



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
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PRESS RELEASE

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VRE to Offer New Fare Products

7-Day and 31-Day Passes to Provide Greater Value and Flexibility

Alexandria, Va. – Convenient, flexible and economical, two new Virginia Railway Express fare passes are designed with the rider in mind. The 7-Day and 31-Day passes give riders the freedom to validate tickets as needed and eliminate sometimes confusing rules associated with the products they will replace on VRE Mobile. As their names indicate, the new passes will be available for seven or 31 consecutive calendar days.

The cost of the 7-Day and 31-Day passes, which go on sale later this fall, will be the same as the current 5-Day pass, which is being phased out, and Monthly pass, which will only be available as a paper ticket. The 31-Day pass will be available exclusively on VRE Mobile. The 7-Day pass will be available on VRE Mobile and as a paper ticket.

“Improving the passenger experience is a priority at VRE,” said Rich Dalton, the commuter railroad’s deputy CEO and chief operating officer. “These new passes not only give riders more options but can save them money as well.”

The cost savings associated with a 31-Day pass stem from its flexibility. Monthly pass holders often find themselves unable to take advantage of Free Ride Certificates. By delaying the validation of a 31-Day pass, riders could use the certificates. Passengers who go on vacation could time the validation of the 31-Day pass to meet their traveling needs. The change also opens the possibility of joint fare products with regional partners.

The move to the new passes will not adversely affect riders’ use of transit benefits. While those funds become available on the first day of the month, they do not have to be immediately expended. Riders wishing to purchase a 31-Day pass when their transit benefits become available can do so and wait to validate the pass until they need it. The pass may be validated any time within one year of purchase and will expire 31 calendar days following validation.

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The 12th largest commuter rail service in the U.S., VRE is a transportation partnership of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission. VRE's mission is to provide safe, cost effective, accessible, reliable, convenient, and customer responsive commuter-oriented passenger rail service. The 4.5 million rides the railroad provides annually in Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. remove some 100 million vehicle miles from the region's interstates. Learn more at www.vre.org.

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