



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS  
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# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Lower Parking Fees for VRE Riders at Franconia-Springfield Station**

*Passengers a Discount to Commute via Amtrak*

**Alexandria, Va.** – Commuters who park in Metrorail’s Franconia-Springfield garage and ride Virginia Railway Express (VRE) can qualify for the reduced Metro rider rate. An agreement between VRE and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Agency will allow VRE passengers using multi-ride tickets to park for \$4.95 a day as opposed to \$8.95.

Qualifying VRE customers will receive both a SmarTrip® non-rider card, to which they can add value to pay for parking, and VRE rider parking pass. The card is valid through the end of December and will be reissued to riders at the start of each calendar year. Because VRE must determine a passenger’s eligibility for the reduced rate each month, riders must purchase their monthly pass, 5-day pass or 10-ride ticket through VRE mobile. An exception is being made during September only that allow riders with paper tickets to receive the card. More detailed information on how to apply for the SmarTrip® non-rider card is available online at [vre.org](http://vre.org).

VRE riders are encouraged to register their SmarTrip® card online at [smartrip.wmata.com](http://smartrip.wmata.com) to protect the card’s value if lost or stolen, monitor the card’s usage and balance, and add value to the card. If a SmarTrip® non-rider card is lost or stolen, VRE will replace it, but the rider will be charged the higher non-rider parking fee until the new card arrives.

The 12th largest commuter rail service in the U.S., VRE is a transportation partnership of the Northern Virginia and Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commissions. 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](http://www.vre.org).

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