

Status of the Washington Union Station Expansion Project

August 30, 2022

In summer 2022, in collaboration with the [Federal Railroad Administration](#) (FRA) and [Amtrak, Union Station Redevelopment Corporation](#) (USRC) presented the revised concept for the [Washington Union Station Expansion Project](#) (SEP or project) to the [U.S. Commission of Fine Arts](#) and the [National Capital Planning Commission](#).

To address previous public comments, USRC, as one of the project proponents with Amtrak, worked with FRA, Akridge, the intercity bus carriers, the Guild of Professional Tour Guides, the District government, and other stakeholders to develop the new alternative. Moving beyond the constraints of the existing property lines, USRC, Amtrak, and FRA were able to reimagine the SEP by shifting the focus to the importance of Union Station as a regional transportation hub. As a public transportation project, the primary objective is an expansion that manages the anticipated growth and improves the passenger and visitor experience for all travelers regardless of what mode they use to depart from or arrive to Washington, DC.

The heart of the SEP is the existing Beaux-Arts station, designed by Daniel Burnham and opened in 1907, which will be preserved for future generations to come. The new alternative includes:

- New rail infrastructure, including tracks and platforms, which will provide safe ingress and egress for all rail passengers, create more efficient operations, and facilitate future rail growth;
- A new train hall with new passenger concourses, north of the historic station, that will create additional multimodal connections and offer more amenities for travelers and visitors;
- A new bus facility, which will have upgraded passenger amenities and the additional capacity necessary for future intercity bus travel, as well as space for tour and charter groups; and
- Enhanced connections to Metrorail, DC Streetcar, local buses, and H Street NE and re-established connections with the surrounding neighborhoods, NoMa and Capitol Hill, via the H Street NE concourse.

All these important upgrades are being accomplished while maintaining the primacy and historic significance of the existing station building.

The new design by international architecture practice, Grimshaw, in collaboration with Beyer Blinder Belle, Arup, and VHB, is a great foundation for the future of Union Station and is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to significantly upgrade the building's capacity for the next century while providing equitable access for all members of the traveling public. USRC looks forward to continuing to work with its partners and all the stakeholders to advance and refine this alternative as the process continues.

Please click [here](#) to see a brief video about the SEP proposal.