# FREDERICK DOUGLASS TUNNEL REAL ESTATE ACQUISITIONS

Public Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 2023



# **Tonight's Agenda**

- Introductions
- Brief Program Overview
- Amtrak Property Acquisitions
- Next Steps
- Q&A



# Why Are We Here?

Amtrak must acquire property from Baltimore City and private individuals and businesses

### To explain:

- Types of properties Amtrak needs to acquire
- Where the properties being acquired are located
- When property acquisitions will take place
- The process for Amtrak to acquire properties



# Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program Team

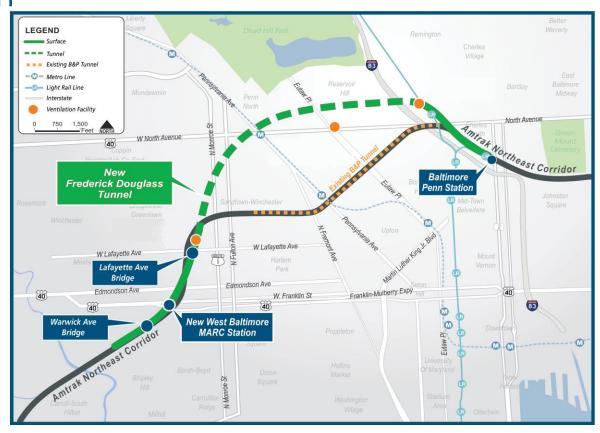
- Luigi Rosa
- Mark Milton
- Zach Billet
- Danelle Hunter
- Leah Gatlin
- Deborah Rochkind
- Odessa Phillip



# **Program Overview**

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

- Addresses biggest bottleneck between DC & NY
- Increases capacity
  - Reduces trip time
  - Enhances speed & reliability
    - Saves 7 hours of train delay per weekday
    - $30 \text{ mph} \rightarrow 100 + \text{mph}$
- New ADA-accessible West Baltimore MARC Station
- 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





# **Explanation of Subsurface Real Estate Rights**

Below ground level and for our purposes, below standard building basement level





# **Property Acquisitions from Baltimore City**

- 97 Required Acquisitions
- Subsurface
  - 61 subsurface street and alley acquisitions (property under streets and alleys)
  - 12 subsurface parcel acquisitions (property under parcels)

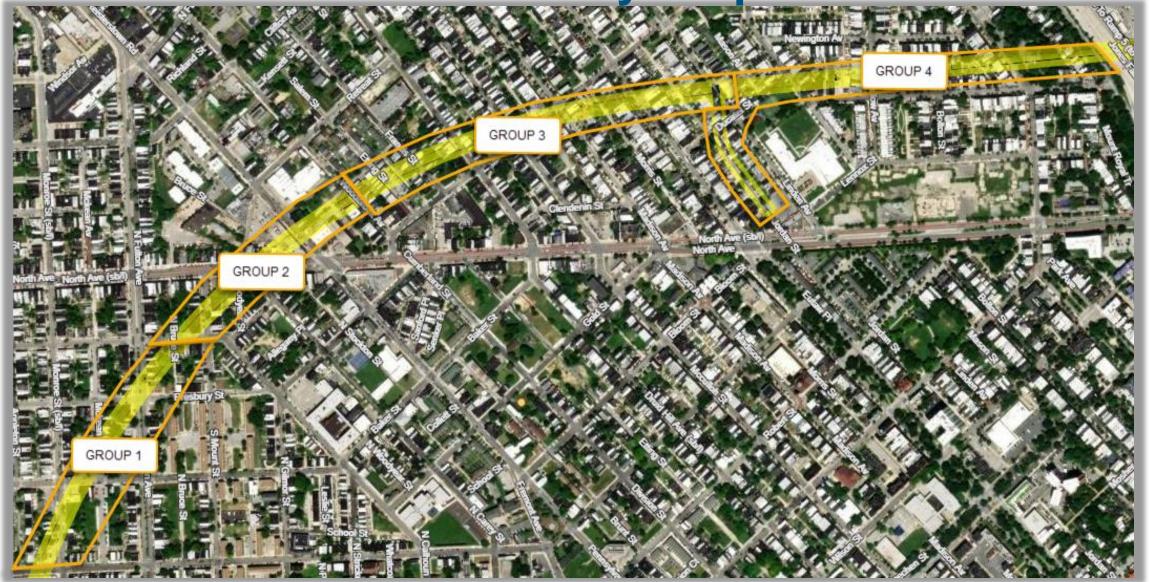
#### Surface

- 14 portions of roadway and alley surface acquisitions
- 10 surface acquisitions of whole and partial parcels owned by the City

Additional properties may be acquired to support design and construction activities.



**Subsurface Street and Alley Acquisitions** 





## **Subsurface Street and Alley Acquisition Process**

- The City-owned 61 +/- subsurface streets and alleys have been split into 4 groups for completion of the City acquisition process.
- Amtrak is working closely with Baltimore City DOT on the required ordinances for the municipal process.
- Ordinances will be formally introduced in City Council and Planning Commission meetings.
- The Mayor will sign approved ordinances into law.
- Ownership will transfer from City to Amtrak.



Commonly referred to as closures, subsurface street and alley acquisitions will not impact public use of streets and alleys, including traffic patterns

- Amtrak will continue to follow the municipal street and alley acquisition process
  - Public notices posted by Amtrak at City's direction
  - Public meetings held by City (Planning Commission and City Council)
- Amtrak anticipates completing all subsurface acquisitions from the City in 2024





### **Group 1 Streets and Alleys Subsurface Acquisitions**

Presstman St up to Westwood Ave



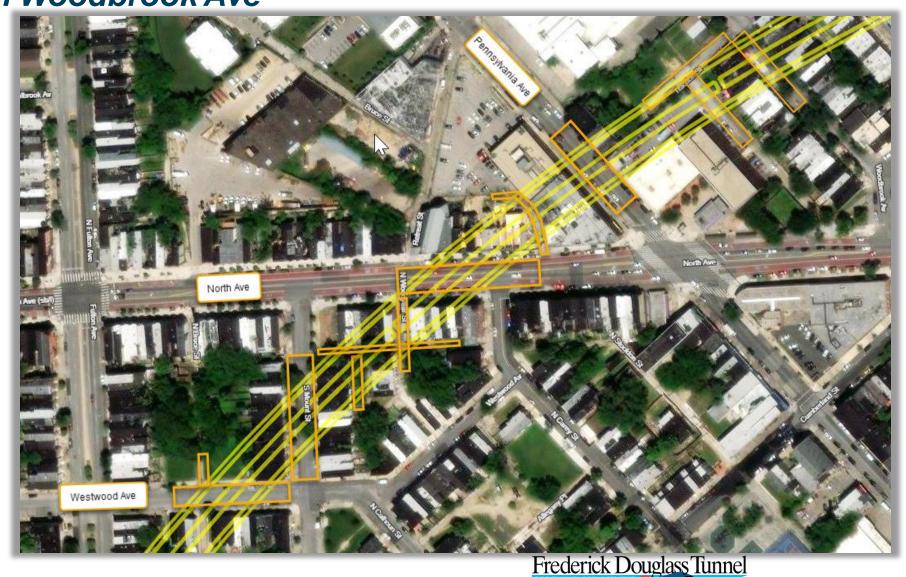
- Subsurface property acquisitions starting at depths between 20 and 100 feet beneath the surface.
- Tunnel is at least 60 to 100 feet beneath the surface.



### **Group 2 Streets and Alleys Subsurface Acquisitions**

Westwood Ave through Woodbrook Ave

- Subsurface property acquisitions starting at depths between 100 and 110 feet beneath the surface.
- Tunnel is at least 130 to 150 feet beneath the surface.



### **Group 3 Streets and Alleys Subsurface Acquisitions**

Woodbrook Ave through Linden Ave



- Subsurface property acquisitions starting at depths between 95 and
   115 feet beneath the surface.

  Frederick Douglass Tunnel
- Tunnel is at least 130 to 150 feet beneath the surface.

# Group 4 Streets and Alleys Subsurface Acquisitions Jordan St to Mount Royal Terrace

 Subsurface property acquisitions starting at depths between 85 and 115 feet beneath the surface.

**AMTRAK** 

Tunnel is at least 70 to 150 feet beneath the surface.

### **Streets and Alleys Surface Acquisitions**



All surface modifications will be communicated to the community with signage, meetings, and in coordination with Baltimore City DOT, City Council and Planning Commission

#### **New Corner Connections at:**

- N Bentalou St & Lauretta Alley
- N Pulaski St & W Lanvale St (example next slides)

Surface process is the same as subsurface process:

DOT >> City Council >> Planning Commission >> Mayors Office >> Transfer Ownership to Amtrak



### Acquisitions from Baltimore City in Midtown Edmondson







### **Acquisitions from Baltimore City for WBAL MARC**





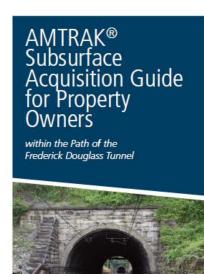


# **Questions / Discussion?**



### **Private Property Acquisitions**

- Amtrak's acquisition of real property for the Program is governed by the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA).
- Amtrak is working directly and privately with displaced businesses and residents in accordance with URA.
- Under the URA, Amtrak is required to:
  - Provide notice to property owners that their property may be affected
  - Provide owners with a valuation and offer of just compensation
- Negotiate in good faith with property owners
- Amtrak will acquire from approximately <u>604</u> private properties
  - 72 surface acquisitions
  - 532 subsurface acquisitions
- Additional acquisitions may be necessary as design progresses.
   Frederick Douglass Tunnel

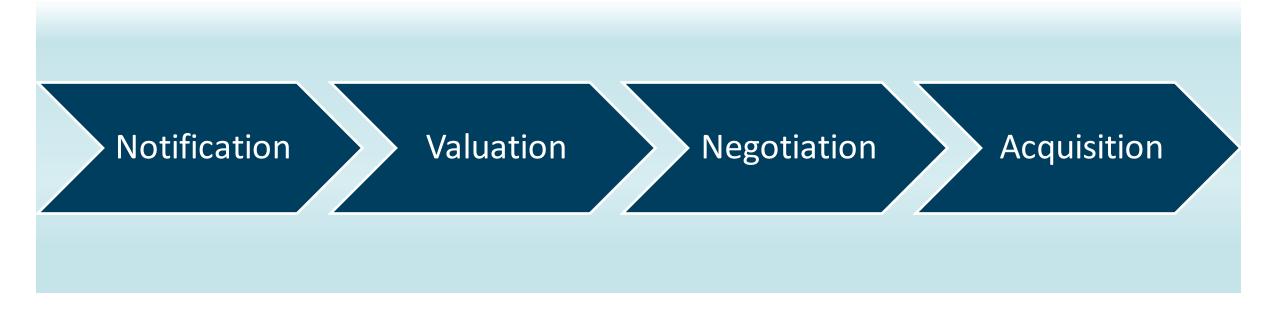


### **Private Property Acquisitions**

- Amtrak has been working on privately owned surface property acquisitions since 2022.
- While additional acquisitions may be identified, all approved surface acquisitions are in process or complete.
- Subsurface offers will begin in January 2024.
  - Amtrak intends to make all subsurface offers within 2024.
  - Each property owner will be contacted directly, receive an offer and a description of the property being acquired.
- Program Real Estate Questions may be directed to fdt.realestate@amtrak.com



# **Private Property Acquisition Process**



- While Amtrak has the statutory right of eminent domain, it is our preference to acquire by contract.
- Amtrak does not use eminent domain unnecessarily.
- Amtrak will negotiate in good faith to acquire by contract.





# **Questions / Discussion?**



# **Stay Connected**







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