



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS  
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# PRESS RELEASE

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**VRE Recognized for Exceptional Safety**

*Award from Virginia Transit Association Underscores Top-to-Bottom Rail Safety Culture*

**Alexandria, Va.** – Safety permeates every aspect of the Virginia Railway Express (VRE). It guides all actions and decisions by staff, train crews, maintenance workers, and the Operations Board. For its holistic approach to safety, VRE is the 2020 recipient of the [Virginia Transit Association's \(VTA\) Exceptional Safety Award](#).

“Safety is foremost in [VRE's mission statement](#),” said VRE Operations Board Chairman Gary Skinner. “If VRE service isn't safe, being cost-effective, accessible, reliable, convenient and comfortable doesn't matter. Safety is more than a philosophy at VRE. It is a culture.”

“To maintain our position as the safest mode of travel in the commonwealth, VRE looks for opportunities for proactive, continuous improvement,” said CEO Rich Dalton. “From positive train control implementation to first-responder training to our COVID-19 response, VRE uses all of the tools at our disposal to ensure the safety of passengers, train crews, maintenance workers, contractors, staff and the general public.”

VRE received the Exceptional Safety Award from VTA during a virtual ceremony on Tuesday, December 15. It is only the second time that VTA has bestowed a safety award.

The 13th largest commuter rail service in the U.S., VRE is a transportation partnership of the Northern Virginia and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commissions. The 4.5 million rides the railroad provides annually remove some 100 million vehicle miles from Northern Virginia's interstates. Learn more at [www.vre.org](http://www.vre.org).

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