

# CEO REPORT

JANUARY 2024



# OUR MISSION

The Virginia Railway Express, a joint project of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac Rappahannock Transportation Commission, will provide safe, cost-effective, accessible, reliable, convenient, and customer responsive commuter-oriented rail passenger service. VRE contributes to the economic vitality of its member jurisdictions as an integral part of a balanced, intermodal regional transportation system.



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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS  
A better way. A better life.



# PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE



**PARKING UTILIZATION**

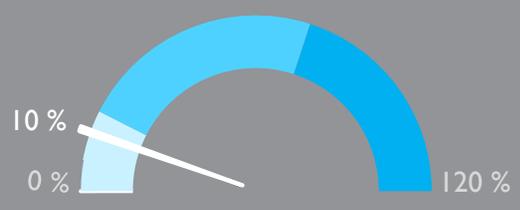
The total number of parking spaces used in the VRE system during the month, divided by the total number of parking spaces available.

**AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP**

The average number of boardings each operating day inclusive of reduced, "S" schedule, service.  
Same month, previous year: 4,366

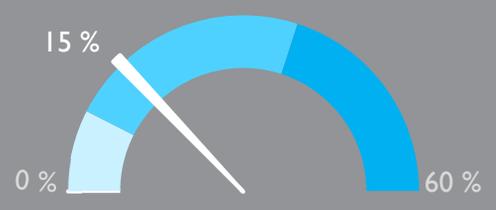
**ON-TIME PERFORMANCE**

Percent of trains arriving at their destination within 5 minutes of the schedule.  
Same month, previous year: 92%



**SYSTEM CAPACITY**

The percentage of peak hour train seats occupied. The calculation excludes reverse flow and non-peak hour trains.



**OPERATING RATIO**

*Through September 2023*

Year-to-date operating revenues divided by year-to-date operating expenses, which represents the share of operating costs paid by the riders.

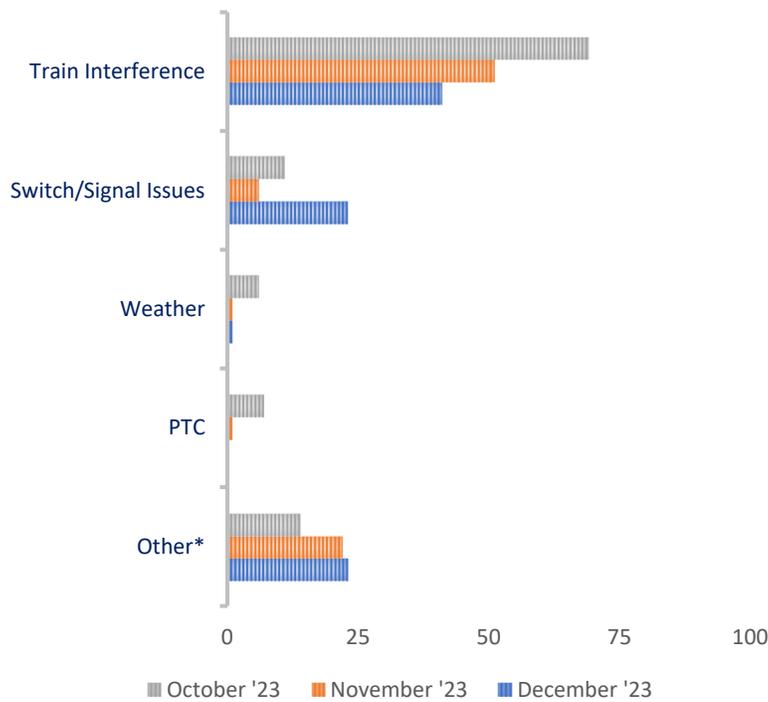
**December 2023**

# ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

## OUR RECORD

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022
Manassas Line	83%	83%	85%
Fredericksburg Line	86%	91%	88%
Systemwide	85%	87%	87%

## PRIMARY REASON FOR DELAY



VRE operated 574 trains in December. The on-time rate for the month was 85 percent.

Eighty-eight trains arrived more than 5 minutes late to their final destinations. Of those late trains, 49 were on the Manassas Line (56 percent), and 39 were on the Fredericksburg Line (44 percent). The average delay was 17 minutes. Ten trains were more than 30 minutes late to their destination station.

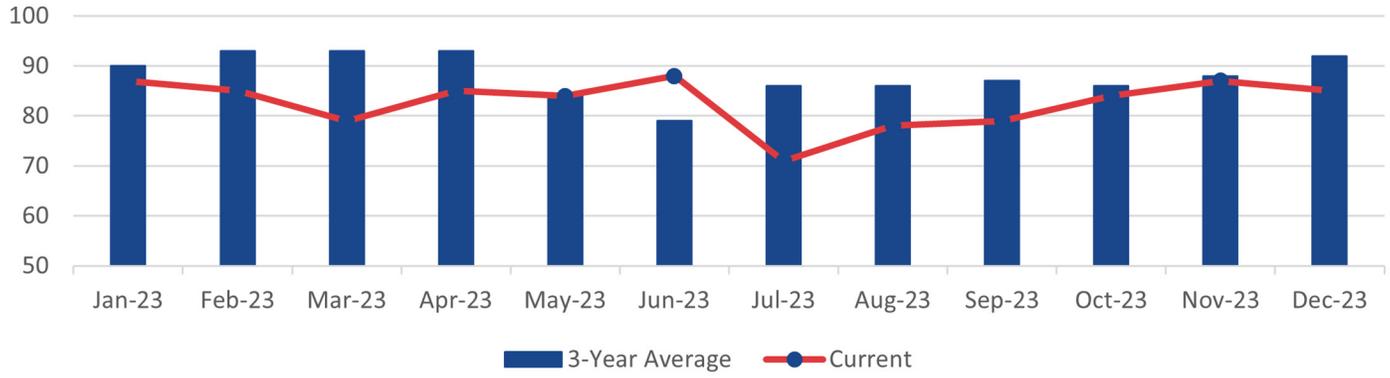
\*Includes trains that were delayed due to operational testing and passenger handling.

## LATE TRAINS

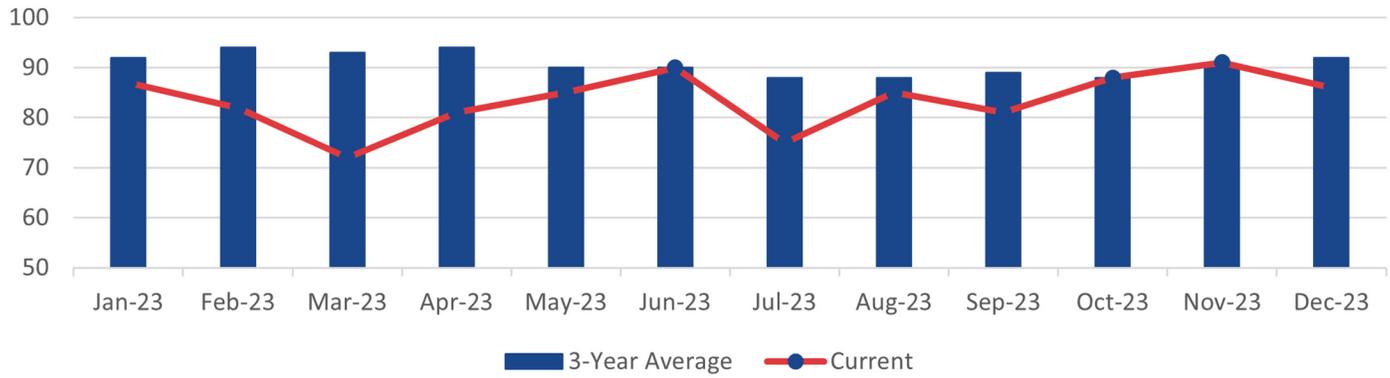
	System Wide			Fredericksburg Line			Manassas Line		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total late trains	107	82	88	41	30	39	66	52	49
Average minutes late	21	16	17	18	12	19	23	18	16
Number over 30 minutes	19	13	10	6	0	5	13	13	5
Heat restrictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# ON-TIME PERFORMANCE

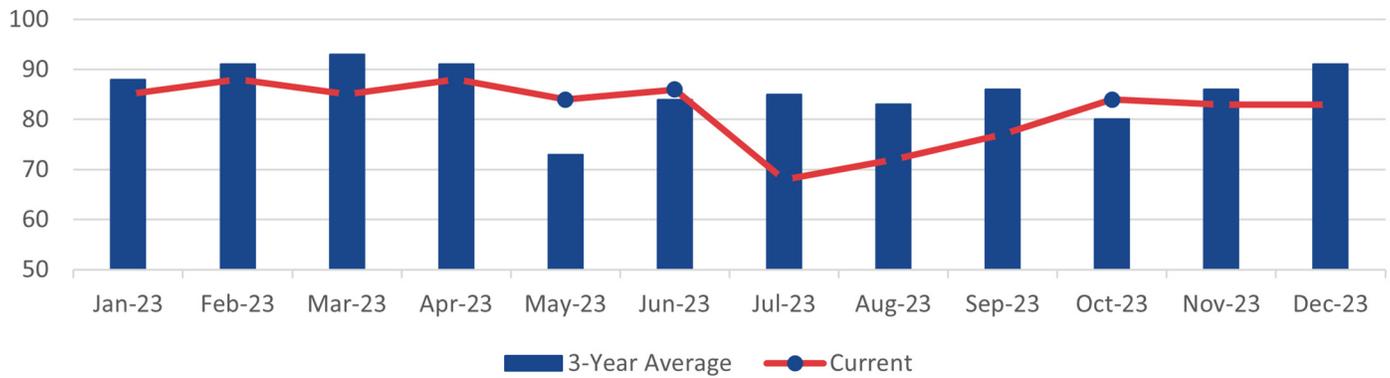
## VRE SYSTEM



## FREDERICKSBURG LINE

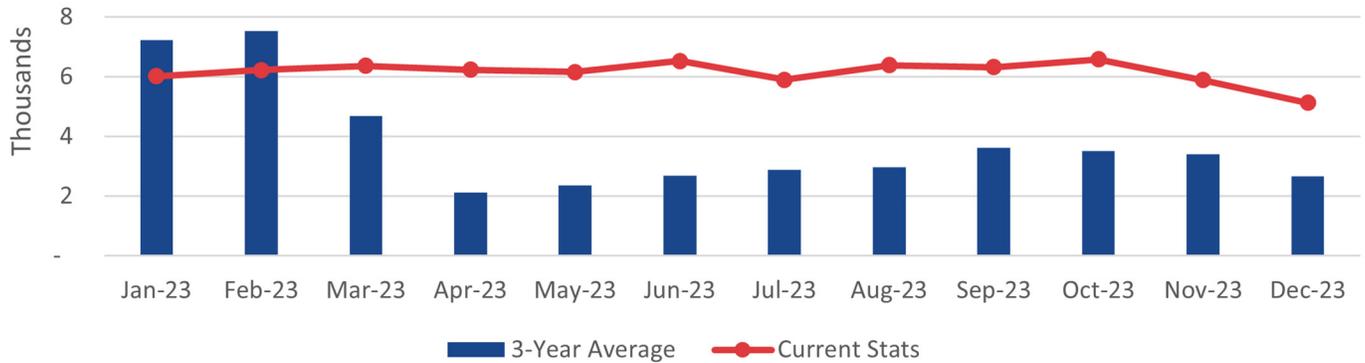


## MANASSAS LINE

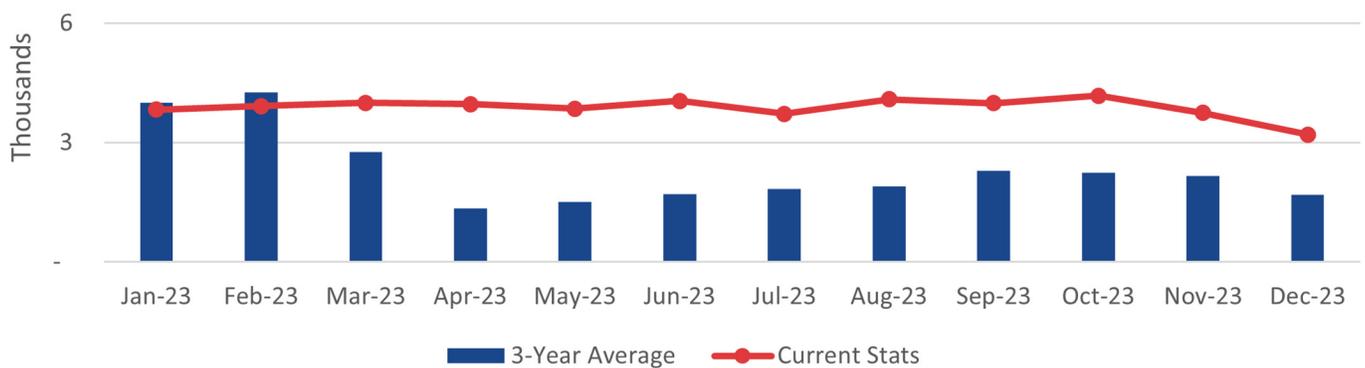


# AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP

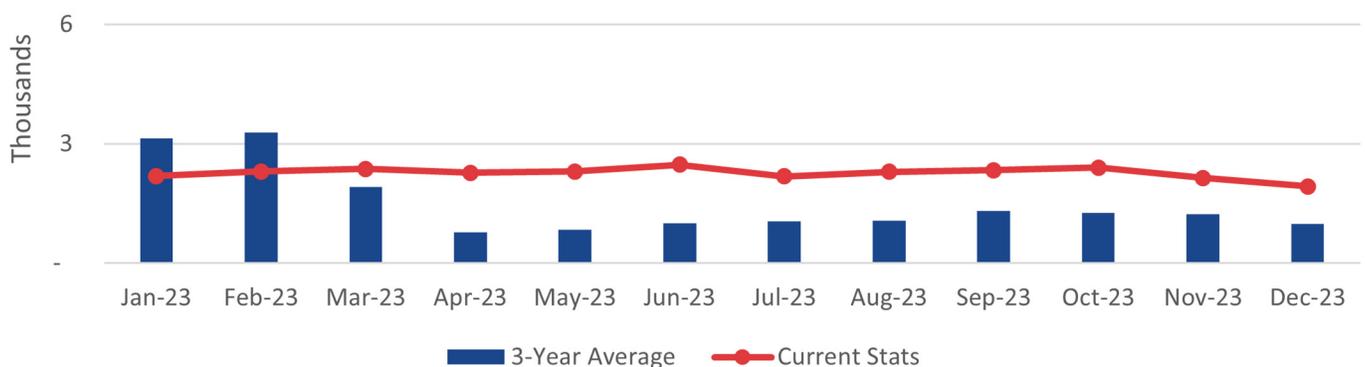
## VRE SYSTEM



## FREDERICKSBURG LINE



## MANASSAS LINE



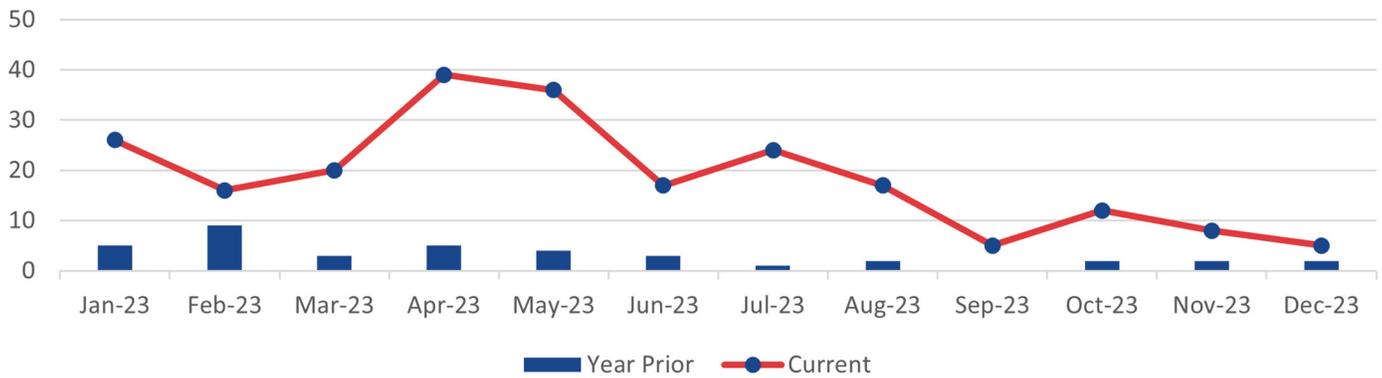
## RIDERSHIP UPDATES

Average daily ridership for December was 5,123. There were 16 full-service days and four “S” schedule days.

	December 2023	November 2023	December 2022
Monthly Ridership	102,453	123,579	91,691
Average Daily Ridership	5,123	5,885	4,366
Bicycles on Trains	782	1,190	N/A
Full Service Days	16	19	16
“S” Service Days	4	2	5

## SUMMONSES ISSUED

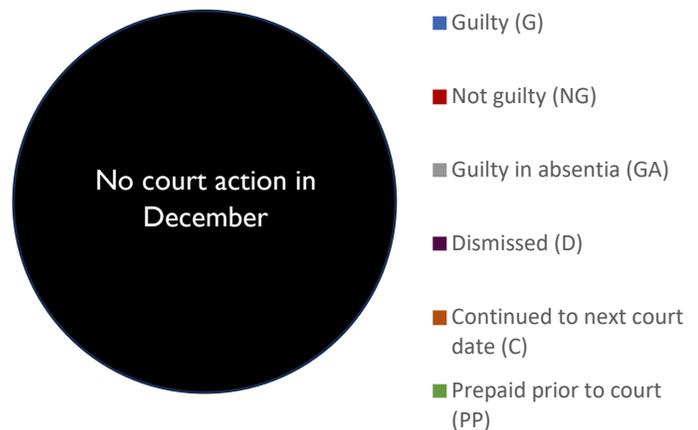
### VRE SYSTEM



### SUMMONSES WAIVED OUTSIDE OF COURT

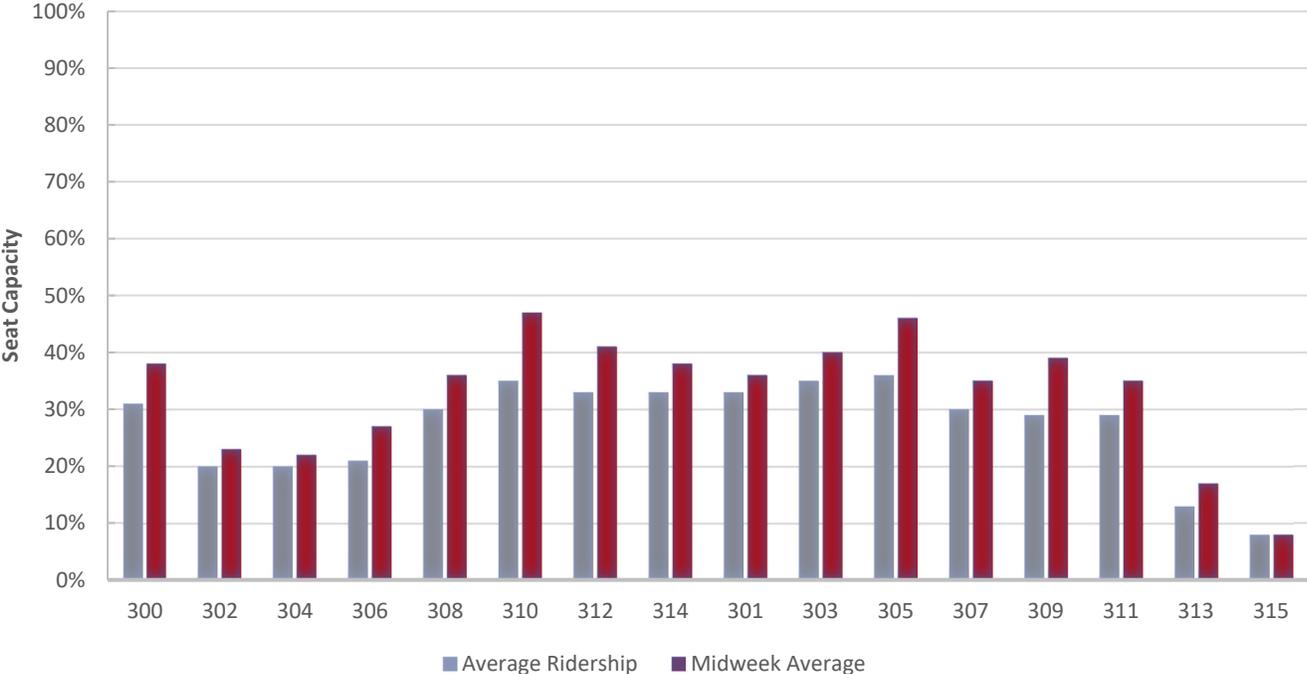
Reason for Dismissal	Occurrences
Passenger showed proof of a monthly ticket	0
One-time courtesy	0
Per the request of the conductor	0
Defective ticket	0
Per ops manager	0
Unique circumstances	0
Insufficient information	0
Lost and found ticket	0
Other	0
<b>Total Waived</b>	<b>0</b>

### MONTHLY SUMMONSES COURT ACTION

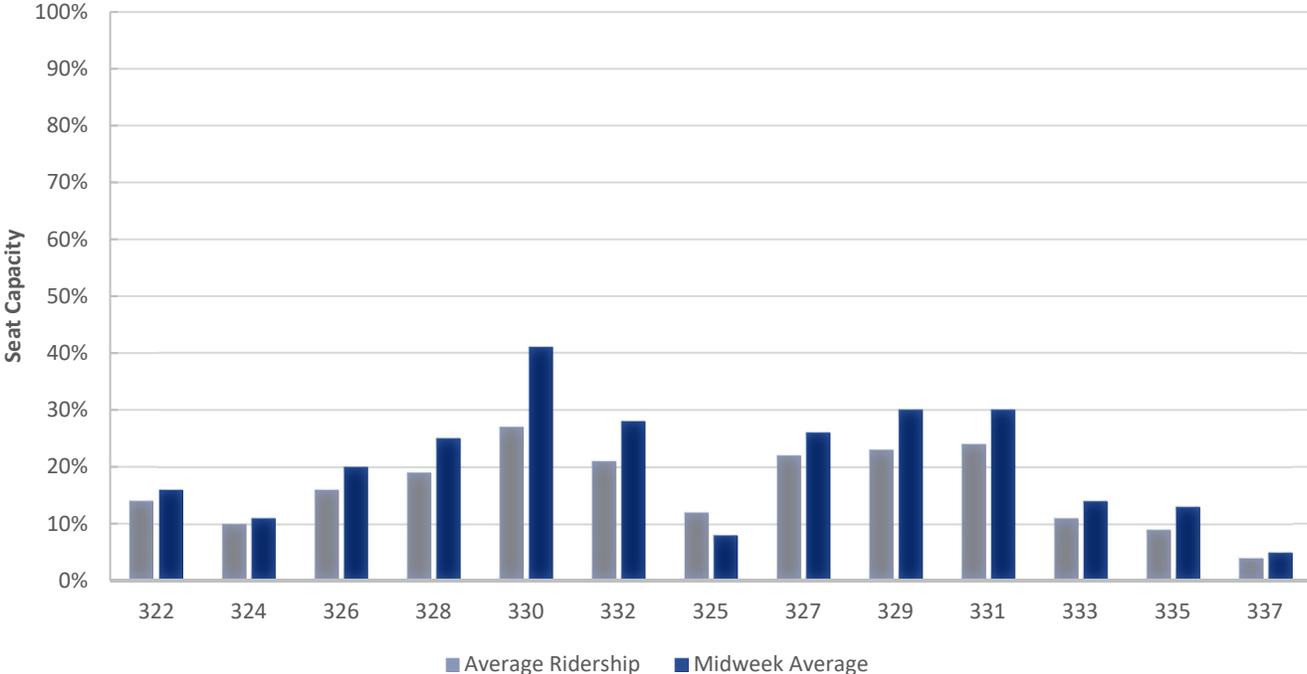


# TRAIN UTILIZATION

## FREDERICKSBURG LINE

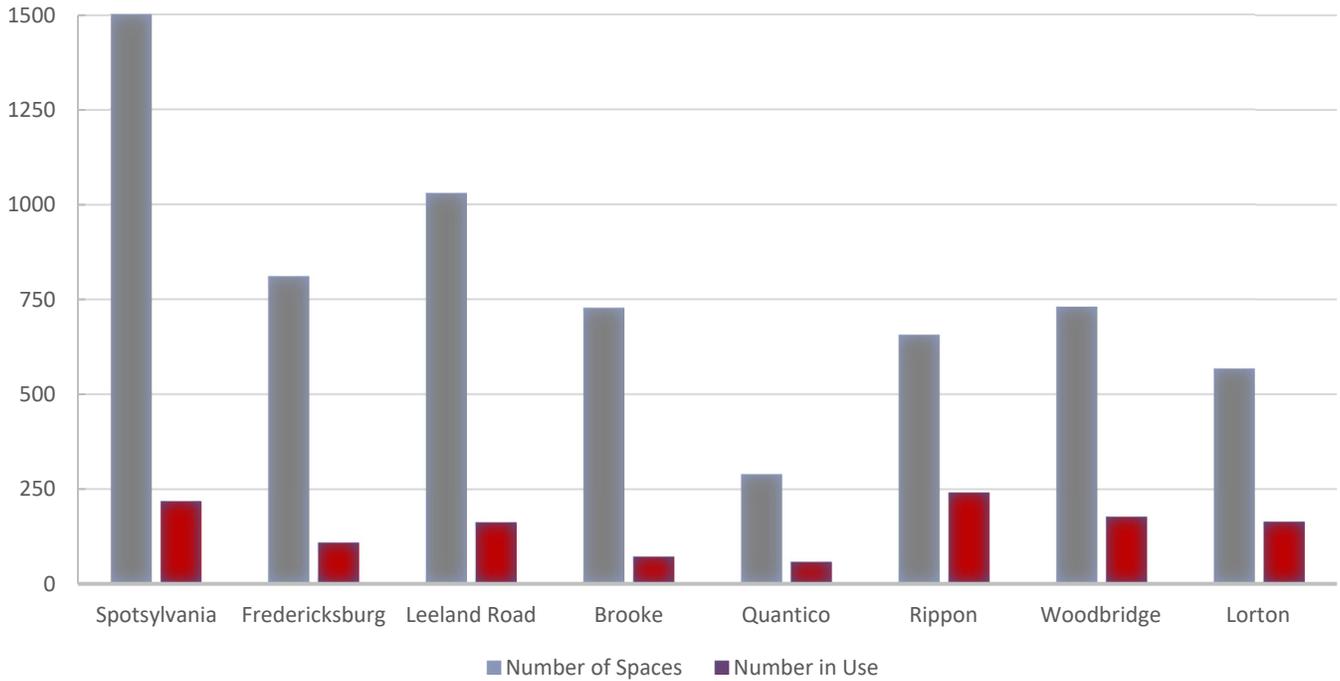


## MANASSAS LINE

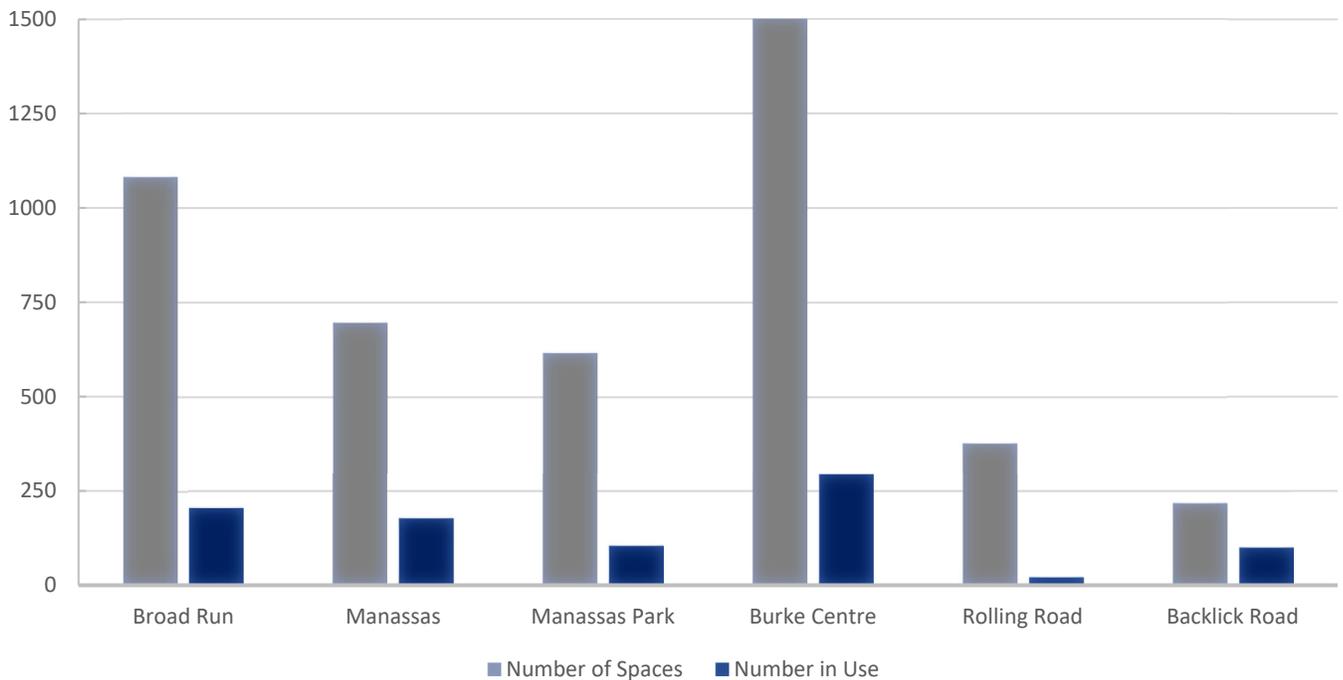


# PARKING UTILIZATION

## FREDERICKSBURG LINE



## MANASSAS LINE



# FACILITIES UPDATE

The following is a status update of VRE facilities projects.

Completed projects:

1. Installation of gate at Fredericksburg Commuter Lot H
2. Paving at Crossroads MASF



*Gate at Fredericksburg Lot H*

Projects scheduled to be completed this quarter:

1. Minor structural concrete repairs at Woodbridge station parking garage
2. Replacement of elevator machine room HVAC unit at Rippon station
3. Replacement of parking lot LED light fixtures at Spotsylvania station
4. Installation of underdrain and double swing gates at Crossroads MASF
5. Installation of bird control netting at Rolling Road station
6. Replacement/installation of pathfinder signage for Franconia-Springfield, Lorton, Woodbridge, Rippon, Quantico, Backlick Road, Rolling Road, Burke Centre, Manassas Park, Manassas and Broad Run stations
7. Installation of 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline signage on station inter-track fences, pending availability of CSX protection
8. Installation of electric meter for two-way radio antenna system in Old Town Alexandria



*Paving at Crossroads MASF*

Projects scheduled to be initiated this quarter:

1. Minor repairs to concrete platform at Alexandria station
2. Replacement of LED lighting at Woodbridge station parking garage
3. Painting of Woodbridge station and parking garage
4. Replacement of Woodbridge station stair tower and pedestrian bridge logo signs
5. Replacement of windscreen plexiglass panels at Lorton and Woodbridge stations
6. Repairs to electrical conduits at Brooke station
7. Improvements to drainage system at Backlick Road station
8. Replacement of existing lighting with LED lighting at Manassas station parking garage
9. Repairs to steel railings at Backlick Road, Burke Centre and Manassas Park stations

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Ongoing projects:

1. Modernization of east elevator at Woodbridge station
2. Improvements to various elements of Quantico station building and grounds
3. Replacement of parking lot entrance signs at various stations

## UPCOMING PROCUREMENTS

1. Delivery of diesel fuel for VRE locomotives
2. Locomotive AR-10 parts
3. Overhaul / repair of locomotive air compressors
4. Construction management services for Alexandria station improvements
5. Locomotive motor/braking transfer switches
6. State government relations services
7. Window gaskets for VRE railcars
8. Modernization of VRE Woodbridge station east elevator
9. Construction of Alexandria station improvements
10. Broad Run and Crossroads security camera system power and network infrastructure upgrade
11. Locomotive master controllers
12. Variable messaging system replacement
13. Locomotive data recording system video upgrades

## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Alexandria Station Improvements	Passenger safety will be improved by replacing an at-grade pedestrian track crossing with elevators to connect the two platforms. The elevators and the current and proposed stairs, will connect to the existing tunnel between the two platforms. Adjustments to platform elevation will eliminate the need for step-boxes to access VRE and Amtrak trains. The center platform will be widened and lengthened to accommodate trains on both tracks.	Final Design	\$ 37,288,433.00	VRE is updating the platform design to reflect the latest track elevations from the Alexandria 4th track project. (Jan) VRE reviewing the 90% Alexandria 4th track plans. Platform elevations to be updated accordingly. (Dec)
Broad Run Expansion	To accommodate forecasted ridership growth and increase service reliability, improvements are needed at both the Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) and station. An enlarged MSF can store longer trains and additional equipment. That requires shifting the existing platform and adding a pedestrian tunnel between the platform and existing and proposed parking lots. A second, 600-space lot and third main track will be constructed.	Final Design	\$ 139,381,862.00	Coordinating with the County and Lumen on right-of-entry for geotechnical field work. VE design advancing to 90% levels. (Jan) VRE hosted a value engineering design charette on Nov. 27. Direction has been provided to consultant on what project elements should be advanced. (Dec.)
Brooke Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension up to 700 feet to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$ 9,461,455.00	VRE has reengaged this project and returned it to the CIP budget for future years. Project schedule updates pending input from various stakeholders. (Dec/Jan)
Crossroads MSF Employee Parking	Design and construction of a permanent employee parking lot at VRE Crossroads Yard.	Final Design	\$ 7,365,765.00	90% design package has been reviewed by VRE with minor comments. Special-use and site permit applications to be submitted in first half of Jan. (Dec/Jan)
Crystal City Station Improvements	Improved station access and service reliability will result from a new station. The platform at the relocated station will allow for the simultaneous boarding of two full-length trains. The station's design will accommodate a future pedestrian/bicycle connection between the station and the airport.	Development	\$ 68,900,900.00	Platform and north tunnel 60% plans complete. Design of stairwell and mezzanine advancing to 60%. 90% plans for VPRA's adjacent Alexandria 4th track project currently under review. (Dec/Jan)
Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements	Extended platforms will be able to accommodate eight-car trains, eliminating the need for passengers near the rear to move to a different railcar when disembarking. Enhanced passenger safety and reduced station dwell times will result. The longer platforms will increase operational flexibility and capacity. The design will allow for a future third mainline track.	Final Design	\$ 25,351,100.00	60% tunnel design under review by CSX. Design advancing to 90% simultaneously. (Jan) 60% tunnel design received and under review by VRE. FTA confirmed project satisfied NEPA requirements for a Class II listed Categorical Exclusion. (Dec)

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## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation	The rehabilitation of platforms, stairs and bridges will improve passenger safety and better accommodate the boarding and disembarking of riders from VRE and Amtrak trains. New stairs will allow passengers to move between the platform and a parking lot without crossing the street at grade level. New signage, sidewalks, lighting and paint are included, as is installation of a low-clearance warning sign to a bridge that has experienced numerous vehicle strikes.	Construction	\$ 11,480,622.00	Concrete repair/coatings ongoing. East platform railings ongoing. West platform concrete complete. West platform railings ongoing. (Jan) Concrete repair/coatings ongoing. East platform railings scheduled. West platform concrete progressing. Structural steel sandblast/paint of existing station completed. (Dec)
HQ Office Renovations	The project will improve employee safety and security and maximize workspace efficiency at VRE Headquarters, and will include modifications to kitchen, supply room, mail room, bathroom/shower, office and cubicle areas in the north and south wings. The east wing will be modified to include additional offices.	Construction	\$ 250,000.00	Planning glass wall-enclosed work/meeting spaces adjacent to communications room. Researching available systems for review with upper management. (Dec/Jan)
Leeland Road Parking Improvements	This project will expand the surface parking lot at the Leeland Road station by approximately 225 spaces to accommodate future demand.	Development	\$ 12,044,433.00	The project is funded through Virginia SMART SCALE. Funding is allocated for FY20 and 22. A funding agreement is pending. (Dec/Jan)
Leeland Road Station Improvements	Design and construction of a platform extension to accommodate full-length VRE trains.	Development	\$ 10,361,037.00	VRE has reengaged this project and returned it to the CIP budget for future years. Project schedule updates pending input from various stakeholders. (Dec/Jan)
L'Enfant Track and Station Improvements	Expansion of the VRE L'Enfant Station to provide two platform edges and serve full-length trains. Add a new mainline track between LE and VA interlockings.	Development	\$ 110,857,683.00	Notice to proceed issued and kick-off meeting held in October. (Dec/Jan)
Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade (LOU) Facility	Featuring 33,000 square feet of maintenance space, the LOU will allow VRE to cost-effectively maintain rolling stock, as well as systems and components, in a state of good repair. It will optimize maintenance and reduce costs by allowing the in-house replacement of items before they fail. The LOU will house two tracks that can hold up to four cars at one time and be equipped with a drop table and wheel truing machine.	Construction	\$ 52,783,632.00	Factory acceptance test for HEP extractor will be held virtually in January with delivery in February. Switchgear #4 breakers to be reset out of maintenance mode. (Jan) Remaining work to finalize oil water separators has been delayed due to lead time on parts. Should be completed in December. (Dec)

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## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Manassas Park Parking Expansion	A new garage will nearly double the 600 spaces currently available in the existing surface lot. A pedestrian bridge will provide grade-separated access to the existing platform and lot. The VRE station and garage are an integral part of the City Center Redevelopment District, the proposed transit-accessible high-density mixed-use town center of Manassas Park.	Construction	\$ 34,662,764.00	Concrete aggregate piers installed. Forming of footers and foundations underway. (Jan) Fill material being brought in to bring site to grade. Holes drilled and piles being set for western wall foundation. (Dec)
Manassas Station Improvements	The project expands the VRE Manassas Station platform to serve full length trains and enhances pedestrian access to the station. Alternatives to increase the platform length to enable boarding and alighting from all passenger cars will be evaluated.	Development	\$ 9,125,000.00	This project is funded with I-66 OTB funding. Initiation of project planning pending completion of a Force Account Addendum with Norfolk Southern Railway. (Dec/Jan)
New York Avenue Midday Storage Facility	This new facility will store trains currently located in Amtrak's Ivy City coach yard, as Amtrak now has need for the storage tracks. The New York Avenue site, which is proximate to Washington Union Station, will be able to accommodate additional VRE trains.	Development	\$ 137,362,557.00	MOU reviewed and returned by VRE. Meeting has been scheduled to discuss with Amtrak. (Jan) Amtrak submitted the draft MOU for the project on November 17. It is currently being reviewed by VRE. (Dec)
Potomac Shores Station	This new station, in a master-planned community in Prince William County, is being funded, designed, and constructed by the developer of Potomac Shores in consultation with VRE and other stakeholders. The station will be just a short walk from the town center. A new side platform will be constructed which is designed to be converted into an island platform in the future when the 3rd track is added to corridor operations.	Final Design	\$ -	Construction of the shared use garage is ongoing. Construction includes casting the three pedestrian bridge support concrete foundation piers that are adjacent to the garage building. (Dec/Jan)
Quantico Station Improvements	Service and safety will be enhanced through the construction of a new center platform, ADA-compliant pedestrian bridges, existing platform extension, and third track. These improvements will allow the station to accommodate additional passengers and more frequent and longer trains and operations flexibility with three boardable platform edges.	Construction	\$ 25,573,060.00	Tower/ped bridge/utilities completion ongoing. Site/civil/ drainage coordinating with CSX track schedule. CSX track work starting mid-December. Storm sewer installation near completion. (Dec/Jan)

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## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Name	Project Description	Current Phase	Budget	Project Notes
Real-Time Multimodal Traveler Information System	The passenger experience will be enhanced through the provision of real-time train arrivals. Software upgrades are required to provide these real-time data feeds and integrate them with VRE Mobile and other third-party apps and websites, as well as on display screens at VRE stations and other locations along the I-66 corridor.	Final Design	\$ 3,481,000.00	Scope of work with procurement. Drawings to be complete by 3/31/23. Contractor updating DIV specs. (Dec/Jan)
Security Cameras	Safety and security will be improved through the modernization and expansion of VRE's security camera system. New cameras will be placed at 22 locations.	Final Design	\$ 1,939,305.00	Installation of networked video recorders planned for Rippon, Lorton, Leeland Road, and Backlick Road stations after onsite inspections in mid-January. (Jan) Operations Board approved contract with Genesys Impact, LLC of Washington, D.C. on July 21 (Dec)
Variable Messaging System Replacement	The effectiveness of VRE operations will be enhanced through the installation of new variable message signs (VMS) throughout the rail system. The new VMS system will allow VRE to communicate multi-modal transit data and general transit feed specification data to VDOT for use in its VMS system.	Final Design	\$ 1,000,000.00	Scope of work with procurement. Drawings to be complete by 3/31/23. Contractor updating DIV specs. (Dec/Jan)
Woodbridge Station Improvements	Expanded platforms will allow passengers to access trains from all station tracks.	Development	\$ 2,740,618.00	The scope and schedule for this project is being coordinated with the commonwealth's Transforming Rail in Virginia initiative, post-Phase 2 project. (Dec/Jan)

For more information about VRE capital projects, visit <https://projects.vre.org/list>

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