



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

September 2008

MONTHLY DELAY SUMMARY

	May	June	July	August
System wide				
Total delays	123	163	120	48
Average length of delay (mins.)	17	20	16	16
Number over 30 minutes	20	35	15	3
Days with Heat Restrictions/Total days	0/21	5/21	3/22	0/21
On-Time Performance	80.9%	73.2%	81.2%	92.1%
Fredericksburg Line				
Total delays	67	84	57	17
Average length of delay (mins.)	18	17	17	18
Number over 30 minutes	9	13	7	1
On-Time Performance	76.8%	69.2%	80.1%	93.7%
Manassas Line				
Total delays	56	79	63	31
Average length of delay (mins.)	17	23	14	15
Number over 30 minutes	11	22	8	2
On-Time Performance	84.4%	76.5%	82.2%	90.7%

SYSTEM RIDERSHIP

Average ridership in August was over 15,200 - the highest August ever. August is traditionally the second lowest ridership month, after December, which makes this accomplishment all the more impressive. August ridership in 2008 was 10% higher than in August 2007. We had 4 days above 16,000 riders and 12 days above 15,000 riders. On Tuesday, August 12, VRE ridership peaked with the 2nd highest ridership day ever with 16,801 riders, only 6 riders less than the previous record (which was since broken on September 9, 2008 when we hit 16,933 trips). Early indications show that September will be a record breaking month with two days, so far, close to 17,000 riders.

SYSTEM ON TIME PERFORMANCE

System wide on-time performance (OTP) was 92.1% in August, with an OTP of 93.7% on the Fredericksburg Line and 90.7% on the Manassas Line. We had a total of only 48 delays out of 609 trains. The Manassas Line had seven days in August with 100% on-time performance. The Fredericksburg Line had ten days with 100% on-time performance. All told, we had five days of 100% on-time performance on the overall system.

BURKE CENTRE DIRECT MAIL POSTCARD

VRE conducted a community outreach direct mail campaign surrounding the Burke Centre VRE station letting people know that the garage was open and had available parking. Two free rides were offered if customers redeemed their postcards at the Burke Centre station on August 20th. VRE staff was on hand to collect the post cards and show new passengers how to validate their free ride tickets. We had 110 people redeem the postcards that day - 47 of which were first-time riders. A follow up campaign was conducted with each new rider to see how they enjoyed their trip. Feedback was very positive and many said that they would continue to ride VRE. We plan to do the same thing in Manassas now that the garage is open.

MANASSAS PARKING GARAGE OPENS FOR BUSINESS

The Manassas Parking Garage passed all inspections and was opened for use on Tuesday, September 2. To-date, the garage is 92% full with 237 out of a possible 300 spaces being used by commuters on the first day.

VRE Riders still need to obtain a FREE commuter parking permit in order to park in the VRE portion of the new garage. They do not need to be a Manassas City resident in order to obtain a permit.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

On Saturday, September 20th, VRE will hold its annual emergency drill at the Crossroads yard in Spotsylvania. We are seeking volunteers (age 13 and over) to act as “victims” on the train. The drill will run from 8 a.m. until approximately 12:00 p.m. Participants should expect a realistic simulation, as it makes the drills most effective.

VRE PATHFINDER SIGNS

VRE has been working with VDOT to improve directional guidance signs at all of the stations. After several meetings, a plan was developed which will install 120 new path finder signs, change out faded and out-dated signs, and add several signs on the Interstate highways. VDOT has informed us that the Richmond facility is currently producing the signs and work orders for installation in the next few weeks has been initiated.

NEW RAIL CARS

The last five new Gallery cars are scheduled to arrive on Thursday, September 18th. The cars will be placed on the Fredericksburg line, leaving only one train set per line made up of the older Gallery railcars.

PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED

We are proposing to seek comment on a FY 2009 mid-year fare increase of an amount not to exceed 15% and a FY 2010 fare increase of an amount not to exceed 10%, plus potential service reductions in FY 2010. Information is posted on the VRE website and an email was sent to all passengers on Friday, August 29th. The following dates and times of the meetings were advertised in local newspapers.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
September 11, 2008 Thursday	Stafford County Govt Center Board Chambers 1300 Courthouse Road Stafford, VA 22554	7:00-9:00 P.M.
September 16, 2008 Tuesday	Crystal City Marriott Crystal Club Room 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, VA 22202	12:00-2:00 P.M.
September 17, 2008 Wednesday	Fredericksburg City Hall Council Chambers 715 Princess Anne Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401	7:00-9:00 P.M.
September 22, 2008 Monday	Holiday Inn [L 'Enfant] Discovery 1 Ballroom 550 C. Street S.W. Washington, DC 20024	12:00-2:00 P.M.
September 24, 2008 Wednesday	P.R.T.C. Board Room, 2 nd Floor 14700 Potomac Mills Road Woodbridge, VA 22192	7:00-9:00 P.M.
September 29, 2008 Monday	Burke Centre Conservancy "The Ponds" Community Center 9837 Burke Pond Lane Burke, VA 22015	7:00-9:00 P.M.
September 30, 2008 Tuesday	Manassas City Hall City Council Chamber Room 9027 Center Street Manassas, VA 22110	7:00-9:00 P.M.

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE MEASURES – AUGUST 2008

MONTHLY ON-TIME PERFORMANCE	ON-TIME PERCENTAGE
August Fredericksburg OTP Average	93.7%
August Manassas OTP Average	90.7%
VRE AUGUST OVERALL OTP AVERAGE	92.1%

RIDERSHIP YEAR TO DATE	RIDERSHIP
VRE FY 2009 Passenger Totals	657,813
VRE FY 2008 Passenger Totals	609,068
PERCENTAGE CHANGE	10.5% Normalized

RIDERSHIP MONTH TO MONTH COMPARISON	
DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY RIDERSHIP
AUGUST 2008	319,222
AUGUST 2007	317,035
PERCENTAGE CHANGE	10.3% NORMALIZED
SERVICE DAYS (CURRENT/PRIOR)	21/23