



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

December 2007

MONTHLY DELAY SUMMARY

	August 07	September 07	October 07	November-07
System wide				
Total delays	99	66	63	56
Average length of delay (mins.)	23	25	18	17.8
Number over 30 minutes	26	20	11	9
Days with Heat Restrictions/Total days	3/23	0/19	0/22	0/19
On-Time Performance	85.1%	88%	90.10%	89.80%
Fredericksburg Line				
Total delays	51	33	29	28
Average length of delay (mins.)	26	22	16	21.4
Number over 30 minutes	12	8	4	6
On-Time Performance	82.9%	86.6%	89.90%	88.70%
Manassas Line				
Total delays	48	33	34	28
Average length of delay (mins.)	20	28	20	13.8
Number over 30 minutes	14	12	7	3
On-Time Performance	86.9%	89.1%	90.30%	90.80%

SYSTEM RIDERSHIP

Ridership has increased 4.1% year-to-date from the previous year. The gains can be attributed to the steady on-time performance (OTP), now consistently around 90% for the past four months. We are continuing to watch the equipment closely to prevent any major mechanical problems. Changes in maintenance procedures and processes at both Virginia yards have been instituted to continue to mitigate mechanical failures before they occur.

The cumulative average daily ridership has climbed from 13,843 per day in August to 14,282 per day through November – a steady continuous climb. There are now 445 more passengers-per-day riding VRE today than in August.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Once again this year, needy children in the area will have a brighter holiday season due to the generosity of our riders and members of the VRE. We held our 12th Annual Toys for Tots collection on Wednesday, December 12, just a few days after our collection during our 11th Annual Operation Lifesaver Santa Trains. Between the two events, VRE passengers donated more than 3,000 toys and about \$9,500 in monetary donations and gift cards. We are proud to be one of the largest contributors to Toys for Tots in our area.

BUSH APPOINTS BOARD TO HALT AMTRAK STRIKE

President Bush appointed an emergency board on November 28th to help Amtrak settle its dispute with eight labor unions and avoid a strike. The intervention was expected, though unions have been making preparations in the event of a strike. The Railway Labor Act prevents workers from striking until federal officials determine that mediation has been unsuccessful. The National Mediation Board released the parties from mediation November 1, which triggered a 30-day cooling-off period. Under the Presidential order, the five-member emergency board will have 30 days to recommend a resolution, starting at 12:01 a.m. December 1st. Amtrak and union officials have said they expect an extension to be granted because of the holidays. The five members are Peter W. Tredick, chairman; Ira F. Jaffe; Joshua M. Javits; Annette M. Sandberg; and Helen M. Witt.

After the emergency board completes its work, the law requires another 30-day cooling-off period. Following this period, if Amtrak or the unions reject the board's recommendations, a strike can be initiated. However, Congress also can intervene to compel the parties to accept certain terms. I have been party to regular conference calls on this issue and will continue to stay abreast of any developments.

We are actively working with local transit providers to arrange or suggest alternative transportation options if a strike were to be initiated. I'll brief the Operations Board on what arrangements can be made at the January Operations Board meeting, if necessary.

SANTA TRAINS

The 2007 Operation Lifesaver Santa Trains were successfully completed on Saturday, December 8th to the delight of many happy participating children. Trains departed from Fredericksburg, Leeland, Woodbridge, Manassas, and Burke Centre. We collected approximately 1,100 toys and \$8,000 for Toys for Tots this year as part of the event.

NEW RAIL CAR UPDATE

I visited the Super Steel plant in Milwaukee to take part in the celebration of the shipment of the first five railcars of our 50 railcar option. The shipment was on-time and on-budget. The five cars will arrive in the Broad Run yard on December 14th. They will be service tested during the week of December 17th and hopefully in service by the end of the week. We will receive five railcars each month through October 2008.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL

VRE conducted a training session and field exercise at the Broad Run yard and station on December 1, 2007. Police, Fire, and EMS responders attended from Fredericksburg, Stafford, Quantico USMC, Prince William, Fairfax, Arlington, Alexandria, and Manassas. Officials from

various federal agencies also attended. The exercise simulated hostages taken by terrorists aboard a VRE train, with necessary neutralization by the US Marines SWAT team from Quantico. Some of the footage was recorded and will be used as part of a training video being prepared for emergency responders.

UPDATE ON FUEL COSTS

It is estimated that our hedging will save approximately \$40,000 per month in November and December. We'll continue to look for opportunities to hedge our fuel purchasing.

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE MEASURES – NOVEMBER 2007

MONTHLY ON-TIME PERFORMANCE	ON-TIME PERCENTAGE
November Fredericksburg OTP Average	88.7%
November Manassas OTP Average	90.8%
VRE NOVEMBER OVERALL OTP AVERAGE	89.8%

RIDERSHIP YEAR TO DATE	RIDERSHIP
VRE FY 2008 Passenger Totals	1,485,973
VRE FY 2007 Passenger Totals	1,427,610
PERCENTAGE CHANGE	4.1%

RIDERSHIP MONTH TO MONTH COMPARISON	
DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY RIDERSHIP
NOVEMBER 2007	277,425
NOVEMBER 2006	272,084
PERCENTAGE CHANGE	2.0%
SERVICE DAYS (CURRENT/PRIOR)	19/19