



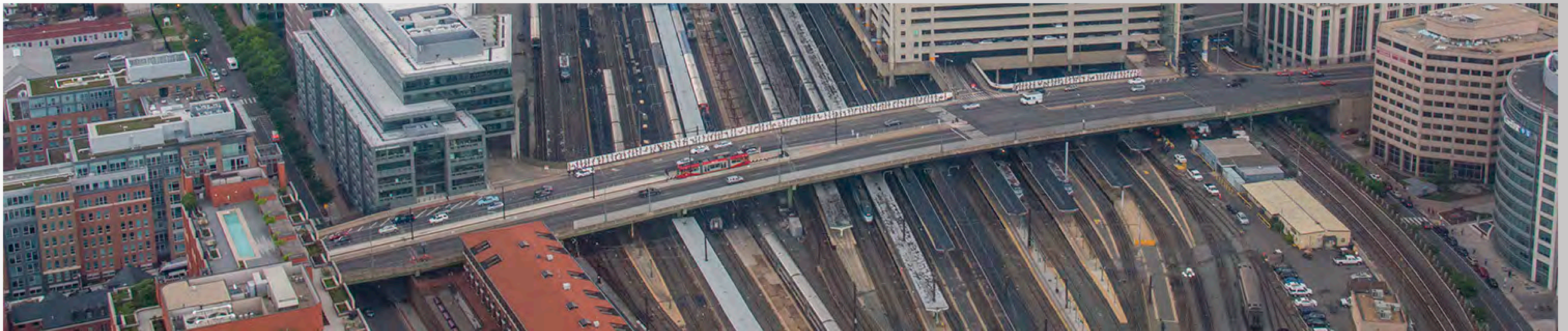
# H STREET BRIDGE NE REPLACEMENT INDUSTRY DAY

**The Columbus Club  
Union Station**

**Thursday, October 10, 2019  
10:00 am - Noon**



# WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND OF THE H STREET BRIDGE NE REPLACEMENT?



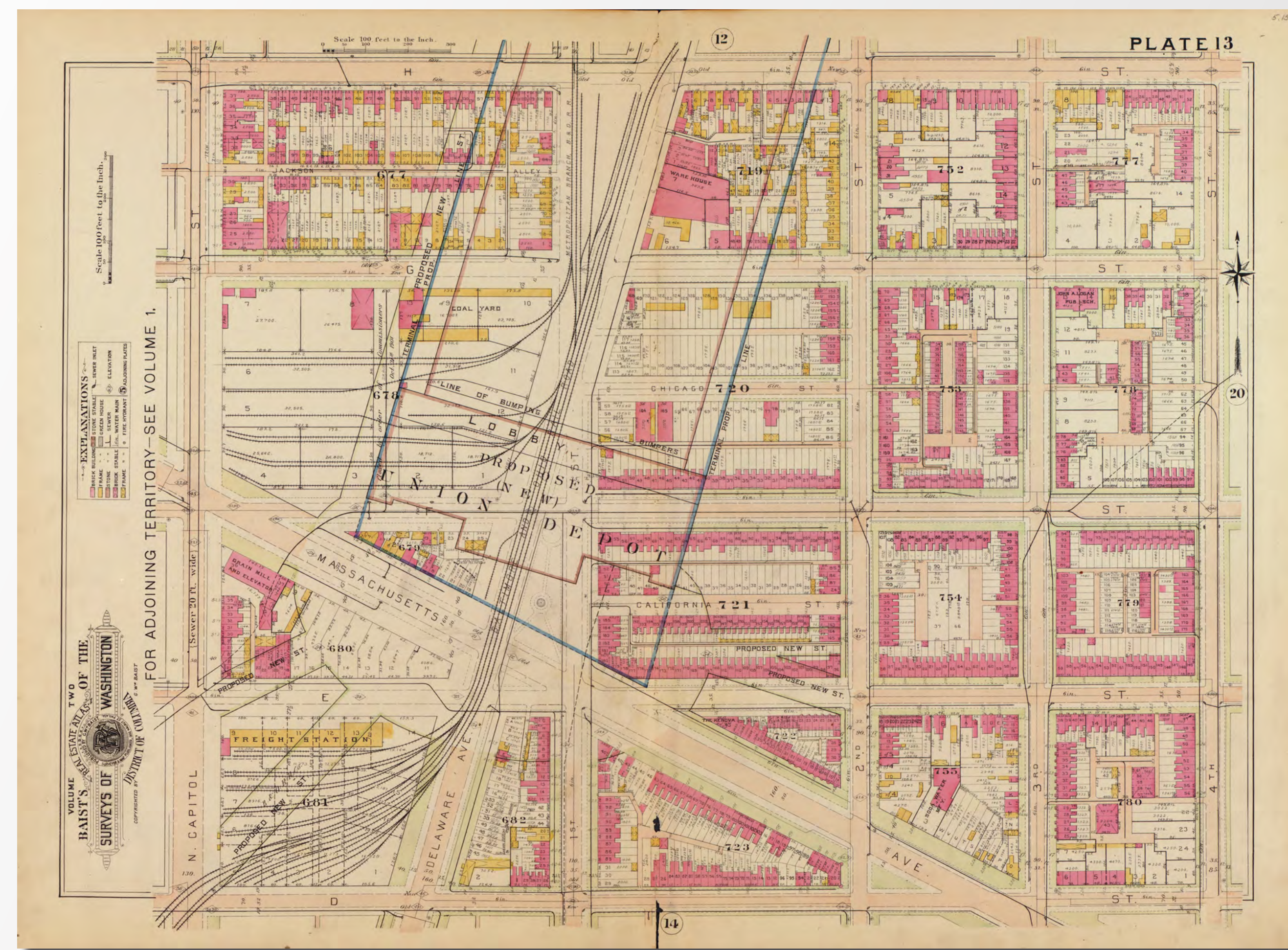
- H Street Bridge lies at the nexus of Union Station Expansion Project and the future Burnham Place, which will lead to the eventual transformation of parts of the District located along the edges of the NoMa area and the H Street, NE corridor
- The purpose of this project is to improve the condition of the H Street Bridge, NE (Hopscotch Bridge)
- The bridge spans 1,442 feet over 1st Street, NE, WMATA tracks, Amtrak tracks and platforms, and 2nd Street, NE

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- **Mobility:** Support the area's transportation hub
- **Social:** Continue to connect the neighborhoods
- **Transportation:** Rehab an important piece of infrastructure
- **Economic:** Located among many high-profile projects

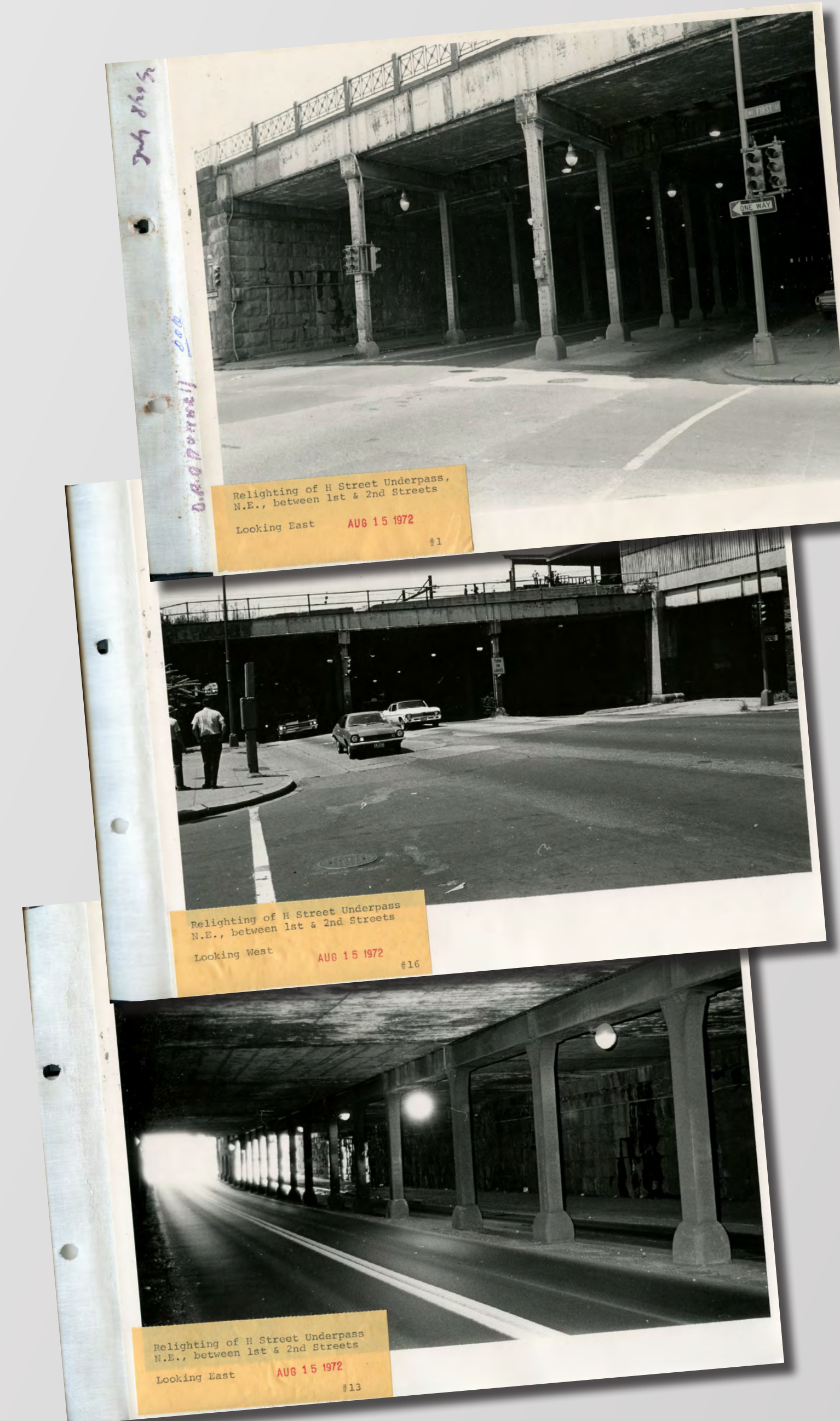


# WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE H STREET BRIDGE?

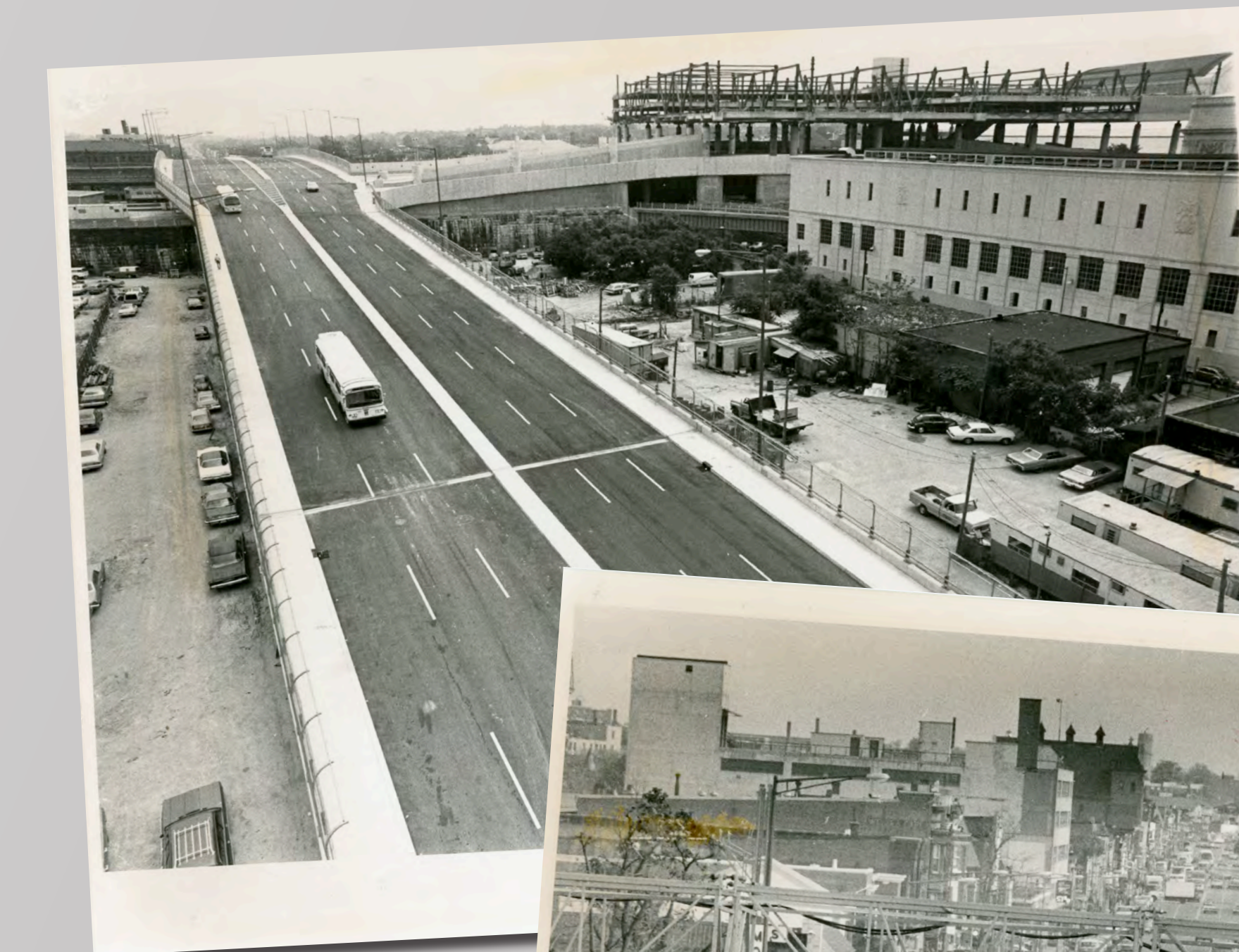


(George William Baist, 1903. - Baist's real estate atlas of surveys of Washington, District of Columbia)

- H Street NE provided an east-west connection between North Capitol Street, 1st Street NE, Delaware Avenue and 2nd Street NE in a neighborhood known as “Swampoodle”.
- When Union Station, and its associated rail yards, were opened in 1907 H Street NE was moved into a 750 ft long tunnel beneath the rail yards. 1st Street NE was re-aligned to the west of the new rail yards and Delaware Avenue closed in the vicinity of the yards.



- The H Street tunnel remained in service until the 1970's when, due to the deteriorating condition of the structure, it was determined necessary to rebuild the connection.



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- Ultimately, it was decided to replace the tunnel with a new overpass structure that would connect North Capitol Street and 3rd Street NE.
- The overpass would span over 1st Street NE, the Union Station rail yards and 2nd Street NE. The new overpass would also provide access for intercity buses to the proposed terminal to be built at Union Station.
- Opening of the new overpass was to coincide with the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976.



# WHAT IS THE CONDITION OF THE H STREET BRIDGE?



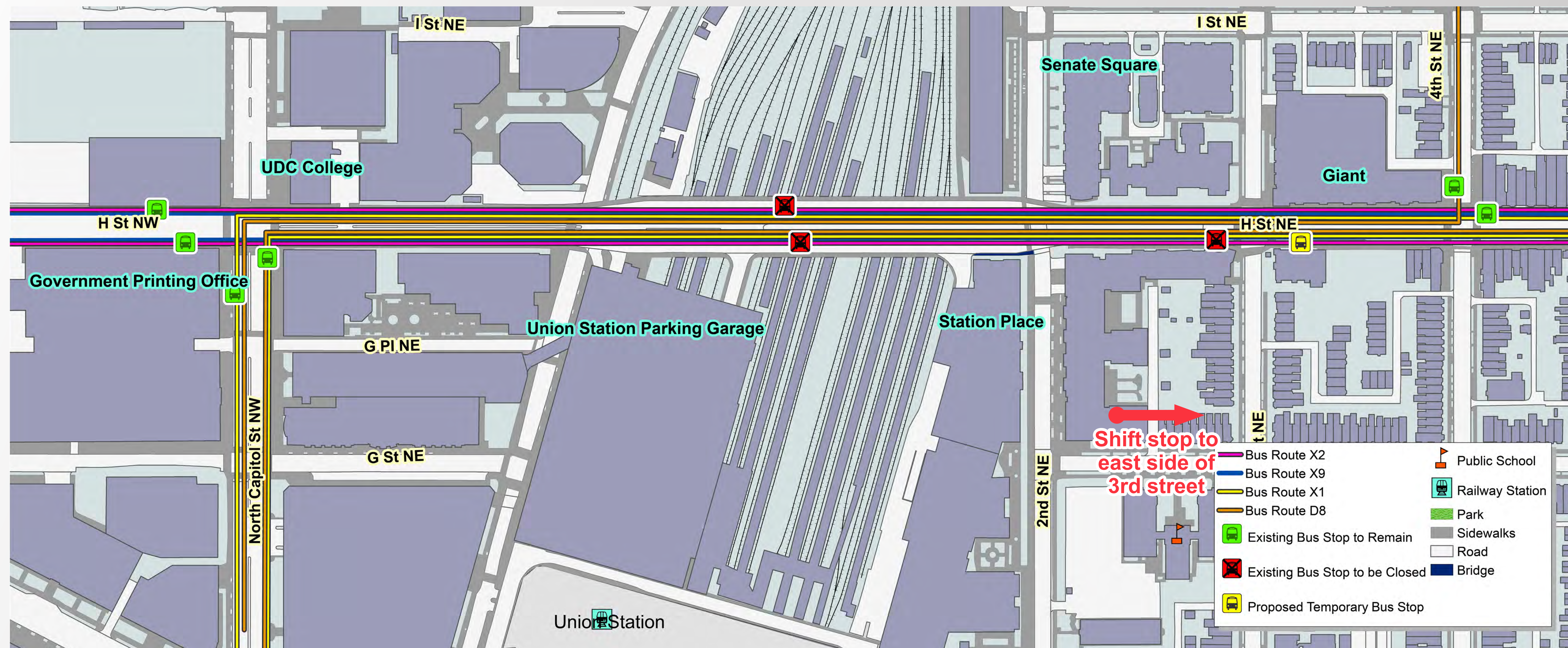
- Since its opening in 1976 the H Street Bridge has continued to carry vehicular and pedestrian traffic over the Union Station rail yards with little alteration from its as-constructed condition.
- Over the years there have been various additions to the bridge to accommodate transportation improvements and adjacent development. These include:
  - A new eastern access to the Union Station bus terminal was added in the 1980's
  - Minor revisions to the roadway layout in 2005 to accommodate reconstruction of the layout of the Union Station parking garage access.
  - Streetcar tracks and station were added to the bridge deck in 2013 as part of the H Street NE/Benning Road Line. The line began public service operations on February 27, 2016.

- The DC Commission for the Arts and Humanities (DC Arts), led by the city artist Deirdre Saunder, began installation of the Hopscotch Kids in 1997.
- With the help of inner city high school students the project created 320 "hopscotch" six-foot high ceramic mosaics with varying colors shapes and textures that dance across the bridge barriers.

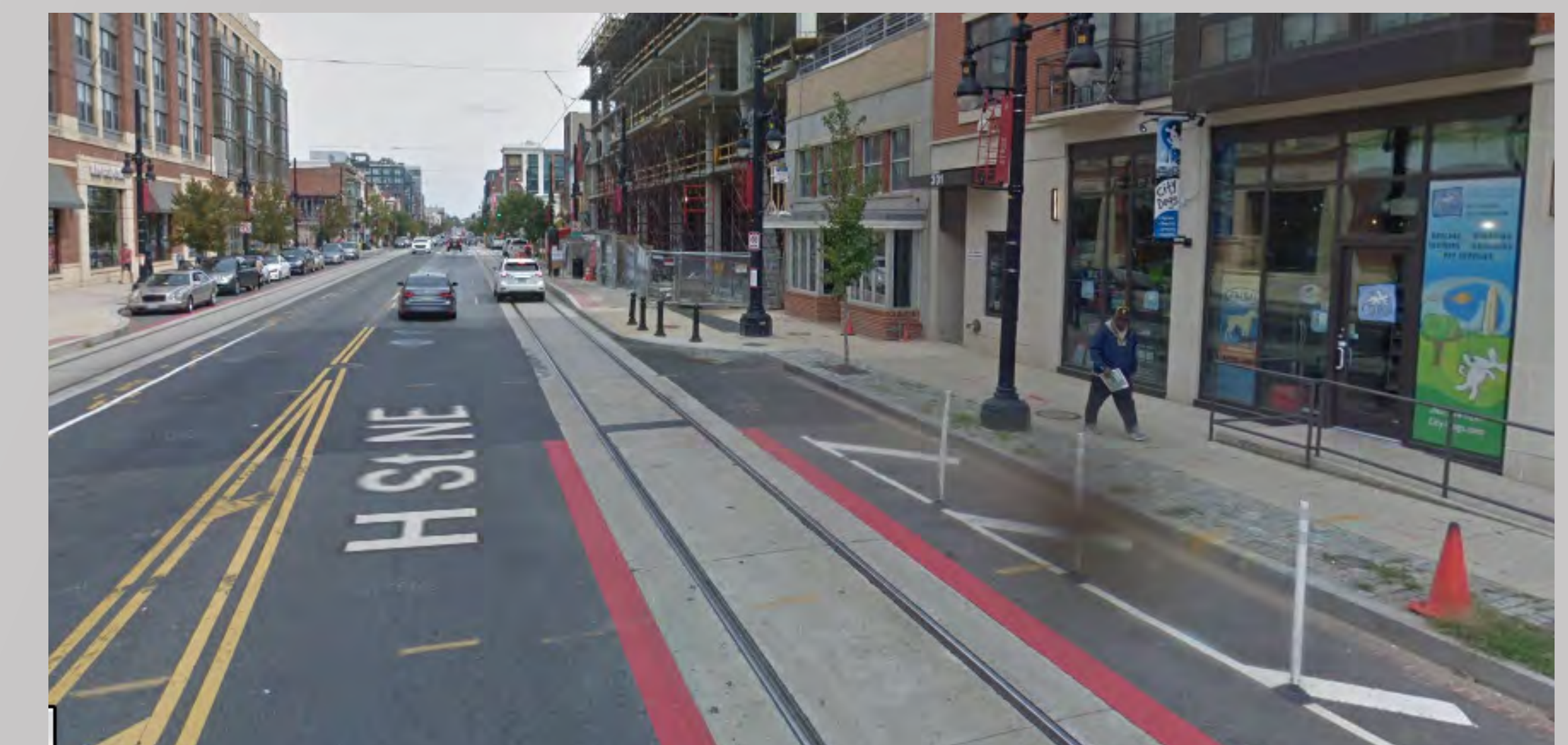
- The concrete deck is in poor condition and in need of replacement.
- Elements of the bridge steelwork are categorized by the Federal Highway Administration National Bridge Inspection Standards as 'Fracture Critical' which require more frequent inspections by DDOT.
- The purpose of the Project is to improve the condition of the H Street Bridge.



# HOW WILL BUS ROUTES USING H STREET BRIDGE BE IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION?



Existing Eastbound bus stop at 3rd Street



Potential Relocated bus stop location

- Four bus routes have stops on the H Street Bridge (X1, X2, X9, D8)
- Coordination with WMATA is ongoing. Changes to bus routes will be determined based on WMATA input
- Bus stops on the bridge will close during construction. This will impact the X1, X2, X9 and D8 routes
- The eastbound bus stop before 3rd Street will be relocated during construction. It will be shifted either directly before or after the streetcar stop



# HOW WILL TRAFFIC BE MAINTAINED DURING CONSTRUCTION?



- Westbound Travel Lane
- Eastbound Travel lane
- Workzone
- Streetcar Operating Area

- Bridge will be constructed in phases so that vehicular and pedestrian traffic can be maintained across the bridge
- Traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction, and diverted to one half of the bridge while the other half is reconstructed
- Short-term full closures of the bridge will be needed for critical construction activities
- Access to the Union Station Parking Garage will be affected by construction

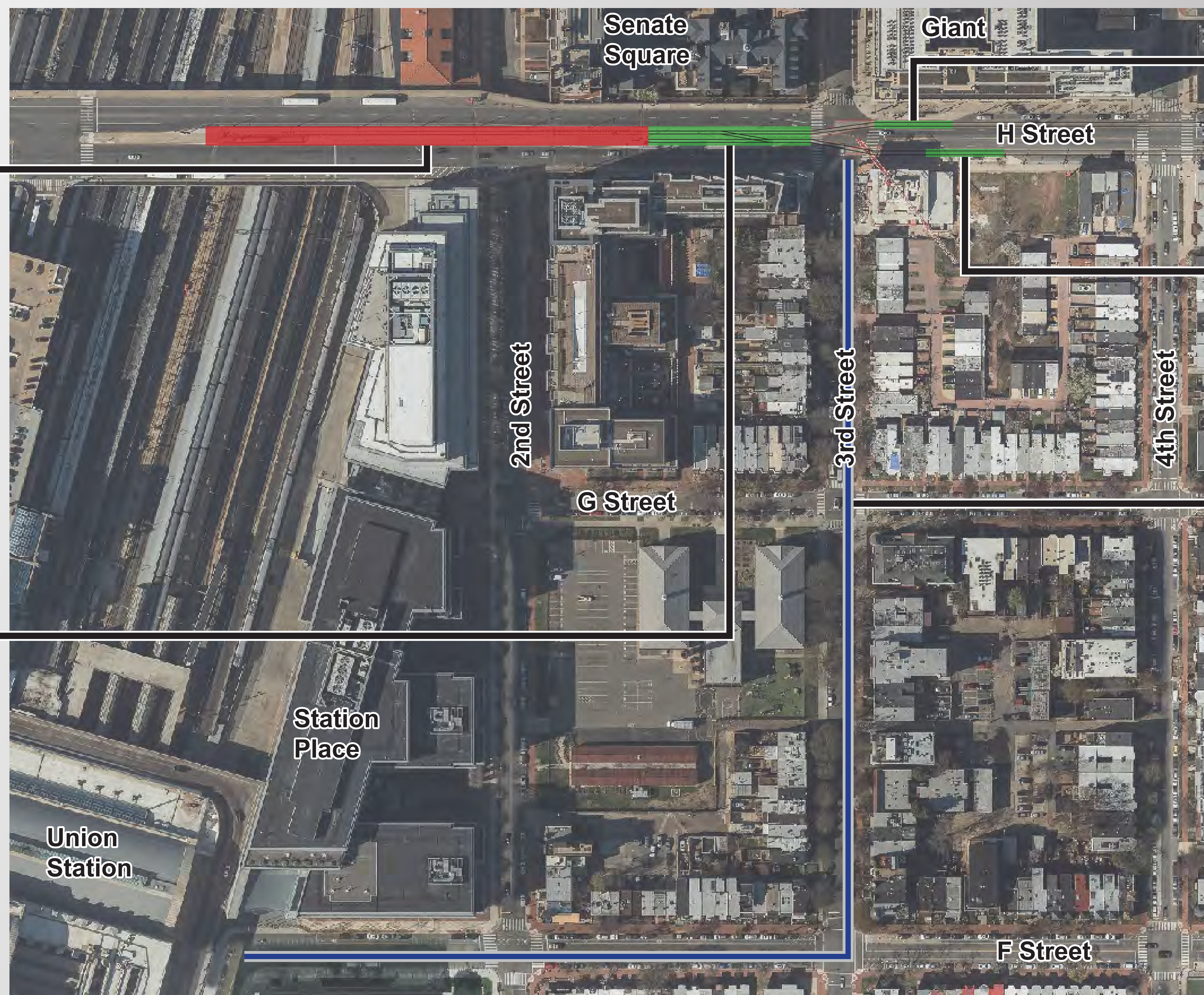


# HOW WILL CONSTRUCTION IMPACT STREETCAR OPERATIONS?

Existing streetcar tracks and station on bridge to be closed during construction

Tracks and station will be rebuilt on new bridge

Streetcars will use existing tracks in median between 3rd Street and bridge to turn around



Existing westbound station at 3rd Street will be end-of-line station

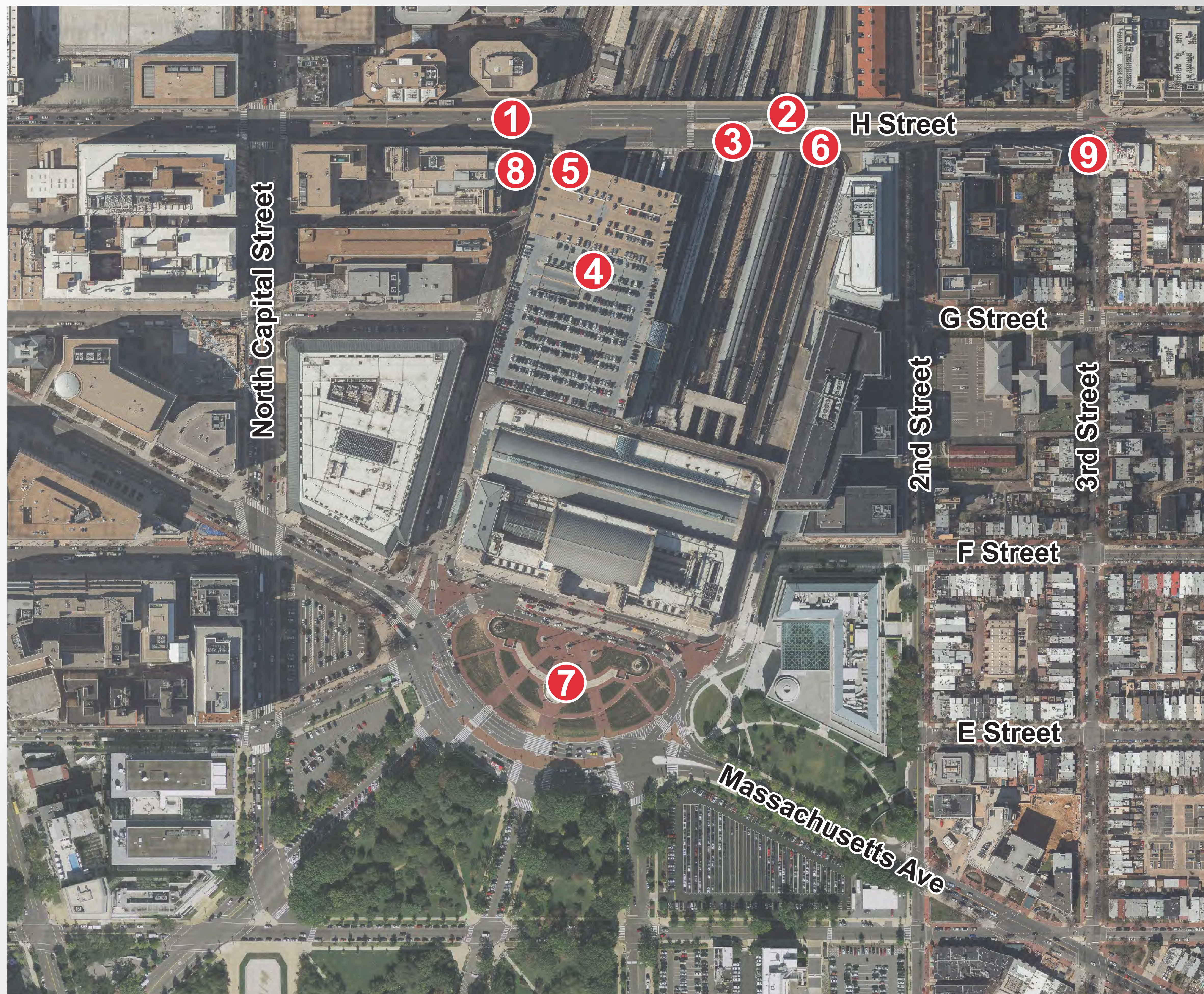
Existing eastbound station at 3rd Street will be start-of-line station

Pedestrian route to Union Station will follow 3rd Street, F Street and Columbus Circle

*Shuttle will be provided from H Street to Union Station*



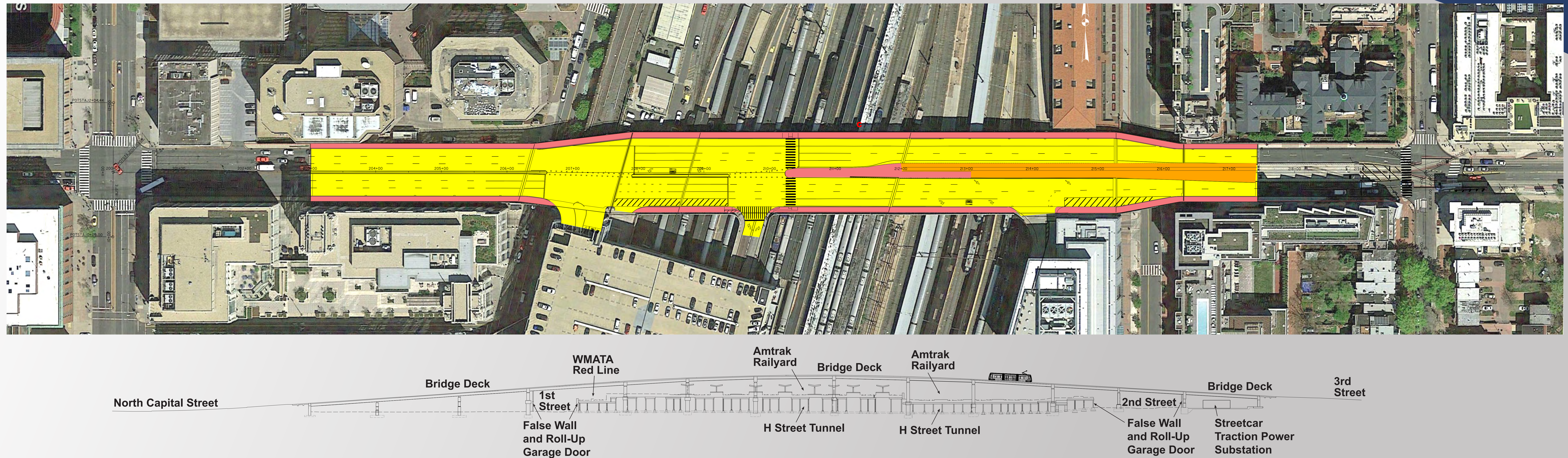
# HOW WILL CONSTRUCTION IMPACT ACCESS TO UNION STATION?



- 1** Sidewalk will be closed on one side of the bridge
- 2** Bus stops on the bridge will be closed
- 3** Streetcar stop on the bridge will be closed
- 4** Pedestrian access through the Union Station Parking Garage will be limited
- 5** Access to the Union Station Parking Garage will be reduced
- 6** For-hire vehicle drop-off on the bridge will be eliminated
- 7** Station traffic will be funneled to Columbus Circle and the front of Union Station
- 8** Inter-city bus access will be modified
- 9** Shuttle will be provided from H Street to Union Station



## WHAT DOES THE EXISTING BRIDGE LOOK LIKE?

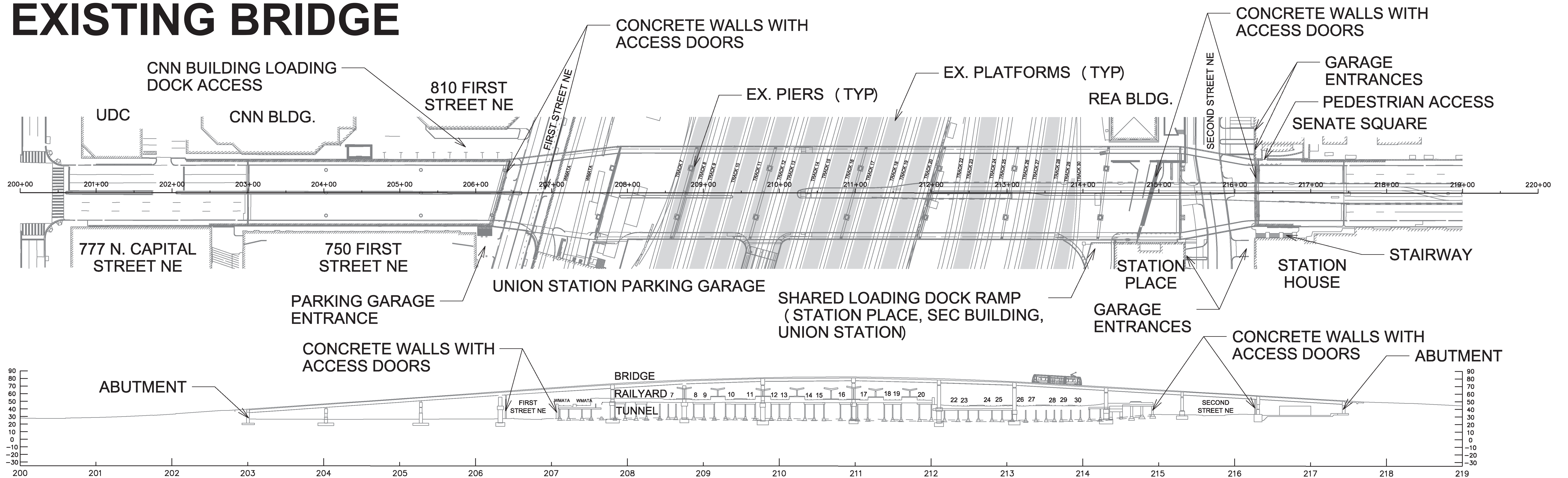


### MULTIPLE TRANSPORTATION MODES AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE WILL BE COORDINATED FOR THIS PROJECT.

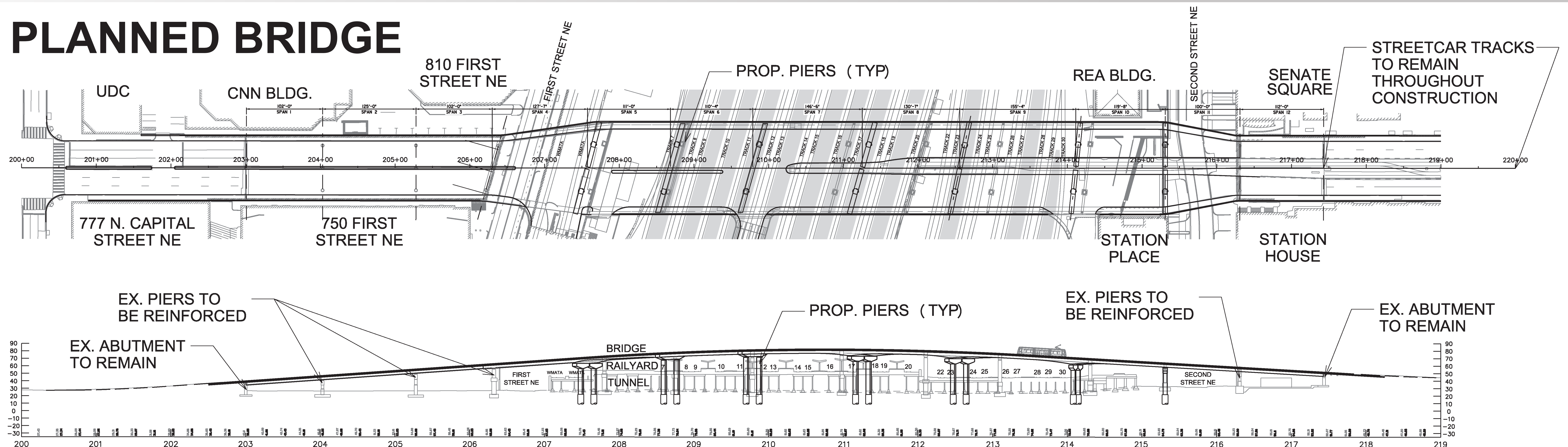
- ① Vehicular, pedestrian, bicycle and streetcar traffic across the bridge
- ② Access to Union Station parking garage, bus terminal, and Station Place loading dock from the bridge surface
- ③ Amtrak, VRE, MARC and Metrorail operations beneath the bridge
- ④ Continued use of 1st Street and 2nd Street beneath the bridge
- ⑤ Maintenance of the original H Street Tunnel running beneath the railyard and Metrorail tracks
- ⑥ Multiple public and private utilities in the project area



## EXISTING BRIDGE



## PLANNED BRIDGE





## HOW DO I COMMENT ON THE PROJECT?

**1**



Email your comments to us at  
[info@hstreetbridgeproject.com](mailto:info@hstreetbridgeproject.com)

**2**



Mail in your comment form to DDOT  
after the meeting.

For more information and updates please visit our Web Page:  
<http://www.hstreetbridgeproject.com/>