

ON TRACK

B&P Tunnel Replacement Program



Marking a Historic Milestone and Looking Ahead

It is a truly transformative time for Amtrak, for American rail, and for our country.

At 6am on August 28, I had the privilege of joining my colleagues at Baltimore Penn Station to greet passengers and share with

them a historic announcement: they were about to become part of a defining moment in U.S. transportation history. That morning marked the start of service for the first high-speed trains built in America—a major milestone not just for Amtrak, but for American infrastructure and mobility.

The launch of **NextGen Acela trains** is far more than just the debut of new equipment. It represents a new era of rail in North America. I was happy to see the excitement in the station that morning — the smiles, the sense of pride, and the understanding that something important was happening. And I can confidently say: this is only the beginning.

To truly unlock the full potential of these new high-speed trains, we must continue the vital work of modernizing the Northeast Corridor (NEC). This includes completing key capital projects currently underway. Among the most essential of these is the replacement of the Baltimore & Potomac (B&P) Tunnel in Baltimore.

This Program is not just about trains or tunnels. It is about creating a safer, more reliable transportation network for the millions of Americans who depend on it. It is about economic opportunity, workforce development, and investing in the future of our cities, communities, and customers.

I am incredibly proud of the progress our team is making every day and want to highlight one recent milestone: after years of careful coordination with the City of Baltimore, we are paving the way for a new rail bridge with the successful closure of W Mulberry Street at the West Baltimore MARC Station. This is a tangible step forward and one of many we will continue to take as we move this Program forward.

This effort goes far beyond construction itself. We are also launching our Community Investment Program (CIP) in the coming months — an initiative designed to deliver real, lasting benefits to communities adjacent to the Program corridor. The CIP will provide targeted funding to support community-led projects in areas such as community development, workforce development, parks and recreation, open space, transportation, and historic preservation. It's a core part of our vision — building not just a rail system, but a stronger, more connected Northeast region.

To the residents of Baltimore and all the communities along the project corridor: thank you. Thank you for attending our outreach events, for your feedback, and for continuing to work with us. Your voices help shape this work, and your insight is essential to our shared success.

As we look ahead, Amtrak remains steadfast in our commitment to building a 21st-century rail system that reflects the best of what America can be — bold, innovative, and built-to-last.

The journey has just begun.

Luigi Rosa, Amtrak Assistant Vice President
B&P Tunnel Replacement Program



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IN THE NEWS

PAGE

2

**Refreshed Name, Same Mission:
B&P Tunnel Replacement**

Travel Changes Come to West Baltimore

3

**Community Investment Program:
Opportunities Ahead**

Amtrak in the Community

4

Kids' Corner

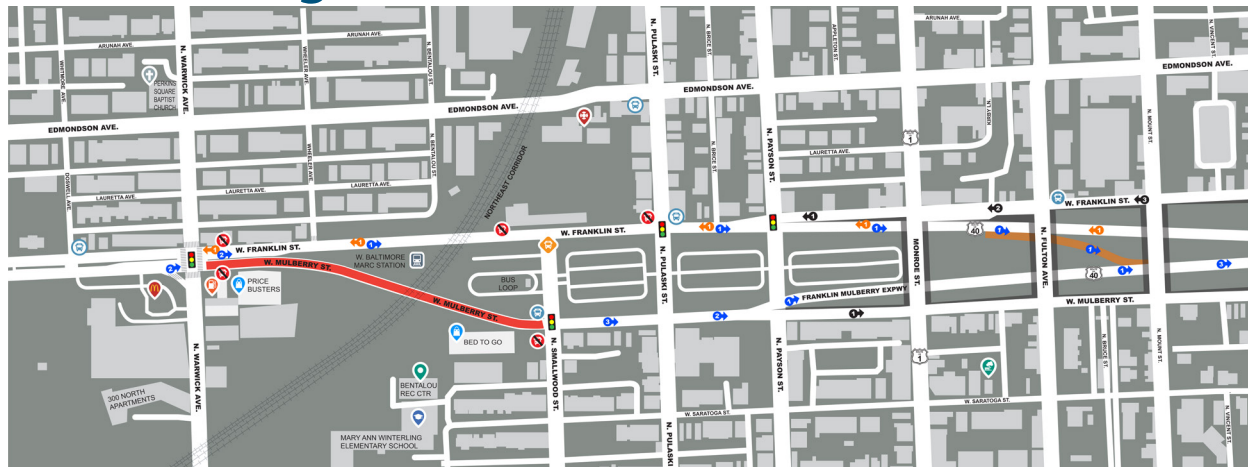
Stay Connected

Refreshed Name, Same Mission: B&P Tunnel Replacement

In addition to other recent advancements Amtrak has made, we have refreshed the Program name and logo to better reflect all of the elements included in this transformative investment. While the Frederick Douglass Tunnel remains a central feature, this change will help to also highlight the

major infrastructure upgrades (new bridges, roadways, and utilities) and new ADA-accessible West Baltimore MARC Station, a key project feature for West Baltimore that will drive future investments and developments.

Travel Changes Come to West Baltimore



The first of five bridges being reconstructed as part of the Program is the rail bridge over W Mulberry Street. The closure of W Mulberry Street between N Warwick Avenue and N Smallwood Street began in August to allow crews to rebuild this rail bridge and shift rail elements west to align the new railroad tracks to the tunnel.

This road segment closure and related changes to traffic patterns and the modification of access to MARC and MTA facilities is expected to remain in place for approximately two years during bridge construction. Once the bridge over W Mulberry Street

is complete, crews will begin similar construction activities to build the new rail bridge over W Franklin Street, which will also require traffic changes.

We encourage travelers to choose alternate routes and avoid traveling through this area unless they are destined for the West Baltimore MARC Station or communities near

the station. For detour navigation, download the Waze Navigation & Live Traffic app on your mobile device. This app provides frequent, user-reported updates that offer real-time information on changing traffic conditions. Please follow posted signage, maintain safe speeds, and stay alert near work zones.

We would like to thank our city and state agency partners, elected officials, the Stadium Authority, and local businesses for sharing information about this road closure. Together, we can maintain a safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and our work crews.

Utility Work Continues as Construction Advances

We continue to prepare for construction by relocating water, sewer, stormwater, and gas utility lines that conflict with the future tunnel alignment. These lines, some over 100 years old, will be replaced with newer, safer infrastructure. Major utility relocation efforts have continued around several roadways in West Baltimore, including N Payson Street, N Pulaski Street, and along North Avenue between W Mount Royal Avenue and N Howard Street.

Additional work is expected this fall along Rayner Avenue, which will impact a two-month closure of Rayner Avenue to vehicular traffic and intermittent sidewalk closures.

Concerns or Questions? Contact the Program Outreach Team

Amtrak is committed to providing the community with answers to questions as construction progresses. We have Outreach team members available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to answer questions and help understand your concerns. They place doorhangers in the community to alert



residents of upcoming work, regularly visit the construction site to track ongoing activities, talk with community members, and share community concerns with the Program team and contractors. We're here to support you.

Call us at 443-423-1115 or email BPtunnel@amtrak.com for assistance. We aim to respond to all inquiries and voicemails within one business day.

Community Investment Program: Opportunities Ahead

We are excited to launch the Community Investment Program (CIP) in the coming months. The CIP is a \$50 million planned investment that will coincide with Program construction, awarding grants to eligible organizations that will benefit communities along the new tunnel alignment. CIP investments are organized into six categories: community development, parks and recreation, open space, transportation, workforce development, and historic preservation.

Grant Process:

Fair and standardized application and proposal review process

Funding aligned with community-identified priorities whenever possible

Support for multiple project types across six project categories

The ability for eligible organizations of any size to apply

Small, Medium, and Large funding categories for projects of various sizes

Technical application assistance workshops to explain the grant application process

Grant Fund Timeline and Next Steps:

We plan to post the first Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for community grants and the historic preservation grant fund administrator role in the coming months. Applicants will submit all required materials through the Amtrak Grants Portal (amtrak.com/grants).

To help support potential applicants, the Program will offer a series of technical training sessions prior to the due date for the first round of applications. Our goal is to ensure the CIP delivers a lasting, positive legacy for West Baltimore.



Scan the QR code to **receive email updates!**

Amtrak in the Community

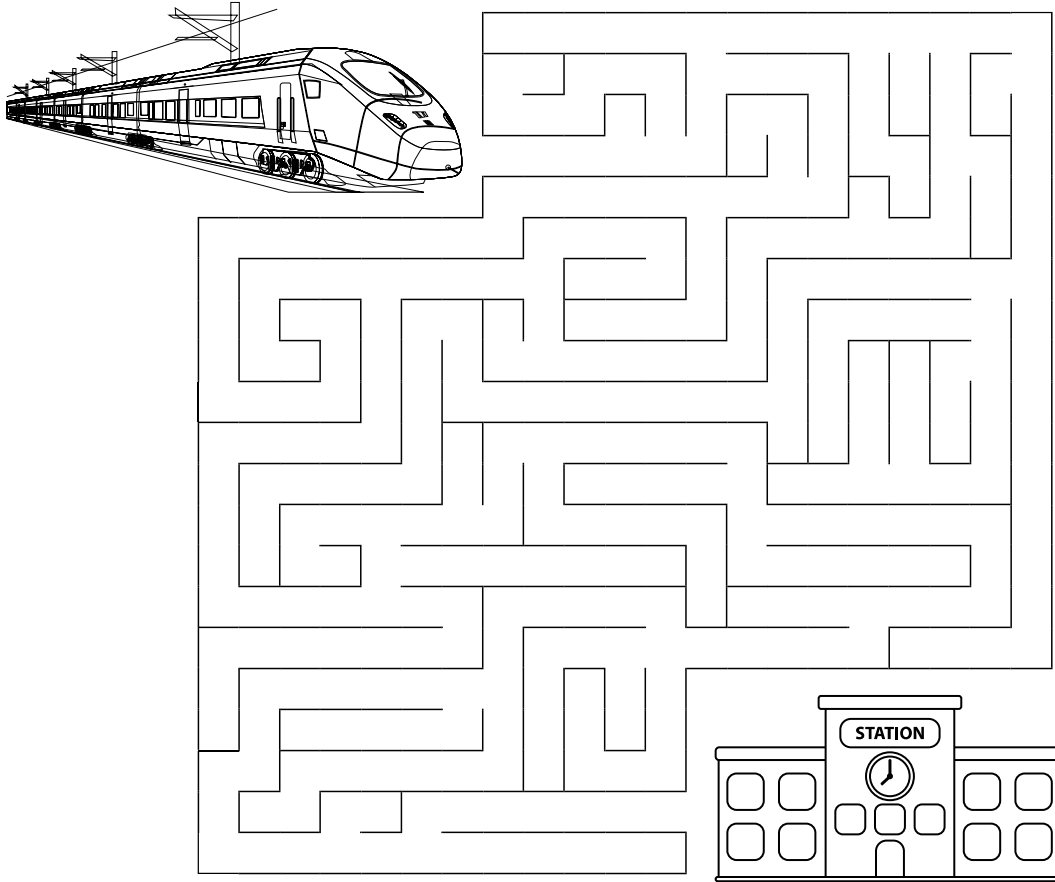


We've had an eventful season connecting with neighbors in West Baltimore! Program team members attended 18 events this spring and summer to share information and listen to the community. Additionally, our team distributed school supplies at the Bon Secours Annual Back to School event, enjoyed the energy of the Charles Street Promenade, and joined the Sandtown Winchester community at their Rock the Block event. We want to thank all the organizations who welcomed us to their events and gave us an opportunity to share updates about the Program.



If you're a member of a West Baltimore organization, we'd love to attend your next event or meeting to hear your feedback. Please contact us at (443) 423-1115 or email BPtunnel@amtrak.com to let us know how we can support you.

Kids' Corner



Stay Connected

Get Emails and Construction Updates

The Program Outreach team is committed to keeping you informed about upcoming construction activities. Visit our website or scan the QR code to join our contact list and receive updates straight to your inbox.



Opt-in for Text Messages

Opt-in for construction and/or traffic notifications by texting one of the following keywords to (833) 917-3749.

- Text **BPTNorth** – for updates about work occurring north of North Avenue
- Text **BPTSouth** – for updates about work occurring south of North Avenue
- Text **BPTConstruct** – for all construction updates on the Program
- (NEW) Text **BPTTraffic** – for all traffic updates on the Program

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to see construction photos and educational videos, read the latest Program updates, get important meeting reminders, and more.

- Facebook: [B&P Tunnel Replacement](#)
- Instagram: [@BPTunnel](#)
- LinkedIn: [B&P Tunnel Replacement](#)

Visit our Website

We continue to update our website with more detailed information on Program activities. To view our public meeting videos and slide show presentations, review answers to your frequently asked questions, register for upcoming public meetings, and sign up for notifications and updates, visit us at BPTunnel.com.