



# VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2024

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

Meeting materials are available at  
[vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2024/January](https://vre.org/about/board/board-agenda-minutes/2024/January)

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



# ROLL CALL



Sarah Bagley  
Alexandria



Andrea Bailey  
Prince William County



Meg Bohmke  
Stafford County



Margaret Franklin  
Prince William County



Monica Gary  
Stafford County



Tom Gordy  
Prince William County



Lori Hayes  
Spotsylvania County



Jannan Holmes  
Fredericksburg



Takis Karantonis  
Arlington County



Mike McLaughlin  
Commonwealth of Virginia



Alanna Mensing  
Manassas Park



Ralph Smith  
Manassas



Dan Storck  
Fairfax County



James Walkinshaw  
Fairfax County

# SAFETY MOMENT



# APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Safety Moment
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from the December 15, 2023 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 a GEC VIII Task Order for Final Design Services for Alexandria Station Improvements
  - B. Authorization to Amend the GEC VIII Task Order for Engineering Support for the Crossroads MSF Employee Parking Project
  - C. Authorization to Amend the Contract for Final Design Services for the VRE Crystal City Station Improvements Project
  - D. Adoption of the 2024 VRE Operations Board Meeting Schedule
  - E. Recommend Authorization to Submit USDOT FY2024 RAISE Grant Application
10. Information Items
  - A. Spending Authority Report
  - B. System Plan 2050 Update Status Report
11. Operations Board Members' Time



# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**December 15, 2023**

Meeting with YouTube Livestream

**Members Present**

Sarah Bagley (NVTC)  
Andrea Bailey (PRTC)  
Meg Bohmke (PRTC)  
Margaret Franklin (PRTC)  
Monica Gary (PRTC)  
Lori Hayes (PRTC)  
Takis Karantonis (NVTC)  
Michael McLaughlin (VPRA)  
Alanna Mensing (PRTC)  
Dan Storck (NVTC)  
James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

**Members Absent**

Matt Kelly (PRTC)  
Jeanine Lawson (PRTC)  
Ralph Smith (PRTC)

**Jurisdiction**

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

**Jurisdiction**

City of Fredericksburg  
Prince William County  
City of Manassas



**James Walkinshaw**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Fairfax County Supervisor



# CHAIR'S COMMENTS & INSTALLATION OF 2024 OFFICERS

- Welcome to the VRE Operations Board January meeting
- VRE's 2023 Annual Report is available at [vre.org](http://vre.org)
- 2023 highlights
- Passing of the chair's gavel



**James Walkinshaw**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Fairfax County Supervisor

# CHAIR'S COMMENTS

- Acceptance of the chair's gavel
- Preview of items of interest in coming months
- Recognition of immediate past chair's service.



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
from Stafford County





# CHAIR'S COMMENTS & INSTALLATION OF 2024 OFFICERS



Meg Bohmke, Stafford County  
Chair



Sarah Bagley, City of Alexandria  
Vice Chair



Dan Storck, Fairfax County  
Treasurer



Ralph Smith, City of Manassas  
Secretary



Andrea Bailey, Prince William County  
At-Large Representative



James Walkinshaw, Fairfax County  
Immediate Past Chair

# CHAIR'S COMMENTS - COMMITTEES

## Current Members

### Audit & Executive



Sarah Bagley



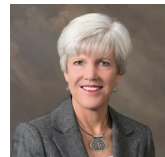
Ralph Smith



Andrea Bailey



Dan Storck



Meg Bohmke

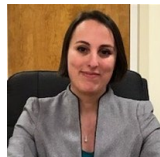


James Walkinshaw

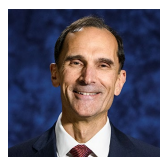
### CEO/CLO Evaluation



Andrea Bailey



Alanna Mensing



Dan Storck

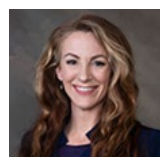
### Finance



Sarah Bagley



Meg Bohmke



Monica Gary



Dan Storck

### Legislative



Andrea Bailey



Takis Karantonis

### Nominating



Alanna Mensing



James Walkinshaw

# CEO REPORT

- **Safety**
- **Performance**
- **Ridership**
- **Events**



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# CEO REPORT – SAFETY



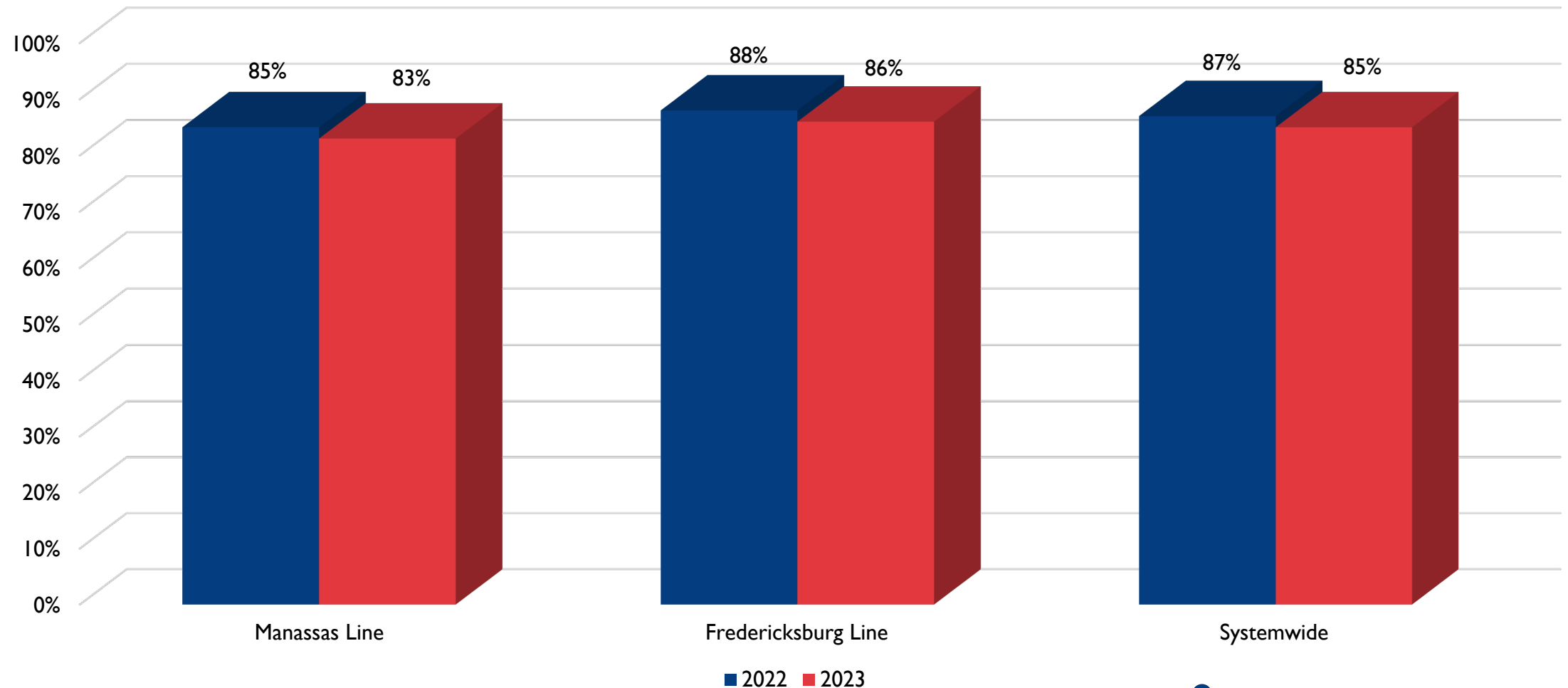
**BE PREPARED FOR  
WINTER WITH VRE**

When snow and ice hit, be sure  
to wear sensible shoes that  
do not get slippery when wet.

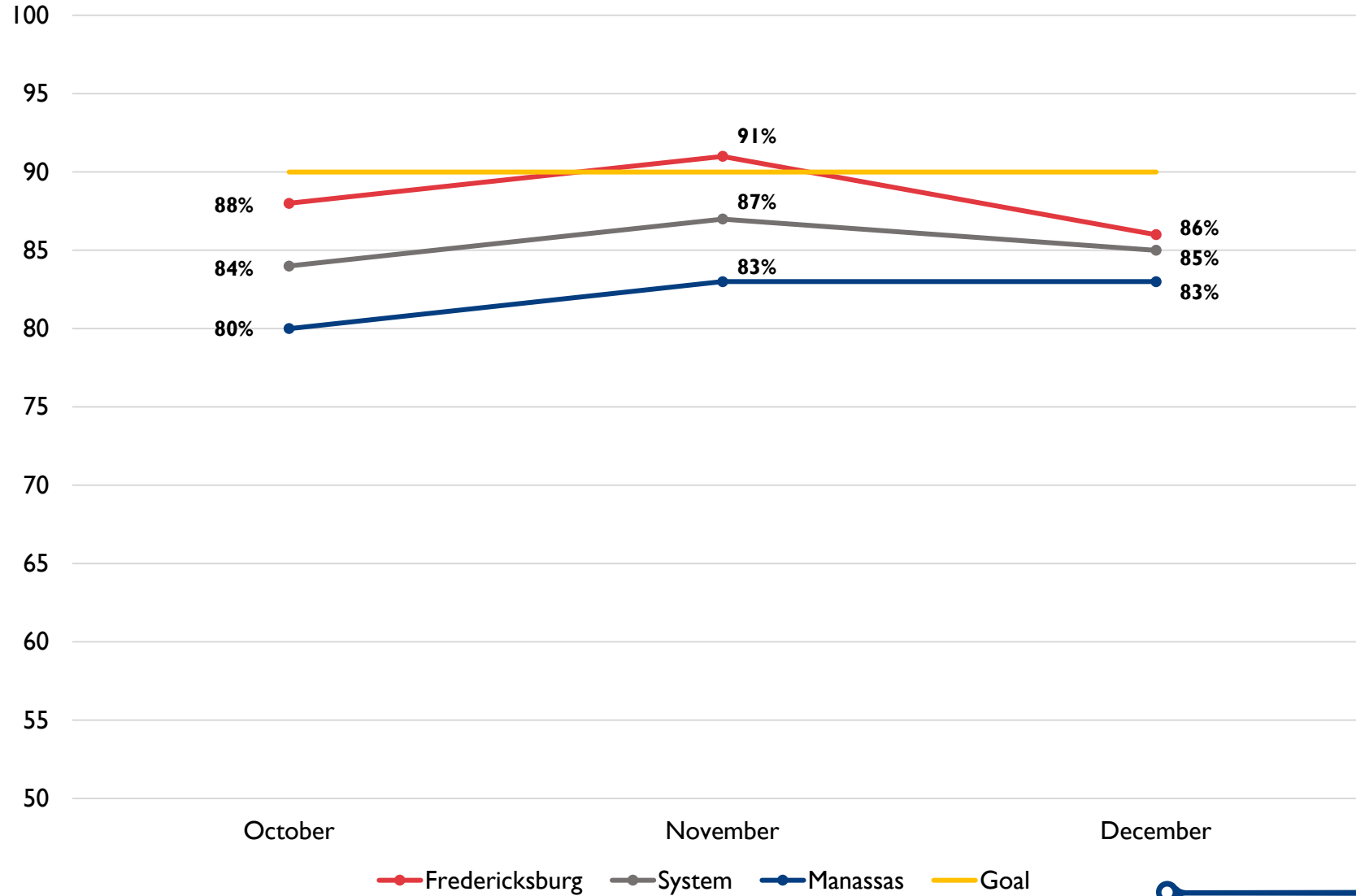


# CEO REPORT – ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

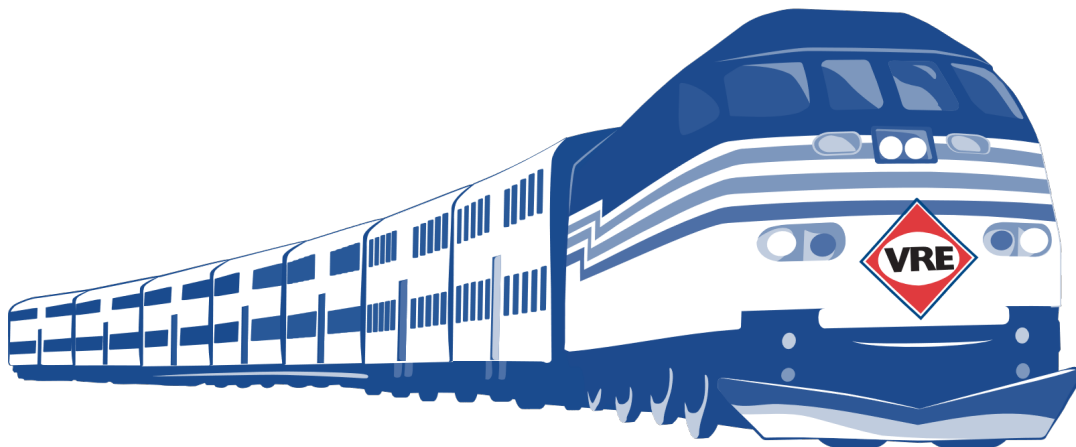
December Comparisons



# CEO REPORT – ON-TIME PERFORMANCE



# CEO REPORT – ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

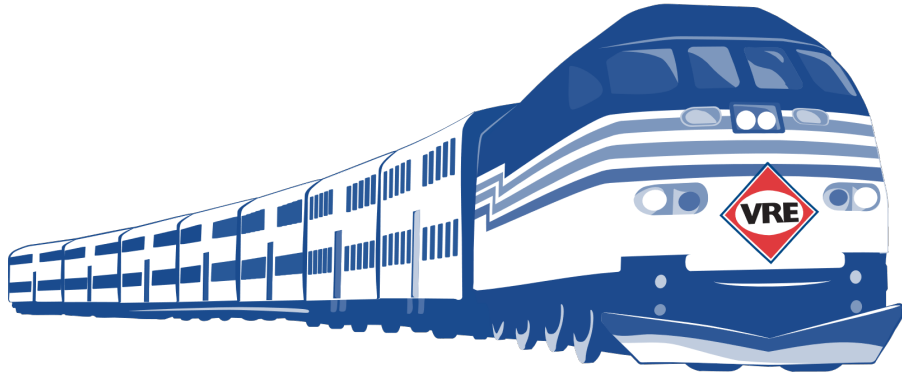


	OCT 2023	NOV 2023	DEC 2023
	21 Days	21 Days	20 Days*
<i>LATE TRAINS</i>			
Manassas	72	52	49
Fredericksburg	60	30	39
Systemwide	132	82	88
<i>AVERAGE MINUTES DELAYED</i>			
	21	16	17
<i># TRAINS 30+ MINUTES LATE</i>			
	19	13	10
<i>OTP</i>			
Manassas	80%	83%	83%
Fredericksburg	88%	91%	86%
Systemwide	84%	87%	85%

\*Includes four "S" service days



# CEO REPORT – ON-TIME PERFORMANCE



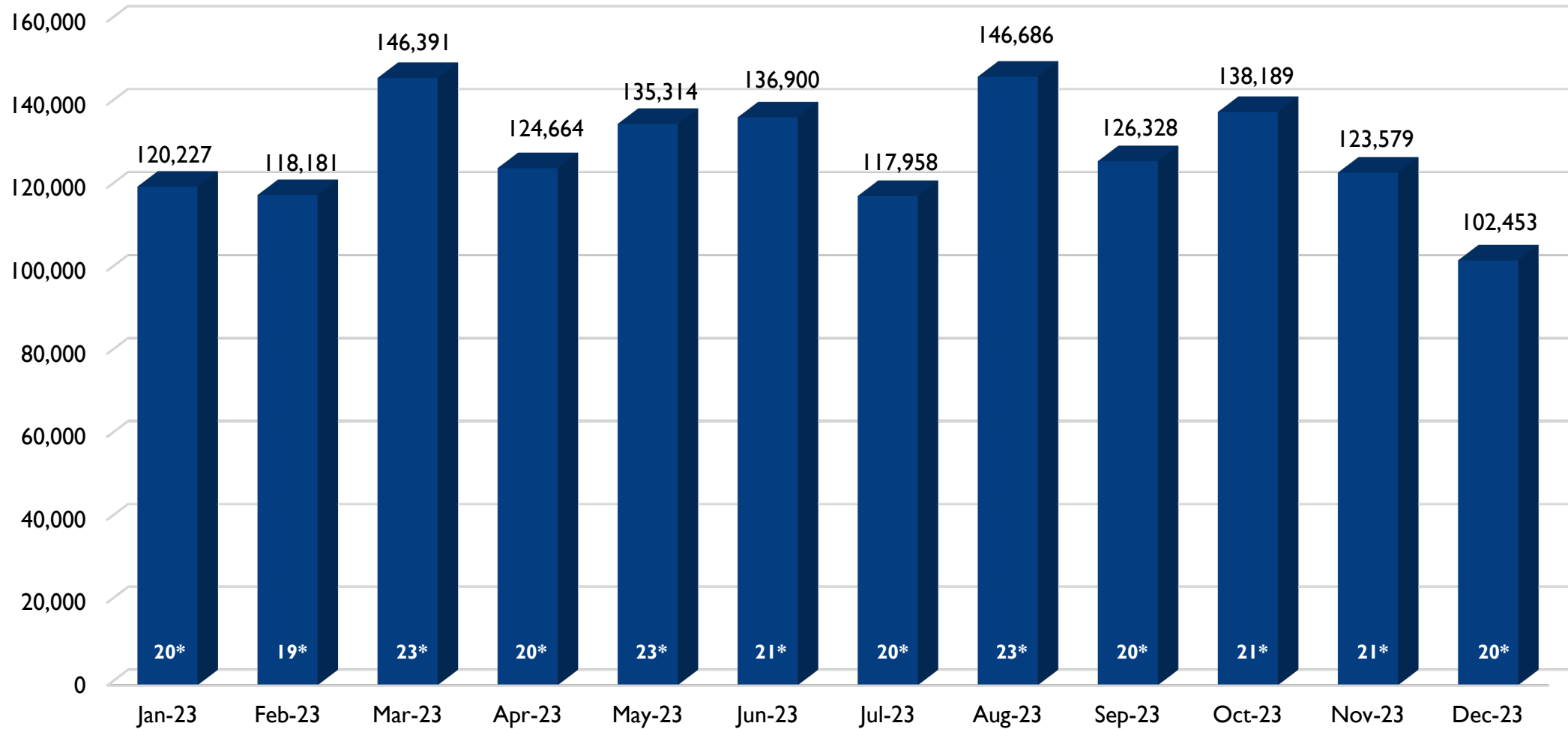
		OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL #	TOTAL %
		21 Days	21 Days	20 Days	62 Days	
CAUSE		# OF TRAINS DELAYED				
Congestion		69	51	41	161	58.3%
Switch/Signal Issue		11	6	23	40	14.5%
Dispatcher		2	9	3	14	5.1%
Police Activity		-	5*	9**	14	5.1%
Mechanical	Primary	1	2	3	6	4.0%
	Cascading	1	1	3	5	
Paperwork Issue		9	-	-	9	3.2%
Positive Train Control	Primary	7	1	-	8	2.9%
	Cascading	-	-	-	-	
Trespasser		1	4	2	7	2.5%
Leaf Oil (Wheel Slip)		5	1	-	6	2.1%
Maintenance of Way		-	1	1	2	0.7%
Crew		-	1	-	1	0.4%
Crowding		-	-	1	1	0.4%
Speed Restrictions		-	-	1	1	0.4%
Tree Strike		-	-	1	1	0.4%
<b>Total Delays</b>		<b>106</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\*3 trains, 11/7, car on tracks; 2 trains, 11/22, disabled CSX421 (fire in trash car)    \*\*2 trains, 12/08, vehicle strike; 1 train, 12/18, car on tracks; 2 trains, 12/27, vehicle strike; 3 trains, 12/28, car on tracks



# CEO REPORT – MONTHLY RIDERSHIP

Exclusive of Boardings at Alexandria and Crystal City

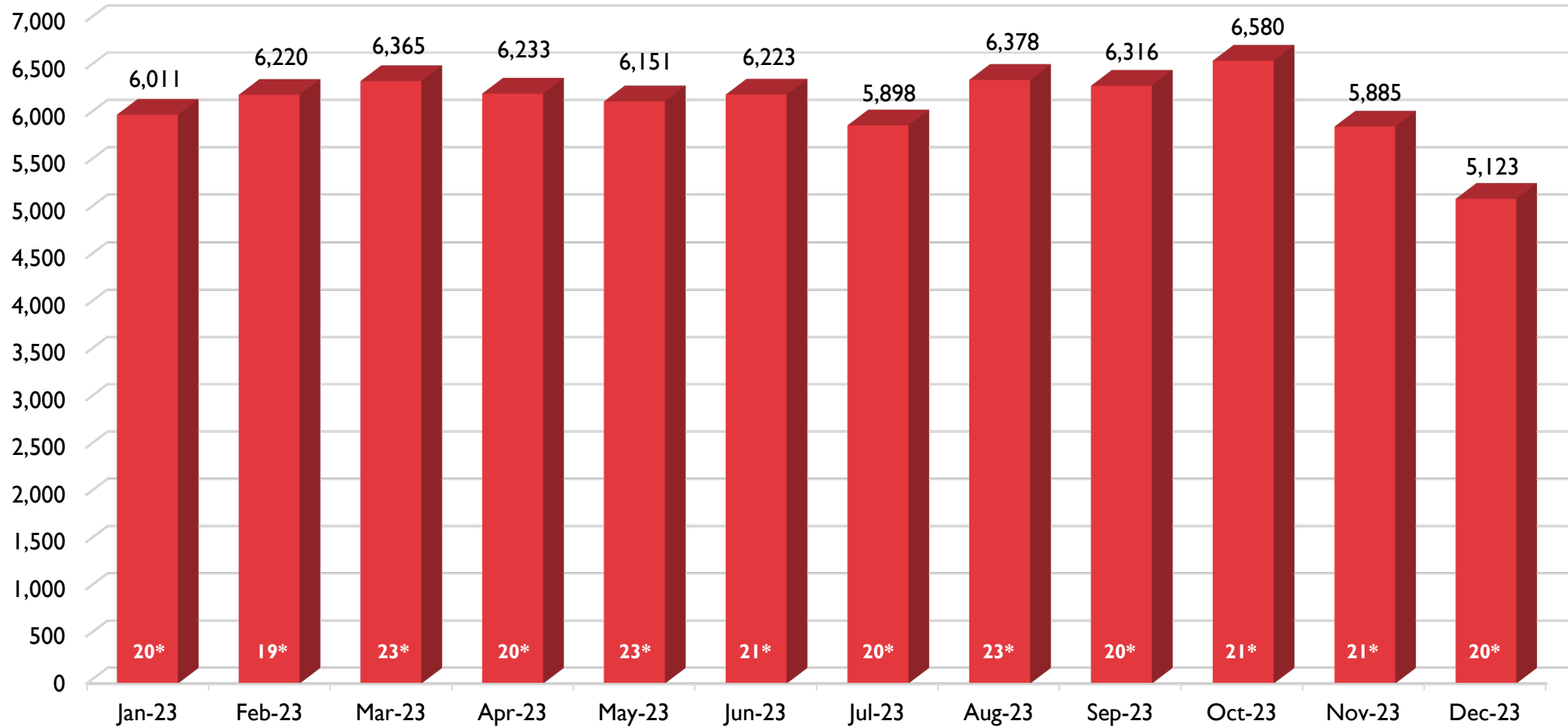


\*service days per month



# CEO REPORT – AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

Exclusive of Boardings at Alexandria and Crystal City



\*service days per month



# CEO REPORT – COMMENTS



# VRE RIDERS' & PUBLIC COMMENT



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
from Stafford County



# AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A GEC VIII TASK ORDER FOR FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR ALEXANDRIA STATION IMPROVEMENTS

## Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to issue a general engineering consulting services (GEC) VIII task order to HDR Engineering, Inc. for final design services for Alexandria station improvements in the amount of \$532,000, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$53,200, for a total not to exceed \$585,200.

## Summary:

This project will remove the existing at-grade pedestrian crossing of two tracks and construct major renovations to provide access, compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to both the east and west platforms at the Alexandria station. The scope for this task order includes final design services as required to incorporate design revisions associated with the King Street and Commonwealth Avenue bridge replacements, and advance to 100% complete plans, technical specifications, pre-construction documents, and cost estimates that will be used to develop a future invitation for bids for construction.



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Stafford County Supervisor



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE GEC VIII TASK ORDER FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR THE CROSSROADS MSF EMPLOYEE PARKING PROJECT

## Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to amend the current general engineering consulting services (GEC) VIII task order with HDR Engineering, Inc. for engineering support for the Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) Employee Parking Project in the amount of \$284,000, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$28,400, for a total increase of \$312,400. This will increase the authorization for this task order from \$715,000 to a total amount not to exceed \$1,027,400.

## Summary:

Recent construction at the Crossroads MSF has placed employee parking in a temporary lot well away from prior and future construction activities. VRE intends to provide a permanent parking facility for employees outside of the yard away from train movements. The scope of work for this GEC task order includes final design as required to advance the current concept design to 100% complete plans, technical specifications, pre-construction documents, and cost estimates for the proposed employee parking.



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Stafford County Supervisor



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE CONTRACT FOR FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE VRE CRYSTAL CITY STATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

## Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the CEO to amend the contract with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) for engineering and environmental services for VRE Crystal City station improvements to complete optional task A for final engineering design services in the amount of \$1,248,930, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$124,893, for a total increase of \$1,373,823. This will increase the authorization for this contract from \$2,500,844 to a total amount not to exceed \$3,874,667.

## Summary:

The intent of this proposed contract amendment is to complete optional task A, authorizing VHB to advance the 60% design package to a 90% level of design. The 90% phase will address and incorporate all comments from the 60% submittal and then progress the remaining work to the 90% design stage. This amendment will not authorize VHB to progress the design for the southern access point beyond the railroad right-of-way. If authorization to progress that element of design under this contract is desired, it will be requested separately.



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Stafford County Supervisor



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# ADOPTION OF THE 2024 VRE OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

## Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to adopt the 2024 VRE Operations Board meeting schedule.

## 2024 VRE OPERATIONS BOARD CALENDAR

MEETING LOCATION:

PRTC Boardroom  
14700 Potomac Mills Road  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Executive Committee as needed

- ∞ Finance Committee follows Board meeting adjournment
- ‡ CEO Evaluation Committee @ TBD
- Ω Audit Committee @ 8:45 am
- ◆ Legislative Committee follows Board meeting adjournment

VRE OPS BOARD MEETING	DATE	TIME	VRE OPS BOARD MEETING	DATE	TIME
JANUARY	Jan.19, 2024	9:00 am	JULY Ω ◆ ‡	Jul.19, 2024	9:00 am
FEBRUARY ∞	Feb.16, 2024	9:00 am	AUGUST	No Meeting	N/A
MARCH	Mar.15, 2024	9:00 am	SEPTEMBER ◆	Sep.20, 2024	9:00 am
APRIL	Apr.19, 2024	9:00 am	OCTOBER ∞	Oct.18, 2024	9:00 am
MAY ‡	May 17, 2024	9:00 am	NOVEMBER Ω	Nov.15, 2024	9:00 am
JUNE ∞	Jun.21, 2024	9:00 am	DECEMBER	Dec.20, 2024	9:00 am



**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Stafford County Supervisor



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO





# RECOMMEND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT USDOT FY2024 RAISE GRANT APPLICATION

## Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the commissions authorize the CEO to submit, on behalf of the commissions, an application to advance the planning and design for the at-grade-separated extension of Residency Road over the Norfolk Southern (NS) main line to the VRE Broad Run station and the NS third track extension from the Broad Run station to Wellington Rd. to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for funding consideration for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program, to make any necessary corrections to the project amount or descriptions in the application, and execute all project funding agreements that may result from consideration of the project.

## Summary:

On November 30, 2023, USDOT issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity to solicit applications for the RAISE program. VRE staff have identified a project to extend Residency Road across the NS mainline tracks to improve access and resiliency at the VRE Broad Run station and add a third main track to expand railroad capacity between the Broad Run and Manassas stations. If authorized, USDOT RAISE planning grant funding will be used for the planning, development, and preliminary design phases of the project.



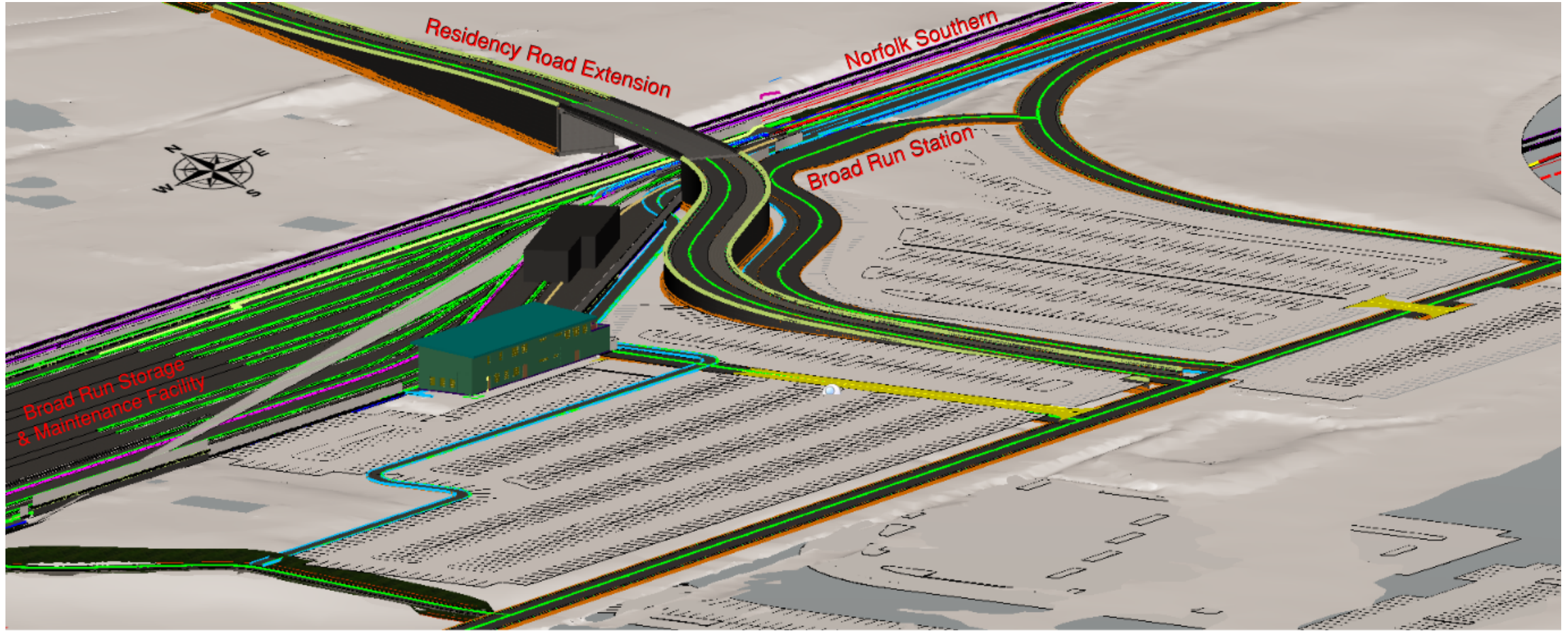
**Meg Bohmke**  
VRE Operations Board Chair  
& Stafford County Supervisor



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# RECOMMEND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT USDOT FY2024 RAISE GRANT APPLICATION



# SPENDING AUTHORITY REPORT

On September 18, 2020, the VRE Operations Board approved increasing 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 December 6, 2023, VRE issued a purchase order to Computer Aid, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$53,716, utilizing a cooperative contract established by the Commonwealth of Virginia for IT contingent labor, to obtain technical support services on an as-needed basis to include analysis, troubleshooting and repairs to IT systems, hardware, and computer peripherals.
- On December 7, 2023, VRE issued a task order in an amount not to exceed \$170,024 to Hill International, Inc. under the program management consulting services contract to provide program management support for the Alexandria Station Improvements project. For this assignment Hill will be responsible for reviewing the plans and specifications for the station improvements as well as the King and Commonwealth bridges being prepared by HDR to identify any potential errors, omissions, and anomalies. Hill will also conduct a constructability review, analyze the construction cost estimates and schedules, and monitor the permitting processes.



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO



# SPENDING AUTHORITY REPORT - CONTINUED

- On December 7, 2023, VRE issued a task order in an amount not to exceed \$168,142 to Hill International, Inc. under the program management consulting services contract to provide program management support for the Crystal City Station Improvements project. Hill will be responsible for reviewing the plans and specifications for the station improvements being prepared by VHB to identify any potential errors, omissions, and anomalies. This task order also includes a constructability review, analysis of the construction cost estimate and schedule as well as monitoring of the permitting processes.
- On December 23, 2023, VRE issued a task order in the amount of \$62,642 to U.S. Facilities, Inc. under the Maintenance services for VRE facilities contract to complete steel repairs to the handrails, posts and mounting plates at the Backlick Road station.
- On December 23, 2023, VRE issued a task order in the amount of \$55,125 to U.S. Facilities, Inc. under the maintenance services for VRE facilities contract to complete steel repairs to the handrails, posts, and mounting plates at the Burke Centre station.



**Rich Dalton**  
VRE CEO





# SYSTEM PLAN 2050 PROGRESS UPDATE

Nick Ruiz, AICP  
January 19, 2024



# System Plan Phasing and Work to-Date

## Phase I June – December 2022

- Initiated coordination with peer agencies and stakeholders
- Set the System Plan 2050 Vision and Goals
- Evaluated ridership trends and potential new markets
- Began identifying Phase II work products

## Phase II January – October 2023

- Developed near-term 2030 service alternatives
- Sought feedback from the public, riders, and stakeholder agencies
- Refined 2030 Board-Recommended alternative
- Provided cost/funding information
- Received Board recommendation to select Alternative A-C Hybrid as 2030 Baseline service plan

## Phase III October 2023 – April 2024

- Select and analyze impacts and benefits of 2050 Service Vision
- Develop an implementation strategy for 2050 service
- Pop-up events to solicit feedback on draft 2050 service concepts
- Present 2050 Vision to Board and seek adoption
- Prepare public-facing Plan materials to promote 2050 Vision

# RE-CAP OF PHASE II CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Reviewed 2030 Board-Recommended Service Alternative**
- 2. Discussed significant capital and operating funding gaps present by 2030**
  - \$33M Operating funding gap
  - \$426M Capital funding gap
- 3. Reviewed balancing train trips with midday storage needs at WAS (space for 13 trains)**
- 4. 68 additional railcars and 7 locomotives required by 2030 = \$274.3M (YOE\$) Unfunded**
- 5. Discussed what moves the needle on ridership by 2030**
  - Natural growth in population and employment
  - Adding outer-zone express trains
  - Full weekend service
  - Amtrak Step-Up ticket program and schedule coordination

# System Plan 2050 Vision

VRE will grow to serve the region as the transportation service of choice, creating meaningful connections and economic opportunities in a safe, sustainable, and equitable manner.



# 2050 System Plan Goals



1. Safety and Reliability



2. Market Growth and Financial Stability



3. Regional System Integration and Equitable Service

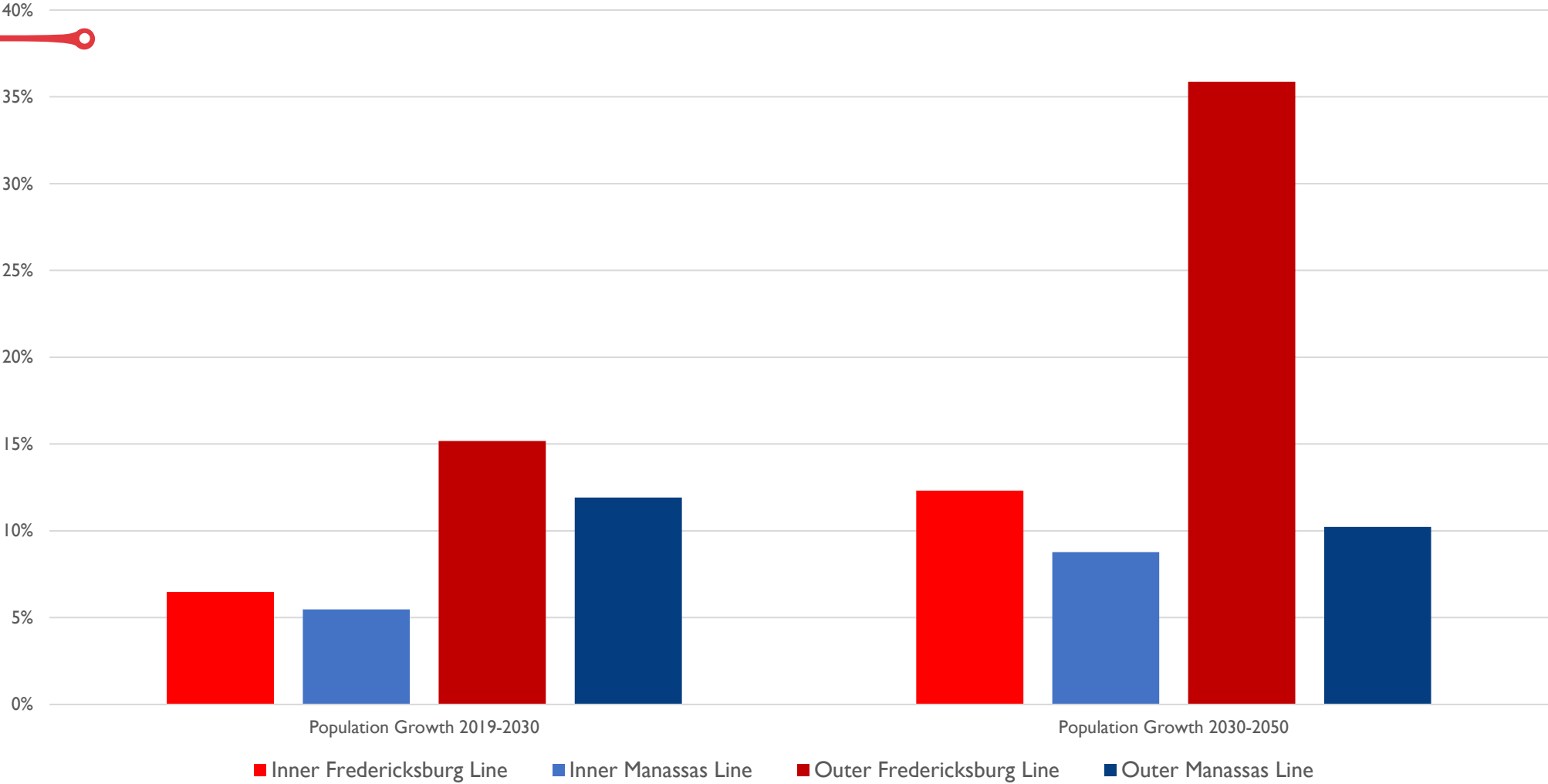


4. Sustainability and Resiliency

# Phase II Feedback Summary

	Current Ridership Numbers	Stable Funding	Improved Reliability	Enhanced Connections to Stations	Express Service (Shorter Trips)	Expanded Service Area	Match Service Levels to Demand / Forecasts	Expanded Weekday Service Options (Non-Peak, Reverse Service)	Weekend Service
Member Jurisdiction Transportation Staff	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Non-Member Jurisdictions				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Partner Agencies	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
VRE Board Members	✓	✓					✓	✓	
General Public		✓	✓		✓				
Current VRE Riders					✓			✓	✓
Lapsed VRE Riders			✓		✓				

# Population Growth Projections



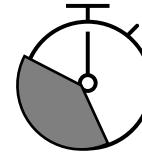
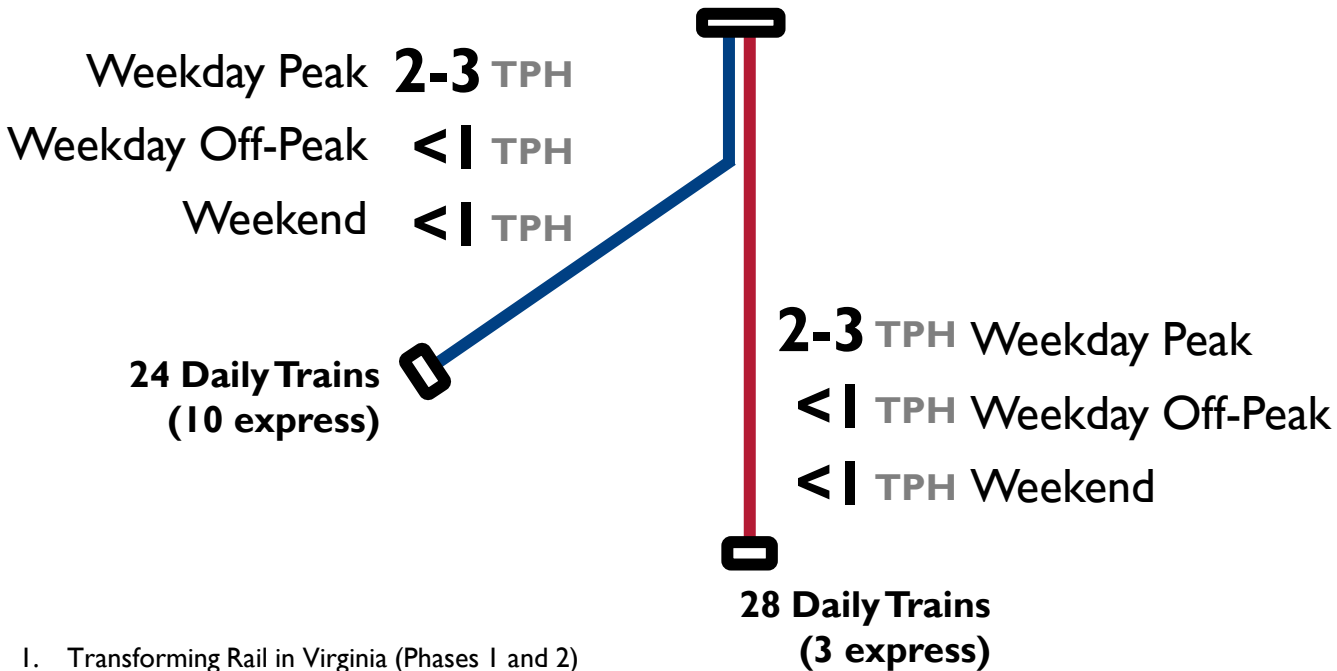
1: FBG Line Outer Stations: Spotsylvania, Fredericksburg, Leeland Road, Brooke, MSS Line Outer Stations: Broad Run, Manassas, Manassas Park  
 2: FBG Line Inner Stations: Quantico, Rippon, Woodbridge, Lorton, Franconia, MSS Line Inner Stations: Burke Centre, Rolling Rd., Backlick Rd.



# 2030 Board-Recommended Service

## Alternative A-C – TRV<sup>1</sup> Baseline Enhanced

Align operations to constrained midday storage capacity of **13** consists



20-30 Headways in Peak Periods/Peak Directions (AM & PM)<sup>2</sup>

Average Headways	Manassas	Fredericksburg
AM Peak/Direction <sup>2</sup>	21-22 minutes	21-22 minutes
PM Peak/Direction <sup>2</sup>	28 minutes	19 minutes
AM Reverse Peak	55 minutes (2 trains)	30 minutes (3 trains)
PM Reverse Peak	120 minutes (3 trains)	44 minutes (2 trains)
Mid-Day	2 trains SB/ 0 trains NB	2 trains SB / 0 trains NB
Late Night	2 trains SB / 0 trains NB	2 trains SB / 1 train NB

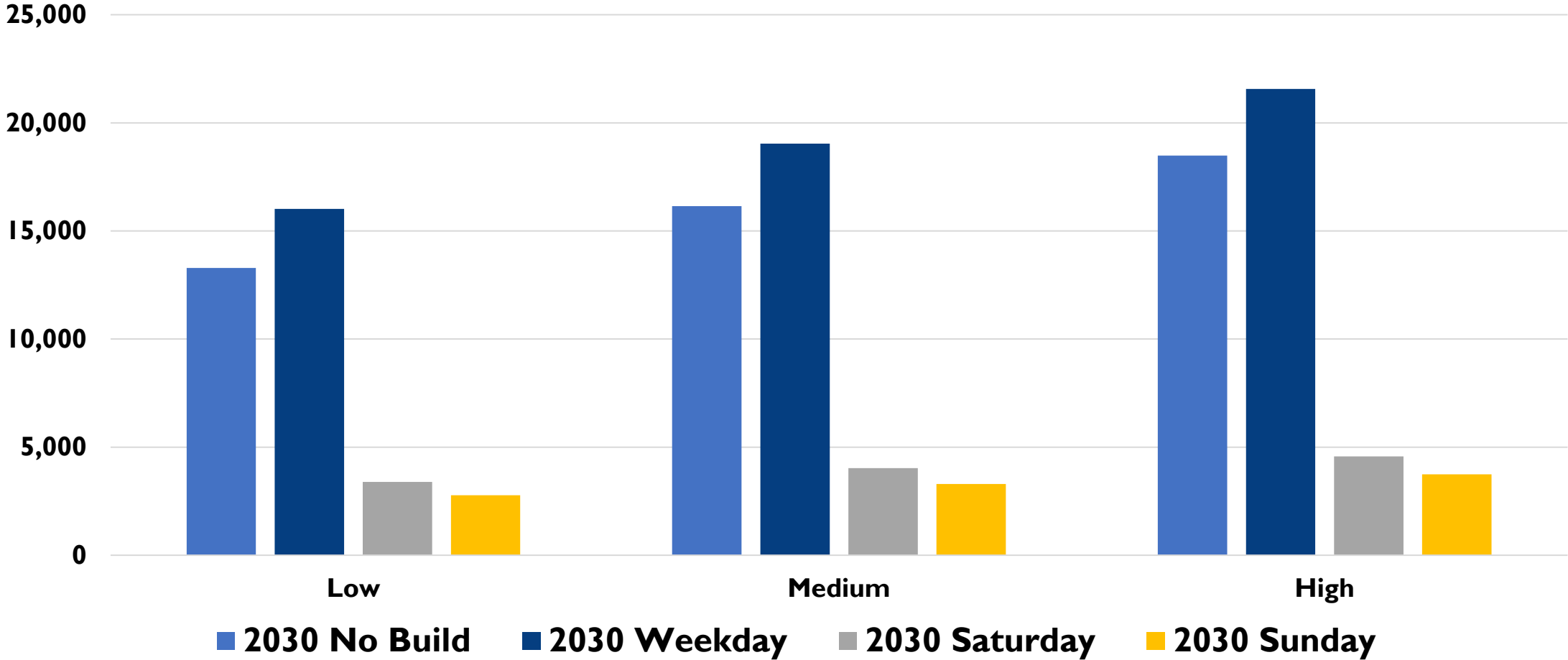
Weekend Freqs. <sup>3</sup>	Manassas	Fredericksburg
NB Direction	6 trains	7 trains
SB Direction	6 trains	7 trains

1. Transforming Rail in Virginia (Phases 1 and 2)  
 2. When Amtrak Svc. Included  
 3. Weekend Svc. subject to adtl. agreements

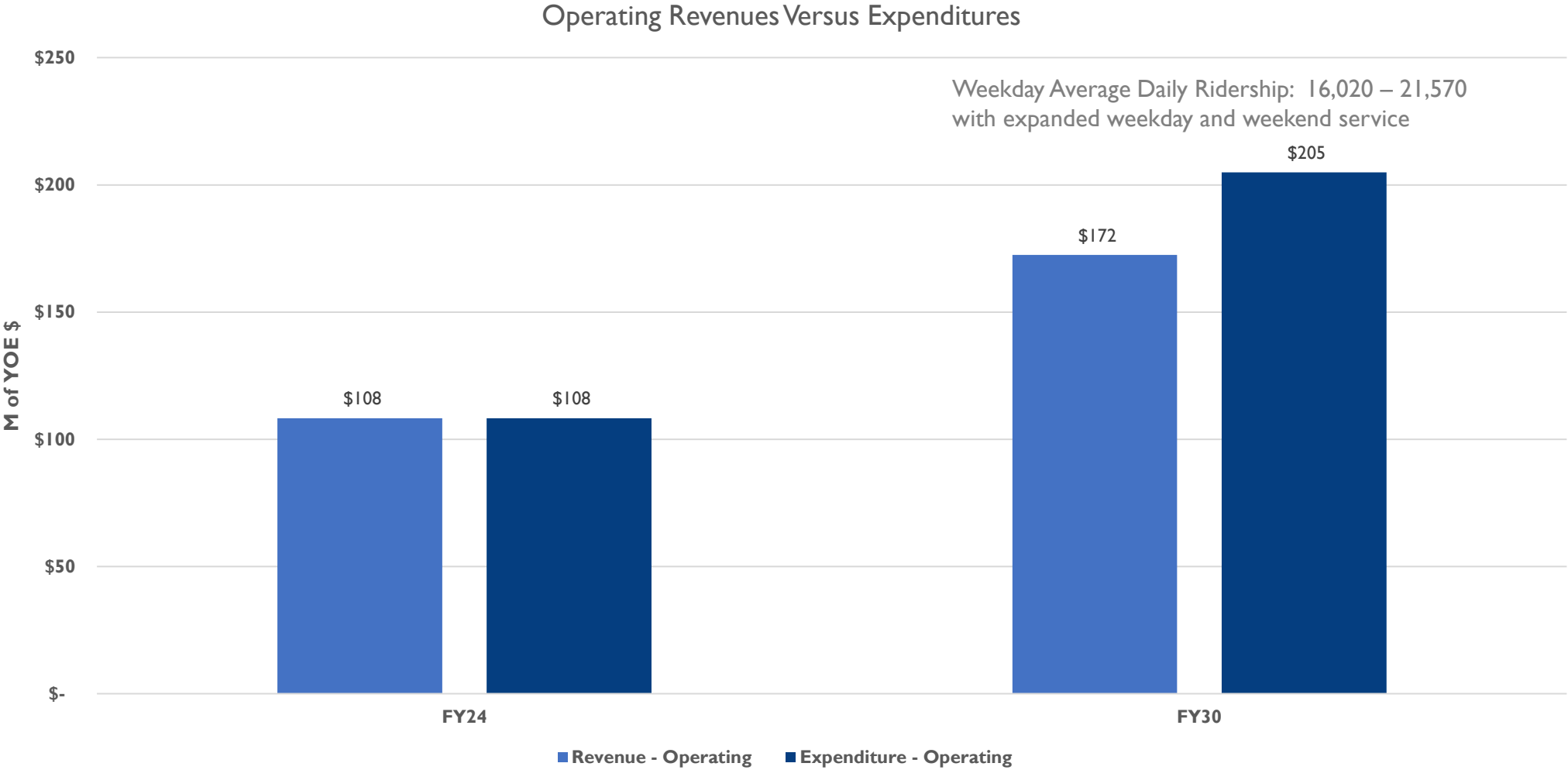


# 2030 Forecasts

## Average Daily Boardings



# Revenue vs. Expenditure

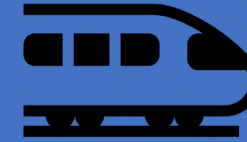


LOOKING AHEAD TO  
2050

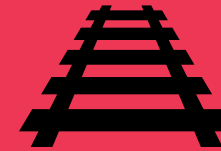


# "Philosophical Questions"

Service



Infrastructure



Financial



Role of Rail  
Service  
Providers



Governance



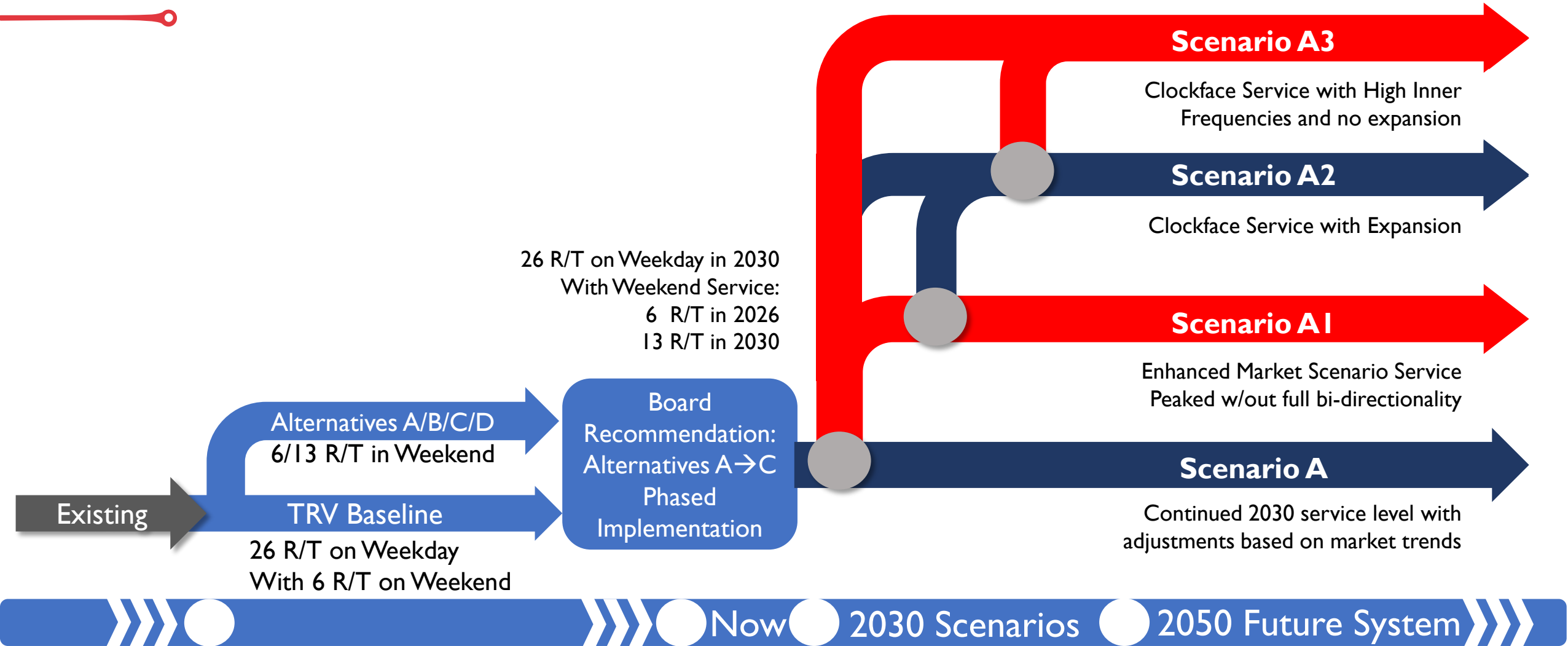
Organizational  
Change and  
Identity



VRE



# Growing from 2030 to 2050



# THANK YOU

We are looking forward to presenting you  
with the Draft Plan in March!



# OPERATIONS BOARD MEMBERS' TIME



Sarah Bagley  
Alexandria



Andrea Bailey  
Prince William County



Meg Bohmke  
Stafford County



Margaret Franklin  
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Fairfax County



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Fairfax County



**THE JANUARY 19, 2024 MEETING OF THE  
VRE OPERATIONS BOARD HAS  
CONCLUDED**



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

