



UNION STATION  
REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015



## — JOB OPENING —

### Project Director

USRC is currently looking to hire a Project Director.  
For more information, visit our website, [here](#).

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## — NEWS AND EVENTS —

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### Union Station Completes The First Ever Historic Preservation Plan

USRC in partnership with Amtrak, Akridge and Union Station Investco (USI), have completed the official Historic Preservation Plan for the Washington Union Station complex. This plan marks the culmination of a 14-month drafting process where station partners worked with Building Conservation Associates, Inc. (BCA) to ensure the plan included a catalog of historical information from the Station's construction to present day, as well as a technical analysis of the current condition of the historic elements, and will serve as a guide for future preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction efforts. Click [here](#) to view the full plan.

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### Union Station Partners Receive Lambda Alpha's International Skyline Award

In April, USRC and its partners Amtrak and Akridge, were awarded the 2015 International Skyline Award by Lambda Alpha International. The award recognized the partners for their creative partnership on the plans for Union Station's 2nd Century. Each year Lambda Alpha nominates two projects from each of its chapter's cities for the Skyline Award. The International Awards committee then reviews all nominations and selects the winner. The Skyline Award recognizes both individuals and projects that have made major contributions to the betterment of urban areas. The partnership was recognized as a world-class model of integrating innovations in historic preservation, improving multi-modal transportation infrastructure, urban neighborhood development, and iconic place making.

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## Columbus Plaza's New Signage and Paint Striping

The Union Station stakeholders continue to implement traffic enforcement and other recommendations for Columbus Plaza presented last fall in a comprehensive assessment contracted by USRC. One of the major actions was improvement of vehicular markings and signage throughout the traffic circle. Most recently, in May, DDOT installed pavement markings and new signage in Columbus Plaza and along Massachusetts Avenue to better direct the various users of Union Station.

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## Nation's Station Tour of New York City's Grand Central Terminal and Moynihan Station

In early June USRC attended the Nation's Stations Networking Meeting in New York City. The meeting consisted of three tours: Grand Central Terminal, Grand Central Terminal's East Side Access Project, and Moynihan Station. Grand Central is the busiest passenger rail station in the nation, and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has designed a project to bring the Long Island Rail Road into a new East Side station, to be built 140 feet below, and incorporated into, Grand Central's main terminal. The following tour, of Moynihan Station featured the project that New York's Empire State Development's conversion of the adjacent Farley Post Office Building into the new Manhattan home for Amtrak. The goal of this project is to create an iconic railroad passenger station and mixed-use development befitting New York City. All three tours were highly informative and great basis for comparison for the vision of Union Station's 2nd Century. Also in attendance were representatives from Boston South Station, Raleigh Union Station and Los Angeles Union Station.

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## Grand Opening of Union Station's First Lending Library

USRC, along with USPG recently opened Union Station's first Lending Library. The library currently holds over 100 books, ranging in categories from fiction, auto-biographies, children's literature, young adult, and more. The library was originally inspired by the Bryant Park Reading Room in New York City, and is open to the public at no charge. Situated in the waiting pavilion on the bus deck level of the parking garage, the lending library operates on a leave-one/take-one system, and visitors are encouraged to use the books while waiting for their rides or even take them along on their trips. Likewise, any additions to the library from passengers are also welcomed. The books hosted on the shelves have been donated by Better World Books, an organization whose mission is to promote and fund literacy, and who donates books with every purchase made on their website [www.BetterWorldBooks.com](http://www.BetterWorldBooks.com).

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## Station Partners hire BBB/Grimshaw to produce a Master Development Plan for Union Station's 2nd Century

USRC, along with Amtrak and Akridge commissioned Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP and

Grimshaw Architects (BBB/Grimshaw) to create the Master Development Plan for Union Station's 2nd Century. Building on the initial vision presented in Amtrak's 2012 Washington Union Terminal Master Plan, the Master Development Plan for Union Station's 2nd Century is the next major milestone in the process and will encompass comprehensive planning, public engagement, and an environmental assessment. The project scope also includes conceptual design services for improving and expanding passenger spaces, enhancing the overall customer experience, as well as analysis and progression of the initial 2012 vision concepts to ensure the development enhances the functionality of the existing regional inter-modal facility.

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## Union Station's Mobile Tour App is Live

The app is now available for download on GooglePlay and iTunes. You can find it by searching for "Union Station Tour: Washington, DC". The app is free and targets visitors of Union Station who are interested in learning about the historic station, its existing features, and plans for its 2nd Century. Key features of the application include: a virtual tour and photo gallery, complete with historic images; a scavenger hunt, where visitors are challenged to seek out interesting focal points in and around the station; a quiz, to test your knowledge on the history of the station and interesting facts; a comprehensive time line on the station; and most importantly, a collection of information on each room within the historic station, separated into various stages of the station's life - "early years", "mid-century", "decline & revitalization" and "second century".



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— GET TO KNOW —

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## Lezlie Rupert, Principal Planner

Meet Lezlie Rupert, USRC's new Principal Planner. Lezlie joins USRC from the District's Department of Transportation, where she served as their former Environmental Program Manager. The recent announcement of the Master Development Plan team for Union Station's 2nd Century peaked Lezlie's interest in the job.

She is very excited about project management, and in particular, working with the Master Development Plan team on the environmental and community engagement processes that lay ahead for the project. She has a passion for community transportation projects, and is looking forward to her involvement in a project that will improve the experience of visitors and commuters to the District.

Lezlie received her Master's degree in International Development from American University and her undergraduate degree in Sociology from University of Maryland at College Park. She lives on Capitol Hill and loves her easy commute to work! She also enjoys riding her bicycle, traveling, being outside, and dining with friends.

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— A PIECE OF HISTORY —

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This image (circa early 1900s) shows the east elevation of Union Station during construction, and really captures the amount of fill upon which the station was built. (Source: Library of Congress)

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