

Northern Virginia Core Capacity Project
Northern Virginia, Virginia
Core Capacity Project Development
Information Prepared November 2021

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) proposes to implement the Northern Virginia Core Capacity project to construct a new dedicated two-track bridge over the Potomac River, along with 6 miles of new fourth railroad track and related improvements along the existing RF&P rail corridor, between Alexandria, Virginia and Washington, D.C. The proposed project also includes service expansion from two to three trains per hour during both the AM and PM peaks, new train storage tracks, and purchase of up to three additional trainsets. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$2,415 million and the amount VPRA expects to seek from the Core Capacity program will be determined during Project Development.

VPRA believes that the Project elements will create the additional capital infrastructure necessary to enable and implement an increase in commuter rail capacity by more than 10 percent. Without significant infrastructure improvements to enable additional commuter rail capacity, increasing growth and travel demand in the corridor will result in worsening highway congestion and deteriorating commuter rail service levels and reliability.

VPRA expects to complete the environmental review process in May 2022 and anticipates adopting the project Locally Preferred Alternative and adding it into the fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in November 2022. VPRA estimates entering Core Capacity Engineering in November 2023, receiving a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2025, with capacity expansion being complete in 2030.