

## Agency Update October 2021

## **Transit Equity and Modernization Study**

- Baseline Conditions and Opportunities Assessment will be finalized in October.
- Four Technical Working Groups will be meeting for the first time in October with a total of four meetings scheduled between now and August 2022.
- The interim report is due to the General Assembly by December 2021 and final report by August 2022.
- Information on the study and its progress can be found at <a href="www.vatransitequity.com">www.vatransitequity.com</a>.

## **Transit Ridership Incentive Program**

- The Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) is a new statewide grant program dedicated to improving transit's regional connectivity in urban areas with a population in excess of 100,000 and reducing barriers to transit use by supporting low income and zero fare programming.
- Applications closed on September 17, 2021 with three Regional Connectivity projects and 10 Zero Fare projects for a total request of \$13,400,955.
- Review and scoring of applications underway with tentative CTB presentation of draft recommendations in late October.
- Additional information is available on DRPT's webpage at: <a href="http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/transit/triptransit-ridership-incentive-program/">http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/transit/triptransit-ridership-incentive-program/</a>

## Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

- Expanded rail service from Richmond to the Northeast Corridor launched on September 27, 2021, with the return of Route 51 to service.
- Amtrak Northeast Regional Route 51 will now offer early morning service originating from Main Street Station and is the first expansion of service under the Transforming Rail in Virginia program.
- Additional information on VPRA can be found at: http://vpra.virginia.gov/