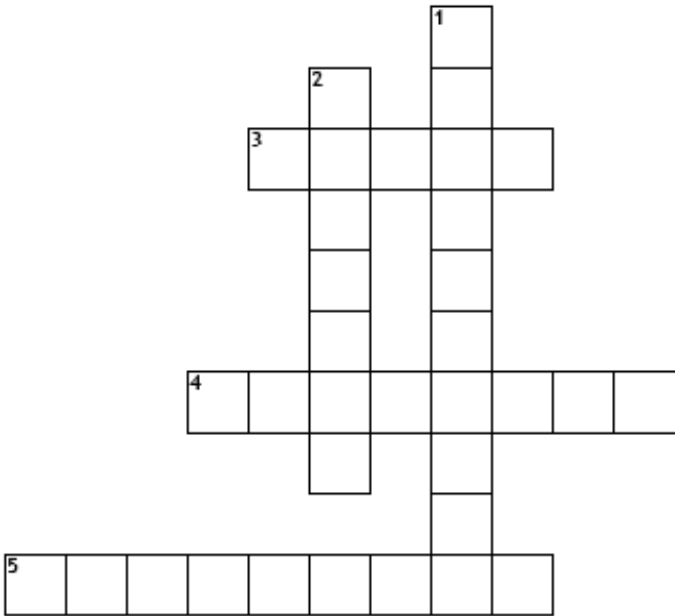
As construction is ramping up, we are adjusting our community meeting schedule. Our team is committed to being more available to answer construction questions as work is ongoing. Starting this February, we will host our in-person and virtual meetings quarterly to allow us more time to attend existing community meetings and be available to the community adjacent to construction. We will continue to offer both virtual and in-person meetings to improve flexibility and community participation.



Are you interested in inviting the Program team to a community meeting or stewardship event in your neighborhood? Let us know how we can join you by sending an email with information to fdtunnel@amtrak.com or call (443) 423-1115.

Kids' Corner

Test your knowledge about Amtrak and the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program by completing this fun crossword puzzle!



Across

- 3. The name "Amtrak" is a combination of the words "America" and _____
- 4. This type of train is safer for the environment than diesel-powered trains
- 5. The new Frederick Douglass Tunnel will replace the existing _____

Down

- 1. A _____ is an engine car that pulls the other train cars along the track
- 2. One major element of the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program is the replacement of five rail and roadway _____

We have created a Frederick Douglass Activity Sheet for children. Request copies for your school or community center at fdtunnel@amtrak.com or call (443) 423-1115

Across 3, Track 4, Electric 5, B&P Tunnel Down 1, Locomotive 2, Bridges

Stay Connected

Receive Construction Lookaheads Via Email

The Program outreach team is working with contractors to get the latest information on planned construction activities. Scan the QR code below to sign up for the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program email list and receive construction notifications directly in your inbox.



Opt-in for Texts

We've made it even easier to gain quick construction notifications about the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program. Opt-in by texting one of the following keywords to (833) 917-3749.

- Text **FDTNorth** – for updates about work occurring north of North Avenue
- Text **FDTSouth** – for updates about work occurring south of North Avenue
- Text **FDTConstruct** – for all construction updates on the Program

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to get the latest information on Program updates, meeting reminders, important news, and more.

- Facebook: Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program
- Instagram: [fdtunnel](https://www.instagram.com/fdtunnel)
- LinkedIn: Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program

Visit our Website

Visit [fdtunnel.com](https://www.fdtunnel.com) for answers to your frequently asked questions, meeting notifications, Program news, and more!

We want to hear from you!

Thank you for your interest in the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program. Please consider sharing your thoughts on our community engagement efforts and your overall knowledge about the Program. Your feedback will be helpful in shaping the future of our outreach approach. We appreciate your participation and look forward to seeing you at future events.

