

#### Transforming Rail in Virginia

- On March 30, Governor Ralph Northam announced the Commonwealth has finalized agreements with Amtrak, CSX, and Virginia Railway Express, launching a \$3.7 billion investment to expand and improve passenger, commuter, and freight rail in Virginia and create a vital connection in America's national rail network between the Northeast and Southeast corridors.
- Over the next ten years, this unique partnership will:
  - Double Virginia-supported Amtrak trains providing nearly hourly service;
  - Increase VRE commuter service by 60 percent;
  - Lay the foundation for a Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor;
  - Preserve an existing freight corridor between Doswell and Clifton Forge for future east-west passenger service; and
  - Create the potential to expand rail to all parts of the Commonwealth.

#### Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

- DRPT is continuing to work on standing up the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority, as authorized during the 2020 General Assembly.
- The next VPRA meeting will be held on April 26.
- Additional information on VPRA can be found at: <http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/vpra/board-meetings/>

#### FY22 Six Year Improvement Program

- Draft to be released later this month with Richmond virtual hearing on May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Program will include recommendations to allocate CRRSAA and ARPA funding allocated to the Commonwealth.