

Jeffrey Ensor Amtrak Project Manager B&P Tunnel Project jeffrey.ensor@amtrak.com

October 13, 2023

Reservoir Hill Association, Inc. Board of Directors P.O. Box 12566, Baltimore MD, 21217 board@reservoirhillassociation.org

Dear Mr. Ensor,

We are writing to request two publicly held meetings at Dorothy I. Height Elementary School in November and December in order to thoroughly prepare the impacted community for the projected end of year groundbreaking. The Reservoir Hill Association (RHA) will coordinate future meetings with Amtrak in collaboration with all the resident run organizations in the community, including but not limited to the two Baltimore City historic district organizations: Upper Eutaw Madison Neighborhood Association (UEMNA), Historic Mount Royal Historic District, the Historic Mount Royal Terrace Association (HMRTA); and other nonprofit organizations working in the community on this issue, including Residents Against the Tunnels (RATT).

## In preparation for these meetings,

- 1. We demand that Amtrak provide clear public notice of its plans in the Reservoir Hill community. To this end we demand Amtrak to:
  - a. Co-host at least two public and in-person meetings prior to planned ground-breaking and host one meeting per quarter after construction has begun.
  - b. Provide clear public notice for each meeting at least two weeks prior to each meeting. Public notice will include 3'x 4' outdoor signs to be affixed in at least four prominent locations at the east and west entrances to the neighborhood, mailed announcements of each meeting to all Reservoir Hill residents, and a digital flier for use on Twitter, NextDoor, Facebook, and Instagram.
  - c. Assume all costs related to mailing and posting for all future meetings.
  - d. Notify, by certified mail, each community member who either lives on or above land or subsurface routes and/or lives in/or adjacent to a building slated to be demolished, deconstructed or acquired for the B&P Tunnel project by at least October 31, 2023.
  - e. Notify and invite each representative at the local, state and federal level of each meeting.

- 2. During the first community wide meeting, we demand that Amtrak make a clear articulation of the B&P Tunnel construction which is time and place based. To this end we request:
  - a. A Reservoir Hill specific multiphase construction plan that includes a timeline for property acquisition, subsurface route acquisition, property examination, documentation, and insurance coverage, property deconstruction, and construction of the B & P Tunnel.
  - b. A Reservoir Hill specific map of the construction sites which should include slush ponds, drill locations, and truck routes.
- 3. We demand that Amtrak make the impact of the B&P Tunnel visually clear, legible, and easily ascertained by the community. To this end we demand Amtrak to:
  - a. Provide printed and laminated reference maps, no less than (34 X 44 inches) for the education and reference of the community, which will become the property of the Reservoir Hill Association for educational purposes and will be displayed publicly for the knowledge of the community. Maps will be shared amongst all the community associations for the education of their membership and the public. At minimum we request the following maps:
    - i. A birds-eye-view map of the B&P tunnel path which clearly demarcates housing lots, house numbers, street and alley names, and notes tunnel depths and rates of change. Each building,lot, street, and alley slated for acquisition, subsurface rights acquisition, deconstruction, or demolition be clearly marked as such.
    - ii. A satellite overlay that clearly demarcates historic buildings, landmarks, parks, and the borders of historic districts.
    - iii. A cross-section of the tunnel path which demonstrates the depths of the tunnel across the neighborhood.
- 4. We demand that Amtrak provide a clear and detailed safety and emergency response plan for each phase of the project from acquisition, deconstruction, construction, and regular, ongoing train operations. To this end we demand:
  - a. A clearly articulated emergency response plan which articulates potential disasters, impact zones and the resulting resident evacuation protocol.
     Emergencies should include but are not limited to fire, chemical and waste spills, vibrational damage, ground movement and displacement, and water contamination.
  - A proposed system for community emergency notification, communication and resource coordination plan for community members, city, local and federal agencies.
  - c. A clear and written articulation of what impact Amtrak would be legally liable for in cases of disaster and accident.
  - d. A financial compensation plan for impacted residents with a clear articulation of who would be eligible for recompense if there is a disaster and the minimum and maximum amount of funds available to individual residents.
- 5. We demand that Amtrak explain in clear and persuasive terms why it is unable or unwilling to find a way to minimize impact and harm to persons living in and

- businesses operating in the existing Reservoir Hill area by both building and operating the new tunnels in the same right of way of the existing B&P Tunnel.
- 6. In an effort to educate the community, we demand that Amtrak make available the appropriate experts to answer future community questions. To this end, we demand that Amtrak ensure the presence of the geology contractors, structural engineers, and project managers at future community meetings who can explain existing technical reports.

We appreciate Amtrak's cooperation with ensuring the B&P Project is equitable, transparent, and honest. Please respond to this set of demands by Friday, October 20 with whether or not you are able to make the requested deadlines.

Thank you for your cooperation,

— Docusigned by:

Keondra Prier President

Reservoir Hill Association

(RHA)

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President

Upper Eutaw Madison Neighborhood Association

(UEMNA)

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Laura Amlie

President

Residents Against The Tunnels

(RATT)

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Kim Forsyth President

Mt. Royal Historic District

(MRTH)

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Barbara Bourland

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President

Historic Mt. Royal Terrace

Association (HMRTA)

Cc:

Councilman James Torrence

Tarek Bolden, City Planner II Western District, Department of Planning

Lauren Schiszik, Historic Preservation Planner, Department of Planning

State Senator Antonio Hayes

United States Representative Kweisi Mfume

Maryland Delegate Marlon Amprey

Maryland Delegate Frank Conaway, Jr.

Maryland Delegate Melissa Wells

United States Senator Benjamin Cardin

United States Senator Chris Van Hollen

Odessa L. Phillip, Assedo Consulting