



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

November 2008

MONTHLY DELAY SUMMARY

| | July | August | September | October |
|--|-------|--------|-----------|---------|
| System wide | | | | |
| Total delays | 120 | 48 | 55 | 93 |
| Average length of delay (mins.) | 16 | 16 | 13 | 19 |
| Number over 30 minutes | 15 | 3 | 2 | 11 |
| Days with Heat Restrictions/Total days | 3/22 | 0/21 | 0/21 | 0/22 |
| On-Time Performance | 81.2% | 92.1% | 90.9% | 85.4% |
| Fredericksburg Line | | | | |
| Total delays | 57 | 17 | 29 | 50 |
| Average length of delay (mins.) | 17 | 18 | 16 | 19 |
| Number over 30 minutes | 7 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| On-Time Performance | 80.1% | 93.7% | 89.4% | 82.5% |
| Manassas Line | | | | |
| Total delays | 63 | 31 | 26 | 43 |
| Average length of delay (mins.) | 14 | 15 | 11 | 18 |
| Number over 30 minutes | 8 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| On-Time Performance | 82.2% | 90.7% | 92.3% | 87.8% |

SYSTEM RIDERSHIP

Average daily ridership in October was 16,030. October ridership in 2008 was 8.8% higher than in October 2007, with over 750 more riders. In addition, the ridership for the first four months of FY 2009 is 11.8% higher than the same period in FY 2008. We continue to break top ten ridership day records, with 4 days represented in October 2008. Two of those days saw more than 17,000 riders. In fact, now all of our top ten ridership days occurred in September and October 2008.

SYSTEM ON TIME PERFORMANCE

System wide on-time performance (OTP) was 85.4% in October, with an OTP of 82.5% on the Fredericksburg Line and 87.8% on the Manassas Line. We had a total of 93 delays out of 638 trains. Delays were attributed to disabled freight trains and leaf oil on the tracks causing loss of traction (Manassas line). The Manassas line did have three days in October with 100% on-time performance and the Fredericksburg Line had six days with 100% on-time performance.

SECOND PUBLIC WORKSHOP FOR GAINESVILLE-HAYMARKET STUDY

A second public workshop for the Gainesville-Haymarket Alternatives Analysis/Feasibility Study was held on October 22nd at Battlefield High School in Haymarket, VA. Fifty-two people attended the meeting, which included a review of the initial screening of rail and bus

alternatives being evaluated as part of the FTA-required Alternatives Analysis efforts. Specific issues raised during discussion at the meeting included: desire to see expanded transportation options as soon as possible; the need for greater, ongoing public outreach about the project; concern over station locations, their design and related traffic impacts; and concern for environmental impacts associated with the project such as impacts to natural areas and residential neighborhoods adjacent to the rail line.

An additional public workshop is planned for after the first of the year, once the consultant has completed its analysis. For more information on this project check the VRE web site at www.vre.org.

CROSSROADS MAINTENANCE FACILITY PROJECT

Construction of the new Service and Inspection building with a below ground inspection pit, overhead crane, car wash, and worker locker rooms is now complete at Crossroads. The train wash building is able to wash an eight car train set with a locomotive. Construction began in August 2007 and was completed in September 2008. The total cost of the project was \$7.2 million. This project greatly enhances VRE's ability to maintain its own fleet. Pictures of the building will be available at the November board meeting.

OPERATION LIFESAVER SANTA TRAINS

The 12th Annual Operation Lifesaver Santa Trains will operate on Saturday, December 13th. Tickets will go on sale in December at participating locations in Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Burke Centre. Tickets must be purchased in advance and proceeds go to benefit Operation Lifesaver. Toys for Tots will also be collected on that day at the stations where the trains will stop. Schedule and ticket information will be available on our web site in November.

TOYS FOR TOTS

This year, VRE will hold its 13th Annual Toys for Tots collection on Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Passengers on all morning trains are asked to leave an unwrapped toy and/or monetary donation for Toys for Tots on their seat when they reach their destination.

VRE passengers have been quite generous in the past and we look forward to ensuring that the U.S. Marine Corps will be able to distribute toys to less fortunate children that might not otherwise receive any gifts during the holidays.

WOODBRIIDGE DIRECT MAIL POSTCARD PROMOTION

We conducted a direct-mail postcard promotion similar to the one we did for Burke Centre and Manassas in order to increase parking at the Woodbridge station. The postcards were mailed out the week of Nov. 3rd and staff was available at the Woodbridge station to meet all morning trains and exchange the postcard for two Free Ride Certificates on Friday, November 14th. 52 postcards were redeemed, with 17 first-time riders. A new rider is worth \$3,000/yr. in revenue.

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE MEASURES – OCTOBER 2008

| MONTHLY ON-TIME PERFORMANCE | ON-TIME PERCENTAGE |
|--|---------------------------|
| October Fredericksburg OTP Average | 82.5% |
| October Manassas OTP Average | 87.8% |
| VRE OCTOBER OVERALL OTP AVERAGE | 85.4% |

| RIDERSHIP YEAR TO DATE | RIDERSHIP |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| VRE FY 2009 Passenger Totals | 1,350,981 |
| VRE FY 2008 Passenger Totals | 1,208,548 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE | 11.8% |

| RIDERSHIP MONTH TO MONTH COMPARISON | |
|--|--------------------------|
| DESCRIPTION | MONTHLY RIDERSHIP |
| OCTOBER 2008 | 352,652 |
| OCTOBER 2007 | 323,994 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE | 8.8% |
| SERVICE DAYS (CURRENT/PRIOR) | 22/22 |