



Virginia-North Carolina Interstate Compact Meeting

September 8th, 2026

DRPT

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL
AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Virginia Updates - DRPT

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Who are we?



The catalyst to connect and improve the quality of life for all Virginians through innovative transportation solutions



Our vision is a connected Commonwealth with an integrated multimodal network that serves every person, every business, and every need



The agency works with rail and public transportation stakeholders to provide service to people throughout Virginia



1992 General Assembly established DRPT as an independent agency separate from VDOT

What do we do?



Allocates state and federal funding (\$7.4B in FY27-32 SYIP) through capital and operating grants, as well as grants to support specific enhancements or improvements



Conducts statewide rail and transit studies, including improving service or identifying new opportunities



Plans and programs new services and capital improvement projects, from public transportation to freight and passenger rail



Provides leadership, advocacy, technical assistance, and funding oversight

2026 Virginia Statewide Rail Plan

Virginia Statewide Rail Plan Purpose



Records progress and charts path forward.

Is data driven and aligns with goals/objectives of VTrans, the Commonwealth's long-range multimodal transportation plan.

Requires close coordination with the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA).

Includes 6-year and 20-year horizons.

Has data points/metrics can be compared plan to plan and state to state.

Supports applications for federal rail funding for passenger and freight projects.

2026 Statewide Rail Plan

- DRPT has held 12 stakeholder interviews and 10 stakeholder workgroup meetings, conducted a public survey with nearly 2,700 responses, a stakeholder survey with 84 responses, and hosted one public meeting. Feedback received includes:
 - Strong preference for expanding rail access, with the vast majority supporting service to more destinations including within Virginia.
 - Nearly 60 percent support a balanced approach that includes both new routes and enhanced service on existing corridors.
 - Station improvements and greater opportunities for multi-modal connections and transit-oriented development at stations
 - Overall input reflects strong demand for increased connectivity, accessibility, and system growth.
- The final plan is scheduled to be released in early 2027.

How to Stay Engaged with the Rail Plan

Next virtual public meeting is tonight (9/8) at 6:30 pm!

- Participate in public meetings and statewide survey
- Public Comment box on DRPT Statewide Rail Plan webpage
- <https://drpt.virginia.gov/studies-and-reports/virginia-statewide-rail-plan/>

Submit Comments on the 2026 Rail Plan

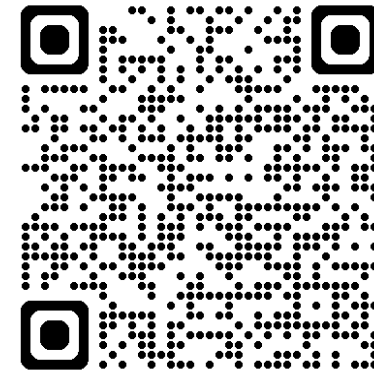
Please use the below form to submit general feedback or questions about the 2026 Rail Plan.

Name *

Email *

Comment or question about the Rail Plan *

SUBMIT

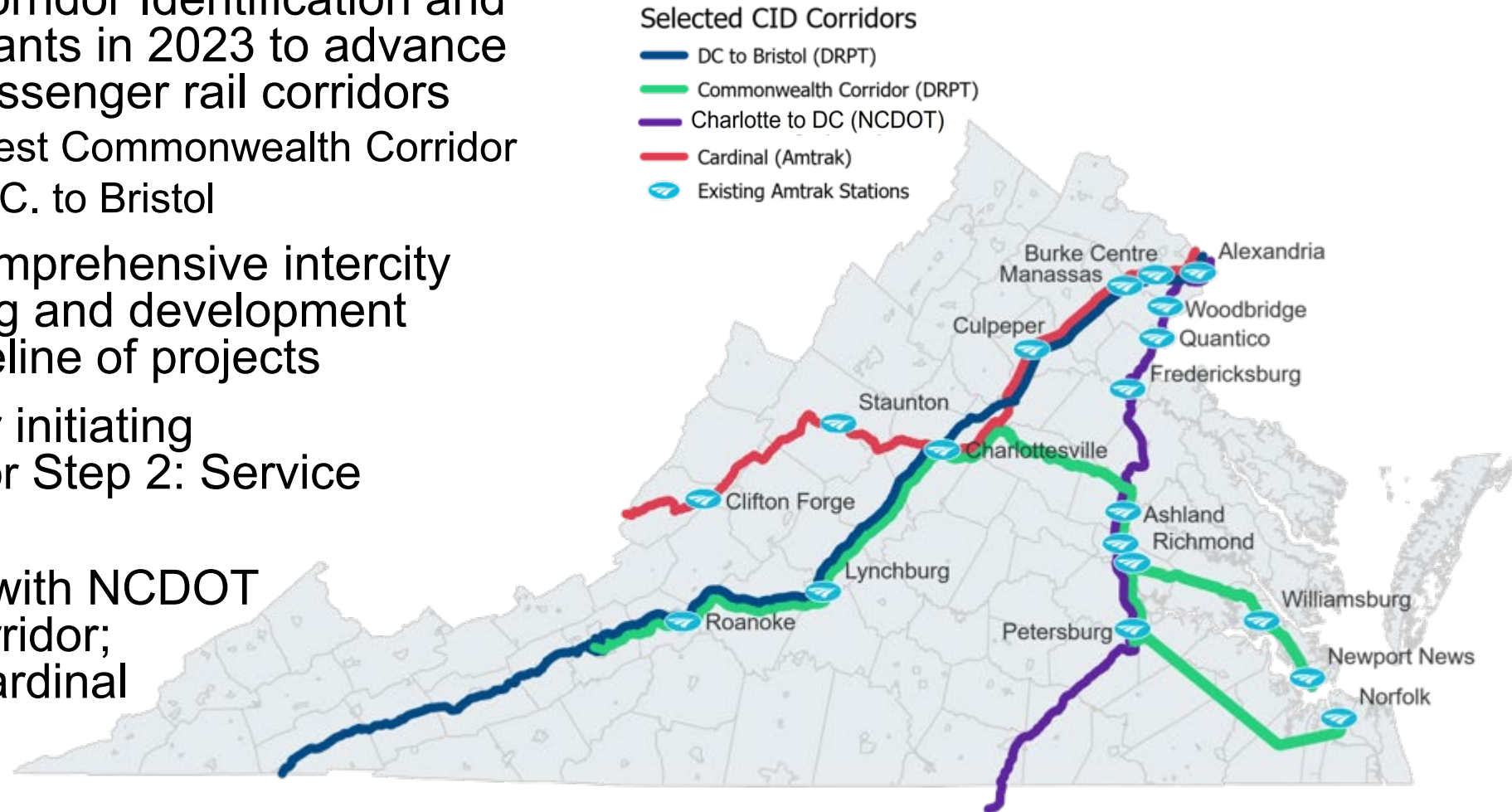


Register for Public Meeting #2
and/or submit comments

Potential Expansions and New Corridors

Corridor Identification and Development Program

- DRPT received two Corridor Identification and Development (CID) grants in 2023 to advance two potential future passenger rail corridors
 - New Service: East-West Commonwealth Corridor
 - Service Extension: D.C. to Bristol
- The grants support comprehensive intercity passenger rail planning and development program to create pipeline of projects
- Targeting late 2026 for initiating Commonwealth Corridor Step 2: Service Development Plan
- DRPT/VPRA working with NCDOT on Charlotte to DC corridor; and with Amtrak for Cardinal daily service CID





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