VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

September 18, 2020

The meeting will begin momentarily

Meeting materials are available at
vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2020/September
Call to Order
by VRE
Operations Board Chairman

Gary Skinner
Spotsylvania County
Roll Call

Walter Alcorn
Fairfax County

Andrea Bailey
Prince William County

Preston Banks
Manassas Park

Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Alexandria

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

Gary Snellings
Stafford County

Dan Storck
Fairfax County

James Walkinshaw
Fairfax County
Resolution Finding the Need to Conduct the September 18, 2020 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 September 18, 2020 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 September 18, 2020 to discuss and transact the business of the Operations Board listed on the September 18, 2020 Operations Board meeting agenda.

Meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the September 18, 2020 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 September 18, 2020 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.
## Approval of Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Resolution Finding Need to Conduct September 18, 2020 Meeting Electronically
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from the July 17, 2020 VRE Operations Board Meeting
6. Chairman’s Comments
7. Chief Executive Officer’s Report
8. VRE Riders’ and Public Comment
9. Action Items:
   - A. Referral of the Preliminary FY 2022 VRE Operating and Capital Budget to the Commissions
   - B. Approval of Increases to Chief Executive Officer Procurement Authorization and Contract Award Authorities
   - C. Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction of the Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade Facility
   - D. Authorization to Execute a Contract for Safety and Security Consulting Services
   - E. Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction of Quantico Station Improvements
   - F. Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction Management Services for the Quantico Station Improvements
   - G. Authorization to Execute General Engineering Consulting Services Contracts for Project Design and Construction Management
   - H. Authorization to Issue a General Planning Consulting Services Task Order for Surveying Services to Support Real Estate Acquisition Activities for the Broad Run Expansion Project
   - I. Authorization to Amend the GEC VII Task Order for Final Design Services for the Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project
   - J. Authorization to Amend the GEC VII Task Order for Design Services for VRE Suite 202 Phase 2 Renovations
10. Information Items:
    - A. Spending Authority Report
    - B. Equipment Storage Update
11. Closed Session
12. Operations Board Member’s Time
Approval of Minutes

July 17, 2020
WebEx Electronic Meeting with YouTube Live-Stream

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members Present</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Bailey (PRTC)</td>
<td>Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Bennet-Parker (NVTC)</td>
<td>City of Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meg Bohmke (PRTC)</td>
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<td>Matt Kelly (PRTC)</td>
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<td>Jeanine Lawson (PRTC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Mitchell (DRPT)</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Virginia</td>
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<td>Cindy Shelton (PRTC)</td>
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<td>Gary Skinner (PRTC)</td>
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Gary Skinner
VRE Operations Board Chairman
Spotsylvania County
Chairman’s Comments

• Welcome to the September 2020 VRE Operations Board Meeting.

• General remarks.

• I want to remind you that the Legislative Committee will meet after this meeting is concluded. All board members are welcome to participate.

Gary Skinner
Spotsylvania County
CEO Report

- Safety/COVID-19 Update
- Ridership
- Performance
- Project Spotlight
- Train Utilization
- Welcome Back

Rich Dalton
VRE CEO
Rail Safety / COVID-19 Update
MONTHLY RIDERSHIP

March - August 2020

- March: 192,815
- April: 10,117
- May: 10,154
- June: 18,093
- July: 23,287
- August: 24,716

Phases 1 & 2
Phases 3
MONTHLY AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

March - August 2020

- March: 8,764
- April: 460
- May: 508
- June: 822
- July: 1,109
- August: 1,177

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

July Comparisons

Manassas Line: 70% (2019), 95% (2020)
Fredericksburg Line: 53% (2019), 93% (2020)
Systemwide: 61% (2019), 94% (2020)
ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

August Comparisons

- Manassas Line: 82% (2019) vs. 90% (2020)
- Fredericksburg Line: 76% (2019) vs. 91% (2020)
- Systemwide: 79% (2019) vs. 91% (2020)
VRE PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Potomac Shores

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
TRAIN UTILIZATION

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VRE is operating at a reduced service level. We will add cars to trains and/or run additional trains as riders begin to return. Only the trains shown below are operating at this time.

Ridership is current as of September 11, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Northbound Trains</th>
<th>Total # of Seats (including those Married “Do Not Sit”)</th>
<th>Maximum Capacity to Fully Support Social Distancing</th>
<th>Current Daily Ridership</th>
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<td>Train</td>
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<td>314</td>
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See Fredericksburg Northbound Schedule.
WELCOME BACK
WELCOME BACK

WATCH HOW WE DO IT
vre.org/ready

- This seat is ready for you.
- Cleaned twice daily
- Supports social distancing
- Same relaxing service

Masks Required for Entire Trip

Let’s each do our part

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
Notice of Public Comment

Gary Skinner
VRE Operations Board Chairman
Spotsylvania County
Referral of the Preliminary FY 2022 Operating and Capital Budget to the Commissions

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to refer the preliminary FY 2022 VRE Operating and Capital Budget to the Commissions for their consideration, so the Commissions, in turn, can refer their preliminary budget recommendations to the jurisdictions for review and comment.

Summary:
VRE’s preliminary FY 2022 operating budget totals $91.9 million, which includes operations, maintenance, and existing debt service. This preliminary budget amount is nearly flat to the approved FY 2021 budget of $91.4 million (an increase of one-half percent), and staff are continuing to review departmental budgets to identify further expense reductions.

In light of the reduced ridership and ongoing economic challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, the preliminary operating budget includes no changes to passenger fares and no increase to jurisdictional subsidy.
Referral of FY 2022 Preliminary Budget

1. Current financial position
2. Key operating budget assumptions
3. Use of CARES Act funding
4. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
5. Next steps
Current Financial Position

FY 2020

- Loss of $9 million in fare revenue in Q4
- Year-end operating position before state/federal assistance of +$900,000
- $1.1 million in emergency state assistance
- Projected FY 2020 CARES Act assistance of $2.7 million
Current Financial Position

FY 2021

• Daily ridership of 1300-1400
• July/August total fare revenue of $1.5 million
• July monthly P&L of -$4.7 million before any emergency assistance
  - Includes $6.7 million annual expense for liability insurance ($2.5 million above budget)
• Projected FY 2021 CARES Act reimbursement of $33 million
FY 2022 Budget: Preliminary Assumptions

• 32 daily trains – return to full schedule of service
• No change to passenger fares
• No change to jurisdictional subsidy contribution
  - Total amount of $18.30 million
  - Same allocation as FY 2021 (no October survey)
FY 2022 Budget: Preliminary Assumptions

- Preliminary revenue projections (subject to ongoing review and revision)
  - FY 2021: $10 million *(20-25% of normal)*
  - FY 2022: $18 million *(40% of normal)*
- State operating assistance of $8.5 million
- Continued 84% state reimbursement of track access fees
- Ongoing review of departmental expenses for deferrals and eliminations
Use of CARES Act Funding

• How long will the CARES Act funding last?
  - Partly out of our control – depends on return of ridership
  - But decisions about expenses, fares, and subsidy still have an impact

Projected CARES Act Funding

$86 million total

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<td>FY 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2023+</td>
<td>$21.7</td>
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Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- Focus remains on project delivery
- *Transforming Rail in Virginia* program has impacted scope/schedule/funding of many projects, currently being updated
- No specific recommendations yet for C-ROC in FY 2022 – still in discussions with DRPT
Next Steps

- Continue to update expense/revenue forecasts as pandemic evolves
- Review with Finance Committee, jurisdictional staff, and Operations Board in Oct/Nov
- Final budget for approval and referral in December
Approval of Increases to Chief Executive Officer Procurement Authorization and Contract Award Authorities

**Recommendation:**
The VRE Operations Board is asked to approve increases to two delegations of authority to the CEO: contract award authority to $200,000, and procurement authorization authority to $1,000,000.

**Summary:**
The Operations Board has delegated to the CEO the authority to award contracts up to $100,000 and to authorize procurements up to $100,000 without requiring the Operations Board’s approval.

As VRE has grown and the number of procurements has increased, and as inflation has led to a general increase in costs over time, the CEO delegation of authority limits have been periodically raised. The Finance Committee expressed its support for these proposed increases and for incorporating a summary of all actions that would have previously gone to the Operations Board for approval into an expanded Spending Authority Report.
Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction of the Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade Facility

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Clark Construction Group, LLC of Bethesda, Maryland for Construction of the Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade Facility in the amount of $37,673,006, plus a 10 percent contingency of $3,767,301, for a total amount not to exceed $41,440,307.

Summary:
VRE has adopted a lifecycle maintenance strategy for VRE rolling stock. To fully implement this strategy, VRE will construct a new building at the Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility dedicated to lifecycle maintenance activities. Currently, these critical maintenance activities must be undertaken at offsite locations, requiring additional time and expense.
Authorization to Execute a Contract for Safety and Security Consulting Services

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with ADS System Safety Consulting, LLC of Baltimore, Maryland for the provision of Safety and Security Consulting Services for one base year and four option years, in a total amount not to exceed $2,500,000 for the five-year term, with the CEO exercising the option years at his discretion.

Summary:
The Safety and Security Consulting Services contract will be a task order agreement. VRE Operations Board approval is required prior to award of each task order in excess of the CEO’s delegated spending authority.
The services to be provided through task orders may include safety and security policy analysis, regulatory compliance management, general project and program management, site and infrastructure design analysis, and safety training program enhancements.

Gary Skinner
VRE Operations Board Chairman
Spotsylvania County

Rich Dalton
VRE CEO
Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction of Quantico Station Improvements

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Archer Western Construction, LLC of Herndon, Virginia, for construction of Quantico Station Improvements in the amount of $16,709,330, plus a 10 percent contingency of $1,670,933, for a total amount not to exceed $18,380,263.

Summary:
CSX Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), and VRE are collaborating to construct approximately 11 miles of third track between Arkendale and Powell’s Creek in Prince William County, which includes the Quantico Station. DRPT has requested VRE manage final design and Construction of improvements at Quantico.

DRPT has increased funding through the Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund and SMART SCALE for the Quantico improvements to allow for its additional scope items.
Authorization to Execute a Contract for Construction Management Services for Construction of Quantico Station Improvements

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Dewberry Engineers Inc. of Fairfax, Virginia, for Construction Management Services for the Quantico station improvements in the amount of $1,868,776, plus a 10 percent contingency of $186,878, for a total amount not to exceed $2,055,654.

Summary:
Construction of Quantico station improvements requires a dedicated construction manager to provide oversight for the safe implementation of the project in conformity with plans and specifications and with the requirements of CSX Transportation, Amtrak, the Federal Railroad Administration, Marine Corps Base Quantico, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and VRE.
Authorization to Execute General Engineering Consulting Contracts (GEC VIII) for Project Design and Construction Management

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to execute contracts with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Vienna, Virginia, for project design services and STV Incorporated (STV) of Fairfax, Virginia, for construction management services for a base year and four option years in an amount not to exceed $6 million in aggregate per year for a total not-to-exceed amount of $30 million in aggregate for the five-year term of the contract. The option years may be exercised at the discretion of the CEO.

Summary:
VRE uses general engineering consulting contracts to provide on-call engineering, planning, environmental and construction management services. The contracts will be task order agreements, which will require VRE Operations Board approval prior to any award exceeding the CEO’s delegated spending authority.
Authorization to Issue a General Planning Consulting Task Order for Surveying Services to Support Real Estate Acquisition Activities for the Broad Run Expansion Project

**Recommendation:**
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to issue a general planning consulting services task order to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. for surveying services to support real estate acquisition activities for the Broad Run Expansion Project in the amount of $433,637, plus a 20 percent contingency of $86,727, for a total amount not to exceed $520,364.

**Summary:**
As part of its due diligence activities, VRE needs to conduct land surveys, locate utilities and easements and perform preliminary platting to support real estate acquisitions associated with the Broad Run expansion project.
Authorization to Amend the GEC VII Task Order for Final Design Services for the Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to amend the current task order for final design services for the Fredericksburg station rehabilitation project executed with STV Incorporated under the General Engineering Consulting Services VII contract in the amount of $30,916, plus a 20 percent contingency of $6,183, for a total not to exceed $37,099. This will increase the authorization for this task order from $431,020 to a total amount not to exceed $468,119.

Summary:
This action reflects refinements to the original final design services for the Fredericksburg station rehabilitation project, which has resulted in additional costs. Amending the task order now will reduce the need for future supplemental design changes and potential delays later in the implementation process.
Authorization to Amend the GEC VII Task Order for Design Services for VRE Suite 202 Phase 2 Renovations

**Recommendation:**
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to amend the current task order for design services for VRE suite 202 phase 2 renovations executed with STV Incorporated (STV) under the General Engineering Consulting Services VII contract in the amount of $49,839, plus a 10 percent contingency of $4,984, for a total not-to-exceed $54,823. This will increase the authorization for the task order from $96,221 to a total amount not to exceed $151,044.

**Summary:**
VRE has opted to advance the reception area portion of the headquarters renovation project as a separate design, permitting and construction effort, in order to complete this work and minimize disruption prior to staff safely returning to headquarters as the covid-19 pandemic evolves. The change in project approach has resulted in additional costs. This action will authorize the CEO to amend the Task Order to address the increased costs.
Spending Authority Report (July 2020)

On May 15, 2015, the VRE Operations Board approved increasing the Chief Executive Officer’s spending authority from $50,000 to $100,000. It was resolved any purchase of greater than $50,000 would be communicated to the board as an information item.

- On July 8, 2020, VRE issued a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed $60,000 to Fairmont Supply Company to acquire crimper hoses and fittings on an as needed basis for VRE's fleet of locomotives.

- On July 17, 2020, VRE issued a task order in the amount of $99,295 to STV Incorporated under the Mechanical Engineering Consulting Services VII contract to provide monitoring and support for Positive Train Control.

- On July 22, 2020, VRE issued a task order in the amount of $96,525 to STV Incorporated under the Mechanical Engineering Consulting Services VII contract to provide procurement support for the acquisition of new railcars.

-continued-
Spending Authority Report (August 2020)

- On August 12, 2020, VRE issued a sole source blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed $70,000 to Carter Machinery (Alban CAT) to acquire Head End Power (HEP) filters and thermostat components on an as needed basis for the Caterpillar engines utilized by VRE’s fleet of locomotives.

- On August 29, 2020, VRE issued a task order in the amount of $64,605 to STV Incorporated under the General Engineering Consulting Services VII contract to design the communications and power infrastructure for the security camera system at Broad Run and Crossroads.

- On August 29, 2020, VRE issued a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed $100,000 to CDWG to acquire IT hardware and maintenance services on an as needed basis.
VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

Storage Capacity Update

Dallas Richards, PE
Chief Engineer
drichards@vre.org

Christine Hoeffner, AICP, PLA
Manager, Project Development
choeffner@vre.org
# EXISTING AND FUTURE STORAGE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Existing Storage</th>
<th>Planned Capacity</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Consists</td>
<td>Locomotives</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>L'Enfant-North</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>L'Enfant-South</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York Ave.</td>
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<td><strong>Total Midday Storage</strong></td>
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<td>Broad Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossroads</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Overnight Storage</strong></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
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## Notes / Assumptions
1. Values shown here account for current storage (not capacity) and future capacity.
2. Planned values shown for Crossroads are for capacity after completion of the LOU Facility project and Near-Term Expansion project.
3. Planned values shown for Broad Run are for capacity after completion of the Broad Run Expansion project.
4. Planned values shown for the NY Ave. MSRF are for capacity after of proposed Stage 2 construction but does not include storage at L'Enfant.
5. Values provided assume no additional locomotives or cab cars in the near-term.
6. Values assume no additional service, only longer (8-car) consists.
7. Storage at L'Enfant North and South is eliminated upon completion of proposed fourth track.

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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
MIDDAY STORAGE – PHASE I

- Accommodates forecast near-term (2030) growth
- Promotes shared use with Amtrak
- Includes storage at four locations
- Schedule
  - Amtrak Design Review Agreement pending
  - Coach Yard Design 2021, Construction 2022
  - NY Ave. Yard Design 2021, Construction 2023-2026
  - Property Acquisition 2021-2023
STAGE 1: COACH YARD PHASE 1
STAGE 2: NY AVE. PHASE 1

LEGEND
- EXISTING AMTRAK TRACK
- EXISTING CSX TRACK
- PHASE 1 TRACK CONSTRUCTION
- ACCESS ROAD
- CLEAR POINT
- PHASE 1 BUILDING DEMOLITION
- PROPOSED BUILDING LOCATION
- LOCOMOTIVE
- PASSENGER CAR

Information Item 10B
MIDDAY STORAGE – PHASE 2

- Accommodates forecast long-term growth (beyond 2030)
- Promotes continued shared use with Amtrak
- Includes storage at two locations

Schedule
- Property Acquisition 2021-2023 as part of Phase I
- Subsequent design and construction dependent on future demands and service
STAGE 3: COACH YARD PHASE 2
STAGE 4: NY AVE. PHASE 2

LEGEND
- EXISTING AMTRAK / YARD TRACK
- EXISTING CSXT TRACK
- PHASE 2 TRACK CONSTRUCTION
- ACCESS ROAD
- CLEAR POINT
- LOCOMOTIVE
- PASSENGER CAR

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
## SUMMARY OF MIDDAY STORAGE CAPACITY

### EXISTING STORAGE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>CONSISTS</th>
<th>LOCOMOTIVES</th>
<th>PASSENGER CARS</th>
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### STORAGE CAPACITY

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<td><strong>STAGE 1 (SHORT-TERM) SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>STAGE 3 (LONG-TERM) SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
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CROSSROADS – NEAR-TERM EXPANSION

Future AEW Building

Planned Yard Expansion

Proposed LOU Facility

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
CROSSROADS – NEAR-TERM EXPANSION

- Accommodates forecast near-term (2030) growth
- Schedule
  - LOU Construction set to begin, complete 2023
  - Real estate acquisition complete
  - Concept Design of expanded yard complete
  - Expansion Preliminary Engineering est. complete 2021
- Construction complete prior to delivery of new equipment
- Future AEW Building concept design complete, Preliminary Engineering and Construction not yet funded
### Existing Conditions

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO. TRACKS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Trains Stored</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Storage Requirement (Locomotive + Coach)</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storage Capacity (Locomotive + Coach)</td>
<td>74</td>
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### Near-Term Capacity

<table>
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<td>NO. TRACKS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Trains Stored</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Storage Requirement (Locomotive + Coach)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storage Capacity (Locomotive + Coach)</td>
<td>84</td>
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</table>
BROAD RUN – NEAR-TERM EXPANSION

- Accommodates forecast near-term (2030) growth
- Preserves opportunities for future expansion of storage capacity
- Schedule
  - Preliminary Engineering complete
  - Real estate acquisition underway
  - Final Design est. complete 2022
  - Construction est. complete 2024
- Construction complete prior to delivery of new equipment
- Final design will be coordinated with Transforming Rail in Virginia service planning
Public Comment

Gary Skinner
VRE Operations Board Chairman
Spotsylvania County
Board Member Comment

Walter Alcorn
Fairfax County

Andrea Bailey
Prince William County

Preston Banks
Manassas Park

Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Alexandria

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

Gary Snellings
Stafford County

Dan Storck
Fairfax County

James Walkinshaw
Fairfax County
VRE OPERATIONS BOARD CLOSED SESSION

September 18, 2020

The livestream will recommence following this portion of the meeting.
The meeting has adjourned.

The VRE Legislative Committee meeting will begin momentarily.
Draft 2021 Legislative Agenda

State Funding and Legislative Issues

COVID-19 Pandemic Response
Monitor legislative proposals in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that would impact VRE’s operations.

Support efforts to maintain state funding support of Public Transportation in general, and VRE specifically, as the Commonwealth deals with the fiscal impact of the pandemic.

State Capital Funding
Support Secretary of Transportation/Department of Rail and Public Transportation on a coordinated funding plan using state and federal funds for the Long Bridge expansion project and other Transforming Rail in Virginia projects.

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Funding
Support actions by NVTA and others to fully restore funding for NVTA.

Virginia Transit Association (VTA)
Monitor VTA and others’ proposals to increase funding for public transportation and create programs that will increase ridership.

Transportation Authorities
Monitor proposals to create transportation authorities that would include VRE jurisdictions.
Draft 2021 Legislative Agenda

Federal Funding and Legislative Issues

*Surface Transportation Reauthorization*
VRE will partner with industry stakeholders and associations to advocate for robust funding levels and appropriate policies to support commuter rail and mass transit.

*Surface Transportation Board (STB) Authority*
Educate Congress and the Administration on the imperative of preserving STB’s jurisdiction over VRE, and other common carrier commuter railroads.

Monitor industry, Congressional, and Administration’s efforts affecting the ability of VRE, and similar commuter railroads, to seek relief from the STB when negotiating with Amtrak.

*Amtrak On-Time-Performance (OTP)*
Monitor Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration’s joint efforts to develop OTP metrics and measurements which will then be enforced by the STB.

*Liability Insurance Reform*
VRE will coordinate with APTA and other stakeholders to investigate potential liability insurance reforms, with the goal of producing research on possible legislative and regulatory solutions to the industries current struggles with attaining sufficient insurance to meet regulatory mandates and the increasing cost of doing so.

-continued-
Draft 2021 Legislative Agenda

Federal Funding and Legislative Issues

COVID-19 Relief
Monitor, and as appropriate, advocate for Congressional and Administration support for commuter rail and mass transit as the industry manages the impacts of COVID-19.

Federal Grant Programs
Work with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Virginia’s Congressional delegation, relevant congressional committees, and regional stakeholders to educate and secure Administration and Congressional support for discretionary grant applications submitted by VRE, or with VRE as a key partner.

U.S. DOT Rulemaking
VRE will track and comment on proposed guidance, rulemakings, or requests for comment from U.S. DOT helping to advance regulatory reforms applicable to VRE’s operations and Capital Improvement Program.