

CEO REPORT

OCTOBER 2021



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.



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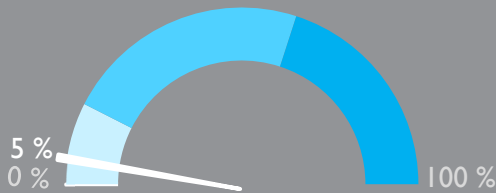
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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
A better way. A better life.

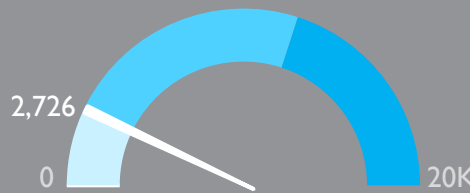


PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE



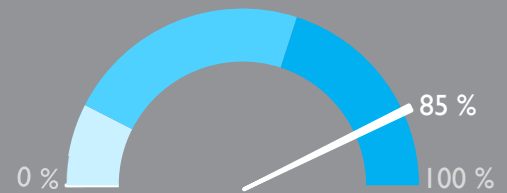
PARKING UTILIZATION

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



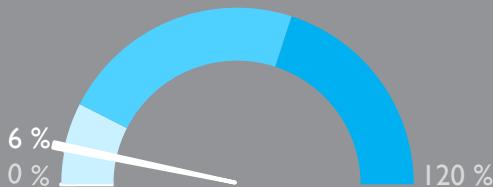
AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

The average number of boardings each operating day inclusive of Amtrak Step-Up boardings and reduced, "S" schedule, service.
Same month, previous year: 1,333



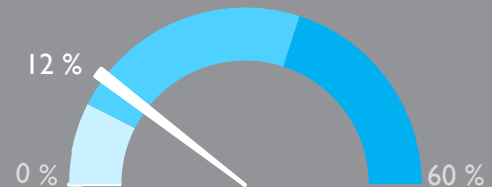
ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

Percent of trains arriving at their destination within 5 minutes of the schedule.
Same month, previous year: 90%



SYSTEM CAPACITY

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



OPERATING RATIO

Through August 2021

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%

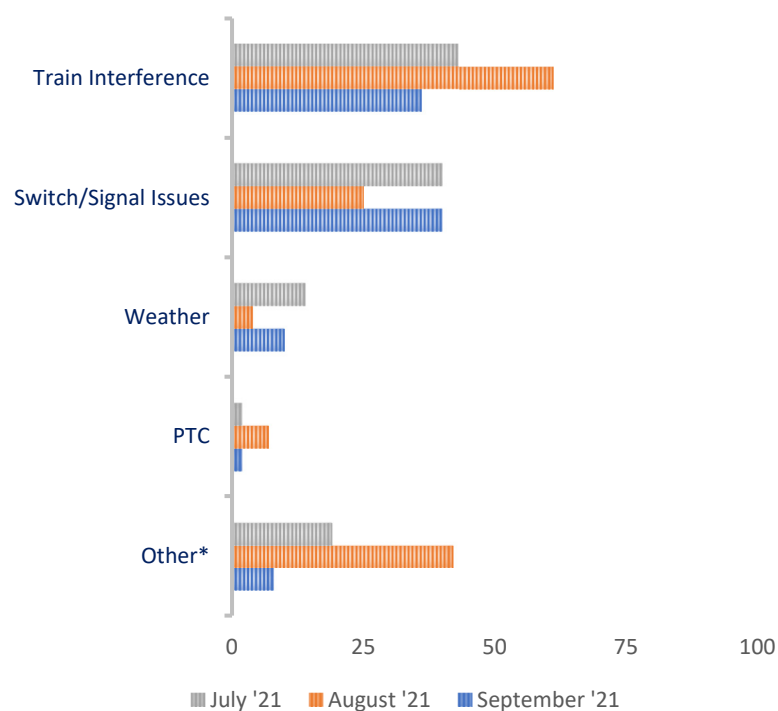
September 2021

ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

OUR RECORD

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020
Manassas Line	83%	78%	96%
Fredericksburg Line	87%	82%	95%
Systemwide	85%	80%	95%

PRIMARY REASON FOR DELAY



VRE operated 652 trains in September. The on-time rate for September was 85 percent.

Ninety-six trains arrived more than 5 minutes late to their final destinations. Of those late trains, 54 were on the Manassas Line (56 percent), and 42 were on the Fredericksburg Line (44 percent).

There were improvements in several categories of delay in September, though weather and switch/signal issues saw increases. Overall OTP improved this month, but VRE still fell short of its goal.

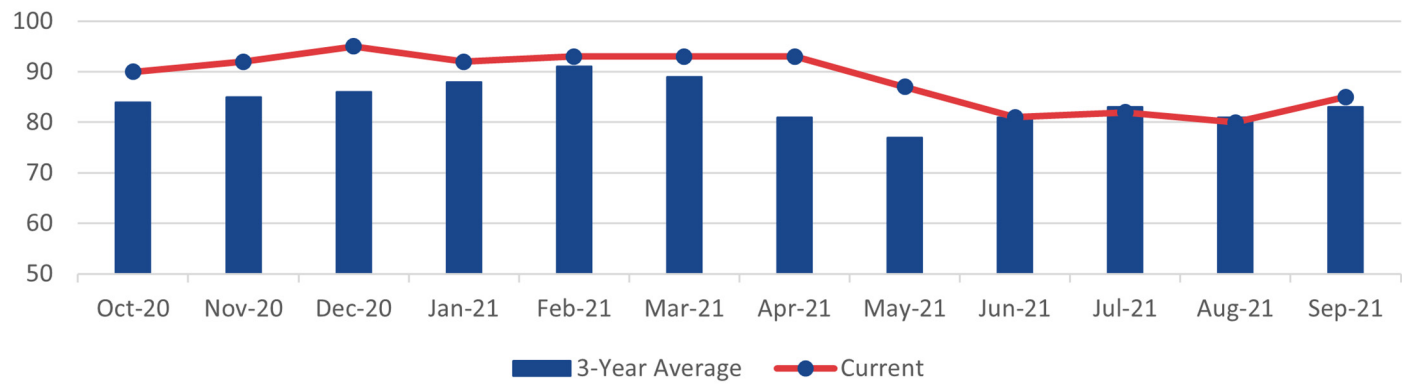
*Includes trains that were delayed due to operational testing and passenger handling.

LATE TRAINS

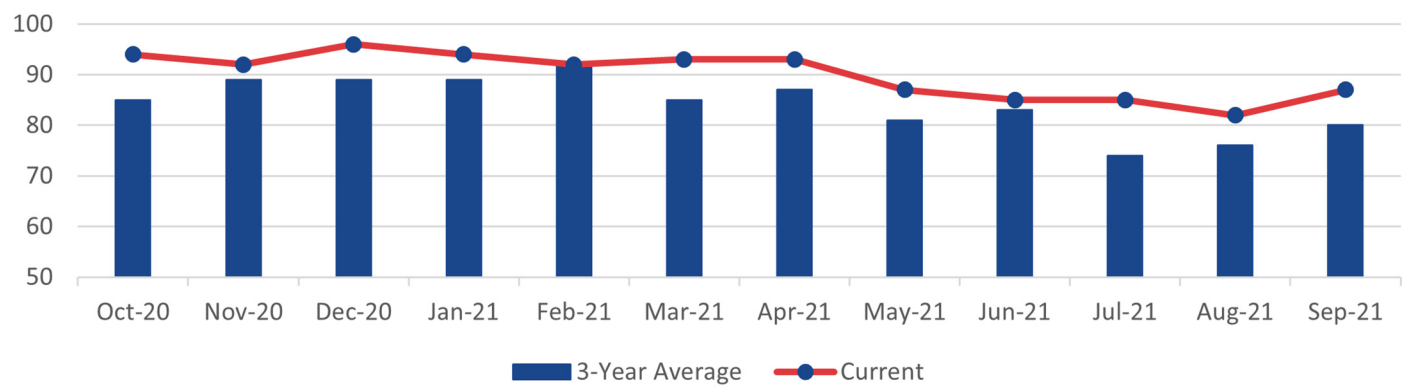
	System Wide			Fredericksburg Line			Manassas Line		
	July	Aug.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.
Total late trains	119	139	96	50	62	42	69	77	54
Average minutes late	23	14	14	27	15	13	20	13	14
Number over 30 minutes	18	11	2	10	7	1	8	4	1
Heat restrictions	18	14	0	18	14	0	0	0	0

ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

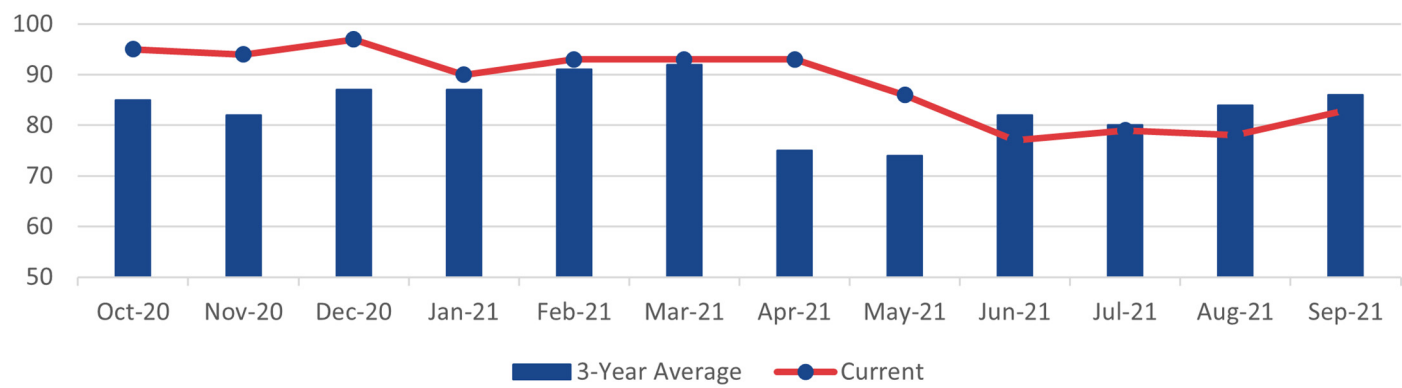
VRE SYSTEM



FREDERICKSBURG LINE

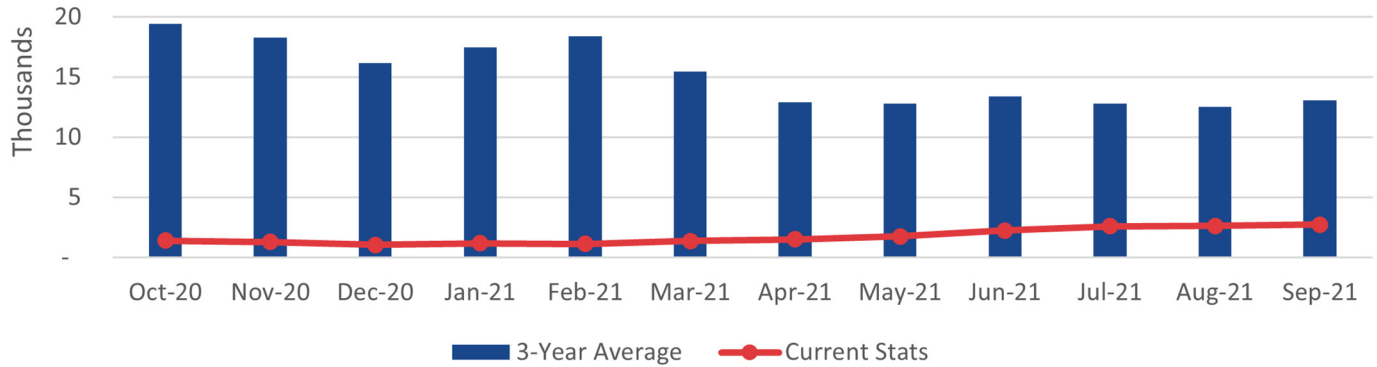


MANASSAS LINE

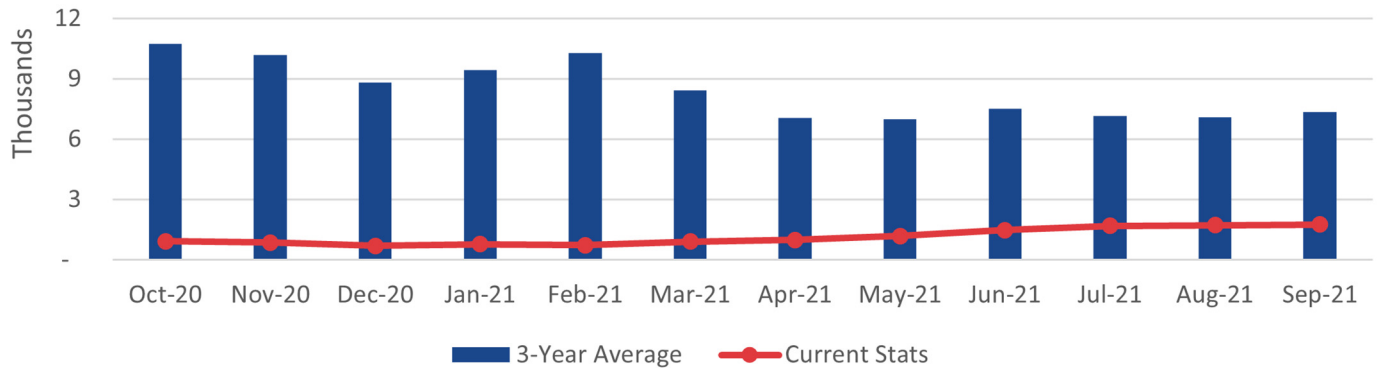


AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

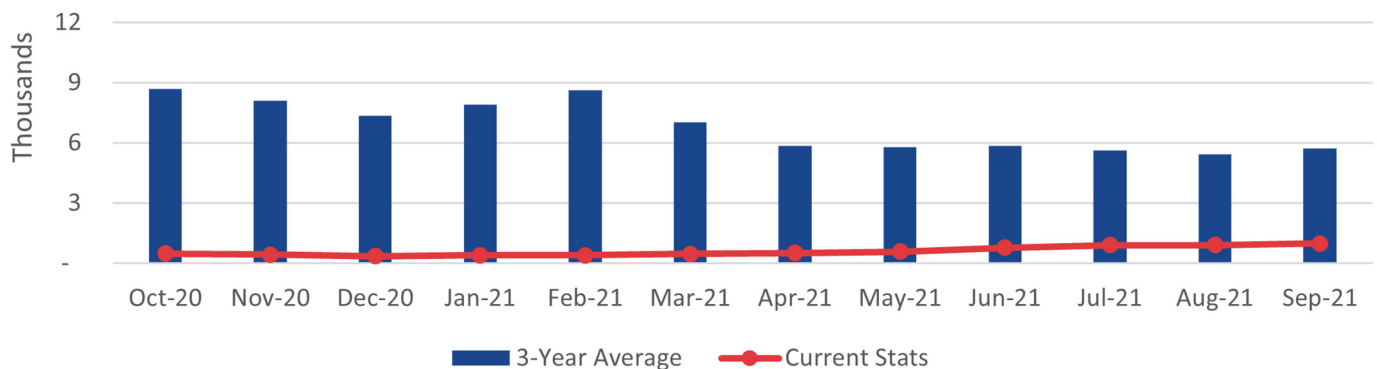
VRE SYSTEM



FREDERICKSBURG LINE



MANASSAS LINE



RIDERSHIP UPDATES

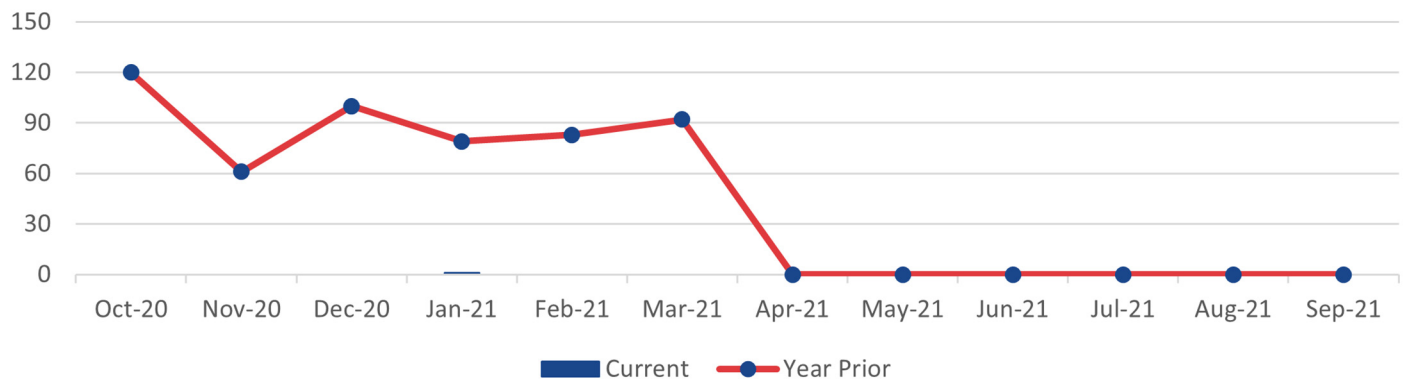
Average daily ridership in September was 2,726. During September, we ran a full-service schedule with 32 trains daily.

We continue to see slightly increasing average daily ridership.

	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020
Monthly Ridership	57,255	57,758	27,987
Average Daily Ridership	2,726	2,625	1,333
Full Service Days	20	22	21
"S" Service Days	1	0	0

SUMMONSES ISSUED

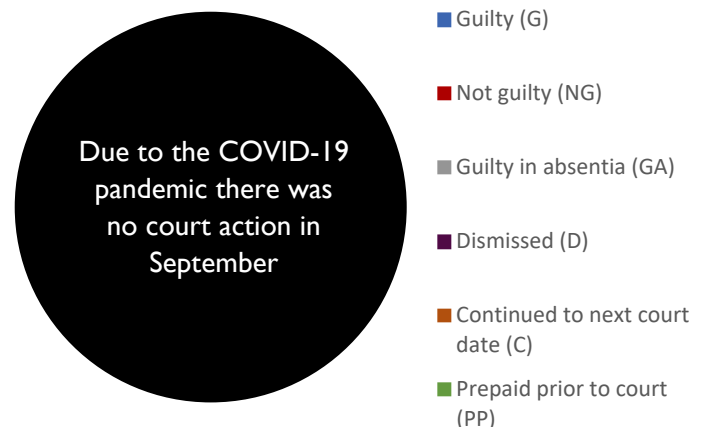
VRE SYSTEM



SUMMONSES WAIVED OUTSIDE OF COURT

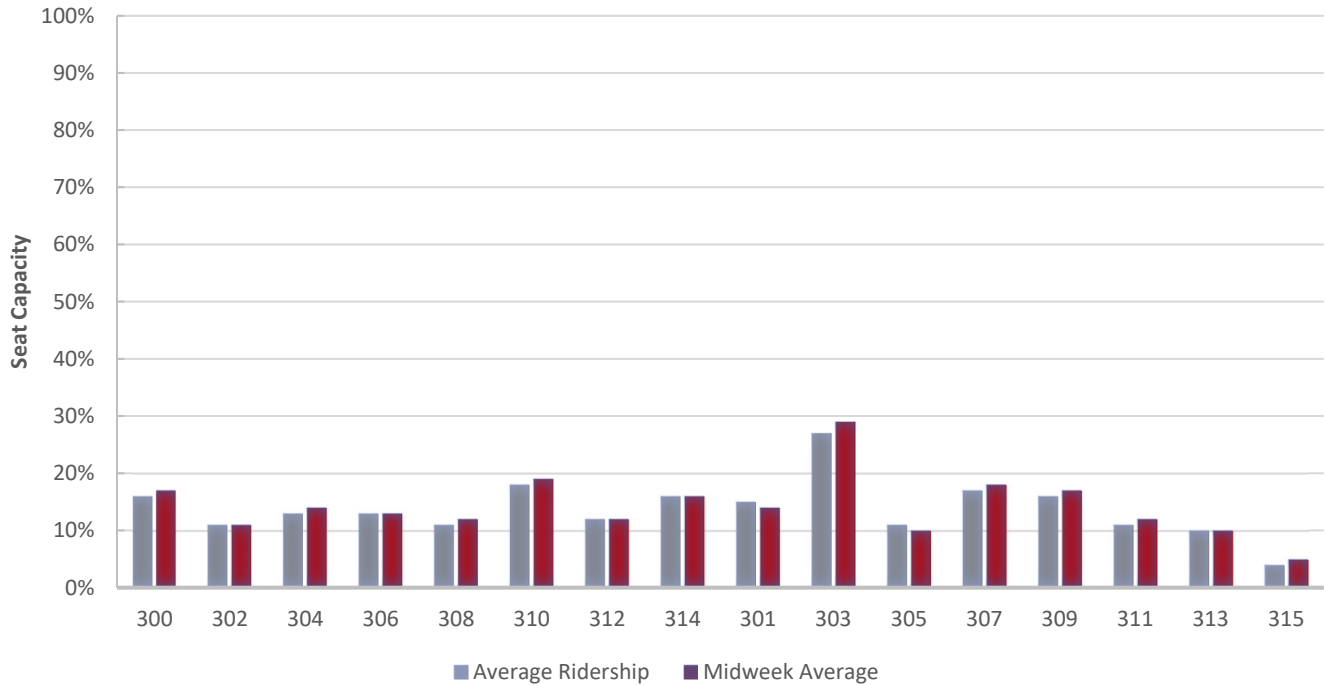
Reason for Dismissal	Occurrences
Passenger showed proof of a monthly ticket	0
One-time courtesy	0
Per the request of the conductor	0
Defective ticket	0
Per ops manager	0
Unique circumstances	0
Insufficient information	0
Lost and found ticket	0
Other	0
Total Waived	0

MONTHLY SUMMONSES COURT ACTION

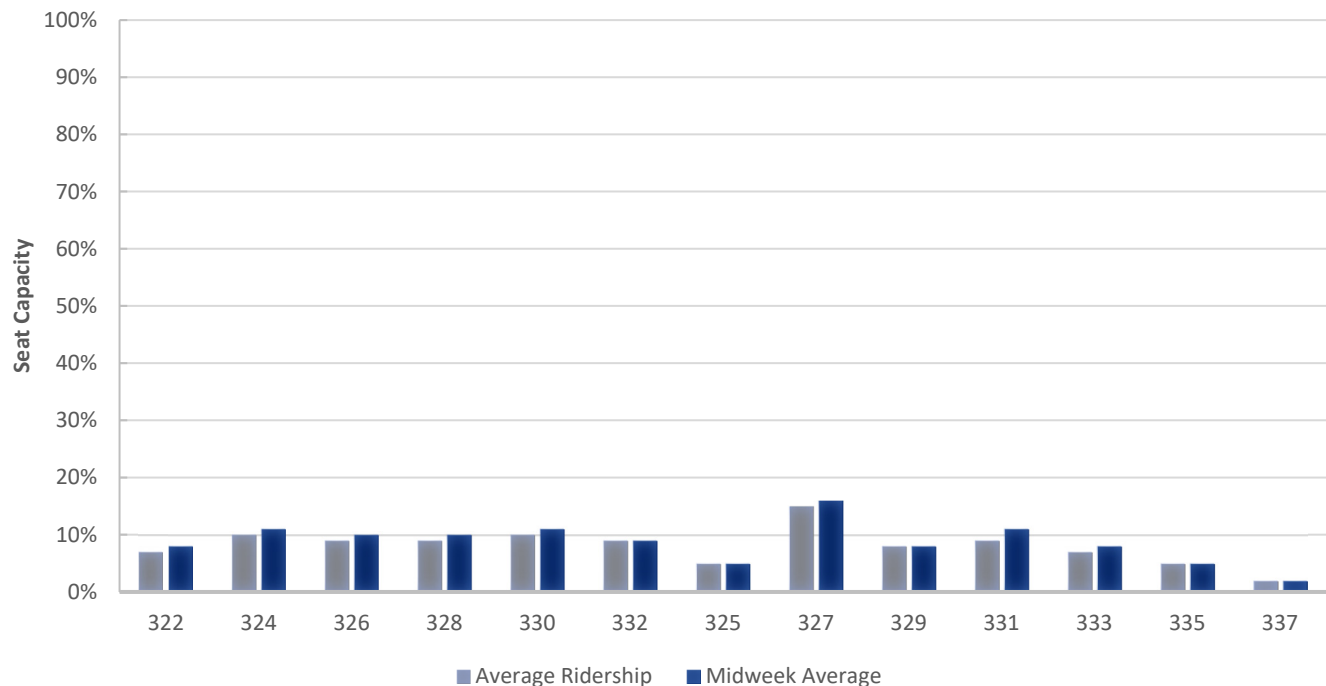


TRAIN UTILIZATION

FREDERICKSBURG LINE

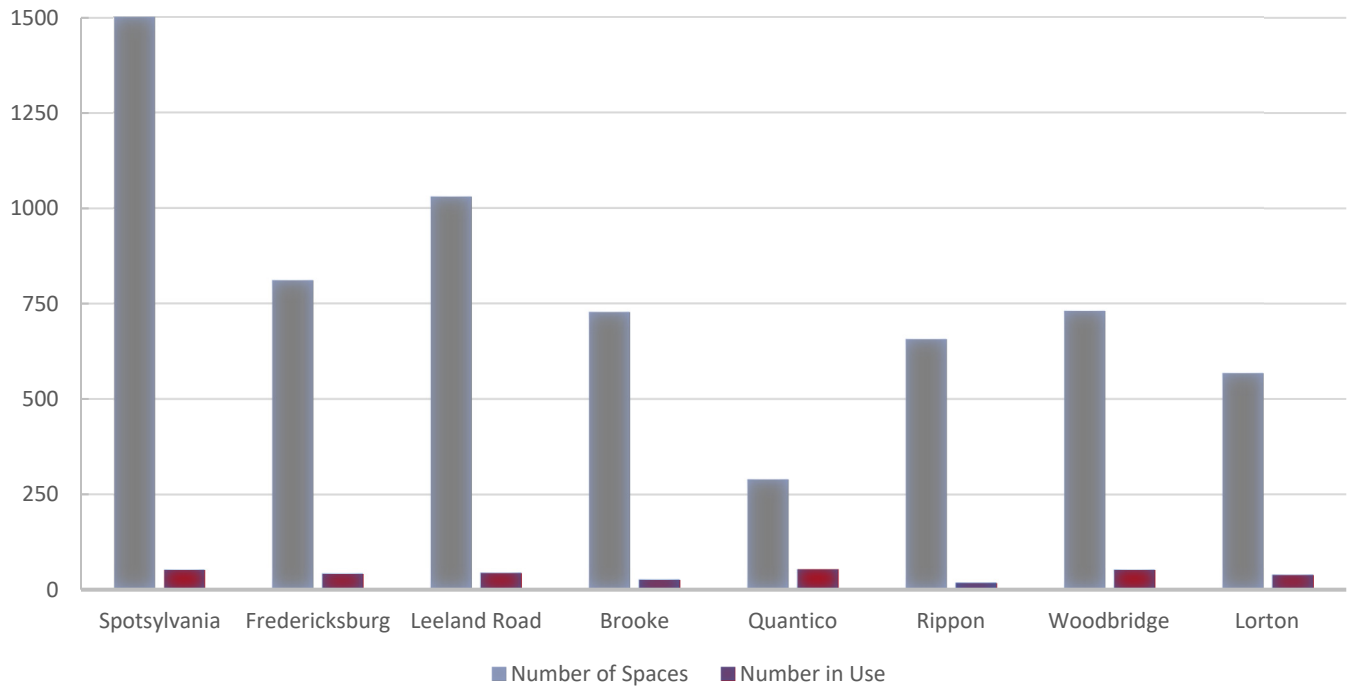


MANASSAS LINE

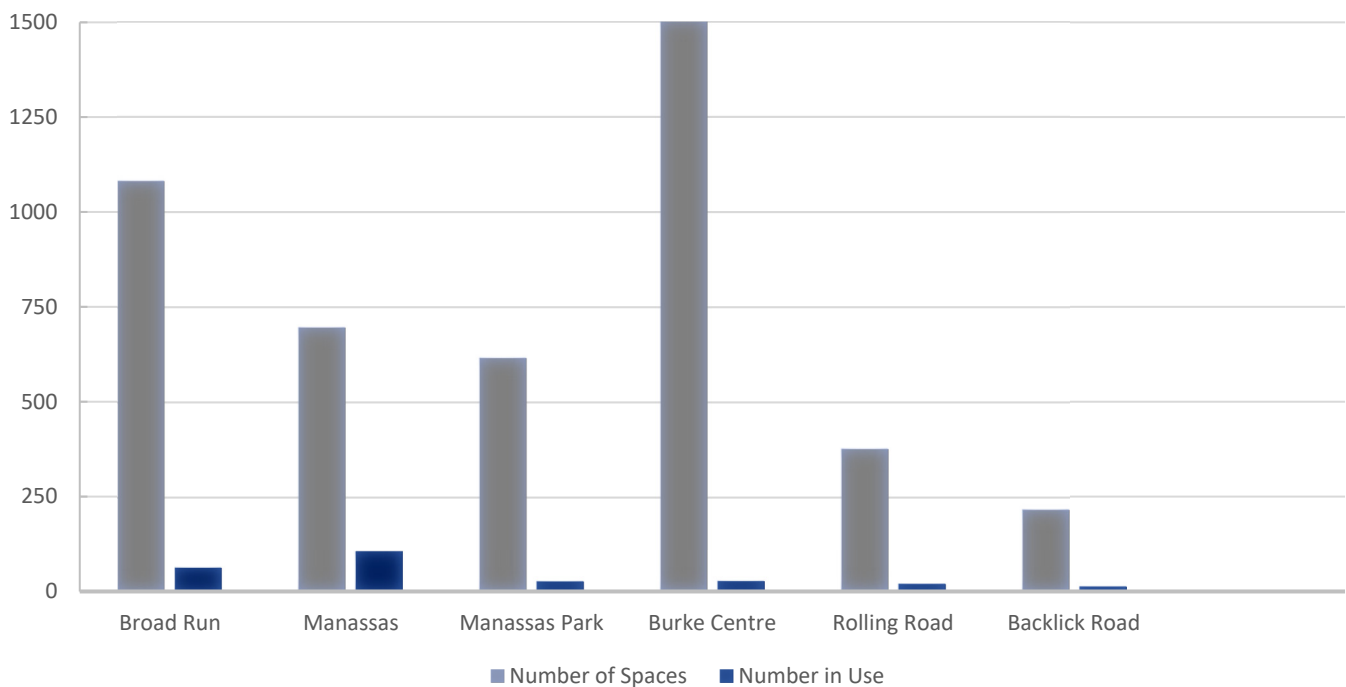


PARKING UTILIZATION

FREDERICKSBURG LINE



MANASSAS LINE



FACILITIES UPDATE

The following is a status update of VRE facilities projects.

Completed projects:

1. Replacement of platform sealant at Rippon station
2. Pavement repairs and restriping at Leeland Road station
3. Pavement repairs and restriping at Fredericksburg Lot G
4. Substantial completion of construction of final phases of renovations to Alexandria headquarters

Projects scheduled to be completed this quarter:

1. Minor stair steel repairs and caulking at Franconia-Springfield station
2. Painting of Franconia-Springfield station
3. Replacement of west platform and canopy lighting at Woodbridge station
4. Repairs and testing of dry standpipes at Woodbridge and Manassas station parking garages
5. Restriping of Manassas station parking garage
6. Painting of Manassas station parking garage and platform steel
7. Delivery of new waste and recycling receptacles for station platforms

Projects scheduled to be initiated this quarter:

1. Submission of IFB package for waiting area at L'Enfant station
2. Minor structural repairs at Woodbridge parking garage
3. Minor concrete repairs at Rippon and Brooke stations
4. Repair of platform sealer delamination at Spotsylvania station
5. Replacement of lighting at Manassas station parking garage
6. Issuance of general signage services request for quotes

Ongoing projects:

1. Overhaul of emergency generators at Woodbridge and Manassas stations, Alexandria headquarters and Fredericksburg office



Leeland Road station pavement repairs and restriping (before)



Leeland Road station pavement repairs and restriping (after)

UPCOMING PROCUREMENTS

1. Locomotive Master Controller
2. Renewal of locomotive head end power engine systems
3. Program management consulting services
4. Modernization of VRE Woodbridge Station east elevator
5. Forklift trucks
6. Passenger car wheelchair lift assemblies
7. Purchase of LED light fixtures
8. Variable Messaging System replacement
9. Tactile strip replacements
10. Construction management services for Fredericksburg Station platform rehabilitation
11. Construction of Fredericksburg Station platform rehabilitation
12. Construction Manager / General Contractor for the Alexandria Station improvements project

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATES

The following is a status update of VRE capital projects.

Completed projects or major project milestones:

1. Construction initiated on Rolling Road station improvements
2. Construction initiated on Lifecycle Overhaul & Upgrade Facility (LOU)
3. Construction initiated on Quantico station improvements

Projects or project phases scheduled to be completed this quarter:

4. Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements draft 100% plans and specifications
5. Broad Run Expansion (BRX) Section 106 Consultation
6. 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:

7. Manassas Park parking expansion 60% relocation design
8. Potomac Shores 100% design (design by others)

Ongoing projects:

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

Projects Progress Report Follows

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Alexandria Station Improvements	Passenger safety will be improved by replacing an at-grade pedestrian track crossing with elevators to connect the two platforms. The elevators, along with the current and proposed stairs, will connect to the existing tunnel between the two platforms. Adjustments to platform elevation will eliminate the need for step-boxes to access VRE and Amtrak trains. The center platform will be widened and lengthened to accommodate trains on both tracks.	Final Design	\$ 30,975,014.00	Site Permit comments received from the City of Alexandria and are being addressed by the Consultant.
Broad Run Expansion	To accommodate forecasted ridership growth and increase service reliability, improvements are needed at both the Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) and station. The MSF will be enlarged to store longer trains and additional equipment. That will require shifting the existing platform to the east and adding a pedestrian tunnel between the platform and the existing and proposed parking lots. A second, 600-space parking lot and third main track will also be constructed.	Final Design	\$ 137,230,000.00	Final design consultant contract authorized by VRE Ops Board 7/16/21. Final 30% design plans and cost estimate complete. NEPA Documented Categorical Exclusion approved by FTA and FAA.
Brooke Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension up to 700 feet to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$ 9,284,208.00	With the future track projects by DRPT in consideration, the VRE concept design is being revised to account for the changes.
Crossroads MSF - Storage Expansion, Short-term	The project constructs additional storage tracks at the Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) adjacent to the existing facility.	Development	\$ 8,365,765.00	SMART SCALE funding for this project is allocated in FY22 and 23. A funding ageement is pending.
Crystal City Station Improvements	Improved station access and service reliability will result from construction of a new, expanded station. The platform at the relocated station will allow for the simultaneous boarding of two full-length trains. The station's design will accommodate a future pedestrian/bicycle connection between the station and Ronald Reagan National Airport.	Development	\$ 50,114,624.00	VRE's Consultant is finalizing the basis of design document for the project ahead of the planned initiation of final design with the 60% design contract.
Facilities Design Guidelines Update	Update to the 2019 VRE Facility Design Guidelines.	Final Design	\$ 80,000.00	Task order kickoff meeting with Consultant HDR was held on August 5th.
Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements	Extended platforms will be able to accommodate eight-car trains, eliminating the need for passengers near the rear to move to a different railcar when disembarking. Enhanced passenger safety and reduced station dwell times will result. The longer platforms will increase operational flexibility and capacity. The design will allow for a future third mainline track.	Final Design	\$ 13,000,000.00	VRE is performing an underground utility investigation for the pedestrian tunnel. The platform design is on hold pending tunnel investigation.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget		Project Notes
Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation	The rehabilitation of platforms, stairs and bridges will improve passenger safety and better accommodate the boarding and disembarking of riders from VRE and Amtrak trains. New stairs will allow passengers to move between the platform and a parking lot without crossing the street at grade level. New signage, sidewalks, lighting and paint are included, as is installation of a low-clearance warning sign to a bridge that has experienced numerous vehicle strikes.	Final Design	\$	3,000,000.00	VRE continues to finalize the 100% design package, while also developing draft agreements for the upcoming construction phase.
HQ Office Renovations	The project will improve employee safety and security and maximize workspace efficiency at VRE Headquarters, and will include modifications to kitchen, supply room, mail room, bathroom/shower, office and cubicle areas in the north and south wings. The east wing will be modified to include additional offices.	Construction	\$	250,000.00	NVE construction task order executed 6/25/21.
Leeland Road Parking Improvements	This project will expand the surface parking lot at the Leeland Road station by approximately 225 spaces to accommodate future demand.	Development	\$	5,519,178.00	The project is funded through Virginia SMART SCALE. Funding is allocated for FY20 and 22. A funding agreement is pending.
Leeland Road Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$	6,736,091.00	With the future track projects by DRPT in consideration, the VRE concept design is being revised to account for the changes.
L'Enfant Station Waiting Area	The existing platform at the L'Enfant station experiences overcrowding during the evening service period. The proposed project will create an additional paved area behind the existing platform, currently landscaped with shrubs and grass, for riders to wait for trains or to bypass riders waiting on the platform.	Final Design	\$	350,000.00	HDR submitted 100% plans, currently under review.
L'Enfant Track and Station Improvements	Expansion of the VRE L'Enfant Station to provide two platform edges and serve full-length trains. Add a new mainline track between LE and VA interlockings.	Development	\$	79,980,000.00	A property boundary and topographical survey is underway. Alternatives analysis and concept design to define a preferred alternative initiated 4/22/21.

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CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade (LOU) Facility Upgrade	Featuring 33,000 square feet of maintenance space, the LOU will allow VRE to cost-effectively maintain rolling stock, as well as systems and components, in a state of good repair. It will optimize maintenance and reduce costs by allowing the in-house replacement of items before they fail. The LOU will house two tracks that can hold up to four cars at one time and be equipped with a drop table and wheel truing machine. To maintain storage capacity within Crossroads Yard three new tracks are being constructed to provide enhanced flexibility to our operations crews for train movements and storage.	Construction	\$ 52,183,632.00	Activities have begun for installation in support of excavation systems to begin construction of the building's deep foundations and surrounding footprint.
Manassas Park Parking Expansion	A new garage will nearly double the 600 spaces currently available in the existing surface lot. A pedestrian bridge will provide grade-separated access to the existing platform and lot. The VRE station and garage are an integral part of the City Center Redevelopment District, the proposed transit-accessible high-density mixed-use town center of Manassas Park.	Final Design	\$ 25,983,000.00	60% design review completed by VRE
Manassas Station Improvements	The project expands the VRE Manassas Station platform to serve full length trains and enhances pedestrian access to the station. Alternatives to increase the platform length to enable boarding and alighting from all passenger cars will be evaluated.	Development	\$ 9,125,000.00	This project is funded with I-66 OTB funding. Initiation of project planning pending completion of a Force Account Addendum with Norfolk Southern Railway.
New York Avenue Midday Storage Facility	This new facility will store trains currently located in Amtrak's Ivy City coach yard, as Amtrak now has need for the storage tracks. The New York Avenue site, which is proximate to Washington Union Station, will be able to accommodate additional VRE trains.	Development	\$ 89,666,508.00	Design and real estate agreements are pending. Recent Transforming Rail in VA program should be reviewed for impacts to midday storage project.
Potomac Shores Station	This new station, in a master-planned community in Prince William County, is being funded, designed, and constructed by the developer of Potomac Shores in consultation with VRE and other stakeholders. The station will be just a short walk from the town center. A new side platform will be constructed which is designed to be converted into an island platform in the future when the 3rd track is added to corridor operations.	Final Design	\$ -	Pre-final 100% design package under development with submission to Prince William County for site/building permits pending.

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CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget		Project Notes
Quantico Station Improvements	Service and safety will be enhanced through the construction of a new center platform, ADA-compliant pedestrian bridges, existing platform extension, and third track. These improvements will allow the station to accommodate additional passengers and more frequent and longer trains and operations flexibility with three boardable platform edges.	Construction	\$	23,973,061.00	Clearing and Erosion and Sediment Control Measures accomplished. Contractor continues to coordinate with utilities concurrently with early activities.
Rippon Station Improvements	Extend existing platform with a second pedestrian overpass.	Development	\$	16,634,794.00	With the future track projects by DRPT in consideration, the VRE concept design is being revised to account for the changes.
Rolling Road Station Improvements	An extended platform will accommodate eight-car trains, eliminating the need for passengers near the rear to move to a different railcar when disembarking. Enhanced passenger safety and reduced station dwell times will result. Rehabilitation and repair of the existing platform, replacement of stairs and the existing canopy roof, and an upgrade of the lighting and communication systems are planned.	Construction	\$	5,000,000.00	Cast in place caps installation ongoing.

For more information about VRE capital projects, visit <https://projects.vre.org/list>

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