



TO: Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission Chair Franklin and Commissioners

FROM: Rich Dalton, Acting Chief Executive Officer

DATE: August 25, 2020

SUBJECT: VRE Monthly Update

Ridership continues to slowly grow. Since my last update in late June, average daily ridership has gone from just under 1,000 to nearly 1,200. The number of weekly passenger trips has increased by more than 1,000 to 5,957. Here's what ridership looks like over the past four weeks compared to the same weeks in 2019.

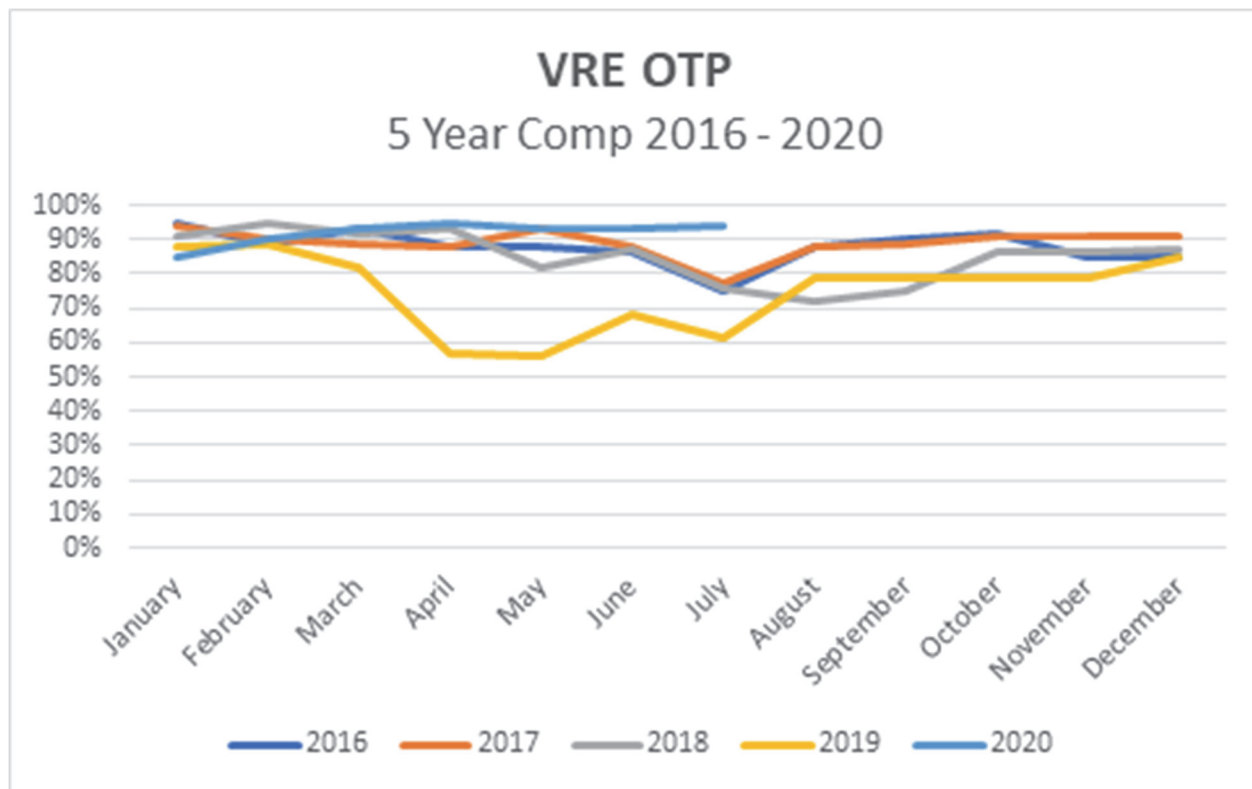
Week Ending	2020 Ridership	Average Daily Ridership 2020	2019 Ridership	Numeric Difference	Percentage Difference
July 31	5,754	1,151	95,784	-90,030	-93.9%
August 7	5,237	1,047	94,084	-88,847	-94.4%
August 14	5,872	1,174	91,333	-85,461	-93.6%
August 21	5,957	1,191	94,009	-88,052	-93.7%

At the end of July, we [added a round trip – trains 300 and 307 – on the Fredericksburg Line](#) to support social distancing in our railcars. Under our [current distancing plan](#), roughly a third of our seats – 45 of 130 – are available to passengers. We continue to monitor ridership and will add or lengthen trains as the numbers grow. Our [train utilization trends web page](#), which is updated weekly, serves as a decision-making tool for passengers who want the greatest amount of distancing.

Our ridership recovery campaign continues to evolve. We have prepared a series of [videos that highlights the precautions we have taken](#) to ensure the safe and healthy return of passengers. These videos emphasize our [cleaning and sanitizing procedures](#), and social distancing protocols.

On-time performance (OTP) in June and July was 93 and 94 percent, respectively. While lower ridership helps improve OTP, as it takes passengers less time to board and detrain, our new seasonal schedule has played a major role in mitigating the effects of heat-related speed restrictions. OTP generally dips during the summer due to these restrictions, but the slight

adjustments to the Fredericksburg Line southbound schedule has eliminated those delays. In July, with nearly 100 percent of our operating days under heat orders, we had no trains delayed with heat orders as the cause.



Our procurement staff has been busy [issuing and evaluating three requests for proposals and two invitation for bids](#) (IFB), many of which will come before you over the next few months. Only one solicitation, an IFB for improvements to our Rolling Road station, is currently open.

VRE's Continuity of Operations team meets virtually each day and is in constant contact. Our supply chain, staffing, business processes, and other functional areas of the organization remain in good shape.