



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
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PRESS RELEASE

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Virginia Railway Express Cuts Ribbon on New Manassas Park Parking Garage

740-space garage supports City Center redevelopment into a vibrant, economic hub

Alexandria, Va. – Representatives of the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) and state, regional, and local leaders gathered in Manassas Park today, unveiling a new parking garage at VRE's Manassas Park Station, directly adjacent to Manassas Park's Park Central, the City's newly revitalized downtown.

The project was funded through contributions from I-66 Express Mobility Partners, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), [the I-66 Commuter Choice Program](#), the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and the City of Manassas Park, and supports the City of Manassas Park's vision to redevelop the surrounding neighborhood into a vibrant, mixed-use and transit-oriented economic hub.

"I am honored to celebrate the opening of this parking garage with VRE's steadfast partners from across the region," said VRE Acting CEO Dallas Richards. "This project is a testament to our shared values of looking to the future of transit and community development to support our residents' evolving transportation needs."

A 2017 study by VRE revealed a growing need to upgrade parking infrastructure at VRE's Manassas Park station. Working alongside the City of Manassas Park, VRE executed this 740-space parking garage, which provides 200 spaces reserved for City of Manassas Park personnel, and 540 spaces for VRE riders and visitors to the City of Manassas Park alike. The provision of these spaces is a critical component to supporting the existing workforce who rely on VRE for safe, reliable, and efficient commutes each weekday, while providing additional capacity for Manassas Park residents and visitors to visit and spend time in Park Central; the vibrant mixed-use development surrounding a newly constructed City Hall and Library. The Villages at Manassas Park will bring hundreds of new townhomes to the community to add to many public and commercial uses within steps of the garage.

“This project is a significant milestone in the City of Manassas Park’s revitalized downtown. When you look around the surrounding area, this new garage fits right into the mosaic of a thriving economic hub that meets the diverse needs of our community,” said City of Manassas Park Mayor and VRE Operations Board Member Alanna Mensing.

The new Manassas Park Parking Garage supplements the existing 600-space parking lot at VRE’s Manassas Park station. The garage was developed on City-owned property located across from the former Norfolk Southern, now VPRA, railroad tracks near City Hall, in a unique partnership with the City of Manassas Park that leases land to VRE for \$1 per year.

“This is an investment not only into the VRE and the City of Manassas Park, but to the entire region,” said Northern Virginia Transportation Commission Executive Director Kate Mattice, whose organization administers the I-66 Commuter Choice program, which provided \$2.5 million in funding for the project. “When we identify existing transit corridors heavily utilized by residents, like that of the VRE’s, we can leverage the surrounding area to connect community members to jobs, retail, and other needs that attract talent to our region, reduce roadway congestion, and support our overall economy,” Mattice added.

The engineering firm for the project was VHB, and construction was managed by GFT. Construction was executed by Manhattan Construction Company.

VRE, the nation’s 13th largest commuter rail service, connects Central and Northern Virginia with the District of Columbia. VRE is recognized for its provision of safe, reliable, convenient, and comfortable transportation. Its two lines, Manassas and Fredericksburg, serve 19 stations, including two – L’Enfant and Union Station – in D.C. Additional information is available at www.vre.org.

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