



Director's Report

January 2023



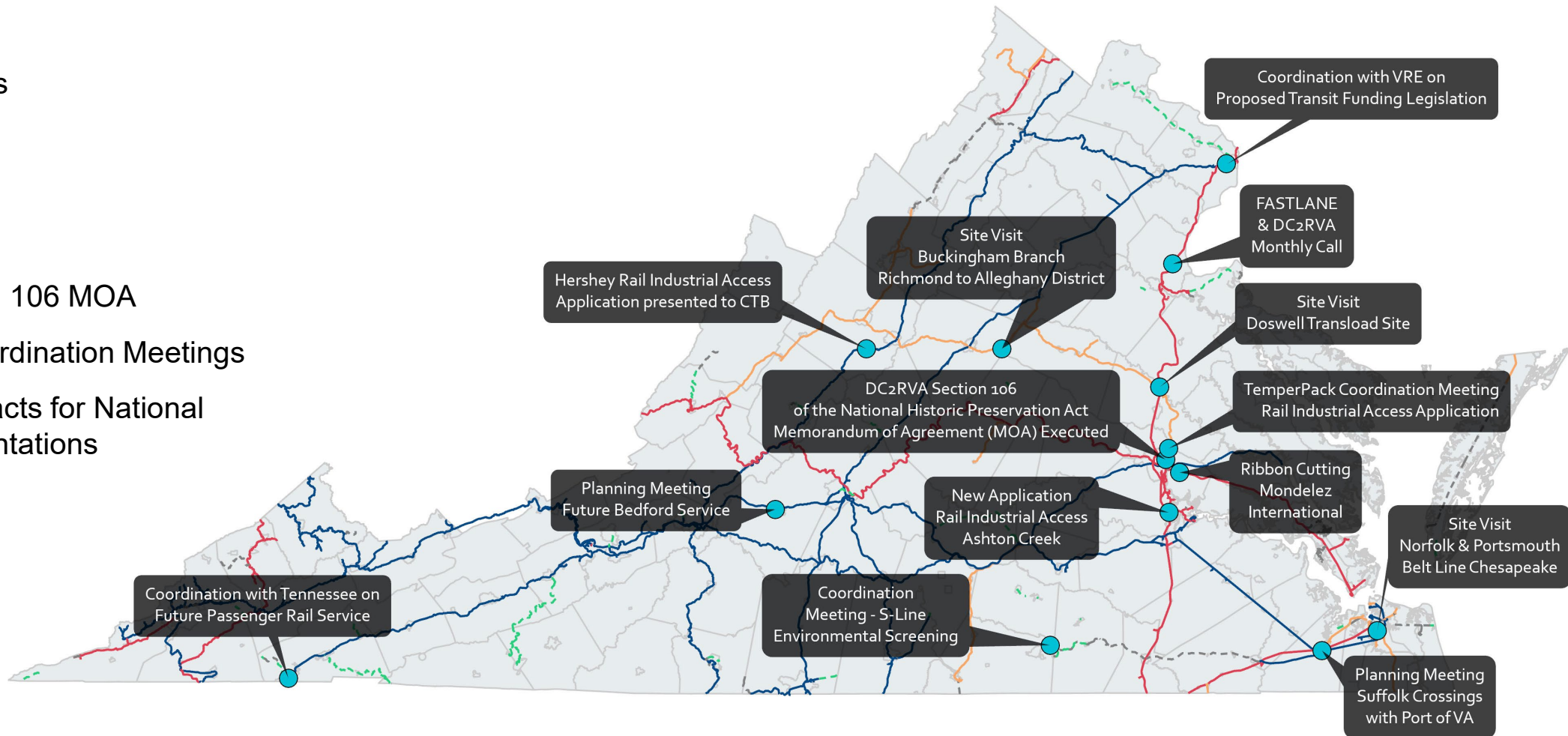
Rail Updates

Grant Programming

- 4 Project Site Visits
- 1 Ribbon Cutting
- 1 New Application

Statewide Planning

- 1 DC2RVA Section 106 MOA
- 8 Stakeholder Coordination Meetings
- 2 Submitted Abstracts for National Conference Presentations



Public Transportation Highlights

Federal Funding

On December 29, President Biden signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act to fund government activities through FY23. The bill includes a number of transit infrastructure earmarks in Virginia, including:

- \$2.2M to Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) for paratransit vehicle purchases
- \$2M to Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) for Envision Route 7 BRT plans/NEPA
- \$500K to HRT for relocating the Duffy Lane Transfer Center in Norfolk
- \$3M to the City of Richmond for the North-South BRT
- \$1.3M to GRTC for bus shelters in Henrico County

Blacksburg Transit

On December 13, the Town Council of Blacksburg voted unanimously to make zero fare transit permanent. The Town initially lifted fare collection at the onset of the pandemic and has been operating without fare collection ever since. The town cited increased transit ridership and equitable access to transportation as key drivers of the decision.

NVTC

On December 15, NVTC announced the launch of a new transit data dashboard which provides interactive, open-source transit performance data for WMATA, VRE, DASH, Fairfax Connector, CUE, Loudoun County Transit and OmniRide. The purpose of the dashboard is to make transit data more accessible and transparent.

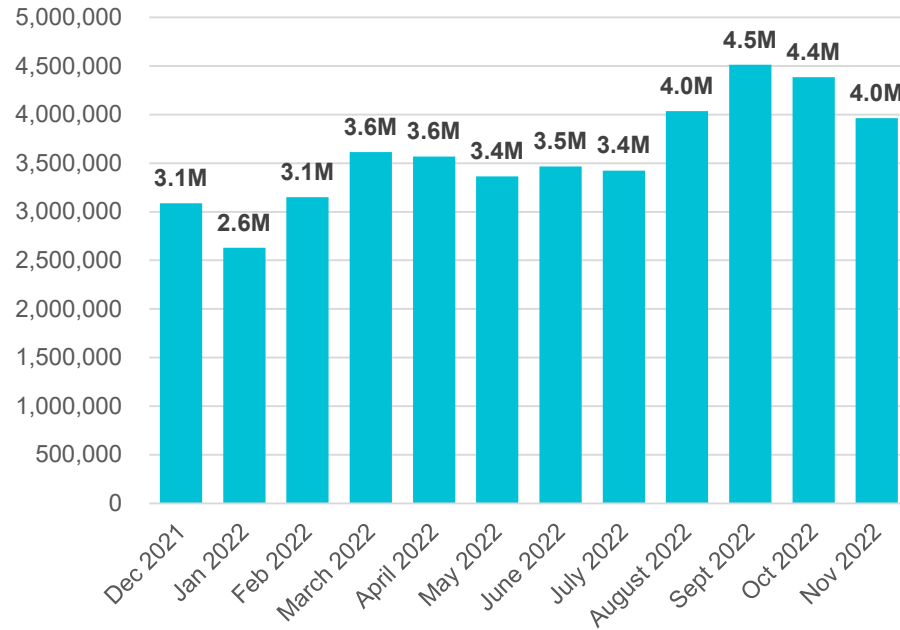
Statewide Transit Ridership

Ridership for Virginia agencies decreased in October and November 2022 compared to September 2022. WMATA ridership decreased slightly.

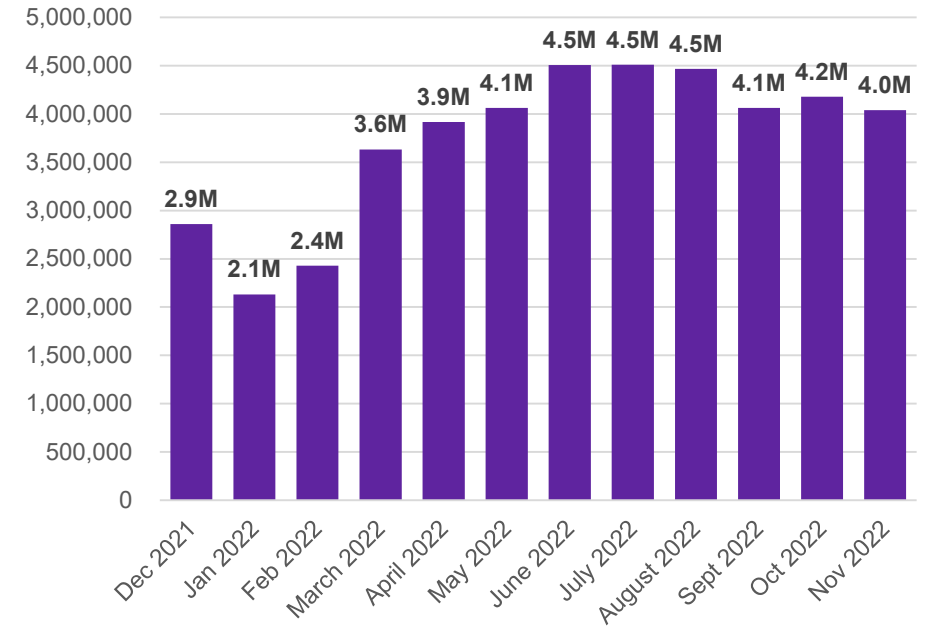
The decrease in statewide ridership in November can be partially attributed to the Thanksgiving holiday. A combination of lower ridership for transit agencies that serve university cities due to students going home for the break and a decrease in the number of people commuting due to the holiday.

For Virginia agencies, bus trips makes up the grand majority of transit ridership statewide.

Statewide Transit Ridership – December 2021 to November 2022



Virginia Agencies



WMATA

Agencies	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Total
Virginia Agencies	3,086,030	2,629,985	3,148,756	3,613,205	3,567,587	3,365,371	3,467,416	3,424,448	4,036,562	4,512,364	4,384,434	3,961,961	38,515,801
WMATA	2,861,270	2,129,886	2,428,198	3,631,074	3,918,027	4,062,153	4,505,702	4,509,235	4,466,511	4,061,584	4,178,637	4,040,866	39,916,687
All Agencies + WMATA]	5,947,300	4,759,871	5,576,954	7,244,279	7,485,614	7,427,524	7,973,118	7,933,683	8,503,073	8,573,948	8,563,071	8,002,827	78,432,488

November Statewide Ridership Comparison: Year-to-Year

Transit ridership for Virginia agencies in November 2022 was 20% higher than November 2021.

- Bus ridership was 20% higher
- Commuter rail was 92% higher

November 2022 ridership for Virginia agencies was 77% of pre-pandemic November 2019 levels.

- Bus ridership was 77% of 2019 levels
- Commuter rail was 34% of 2019 levels

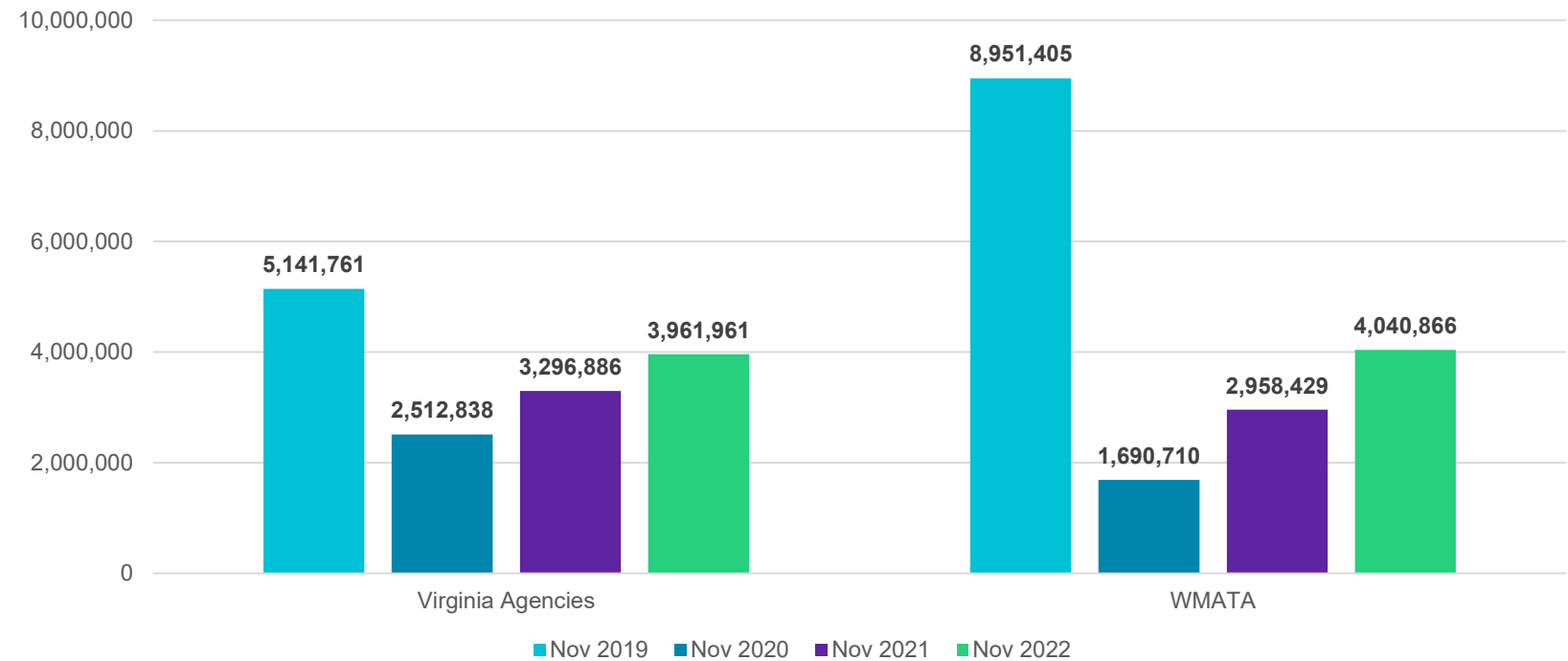
WMATA ridership in November 2022 was 37% higher than in November 2021.

- Bus ridership was 19% higher
- Heavy rail (Metro) was 43% higher

November 2022 WMATA ridership was 45% of pre-pandemic November 2019 levels.

- Bus ridership was 72% of 2019 levels
- Heavy rail (Metro) is 41% of 2019 levels

November Ridership Comparison: Year-to-Year
2019 – 2022



Mode	Nov 2019	Nov 2020	Nov 2021	Nov 2022	Nov 2022 vs 2019	Nov 2022 vs 2020	Nov 2022 vs 2021
Virginia Agencies	5,141,761	2,512,838	3,296,886	3,961,961	-23%	58%	20%
WMATA	8,951,405	1,690,710	2,958,429	4,040,866	-55%	139%	37%
All Agencies + WMATA	14,093,166	4,203,548	6,255,315	8,002,827	-43%	90%	28%

Virginia Breeze Ridership - November

In November 2022, ridership on VA Breeze routes totaled 6,589, which was:

- 230% higher than original estimates, and
- 43% higher than November 2021

Overall on-time-performance (OTP) was 74% and the overall farebox recovery was 44%

For the month of November 2022, the VA Breeze contributed to a reduction of 295 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent emissions.

Valley Flyer:

- Ridership – 20% higher than Nov 2021
- Farebox Rev. – 22% higher than Nov 2021

Piedmont Express:

- Ridership – 44% higher than Nov 2021
- Farebox Rev. – 45% higher than Nov 2021

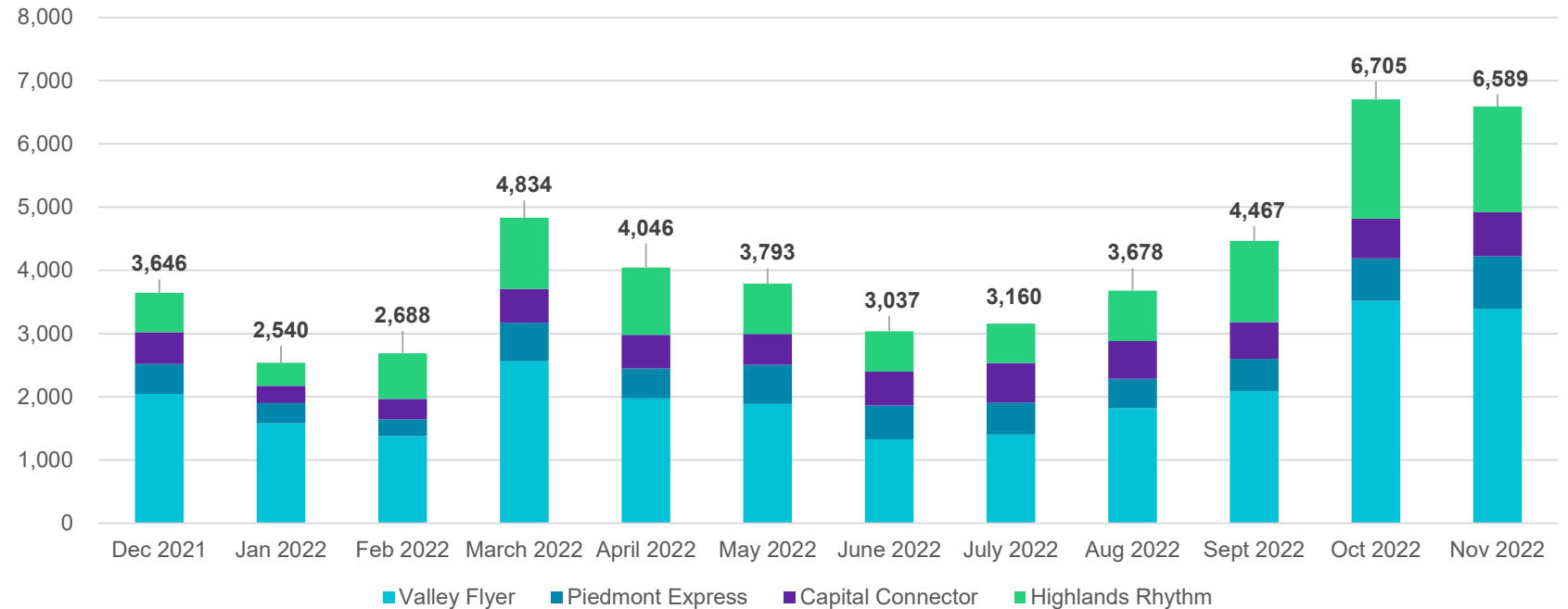
Capital Connector:

- Ridership – 16% higher than Nov 2021
- Farebox Rev. – 19% higher than Nov 2021

Highlands Rhythm:

- Ridership – 161% higher than Nov 2021
- Farebox Rev – 16% higher than Nov 2021

Virginia Breeze Ridership by Route – December 2021 to November 2022



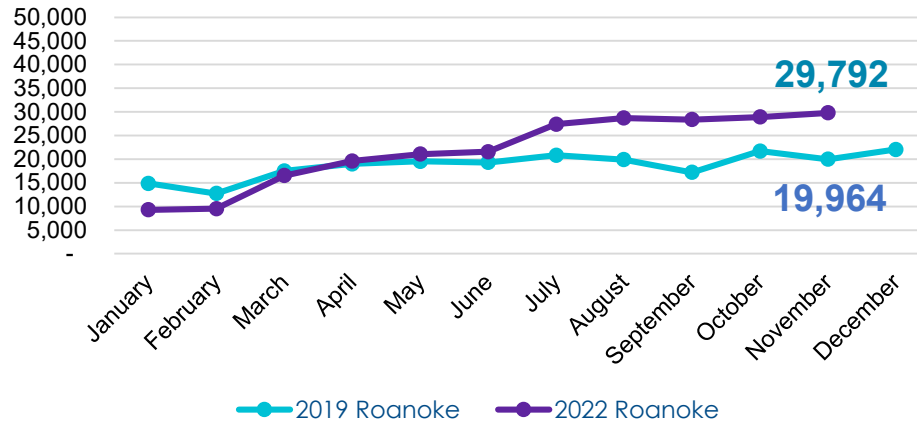
Route	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Total
Valley Flyer	2,048	1,581	1,381	2,561	1,975	1,888	1,329	1,405	1,820	2,091	3,519	3,394	24,992
Piedmont Express	470	319	263	611	475	618	537	507	464	511	672	827	6,274
Capital Connector	505	275	321	536	528	490	533	621	597	581	627	701	6,315
Highlands Rhythm	623	365	723	1,126	1,068	797	638	627	797	1,284	1,887	1,667	11,602
All Routes	3,646	2,540	2,688	4,834	4,046	3,793	3,037	3,160	3,678	4,467	6,705	6,589	49,183

Amtrak Virginia Monthly Ridership by Route (2022 vs. 2019)

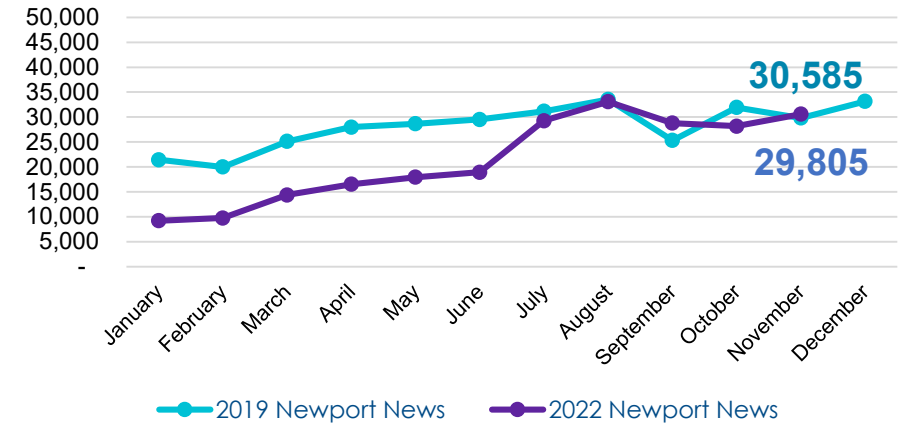
November 2022 saw a +37.7% increase in ridership compared to November 2019.

Highest November ridership ever recorded in Virginia.

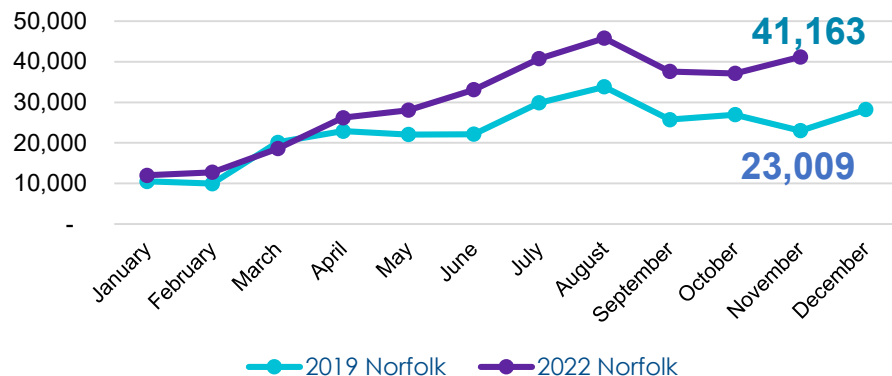
Route 46: Roanoke Ridership



Route: 47 Newport News Ridership



Route 50: Norfolk Ridership



Route 51: Richmond Ridership

