



Notice of Opportunity to Comment on Proposed Changes to VRE Passenger Tariff

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) is accepting public comment on changes to fares proposed in its preliminary fiscal year 2027 budget. VRE's Public Participation Policy states: "Any proposed amendment to the [VRE Passenger Tariff \(https://bit.ly/VREtariff\)](https://bit.ly/VREtariff) involving an increase in fares or major change in service, as defined in the [Major Service & Fare/Service Equity Policy \(https://bit.ly/VREfarepolicy\)](https://bit.ly/VREfarepolicy), shall be open to public comment at a public hearing."

The public comment period runs from 9 a.m. on Monday, October 27 through 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. Individuals interested in providing comment may do so at one of three in-person public hearings, or via mail, email, or telephone.

Public hearings are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, November 4, 2025; 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Manassas Museum (walking distance from VRE's Manassas station)
9101 Prince William Street
Manassas, VA 20110

- Thursday, November 6, 2025; 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Holiday Inn (walking distance from VRE L'Enfant Station)
Main Meeting Room #1
550 C St SW
Washington, DC 20024

- Thursday, November 6, 2025; 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Fredericksburg City Hall, Council Chambers (walking distance from VRE's Fredericksburg station)
715 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

A virtual presentation of the proposed budget can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/FY27BudgetVideo>

Spanish-language and American Sign Language interpreters will be made available at the public hearings upon request. Such requests, and any other request for accommodation, must be received at least five business days prior to the public hearing by email at publiccomment@vre.org.

Public comment may also be provided by:

Mail

VRE FY 2027 Budget Public Comment

1500 King Street, Suite 202
Alexandria, VA 22314

Email

publiccomment@vre.org

Telephone

540-524-2662

VRE's preliminary FY 2027 operating budget totals \$117.4 million, which includes operations, maintenance, and existing debt service. This is an increase of \$1.3 million or 1.9 percent over the approved FY 2026 operating budget. The budget includes increases to fares of 5 percent. No jurisdictional subsidy increase is proposed for the FY2027 budget, following an 8 percent increase included in the current FY2026 budget. This budget proposes a return to biennial fare and jurisdictional subsidy increases. VRE fares increased by 5 percent in the FY 2025 budget, marking the first time in 5 years that fares were increased.

The proposed budget provides for the continuation of fare-free rides for children under 18 and a flat, \$5 fare for travel within and between zones 1 (Union Station and L'Enfant), 2 (Crystal City and Alexandria) and 3 (Franconia-Springfield and Backlick Road). Resumption of the Amtrak Step-Up program, which was paused in 2020 and allows for VRE riders to ride select Amtrak Northeast Regional trains between Fredericksburg and D.C.'s Union Station, is also planned for FY 2026.

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 Washington, D.C. Additional information about VRE service is available at www.vre.org.

###