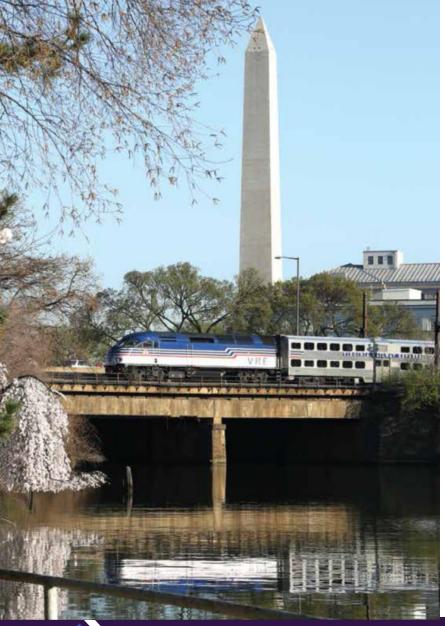
Long Bridge: Key Stakeholder Coordination for Success

Oscar J. Gonzalez *Project Manager* **Virginia Railway Express** *Alexandria, VA*









TODAY'S PRESENTATION

VRE Overview

Long Bridge Overview Long Bridge Corridor Project

- Purpose and Need Definition
- Identifying and Involving Stakeholders



WHO WE ARE

Commuter rail system Co-owned by two **Transportation Commissions** 9 member jurisdictions Two lines, 87 route-miles 4.5 million annual riders between Virginia and DC (19,500 daily trips)







WHAT WE DO

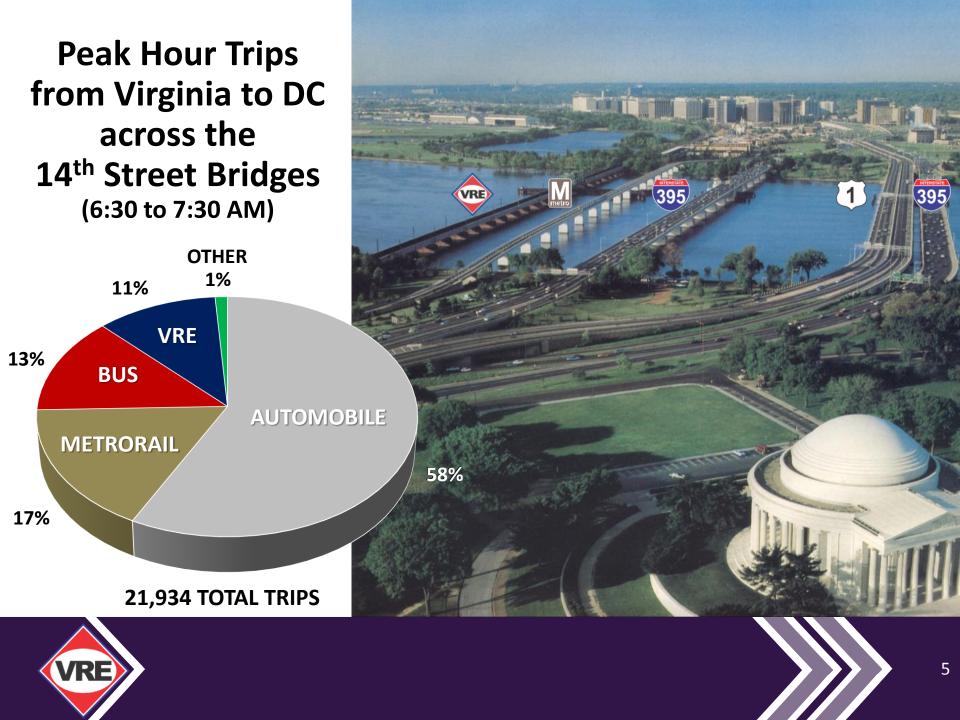
We add <u>peak</u> capacity... *Currently 5,400 peak seats/hour*

...to corridors of statewide significance... *I-66, I-95 & I-395*

...for longer-distance commuters... Travelers that would otherwise drive on highways

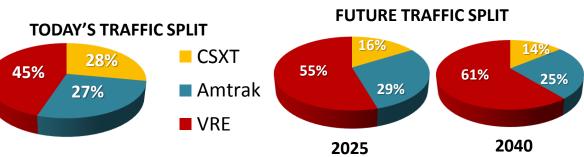
...using non-highway rights-of-way *CSXT, NS & Amtrak*





LONG BRIDGE

- Demand for passenger service increasing
 - VRE's and Amtrak's shares of the overall traffic are growing
 - Two more tracks needed to handle the projected increase in Amtrak Virginia and VRE train services
- The volume of CSXT freight traffic is also projected to increase







LONG BRIDGE

- Long Bridge is the greatest railroad bottleneck on the Eastern Seaboard
- All Virginia railroad traffic converges at the Long Bridge crossing of the Potomac River
 - Shared by CSXT freight trains,
 VRE commuter rail trains,
 and state-sponsored Amtrak trains
 - Future growth in Virginia passenger rail service depends upon increasing the capacity of the Long Bridge crossing





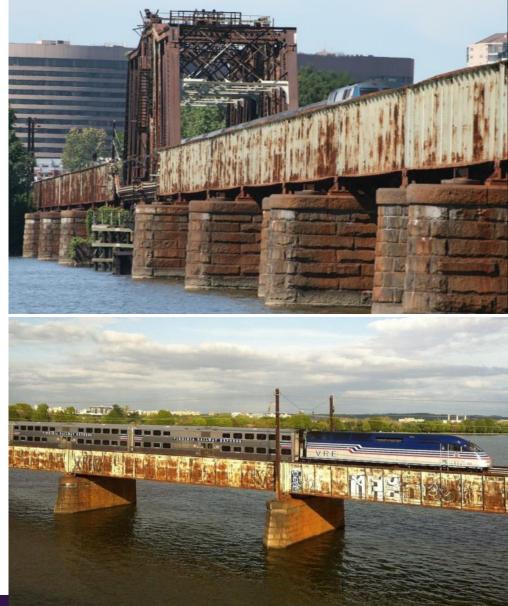
LONG BRIDGE

Two track, half-mile crossing of the Potomac

11-span steel truss bridge with one moveable span *Has not moved since 1967*

Built by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1904 *Extensively rebuilt in 1943*

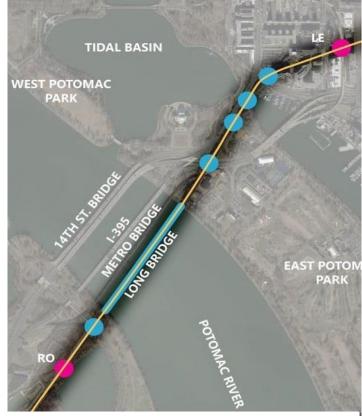
Owned by CSX Transportation Shared with VRE and Amtrak passenger trains

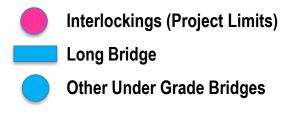




LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT PROJECT AREA

- 1.4 miles in length
- Project Limits:
 - L'Enfant Interlocking (LE) on the north
 - RO Interlocking (Rosslyn) on the south
- Includes Long Bridge plus five additional under grade bridges
- Design challenges
 - Tight track centers due to constrained ROW
 - Fixed "overbuild" under Maryland Avenue
 - Significant adjacent development
 - Sensitive park/historic resources
 - Security sensitive area







LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT CURRENT DRAFT EIS/PE PHASE

- Funded by TIGER grant
 - FRA lead federal agency
 - DDOT is lead local agency/project manager
 - Host of other agencies with jurisdiction or special areas of interest
- EIS & Preliminary Engineering underway
 - Expect completion in 2020
- Inter-Agency Partnership
 - Policy Oversight Committee (POC)
 - Project Management Team (PMT) consists of FRA, DDOT, DRPT, VRE, and CSXT
 - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consists of FRA, DDOT, DRPT, VRE, CSXT, and Amtrak







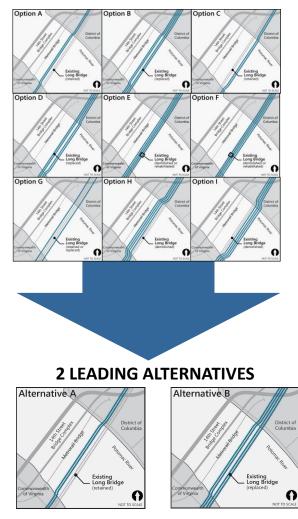
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LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT

CURRENT PROJECT PROGRESS

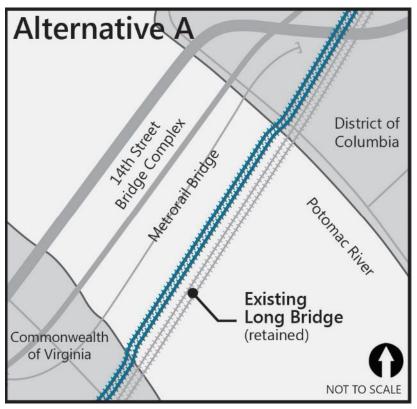
- Purpose and Need defined
 - Railroad capacity
 - Railroad network connectivity
 - Railroad resiliency and redundancy
- DEIS development proceeding
 - Draft chapters under development
 - Section 106 coordination reviews
- Concept Engineering of alignment
 - sufficient for NEPA and proof-of-concept
- Key DEIS Issues
 - Threat & Vulnerability/Hazard Analysis Issues
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian assessment
 - NPS/Property Issues

9 PRELIMINARY OPTIONS

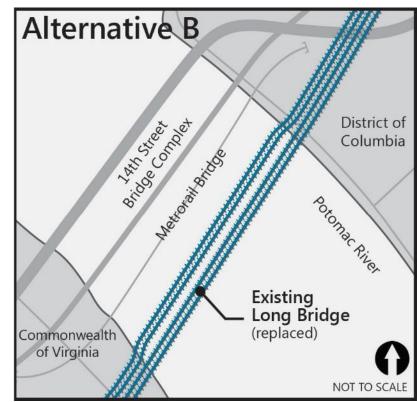




LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVES FOR DRAFT EIS



- New 2-track bridge upstream of existing bridge
- <u>Retain</u> existing bridge

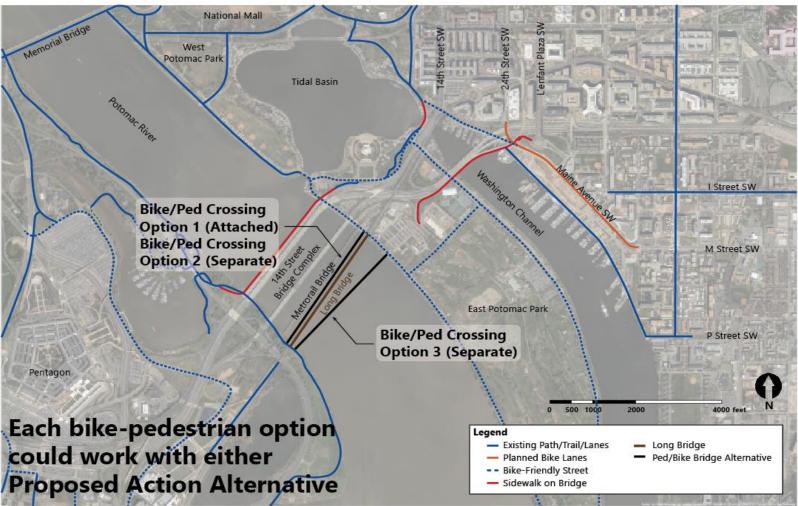


- New 2-track bridge upstream of existing bridge
- <u>Replace</u> existing bridge



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LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT BIKE-PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OPPORTUNITIES





LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT KEY ACTIVITIES

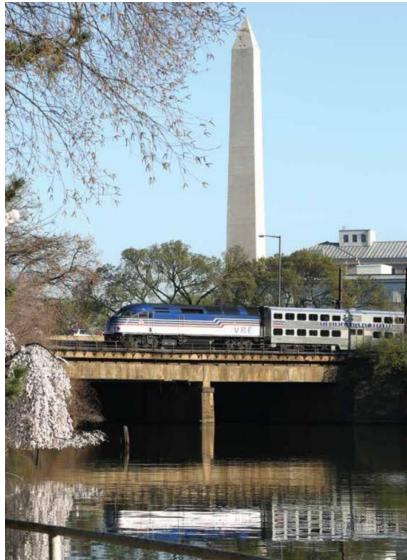
- Timely completion of current phase
 - Timely resolution of design/alignment constraints
 - Timely identification of necessary mitigations
 - Maintenance of traffic during construction
- Governance Issues
 - Continuing public control of/access to the corridor improvements
 - On-going funding of the operating and maintenance of corridor improvements
- Funding for final design and construction
 - \$30 million available from CSXT and DRPT to start final design (as part of Atlantic Gateway)





LONG BRIDGE CORRIDOR PROJECT LESSONS LEARNED

- Be specific in developing the Purpose and Need Statement
- Engage stakeholders early and often
 - Engage strategically
 - e.g.: POC PMT TAC
 - Keep relevant to stakeholders' interests and responsibilities
 - Identify and keep focused on realistic expectations





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