



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

TO: Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission Chair Franklin and Commissioners

FROM: Rich Dalton, Chief Executive Officer

DATE: December 22, 2020

SUBJECT: VRE Monthly Update

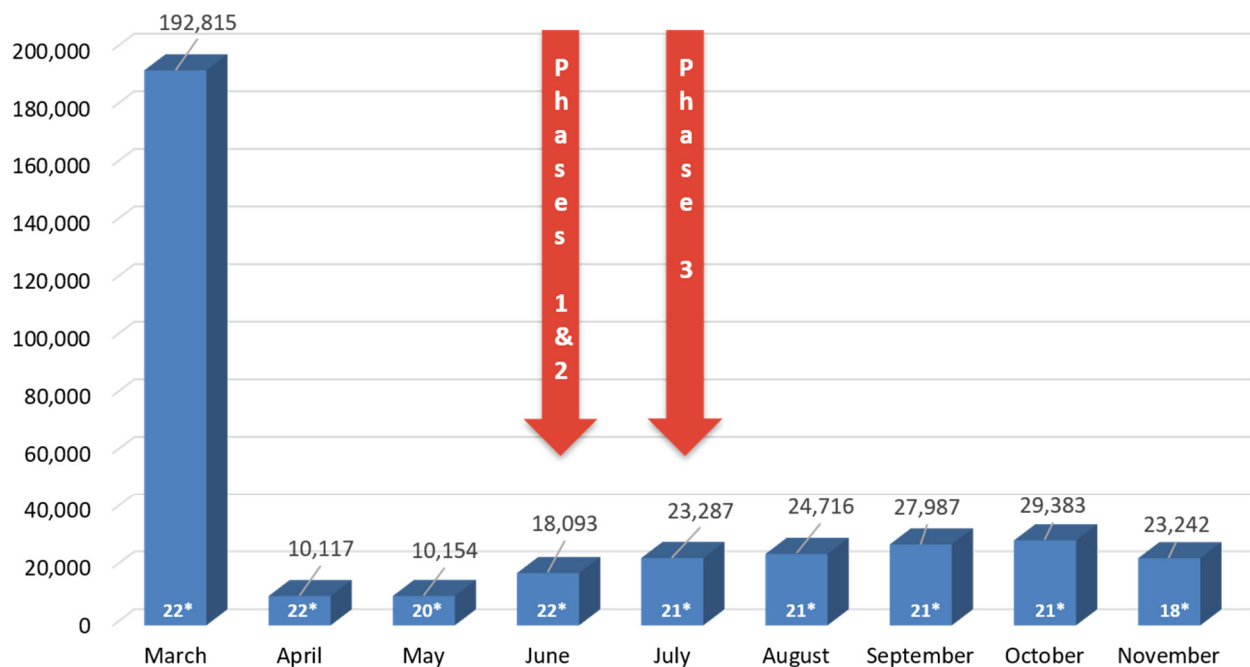
Ridership declined slightly over the past month and will likely continue to do so through the end of the holiday season. Here's what ridership looks like over the past four weeks compared to the same weeks in 2019.

Week Ending	2020 Ridership	2020 Average Daily Ridership	2019 Ridership	Numeric Difference	Percentage Difference
November 27	*3,429	1,143	**51,147	-47,718	-93.3%
December 4	6,121	1,224	95,726	-89,605	-93.6%
December 11	6,257	1,251	92,501	-86,244	-93.2%
December 18	5,296	1,059	88,375	-83,079	-94.0%

\*Three days of service \*\*Four days of service

## Monthly Ridership

March-November 2020



\*service days per month

We continue to operate an S+ schedule and monitor ridership to allow for social distancing. Between Christmas and New Year's, we will operate two fewer trains daily during the shortened, three-day service week. 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.

VRE's holistic safety program was recognized virtually by the Virginia Transit Association in mid-December with its Exceptional Safety Award. The awards jury noted that VRE looks for opportunities for proactive, continuous improvement. It pointed to positive train control implementation, first-responder training, and safety messaging as examples of how VRE uses all the tools at its disposal to ensure everyone's safety.

An upgraded version of VRE Mobile is currently being beta-tested and will be [publicly available in the coming weeks](#), providing 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 for action in January, including our [amended fiscal year 2021 and recommended fiscal year 2022 operating and capital budgets](#). Should you have any questions regarding the budgets or any other agenda item, please feel free to contact me.

Happy holidays. I look forward to meeting with you in the new year.