January 2023

## Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Michael McLaughlin, Chief Operating Officer



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## Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

- Created in 2020 by the General Assembly
- Given all powers necessary for carrying out its statutory purposes:
  - Manage passenger rail in Virginia
  - Design, build, finance, and maintain rail facilities
  - Direct recipient of USDOT Grants
- VPRA has acquired, or will soon acquire, approximately 400 miles of railroad right-of-way in rail corridors along I-95, I-64, I-85, and I-81.
- Partners with Amtrak and VRE to operate passenger and commuter rail service
- Governed by a 15-Member Board
  - Board members are appointed by the Governor
  - Chaired by the Director of the Department of Rail
    and Public Transportation



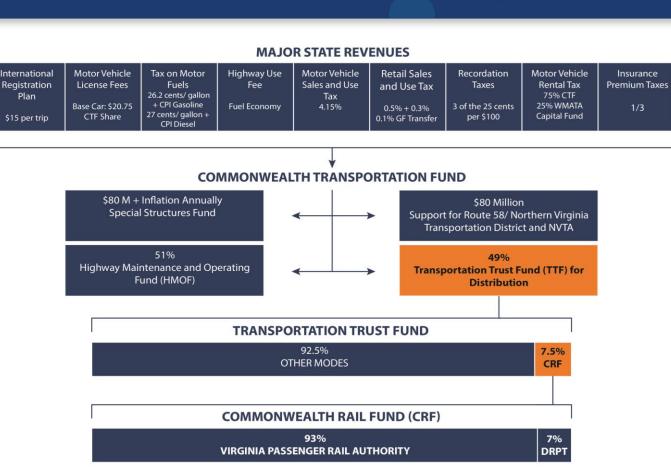


#### **Commonwealth Transportation Fund**

Plan

\$15 per trip

- In 2020, the General Assembly restructured the transportation funding system to ensure Virginia has a sustainable, statewide transportation funding model
- A unified Commonwealth Transportation Fund was created to invest in multimodal transportation
- Advanced the implementation of Transforming Rail and Virginia's agreement with CSX

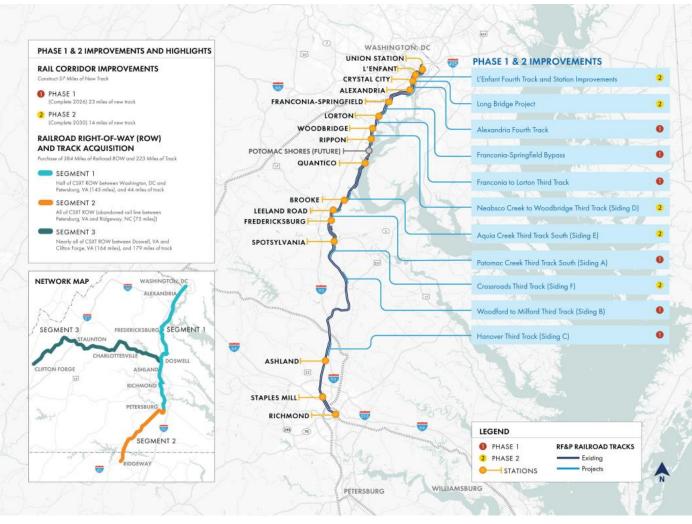


	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	Total
VPRA (93%)	\$184.4	\$158.4	\$165.3	\$168.3	\$171.4	174.3	\$1,022.1



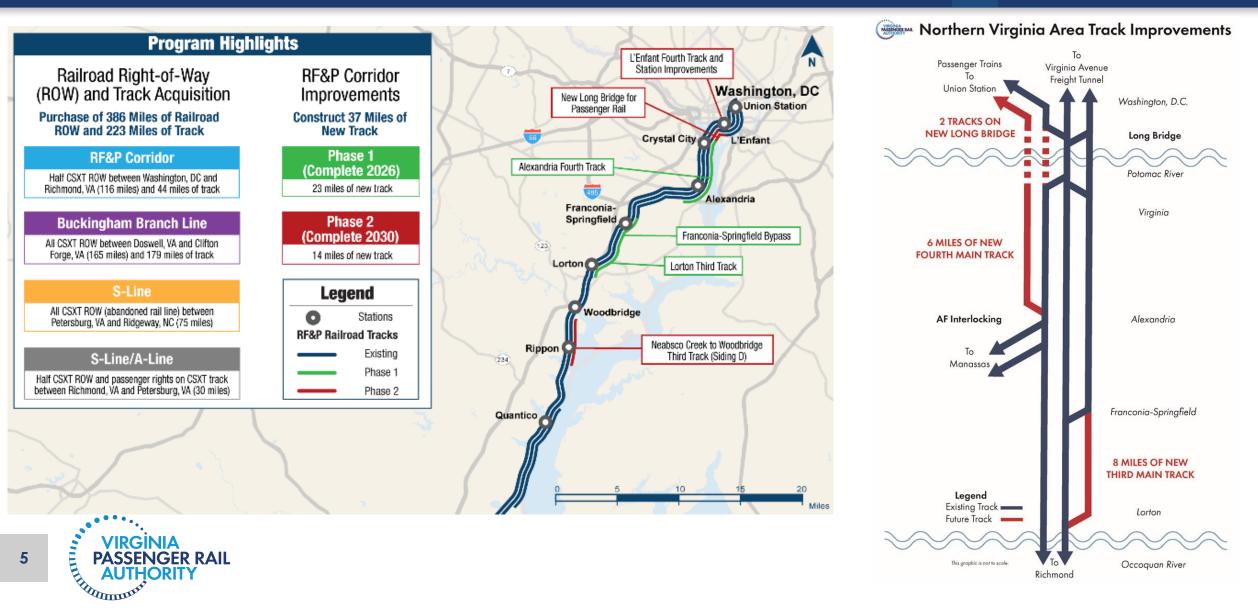
# Transforming Rail in Virginia - CSX Agreement

- Historic agreement between the Commonwealth and CSX Transportation. Initiated in 2019
- Included acquisition and infrastructure.
- Virginia purchased half of the DC to Petersburg (RF&P - Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Corridor) rightof-way, allowing Virginia to construct a dedicated 2-track passenger corridor.
- Full acquisition of the Buckingham Branch from Doswell to Clifton Forge.
- Acquisition of CSX property along the abandoned S-Line from Petersburg to NC.
- Considered a national model.

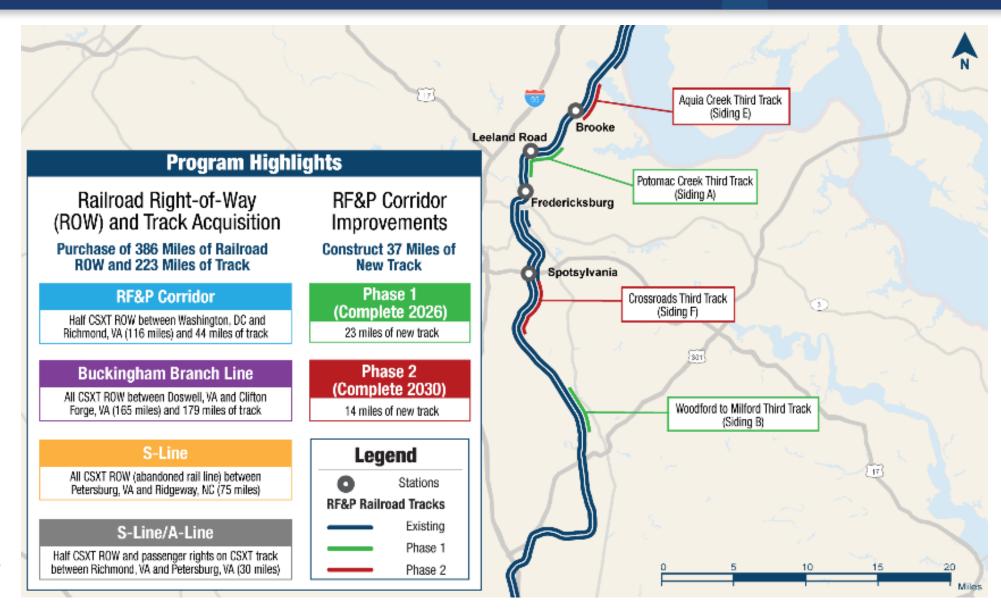




#### TRV Infrastructure Improvements from DC to Quantico



#### **TRV Infrastructure Improvements - Fredericksburg Area**





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### Long Bridge Area Overview



L'Enfant 4<sup>th</sup> (3 to 4 tracks)

Long Bridge (2 to 4 tracks)

Alexandria 4<sup>th</sup> Track (3 to 4



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#### Focus Areas – Long Bridge Park to L'Enfant Station

- 1. Long Bridge Park to Mt. Vernon Trail
- 2. Potomac River Crossings
- 3. WMATA Tunnel Portal & I-395 Crossings
- 4. I-395 to Ohio Drive SW
- 5. Washington Channel to Maine Avenue
- 6. Maryland Avenue Overbuild to L'Enfant Station



## **Enhancing Capacity to Expand Service**

- Amtrak ridership at all-time highs; set record ridership beginning in June monthly records set thereafter.
- More than doubles state-supported Amtrak roundtrips from 6 to 13, with nearly hourly service from DC to Richmond.
- Adds additional VRE and Amtrak weekend and latenight service starting in 2026
- 4 new VRE Roundtrips by the end of Phase 1 and 2 additional new VRE Roundtrips by the end of Phase 2 increases VRE Service by 75% along the Fredericksburg Line.
- Provides Virginia with control and guaranteed VRE / Amtrak service.
- Allows future ability to increase VRE Manassas Line Service.

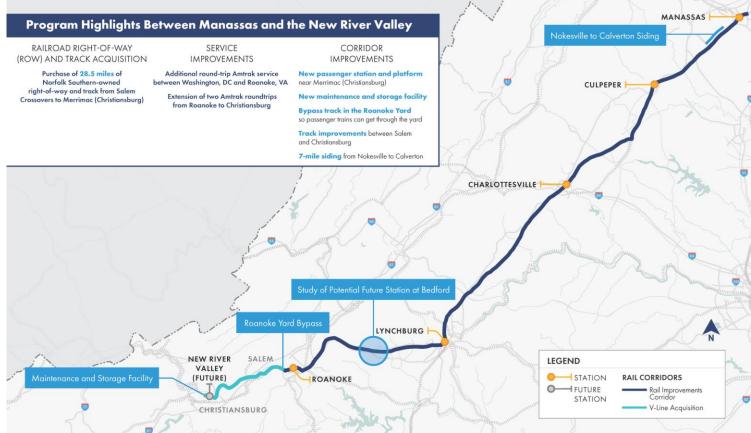




#### Western Rail Initiative: Norfolk Southern Agreement

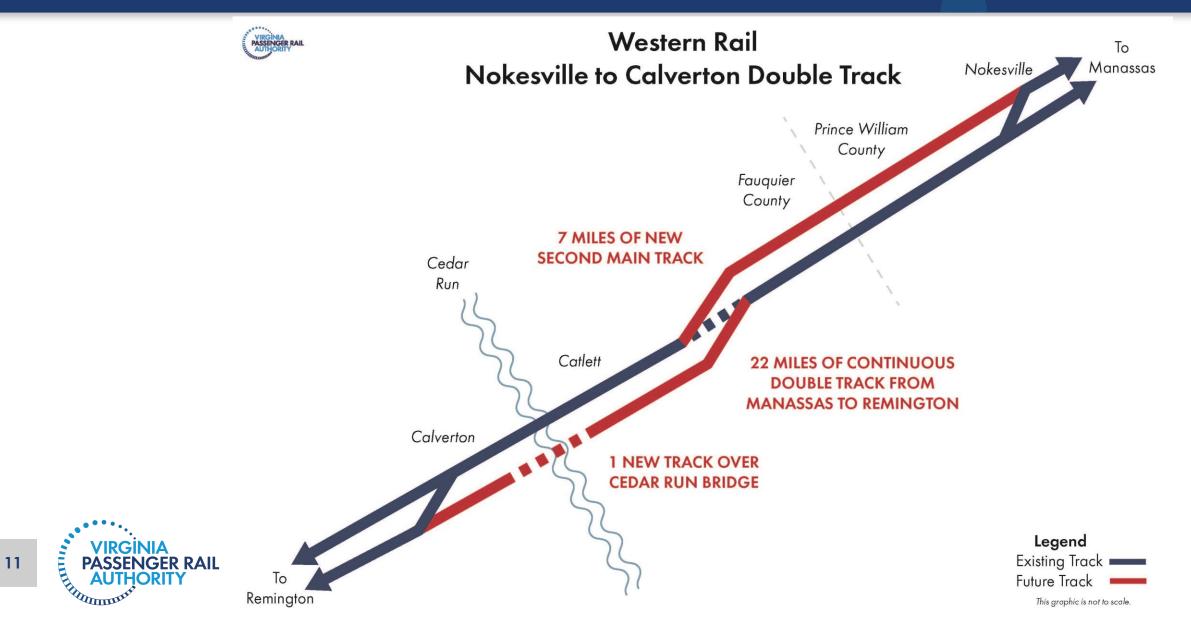
The Commonwealth's deal with Norfolk Southern was completed in 2022, resulting in the following:

- The acquisition of 28 miles of the Virginian Line from Norfolk Southern
- A second roundtrip to Roanoke
- Future expanded service to the New River Valley
  - Over \$300M worth of capital improvements
- After expansion to the New River Valley, the agreement with NS will add an estimated 80,000 net new riders to the route





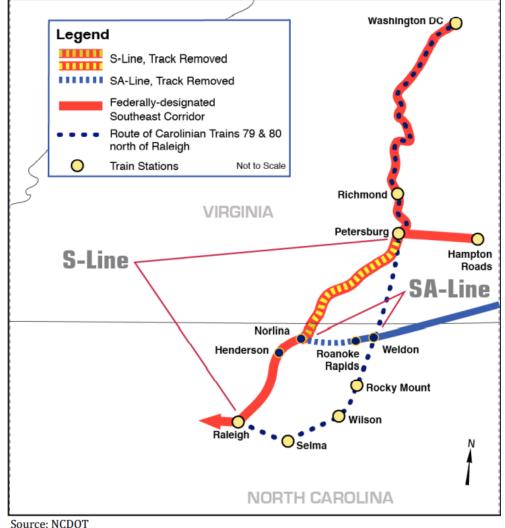
## Western Rail Infrastructure Improvements



#### **Richmond Area Improvements Benefit Whole East Coast**

#### Richmond to Raleigh: S-Line Corridor Project will allow Richmond to Raleigh Improvements

- Improving connections to Main Street will benefit travel from Norfolk and to North Carolina and the Southeast Corridor.
- Richmond to Raleigh EIS envisioned increase in train service to the southeast, with a reduction in travel time of over an hour.
- NC DOT, VPRA, and Amtrak on June 2nd received a \$58M grant from the FRA for preliminary engineering, with a total PE cost of \$95.8M.





## **Opportunities for Federal Grants**

#### **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

- \$39 Billion in new funding for public transit
  - Includes \$8B for the existing FTA Capital Investment Grant Program (applying for Long Bridge)
- \$65 Billion in new funding for passenger rail
  - Mostly discretionary grants: multiyear grant opportunities available for intercity passenger rail – provides certainty
  - VPRA actively applying for discretionary grants both for existing projects and to expedite future projects

- \$87,455,829 in Federal Funds awarded to Virginia to date
  - \$57.9 Million Richmond to Raleigh
  - \$20 Million Long Bridge Ped-Bike Bridge
  - \$6.3 Million Ettrick Station
  - \$2 Million New River Valley Station
  - \$1.2 Million Newport News Multi-Modal Transportation Center
- \$634 Million in pending applications for federal funds



## **Questions?**



