

#### 2011 Rail~Volution

# Union Station Metrorail Access and Capacity Improvements

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Office of Long Range Planning

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### Acknowledgement

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   Robin McElhenney, Scott Peterson, Matthew Zych
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- Parsons Brinkerhoff



### **Presentation Outline**

- Purpose
- Station and Area Growth
- Existing Conditions
- Access and Capacity Improvements
- Project Progress



### **Purpose**

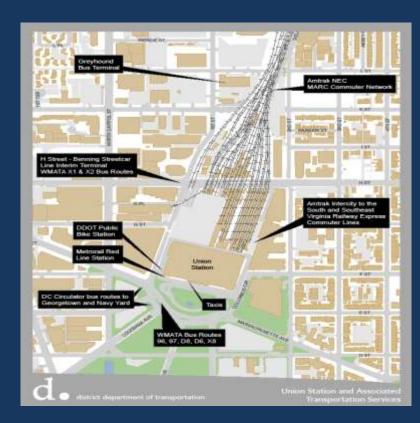
- Introduce Metro's innovative approach of integrating station planning with area development
  - Understand development impacts and station growth
  - Identify potential improvements through engineering and architectural design
  - Apply dynamic pedestrian simulation and measures-of -effectiveness to asses benefits





#### **Station and Area Growth**

- Busiest Metrorail station and part of the Union Station intermodal center
  - 9 million Metro riders annually
  - Nearly 70% riders from Amtrak/commuter rail in AM peak period
  - 60% riders from Maryland and Virginia
- Planned large-scale development within walking distance to north mezzanine
- Expansion of local, regional and intercity transportation services





### **Station and Area Growth**











#### **Station and Area Growth**

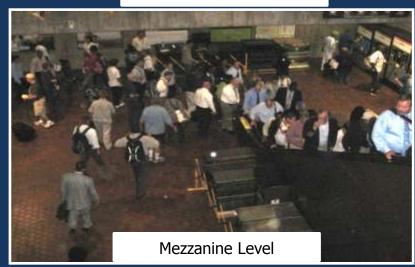
- Major area development will concentrate to the north, impacting Metrorail's north mezzanine
- Pedestrian traffic at North Mezzanine will grow by 60% by 2030
- Development of station area and Union Station will stress an already crowded station, from platform, mezzanine to Amtrak concourse



## **Existing Conditions (N. Mezz)**



Mezzanine Level





**Amtrak Concourse** 





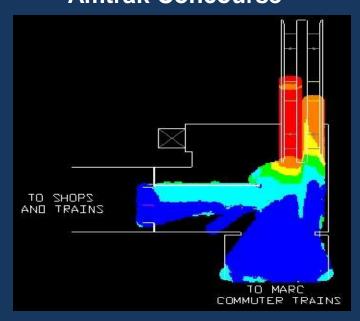
## **Existing Conditions** (N. Mezz, PM Peak)



#### **North Mezzanine**

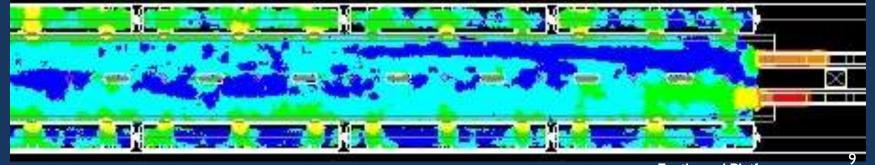


#### **Amtrak Concourse**



#### **North End of Platform**

Westbound Platform





## Access and Capacity Improvements Study Approach

- Focus on North Mezzanine
  - Higher level of peak congestion than south mezzanine
  - Planned development to the north side
  - Structure and right-of-way constraints at south mezzanine
- Apply a combination of techniques to identify station constraints, improvements and performance
  - Engineering and structure feasibility assessment
  - Architectural design
  - Dynamic pedestrian simulation
  - Measures of Effectiveness (MOE)
  - Ridership projection for development plans
- Involve stakeholders throughout the study



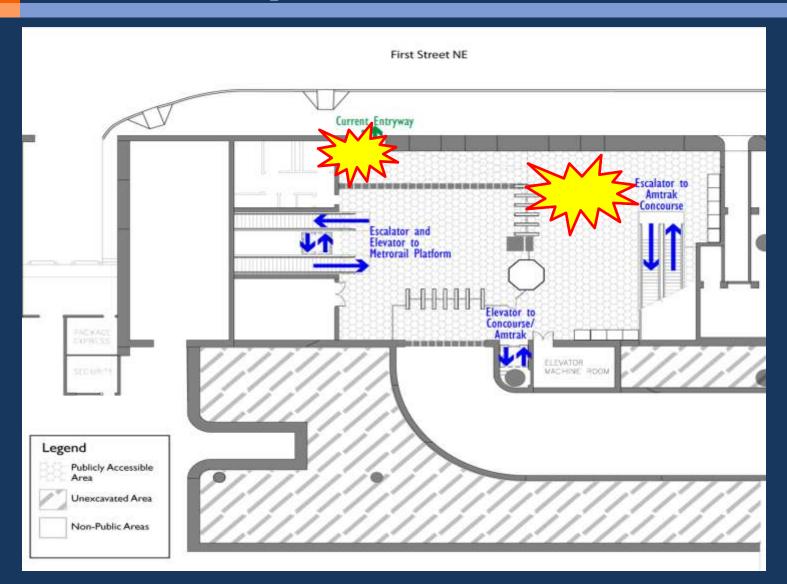
## Access and Capacity Improvements Study Approach

- Design Principles
  - Increase station capacity, improve passenger access, reduce travel time and enhance safety
  - Fit compatibly with existing building functions and historic qualities
- Formulate two improvement alternatives
  - Partial Build:
     Focuses on improvements at the mezzanine level
  - Full Build:

Includes Partial Build and adds vertical connections to Metrorail platform and Amtrak concourse

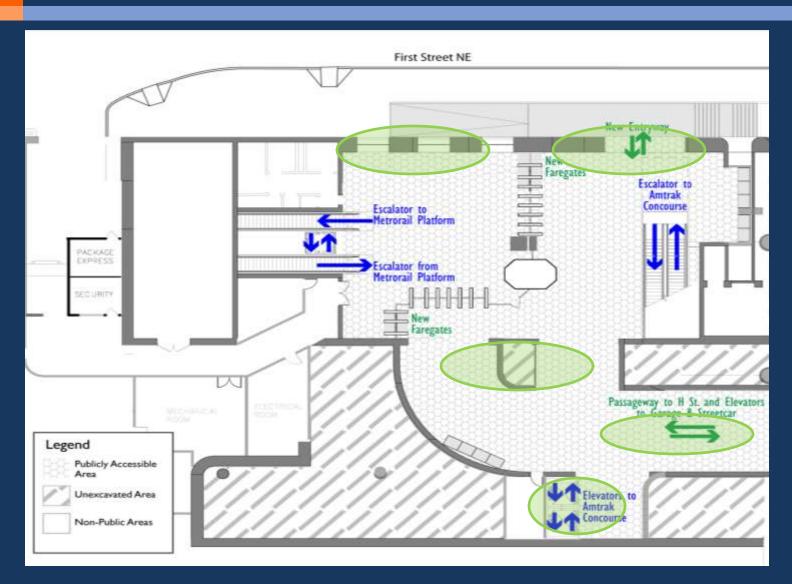


## **Access and Capacity Improvements Current Layout**



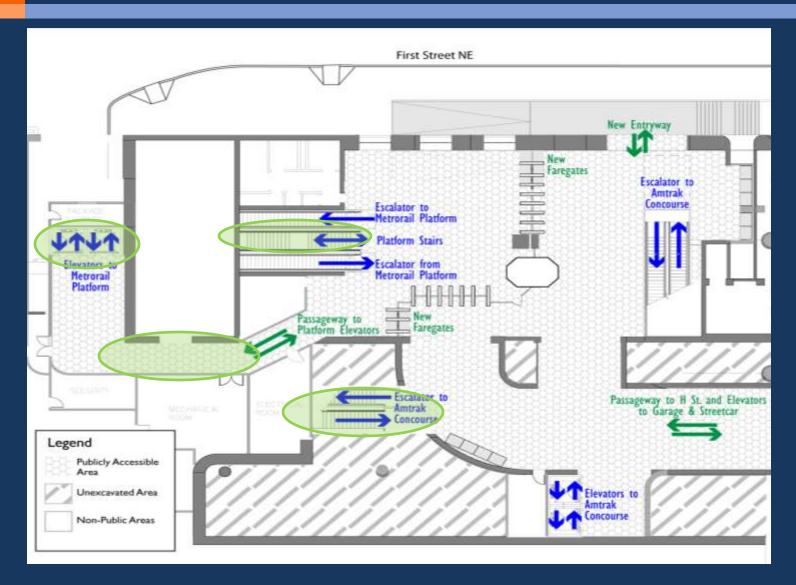


## **Access and Capacity Improvements Partial Build**





## Access and Capacity Improvements Full Build

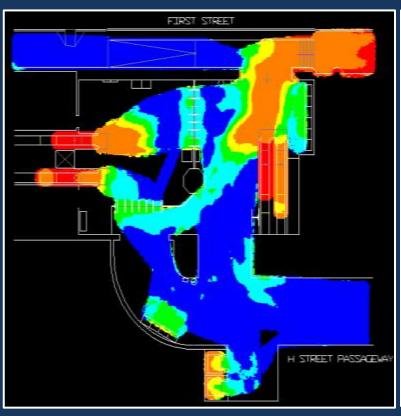


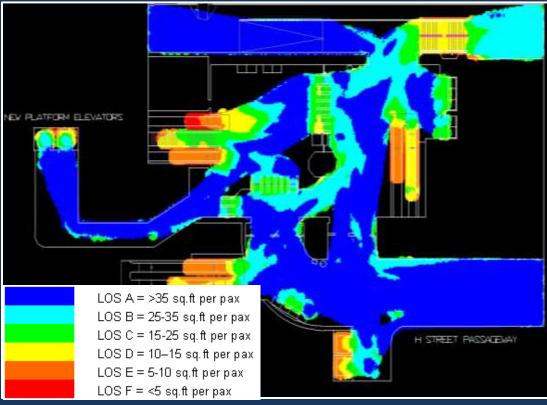


## **Access and Capacity Improvements 2030 Conditions**

#### **Mezzanine Ground Level**

Partial Build Full Build





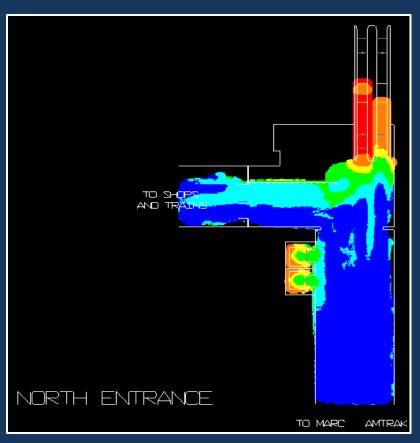


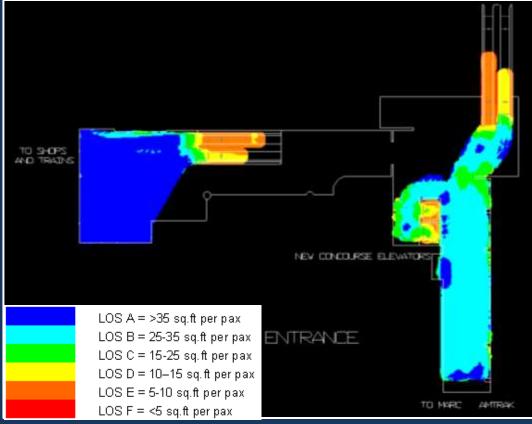
## Access and Capacity Improvements 2030 Conditions

#### **Amtrak Concourse**

**Partial Build** 

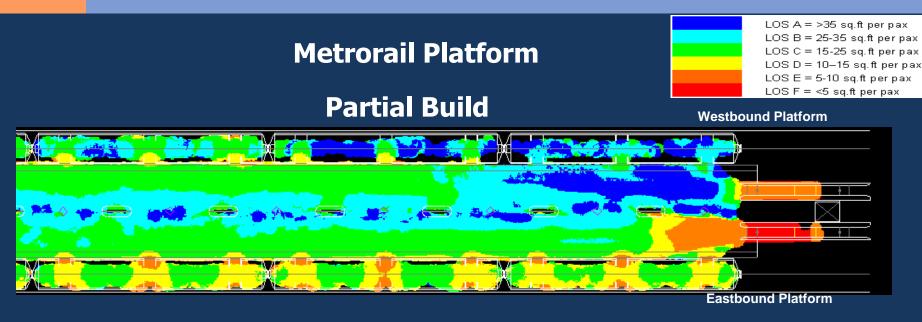
**Full Build** 

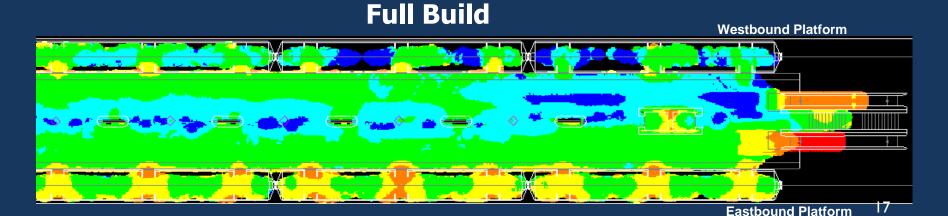






## **Access and Capacity Improvements 2030 Conditions**







### **Access and Capacity Improvements** First St. Entrance

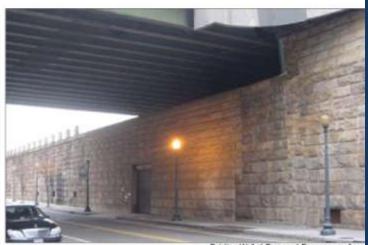




1st Street North Mezzanine Entry Conce







Existing Wall at Proposed Passageway Acce



### **Costs and Benefits**

	Partial Build	Full Build
Capital Costs (FY10 Dollar)	\$28.5 million	\$35.8 million
Benefits		
Capacity	Moderate capacity expansion on mezzanine level. No improvements on platform	Significant capacity expansion on all 3 levels of north mezzanine: mezzanine, platform and concourse
Access	• Direct link to new development, streetcar & intercity bus terminal	<ul> <li>Direct link to new development, streetcar</li> <li>&amp; intercity bus terminal</li> <li>Improved access to commuter rail,</li> <li>Amtrak and retail at Union Station</li> </ul>
Safety	Modest safety enhancements on the mezzanine level resulted from reduced pedestrian conflicts	Significant safety improvements on all three levels, in particular Metrorail platform
Travel Time Savings (Person-Hours)	• H St. passageway: annual savings of 99,500 person-hours	<ul> <li>H St. passageway: same as Partial Build</li> <li>North mezzanine: annual savings of 33,500 person-hours resulted from reduced congestion</li> </ul>



#### **Project Progress**

- Coordinate with DDOT, USRC (Union Station Redevelopment Corporation) and Amtrak
- Refine phasing strategy for advancing project
- Prepare for environmental clearance and PE
- Pursue potential funding sources for construction
- Apply study approach to other core station studies

