

#### Transforming Rail in Virginia

- On February 18, the CTB approved the authorization for the DRPT Director to execute the final legal agreements for the CSX, Amtrak and VRE agreements.

#### 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 March 22.
- Additional information on VPRA can be found at: <http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/vpra/board-meetings/>

#### General Assembly

- HJR 542 – Transit Modernization and Equity Study
  - Needs assessment focusing on the equitable delivery of transportation services and modernization of transit in the Commonwealth
  - Includes, but not limited to: transit accessibility, adequacy of transit infrastructure, transit electrification, implementation of emerging technology, transit safety, and transit system engagement
  - Particular emphasis on transit services and engagement opportunities for underserved and underrepresented communities
- Budget Amendments:
  - Relaxing Transit Strategic Plan schedule due to COVID impacts
  - \$10.9M for establish pilot programs for fare-free transit. An amount not to exceed \$900K will be used to study transit equity and modernization