

Newport Transportation Study

Monitoring Committee Meeting

Newport Train Station

June 13, 2023

Welcome



Agenda

- ✓ Introductions
- ✓ Goals
- ✓ Why Newport – SWOT
- ✓ Ridership
- ✓ Track info
- ✓ Access to train station
- ✓ Community Feedback/Discussion
- ✓ Next Steps

Goals

Newport Transportation Study

1. Improve Newport's multi-modal capacity. Newport is striving to become a more walkable, bikeable town
2. Assess re-opening the Newport Train Station to commuter rail service

Monitoring Committee

1. Review updates in and around Newport in comparison to the Newport Transportation Study
2. Update Newport Train Station objectives and cost estimates
3. Continue coordination with community through monitoring committee and public workshops

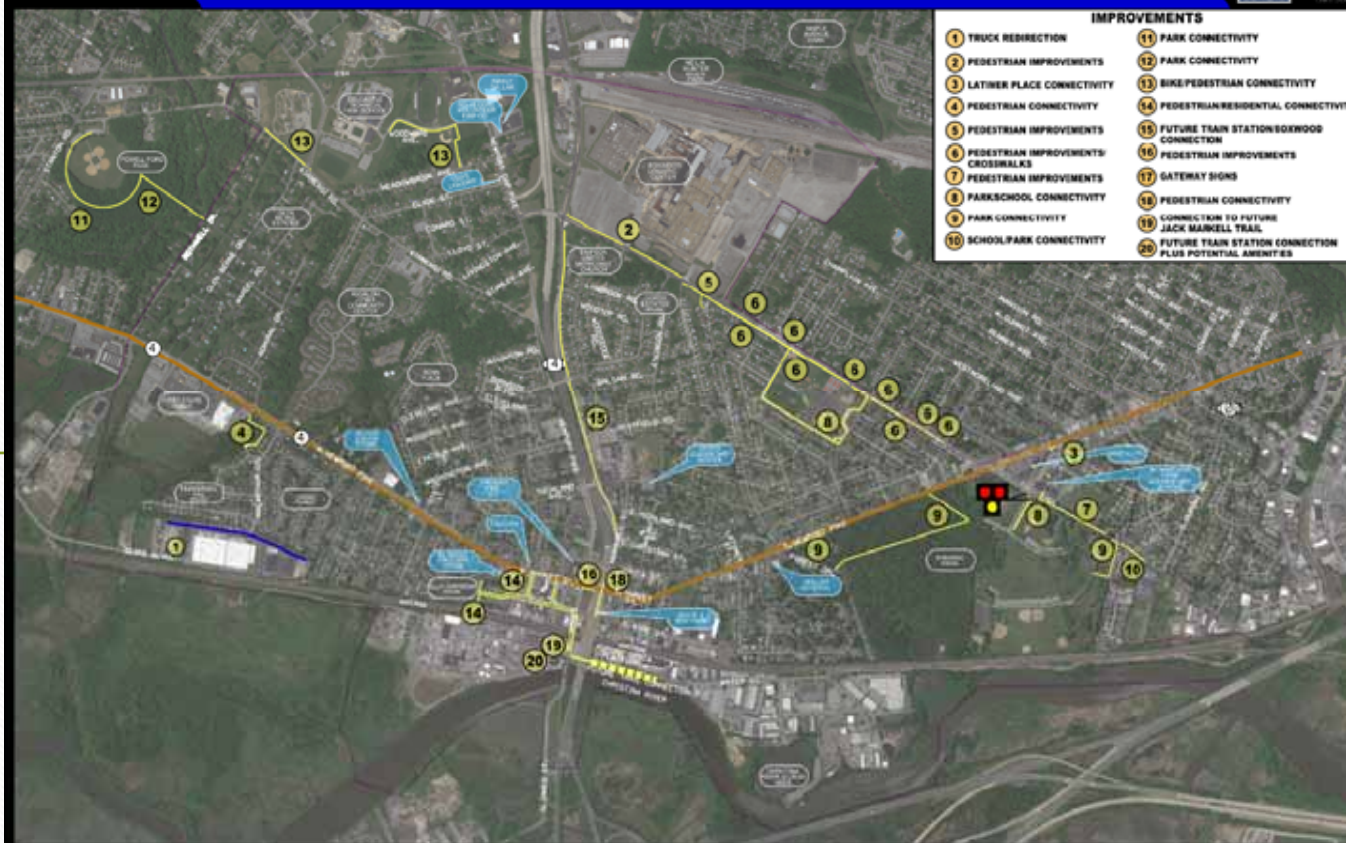
Monitoring Committee

- Land development activity
- Traffic growth
- Transit
- Pedestrian movements
- Safety
- Master plan project status and prioritization
- Major projects outside of study area

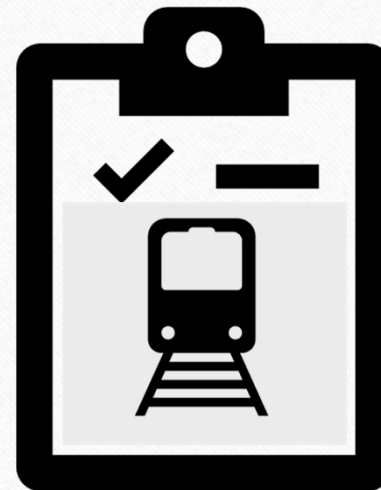
Monitoring Committee

Elected Officials: Name	District		
Spiros Mantzavinos	Senate District 7	Hasan Joarder	Sun Chemical
John Walsh	Senate District 9	Greg Buckley	Buckley's Auto Care
Deshanna Neal	House District 13	William Keller	Air Liquide
Kimberly Williams	House District 19	Sarang Gadre	Air Liquide
Stephanie boulden	House District 2	Vince Ruff	Community
Franklin Cooke	House District 16	Wendy King	Newport Town Manager
Melissa Minor-Brown	House District 17	Chief Wohner	Newport Chief of Police
Michelle Mac Donald	Mayor of Newport	Previous Mayor Mike Spencer	Town Commissioner/Vice Mayor
Name	Company	Cooper Bowers	DeIDOT
Sheila Grant	AARP	Peter Haag	DeIDOT
Richard Piendak	Advanced Pavement Group	John Sisson	DTC
Dave Tiberi	Emergency Response Protocol	Tricia Arndt	DE Office of State Planning
Tim Love	Sun Chemical	Thomas Harvey	Harvey Hanna
Patrick Oakes	APEX	Bill Lower	Harvey Hanna
J. Stevens	APEX		New Castle County Land Use
		Matt Rogers	New Castle County Land Use
			New Castle County Chamber of Commerce
		Bob Chadwick	

NEWPORT TRANSPORTATION STUDY



Train Station Feasibility Updates



UPDATE 2023



NEWPORT TRAIN STATION FEASIBILITY STUDY
FINAL DRAFT REPORT JUNE 20, 2013

Original Station Location



Original Station



Location Map



Figure 2. Newport's location in the region.

SWOT - Strengths

- Positive growth and development to spur economic vitality
 - Amazon facility
 - New restaurants
 - Maintaining business park
- Downtown Redevelopment Initiative
- Newport River Trail
- Bus Transit Connections
- DNREC Boat Ramp
- Newport Rowing Club
- Town's goal to be transit oriented



SWOT - Weakness

- Station infrastructure must be reconstructed
- Sidewalk in fair condition throughout with difficult intersection crossings at SR 141
- Parking lots currently used by various businesses
- Extensive ADA upgrades required
- No signed bike routes



SWOT - Opportunities

- Most of Newport is within ½ mile walk to Station
- Served by SEPTA Commuter Rail
- Newport halfway between Wilmington and Churchmans Crossing
- Existing underpass at James Street services both sides of railroad
- State of Delaware owns land under SR 141 Newport Viaduct – prime for parking
- Grid layout for easier walking/biking



Regional Connections

amazon

To: Wilmington /
Philadelphia / New York

To: Newark /
Baltimore/DC



SWOT - Threats

- Need approval from DeIDOT, AMTRAK, SEPTA, Norfolk Southern and DTC for new rail
- Agency fatigue (Claymont and Newark still underway)
- Ridership
 - Rail – 50% ridership compared to pre-covid
 - Bus – 75% ridership compared to pre-covid
- Funding





Anticipated Ridership

- DelDOT prepares a ridership model (Currently in Development)
 - Start/end trips
 - Transportation mode – walk/bike/transit/drive
 - Traveled routes
 - Number of people who live/work in neighborhood
 - Distance from one neighborhood to another
 - Length of travel time between neighborhoods
 - Roadway congestion

Existing Service

- 9 weekday trains to Philly from Newark

MONDAYS through FRIDAYS (Except MAJOR HOLIDAYS)																						
	Fare Zone	Services	Train Number	206	2500	9204	2502	9218	9208	9212	2514	2518	2520	2522	9224	2526	2528	9250	2530	9230	9232	
		 	Stations	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM		
	4	✓	✓	Newark	—	5:56	6:37	—	7:45	9:10	—	—	—	4:00	5:03	6:05	—	7:40	8:04	—	—	
	4	✓	✓	Churchman's Crossing	—	6:03	6:44	—	7:49	9:17	—	—	—	4:07	5:10	6:10	—	7:45	8:09	—	—	
	4	✓	✓	Wilmington	5:21	6:16	7:02	—	8:00	9:27	10:22	12:12	2:20	3:17	4:17	5:20	6:19	7:20	7:54	8:16	9:12	—
	4	✓	✓	Claymont	5:30	6:25	7:11	—	8:09	9:36	10:31	12:21	2:29	3:26	4:26	5:29	6:28	7:29	8:05	8:25	9:21	—

- 8 weekday trains from Philly to Newark

4	✓	✓	Claymont	D4:49	D5:41	D6:40	—	D8:12	D9:13	D11:13	D1:13	D2:13	D3:06	D4:05	D5:09	D5:54	D6:29	D7:13	D8:13	—	D11:13
4	✓	✓	Wilmington	5:01	D5:51	D6:49	—	D8:22	9:32	11:32	1:32	2:37	D3:16	D4:15	D5:20	6:13	D6:39	D7:23	8:32	—	11:32
4	✓	✓	Churchman's Crossing	—	D6:01	D6:58	—	D8:32	—	—	—	—	D3:26	D4:25	D5:30	—	D6:49	D7:33	—	—	—
4	✓	✓	Newark	—	6:12	7:10	—	8:43	—	—	—	—	3:37	4:39	5:45	—	6:59	7:44	—	—	—
				AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM

D - Stops to discharge or pick up passengers but may depart ahead of schedule

Ridership forecast (Previous Study)

SEPTA Station	Existing ridership (without Newport)	Existing ridership (if there was a Newport Station)	2020 ridership (with Newport)
Newark	500	500	710
Churchmans Crossing	463	330	450
Newport	-	480	500
Wilmington	2,020	2,020	2,220
Claymont	1,024	1,020	1,380
Total	4,007	4,350	5,250

- Only 133 shifted to Newport from Churchmans Crossing
- 347 new riders – encouraging
- Ridership generation generally along SR 141/41 New Castle to Hockessin

Data courtesy of 2013 Newport Train Station Feasibility Study

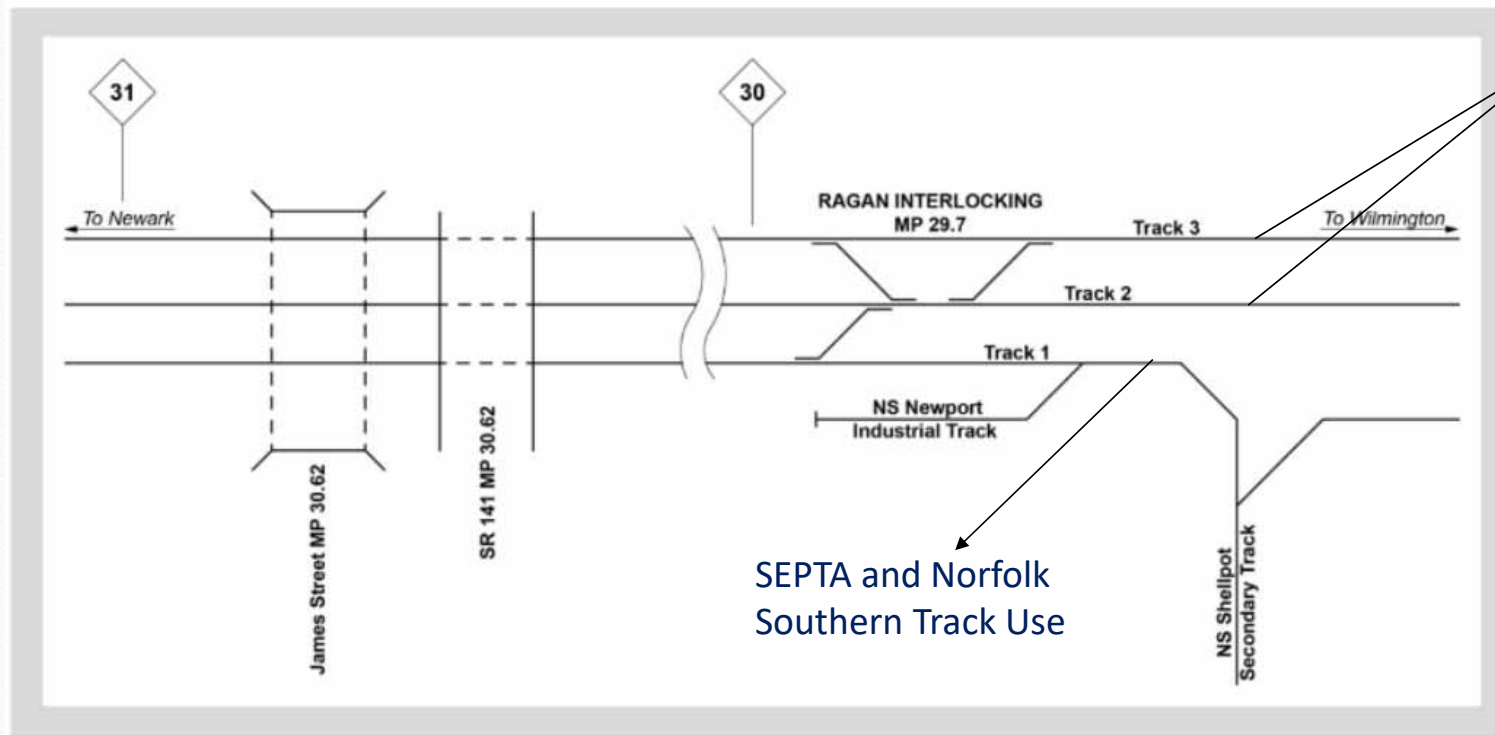
Ridership factors (Current Study)

- Amazon Warehouse - 3,500 employees (*News Journal Report*)
- Avenue North (previously Astra Zeneca) – US 202 (mixed use connected to JP Morgan)
- Wegmans at Barley Mill (includes townhouses)
- Chestnut Run Plaza/Experimental Station
- Wilmington Airport – Avelo
 - 50,000 passengers to 14 locations
- Urban residents (Philly/Wilm) looking to relocate
- Downtown Newport Redevelopment
- Potential increase due to MARC ridership

More to come...



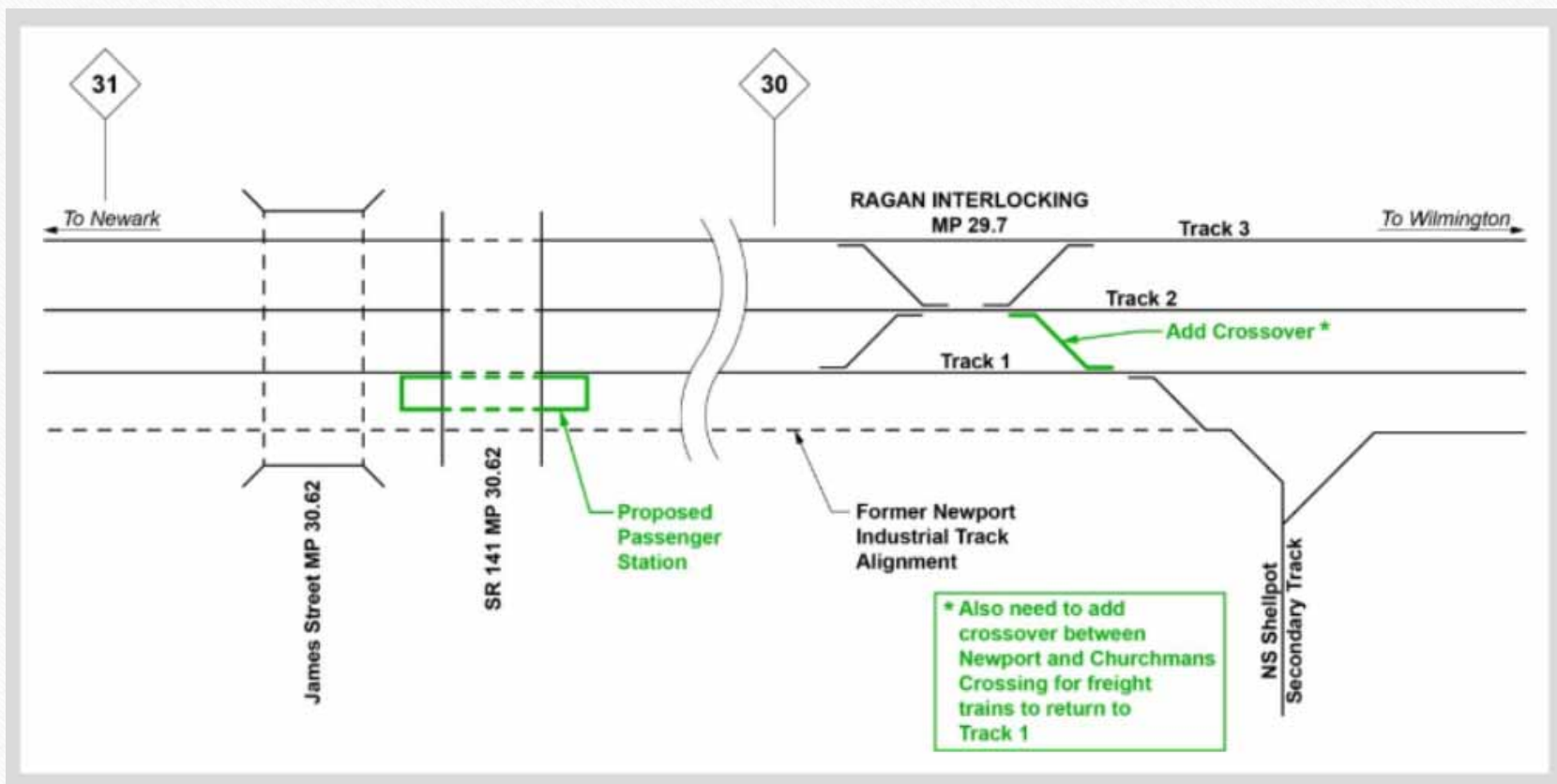
Existing Track Layout



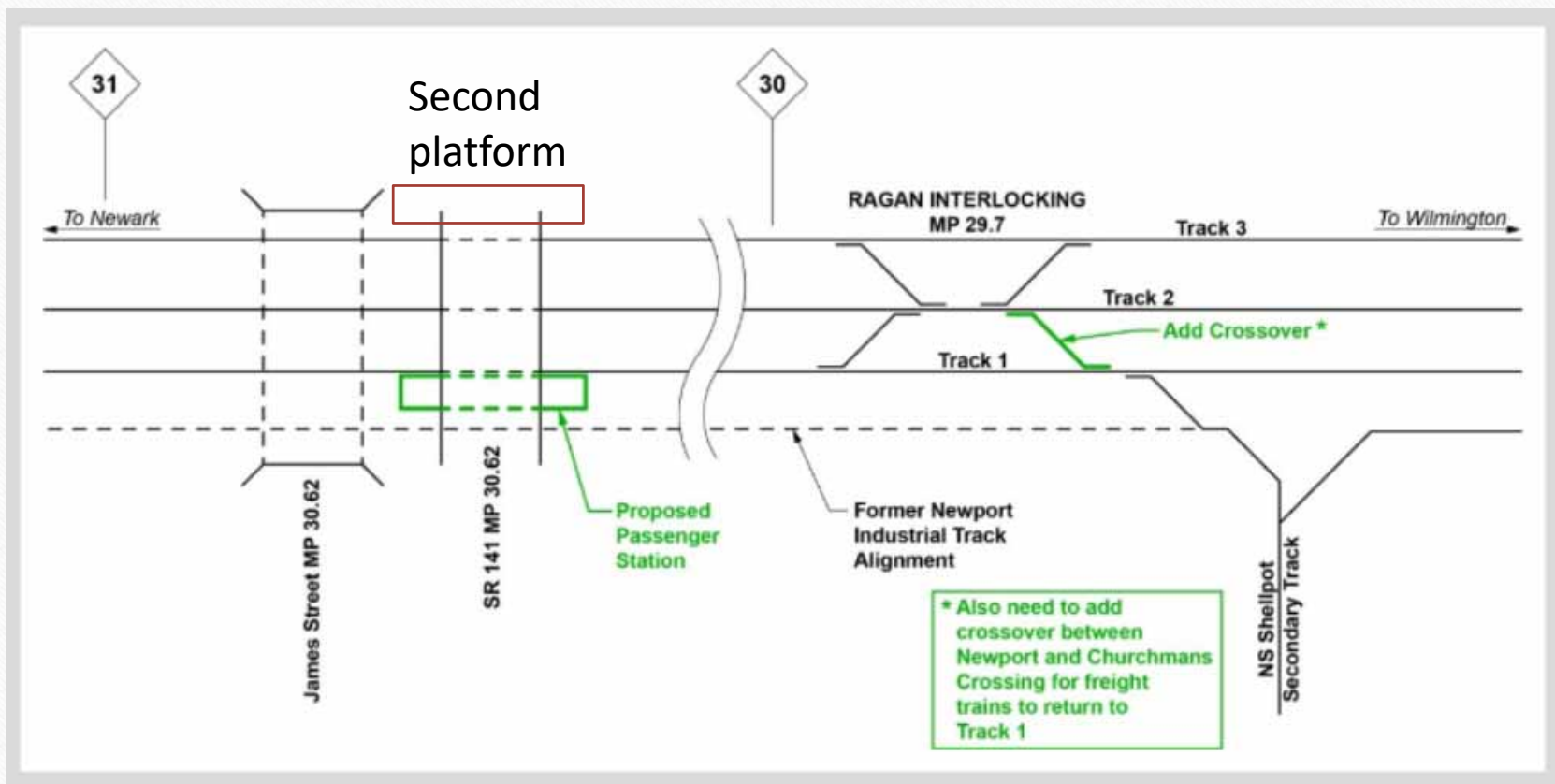
Track Planning/Station Planning

- Phase 1 – Amtrak's track improvements to increase top speed to 130 mph
 - Causes limitations on service at Newport/Churchmans Crossing
- Phase 2 – Add platforms on track 3 at Newport and Churchmans Crossing
 - Alternate stops between Newport and Churchmans Crossing
 - Limited to no Sunday service
- Phase 3 – Relocation of platform for 4th track
 - Built between Ragan Interlock and Shellpot Interlock
- Platform length
 - 85' increments with 30' buffers
 - James St bridge is limitation
 - Owned by Amtrak – will provide maintenance report

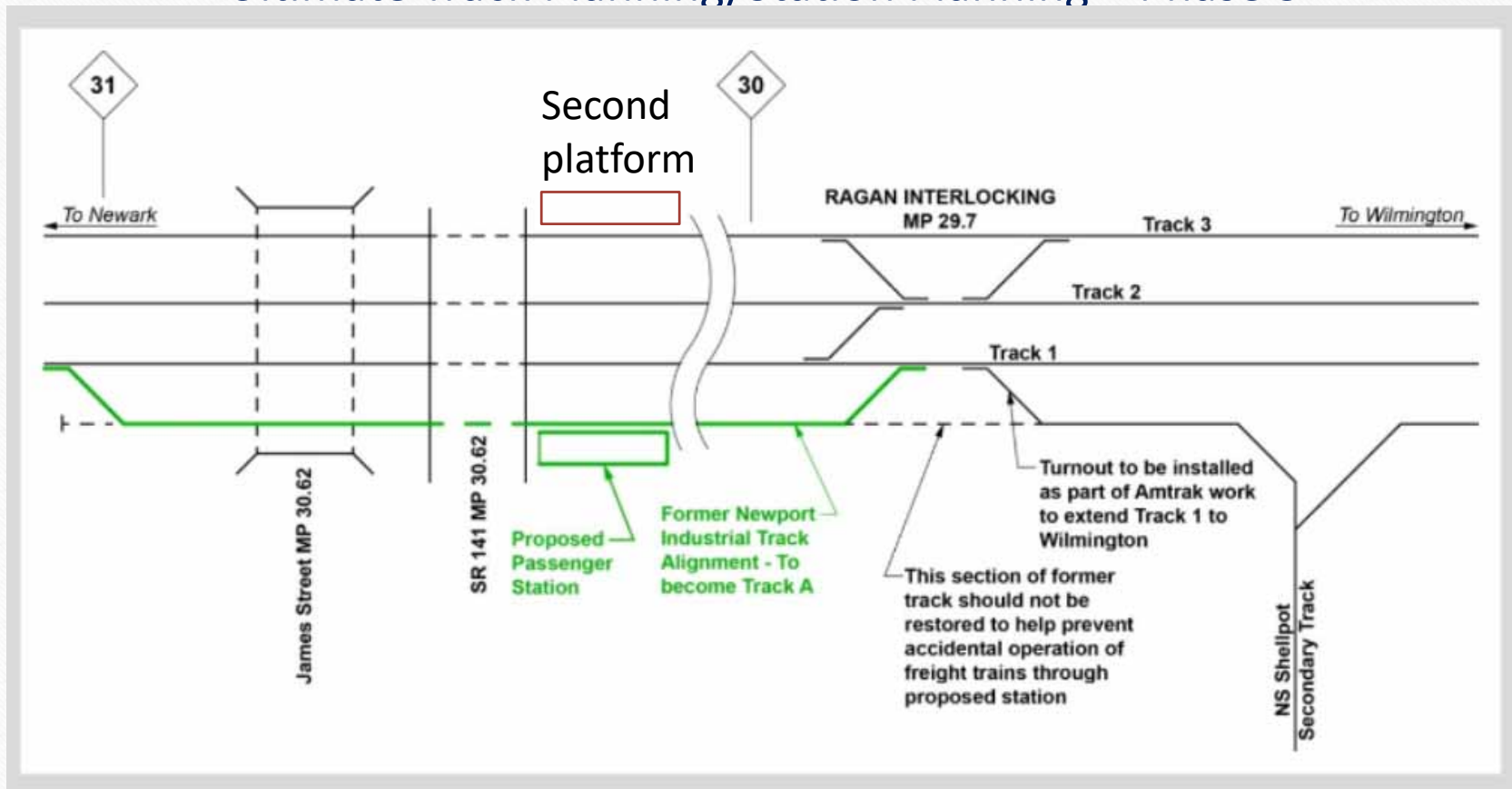
Ultimate Track Planning/Station Planning – Phase 1



Ultimate Track Planning/Station Planning – Phase 2



Ultimate Track Planning/Station Planning – Phase 3



Circulation / Site Plan Considerations

- Parking
- Bus Route 5
- Access to Newport River Trail
- Upgrade sidewalks
- Access to Amazon Warehouse
- ADA compliance



Bus Route 5 Considerations



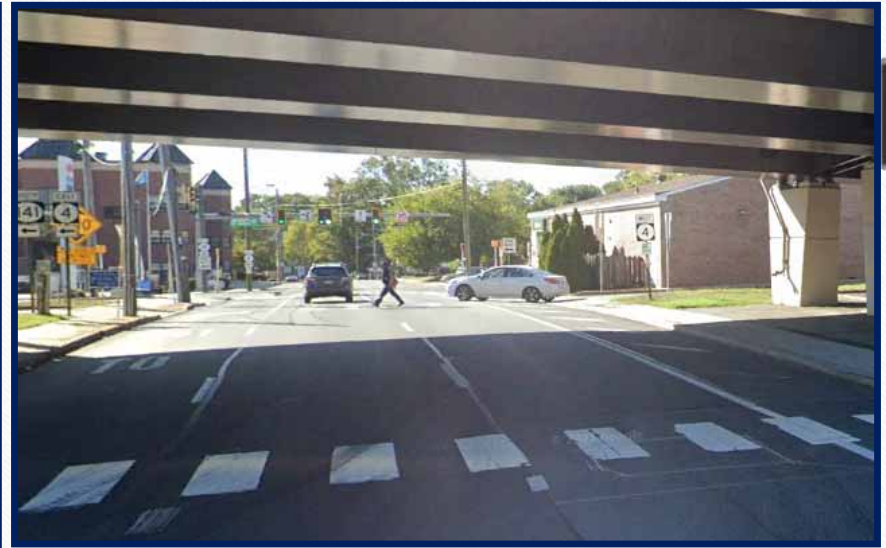
To: Christiana
Mall

To: Wilmington

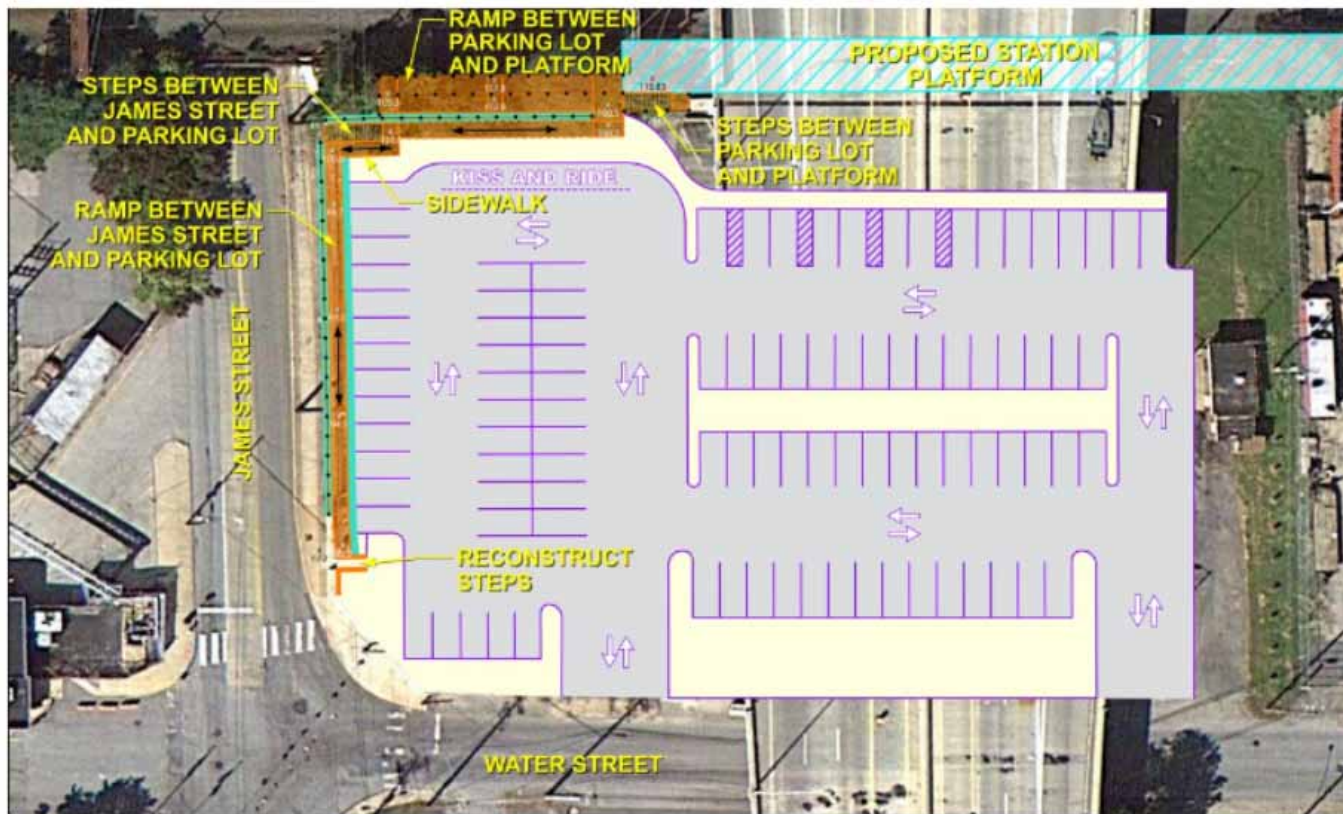
Bus Route 5 Considerations

Bus Route 5

- Justis Street (westbound)
- Market Street (eastbound)
- 7 day per week service



Circulation / Site Plan Considerations



James Street Underpass

Connection to industrial employment or Newport River Trail via James Street Bridge underpass



James Street Underpass - Existing



James Street Underpass - Proposed



Courtesy Harvey Hanna

Cost Considerations

- Phase 1 - \$25 Million (Platform on one side at Newport only)
- Phase 2 - \$45 Million (Additional platform at Newport and Churchmans Crossing)
- Phase 3 - \$45 Million (Fourth track and relocate platform at Newport), if needed
- Pedestrian (sidewalk) improvements - \$3 Million

Next Steps

- Train Station Public Workshop Fall 2023
 - Proposed ridership updates
 - Conceptual track design
 - MARC/SEPTA conversations
 - Development updates
- Newport Monitoring Committee Meeting Fall 2023
 - Traffic information
 - Project updates

Community Discussion



THANK YOU

