Newsletter Issue 8 December 2024

# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT



#### **Recent Progress**

As part of early work for the Susquehanna River Bridge Project, Amtrak and its contractors successfully removed all ten of the remnant piers adjacent to the existing bridge. Concurrent with this work, necessary interim repairs to the existing Susquehanna River Bridge were completed. Amtrak also conducted in-river and onland monitoring to gather ambient noise and vibration data that will be used to inform the noise and vibration control plans. Additionally, Amtrak has completed preliminary proof borings in the river to verify geotechnical conditions prior to the start construction.

The construction contractor for the Project is continuing to coordinate with Amtrak to evaluate potential innovations to optimize schedule and cost during construction. These critical preconstruction activities and coordination will help prepare Amtrak and its contractors for bridge construction, anticipated to begin late next year. Click **here** to read more about recent project news.



Proof borings being completed near the shoreline

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- $igodoldsymbol{Q}$  Since the existing Susquehanna River Rail Bridge is more than 100 years old, is it still safe?
- A Yes, Amtrak regularly conducts bridge inspections in accordance with federal laws and regulations. In addition, Amtrak performs maintenance to the existing bridge structure to ensure that it continues to be safe and operational for train service.

Click here to view the other frequently asked questions about the project.

#### **Renderings of the New Bridges**



Illustrative rendering of the new Susquehanna Bridges

Since the planning stage of the Project began in 2014, Amtrak has solicited feedback from stakeholders on the design of the new bridges through public information sessions, meetings with the local municipalities, and written comments received during the federal environmental review process. Based on community input, the new bridge design incorporates a central, network-tied arch, a girder deck, and "keyhole" arch piers. These elements are considered a part of a traditional bridge design and were determined to be more compatible with the visual character of the Town of Perryville and the City of Havre de Grace than other styles.

# Cheers to 2024: a Year of Community Engagement

Amtrak takes pride in reaching the communities we serve by participating in and supporting local events. The Project Team joined the Town of Perryville for *Perryville National Night Out* on October 8, 2024 to raise awareness about the importance of railroad safety. In the spirit of the spooky season, the team brought the Amtrak ghost train to Perryville's *Halloween "Boo Bash"*. Amtrak also participated in the City of Havre de Grace's *Holly Jolly Festival* and Perryville's *Christmas in the Park*. Thank you to everyone who stopped by Amtrak's Susquehanna River Bridge Project information tables this year. The Project Team looks forward to continuing to be present in the community to answer questions and raise awareness about upcoming construction.



Havre de Grace First Friday on September 6, 2024

# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

Perryville National Night Out on October 8, 2024



Amtrak's ghost train at Perryville's Boo Bash on October 25, 2024

### **Procurement Updates**



Flatiron/Herzog JV DBE Outreach Event on October 24, 2024

The Flatiron/Herzog Joint Venture (JV) is actively seeking subcontractors to work on the Project. On October 23, 2024, the JV hosted an outreach event at Coppin State University in Baltimore to highlight potential Project-related opportunities for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and Small Business Enterprises (SBE). Firms certified as DBE or SBE businesses, as well as local businesses, are highly encouraged to reach out to the JV regarding procurement. Additionally, the JV will host a series of outreach events for subcontractors to learn more about the project. Please contact Nicole Copeland at TB&A at nicole@tbaconnects.com and visit the Contractor's website (www.srbjv.com) for more information.

## **Up Next**

Amtrak and its contractors will continue pre-construction work in preparation for the start of bridge construction at the end of 2025. Amtrak's contractor will begin the process of locating subsurface utilities within the Project area using ground penetrating radar, hand augers, and vacuum excavators. Underwater utility investigations will also take place near the existing bridge. Information gathered from these investigations will verify where utilities are located so necessary relocations and construction can be safely performed. Road closures will be coordinated with the appropriate authorities before the work begins. For more information please refer to our **December 2024 Project Update**.



View of the existing bridge from the Havre de Grace shoreline

## **Stay Informed**



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