



2023 General Assembly

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority
Board of Directors Meeting

Andrew Wright

Chief of External Affairs & Strategic Initiatives

January 24, 2023

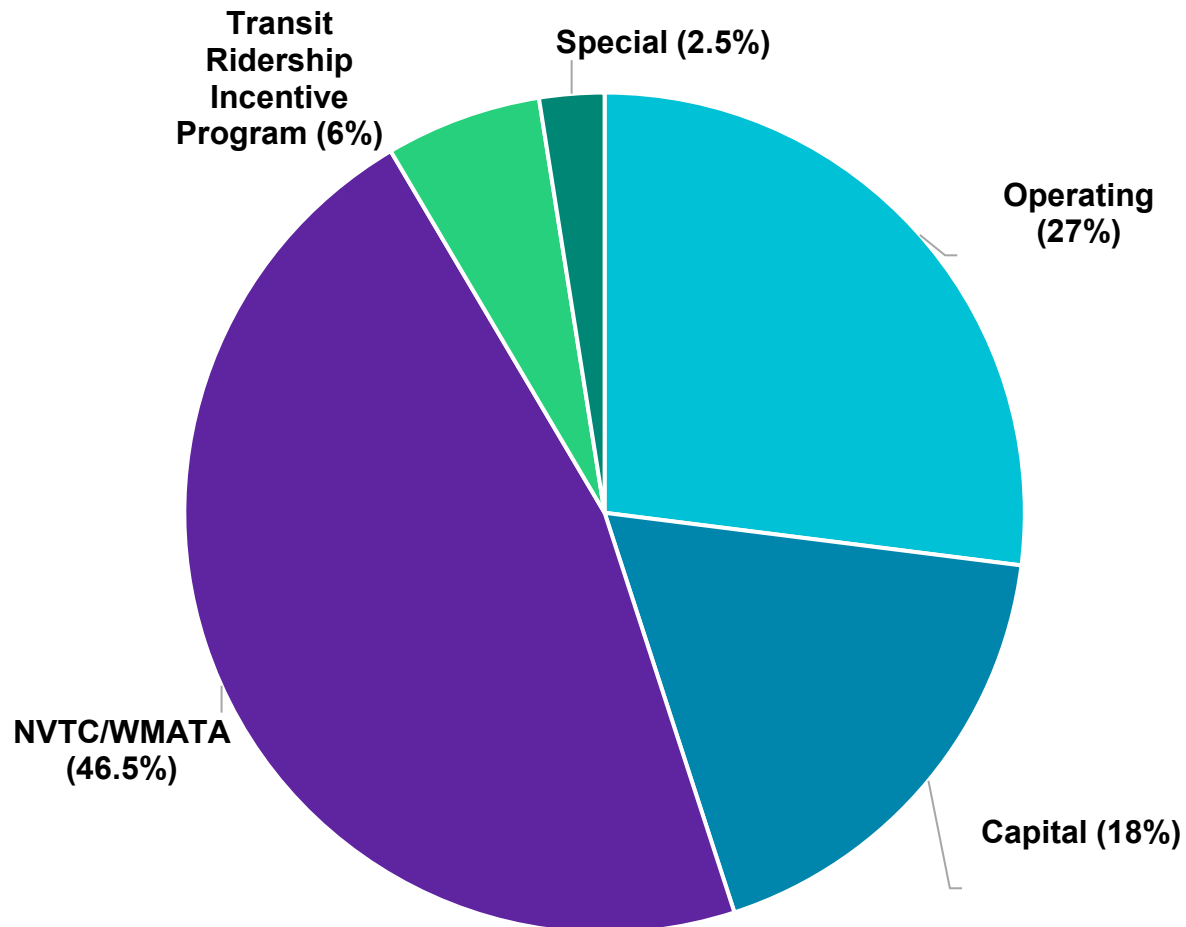


Changes to the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund

- Makes changes to § 33.2-1526.1 regarding the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund by creating a separate category of funds for the Virginia Railway Express (VRE)---Virginia's sole commuter rail provider
- Provides additional Commonwealth Transportation Board oversight requirements for VRE and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)
- Patrons: Delegate Terry Austin (HB1496) and Senator John Cosgrove (SB1079)
- One of the Governor's two transportation priorities for 2023 Session

Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund

Current Distribution of State Dollars

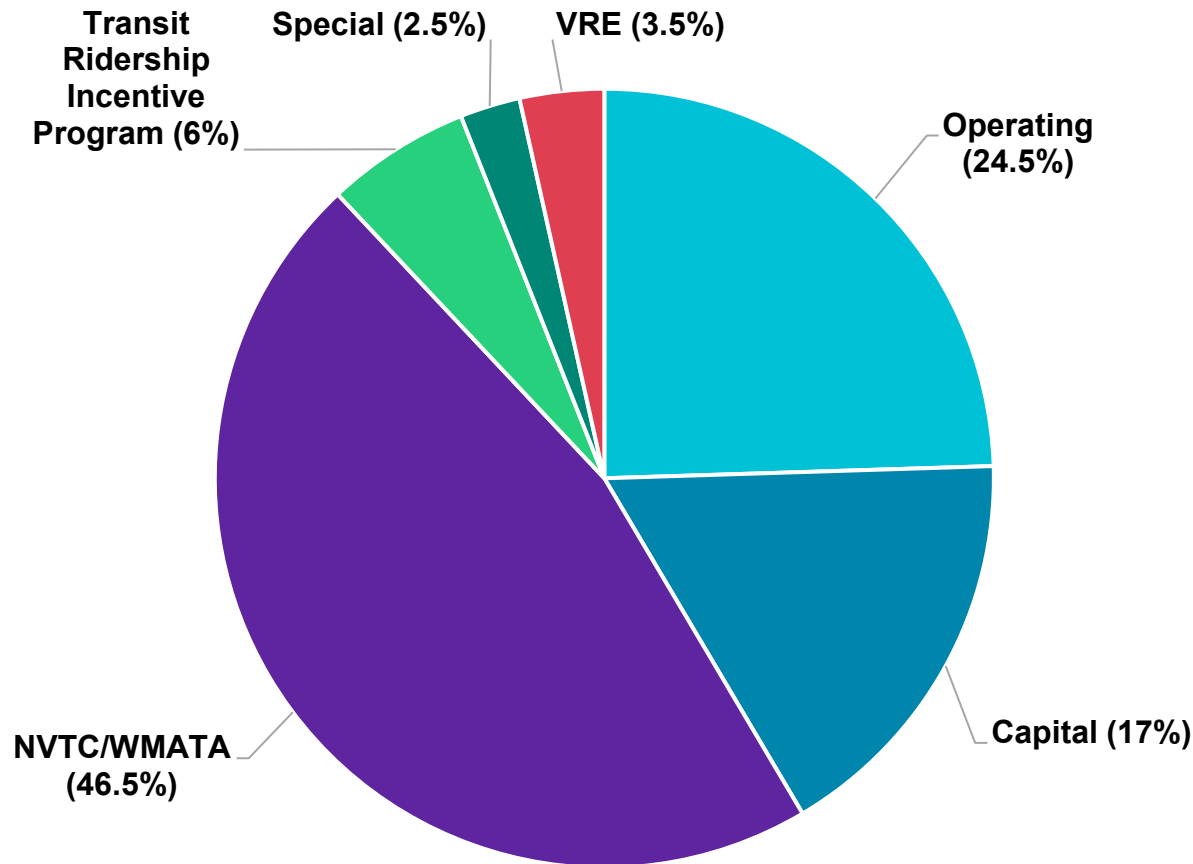


FY21: DRPT allocated \$13.4M to VRE for operating assistance and capital projects

- **Operating:**
 - Distributed via performance metrics to support transit operations (excluding WMATA)
- **Capital:**
 - Allocated via an application-based prioritization process to support transit capital purchases (excluding WMATA)
- **NVTc/WMATA:**
 - Distributed for operating assistance and capital expenditures
- **Transit Ridership Incentive Program:**
 - Allocated to support regional connectivity and low-income programs
- **Special:**
 - Support for transportation demand management, pilot projects, and provide technical assistance
- **“Off the Top” Deductions:**
 - WMATA PRIIA (\$50M)
 - State Safety Oversight (\$2M)
 - Paratransit (\$1.5M)
 - DRPT Administrative Costs (up to 5%)

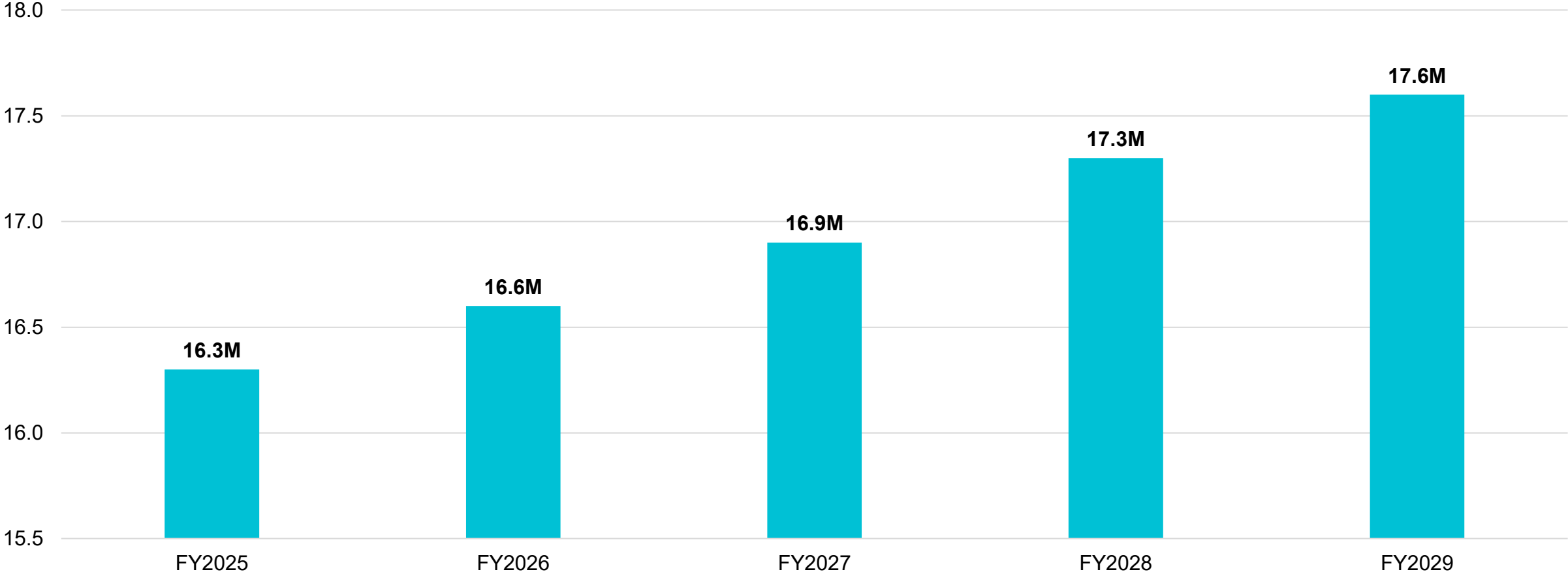
Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund

Proposed Distributions



- VRE will not receive funding for capital and operating assistance in the same manner as other transit agencies that predominately provide bus service
- Separate category of **up to 3.5%** within the CMTF dedicated for VRE
 - CTB will determine exact share by using performance-based metrics specific to commuter rail
 - Funds not used will be redistributed to the statewide capital program for use by other transit systems
- Changes will go into effect with the FY2025 Six Year Improvement Program

VRE FY2025-2029 Maximum Allocations





CTB Oversight

- VRE is required to submit a detailed operating budget and proposed capital expenditures annually to the Board by February 1
 - The Board may withhold 20 percent if VRE fails to do so
 - VPRA has similar requirement



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