



Statewide Rail Plan and Station Policy Update

CTB Rail and Transit Subcommittee Meeting

June 22, 2021

Plan Development Process

Initial Scoping/Visioning Meetings: May/June 2021 ← YOU ARE HERE

Draft Projects Outreach: Fall 2021

Project Refinement and Service Development Plan Completion: Winter 2021

Final Plan Adoption: Spring 2022

Individual stakeholder meetings will be held as-requested throughout the Plan development.

DRPT and VPRA

	RAIL	
	FREIGHT	PASSENGER
Funding Administration	DRPT	TO VPRA
Corridor Planning	DRPT	TO VPRA
Statewide Planning	DRPT	
Programming/SYIP	DRPT	TO VPRA
Policy Setting	DRPT	TO VPRA

Statewide Rail Plan Background

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) requires each state to update its Statewide Rail Plan (SRP) every four years

Virginia's last SRP was adopted by the CTB in 2018

SRP enables Virginia to apply and receive federal rail funding for passenger and freight projects

SRP includes 4-year and 20-year horizons

Data points/metrics can be compared plan to plan and state to state

Coordination with Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment

2018 Plan

- Followed FRA document format
- Contained all FRA-required metrics for freight and passenger rail
- Expanded Economic Impact of Rail section with freight shipper flow data
- Created Station Stop Policy
- Adopted by CTB, aligns with VTRANS
- Pre-VPRA, Transforming Rail in Virginia, and COVID-19

2022 Plan



Develop Executive Summary document to highlight CTB and VPRA vision, policies, goals, and objectives



Develop specific freight and passenger rail policies to guide DRPT and VPRA decisions



In conjunction with statewide transportation plans, will show how future rail projects can move through the implementation pipeline



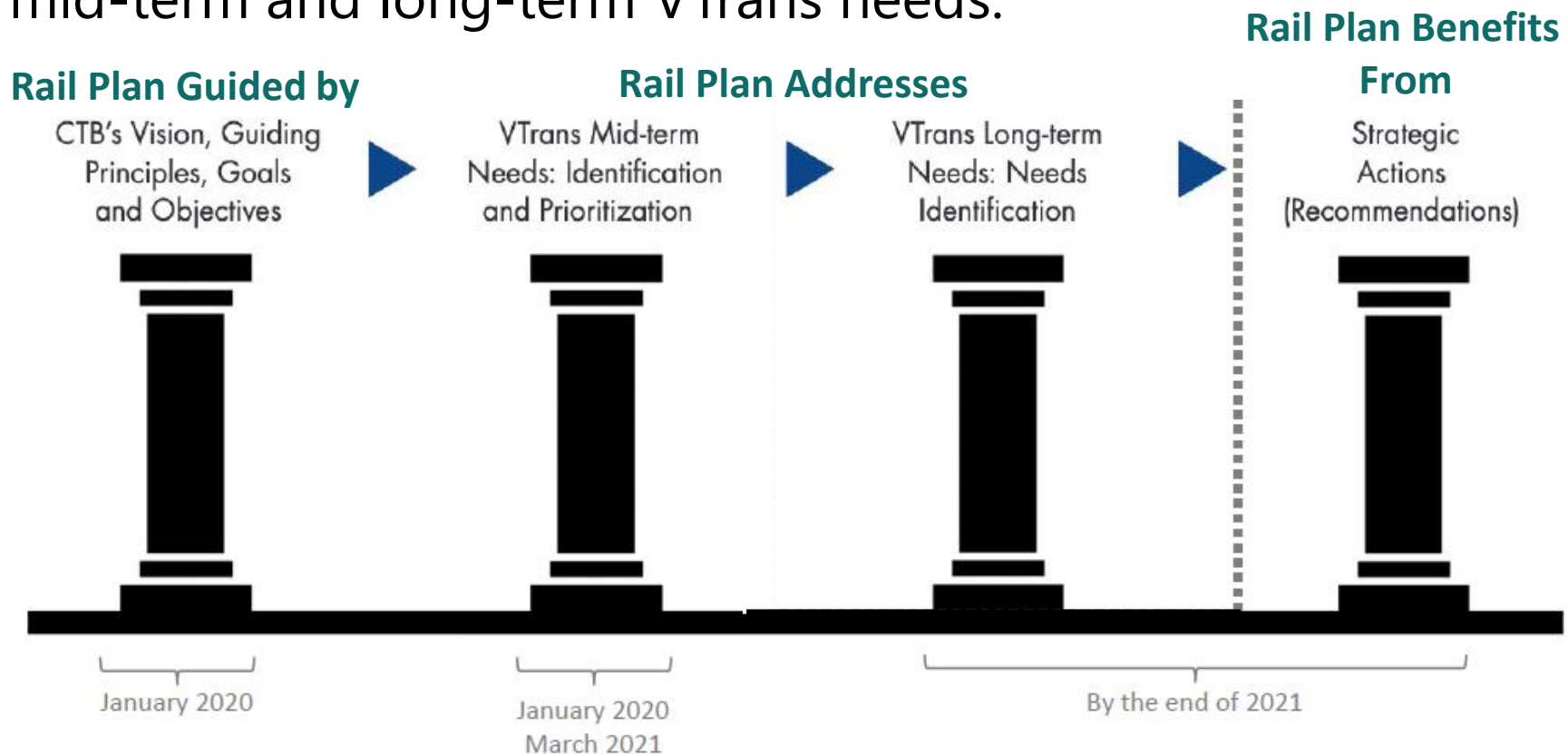
Ability to include Transforming Rail in Virginia and post-COVID effects in 4- and 20-year assumptions



Will still contain all FRA-required metrics for freight and passenger rail, and will be presented to CTB for adoption

Statewide Rail Plan and VTrans

- **VTrans** is Virginia's multimodal transportation plan that identifies vision and goals, mid-term, and long-term needs for the movement of people and goods.
- **DRPT's Statewide Rail Plan** presents rail projects and initiatives that address mid-term and long-term VTrans needs.



Service Development Plan

Synthesizes existing service and infrastructure plans

Incorporates demand/demographic data

Includes Transforming Rail in Virginia, to show service potential post-2030 (Phase II)

Provides necessary service data for long-term project recommendations, as required by FRA

Delivers a statewide service concept for medium-term and long-term horizons (less than 20 and greater than 20 years)

Plan Strategies - Key Policies

Environmental sustainability and facility environmental standards

Freight rail preservation, rail banking/abandonment

Amtrak and VRE fare pricing policy/coordinated ticketing

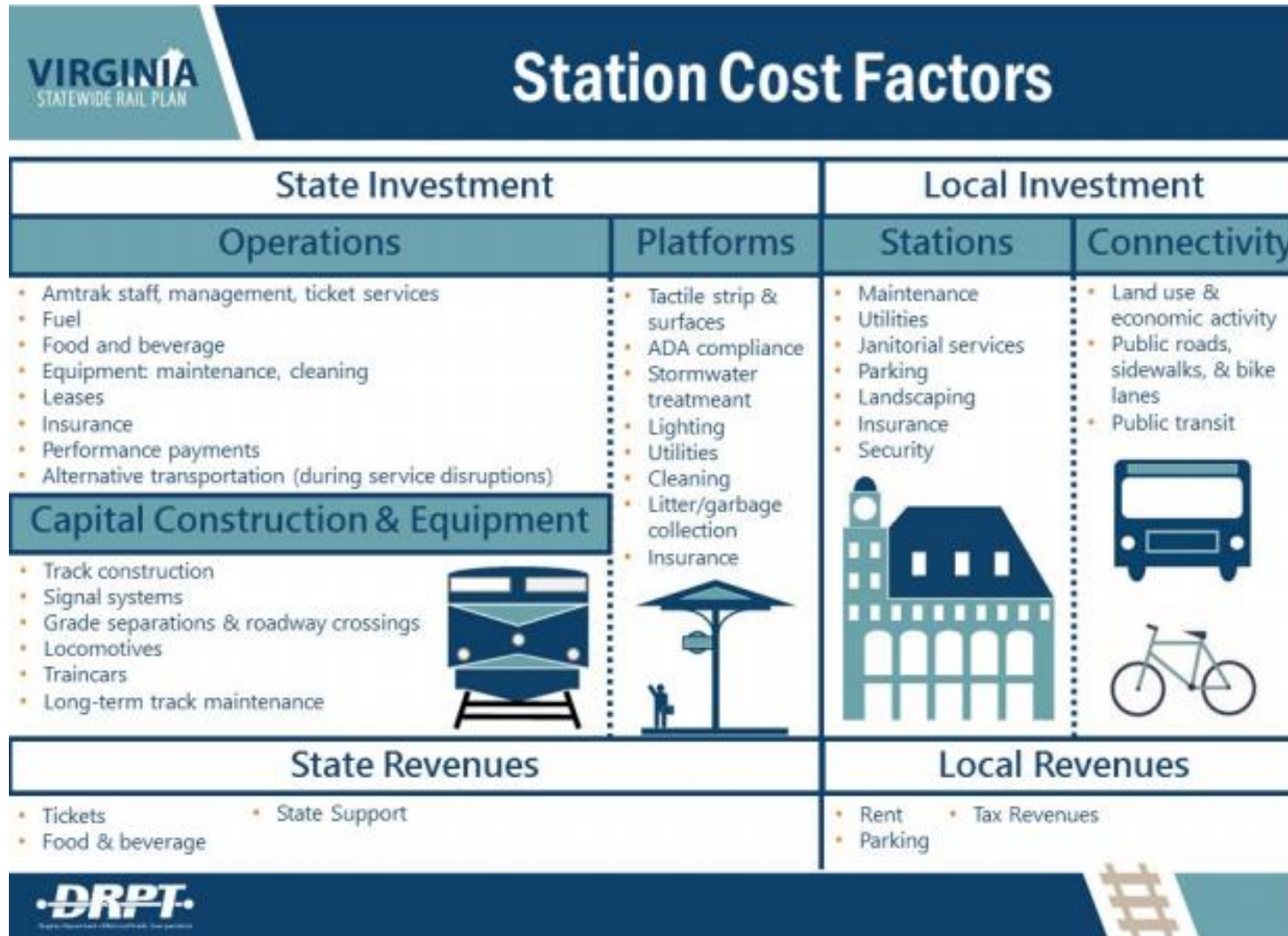
Station stop policy umbrella: ADA, SOGR, service expansion, station development

Rails-with-trails on VA-owned corridors

Mode of propulsion

Additional policy considerations may arise through the SRP's public and stakeholder involvement process

Station Stop Policy Today



New Station Policy As An Umbrella



The Statewide Rail Plan will outline general policies that VPRA can reference and refine as it implements projects.

ADA Priorities Paper

- Currently under development
- Will establish first-priority needs for ADA compliance at stations the Commonwealth has responsibility
- Outcomes:
 - Prioritize ADA needs
 - Develop cost estimates
 - Review with FRA and Amtrak
 - Inform ADA station policy for the Statewide Rail Plan
- DRPT and VPRA may pursue other station enhancements and funding opportunities

Virginia Station Ownership

Agreement with CSX to result in Commonwealth ownership of station elements (i.e.: building, parking lot, platform, or land) at these Station locations:

Alexandria*

Ashland

Brooke*

Charlottesville

Crystal City*

Franconia-Springfield*

Fredericksburg*

Leeland Road*

L'Enfant*

Lorton*

Petersburg

Quantico*

Richmond-Staples Mill

Rippon*

Spotsylvania*

Staunton

Woodbridge*

* Indicates stations with Virginia Railway Express (VRE) service

Bold text indicates stations with Amtrak Service

Virginia Station Ownership

Amtrak Stations that will have Virginia Responsibilities:

Ashland (VPRA)

Petersburg (VPRA)

Charlottesville (VPRA in 2027)

Richmond - Staples Mill (VPRA)

Staunton (VPRA)

- The VPRA has the obligation to provide Amtrak with ADA compliant facilities and making ADA improvements for those stations that are not currently compliant
- Station lease agreement requires Amtrak to maintain SOGR, but now the Commonwealth will have the right to fix things at the station if Amtrak fails to maintain station facilities

Virginia Station ADA Responsibilities

Ashland

- Amtrak ADA platform improvements almost complete

Charlottesville

- Long range Concept planning underway
- Amtrak implementing ADA improvements – design and construction out for procurement
- Platform on BBRR to transfer to VA ownership by 2028

Petersburg (Ettrick)

- SOGR project partnership with Chesterfield County and Amtrak
- Working with Amtrak to address ADA compliance

Staples Mill

- Expansion 30% design soon to be complete
- Working with Amtrak to address ADA compliance

Staunton

- Station lease renewal under negotiation
- Working with Amtrak to address ADA compliance

ADA Priority Stations

Petersburg (Ettrick)

- VA to pick up ADA improvements where Amtrak left off
- Will be top priority for detailed cost estimate

Staples Mill

- VA responsible for platform
- Detailed cost estimate if time allows, else order-of-magnitude only

Staunton

- Improvements TBD based on lease negotiations
- Detailed cost estimate if time allows, else order-of-magnitude only

Other Station Policies

SOG/Capacity Improvements	Station Development	Service Expansion
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- Rail Plan to project needs for station upgrades
- Priority on ADA and Safety/Security first; all stations should be “safe, dry, and bright”
- Capacity constraints and other improvements addressed after basic passenger needs met
- VPRA may elect to address capacity needs if time-sensitive opportunities arise, and based on revenue availability

VPRA Board ultimately will determine priorities for any station improvements to be funded by VPRA

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VIRGINIA

STATEWIDE RAIL PLAN

2022