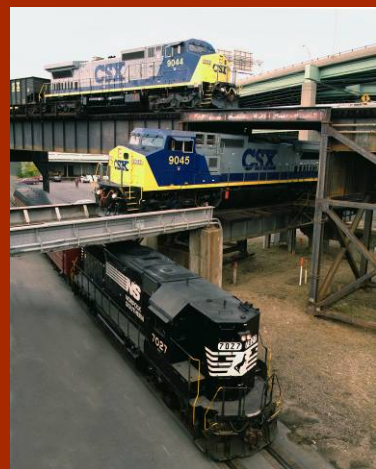




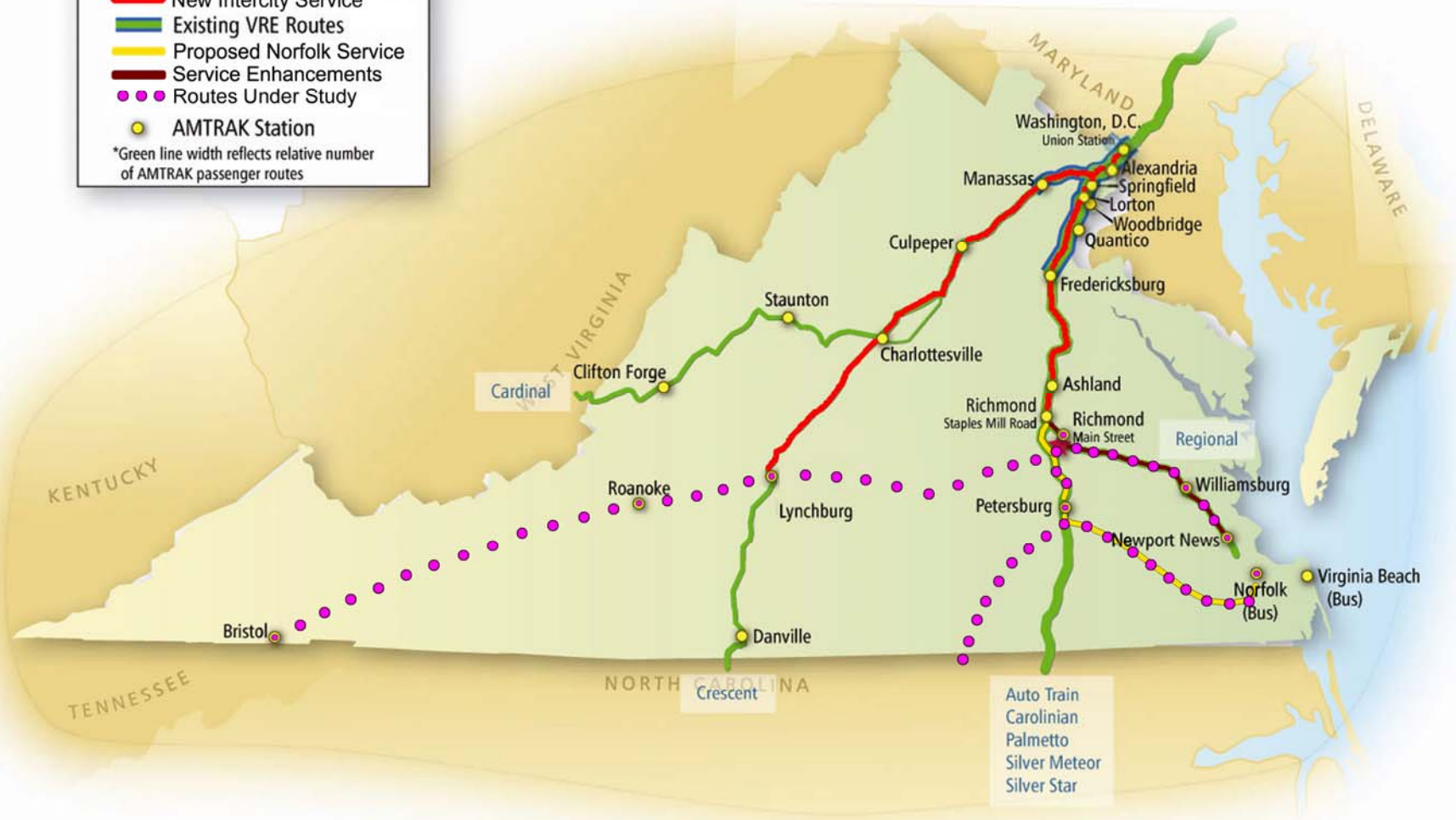
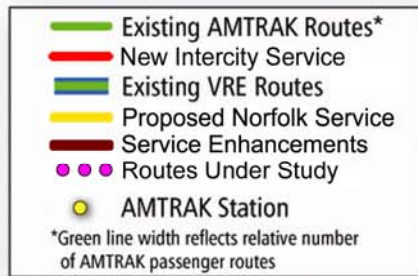
VA/NC Compact Passenger Rail Update

Kevin Page
Chief of Rail Transportation



September 19, 2011

Passenger Rail Service In Virginia Present and Future



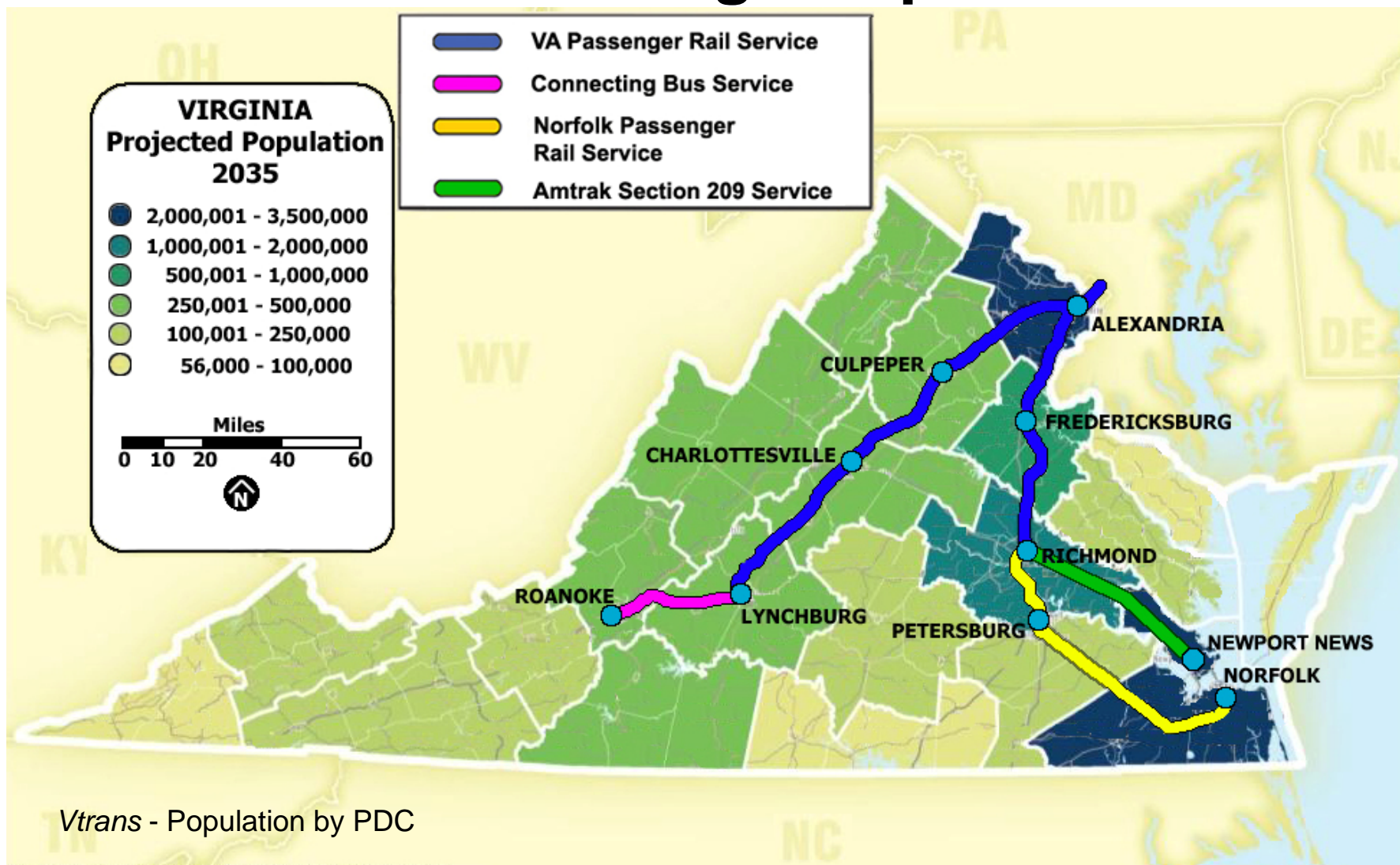
September 19, 2011

Virginia Regional Amtrak Passenger Service



September 19, 2011

Virginia's Intercity Passenger Rail Initiatives Will Serve 2035 High Population Centers



Vtrans - Population by PDC

State-Funded Amtrak Service Lynchburg and Richmond Service

- ❑ Lynchburg service completed its first year as the strongest performing Amtrak state-supported train in the system – second year remains strong
- ❑ Richmond ridership continues to perform above its ridership goal
- ❑ Funding for the three-year demonstration project through FY2012 is provided for in the SYIP
- ❑ Both the Richmond and Lynchburg service is under one combined contract with Amtrak.
- ❑ Beginning 2013, all regional train service must be paid for by the states – Virginia will absorb four more regional trains it does not pay for today
- ❑ 2011 - Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund was created by the General Assembly with no dedicated funding source, but allows the General Assembly to make appropriations into the fund and allows the CTB to allocate funding through Commonwealth Transportation funds

State-Funded Amtrak Service Norfolk Service Extension

- ❑ December 15, 2010 – DRPT and NS executed agreement to start improvements necessary for three train slots between Petersburg and Norfolk.
- ❑ May 20, 2011 – DRPT and CSX executed agreement to start improvements at the NS Collier Yard Connection for ability to move one train from Richmond Staples Mill Station to Petersburg.
 - Improvements necessary for train slots 2 and 3 between Richmond Staples Mill Station and Petersburg are under development.
 - Anticipated improvements include a new higher capacity Appomattox River Bridge
- ❑ Improvement design, right of way acquisition, and construction is well underway
- ❑ Norfolk will build the train station.
- ❑ DRPT web site project updates available at:
<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/norfolk.aspx>

State-Funded Amtrak Service Roanoke Connecting Bus Extension

- ❑ The 2011 Appropriation Act provided the City of Roanoke \$150,000 for the initiation of a one-year demonstration connecting bus service between Roanoke and the Lynchburg state-funded intercity passenger rail service
- ❑ Connecting bus service began in July and provides a link between Roanoke and Lynchburg that has established a bridged passenger rail connection from the Roanoke Region to the Lynchburg corridor service to Boston
- ❑ DRPT continues to work with NS on joint benefit improvements to its lines in Roanoke as an initial step towards achieving capacity to handle passenger train operations between Lynchburg and Roanoke

Federal HSR Planning Process- Richmond Area to Washington, D.C.

- ❑ Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) completed in 2002
- ❑ \$75M in federal ARRA stimulus funds awarded under a separate application to alleviate choke point – Agreement negotiations on hold due to lack of progress
- ❑ \$45.5M in federal FY2010 high speed rail funds awarded to advance environmental study and infrastructure improvements for entire corridor
 - \$44.3M Richmond Area to Washington, D.C. Preliminary Engineering and Tier II EIS – Agreement in development with FRA – Significant progress
 - \$1.2M Appomattox River Bridge design – Agreement negotiations pending

Federal HSR Planning Process-

Richmond to Hampton Roads Tier I

Richmond to Raleigh Tier II EIS

- ❑ DRPT has sent the final Richmond to Hampton Roads EIS document back to FRA for approval and Record of Decision
- ❑ DRPT and NCDOT continue to advance work on the Richmond to Raleigh Tier II EIS – Alignment meetings underway in the corridor
- ❑ DRPT has accommodated the third track alignment for high speed rail operations as a part of the Collier Connection alignment for the Norfolk train service extension
- ❑ Before SEHSR service is to begin, significant track capacity improvements must be made between Raleigh and Washington, D.C.

VA/NC HSR VA Members Meeting

- ❑ VA members only workshop meeting held on June 7:
 - General Passenger Rail Update
 - Federal and State Program initiatives
 - Definition of the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor
 - Affordability of the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor development and phasing of projects
 - 20% match requirement
 - Sequencing of individual projects
 - Risk and payback of high speed rail service
 - Protection of the capacity that Virginia has paid for its own intercity passenger and commuter rail development
 - Partnering of other Southeast Corridor states for the rail improvements necessary to run trains from the south through Virginia to the northeast

Thank You!

Questions?