

VPRA Update

Transportation Planning Board
October 18, 2023



Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

- Created in 2020 by the General Assembly
- Given all powers necessary for carrying out its statutory purposes:
 - Manage passenger rail in Virginia
 - Design, build, finance, and maintain rail facilities
 - Direct recipient of USDOT Grants
- Partners with Amtrak and VRE to operate passenger and commuter rail service
- Governed by a 15-Member Board



Virginia Passenger Rail Network: 2023

Existing VA Passenger Rail Network a result of dedicated, bipartisan funding since 2006

PASSENGER ROUTES



Virginia State-Supported Services

- Washington-Roanoke (Route 46)
- Washington-Newport News (Route 47)
- Washington-Norfolk (Route 50)
- Washington-Richmond (Route 51)

Host Railroads

- CSX** - CSX Transportation
- NS** - Norfolk Southern
- BBRR** - Buckingham Branch
- Passenger Station

Other Services

- Other Amtrak State-Supported
- Amtrak Long-Distance
- VRE Commuter Rail
- - - Thruway Bus

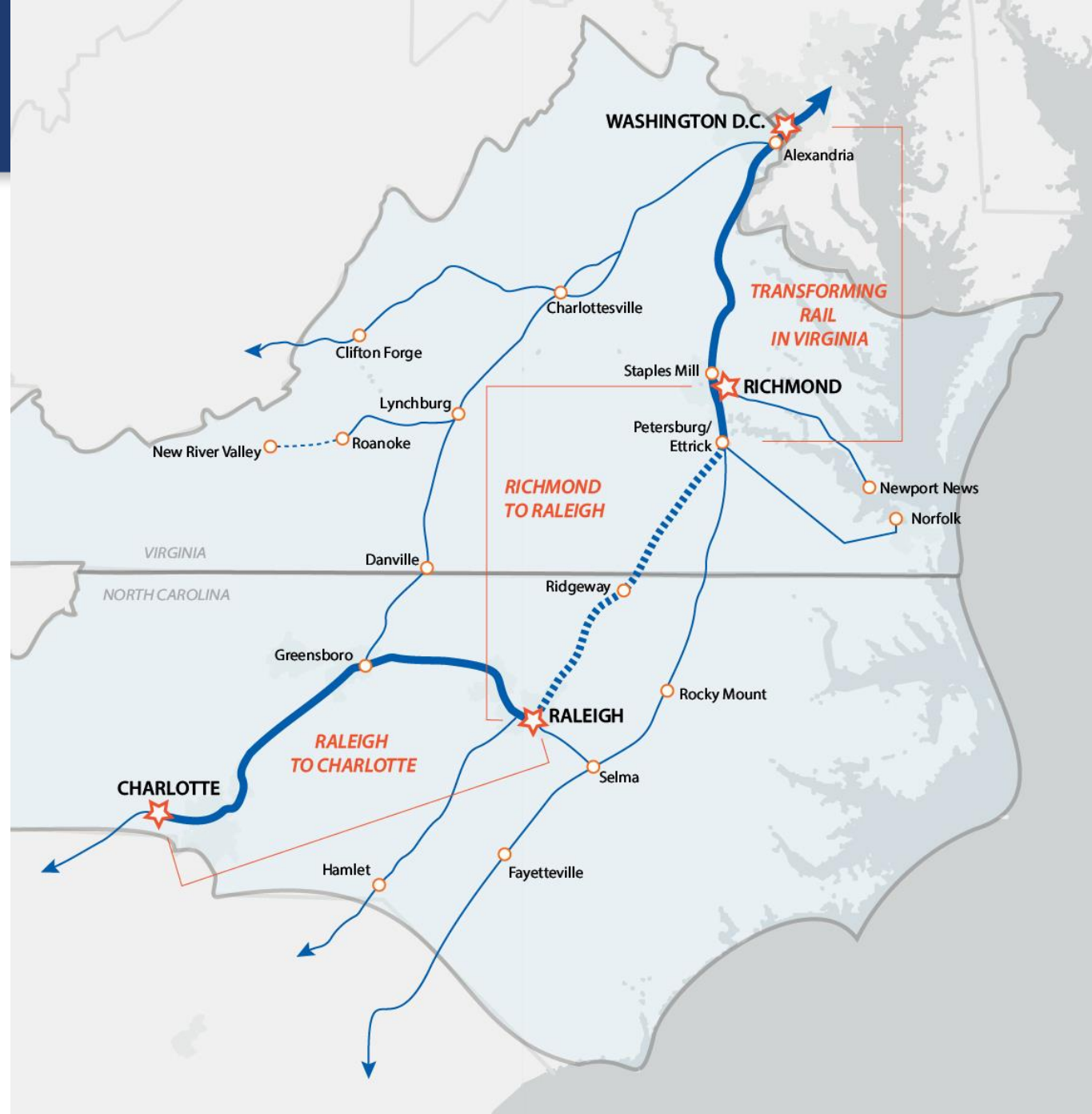
- Four State-Supported Amtrak Routes: 8 daily roundtrips
- Roanoke: 2
- Richmond: 1
- Newport News: 2
- Norfolk: 3
- Five Amtrak Long Distance Roundtrips
- One NC State-Supported Roundtrip
- Two Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Commuter Routes
- 16 daily roundtrips
- Manassas: 8
- Fredericksburg: 8



Washington, DC to Charlotte Corridor

Transforming Rail in Virginia: First Step of the larger DC to Charlotte Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor

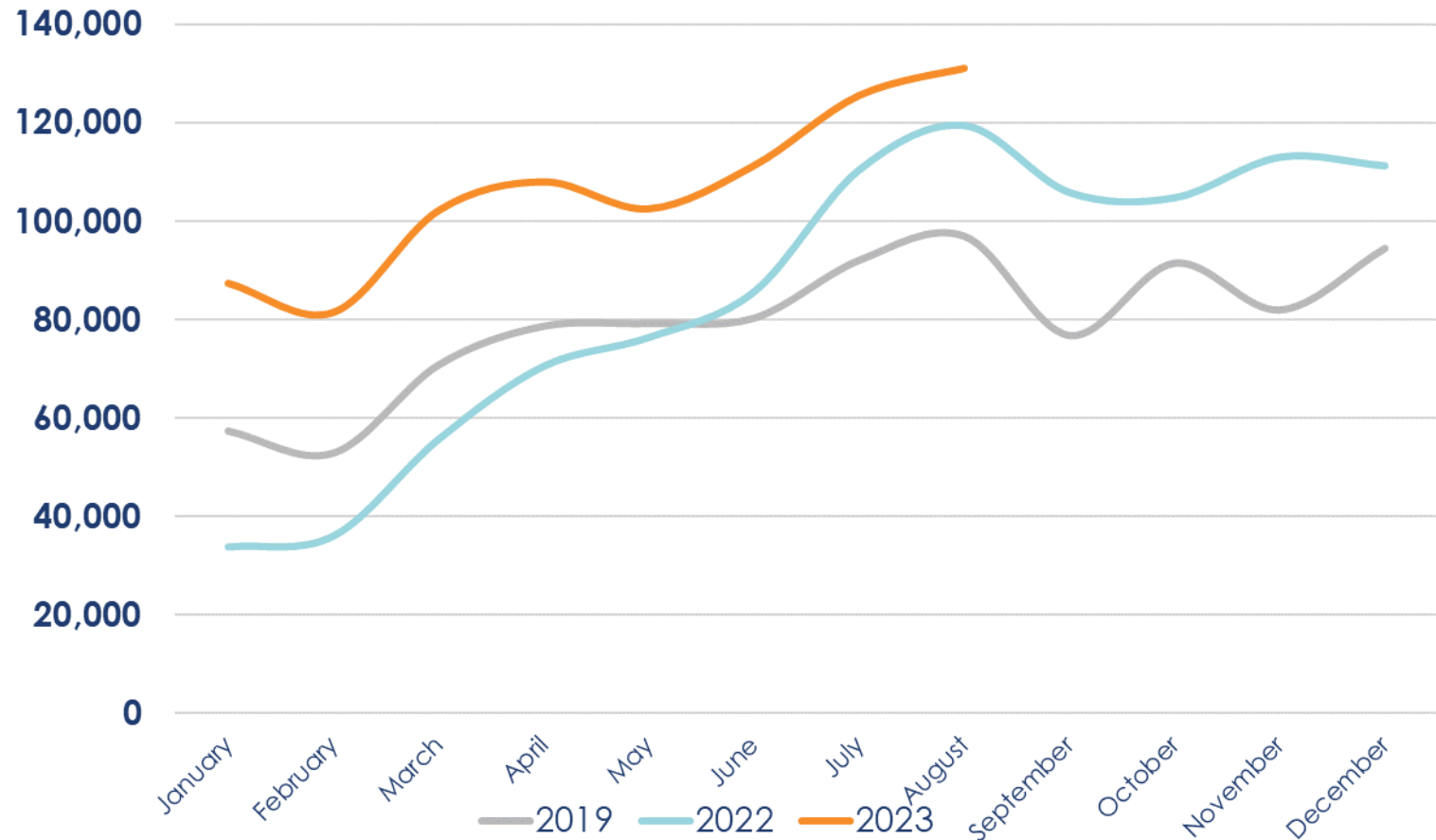
- Three Segments
 - DC to Petersburg (Transforming Rail in Virginia)
 - \$4.3 billion in Phase 1 & 2 Projects
 - Richmond to Raleigh
 - Raleigh to Charlotte
- Enhancing Amtrak service between NC, VA, and the NEC
- State-supported Amtrak ridership exceeding 2019 levels
 - Calendar Year 2022 exceeded one million passengers on Virginia state-supported Amtrak routes – 2023 showing rising ridership.



Virginia Supported Amtrak Ridership Setting Records

- In 2022, Virginia's state supported service set an all-time ridership record with 1,021,452 passengers, beating the previous high of 953,008 riders in 2019.
- 2023: 592,355 (January-June)
2023: 848,841 (January-August)
- In August 2023, our state-supported ridership had its biggest month ever, with 130,998 riders.

State-Supported Ridership by Calendar Year

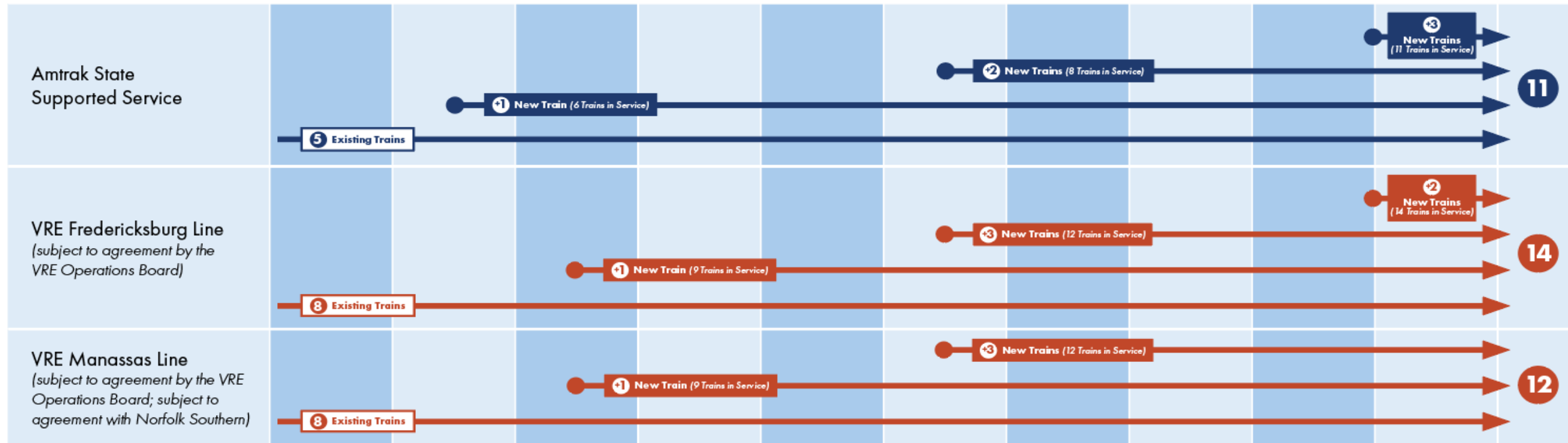


Future Service Expansion

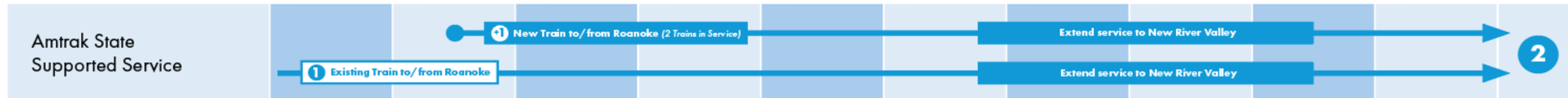
Transforming Rail in Virginia: Passenger Rail Service Expansion

Planned Service Enhancements	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030 and Beyond	Total Trains
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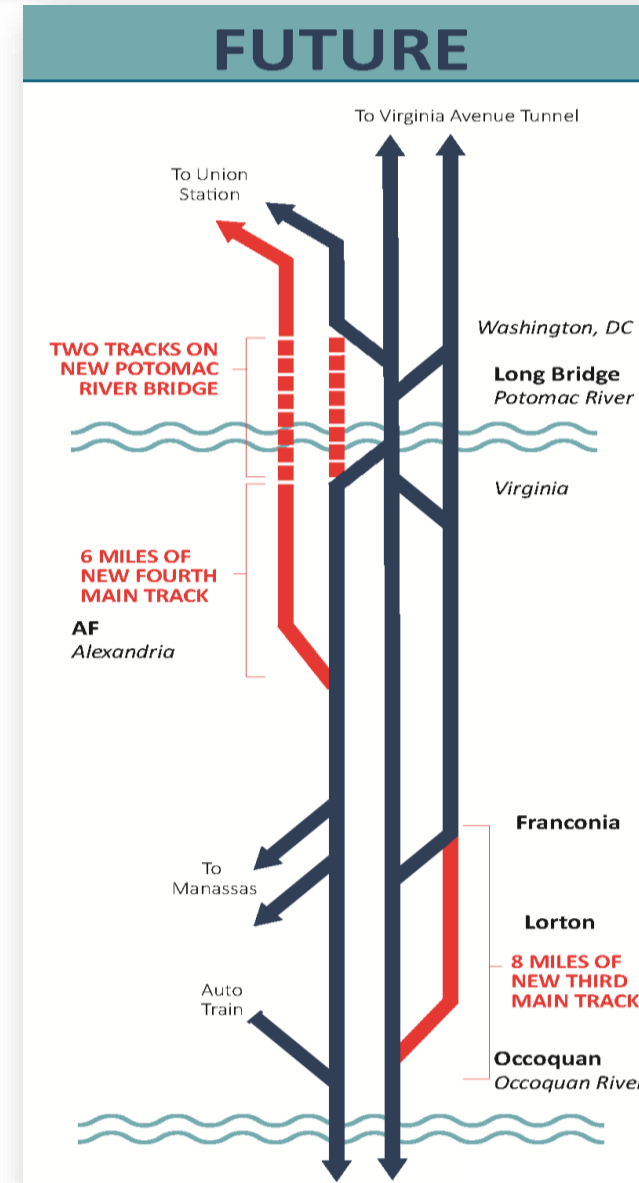
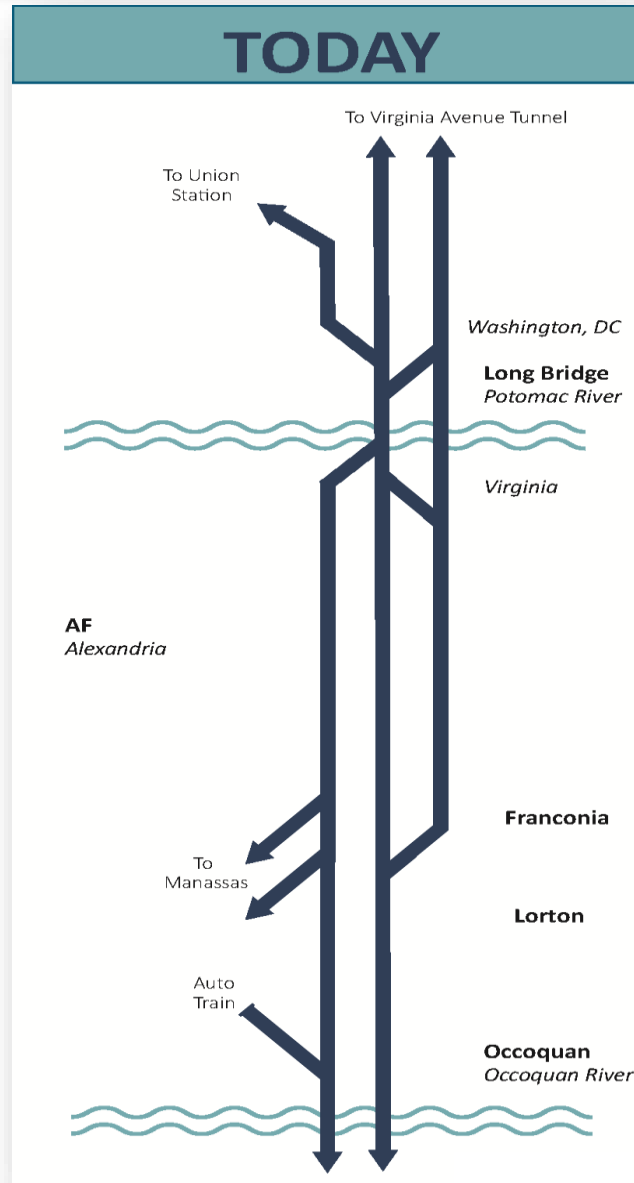
VA-Amtrak-CSX-VRE Partnership



VA-Norfolk Southern Partnership



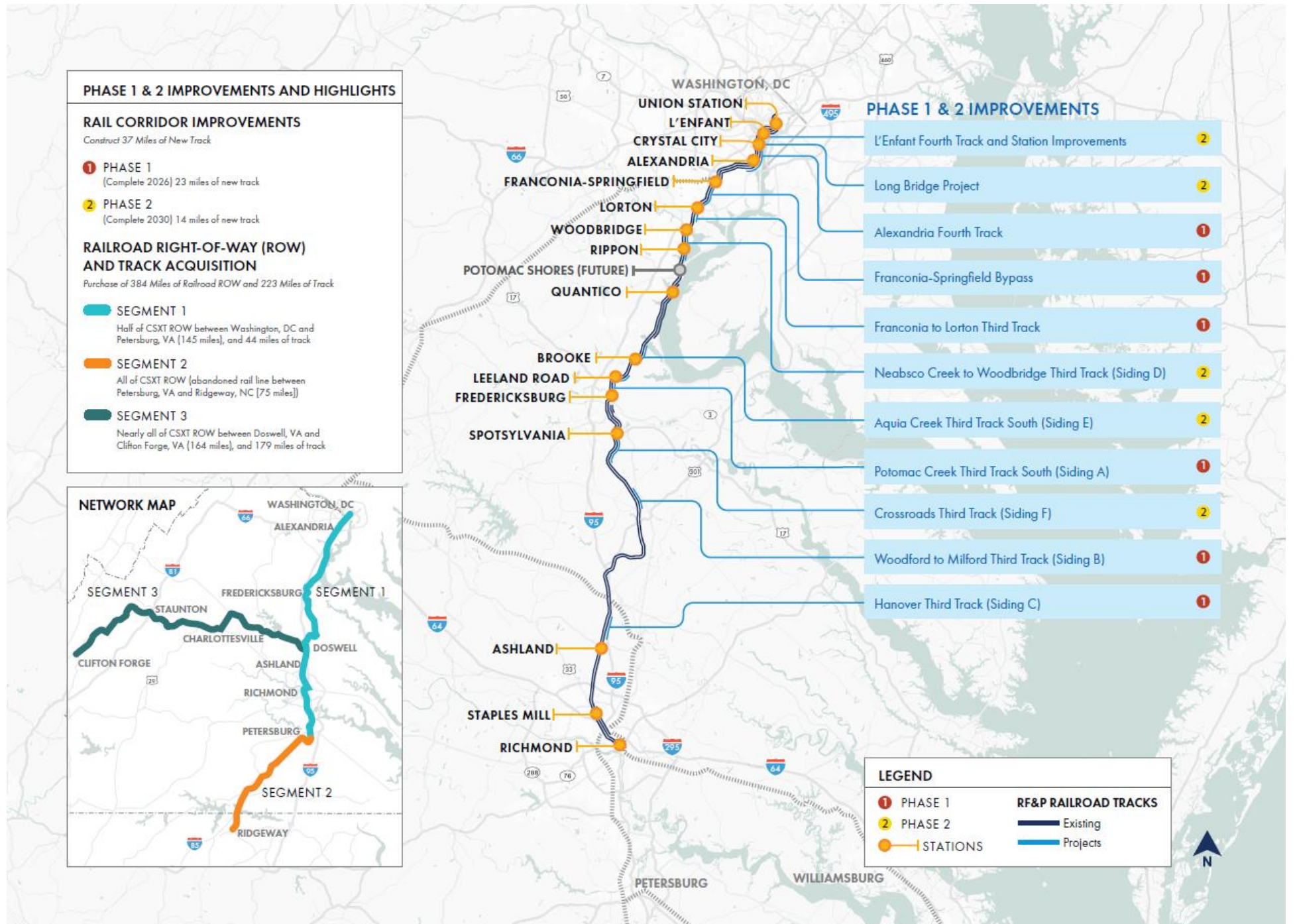
Infrastructure Improvements from DC to Quantico



Phase I & Phase II Projects unlock new passenger rail service and set the stage for future service expansion.

After **Phase I**, three new VRE (including late night/weekend service) and two new Amtrak daily roundtrips will begin service.

After **Phase II**, two new VRE and three new Amtrak roundtrips will begin



Major Upcoming Milestones

	Budget	Bid Award	Projected Groundbreaking
Alexandria 4th Track RFP Release: January 2024	\$210 M	April 2024*	May 2024
Franconia Bypass RFP Release: August 4, 2023	\$405 M	November 2023	October 2024
Long Bridge North Package RFQ Release: March 24, 2023 RFP Release: July 7, 2023	\$2.28 B Total	December 2023	October 2024
Franconia to Lorton 3rd Track Bridge Package Timeline Pending	\$275 M	September 2024*	October 2024
Long Bridge South Package RFQ Release: June 30, 2023 RFP Release: Early February 2024	\$2.28 B Total	Fall 2024	April 2025

* CSX Leading Procurement



Long Bridge Project Overview



Focus Areas – RO Interlocking to LE Interlocking

1. RO interlocking to Mt. Vernon Trail
2. Potomac River Crossings
3. WMATA Tunnel Portal & I-395 Crossings
4. I-395 to Ohio Drive SW
5. Washington Channel to Maine Avenue
6. Maryland Avenue Overbuild to LE

Long Bridge Project Work Progress

- Utility test pile work began first week in October
- Plat development for property needs
- Stakeholder coordination
- Permitting outreach
- Construction contract procurement
 - North package construction begins Fall 2024
 - South package construction begins in 2025



Alexandria Fourth Track

- Construct a new fourth track from Alexandria station to Rosslyn interlocking
- Close coordination with projects at Crystal City, Alexandria station and the replacement of rail bridges over King St and Commonwealth Ave
- Utility relocation – CSX project to relocate fiber duct bank begins November 2023
- Final design expected by end of 2023



Crystal City Station

- Project includes design and construction of a new high-level platform for Amtrak at Crystal City
- Will be constructed on the southern end of the planned new VRE Crystal City island platform
- Amtrak and VPRRA have jointly applied for \$33.8 M grant on a \$42.3 M project
- Proposed pedestrian connection from Crystal City station to Reagan National Airport



Proposed pedestrian bridge 'CC2DCA'

Franconia-Springfield Bypass

- The Franconia-Springfield Bypass will be constructed south of the Franconia-Springfield WMATA & VRE station
- The Federal Railroad Administration awarded VPRa a grant of \$100 M for the Franconia-Springfield Bypass. The funding was distributed from the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program.
- The 0.9 mile bypass structure will allow passenger trains to:
 - Crossover to serve VRE stations on the west, north of Franconia and on the east, south of Franconia
 - Reduce conflicts between passenger and freight trains



Fed-State Partnership & MPDG Grant Applications

TRV Phase II Projects

- Prerequisite for the entire DC to Charlotte Corridor (and beyond)
- Eliminates critical rail bottleneck between northeast and southeast
- Completion of new Long Bridge, L'Enfant Fourth Track, Sidings
- Creates 8-mile separation of freight and passenger via four-track corridor between DC and Alexandria
- Construction-ready projects that can put IIJA funding to work and deliver rail infrastructure and subsequent Amtrak, VRE, MARC **service**
- BCA guidance does not officially allow us to capture all future benefits of the capacity created by these projects



Visualization of Long Bridge project at the George Washington Memorial Parkway

Thank you!

