
Passenger Rail Update

Commonwealth Transportation Board – April 20, 2021

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Department of Rail and Public Transportation



Transforming Rail in Virginia

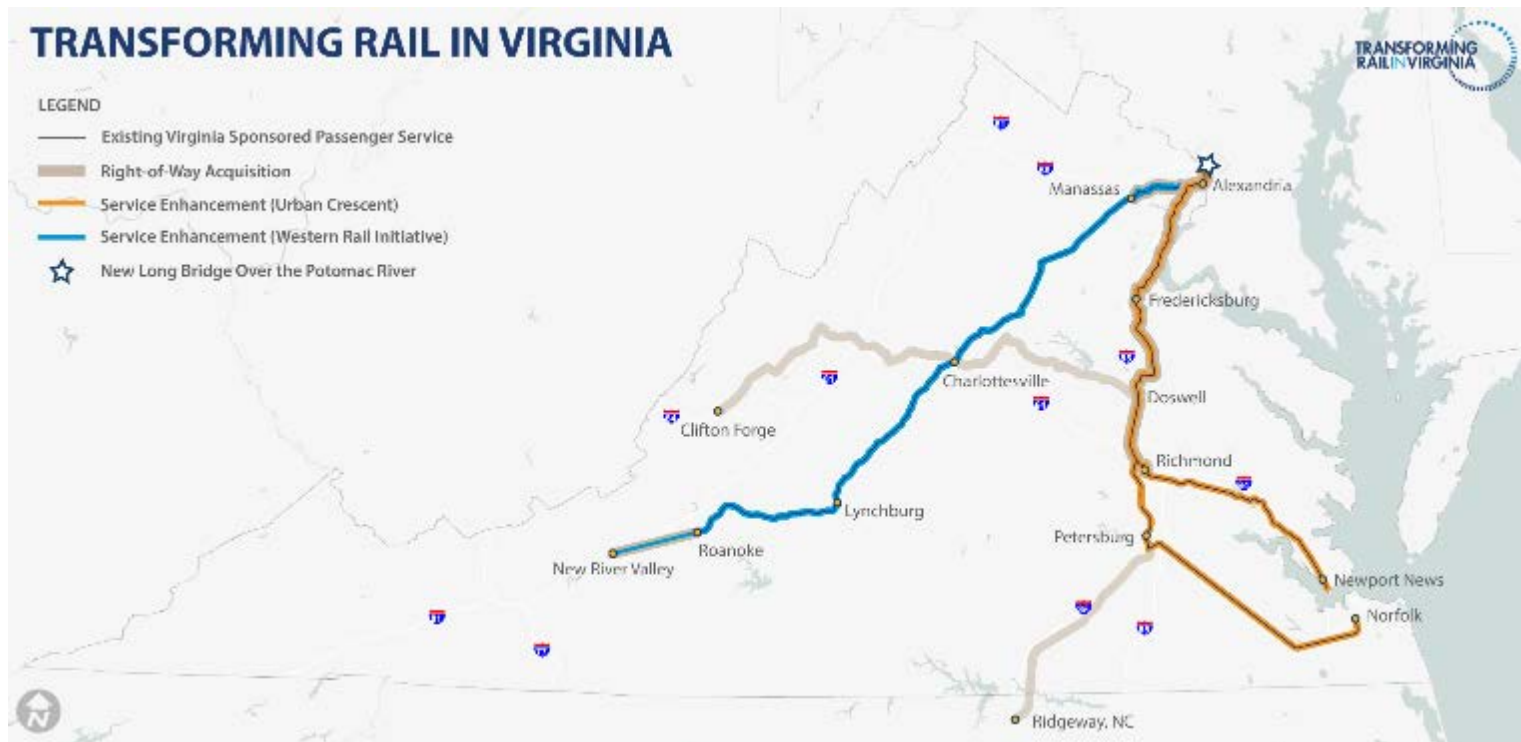
- Definitive Agreements for the \$3.7 Billion Transforming Rail in Virginia are complete
- Commercial Close: March 30 (Virginia-CSX-Amtrak-VRE)
- Financial Close with CSX: April 14
- Planning, Survey, and Design Continue for Program of Projects



Transforming Rail in Virginia

Statewide Benefits

- Doubles Amtrak Service and Increases VRE Service by over 60%
- All of the VRE and Amtrak Passenger Trains Travel over the Long Bridge
- Creates Path Forward for Eventual Separation of Passenger and Freight



Western Rail Initiative

- 2nd State-Supported Round Trip would connect the Northeast Corridor and Alexandria, Burke, Manassas, Culpeper, Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Roanoke
- Extension of Service to New River Valley
- Discussions with NS ongoing



80,000 New Riders Estimated to be added to a Route that had 220,000 riders in 2019.

Western Rail Initiative Funding

- Budget Bill Passed General Assembly in March (\$83.5M)
- I-81 Multimodal Funding (\$100M)
- SMART SCALE (application submitted by CTB for \$50M)
- SYIP and Commonwealth Rail Fund Allocations



Western Rail Initiative: Next Steps

- Update VPRA Board at April 26 Board Meeting
- Brief I-81 Interstate Advisory Committee on Multi-Modal Recommendations
- CTB Decision on SYIP
- Continue Engineering Due Diligence
- Continue Negotiations with Norfolk Southern

