

VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

May 21, 2021



*The meeting will begin
momentarily*

Meeting materials are available at
vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2021/May



Roll Call



Walter Alcorn
Fairfax County



Andrea Bailey
Prince William County



Preston Banks
Manassas Park



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Alexandria



Meg Bohmke
Stafford County



Katie Cristol
Arlington County



Margaret Franklin
Prince William County



Matt Kelly
Fredericksburg



Jeanine Lawson
Prince William County



Mike McLaughlin
Virginia DRPT



Cindy Shelton
Stafford County



Gary Skinner
Spotsylvania County



Ralph Smith
Manassas



Dan Storck
Fairfax County



James Walkinshaw
Fairfax County



Resolution Finding the Need to Conduct the May 21, 2021 Operations Board Meeting Electronically

The declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the VRE Operations Board to assemble in a single location on May 21, 2021, to discuss and transact the business of the VRE Operations Board.

Meeting by electronic means is authorized because the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Operations Board to assemble in a single location on May 21, 2021, to discuss and transact the business of the Operations Board listed on the on May 21, 2021, Operations Board meeting agenda.

Meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the on May 21, 2021, Operations Board meeting agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Operations Board and the discharge of the Operations Board's lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities.

Items on the on May 21, 2021, Operations Board meeting agenda are encompassed within the continuity of operations ordinances adopted by several member localities of the Virginia Railway Express Operations Board to assure the continued operation of the government during the disaster posed by the public health emergency resulting from COVID-19.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Approval of Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Finding Need to Conduct the May 21, 2021 VRE Operations Board Meeting Electronically
 - B. Approval of Agenda
 - C. Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for CM/GC for the Alexandria Station Improvements Project
 - D. Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for General Planning Consulting Services
3. Approval of Minutes from the April 16, 2021 VRE Operations Board Meeting
4. Chair's Comments
5. Chief Executive Officer's Report
6. VRE Riders' and Public Comment
7. Action Items
 - A. Authorization to Exercise a Contract for Delivery of Lubricating Oil for VRE Locomotives
 - B. Authorization to Execute an Excess Facilities Agreement with Rappahannock Electric Cooperative for LOU Facility Electric Service
7. Action Items (continued)
 - C. Recommend Authorization to Enter into a Right of Way Easement Agreement with Rappahannock Electric Cooperative for LOU Facility Electric Service
 - D. Recommend Authorization to an Amendment for the First Option Period and the First Year of the First Option Period of the Contract for Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail
 - E. Recommend Authorization to Execute an Amendment for the Second Year of the Second Option Period of the Contract for Operating Services for Commuter Rail
 - F. Recommend Authorization to Execute a Contract for New Railcars
 - G. Referral of the Amended FY 2022 VRE Operating Budget to the Commissions
8. Information Items
 - A. Spending Authority Report
 - B. Board Electronic Participation Policy
9. Operations Board Members' Time



Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for CM/GC for the Alexandria Station Improvements Project

Summary:

This resolution will authorize VRE to commence a competitive procurement process necessary for selection of a CM/GC using the alternate delivery method recommended by VRE staff for construction of the Alexandria Station Improvements Project.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria

Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for General Planning Consulting Services

Summary:

This resolution will authorize the procurement of professional services related to planning and preliminary design activities.



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Approval of Minutes

April 16, 2021

WebEx Electronic Meeting with YouTube Livestream

Members Present

- Andrea Bailey (PRTC)
- Preston Banks (PRTC)
- Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (NVTC)
- Meg Bohmke (PRTC)
- Katie Cristol (NVTC)
- Margaret Franklin (PRTC)
- Matt Kelly (PRTC)
- Jeanine Lawson (PRTC)
- Jennifer Mitchell (DRPT)
- Cindy Shelton (PRTC)
- Gary Skinner (PRTC)
- Ralph Smith (PRTC)
- Dan Storck (NVTC)
- James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

Members Absent

- Walter Alcorn (NVTC)

Alternates Present

- Mike McLaughlin (DRPT)

Jurisdiction

- Prince William County
- City of Manassas Park
- City of Alexandria
- Stafford County
- Arlington County
- Prince William County
- City of Fredericksburg
- Prince William County
- Commonwealth of Virginia
- Stafford County
- Spotsylvania
- City of Manassas
- Fairfax County
- Fairfax County

- Fairfax County

- Commonwealth of Virginia



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker

VRE Operations Board Chair
City of Alexandria



Chair's Comments

Welcome to the May VRE Operations Board meeting.

Congratulations to Steve Maclsaac on his appointment as VRE's general counsel and chief legal officer.

Thank you to D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton for including funding for the L'Enfant station and 4th track project in a House earmark request, which will be considered as part of a future surface transportation bill. We are working with Senators Warner and Kaine's offices to have an earmark request for the project included on the Senate side.

There are no committee meetings after today's meeting.

For the June meeting, staff is working to solidify plans for some level of a "hybrid" meeting that would include voluntary in-person participation. Board members will be notified once plans are finalized. It will be imperative for board members to give a definitive and timely response to the board clerk's quorum call in the future.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker

VRE Operations Board Chair
City of Alexandria



Chair's Comments

Due to the Juneteenth holiday next month, the Operations Board meeting will be pushed back a week to the 25th. There are three committee meetings next month.

- CEO Evaluation Committee meeting – Date/Time in June TBD
 - Andrea Bailey – Chair
 - Preston Banks
 - Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
 - Katie Cristol
 - Jeanine Lawson
 - Dan Storck
- Audit Committee meeting prior to the June 25th meeting (8:30am)
 - Katie Cristol – Chair
 - Preston Banks
 - Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
 - Jeanine Lawson
 - Gary Skinner
 - James Walkinshaw
- Finance Committee meeting immediately following the June 25th meeting
 - Meg Bohmke – Chair
 - Preston Banks
 - Katie Cristol
 - Matt Kelly
 - Dan Storck



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker

VRE Operations Board Chair
City of Alexandria



CEO Report

- Safety/COVID-19 Update
- Ridership
- Performance
- Return to Full Service
- Ridership Recovery
- Project Spotlight
- Manassas Railway Festival

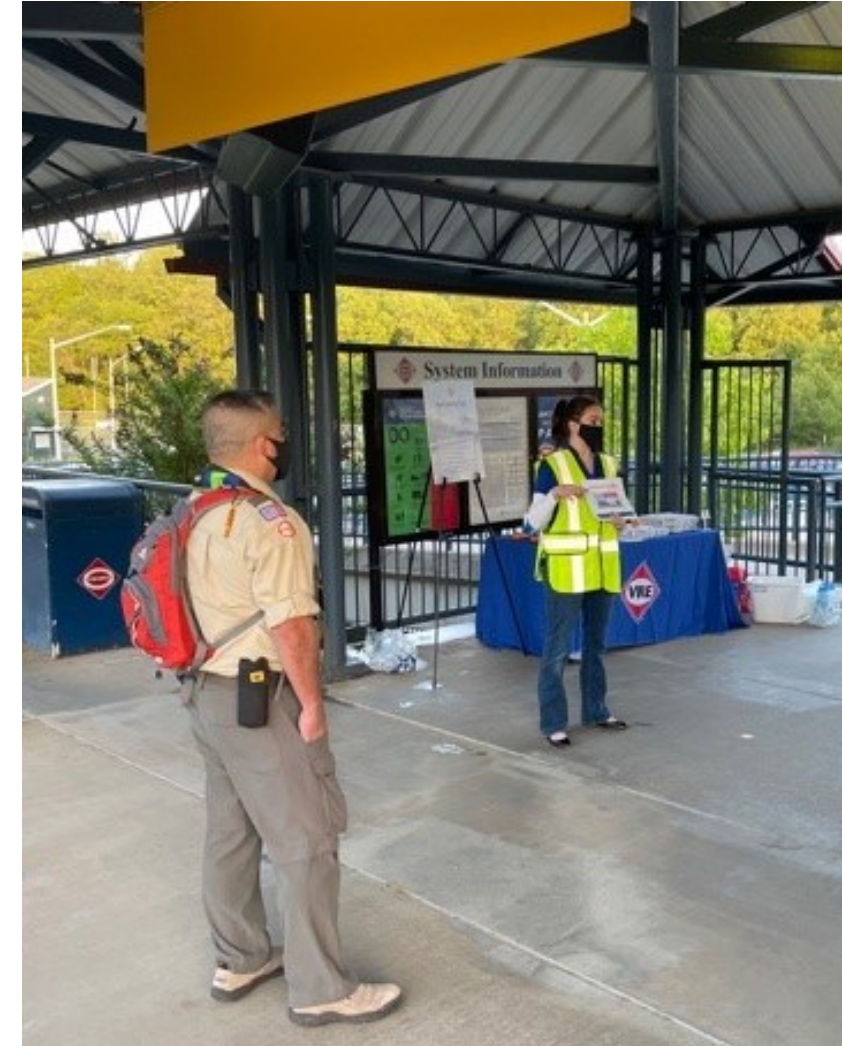


Rich Dalton

VRE CEO



CEO Report – Safety / COVID 19 Update





CEO Report – Safety / COVID 19 Update



**FEDERAL
MASK ORDERS**



*“...must be followed by all passengers
on public conveyances...”*

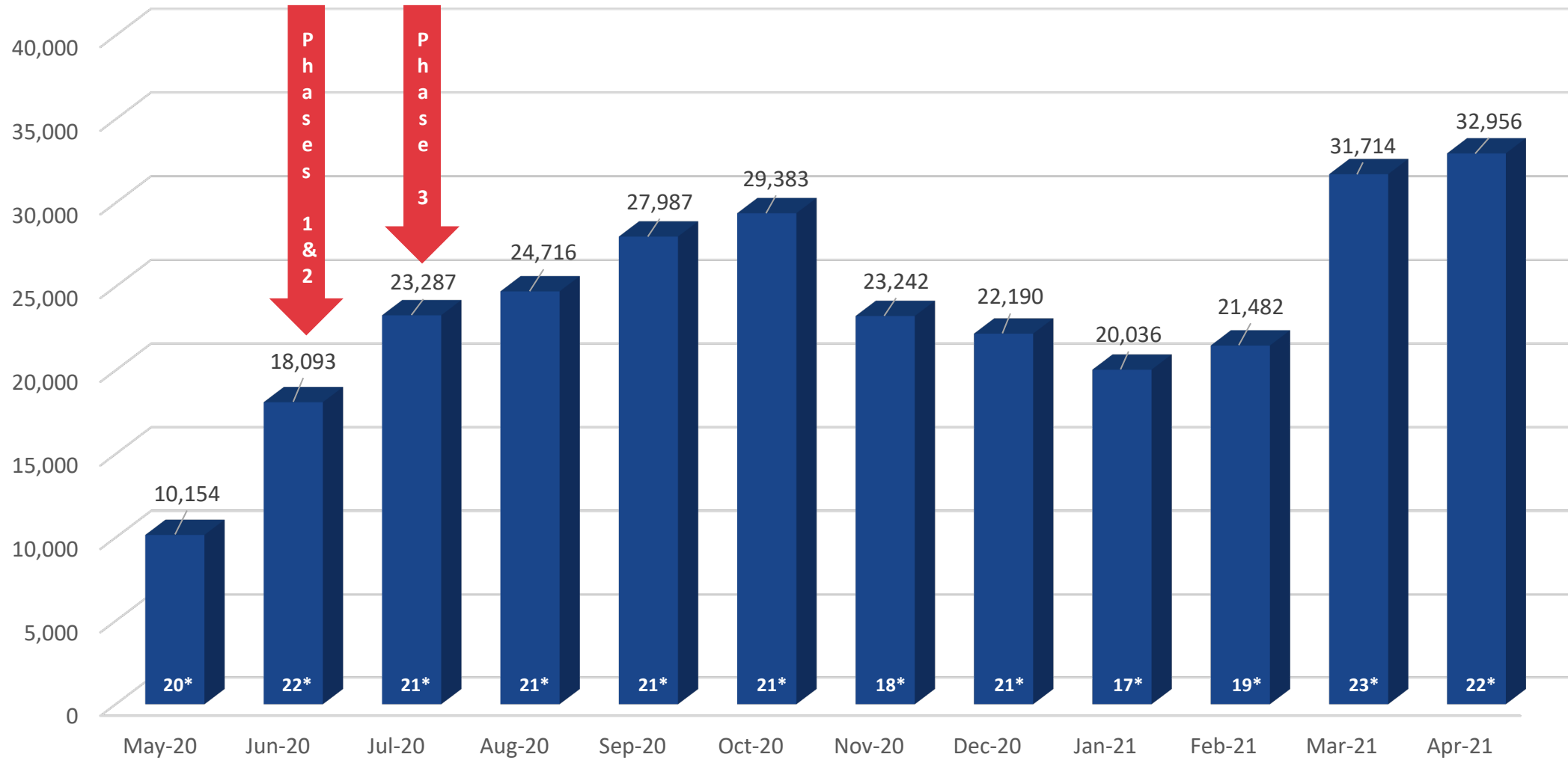
LEARN MORE.



The Transportation Security Administration has extended the face mask mandate for public transportation through September 13, 2021



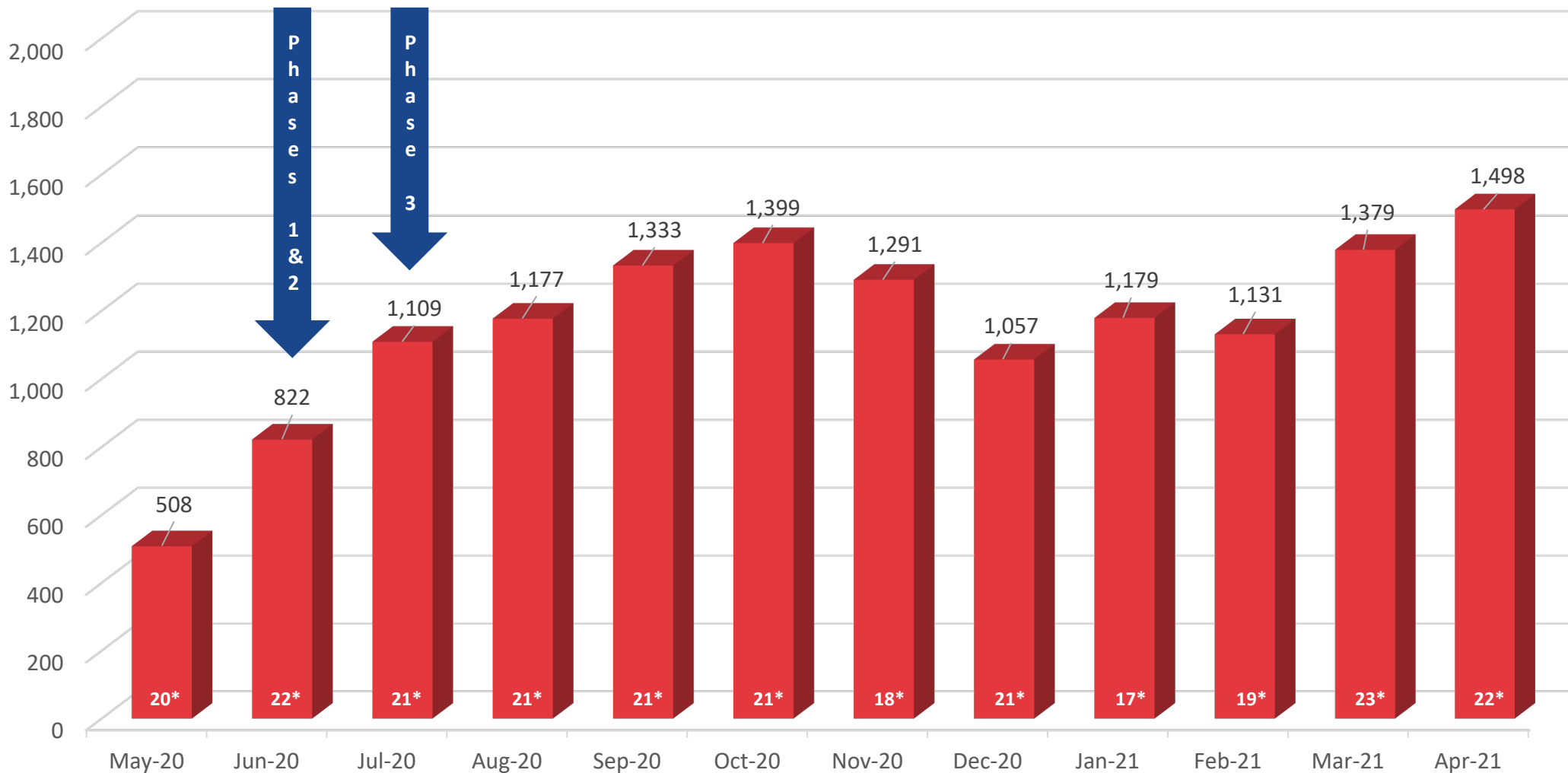
CEO Report – Monthly Ridership



*service days per month



CEO Report – Monthly Average Daily Ridership

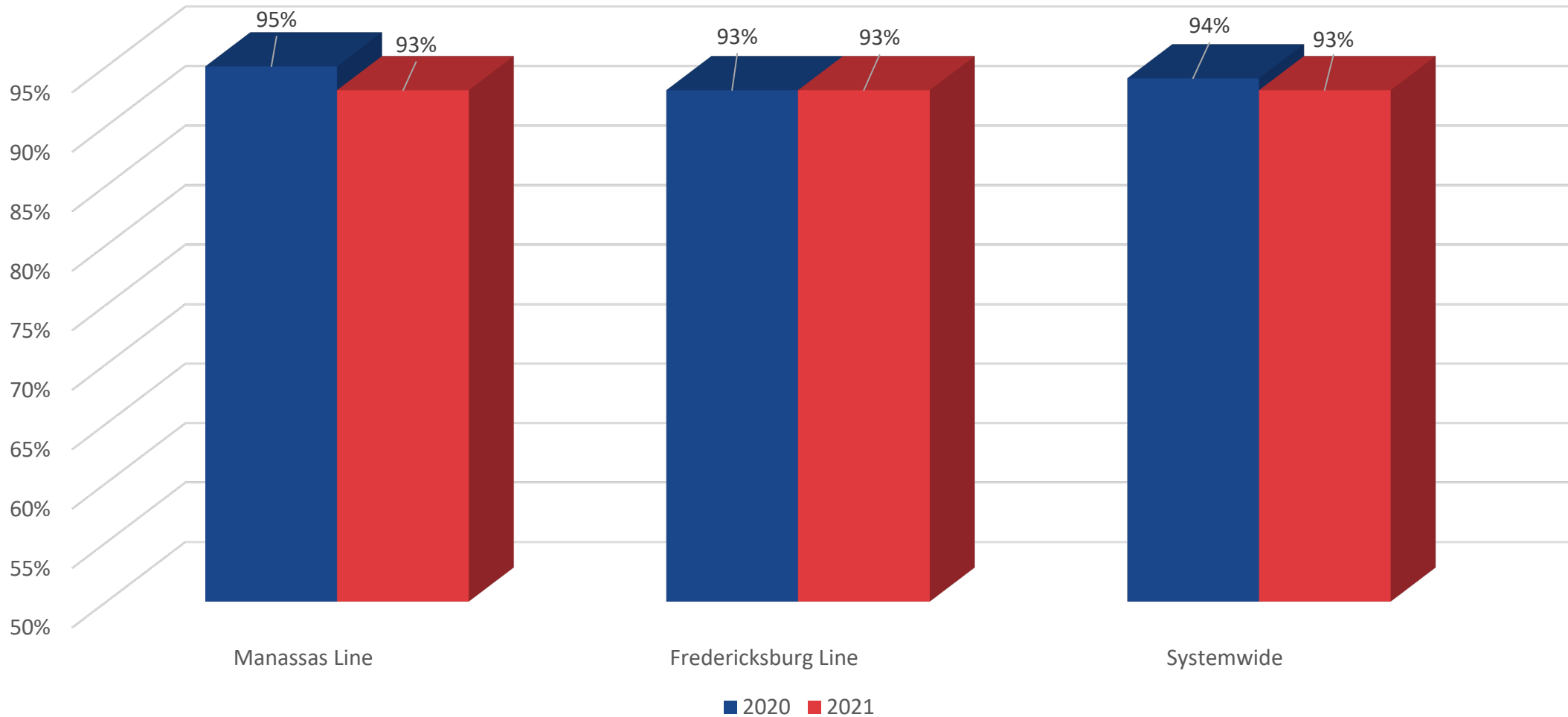


*service days per month



CEO Report – On-time Performance

April Comparisons





CEO Report – Return to Full Service





CEO Report – Ridership Recovery

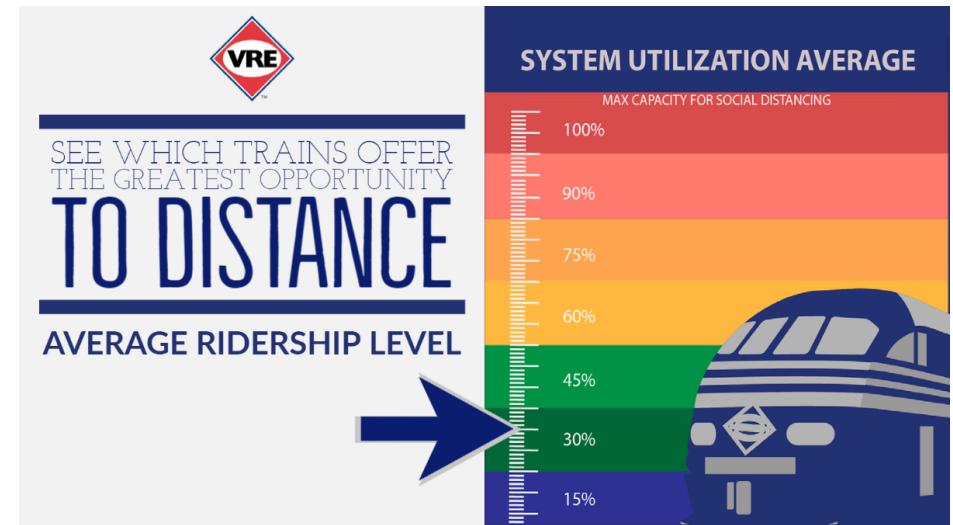
click
click
click

SEE OUR SOCIAL DISTANCING CUES IN A VRE
INTERACTIVE TOUR

THIS SEAT IS READY FOR YOU.

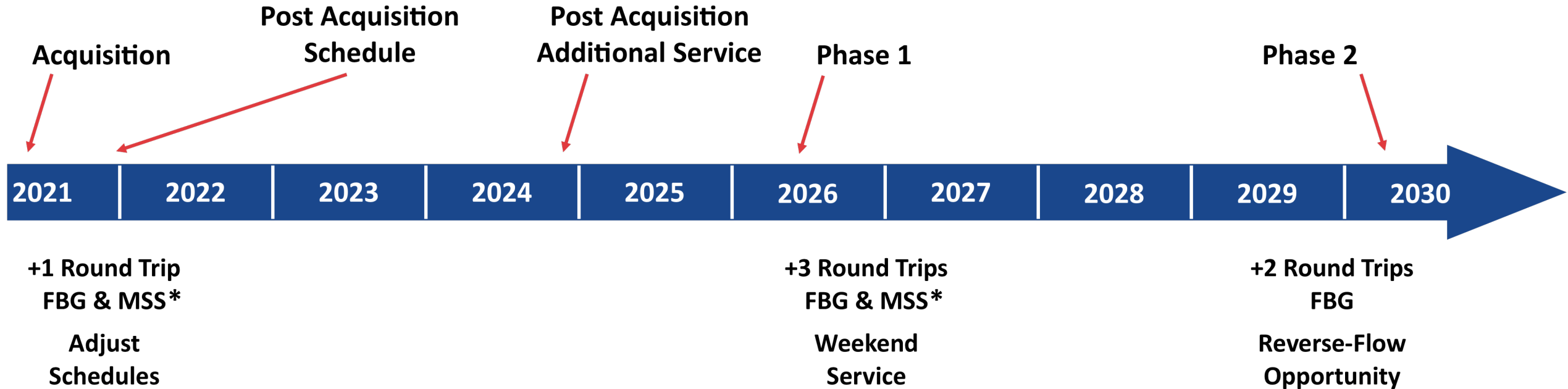
- ✓ Cleaned twice daily
- ✓ Supports social distancing
- ✓ Same relaxing service

WATCH HOW WE DO IT
vre.org/ready



CEO Report – Project Spotlight – Transforming Rail in VA



*Pending an agreement with Norfolk Southern



CEO Report – Manassas Railway Festival





CEO Report – Questions?





Virginia Railway Express Riders' and Public Comment



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker

VRE Operations Board Chair
City of Alexandria



Authorization to Exercise a Contract for Delivery of Lubricating Oil for VRE Locomotives

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Cadence Petroleum Group of Ashland, Virginia, for the delivery of lubricating oil for VRE locomotives in the amount of \$457,895, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$45,790, for a total amount not to exceed \$503,685. The contract will be for a base year and four option years, with the CEO exercising the option years at his discretion.

Summary:

VRE requires main engine, head end power engine, traction motor and air compressor lubricating products to be delivered to its maintenance and storage facilities to support the operation of VRE's fleet of locomotives. The current contract for this service expires in October 2021. Therefore, the term of the contract with Cadence Petroleum will commence upon expiration of the current contract.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Authorization to Execute an Excess Facilities Agreement with Rappahannock Electric Cooperative for LOU Facility Electric Service

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute an excess facilities agreement with the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) for additional electric service facilities necessary to accommodate the new Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade (LOU) Facility.

Summary:

Rolling stock maintenance activities at the LOU Facility will significantly increase the demand for electric power at VRE's Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF). This action will authorize VRE to execute an agreement with REC for the installation and maintenance of additional electric service facilities at the Crossroads MSF beyond those that REC normally provides to its customers.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Recommend Authorization to Execute a Right-of-Way Easement Agreement with Rappahannock Electric Cooperative for LOU Facility Electric Service

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to enter into a right-of-way agreement with the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) for an electric utility easement at Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) for the Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade (LOU) Facility electric service.

Summary:

This action will recommend authorizing VRE, on behalf of the commissions, to enter into a right-of-way agreement with REC for an easement that encompasses a 15-foot wide right of way through a portion of the lands at Crossroads MSF for installation of new electric service for the LOU Facility, currently under construction.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Recommend Authorization to Execute an Amendment for the First Option Period and the First Year of the First Option Period of the Contract for Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to amend the contract for maintenance services for commuter rail with Keolis Rail Services Virginia, LLC by approving the first five-year option period and approving up to \$8,980,774 for the first year of the first option period, for a total contract value not to exceed \$48,901,626 through June 30, 2022.

Summary:

This action will recommend the commissions authorize the award of the first (of two) five-year option periods and continue the contracted services for the maintenance, inspection, and repair of VRE locomotives, passenger railcars and maintenance facilities for fiscal year 2022.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Recommend Authorization to Execute an Amendment for the Second Year of the Second Option Period of the Contract for Operating Services for Commuter Rail

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to amend the Contract for Operating Services for Commuter Rail with Keolis Rail Services Virginia, LLC by approving up to \$16,787,500 for the second year of the second option period, for a total contract value not to exceed \$212,790,557 through June 30, 2022.

Summary:

This action will authorize the contracted services for management, supervision and certified locomotive engineers and conductors to operate VRE commuter rail trains for fiscal year 2022.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Recommend Authorization to Execute a Contract for New Railcars

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Alstom Transportation Inc. of New York, New York, for 21 new passenger railcars in the amount of \$80,594,822, plus a 5 percent contingency of \$4,029,741, for a total amount not to exceed \$84,624,563.

Summary:

The resolution will recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Alstom Transportation Inc. to design, manufacture and deliver a base order of 21 new multilevel passenger railcars, specifically trailer cars with restrooms, with a total 148 seats per car.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Recommend Authorization to Execute a Contract for New Railcars





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Recommendation:

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Summary:

The resolution will recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Alstom Transportation Inc. to design, manufacture and deliver a base order of 21 new multilevel passenger railcars, specifically trailer cars with restrooms, with a total 148 seats per car.

Delivery of the 21 railcars is anticipated to take between 36 and 48 months once notice to proceed is issued. The railcars will have six-year warranties starting on the date the railcar is placed into revenue service. The proposed contract will allow VRE to purchase additional railcars later. There are 44 trailer cars and four cab control cars available as options.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Referral of the Amended Fiscal Year 2022 VRE Operating Budget to the Commissions

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to adopt the amended fiscal year 2022 VRE operating budget and refer the amended budget to the commissions for their consideration and approval.

Summary:

The fiscal year 2022 operating and capital budgets were originally adopted by the Operations Board in December 2020 and by the commissions in January 2021. Since then, the federal government has approved additional pandemic relief funds for transit providers and VRE is incorporating a portion of these revenues into the fiscal year 2022 operating budget. Total planned expenditures in fiscal year 2022 are unchanged and the budget remains balanced, with all expenditures funded by reasonably expected revenue sources. If the amended budget is approved by the commissions in June, the jurisdictions can make their first-half fiscal year 2022 subsidy contributions to VRE on July 1, 2021, at the lower, amended amount.

VRE will not seek track access fee reimbursement from the commonwealth in fiscal year 2022. VRE normally receives 84 percent reimbursement of access fees paid to CSX, Norfolk Southern, and Amtrak. Total budgeted access fees are \$18.6 million. Pandemic relief funds will offset \$15.6 million of state reimbursements.



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair
City of Alexandria



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Use of Federal Relief Funds in the FY 2022 Operating Budget

Jurisdiction	Approved Total FY 2022 Subsidy	Proposed Operating Subsidy Relief (74%)	Proposed Total FY 2022 Subsidy
Fairfax County	\$6,379,017	(\$4,721,011)	\$1,658,006
Prince William County	\$5,930,777	(\$4,389,276)	\$1,541,501
Stafford County	\$2,477,175	(\$1,833,319)	\$643,856
Spotsylvania County	\$1,503,754	(\$1,112,905)	\$390,849
Manassas	\$807,234	(\$597,421)	\$209,813
Manassas Park	\$468,364	(\$346,629)	\$121,735
Fredericksburg	\$367,089	(\$271,677)	\$95,412
Arlington	\$218,219	(\$161,500)	\$56,719
Alexandria	\$149,151	(\$110,384)	\$38,767
Total	\$18,300,780	(\$13,544,122)	\$4,756,658



Spending Authority Report

On September 18, 2020, the VRE Operations Board 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 April 2, 2021, VRE amended an existing task order for monitoring and support for positive train control with STV Incorporated under the mechanical engineering consulting services contract to increase the total commitment for the task order by \$80,033 to an amount not to exceed \$179,328.
- On April 9, 2021, VRE issued a task order in the amount of \$61,477 to STV Incorporated under the mechanical engineering consulting services contract to conduct a railcar air filtration system analysis and to subsequently provide recommended enhancements aimed at improving particulate filtration efficiency.



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO

(continued)



Spending Authority Report (continued)

- On April 9, 2021, VRE executed a contract in the amount of \$102,296 with Matrix Metals LLC to acquire a total of 400 equalizer seats, which are utilized by VRE's fleet of passenger railcars.
- On April 12, 2021, VRE issued a sole source purchase order to Paragon Products, LLC in the amount of \$55,753 to acquire new fuel pumps for VRE's fleet of locomotives.
- On April 12, 2021, VRE executed a relocation agreement with CenturyLink in an amount not to exceed \$182,095 to relocate telecommunications facilities to accomplish construction of Quantico Station Improvements.
- On April 27, 2021, VRE issued a task order in the amount of \$60,000 to PFM Financial Advisors LLC under the financial advisory services contract for a one-year subscription to allow for continued use of the Synario Financial Modeling Platform to support long-term financial planning efforts.
- On April 28, 2021, VRE issued a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$60,255 to ADT to provide on-call maintenance and repair services for the existing security camera equipment at VRE's stations.



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Board Electronic Participation Policy

The bylaws were last revised in April 2013. Since that time, the VRE Master Agreement has been updated and legislation has been passed impacting public meetings. As such, changes to the bylaws are being proposed. They include:

- Updating language relevant to the changes in state law having to do with electronic meetings.
- Changing the month the Operations Board does not meet from July to August.
- Updating the weighted vote language to include giving the commonwealth's vote the same weight as the jurisdiction with the highest subsidy (changed in the Master Agreement in 2014).

Drafts of the proposed electronic participation policy and bylaws changes appear on the VRE website at www.vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2021/May



Rich Dalton
VRE CEO



Board Member Comment



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VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

May 21, 2021



The meeting is adjourned

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