

# CEO REPORT

OCTOBER 2020



# OUR MISSION

The Virginia Railway Express, a joint project of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac Rappahannock Transportation Commission, will provide safe, cost-effective, accessible, reliable, convenient, and customer responsive commuter-oriented rail passenger service. VRE contributes to the economic vitality of its member jurisdictions as an integral part of a balanced, intermodal regional transportation system.





CEO REPORT | OCTOBER 2020

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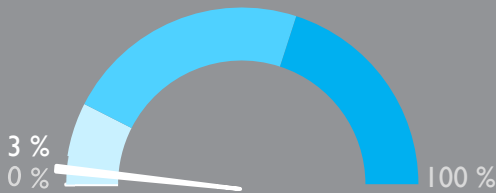
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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS  
A better way. A better life.

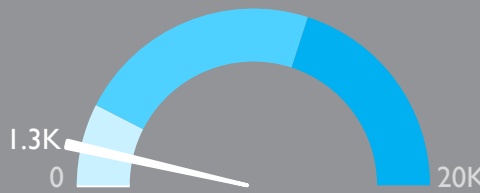


# SUCCESS AT A GLANCE



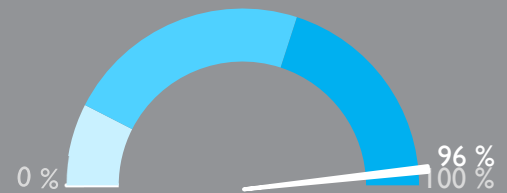
## PARKING UTILIZATION

The total number of parking spaces used in the VRE system during the month, divided by the total number of parking spaces available.



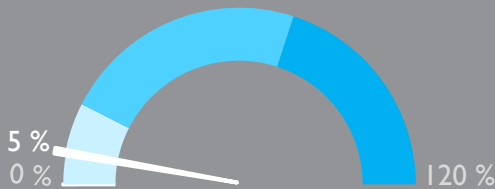
## AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

The average number of boardings each operating day inclusive of Amtrak Step-Up boardings and reduced, "S" schedule, service.  
Same month, previous year: 19,201



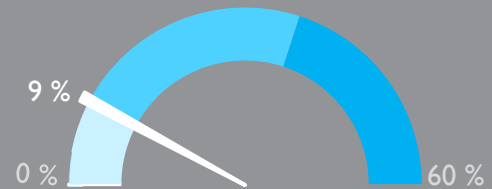
## ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

Percent of trains arriving at their destination within five minutes of the schedule.  
Same month, previous year: 79%



## SYSTEM CAPACITY

The percent of peak hour train seats occupied. The calculation excludes reverse flow and non-peak hour trains.



## OPERATING RATIO

*Through August 2020*

Year-to-date operating revenues divided by year-to-date operating expenses, which represents the share of operating costs paid by the riders.  
Board-approved goal: 52%

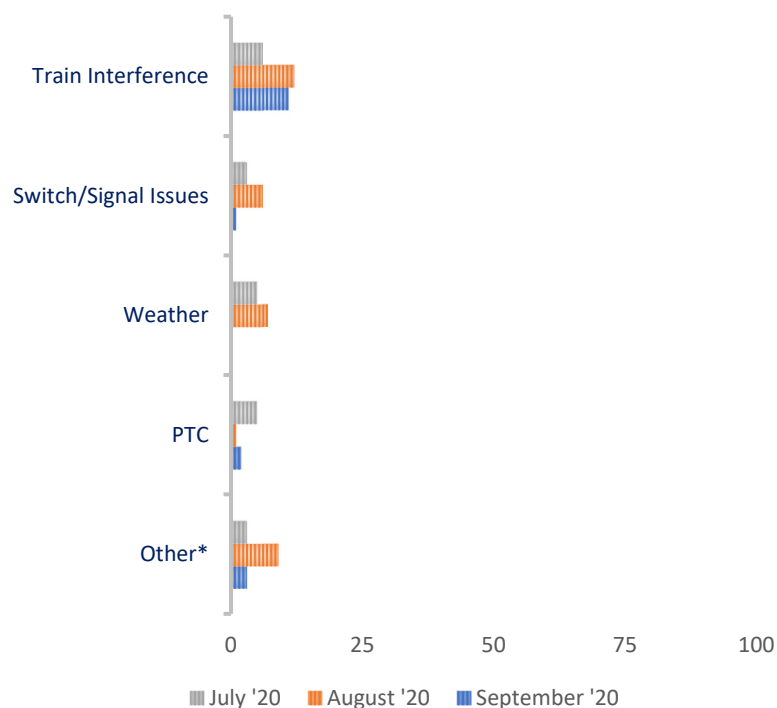
**September 2020**

# ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

## OUR RECORD

	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019
Manassas Line	96%	90%	77%
Fredericksburg Line	95%	91%	81%
Systemwide	96%	90%	79%

## PRIMARY REASON FOR DELAY



VRE operated 378 trains in September. Our on-time rate for September was 96 percent.

Seventeen trains arrived more than 5 minutes late to their final destinations. Of those late trains, six were on the Manassas Line (35 percent), and 11 were on the Fredericksburg Line (65 percent).

All categories of delay were low this month, but congestion (train interference) was the largest contributor.

\*Includes trains that were delayed due to operational testing and passenger handling.

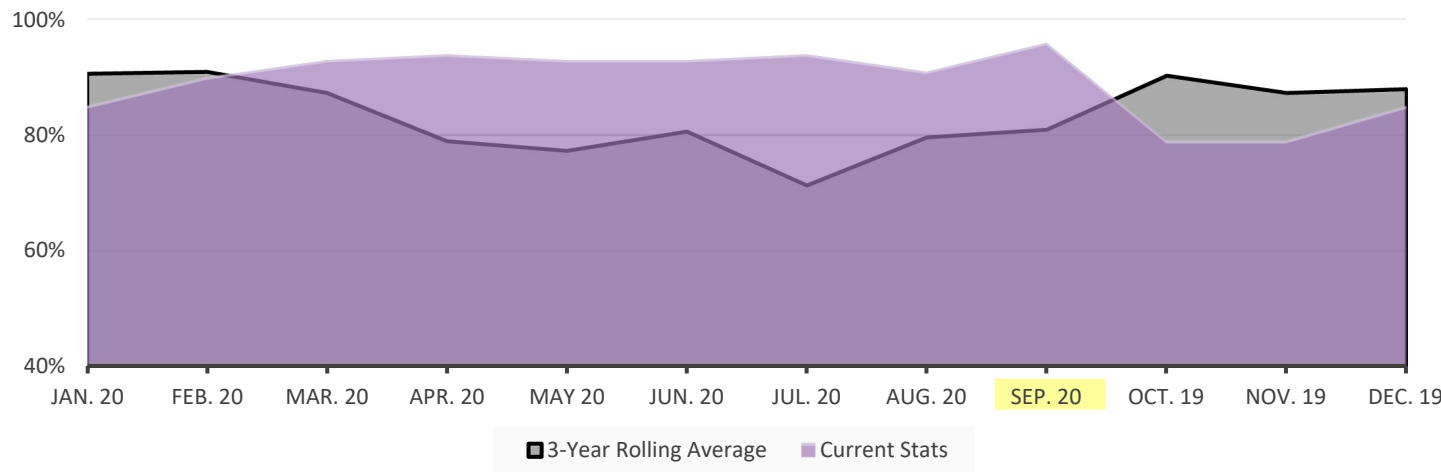
## LATE TRAINS

	System Wide			Fredericksburg Line			Manassas Line		
	July	August	Sept	July	August	Sept	July	August	Sept
Total late trains	22	36	17	13	20	11	9	17	6
Average minutes late	16	26	13	18	17	13	12	36	14
Number over 30 minutes	3	8	0	2	3	0	1	5	0
Heat restrictions	20	8	2	20	8	2	0	0	0

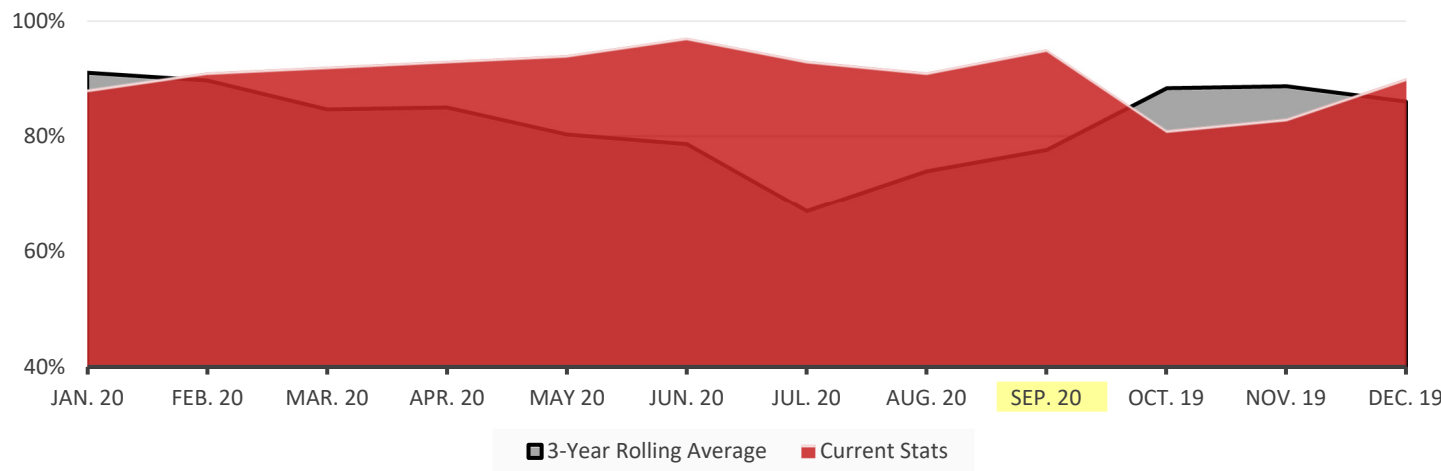


ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

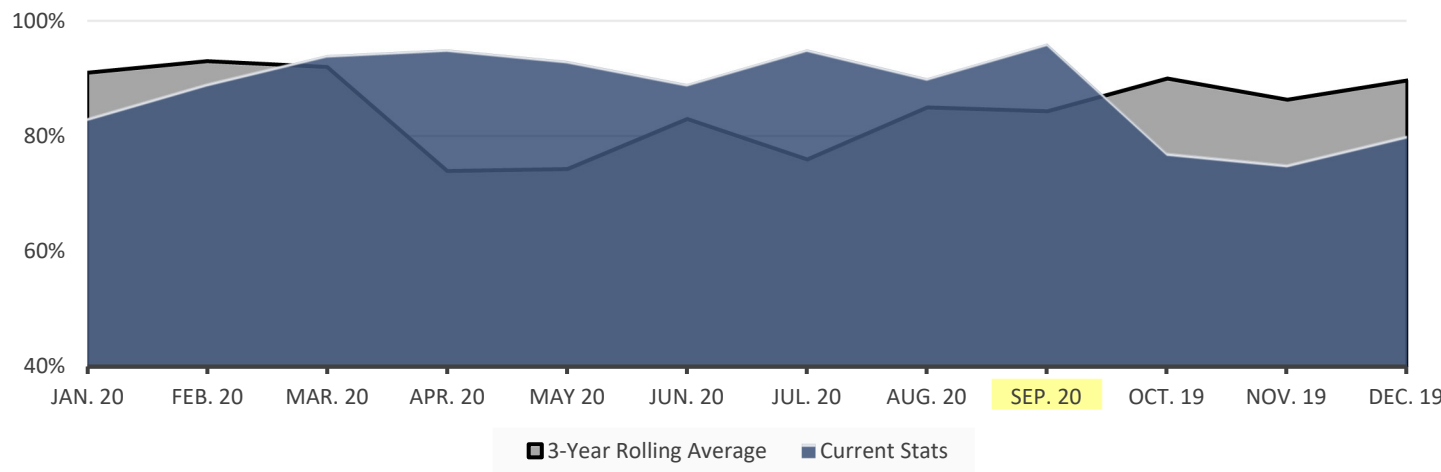
VRE SYSTEM



FREDERICKSBURG LINE

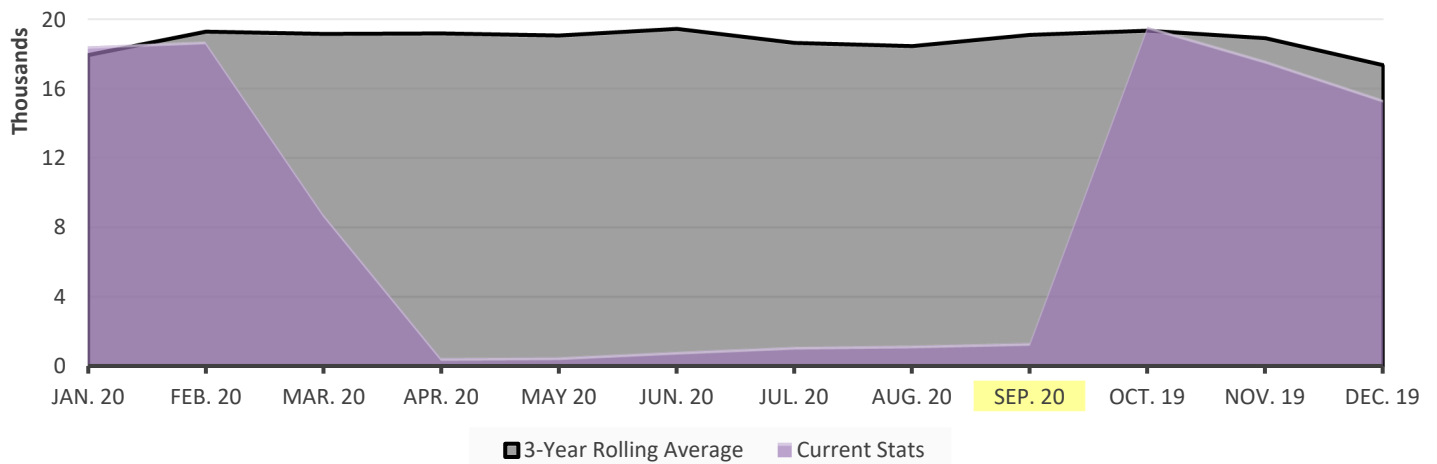


MANASSAS LINE

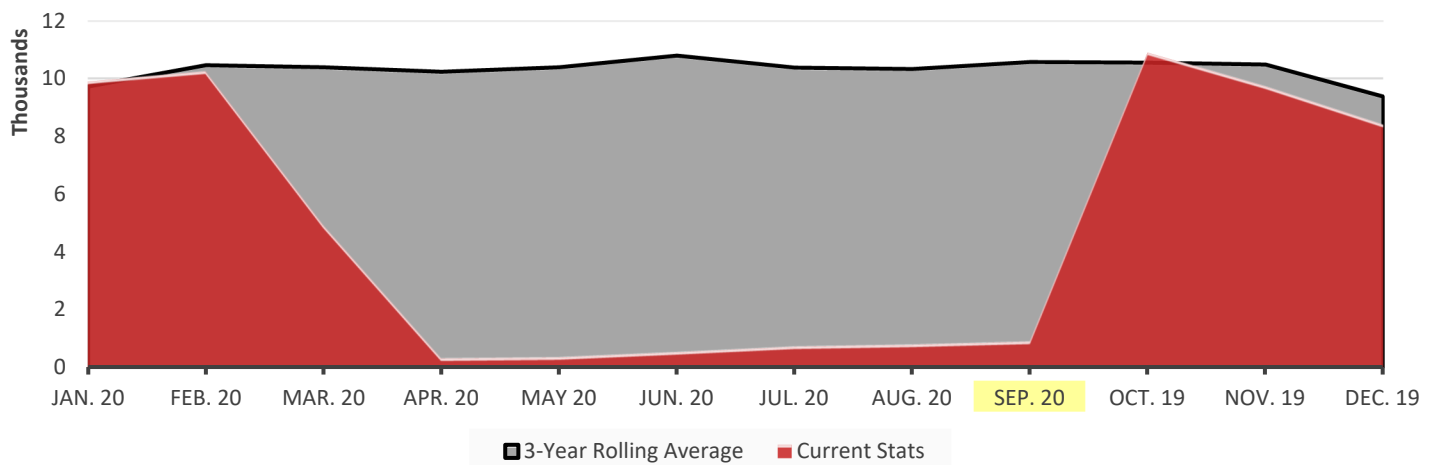


# AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

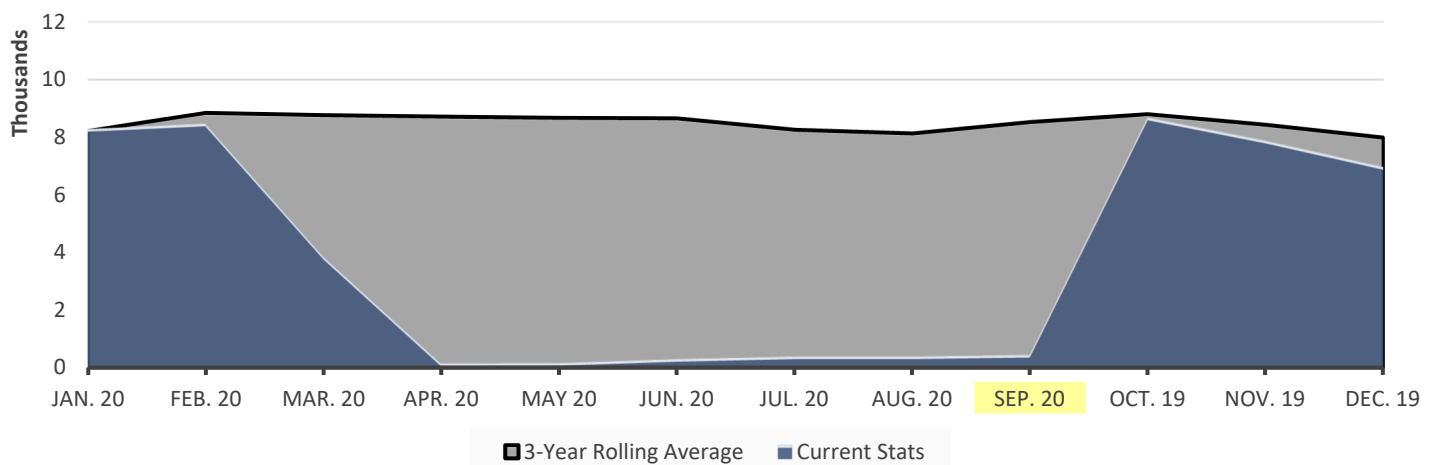
## VRE SYSTEM



## FREDERICKSBURG LINE



## MANASSAS LINE

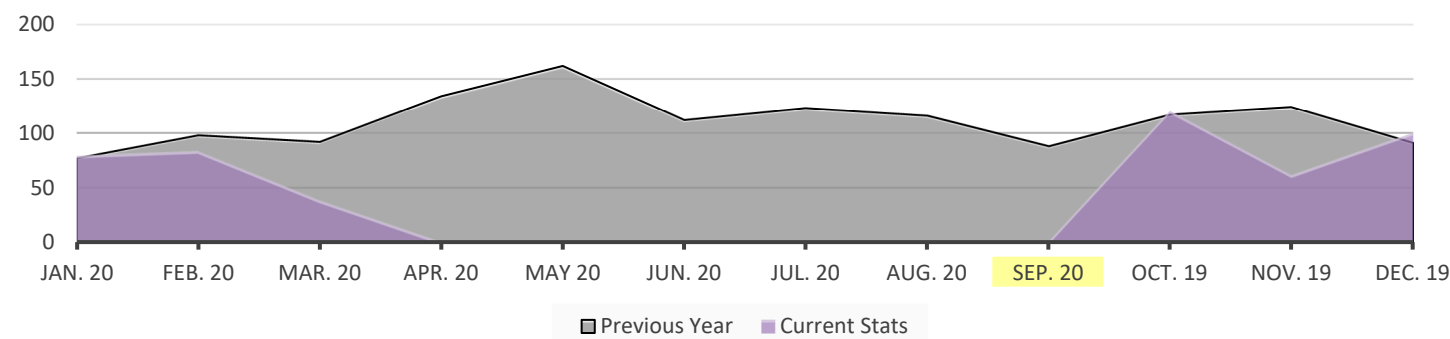


Average daily ridership (ADR) in September was 1,333. ADR for the month was up slightly from August, as we continue to run on the “S” Schedule Plus (which adds trains 300 and 307 to service), as necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019
Monthly Ridership	27,987	24,716	384,027
Average Daily Ridership	1,333	1,177	19,201
Full Service Days	0	0	20
“S” Service Days	21	21	0

## SUMMONSES ISSUED

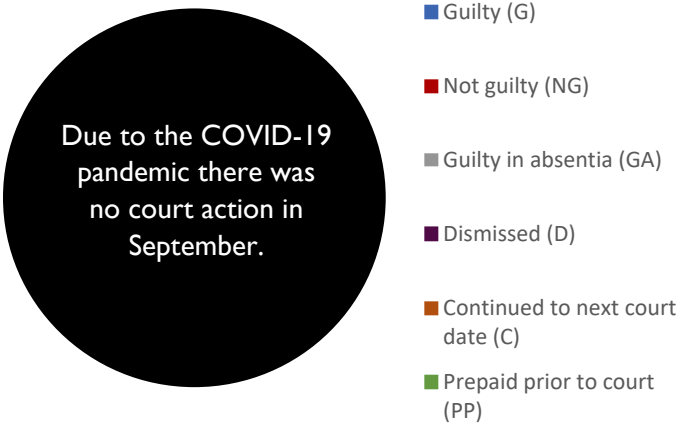
### VRE SYSTEM



### SUMMONSES WAIVED OUTSIDE OF COURT

Reason for Dismissal	Occurrences
Passenger showed proof of a monthly ticket	0
One-time courtesy	0
Per the request of the conductor	0
Defective ticket	0
Per ops manager	0
Unique circumstances	0
Insufficient information	0
Lost and found ticket	0
Other	0
Total Waived	0

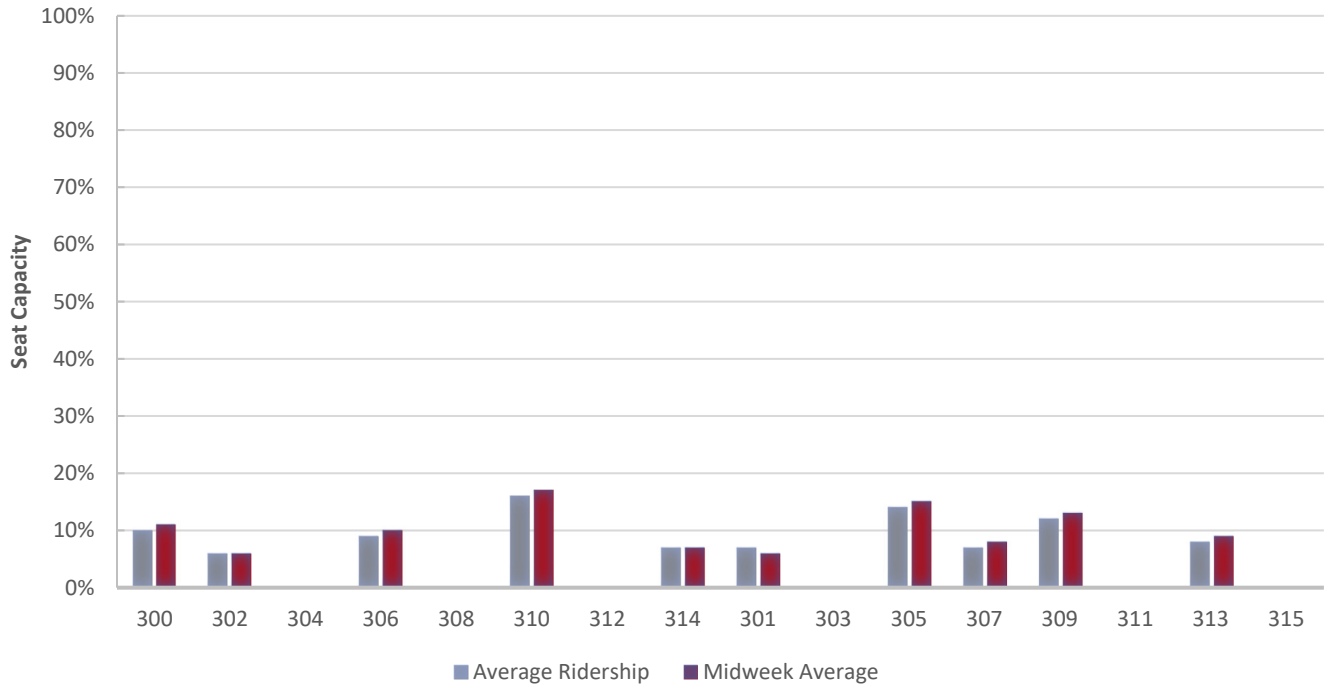
### MONTHLY SUMMONSES COURT ACTION



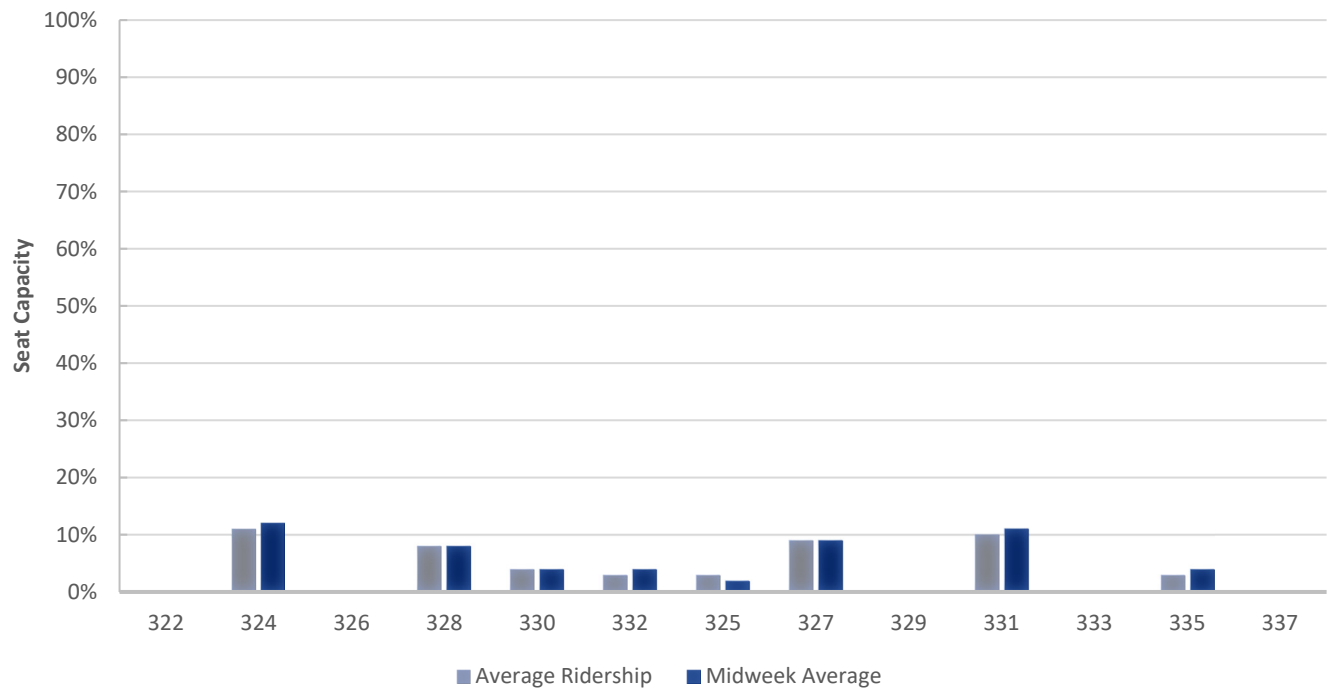


# TRAIN UTILIZATION

## FREDERICKSBURG LINE

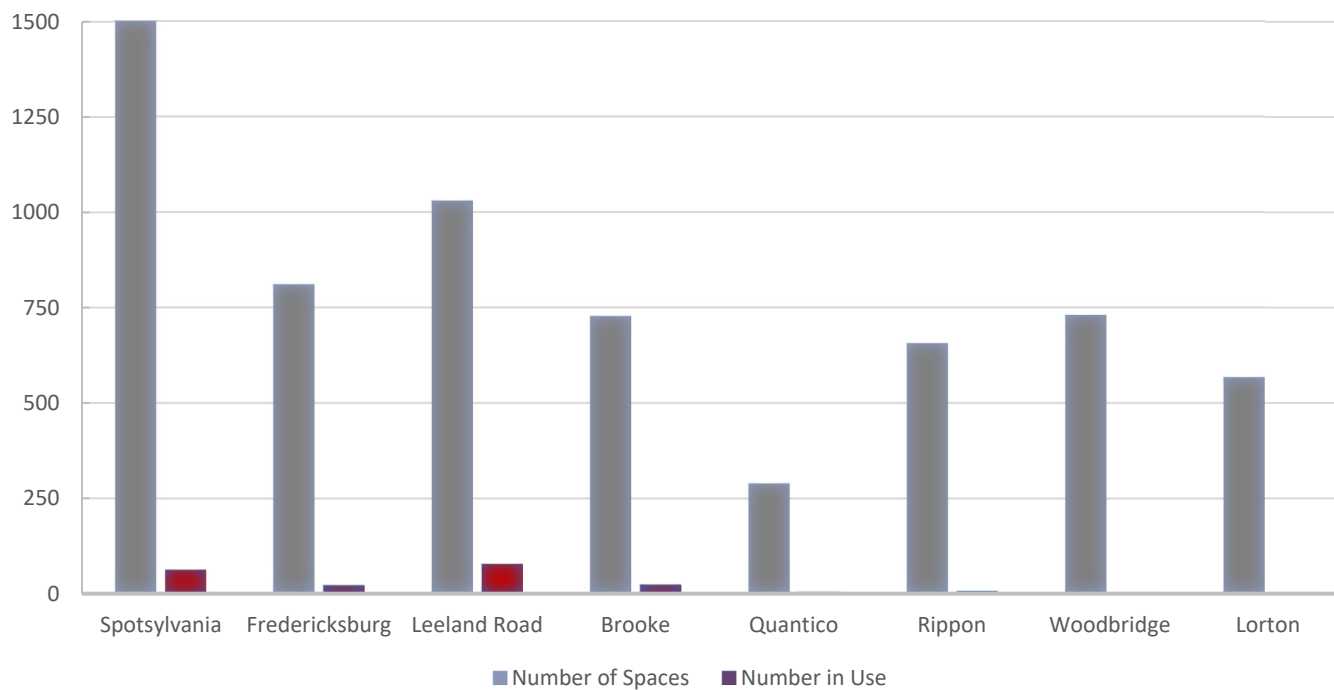


## MANASSAS LINE

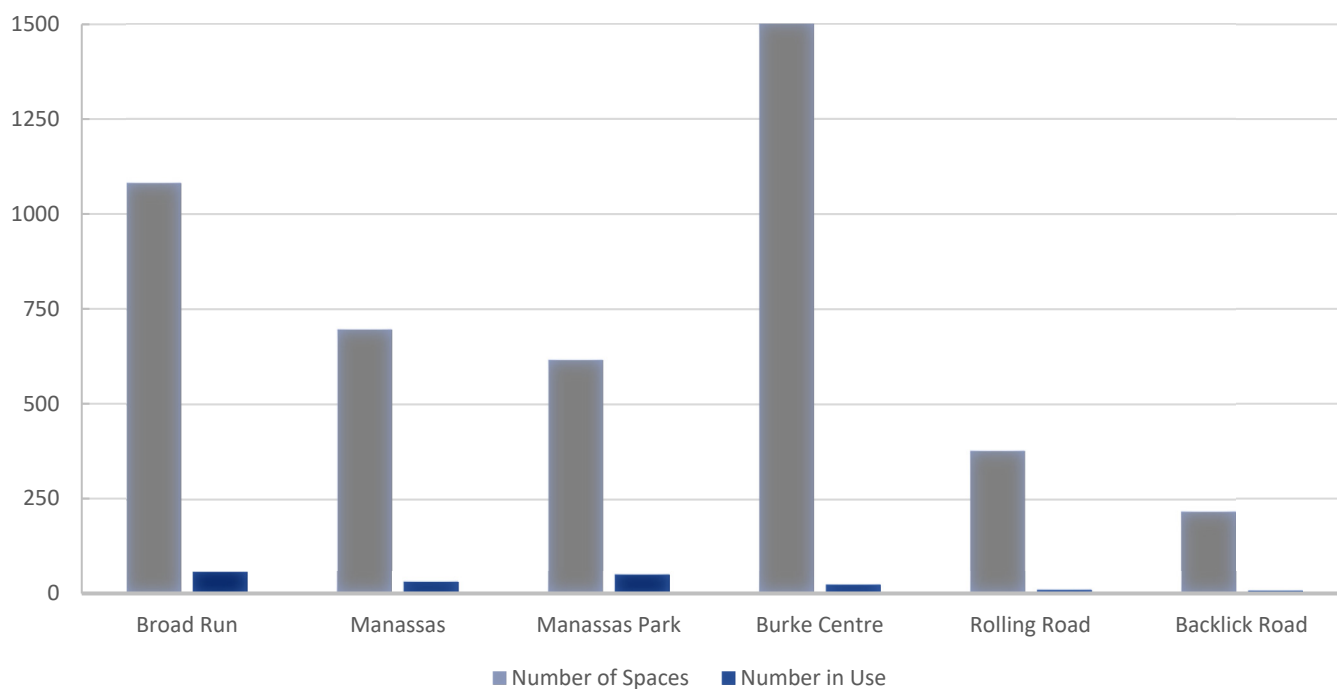


## PARKING UTILIZATION

### FREDERICKSBURG LINE



### MANASSAS LINE



# FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST 2020

Fare revenue through the first two months of FY 2021 is approximately \$6 million below budget (an unfavorable variance of -80%) and is also 80% below the same period in FY 2020.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to have a material negative impact on VRE ridership. Average daily ridership in August 2020 was 1,177 trips per day, as compared to 18,692 per day in February 2020 (the last full month not affected by the pandemic). We expect to report significant impacts related to the pandemic throughout FY 2021.

As in past years, VRE's annual liability insurance premium was accounted for in full in July, resulting in higher total monthly expense and a year-to-date operating ratio of 9%. Absent this insurance premium, the operating ratio would have been 14%. VRE's budgeted operating ratio for FY 2021 is 52%, in accordance with the 50% minimum requirement in the Master Agreement. The final operating ratio for the year will depend on whether and when ridership rebounds, but it is unlikely that the 50% threshold will be reached.

A summary of the FY 2021 financial results through August follows, including information on major revenue and expense categories. Please note that these figures are preliminary and unaudited.

FY 2020 Operating Budget Report Month Ended August 31, 2020							
	CURR. MO. ACTUAL	CURR. MO. BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	YTD \$ VARIANCE	YTD % VARIANCE	TOTAL FY19 BUDGET
<b>Operating Revenue</b>							
Passenger Ticket Revenue	663,492	3,688,805	1,508,629	7,553,267	(6,044,638)	-80.0%	44,090,000
Other Operating Revenue	-	25,100	42,208	51,394	(9,186)	-17.9%	300,000
<b>Subtotal Operating Revenue</b>	<b>663,492</b>	<b>3,713,904</b>	<b>1,550,838</b>	<b>7,604,661</b>	<b>(6,053,824)</b>	<b>-79.6%</b>	<b>44,390,000</b>
Jurisdictional Subsidy (1)	-	-	9,334,076	9,334,075	1	0.0%	13,817,632
Federal/State/Other Jurisdictional Subsidy	2,613,463	2,680,153	5,235,656	5,360,298	(124,642)	-2.3%	31,879,656
Appropriation from Reserve/Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-
Interest Income	20,712	108,765	30,114	222,709	(192,595)	-86.5%	1,300,000
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>3,297,667</b>	<b>6,502,822</b>	<b>16,150,683</b>	<b>22,521,743</b>	<b>(6,371,060)</b>	<b>-28.3%</b>	<b>91,387,287</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>							
Departmental Operating Expenses	5,159,736	6,614,136	17,683,170	17,652,914	(30,256)	-0.2%	85,137,449
Debt Service	518,403	518,403	1,036,806	1,036,806	-	0.0%	6,220,838
Other Non-Departmental Expenses	-	2,426	-	4,968	4,968	0.0%	29,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>5,678,139</b>	<b>7,134,965</b>	<b>18,719,976</b>	<b>18,694,688</b>	<b>(25,288)</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>91,387,287</b>
<b>Net income (loss) from Operations</b>	<b>(2,380,473)</b>	<b>(632,143)</b>	<b>(2,569,293)</b>	<b>3,827,055</b>	<b>(6,396,348)</b>		<b>-</b>
<b>Operating Ratio</b>							
			<b>9%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>52%</b>	
					<b>Goal</b>	<b>50%</b>	

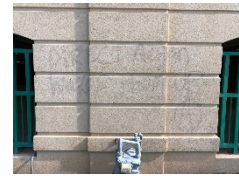
(1) Total jurisdictional subsidy is \$18,300,780. Portion shown as budgeted is attributed to Operating Fund only.

## FACILITIES UPDATE

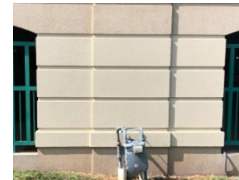
The following is a status update of VRE facilities projects.

### Completed projects:

1. Cleaning of pavilion exterior at Spotsylvania Station
2. Cleaning of storm drainage systems in Woodbridge and Manassas parking garages
3. Painting over graffiti at Manassas parking garage
4. Submission of City of Alexandria building permit application for Alexandria Headquarters Renovations project



*Graffiti at Manassas parking garage*



*Graffiti removal at Manassas parking garage*

### Projects scheduled to be completed this quarter:

1. Submission of IFB package for canopy roof replacement at Backlick Road Station
2. Minor steel repairs, caulking and painting of stairs at Rippon Station
3. Submission of IFB package for replacement of tactile warning strips at various stations

### Projects scheduled to be initiated this quarter:

1. Issuance of GEC task orders for design of minor structural repairs at Franconia-Springfield, Woodbridge, Rippon, Brooke and Manassas Stations
2. Minor steel repairs, caulking and partial painting of stairs at Franconia-Springfield Station
3. Repair of minor cracks in west platform at Woodbridge Station
4. Repair of platform sealer delamination at Spotsylvania Station
5. Issuance of general signage services Request for Quotes

### Ongoing projects:

1. Design of waiting area at L'Enfant Station
2. Replacement of signage at Franconia-Springfield, Woodbridge, and Leeland Road stations
3. Replacement of waste and recycling receptacles at various stations
4. Design of renovations to Alexandria headquarters



# UPCOMING PROCUREMENTS

- Program management services
- Canopy roof replacement at the Backlick Road Station
- Modernization of VRE Woodbridge Station east elevator
- Passenger car wheelchair lift assemblies
- Purchase of LED light fixtures
- Construction of L'Enfant south storage track wayside power
- Variable Messaging System replacement
- Tactile strip replacements
- Pavement repairs and striping at the Rippon and Leeland Road stations and Fredericksburg Lot G
- Franconia-Springfield Station painting services
- Purchase of forklift trucks
- Final design services for VRE Broad Run expansion
- Renewal of locomotive head end power engine systems
- Overhaul of emergency generators
- Headquarters renovations

## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATES

The following is a status update of VRE capital projects.

Completed projects or major project milestones:

1. Long Bridge Project (*study by others*) – Virginia and the District of Columbia have concluded the environmental planning process. DRPT is evaluating responses to its RFP for architectural/engineering consulting services.
2. New Washington Union Station Improvements (*study by others*) – FRA released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation for comment from agencies and the public on June 4. Two telephonic public hearings took place on July 14.

Projects or project phases scheduled to be completed this quarter:

3. Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements draft 90% complete plans
4. Rippon Station Improvements draft 30% complete plans
5. Brooke Station Improvements draft 30% complete plans
6. Leeland Road Station Improvements draft 30% complete plans
7. Broad Run Expansion (BRX) Section 106 Consultation
8. Construction of Benchmark Road Slope Stabilization Complete (Hamilton to Crossroads overall project/funding closeout and stakeholder concurrence anticipated this quarter)

Projects or project phases scheduled to be initiated this quarter:

9. Execution of Contract for Construction of Quantico Station Improvements and Pre-NTP activities - NTP forthcoming
10. Execution of Contract for Construction of Lifecycle Overhaul & Upgrade Facility (LOU) and Pre-NTP activities - NTP forthcoming
11. Board Authorization, Execution of Contract for Construction of Rolling Road Station Improvements and Pre-NTP activities – NTP forthcoming
12. Execution of Contract and NTP for CM for Construction of Quantico Station Improvements

## Ongoing projects:

13. Broad Run Expansion (BRX)
14. Manassas Park Parking Improvements
15. Rolling Road Station Improvements
16. Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) – land acquisition completed
17. Lifecycle Overhaul & Upgrade Facility (LOU)
18. Leeland Road Station Improvements
19. Brooke Station Improvements
20. Quantico Station Improvements
21. Rippon Station Improvements
22. Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements
23. Alexandria Station Improvements
24. Alexandria Station Track I Access (Slaters Lane)
25. Crystal City Station Improvements
26. L'Enfant Train Storage Track - South
27. L'Enfant Station Improvements
28. New York Avenue Midday Storage Facility
29. Potomac Shores VRE Station – *design by others*
30. Washington Union Station Improvements Environmental Impact Statement – *study by others*
31. DC2RVA Environmental Impact Statement – *study by others*
32. Long Bridge Project – *study by others*
33. Washington Union Station Improvements Environmental Impact Statement – *study by others*

### *Projects Progress Report Follows*

## PASSENGER

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	PHASE						
		CD	PE	EC	RW	FD	CN	
Alexandria Station Improvements	Eliminate at-grade track crossing, add elevators, modify platforms.	◆	◆	◆	N/A	●		
Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements	Extend both platforms and widen East Platform for future third track. <span style="color: red;">▲</span>	◆	◆	◆	N/A	●		
Rippon Station Improvements	Extend existing platform, construct new second platform with pedestrian overpass. <span style="color: red;">▲</span>	◆	●	●	N/A			
Potomac Shores Station Improvements	New VRE station and parking in Prince William County provided by private developer.	◆	●	◆	N/A			
Quantico Station Improvements	Extend existing platform, construct new second platform with pedestrian overpass.	◆	◆	◆	N/A	●		
Brooke Station Improvements	Extend existing platform, construct new second platform with pedestrian overpass. <span style="color: red;">▲</span>	◆	●	●	N/A			
Leeland Road Station Improvements	Extend existing platform, construct new second platform with pedestrian overpass. <span style="color: red;">▲</span>	◆	●	●	N/A			
Manassas Park Parking Improvements	Parking garage to increase parking capacity to 1,100 spaces.	◆	◆	●	N/A			
Rolling Road Station Improvements	Extend existing platform and rehabilitate existing station	◆	◆	◆	N/A	●	●	
Crystal City Station Improvements	Replace existing side platform with new, longer island platform.	◆	●	●	N/A			
L'Enfant Station Improvements	Replace existing platform with wider, longer island platform. Add fourth track (VA-LE)	◆			N/A			

PHASE: CD - Conceptual Design PE - Preliminary Engineering EC - Environment Clearance RW - Right of Way Acquisition FD - Final Design CN - Construction

STATUS: ■ Completed ■ Underway ■ On Hold ■ part of the "Penta-Platform" program

<sup>1</sup> Total project cost estimate in adopted FY2020 CIP Budget; percentage complete based on VRE Operations Board authorization

<sup>2</sup> Does not include minor (< \$50,000) operating expenditures

\* \$2,181,630 authorization divided across five "Penta-Platform" program stations



ESTIMATED COSTS (\$)						STATUS	
Total <sup>1</sup>	Funded	Unfunded	Authorized	Expended <sup>2</sup>	Percent Complete <sup>1</sup>	Project Completion Date	
31,875,014	31,875,014	-	2382759	2193257	90%	2nd QTR 2023	● Design underway. CSX and City of Alexandria review progressing.
13,000,000	13,000,000	-	*	708,564	35%	4th QTR 2023	● FD underway with anticipated completion 4th QTR 2020. Ongoing coordination with DRPT projects.
16,634,793	16,634,793	-	*	397,897	20%	4th QTR 2030	● PE design/EC anticipated completion 4th QTR 2020. Ongoing coordination with DRPT projects.
No costs for VRE. Private developer providing station.					20%	TBD	● Potomac Shores VRE Station design underway to include parking structure. 60% Re-Design Submittal received and under review by CSX and VRE.
18,372,949	18,372,949	0	830,833	683,892	60%	TBD	● Final Funding Agreements forthcoming. Execution of Construction and CM contracts forthcoming, and pre-NTP activities anticipated 3rd Quarter 2020. NTP to follow.
23,391,019	23,391,019	-	*	396,379	20%	4th QTR 2030	● DRPT LONP received; REF grant pending. PE design/EC anticipated completion 4th QTR 2020. Ongoing coordination with DRPT projects.
15,527,090	15,527,090	-	*	367,607	20%	4th QTR 2026	● DRPT LONP received; REF grant pending. PE design/EC anticipated completion 4th QTR 2020. Ongoing coordination with DRPT projects.
25,983,000	25,983,000	0	2,238,144	670,225	30%	4th QTR 2022	● Evaluating City of Manassas Park relocation request.
5,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	640,503	418,887	70%	4th QTR 2021	● Evaluating bids received.
49,940,000	19,098,463	30,841,537	1,584,619	397,848	30%	2nd QTR 2024	● PE & EC initiated in Oct 2019 and anticipated completion 3rd QTR 2020.
70,650,000	62,465,721	8,184,279	130,501	65,150	50%	2nd QTR 2023	● DRPT LONP received. Real estate research in progress under LONP.

## TRACK AND INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	PHASE					
		CD	PE	EC	RW	FD	CN
Hamilton-to-Crossroads Third Track	2¼-miles of new third track with CSXT design and construction of signal and track tie-ins.	◆	◆	◆	N/A	◆	◆

## MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE FACILITIES

L'Enfant Train Storage Track - South	Conversion of CSXT Temporary Track to VRE Storage Track (1,350 feet) and Associated Signal Work	◆	◆	◆	N/A	●	●
Lifecycle Overhaul & Upgrade Facility	New LOU facility to be added to the Crossroads MSF.	◆	◆	◆	N/A	◆	■
Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility - Land Acquisition	Acquisition of 19.5 acres of land, construction of two storage tracks and related site improvements.	◆	N/A	N/A	●	N/A	N/A
New York Avenue Midday Storage Replacement Facility	Midday storage facility replacement for Ivy City storage facility.	◆	●	●	●		

## ROLLING STOCK

Passenger Railcar Procurement	Acquisition of 29 new railcars.	◆	N/A	N/A	N/A	◆	◆
Positive Train Control	Implement Positive Train Control for all VRE locomotives and control cars.	◆	N/A	N/A	N/A	◆	●

## PLANNING, COMMUNICATIONS AND IT










Broad Run Expansion (was Gainesville-Haymarket Extension)	NEPA and PE for expanding commuter rail service capacity in Western Prince William County	◆	●	●	-	-	-
Mobile Ticketing	Implementation of a new mobile ticketing system.	◆	N/A	N/A	N/A	◆	●

PHASE: CD - Conceptual Design PE - Preliminary Engineering EC - Environment Clearance  
RW - Right of Way Acquisition FD - Final Design CN - Construction

STATUS: ◆ Completed ● Underway ■ On Hold

<sup>1</sup> Total project cost estimate in adopted FY2020 CIP Budget; percentage complete based on VRE Operations Board authorization

<sup>2</sup> Does not include minor (< \$50,000) operating expenditures

Total <sup>1</sup>	ESTIMATED COSTS (\$)				Percent Complete <sup>1</sup>	Project Completion Date	STATUS	
	Funded	Unfunded	Authorized	Expended <sup>2</sup>				
32,500,000	32,500,000	-	33,285,519	30,578,003	100%	3rd QTR 2018		Overall Project and Stakeholder Concurrence Close-out forthcoming. Benchmark Slope project complete.
3,965,000	3,965,000	-	2,937,323	1,699,610	60%	4th QTR 2019		CSXT Construction Agreement received. CM underway.
38,183,632	38,183,632	-	3,176,039	2,143,583	70%	TBD		FD completion pending Final Electrical Design Coordination with REC. IFB anticipated 2nd Quarter 2020, upon
2,950,000	2,950,000	-	2,950,000	163,565	100%	1st QTR 2020		Land acquisition has been completed.
89,666,508	89,666,508	-	3,588,305	2,257,455	90%	4th QTR 2021		Preliminary design has been completed and continuing to collaborate with Amtrak on agreements.
75,264,693	75,264,693	-	69,457,809	47,915,644	99%	4th QTR 2020		All cars received. Completion date reflects end of warranty period.
14,191,833	14,191,833	-	10,294,079	7,984,451	95%	4th QTR 2018		Implementation Completed. Final stabilization and familiarization phase in process.
110,700,000	82,526,398	28,173,602	5,855,650	4,539,446	80%	4th QTR 2024		PE design and EC underway. Property acquisition due diligence underway.
3,510,307	3,510,307	-	3,510,627	2,282,853	70%	3rd QTR 2019		American Eagle working on redesign with uplift to new platform projected for late summer 2020.



## VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

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