

DRPT Agency Update – September 2020

DRPT Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP)

- DRPT is preparing action items to add funding to the FY20 SYIP, for consideration by the Commonwealth Transportation Board at their September meeting. The following items are recommended for addition to the SYIP:
 - Transit Operating Assistance - 2nd quarter (funded at same level as 1st quarter)
 - Commuter Assistance (TDM) Operating - 2nd quarter (funded at same level as 1st quarter)
 - Section 5310 - Human Service Agency Capital assistance
- The Commonwealth Transportation Board is scheduled to meet on September 15 and 16.
- DRPT will reevaluate allocations based upon revenue projections and General Assembly action on a revised biennial budget.

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP)

- Tier II PTASP was finalized and published on August 11, 2020
- MPOs have a deadline of February 7, 2021 to update their TIP/CLRP
- DRPT sent to MPOs a memo and template language for use when updating PTASP targets in TIPs and CLRPs

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

- DRPT is continuing to work on standing up the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority, as authorized during the 2020 General Assembly.
- We anticipate appointments of board members to be released soon and for the Authority to hold its first meeting this fall.
- DRPT is also on track to complete agreements to finalize the CSX deal by the end of this year. This will provide the framework that will allow service from Richmond to DC to double over the next decade.

Virginia Breeze Bus Lines - Intercity Bus

- Service restarted on the Blacksburg to DC route (Valley Flyer) on July 24.
- Service to Richmond began on August 7 - with daily connections to DC, Farmville, Danville, and Martinsville (Piedmont Express and Capital Connector)
- For more information, including COVID safety protocols, visit our website at: <https://virginiabreeze.org>

AMTRAK

- Effective September 7, AMTRAK will increase state-supported rail service to 80% of pre-pandemic levels. This will include one additional Norfolk and one additional Newport News daily round trips - both connect through Richmond.
- Additional service through Richmond is not anticipated to return until early 2021.