

VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

April 22, 2022

*The meeting will
begin at 9 a.m.*

Meeting materials are available at
vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2022/April



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



ROLL CALL



Walter Alcorn
Fairfax County



Sarah Bagley
Alexandria



Andrea Bailey
Prince William County



Preston Banks
Manassas Park



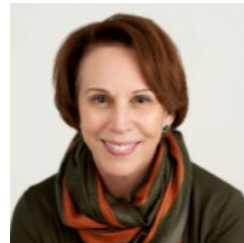
Meg Bohmke
Stafford County



Margaret Franklin
Prince William County



Monica Gary
Stafford County



Libby Garvey
Arlington County



Lori Hayes
Spotsylvania County



Matt Kelly
Fredericksburg



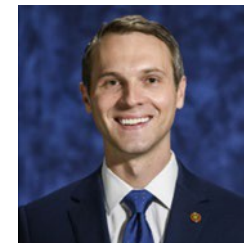
Emily Stock
Commonwealth of Virginia



Ralph Smith
Manassas



Dan Storck
Fairfax County



James Walkinshaw
Fairfax County

SAFETY MOMENT



SAFETY
IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS



The word 'SAFETY' is written in large, red, outlined letters. Three red silhouettes of people are positioned in front of the letters: a man on the left, a man in the middle holding a briefcase, and a woman on the right. Below the word 'SAFETY', the phrase 'IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS' is written in smaller, red, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Safety Briefing
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from the March 18, 2022 VRE Operations Board Meeting
6. Chair's Comments
7. Chief Executive Officer's Report
8. VRE Riders' and Public Comment
9. Action Items
 - A. Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for Construction of the Manassas Park Parking Expansion
 - B. Authorization to Amend the VRE Passenger Tariff
9. Action Items (continued)
 - C. Authorization to Execute a Contract for Financial Auditing Services
 - D. Authorization to Provide a Letter of Support to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority for a USDOT RAISE Grant Program Application for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Section 4(f) Mitigation of the Long Bridge Railroad Expansion Project
10. Information Item
 - A. Crystal City Station Improvements Update
 - B. Spending Authority Report
11. Closed Session
12. Operations Board Members' Time



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 18, 2022

Meeting with YouTube Livestream

Members Present

Walter Alcorn (NVTC)

Sarah Bagley (NVTC)

Preston Banks (PRTC)

Meg Bohmke (PRTC)

Margaret Franklin (PRTC)

Libby Garvey (NVTC)

Lori Hayes (PRTC)

Matt Kelly (PRTC)

Jeanine Lawson (PRTC)

Michael McLaughlin (VPRA)

Ralph Smith (PRTC)

Dan Storck (NVTC)

James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

Members Absent

Andrea Bailey (PRTC)

Pamela Yeung (PRTC)

Jurisdiction

Fairfax County

City of Alexandria

City of Manassas Park

Stafford County

Prince William County

Arlington County

Spotsylvania County

City of Fredericksburg

Prince William County

Commonwealth of Virginia

City of Manassas

Fairfax County

Fairfax County

Prince William County

Stafford County



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Welcome to the April VRE Operations Board meeting.

○ New faces:

- ◆ Stafford Supervisor Monica Gary, previously an alternate but now a primary Operations Board member
- ◆ DRPT's Chief of Rail, Emily Stock, representing the Commonwealth today

○ We will have a closed session today to receive a confidential update on VRE's cybersecurity activities

○ Following this meeting the Bylaws Committee will meet here in this room. The committee consists of:

- ◆ Ms. Bohmke
- ◆ Ms. Garvey
- ◆ Mr. Kelly
- ◆ Mr. Walkinshaw

but all board members are welcome to take part in the committee.



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



CEO REPORT

- **Safety**
- **Performance**
- **Ridership**
- **Mask Mandate**
- **Manassas Line Maintenance**



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO

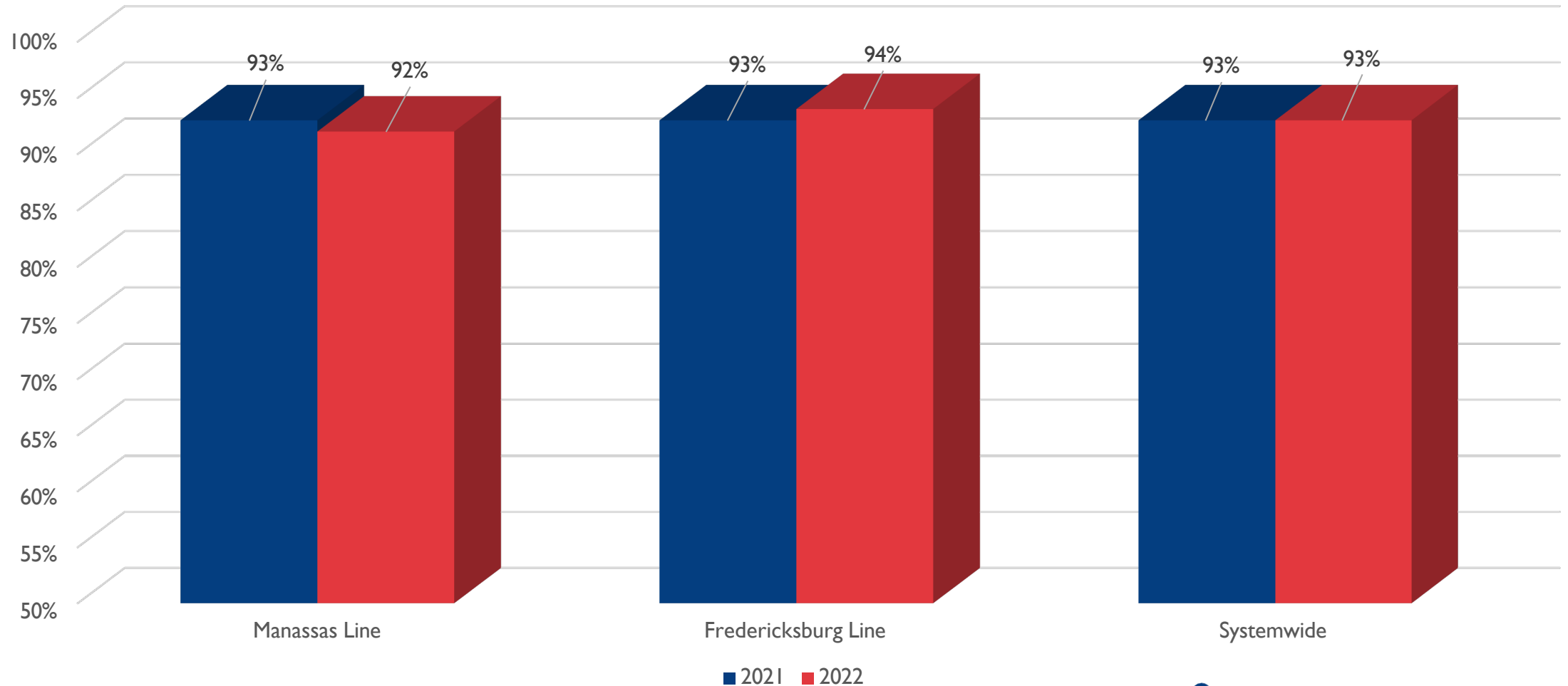


CEO REPORT – SAFETY

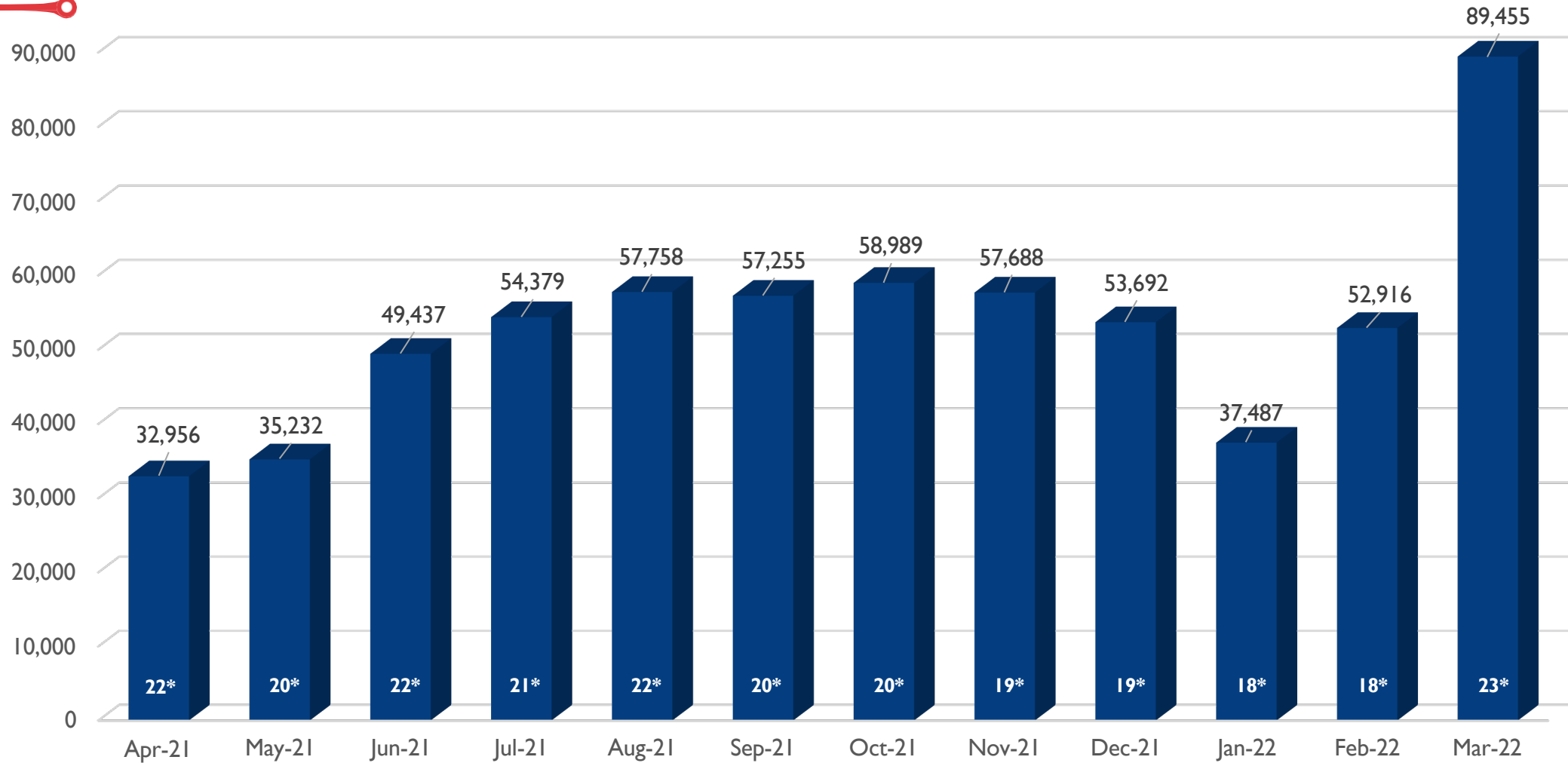


CEO REPORT – ON TIME PERFORMANCE

March Comparisons



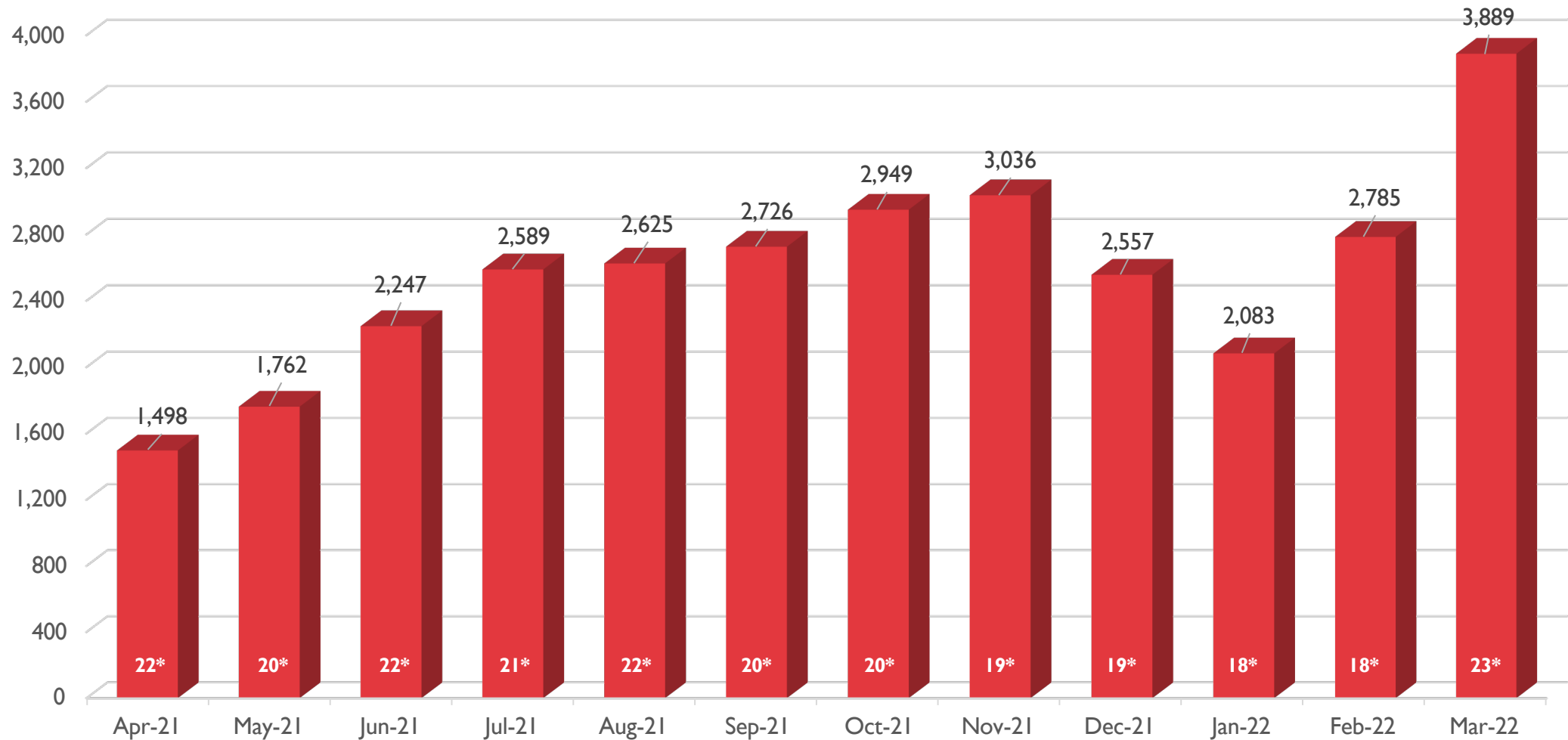
CEO REPORT – MONTHLY RIDERSHIP



*service days per month



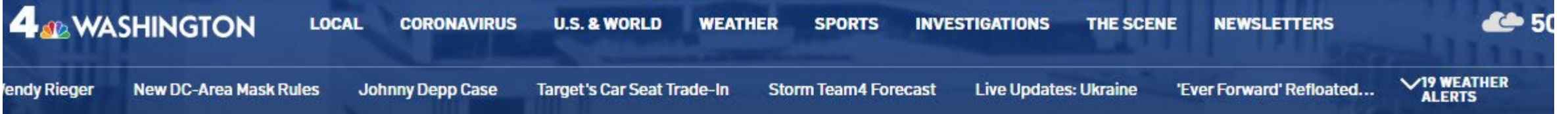
CEO REPORT – AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP



*service days per month



CEO REPORT – MASK MANDATE ENDS



4 WASHINGTON LOCAL CORONAVIRUS U.S. & WORLD WEATHER SPORTS INVESTIGATIONS THE SCENE NEWSLETTERS 50

Andy Rieger New DC-Area Mask Rules Johnny Depp Case Target's Car Seat Trade-In Storm Team4 Forecast Live Updates: Ukraine 'Ever Forward' Refloated... 19 WEATHER ALERTS

MASK MANDATE

Are Masks Required on DC-Area Public Transport? Here's What Metro, VRE, Uber Say

Metro, the Maryland Transit Administration and VRE announced they would no longer enforce masking on public transit

To mask or not to mask? Now, it's your choice whether to wear a face covering while using many public transit services in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Northern Virginia.

A decision by a federal judge in Florida on Monday threw out a national mask mandate for public transportation across the U.S. Following the judge's ruling, the Transportation Security Administration said it would no longer enforce masking at airports.



MANASSAS LINE MAINTENANCE

Overview:

- ◆ Extensive Preventative Maintenance by Norfolk Southern is scheduled for the VRE Manassas Line starting in May 2022
 - ◆ Tie Replacement and Ballast
 - ◆ Resurfacing
- ◆ VRE staff have been working with Norfolk Southern to minimize impact to VRE passengers while providing a safe work environment for railroad employees
- ◆ VRE staff is currently analyzing a proposal that would suspend some VRE service – primarily the “reverse flow” trains and the daily mid-day
- ◆ The proposed plan would decrease the total time for disruption to VRE service from ~7 weeks to 2-3 weeks



PROPOSED TEMPORARY MANASSAS LINE SCHEDULE

VRE Manassas Line - Northbound (AM Service)

ADR Week of 4/11:	76	69	98	188	229	106	8	2
	322	324	326	328	330	332	336	338
Broad Run	5:01A	5:21A	5:56A	6:16A	7:21A	8:01A	3:38P	5:10P
Manassas	5:09A	5:29A	6:04A	6:24A	7:29A	8:09A	3:46P	5:18P
Manassas Park	5:15A	5:35A	6:10A	6:30A	7:35A	8:15A	3:52P	...
Burke Centre	5:29A	5:49A	6:24A	6:44A	7:49A	8:29A	4:06P	...
Rolling Road	5:34A	5:54A	6:29A	6:49A	7:54A	8:34A
Backlick Road	5:42A	6:02A	6:37A	6:57A	8:02A	8:42A
Alexandria	5:55A	6:15A	6:50A	7:10A	8:15A	8:55A	4:32P	6:04P
Crystal City (L)	6:04A	6:24A	6:59A	7:19A	8:24A	9:04A
L'Enfant (L)	6:12A	6:32A	7:07A	7:27A	8:32A	9:12A
Union Station	6:20A	6:40A	7:15A	7:35A	8:40A	9:20A	4:57P	6:29P

VRE Manassas Line - Southbound (PM Service)

ADR Week of 4/11:	5	57	172	180	195	63	55	27
	321	325	327	329	331	333	335	337
Union Station	6:35A	1:15P	3:20P	4:10P	5:10P	5:30P	6:00P	7:00P
L'Enfant	...	1:23P	3:28P	4:18P	5:18P	5:38P	6:08P	7:08P
Crystal City	...	1:30P	3:35P	4:25P	5:25P	5:45P	6:15P	7:15P
Alexandria	6:52A	1:38P	3:43P	4:33P	5:33P	5:53P	6:23P	7:23P
Backlick Road	...	1:49P	3:54P	4:44P	5:44P	6:04P	6:34P	7:34P
Rolling Road (L)	...	1:57P	4:02P	4:52P	5:52P	6:12P	6:42P	7:42P
Burke Centre (L)	...	2:03P	4:08P	4:58P	5:58P	6:18P	6:48P	7:48P
Manassas Park (L)	...	2:17P	4:22P	5:12P	6:12P	6:32P	7:02P	8:02P
Manassas (L)	7:37A	2:24P	4:29P	5:19P	6:19P	6:39P	7:09P	8:09P
Broad Run	7:47A	2:34P	4:39P	5:29P	6:29P	6:49P	7:19P	8:19P

*This proposed schedule would be valid during the major maintenance event - May 5th through June 3rd



CEO REPORT – QUESTIONS?



VRE RIDERS' & PUBLIC COMMENT



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE AN INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE MANASSAS PARK PARKING EXPANSION

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to issue an invitation for bids for construction of the Manassas Park parking expansion.

Summary:

The scope of work includes construction of a new parking garage, stair/elevator tower, pedestrian bridge, retrofit of the existing platform, and associated site/civil work. The garage will consist of approximately 540 parking spaces above-ground for use by VRE riders and approximately 196 below-grade parking spaces for use by the city. Construction is estimated to take approximately 24 months.

Upon receipt and evaluation of the proposals, staff will return to the Operations Board to request authorization to execute the contract.



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE VRE PASSENGER TARIFF

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to amend the Passenger Tariff by updating the sections covering classes of ticket, fare evasion, VRE and contract carrier rights, and bicycle policy.

Summary:

Since the VRE Passenger Tariff was last amended in April of 2020, several independent actions have occurred resulting in the need to update the current policy document. First, through the updates made to VRE Mobile, the five-day pass has been discontinued and replaced by the seven-day pass. The Virginia Code for fare evasion was previously updated to include penalties for fraudulent or counterfeit tickets. The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority has been added as a right-of-way owner to the section for VRE and Contract Carriers Rights Reserved and, finally, updates to the bicycle section are being recommended.

VRE's current bicycle policy, as stated in the Tariff, reflects capacity limitations on trains during peak commuting periods. The current policy permits full-size bikes on midday trains and the last three trains on each line during the morning and evening commute. To promote the use of bicycles as a first/last mile option for commuters, and with the current availability of space onboard trains, VRE wishes to permit full-size bicycles, including ebikes and scooters, on every car of every train. The VRE Tariff will be updated accordingly, including reference to the Code of Virginia for the definition of bicycle and electric power assisted bicycle.



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR FINANCIAL AUDITING SERVICES

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with PBMares LLP of Harrisonburg, Virginia, for Financial Auditing Services in the amount of \$456,700, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$45,670, for a total amount not to exceed \$502,370. The contract will be for a base period of three years with options to extend for up to four additional years, in two-year increments, with the CEO exercising the option years at his discretion.

Summary:

As the owners and operators of VRE, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) each recognize a portion of VRE as a fund in their audited financial statements. A joint procurement for auditing services was undertaken in recognition of this relationship between the three entities. Contracting all three engagements with the same firm is the most cost-effective approach and will help ensure timely completion of the audits.

In accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act, a request for proposals process was required, as auditing is a professional service. The technical evaluation team determined that the proposal from PBMares was technically compliant and was unanimously selected as the top-ranked proposal. Staff have certified that the cost proposal from PBMares is fair and reasonable based on the cost estimate for this service. NVTC and PRTC are expected to present similar contract authorization requests at their May 2022 Commission meetings.



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY FOR A USDOT RAISE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to provide a letter of support on behalf of the board for the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary infrastructure grant program for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Section 4(f) Mitigation of the Long Bridge project.

Summary:

VPRA is applying to the USDOT RAISE discretionary infrastructure grant program for the pedestrian and bicycle bridge that is part of the Long Bridge project. The pedestrian-bicycle bridge element of the project meets the merit requirements to promote safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, and strengthen a regional partnership between the commonwealth and the District of Columbia. The pedestrian and bicycle bridge will eliminate barriers by creating an affordable transportation connection for all demographics that will directly link jobs, citizens, and visitors of all classes, races and demographics to the attractions, homes, and employment centers in the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia.



Margaret Franklin
VRE Operations Board Chair
Prince William County



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

CRYSTAL CITY STATION IMPROVEMENTS

- **Project Update**
- **Project Overview**
- **Adjacent Projects and Related Funding (Phases 1 and 2)**
- **Phased Approach**
- **Benefits of Recommended Phased Approach**

PROJECT UPDATE

- Project relocates station approximately 400 yards south of current station
- NEPA review by FTA complete
- Preliminary engineering, surveying and geotechnical investigation completed
- Project under consideration for a CM/GC delivery method at 60 percent



Anticipated Project Schedule

Phase	Start Date	Finish Date
Development	12/01/2016	06/30/2021
Property Acquisition	07/01/2020	06/30/2021
Final Design	11/01/2021	05/15/2023
Construction	08/15/2023	10/01/2025

PROJECT OVERVIEW



ADJACENT PROJECTS AND RELATED FUNDING – PHASE I

- **VPRA / CSXT Alexandria Fourth Track (AF to RO)**
 - Funded by VPRA as part of TRV
 - Design and Construction by CSXT
 - Construction anticipated 2023
- **VRE Crystal City Station**
 - Coordinated closely with Fourth Track design and construction sequence
 - Funded (partially) by NVTA

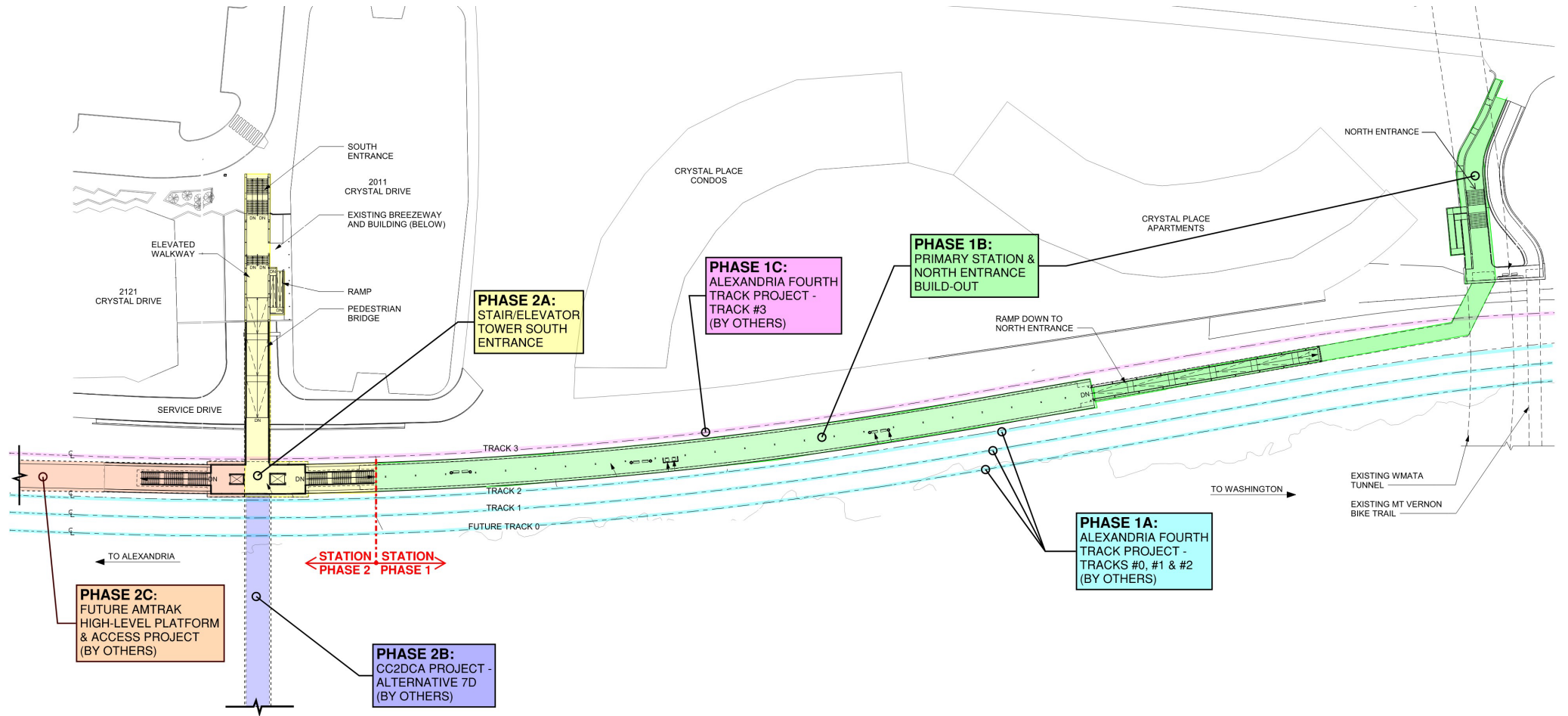


ADJACENT PROJECTS AND RELATED FUNDING – PHASE 2

- **CC2DCA Connection of Crystal City to Airport**
 - Led by Arlington County assisted by VDOT
 - Funded (partially) by NVTA
 - Currently in NEPA Alternatives Analysis
- **Amtrak High-Level Platform**
 - Requires gauntlet track
 - In-Service once Long Bridge Project is completed by VPRA



PHASED APPROACH



BENEFITS OF RECOMMENDED PHASED APPROACH

- **Enhances Constructability (Safety and Operations)**
 - Reduces construction between active tracks
- **Allows Delivery of Station Coordinated with Fourth Track**
 - Critical to construct platform prior to Fourth Track
- **Permits Open Design of CC2DCA Connector Alternatives**
 - Design is not constrained infrastructure built by VRE
- **Enhances Continuity and Appearance of Adjacent Structures**
 - Bridge to JBGSmith and Bridge to DCA similar in size and architecture

QUESTIONS?



SPENDING AUTHORITY REPORT

The VRE Operations Board in September 2020 approved an increase in the CEO's delegated spending authority from \$100,000 to \$200,000. It was resolved as part of that increased delegation that any purchase or contract award in the range of \$50,000 to \$200,000 would be communicated to the board as an information item.

- On March 3, 2022, VRE issued a task order in the amount of \$54,500 to HDR Engineering under the general engineering consulting services contract to provide project and technical support for multiple VRE projects, as an extension of VRE staff. Activities addressed as part of this task order may include host railroad (Amtrak, CSXT and Norfolk Southern) coordination, as well as support for shop- and yard-related projects.



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



OPERATIONS BOARD CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Sections 2.2-3711.A(3), (6) and (8) of the Code of Virginia), I move that the VRE Operations Board convene a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing one matter involving plans to protect public safety as it relates to specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and actions taken to respond to such matters and related threats to public safety.



James Walkinshaw

Vice Chair
Fairfax County



OPERATIONS BOARD CLOSED SESSION

The livestream will recommence following this portion of the meeting



OPERATIONS BOARD CLOSED SESSION

The VRE Operations Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge and with no individual member dissenting, at the just concluded closed session:

- 1. Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed; and,**
- 2. Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered.**



James Walkinshaw

Vice Chair
Fairfax County



VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEMBER TIME



Walter Alcorn
Fairfax County



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Preston Banks
Manassas Park



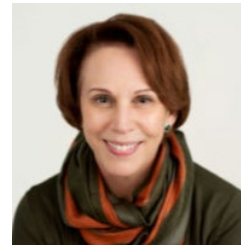
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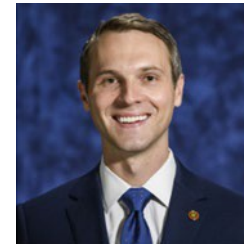
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James Walkinshaw
Fairfax County



**THE APRIL 22, 2022 MEETING OF
THE VRE OPERATIONS BOARD
IS ADJOURNED**



[VRE.ORG](https://www.vre.org)



VRE BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEETING NOW IN PROGRESS



[VRE.ORG](https://vre.org)

