

Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Roundtable October 29, 2015



Project Studies

- Delaware Rail Passenger Engineering Study, 2002
- Wilmington to Newark Commuter Rail Improvements, 2004
- Newark Train Station Feasibility Study, 2010
- Newark Regional Transportation Center Study, 2013

Station Location



Newark Train Station Study

- Primarily an engineering and operational feasibility study
- Importance of study
 - UD Plans
 - Work within constraints of site
 - Build on previous studies
 - Opportunity for Newark
- A dual focus needed to address:
 - Conflicts between freight and commuter
 - How to accommodate expansion of passenger rail services



Current SEPTA Operations

19 Trips per day/10 Trains

Arrival

Turnaround Layover

Departure



Morning and Evening Peak Periods Only

Current Operations – Amtrak

Non-stop Acela Express & Northeast Regional



2 trains/hr. each way

Non-stop Long Distance Trains Being Overtaken



Up to 6 trains/day each way (irregular timing) Northeast Regional Trains Stopping at Newark Station



2 trains/day each way wkday 3 trains/day each way wkend

Current Operations – Norfolk Southern



Current Operations – Norfolk Southern





Study and Grant Components

- Feasibility Study (Phase I) completed in July 2010
- TIGER II Planning Grant awarded in December 2010
- NRTC Study (Phase II) completed in March 2014
- TIGER IV Grant for PE/construction awarded in June 2012
- Preliminary Engineering (PE) currently underway



Many concepts created and discarded due to operational challenges



Existing Station site:



Recommended Station Concept:

KEY STATION ELEMENTS

- High-level platform with two sides to serve Amtrak and SEPTA trains
- Direct pedestrian access from South College Avenue bridge
- New station building with waiting area, restrooms, security, ticketing and pedestrian bridge
- Expanded parking lot (457 spaces) with improved access and circulation
- Designed to link seamlessly with STAR Campus
- Phased construction of both track work and station to maintain continuous operation during construction





Key Milestones for TIGER IV Grant

- NEPA Completion: January 2013, Approved April 2013
- Obligation of Grant Funds: June 30, 2013
- Start Construction: Spring 2017
- Complete Construction: Fall 2018 (estimated, with Amtrak work through 2019)



