Baltimore Regional Transportation Board Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group

# Lessons Learned from Design and Construction of the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail, Kenilworth Segment

September 20, 2017







# **Today's Speakers**

- Ravindra Ganvir, PE Deputy Chief Engineer, DDOT Infrastructure Project Management Administration
- Michael Alvino Bicycle Program Specialist Trails, DDOT Planning and Sustainability Division
- Tom Ryburn– Anacostia Waterfront Initiative Program Manager
- Melany Alliston-Brick, PE Toole Design Group



# Agenda

- Project Overview
- Summary of Lessons Learned
  - Project Sponsorship
  - Funding
  - Long Lead Time Items
  - Legal
  - Environmental
  - Public Engagement
  - Design Phase
  - Bid Phase
  - Construction Phase
- Project Successes



# The Anacostia Riverwalk Trail



- Backbone of the Anacostia Waterfront
- 19 of 28 planned miles of trail open
  - 5 miles in design
- From the tidal basin to the District's northeast and southeast borders with Maryland
- Seamless pedestrian and bicycle travel between popular destinations and 16 neighborhoods



# **Kenilworth Trail Segment**



- Connects Benning Road in the District with Bladensburg Park in Maryland
- Missing link in 70-mile Regional Trail Network
- Opened on 10/31/2016
- \$23 million project investment
- Already approaching 20,000 trips per month



## **Key Project Features**



- 3.9 miles of asphalt-paved trail
  - 3.4 miles in the District
  - 0.5 miles in Maryland
- 5 Prefabricated bicycle/pedestrian bridges
- 1,250 feet of heavy-duty boardwalk
- 2.11 acres of soil restoration and reforestation in Maryland
- Work in Amtrak right-of-way



## **Lessons Learned - Project Sponsorship**



- Requires strong project sponsor with:
  - Firm commitment to funding and implementation
  - Understanding of project scope and how to build it
- One agency lead
- Trail projects should not be taken lightly!



# **Lessons Learned - Funding**

United States Department of Transportation

TIGER IV Discretionary Grant Application for

#### ANACOSTIA RIVER TRAIL (Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens Section)



- Understand funding requirements and performance measures
- Plan for multiple funding sources
- Be prepared for higher match
- Reporting requirements can be extensive



# Lessons Learned – Long Lead Time Items



- Identify early
- Coordinate from day 1
- Include staff time and consultant cost
- Environmental documentation
- Federal/State permits
- Interjurisdictional agreements
- Railroad coordination



#### Lessons Learned – Legal



- You may need a lawyer if:
  - Acquiring property
  - Working with utility companies or railroads
  - Project crosses multiple jurisdictions
- Legal agreements take time
- Identify stakeholders and get agreements in place early



#### Lessons Learned – Legal



- Working with the railroad requires:
  - Time
  - Money
  - Friends in high places



## Lessons Learned – Environmental



- Identify type of document needed
  - May need more than one
- Whole project at once
- Do it at the right time



#### **Lessons Learned – Public Engagement**



- Long breaks also require extra public engagement
- What is "required" may not be enough



#### **Lessons Learned – Design Phase**



- Avoid long breaks between design phases
- Document design decisions
- Avoid change in consulting teams



#### **Lessons Learned – Bid Phase**

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION



#### **BID FORMS AND PROPOSAL**

INVITATION NO. DCKA-2013-B-0157

PROJECT:

ANACOSTIA RIVERWALK TRAIL KENILWORTH TRAIL SECTION

Federal Aid Project Nos. DC CM-8888(431) MD88431

Bids Will Be Publicly Opened By The Office Of Contracting and Procurement Bid Room located at 55 M Street SE 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20003

Bids Will Be Opened On \_\_\_\_\_ At 2:00 P.M.

 Lack of clarity in construction documents

= risk

- = higher bids and construction costs
- Consider the time required to prepare a complex bid



#### **Lessons Learned – Bid Phase**



- Provide as much information as possible on:
  - Limited site access
  - Site constraints
  - Environmental restrictions
  - Difficult working conditions
  - Potential subsurface conditions
- Include mitigating contract language



#### **Lessons Learned – Construction Phase**



- Quality subsurface investigations are invaluable
  - Geotechnical
  - Utility Survey
- 90% of construction claims are subterranean
- Allows transfer of risk from project sponsor to contractor



#### **Lessons Learned – Construction Phase**



- Beware of specialty construction
- Use locally available materials
- Plan for substitutions
- Overly prescriptive specifications can work against you



#### **Lessons Learned – Construction Phase**



- Time is \$\$\$
- Good construction management is essential for complex projects
- Document everything
- Know your recourse for nonperformance



#### **Project Successes**



- Opened on 10/31/2016
- \$23 million project investment
- Approaching 20,000 trips per month





# Questions?

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