Newsletter Issue 10 June 2025

# **SUSQUEHANNA RIVER RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT**



#### **Recent Progress**

Over the past few months, Amtrak has been busy at work preparing for the start of construction. Crews began inwater subsurface utility investigations in the Susquehanna River on April 2, 2025 to locate underwater cables. Underwater investigations are taking place on the west side (upstream) of the existing bridge. Crews also completed geotechnical testing in various locations throughout the project site to provide the design and construction teams with a better understanding of subsurface conditions.



Crews identifying subsurface utilities



Crews conducting geotechnical testing in the Susquehanna River

# **Frequently Asked Questions**



• How will construction impact local businesses and tourist sites?

A Building a project of this magnitude in a developed area will result in some temporary inconveniences, such as increased noise levels and short-term traffic detours. Amtrak is committed to working with the host communities to minimize any negative effects and to provide ample notice to businesses and stakeholders. The project will also result in many benefits during construction. Large-scale construction projects create and sustain jobs and generate economic activity on a local level. For example, project workers will patronize local businesses, including restaurants, grocery stores, and hotels.

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

### Northern Map Turtle Conservation

Amtrak recognizes the Susquehanna River is rich in ecological diversity and is collaborating with natural resource agencies to mitigate potential impacts to fish and wildlife. As part of these mitigation efforts, six artificial basking platforms were installed in the river to test for effectiveness before the start of in-river construction. Adding additional basking locations in the river will support the Northern Map Turtle population, which relies on basking for reproduction. Per guidelines from the Maryland Department of the Environment, signage near each platform was installed to alert waterway users. Crews will continue to conduct Northern Map Turtle surveys through June 2025.



Northern Map Turtle basking platforms

## **Community Corner**

Amtrak was pleased to volunteer at the 25th Annual River Sweep hosted by the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway (LSHG) in celebration of Earth Day on April 26, 2025. During the volunteer event, members of the Project Team and their families worked together to clean up trash and debris near the waterfront. On the other side of the river, the team participated in the May 2, 2025 Havre de Grace First Friday event. The team was pleased to return to this event and had the opportunity to speak with community members and answer questions about the Project.



LSHG's 25th Annual River Sweep on April 26, 2025



First Friday at Havre de Grace on May 2, 2025

#### "The B1M" Features the Susquehanna Bridge

The B1M, the largest infrastructure YouTube channel, recently traveled along the Northeast Corridor to document the historic investments now underway to rebuild America's infrastructure. Dexter Fordyce (Amtrak Senior Project Director) and Adam Matthews (Flatiron-Herzog JV Senior Project Manager) joined Fred Mills of The B1M to explain the importance of the Susquehanna River Bridge Project. Click <u>here</u> or scan the QR code to watch the full video.



Project Team filming the B1M video

#### Meet the Team

Pete Mazzeo is the HNTB Project Manager for Amtrak's Susquehanna River Bridge Project. HNTB has been providing engineering and design services for the Project since it began in 2013 and will continue through completion of final design. Pete is a Senior Project Manager with over 30 years of structural engineering experience, during which he has led a variety of bridge projects through preliminary, final and post-design. His bridge-related experience includes the modern design of fixed and movable bridges, including multiple major river crossings. Pete has been with HNTB since 2005 and has been leading the Susquehanna River Bridge design team since 2019.

Amtrak has been spearheading a comprehensive community outreach program since 2014. By raising awareness of the project, being present at local events, and engaging with community groups, Amtrak is bridging communities on both sides of the Susquehanna River and beyond. Have a question or comment? Reach out to us using the contact information listed below.



Pete Mazzeo, HNTB Project Manager



#### **Stay Informed**



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