

# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT



## About the Project

The 117-year-old bridge, which is a critical link along Amtrak's Northeast Corridor will be replaced with a new structure to maintain future rail services across the Susquehanna River. The project will provide future improvements to boost capacity, decrease trip time, and increase safety for commuter, freight, and intercity passenger rail services on the Northeast Corridor consistent with Amtrak and MARC plans. The project will also improve the navigation channel for marine users. The project area includes the existing Susquehanna River Rail Bridge and its approaches, spanning approximately 2.5 miles on either side of the bridge.



## About the Bridge

The Susquehanna River Rail Bridge is a two-track bridge built in 1906 between the Town of Perryville and the City of Havre de Grace, Maryland on the southern portion of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor. The bridge carries Amtrak passenger rail, Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) trains, and Norfolk Southern (NS) freight rail. Approximately 80-90 Amtrak trains (NEC and long distance), 12-14 MARC trains, and 8-10 NS freight trains use the bridge each day. The swing span is opened for marine traffic, typically up to ten times per year and requires upwards of 30 workers to manually open or close the bridge.


### Amtrak's Northeast Corridor



## Two New Bridges

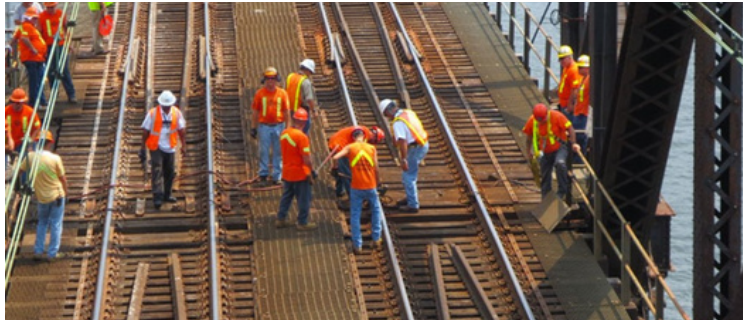
In coordination with project stakeholders, regulatory agencies, and members of the public, the project team developed and rigorously evaluated various alternatives. The selected alternative includes two new bridges -- one that can accommodate trains up to approximately 90mph and a second that will accommodate trains up to approximately 160mph. Both new bridges will have girder approach spans with network-tied arch main spans. With a total of four tracks, the new bridges will seamlessly serve passenger and freight train needs, allowing people and goods to get to their destinations quicker. The proposed design can also accommodate future expansion of passenger service.

## Stay Connected

 Website: <https://www.amtrak.com/susquehanna-river-rail-bridge-project>

 Email: [SRBProject@amtrak.com](mailto:SRBProject@amtrak.com)

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## Environmental Commitments

The project's environmental review phase was completed in 2017 with FRA's Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), which identified a series of required permits and approvals. Amtrak is meeting its environmental and community commitments as part of the current permitting phase including a re-evaluation of the original Environmental Assessment, coordinating closely with affected property owners, conducting detailed field investigations, and working to ensure the designs are aesthetically compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods.

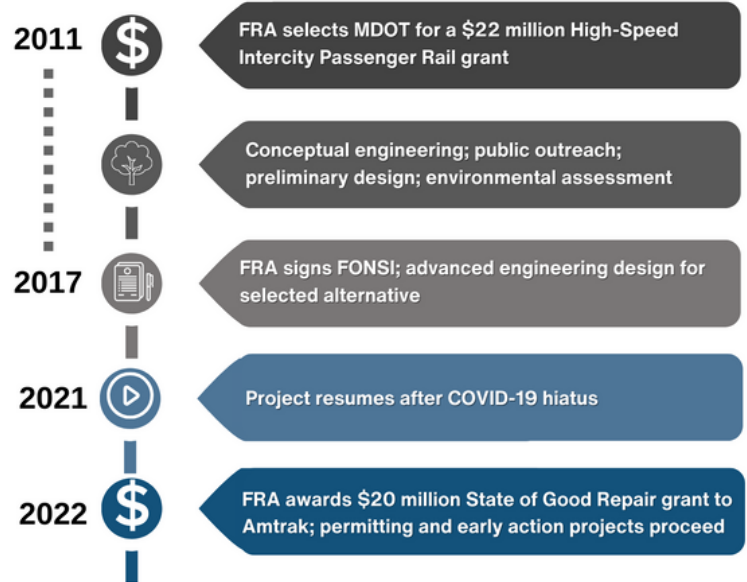
Other examples of current environmental work include determining the physical limits of wetlands and forest stands that will need to be protected during construction and coordinating with the Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Natural Resources, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, in preparation for early action work. Amtrak is also advancing the required cultural resource commitments including archeological investigations and coordinating with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office.

## What's Next

In the coming months, local residents and businesses may notice activities such as surveying and geotechnical investigations. Minor early construction activities from other projects will include the removal of the remnant piers in the Susquehanna River from the 1866 rail bridge, beginning as early as this summer. Amtrak expects to complete final design in 2024, and to begin bridge construction in 2025.

## Progress To Date

Together, the project team has completed the environmental review and preliminary design and is moving into the next phase. See below for an overview of accomplishments to date and where we are now.



## Get Involved

Amtrak, MDOT, and FRA have hosted a series of public meetings during the project's planning phase. If you would like to view the public meeting materials or learn more about the project, visit the project website listed below.



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