

CEO REPORT

APRIL 2023



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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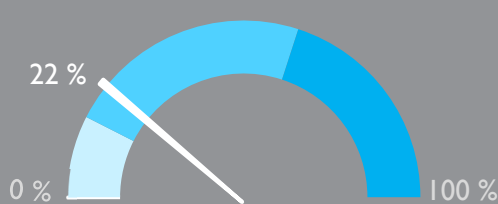
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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
A better way. A better life.

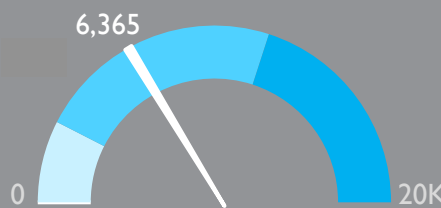


PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE



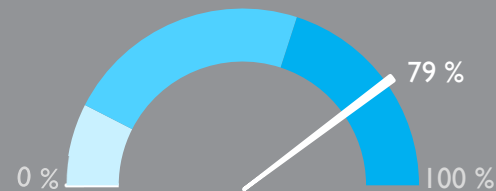
PARKING UTILIZATION

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



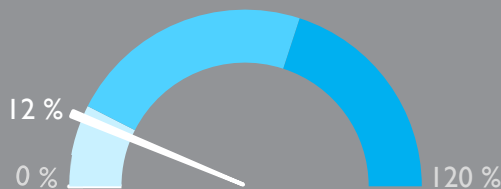
AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

The average number of boardings each operating day inclusive of Amtrak Step-Up boardings and reduced, "S" schedule, service.
Same month, previous year: 3,889



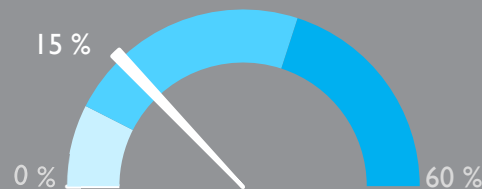
ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

Percent of trains arriving at their destination within 5 minutes of the schedule.
Same month, previous year: 93%



SYSTEM CAPACITY

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



OPERATING RATIO

Through February 2023

Year-to-date operating revenues divided by year-to-date operating expenses, which represents the share of operating costs paid by the riders.

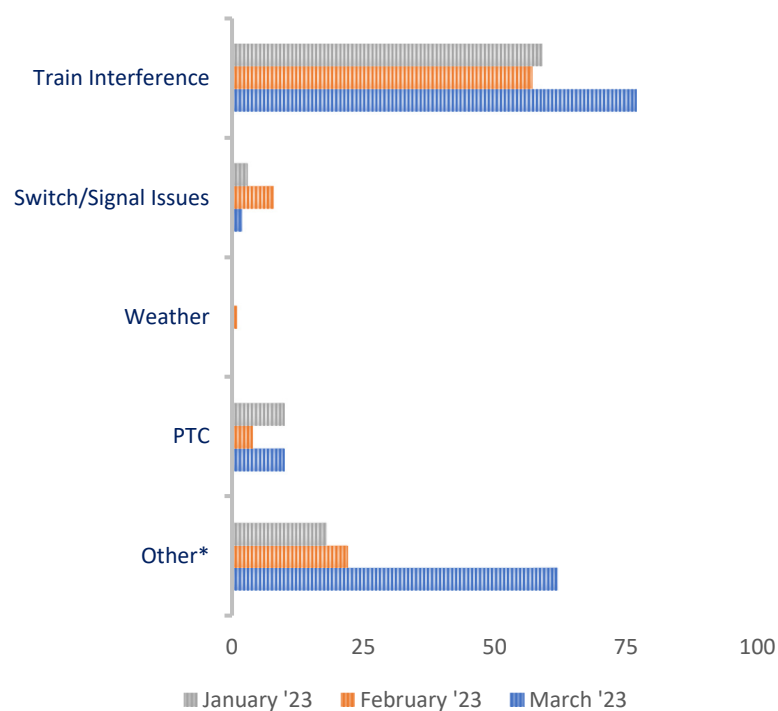
March 2023

ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

OUR RECORD

	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022
Manassas Line	85%	88%	92%
Fredericksburg Line	72%	82%	94%
Systemwide	79%	85%	93%

PRIMARY REASON FOR DELAY



VRE operated 732 trains in March. The on-time rate for the month was 79 percent.

One hundred fifty-six trains arrived more than 5 minutes late to their final destinations. Of those late trains, 54 were on the Manassas Line (35 percent), and 102 were on the Fredericksburg Line (65 percent).

Train interference continues to lead all categories. There was a significant jump in the “other” category due mainly to right-of-way work, which necessitated speed restrictions on the Fredericksburg Line.

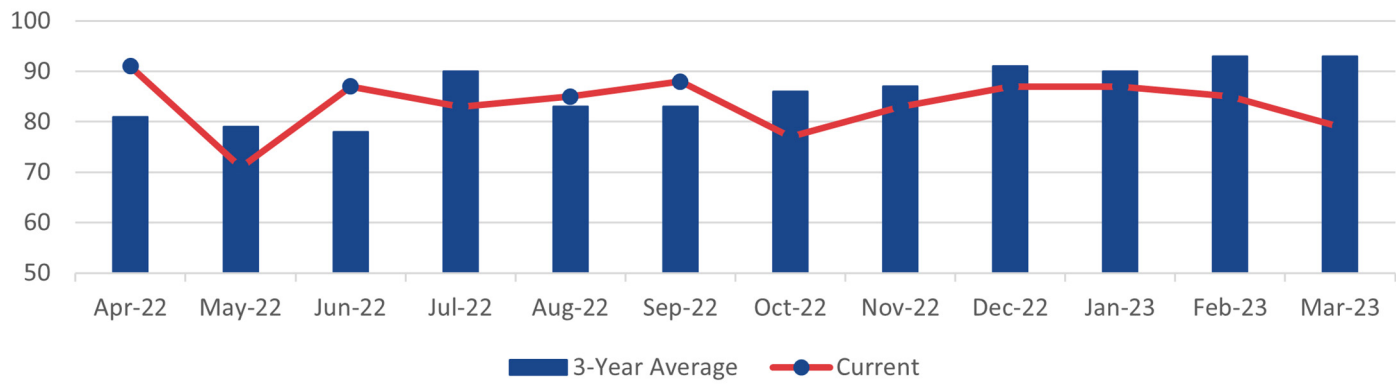
*Includes trains that were delayed due to operational testing and passenger handling.

LATE TRAINS

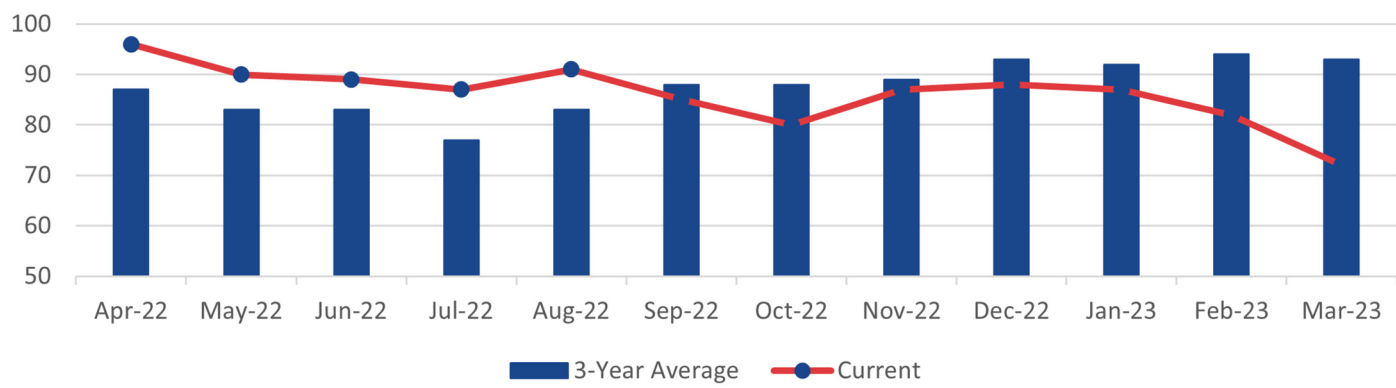
	System Wide			Fredericksburg Line			Manassas Line		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Total late trains	90	92	156	42	54	102	48	37	54
Average minutes late	17	19	19	19	20	19	16	17	19
Number over 30 minutes	12	14	24	6	8	17	6	6	7
Heat restrictions	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

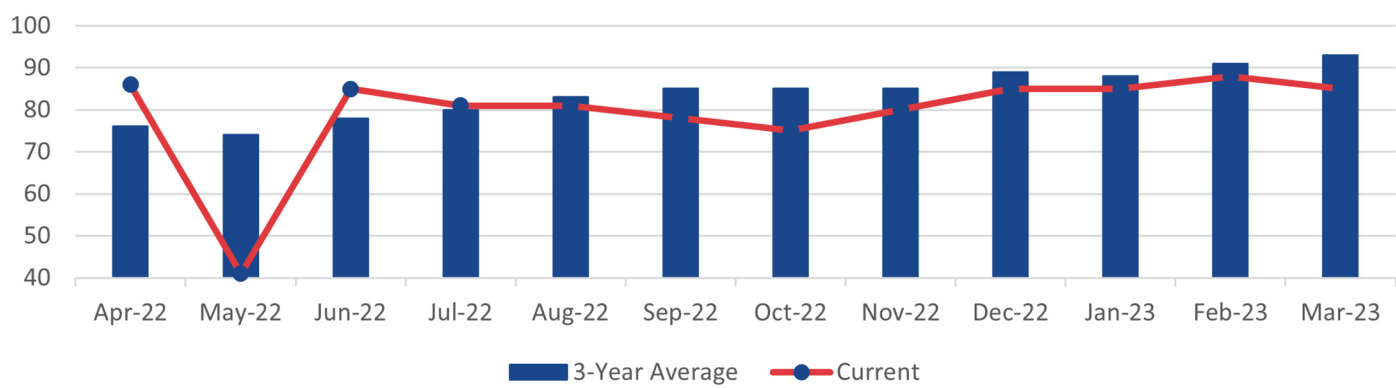
VRE SYSTEM



FREDERICKSBURG LINE

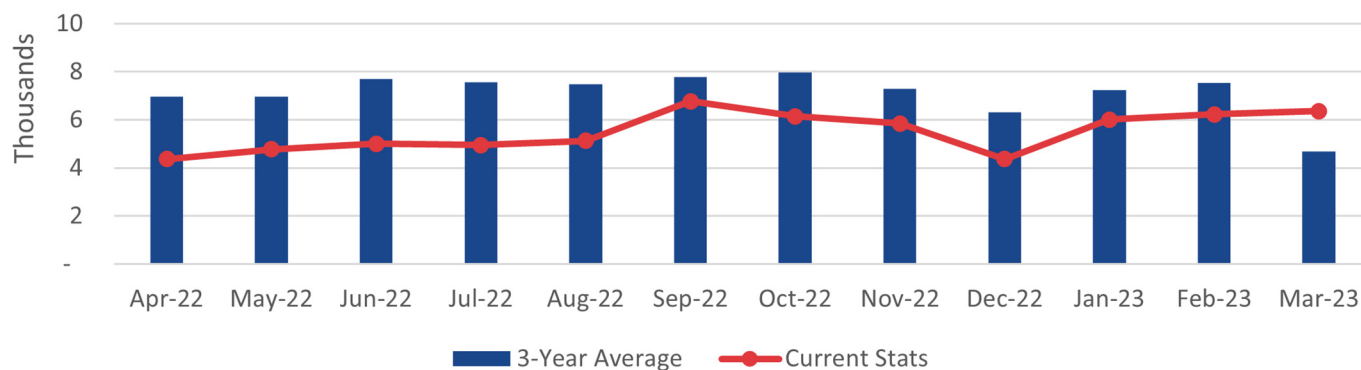


MANASSAS LINE

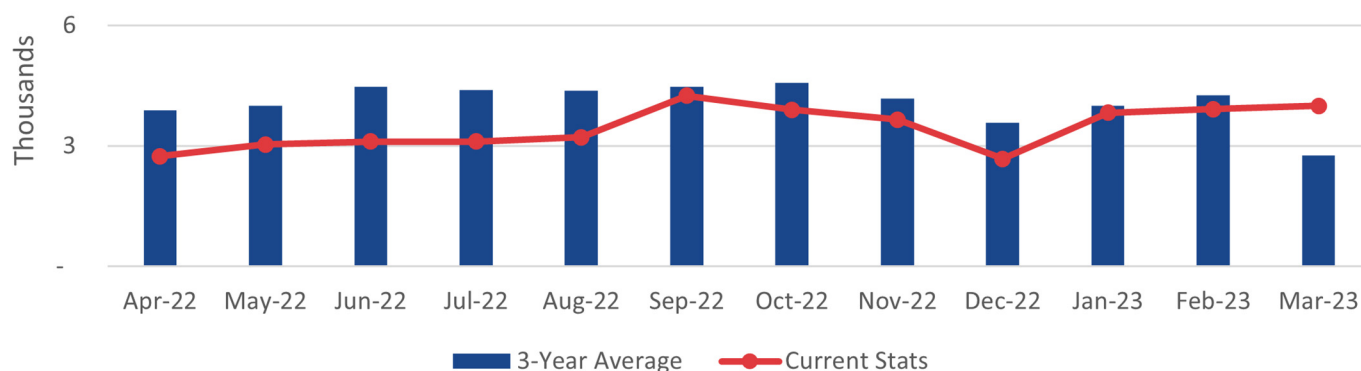


AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

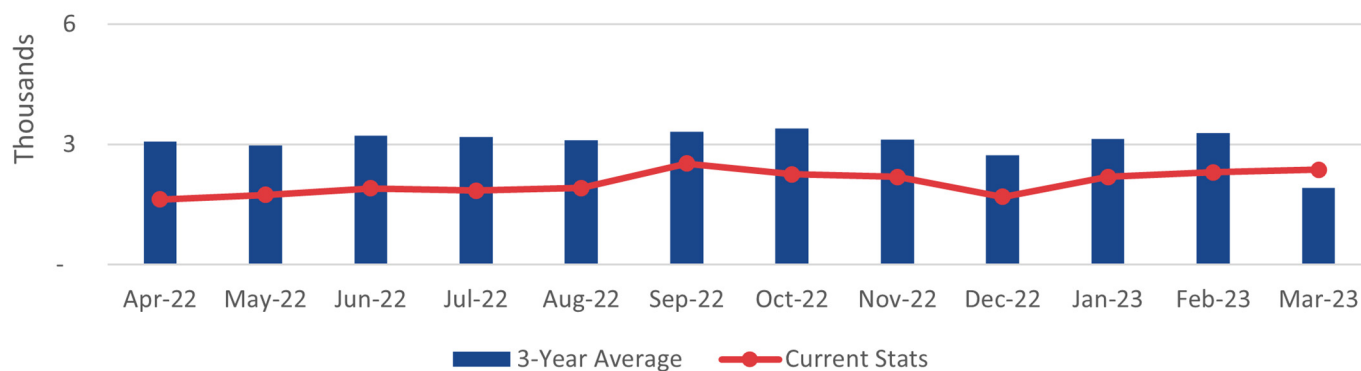
VRE SYSTEM



FREDERICKSBURG LINE



MANASSAS LINE



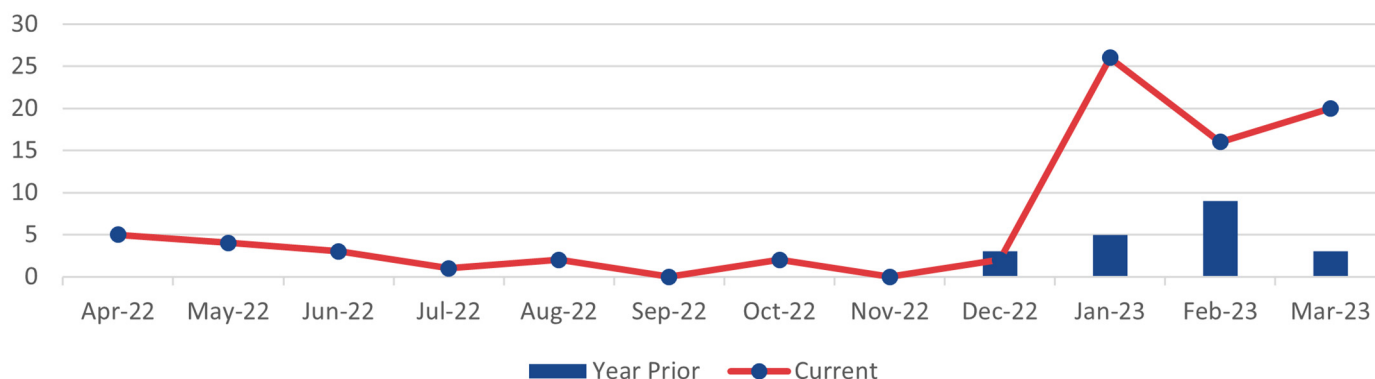
RIDERSHIP UPDATES

Average daily ridership for the month was 6,365, a 2 percent increase over February. There were 23 service days in March.

	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022
Monthly Ridership	146,391	118,181	89,455
Average Daily Ridership	6,365	6,220	3,889
Bicycles on Trains	1,431	1,142	N/A
Full Service Days	23	19	23
"S" Service Days	0	0	0

SUMMONSES ISSUED

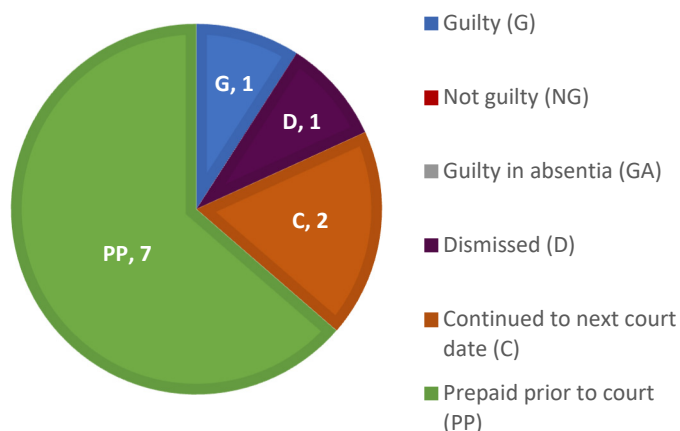
VRE SYSTEM



SUMMONSES WAIVED OUTSIDE OF COURT

Reason for Dismissal	Occurrences
Passenger showed proof of a monthly ticket	1
One-time courtesy	3
Per the request of the conductor	1
Defective ticket	0
Per ops manager	0
Unique circumstances	2
Insufficient information	0
Lost and found ticket	0
Other	7
Total Waived	14

MONTHLY SUMMONSES COURT ACTION

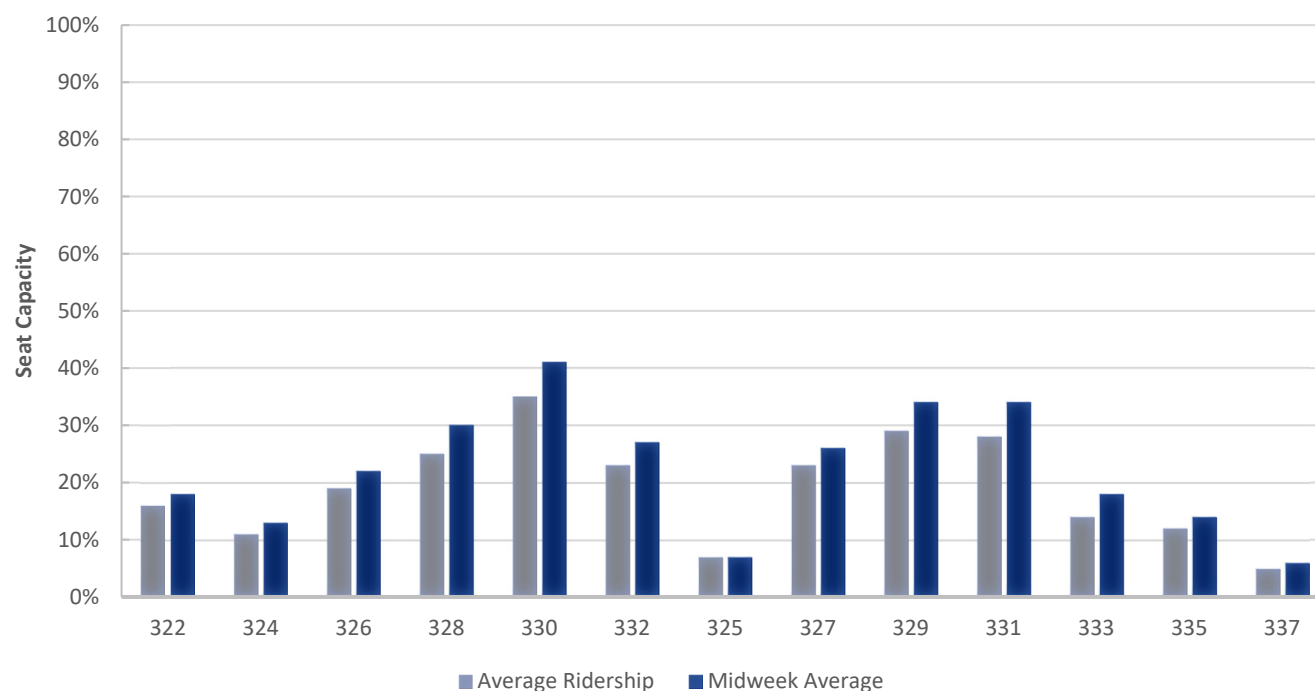


TRAIN UTILIZATION

FREDERICKSBURG LINE

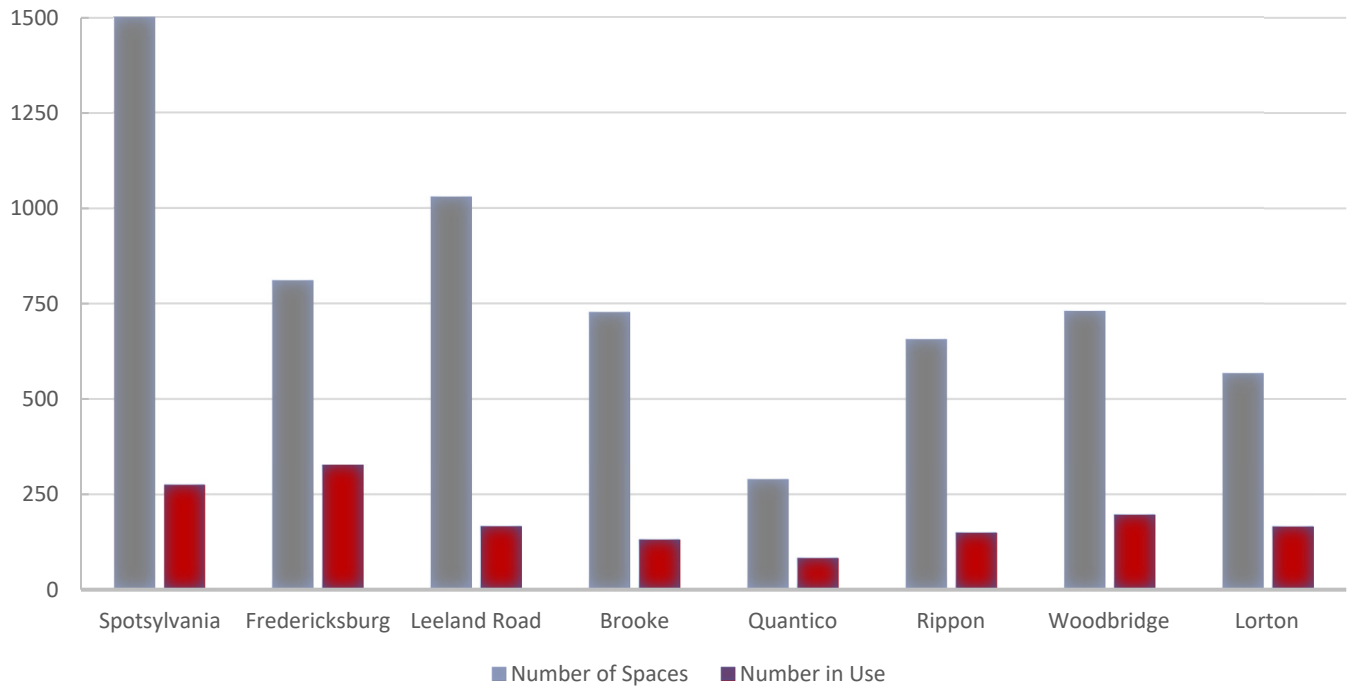


MANASSAS LINE

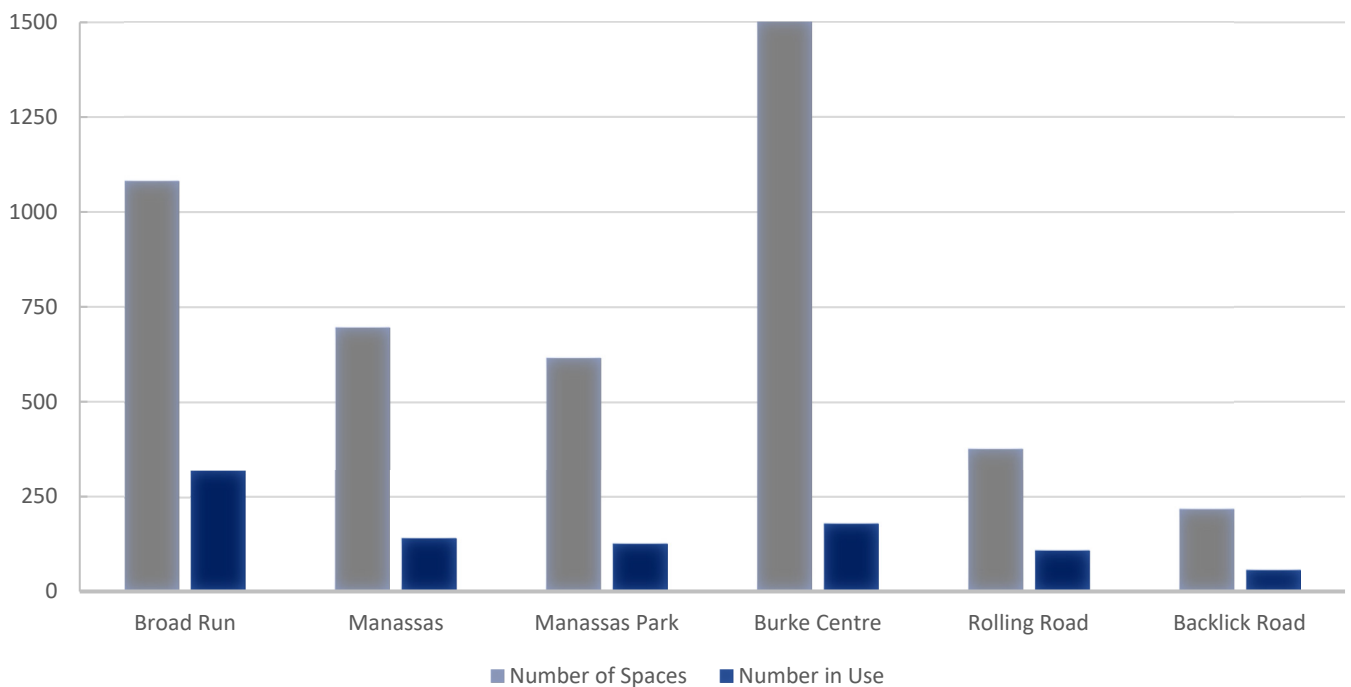


PARKING UTILIZATION

FREDERICKSBURG LINE



MANASSAS LINE



FACILITIES UPDATE

The following is a status update of VRE facilities projects.

Completed projects:

1. Emergency repairs to Quantico station pedestrian crossing
2. Minor repairs to concrete platform at Burke Centre station
3. Replacement of ceiling tiles at Fredericksburg office



Emergency repairs to Quantico pedestrian crossing

Projects scheduled to be completed this quarter:

1. Replacement of LED lighting at Woodbridge station parking garage
2. Minor repairs to steel elements at Leeland Road station
3. Replacement of tile flooring in Crossroads MASF offices
4. Replacement of waste and recycling receptacles at various stations
5. Replacement of benches at various stations
6. Replacement/installation of pathfinder signage for Franconia-Springfield, Lorton, Woodbridge, Rippon, Quantico, Backlick Road, Rolling Road, Burke Centre, Manassas Park, Manassas and Broad Run stations
7. Installation of 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline signage on station inter-track fences, pending availability of CSX protection
8. Installation of “No Trespassing” signage at Rippon, Spotsylvania and Broad Run station parking lots



Ceiling tile replacement at Fredericksburg office

Projects scheduled to be initiated this quarter:

1. Minor repairs to concrete platform at Alexandria station
2. Modernization of east elevator at Woodbridge station
3. Replacement of windscreen plexiglass panels at Lorton and Woodbridge stations
4. Sealcoating and restriping of parking lots at Woodbridge and Rippon stations
5. Improvements to various elements of Quantico station building
6. Replacement of electrical cabinet at Rolling Road station
7. Replacement of existing lighting with LED lighting at Manassas station parking garage
8. Installation of electrical service for oil storage building at Broad Run MASF
9. Replacement of parking lot entrance signs at various stations

Ongoing projects:

1. Issuance of construction task order for minor structural concrete repairs at Woodbridge station parking garage, pending permit issuance
2. Procurement of construction contract for L'Enfant station waiting area project, pending permit issuance
3. Procurement of new five-year maintenance/custodial and seasonal services for VRE facilities contracts

UPCOMING PROCUREMENTS

1. Modernization of VRE Woodbridge station east elevator
2. Alexandria Station improvements
3. Broad Run and Crossroads security camera system power and network infrastructure upgrade
4. Locomotive master controllers
5. Engineering and environmental services for VRE L'Enfant track and station improvements
6. Hosted back-office services for positive train control
7. Ticket vending machine technical support services
8. Central diagnostic cloud services for VRE locomotives
9. Variable messaging system

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 and 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	\$ 37,288,433.00	CSXT 60% track plans and 30% bridge plans review period complete. No significant changes to track geometry anticipated. VRE plans to be updated accordingly. (Apr) CSXT 60% track plans and 30% bridge plans under review by VRE. Coordination meeting scheduled for 03/21/23. (Mar)
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. An enlarged MSF can store longer trains and additional equipment. That requires shifting the existing platform and adding a pedestrian tunnel between the platform and existing and proposed parking lots. A second, 600-space lot and third main track will be constructed.	Final Design	\$ 139,381,862.00	Coordination continues with all stakeholders as we advance to 60% with our southern parking design alternative. (Apr) With the formal endorsement by VRE board of southern parking, expansion design is underway to update layout for 60% design deliverable. (Mar)
Brooke Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension up to 700 feet to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$ 9,461,455.00	VRE has reengaged this project and returned it to the CIP budget for future years. Project schedule updates pending input from various stakeholders. (Mar & Apr)
Crystal City Station Improvements	Improved station access and service reliability will result from a new 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 the airport.	Development	\$ 68,900,900.00	CSXT 4th track 60% design review is complete. VRE preparing to advance station design to 60%, based on that track design. Coordination ongoing with JBG and Amtrak. (Apr) CSXT 4th track 60% design under review by VRE. VRE will advance station design to 60%, based on track design following review. Coordination ongoing with JBG and Amtrak. (Mar)
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	\$ 25,351,100.00	VRE working through NEPA Section 106 process. Coordinating with CSXT to perform survey and soil borings. (Apr) VRE coordinating NEPA Section 106 questions with FTA. Coordinating with CSXT to perform survey and soil borings. (Mar)

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.	Construction	\$ 11,480,622.00	Preliminary soundings and bridge repair surveys accomplished Feb/Mar. Bridge repair began in April. (Apr) CSX field pre-con accomplished Jan. Preliminary soundings and bridge repair surveys accomplished Feb/Mar. Bridge repair schedule anticipated to begin March. (Mar)
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	Planning glass wall-enclosed work/meeting spaces adjacent to communications room. (Mar & Apr)
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	\$ 12,044,433.00	The project is funded through Virginia SMART SCALE. Funding is allocated for FY20 and 22. A funding agreement is pending. (Mar & Apr)
Leeland Road Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$ 10,361,037.00	VRE has reengaged this project and returned it to the CIP budget for future years. Project schedule updates pending input from various stakeholders. (Mar & Apr)
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	Awaiting Boston Properties (BP) agreement for temporary use of adjacent property during construction, for VRE electronic signature. (Apr) BP agreement for temporary use of adjacent property during construction signed by VRE. Awaiting BP's' signature. (Mar)
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	\$ 110,857,683.00	Operations Board approved a preferred alternative in Nov. 2022. (Mar & Apr)

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CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade (LOU) Facility	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	\$ 52,783,632.00	Testing and commissioning has begun on various systems in and around the facility. County certificate of occupancy pending. (Apr) Building electrical switch gear and transformers and are installed and pending County inspection later this month to allow facility to be energized (Mar)
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	\$ 31,779,600.00	Notice to proceed anticipated in April/May. (Apr) IFB issued in January. Bids received in Feb. Board Authorization received in March. (Mar)
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. (Mar & Apr)
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	\$ 137,362,557.00	March meeting with Amtrak to discuss draft MOU rescheduled for 4/26/23. (Apr) Meeting scheduled at Amtrak offices on 3/28/23 to review the draft memorandum of understanding (MOU). (Mar)
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	\$ -	Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and Biddle Real Estate Ventures signed a framework agreement bringing the project a step closer to construction. (Apr) Developer design team addressing final round of CSX comments along with finalizing design using adjacent property. (Mar)

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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	\$ 25,573,060.00	Soil nail wall and ballast retainer wall both progressing. Station tower/ped bridge/utilities completion on going. (Apr) Soil nail wall progressing. Platform concrete and canopy installation completed for both platforms. Station tower/ped bridge completion on going. (Mar)
Real-Time Multimodal Traveler Information System	The passenger experience will be enhanced through the provision of real-time train arrivals. Software upgrades are required to provide these real-time data feeds and integrate them with VRE Mobile and other third-party apps and websites, as well as on display screens at VRE stations and other locations along the I-66 corridor.	Development	\$ 3,481,000.00	Scope of work with procurement. Drawings to be complete by 3/31/23. Contractor updating DIV specs. (Apr) This project has been allocated I-66 OTB funding. A funding agreement is pending. (Mar)
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	Final completion package received. Retainage release in process. (Apr) Construction work is complete. Final construction amendment executed. Final construction invoice paid. Retainage release in process. (Mar)
Security Cameras	Safety and security will be improved through the modernization and expansion of VRE's security camera system. New cameras will be placed at 22 locations.	Final Design	\$ 1,939,305.00	Bids received April 5. Contract will be submitted for approval at April 2023 Operations Board meeting. (Apr) VRE project manager is working with the procurement to finalize invitation-for-bids documentation for public advertisement. (Mar)
Variable Messaging System Replacement	The effectiveness of VREoperations will be enhanced through the installation of new variable message signs (VMS) throughout the rail system. The new VMS system will allow VRE to communicate multi-modal transit data and general transit feed specification data to VDOT for use in its VMS system.	Final Design	\$ 1,000,000.00	Scope of work with procurement. Drawings to be complete by 3/31/23. Contractor updating DIV specs. (Apr) VMS Phase I work from Fanconia-Springfield to Spotsylvania 90% complete. Engineering work began on the Manassas Line on 1/9/23. (Mar)
Woodbridge Station Improvements	Expanded platforms will allow passengers to access trains from all station tracks.	Development	\$ 2,740,618.00	The scope and schedule for this project is being coordinated with the commonwealth's Transforming Rail in Virginia initiative, post-Phase 2 project. (Mar & Apr)

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

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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

1500 KING STREET, SUITE 202 • ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 • 703.684.1001

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