



McVAC JOINS THE WASHINGTON AREA RAILWAY ENGINEERING SOCIETY (WARES)



McVAC attended the January '25 WARES meeting at the historic and prestigious Garrett-Jacobs Mansion (home of The Engineering Society of Baltimore) located in the City's Mount Vernon neighborhood. The Mansion is a National Historic Landmark built by Robert Garrett who in 1884 became president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the nation's first common carrier railroad and oldest railroad in the United States.

WARES President Ted DeLio, PE (Kimley-Horn, Reston VA), introduced The Frederick Douglass Tunnel (B&D Tunnel Replacement) project as presented by Amtrak and MARC including Luigi Rosa, PE, PMP, Assistant Vice President, Amtrak; Sariah Tambre Leigh, Senior Director, Amtrak; and Dean Del Peschio, Chief Strategy Officer, MARC. Their overview indicated: 10 miles of rail improvements along the Northeast Corridor (NEC); construction of 2 tunnel bores, each 26' in diameter and approximately 2 miles long; 5 bridge replacements in Baltimore City (2 roadway and 3 railroad bridges); and, several ADA accessibility improvements. The tunnelling section of the project was covered in detail, including: layout; tunnelling type constructability considerations to "maximize tunnel placement in bedrock to minimize the amount of soft ground and mixed face mining required" and Amtrak's selection of a slurry tunneling boring machine, TBM; subsurface profiles of overburden, transition materials and rock for Tracks 1 and 2 as well as tunnelling reaches; precast tunnel lining construction; and, objectives and plans to minimize the impact on surrounding communities. Construction of the project will occur in phases.



McVAC is particularly interested in competing for vacuum truck and trailer as well as waste management subcontractor opportunities throughout the pre-tunnelling utility relocation; tunnelling construction;



Portal North Bridge (Kearny NJ)



Portal North Bridge Project

interlocking facility renovations; and, associated highway and bridge construction projects. Presently McVAC is servicing Amtrak general contractors along the NEC at 30th Street Station (Philadelphia PA); Portal Bridge North (Kearny NJ); The Gateway Program (NYC Metropolitan Area); East River Tunnel Rehabilitation (New York City); and the Connecticut River Bridge (Old Lyme CT), as well as the Long Bridge (Alexandria VA to Washington DC), a Transforming Rail in Virginia project, owned by the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority. Also, McVAC is competing to work on Amtrak's Sawtooth Bridge Replacement (Kearny NJ), as well as the Franconia-Springfield Bypass, VPRA project.

WARES is a long-standing organization of mover and shaker professionals with an interest in railway design, construction, operation and maintenance, and provides networking opportunities highlighting current, upcoming and future projects in the railway industry. McVAC will attend the WARES events and annual golf outing.

January 29, 2025