Agenda

1. Vision

2. Industry Drivers

3. Rail Program Goals & Objectives

1.
Vision

VIRGINIA STATEWIDE RAIL PLAN

Virginia's multimodal transportation system will be ***Good for Business, Good for Communities, and Good to Go***. Virginians will benefit from a sustainable, reliable transportation system that advances Virginia businesses, attracts a 21st century workforce, and promotes healthy communities where Virginians of all ages and abilities can thrive.

The mission of DRPT is to facilitate and improve the mobility of the citizens of Virginia and to promote the efficient transport of goods and people in a safe, reliable and cost-effective manner.

DRPT
Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

VIRGINIA STATEWIDE RAIL PLAN

VTRANS Vision

DRPT Mission

Virginia's rail network is a valuable asset that drives the economy, reduces congestion, improves safety, and saves tax payer money. Continued investment in rail infrastructure will ensure the mission and vision for the Commonwealth's transportation network is achieved.

2.

Industry Drivers

Industry Drivers

Intermodal Growth

- Port of Virginia
- Panama Canal expansion
- Intermodal is the primary growth market for Class I Railroads

Changes in Energy Production

- Oil, Gas and Coal
- VA railroads carry "fracked" bulk crude oil trains to east coast markets
- Drop in coal traffic

Increasing Congestion

- Highway
- Airlines – fewer flight options
- Rail bottlenecks
- Need to provide mobility options

Environmental Degradation

- Climate change risks to infrastructure: increased severity and duration of natural disasters, sea level rise, severe heat and cold
- Rail travel provides a lower greenhouse gas-emissions alternative

Industry Drivers

Demographic Changes

- Aging population in rural areas; young people flocking to denser urban locales
- Widening economic inequality and increases in the cost of living
- Strong population growth in urban areas overall

Aging Infrastructure

- Heavier rail cars for heavy bulk materials requires track upgrades
- Virginia's rail infrastructure is vulnerable

Changes in Rail Governance Framework

- PRIIA and funding responsibilities
- DRPT ability to own property
- Transit/VRE funding changes for congested regions
- Uncertainty of Federal funding

3.

Goals and Objectives

Rail Program Goals and Objectives

1. Optimize Return on Investments

- Focus on enhancing existing services and target areas where the largest populations and business communities will benefit

2. Ensure Safety, Security & Resiliency

- Focus on improving safety for shortlines and addressing deficient critical infrastructure

3. Deliver Programs Efficiently

- Improve DRPT guidance, communication, and protocols

4. Consider Operational Improvements & Demand Management First

- Ensure maximum efficiency through technology and operational capacity

Rail Program Goals and Objectives

5. Ensure Transparency and Accountability

- Further develop policies, metrics, and evaluation criteria
- Showcase value of rail network and communicate more effectively with our partners

6. Improve Coordination Between Transportation & Land Use

- Improve education and coordination to ensure infrastructure investments are properly supported at local level
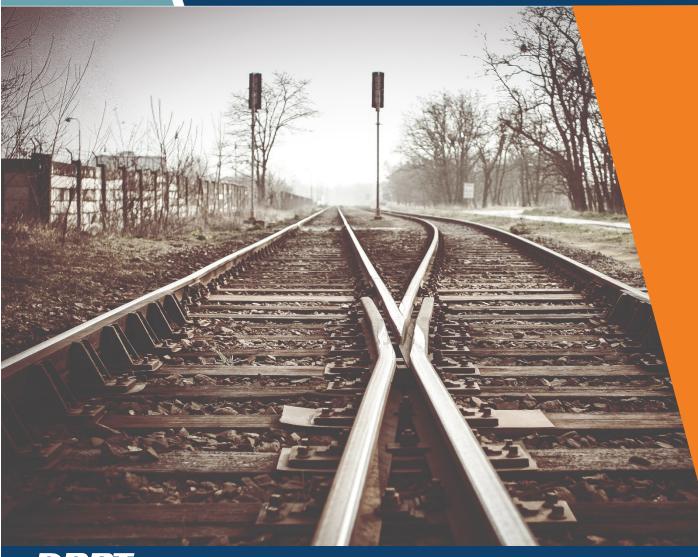
7. Ensure Efficient Intermodal Connections

- Promote compatibility between networks and modes

8. Support Regional Economic Development

- Work closely with regional and local economic development to promote rail investment

Thank You

VIRGINIA
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