



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

TO: Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission Chair Franklin and Commissioners

FROM: Rich Dalton, Chief Executive Officer

DATE: November 23, 2020

SUBJECT: VRE Monthly Update

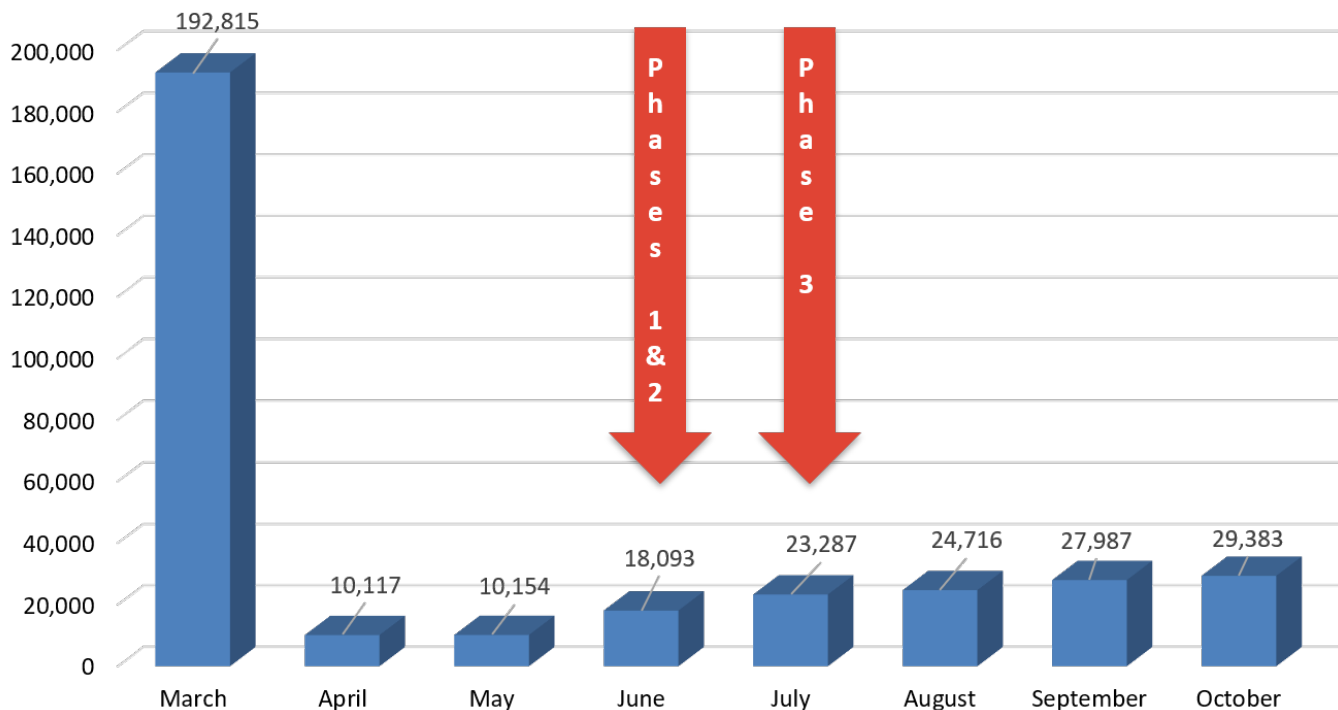
Ridership declined slightly over the past month and will likely continue to do so through the end of the holiday season. Here's what ridership looks like over the past four weeks compared to the same weeks in 2019.

Week Ending	2020 Ridership	2020 Average Daily Ridership	2019 Ridership	Numeric Difference	Percentage Difference
October 30	7,158	1,432	96,788	-89,630	-92.6%
November 6	6,288	1,258	91,889	-85,601	-93.2%
November 13	*5,522	1,381	*76,416	-70,894	-92.8%
November 20	6,815	1,363	94,612	-87,797	-92.8%

*Four days of service

MONTHLY RIDERSHIP

March - October 2020



We continue to operate an S+ schedule and monitor ridership to allow for social distancing. Given current ridership levels, we have no immediate plans to add trains. We regularly update and improve our [train utilization web page](#), which is a great tool for riders looking to maximize their social distance.

Our multi-pronged ridership recovery campaign continues to evolve, as we emphasize the measures we have taken to protect the health and safety of our riders and train crews. We have [added a 3-D train tour to our website](#), which allows passengers to move from platform to rail car, letting them know what to expect and instilling a level of confidence in our efforts to ensure social distancing.

VRE Mobile, [an upgrade of which will be available in the coming weeks](#), provides passengers with a contactless way to purchase and validate tickets. Future app upgrades will include trip-planning tools, and real-time info on parking availability and Amtrak arrivals.

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

There are several VRE items that will come before the commission in December, including two agreements – one for operating/access and another for funding – with the newly created Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (Rail Authority). I briefly shared an overview of these agreements with commissioners in November. [A more detailed presentation is available for viewing on VRE's YouTube channel](#). I would encourage you to take a few minutes and look at the presentation, as these agreements are somewhat complicated and may engender questions. I am available to chat, one-on-one, in advance of the commission's December 3 meeting and answer any questions you may have about VRE's relationship with the Rail Authority and the proposed agreements.