

History

The MBT was first envisioned by District of Columbia residents in 1989. A small group was formed to advocate for the project, and the City's Comprehensive Plan was amended to include the trail. Since that time, sections of the trail have been built as funding has become available:

- DDOT built a section in 1999 when John McCormack Drive along the CUA campus was reconstructed.
- WMATA built a portion of the trail at the new NOMA Metrorail Station.
- The city of Takoma Park, Maryland built a portion with a grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation.
- Near Union Station, developers and DDOT built sections along 2nd Avenue NE, and DDOT built a green bike lane on 1st Street NE.
- Most recently, DDOT acquired railroad property and built the lower section of trail that links Brookland with NOMA. At Rhode Island Avenue, a new bridge connects the trail and neighborhoods west of the tracks to the Rhode Island Avenue Metro station and Home Depot on the east side.
- DDOT is currently developing specific alignments and design treatments for the trail section between Catholic University in Brookland, and Takoma Park, Maryland. The trail will provide access to the Fort Totten Metro Station, pass through the Manor Park neighborhood, traverse Takoma, DC and link to the existing trail in Maryland along Eastern Avenue near Piney Branch Road.

