

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Washington, DC (May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023)** -- InfrastructureDC (IDC), a nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating investment in the District of Columbia's public infrastructure, today announced the launch of the Union Station Expansion Project Delivery and Governance Study in partnership with the District of Columbia Government. The Study will assess how best to complete the Union Station Expansion Project (SEP), a critical next step in its modernization and transformation into a world-class multimodal transportation facility.

To help guide the Study, IDC has convened an Advisory Group composed of representatives from Union Station Redevelopment Corporation, Amtrak, the United States Department of Transportation, the Federal Railroad Administration, the DC Office of Planning (OP), and the District Department of Transportation. The Advisory Group will provide guidance to the contractors responsible for conducting the study and seek input from regional stakeholders.

Funded by a grant from OP, the study will provide the framework for project delivery. IDC has engaged a consultant team led by CohnReznick, LLP to work with the Advisory Group on identifying the optimal delivery, financing, and governance mechanisms needed to realize this mega-project. The Study is intended to take advantage of the new, historic levels of federal funding for transportation and infrastructure projects.

The Union Station Expansion Project advances the District's efforts to revitalize Downtown DC and the DC Comeback Plan. As the primary portal to Downtown DC, a redeveloped Union Station is essential to the economic vitality of the District and the Region including the mobility of residents, workers, and visitors.

For questions, please contact the Project Director: Laura Miller Brooks Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Federal City Council Imillerbrooks@federalcitycouncil.org

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#### About the Union Station Expansion Project (SEP)

The Washington Union Station Expansion Project (SEP) represents the most significant infrastructure opportunity in the District of Columbia. The SEP, along with Burnham Place --the 3 million square feet of private air rights development over the rail yard and behind the historic train station, will transform the fabric of the Nation's capital and the greater Washington region's transportation network.

Today, Union Station is the second busiest rail station in the country and serves more people than each of the three regional airports. It is a prized transportation asset that has catalyzed economic growth in its

surrounding neighborhoods and the Northeast Corridor since it was originally built in 1907. However, the station can no longer facilitate the exceptional reliability that it was once known for, as outdated rail and bus facilities limit the station's capacity to serve passengers efficiently and equitably. Investment will lead to improved, first-class passenger experience for every person, regardless of age, ability or transportation mode.

The SEP represents a historic opportunity to revitalize one of the region's most critical transportation assets alongside new momentum in infrastructure investment. The modernization of passenger rail facilities, creation of dedicated multimodal connection hubs, and expansion of available construction jobs in the region make this project DC's single greatest economic development opportunity.

To learn more about the SEP, please visit the Federal Railroad Administration's website here: <u>Washington Union Station Expansion Project | FRA (dot.gov)</u>

## About InfrastructureDC

InfrastructureDC (IDC) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that lessens the burdens of the government of the District of Columbia, and enhances economic competitiveness and quality of life in the District of Columbia by increasing and accelerating investment in public infrastructure. IDC was incubated by The Federal City Council (FC2), a 501c3 organization committed to the improvement of the District of Columbia, as an infrastructure development catalyst and facilitator that specializes in identifying project delivery and innovative financing options for sustainable infrastructure projects in the District of Columbia

## **Quotes**

"Washington Union Station holds enormous potential. It is the first place that many people experience when they come to DC – whether for conventions, or business, or to visit our beautiful city, and that should be an exceptional experience. We know that the renovation of Washington Union Station should reflect all that our nation is capable of, and we look forward to working with all our partners on that transformation."

## - Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia

"Thanks to Mayor Bowser and the DC Council for sponsoring this much-needed study. It is an important step toward bringing regional stakeholders together to support the expansion of Union Station. Through this study, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and other stakeholders have a chance to engage on the Union Station expansion project, which will amplify the investments being made across the Northeast Corridor.."

## - Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Secretary of Transportation

"Washington Union Station is an important transportation hub for trains serving the Northeast Corridor from Washington, DC, to Boston, and our nationwide network," Amtrak CEO Stephen Gardner said. "We look forward to working with the USDOT, FRA, USRC, the Federal City Council and regional stakeholders to advance a plan to enhance the vitality and future of this iconic station."

## - Stephen Gardner, CEO of Amtrak

"The USRC is excited to be a part of such a crucial phase of reshaping Union Station's future. I know firsthand from my experience with the Moynihan Train Hall development, that strong governance is essential to ensuring successful project delivery. We believe that this Study will help advance and solidify the partnerships which will be key for making Union Station a source of civic pride for all."

- Doug Carr, Chief Executive Officer, Union Station Redevelopment Corporation

"This study is the next step needed to make the expansion of Union Station a reality. The potential is breathtaking. I'm pleased to see coordinated action that will enhance transportation equity and transform the station -- as a multi-modal hub fit for the 21st and 22nd centuries."

#### - Phil Mendelson, Chairman of the Council of District of Columbia

"Union Station is a core piece of the District's and the region's social, economic, and cultural fabric. This is a once-in-a-century opportunity. A revitalized Union Station will create a vibrant public space in Ward 6 and help advance regional sustainable transit goals by providing quality mobility alternatives to driving personal vehicles. This study is an exciting next step to bring us closer to making this project a reality."

#### - Charles Allen, District of Columbia Ward 6 Councilmember

"Our nation's rail network is safer and more efficient with a modernized Union Station. Investing in critical rail infrastructure assets will help support the nation's economic recovery by making our network more reliable for generations to come."

#### - Amit Bose, Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration

"Union Station is still one of the city's greatest catalysts, and we are excited to see how this Study builds the vision for using efficient multimodal transit to facilitate job growth and economic mobility. A worldclass transit facility will make the District one of the most economically diverse and competitive cities in the country."

# - Anthony Williams, Chairman of the InfrastructureDC Board and CEO of the Federal City Council

"CohnReznick is proud to have been selected to support Union Station's modernization. We are incredibly excited to share our infrastructure expertise with the Advisory Group and help lead the way for a revamped station that bolsters transit capabilities in the Washington Metropolitan Area and the Northeast Corridor."

#### - Chris Livingstone, Principal, CohnReznick