## Long Bridge Capital Trails Symposium November 2019







### What is the project?





- The Long Bridge Project will rehab an aging rail connection between DC and Crystal City, over the Potomac River.
- Existing two-track railroad bridge is owned by CSX and serves freight, Amtrak, and commuter rail (VRE).
- Study area is 1.8 miles long.
- The mitigation measure for the rail improvements is a new bike-pedestrian crossing.

## **Major Milestones**

- 2016: FRA awarded DDOT a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- January 2018: Alternatives Development Report published
  - Showed overwhelming public support for the bike-ped crossing
- September 2019: Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) published
  - Bike-pedestrian crossing was included as a mitigation measure for the rail components of the project.
- October 2019: Public hearings



### What's notable or exciting about the project?

- This could be the best bike-ped crossing of the Potomac River!
- Anticipated increased trail demand with the growth of SW DC and Crystal City / National Landing (Amazon HQ2, etc.)
- Increased resilience in the trail network as other bridges come on/offline during construction, special events or repairs.
- Support from elected officials on both sides of the river.

# What does Long Bridge need from the Capital Trails Coalition?

- Continued positive support of the bike-ped crossing to implementing agencies
- More, and consistent, trail count and Long Bridge Park use data
- Continued coordination b/w fed. Agencies, developers, community groups
- Support for a continuous and logical connection on the DC side of the river.

