

September 2023

# Executive Director's Report

DJ Stadtler, Executive Director, VPRA



# CRISI Grant Award: Franconia-Springfield Bypass

- The Federal Railroad Administration awarded VPRA a grant of \$100M for the Franconia-Springfield Bypass from the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program.
- This was the full amount VPRA requested, and the 4th largest of the 70 CRISI grants awarded.
- An event was held on September 29 to announce the grant, and VPRA Chair Jen DeBruhl and Director Rod Hall were in attendance.
- The 0.9 mile bypass structure will allow passenger trains to:
  - Crossover to serve VRE stations on the west, north of Franconia, and on the east, south of Franconia.
  - Reduce conflicts between passenger and freight trains.
- The Project will be coordinated with the Franconia to Lorton Third Track project.
- Completion of this and other Phase 1 projects will enable further passenger trains, including on weekends and evenings.





# Project Highlight: Long Bridge in the News

- The Long Bridge Team hosted a media event to provide details on the project, stressing the importance of securing all the necessary funding to complete the bridge. The event was positively and widely covered, with all four DC TV affiliates present, as well as WTOP radio and *The Washington Post*.
- On September 15, progressive design-build proposals were received for the Long Bridge North Package.
- Test pile driving work begins in October.

**The Washington Post**  
*Democracy Dies in Darkness*

## Va. seeks federal money as work set to start on new Potomac rail bridge

The new span and other upgrades south of Washington aim to alleviate a growing East Coast bottleneck of passenger and freight trains

**wtop** 103.5 FM | WTOP.COM  
**news**

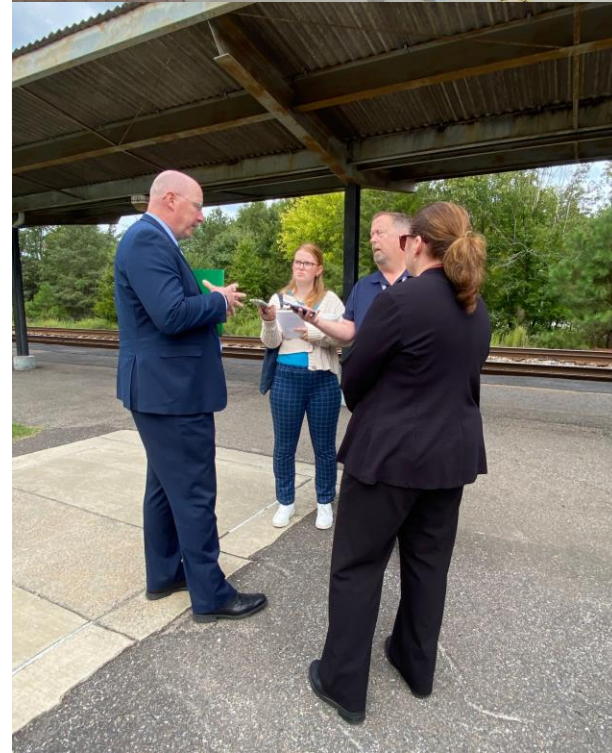
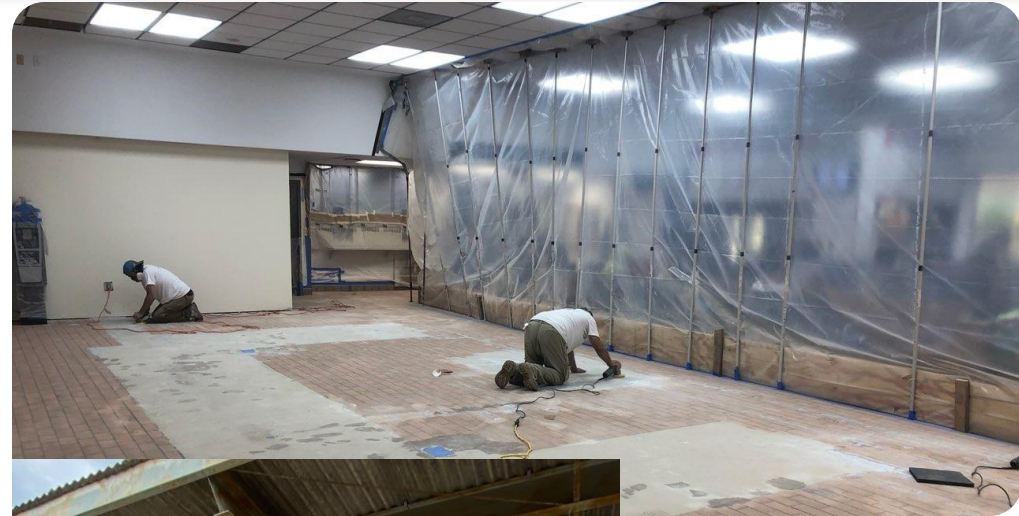
## New Potomac bridge: Officials take first steps on project to double passenger rail capacity between Va. and DC



[Ctrl + Click to follow link – NBC4 Washington](#)

# Administrative Updates

- The waiting area at the Richmond Staples Mill Station received modern seating, new ceiling tiles, and a fresh coat of paint. At the Norfolk Station, platform boarding location signage and Amtrak logos were installed to improve wayfinding.
- VPRA hosted a strategic marketing session with Pulsar, the marketing contractor for Amtrak Virginia. A marketing strategy is being developed to build awareness of passenger rail in the Commonwealth.
- During Rail Safety Week from September 17-24, VPRA hosted outreach events at Ashland and Alexandria stations, participated in a media event at Petersburg/Ettrick station, and sponsored rail safety messaging at a Washington Nationals game.





# Administrative Updates

- Executive Director DJ Stadtler participated on a panel at the RVA757 Connects 2023 Convergence conference. The panel focused on transportation priorities in the Hampton Roads area. Also on the panel were VDOT Commissioner Stephen Brich, Jon Lugbill from Richmond Sports Backers, and Bob Crum from the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.
- In partnership with Operation Lifesaver and the Children's Museum of Richmond, VPRA staff interacted with the over 2,000 children and families who attended the museum September 23-24, educating the next generation on the importance of safety around tracks and trains. Other activities included train-themed story time with Miss Virginia Volunteer and crafts.



# VPRA Organizational Updates

## **Staffing** (as of 9/25/23)

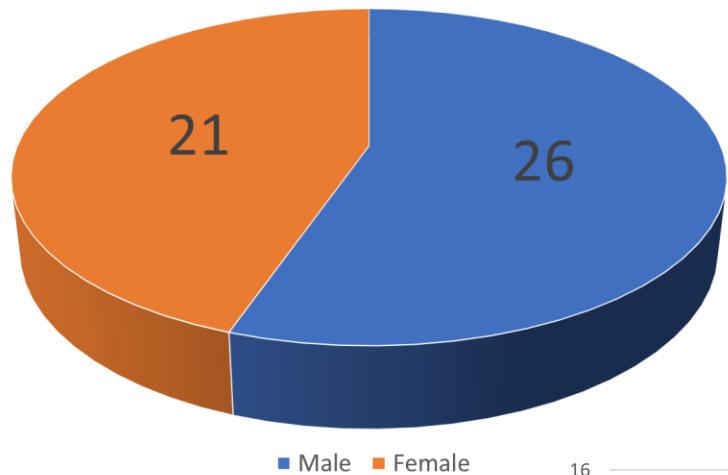
- Employee Count: 47 FTEs, 1 PTE
- Current Postings: 8
- Offers Accepted: 1 (October start date)

## **September Hiring Activity**

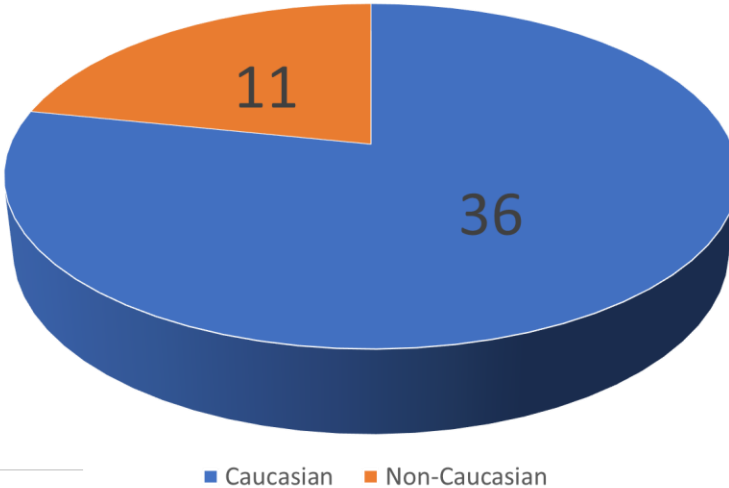
- Lamar Bates, Safety Director
- Kellie Mattingly, Capital Grants Manager
- Jenna Friedburg, Government Affairs Manager
- Paige O'Malley, Government Affairs Manager

# VPRA Organizational Updates (continued)

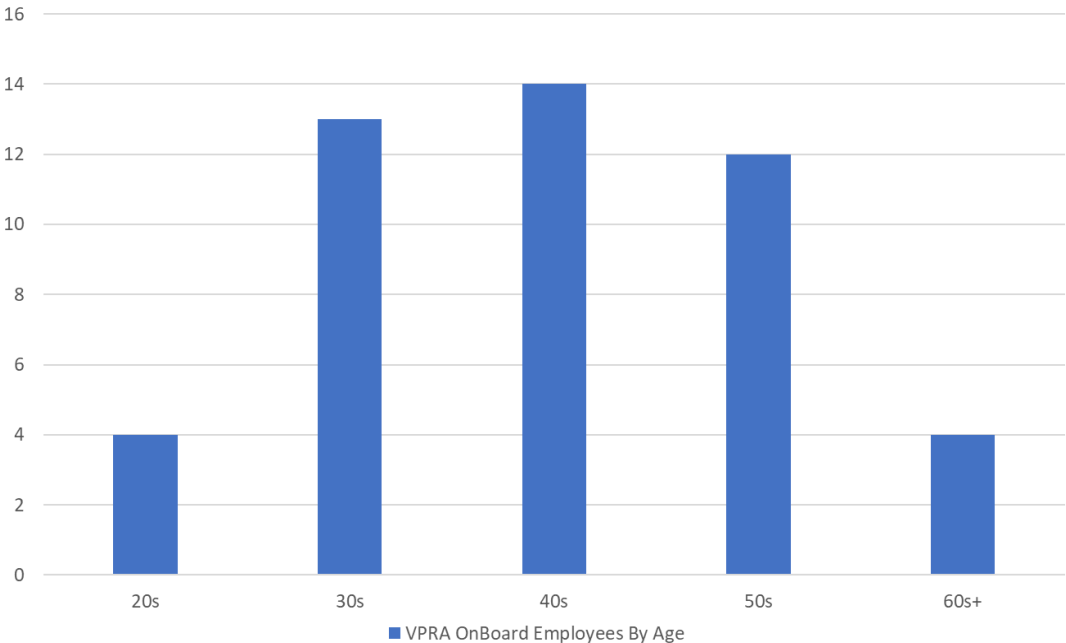
VPRA OnBoard Employees By Gender



VPRA OnBoard Employees By Race



VPRA OnBoard Employees By Age



Data includes FT employees on board as of **9/25/2023**. Data does not include those who have accepted offers but are not yet on board.

# FY24 Annual Incentive Plan (AIP) Goals

- Increase ridership by 3% (state FY24 ridership compared to state FY23 ridership) while achieving a cost recovery goal of 67%
- Advance key milestones for Long Bridge
  - Issue RFP for South package by EOM March 2024
  - Issue Phase 1 Notice to Proceed (NTP) on Northern package by EOM January 2024
- Advance key milestones for other key projects
  - Complete contractor selection for Alexandria 4<sup>th</sup> Track by EOM May 2024
  - Start site prep activities for Franconia Bypass by EOM March 2024
  - Complete 30% design of New River Valley Project and present results to Board at the January 2024 Board Meeting
- Ensure the organization can deliver against its goals with the right staffing and resources
  - Implement second phase of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) initiative by EOM May 2024
  - Implement a standardized project management process to allow for increasingly accurate baseline scope, schedule, and budgets (cash flows) by EOM March 2024



# Contracting Updates\*

Budget Component	Month	Project	Vendor/Grantee	Project Description	Amount
Operations	Aug	V-Line Insurance	Marsh & McLennan	V-Line Insurance FY24	\$231,970
Capital Projects	Sept	CSX ROW Purchase	Kimley Horn	Boundary Survey Support Services - CSX ROW Purchase	\$660,000
Operations	Sept	Noise analysis of existing and proposed operations	HDR Engineering	Noise and Vibration Analysis Alex 4th Track, Franconia-Springfield Bypass and King & Commonwealth Bridges	\$311,288
Capital Projects	Sept	Legal Services	Squire Patton Boggs	D.C. Legislative and Administrative Initiatives Related to Rail Projects	\$250,000
Capital Projects	Sept	Leeland Road Bridge Replacement	Jacobs Eng Group	Preliminary Design (30%) Consultant Support for the proposed Leeland Road Overpass and associated roadway improvements	\$524,516

# FY2023 Budget Adjustments – August FY2023

Budget Line	Budget Component	Approved Budget	Revised Budget	Change	Delegated Authority Applied	Description of Change
No adjustments this period.						

# Budget-to-Actual Reporting

**July and August FY24 budget-to-actual** will be combined with September in the October EDR.





# Passenger Service Update

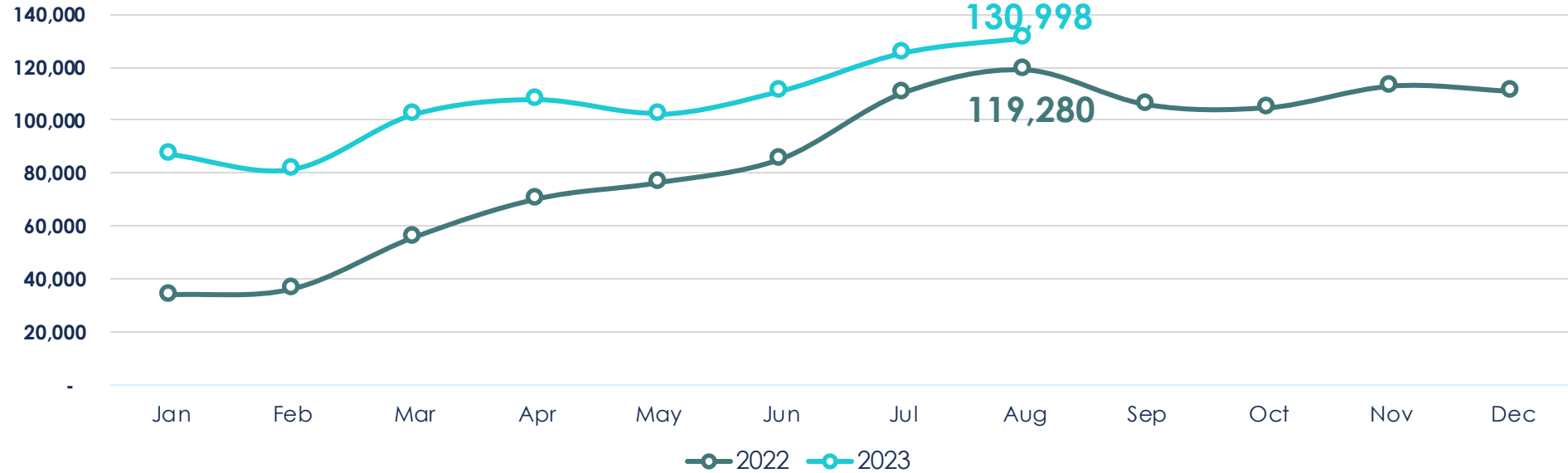
# Virginia-Supported Monthly Ridership and Station Activity

August saw a 9.8% increase in ridership year over year.

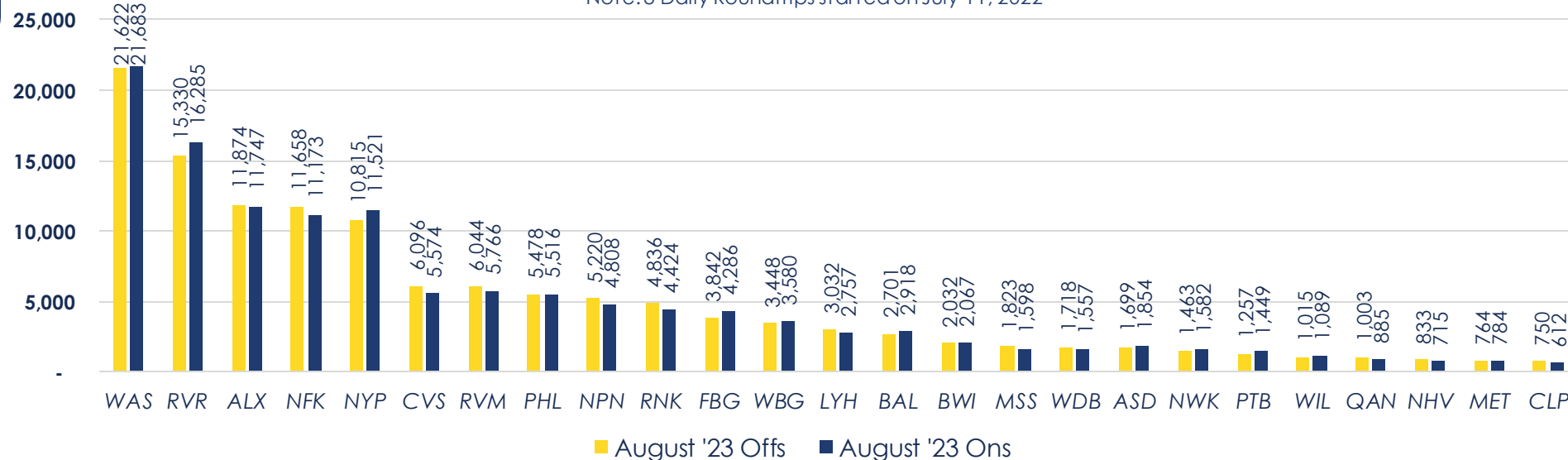
August 2023 saw the highest Virginia-supported ridership, exceeding the previous record set last month of 125,488.

Ticket revenues have suffered a significant decline in July and August (8% decline in average fare year over year) despite the record ridership.

Washington DC, New York, and Philadelphia were the most popular out of state destinations.



Note: 8 Daily Roundtrips started on July 11, 2022



# Virginia-Supported Monthly Ridership by Route 2023 vs 2022

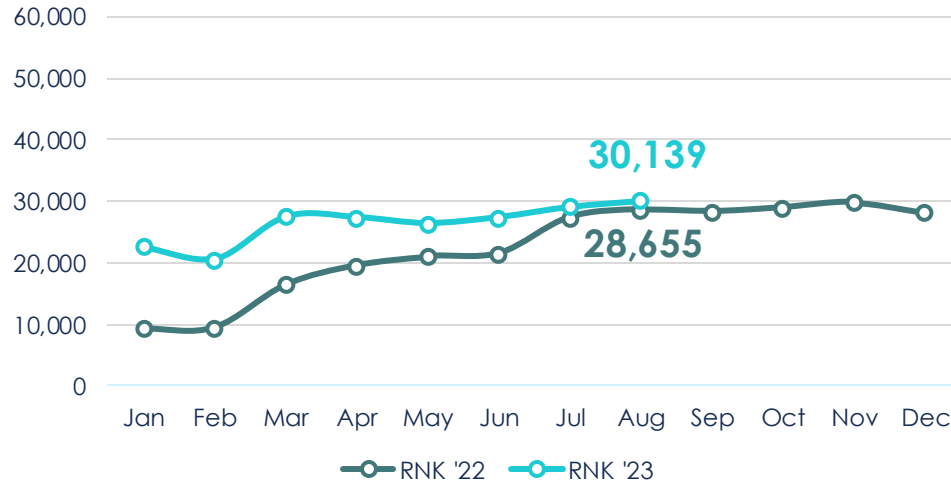
The largest year over year ridership increase was Route 50: Norfolk at 11.1% (+5,072)

All four routes saw ridership growth year over year.

Virginia-Supported Service increased from five to eight daily roundtrips on July 11, 2022.

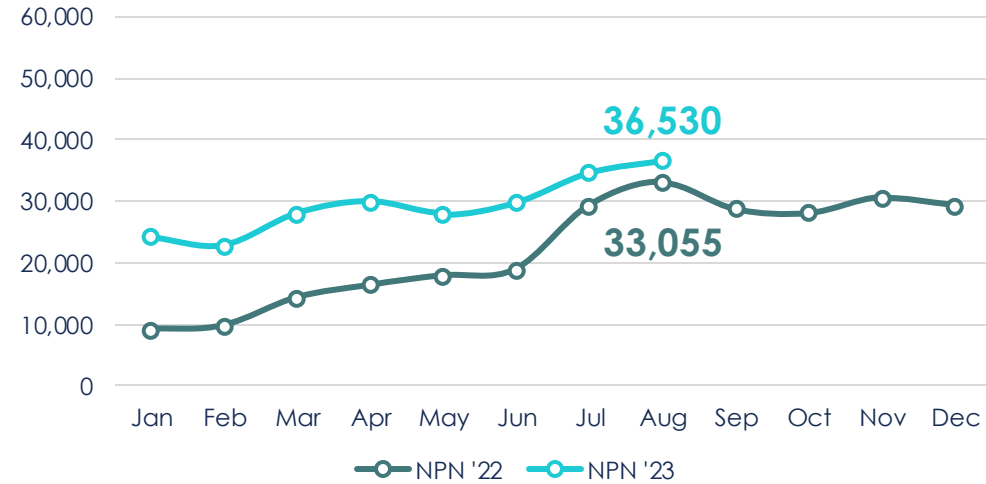


## Route 46: Roanoke (+5.2%)



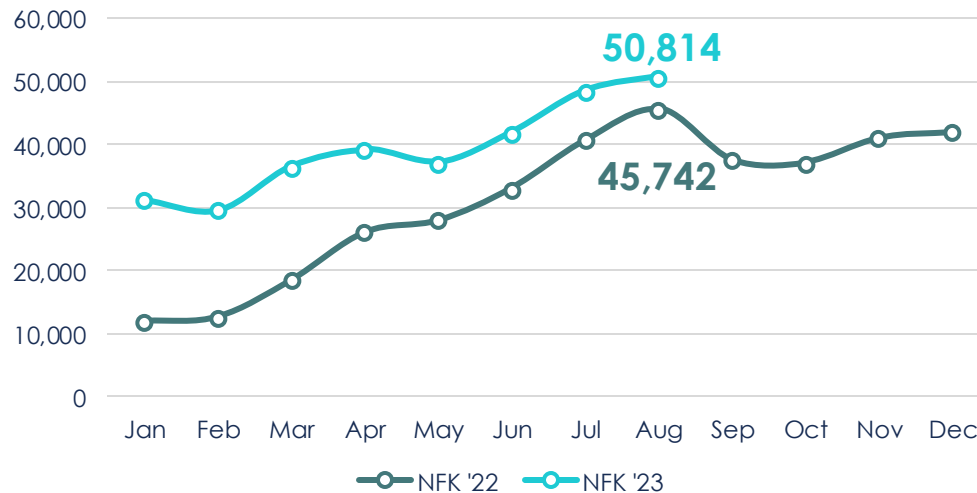
Note: 2nd Roanoke roundtrip began July 11, 2022

## Route 47: Newport News (+10.5%)



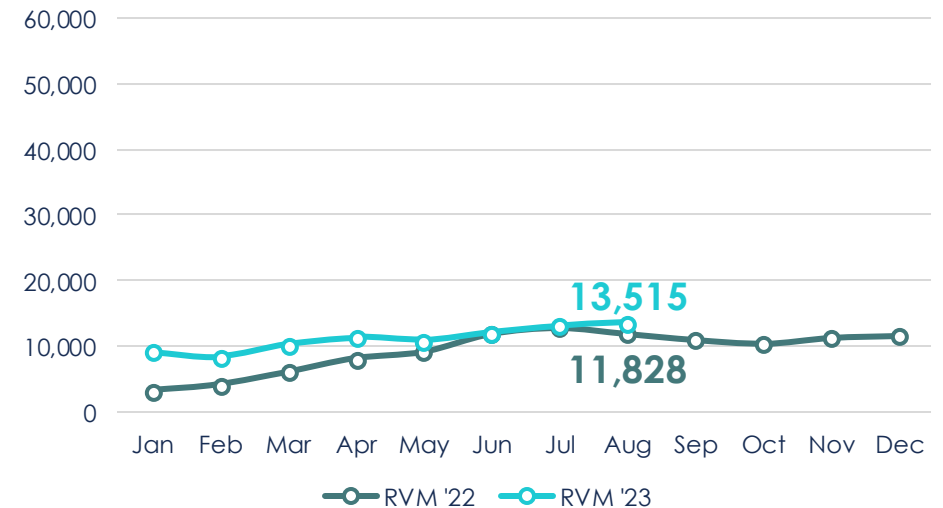
Note: 2nd Newport News roundtrip canceled January – July 11, 2022

## Route 50: Norfolk (+11.1%)



Note: 3rd Norfolk roundtrip began July 11, 2022

## Route 51: Richmond (+14.3%)

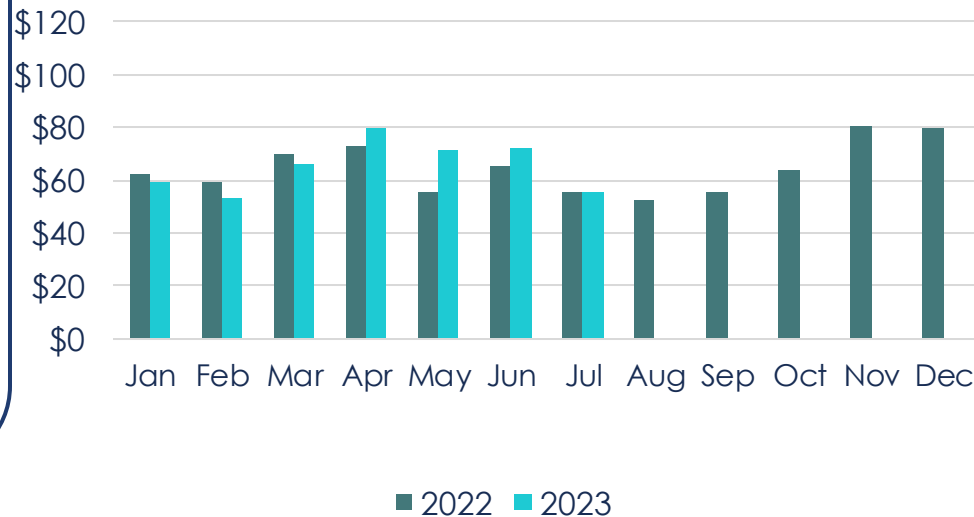




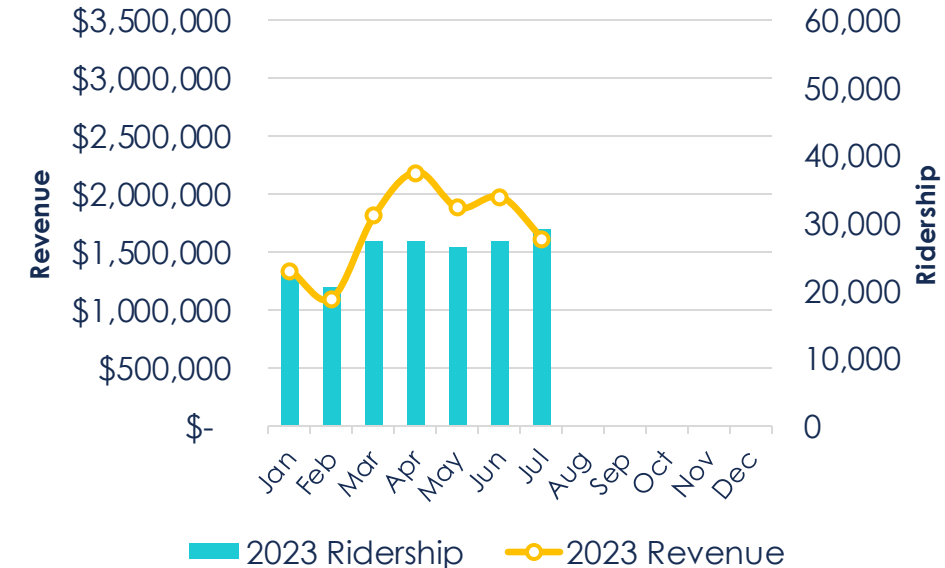
# Route 46: Washington – Roanoke – 2 Daily Roundtrips

Train 145(SB), which operates on Sundays, had the highest average daily ridership in August.

Revenue per Rider (July)

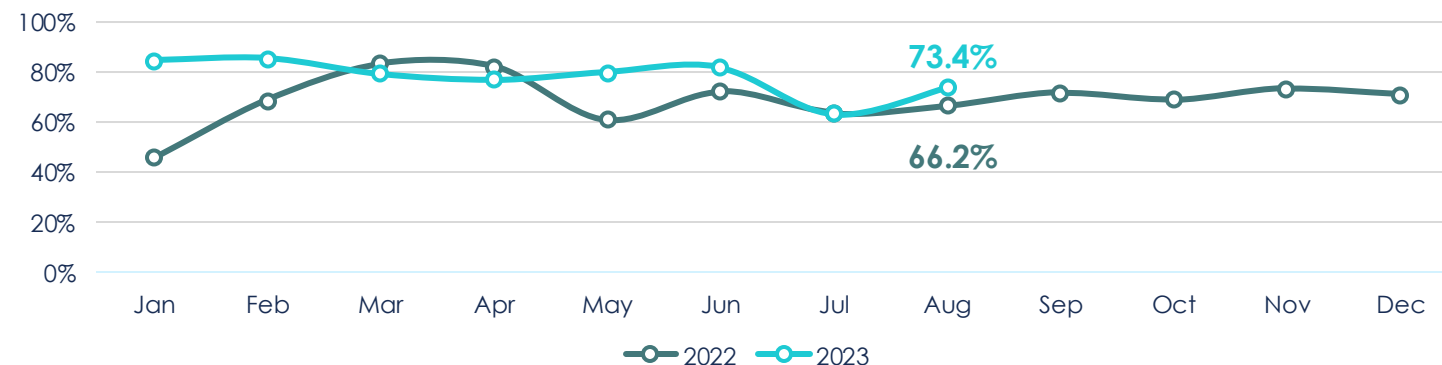


Revenue & Ridership (July)



Major Delay Factors  
Slow orders, freight train & passenger train interference

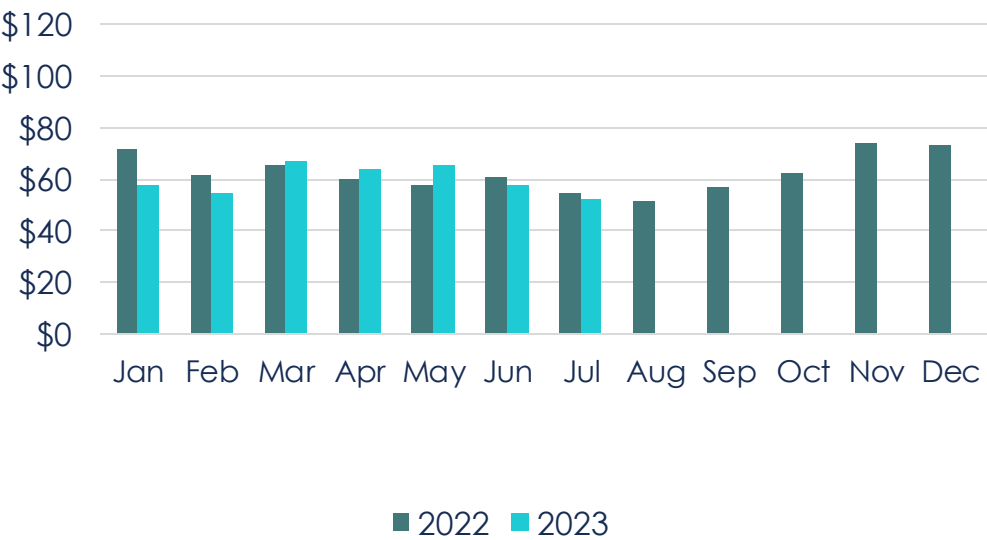
On Time Performance: All Stations (August)



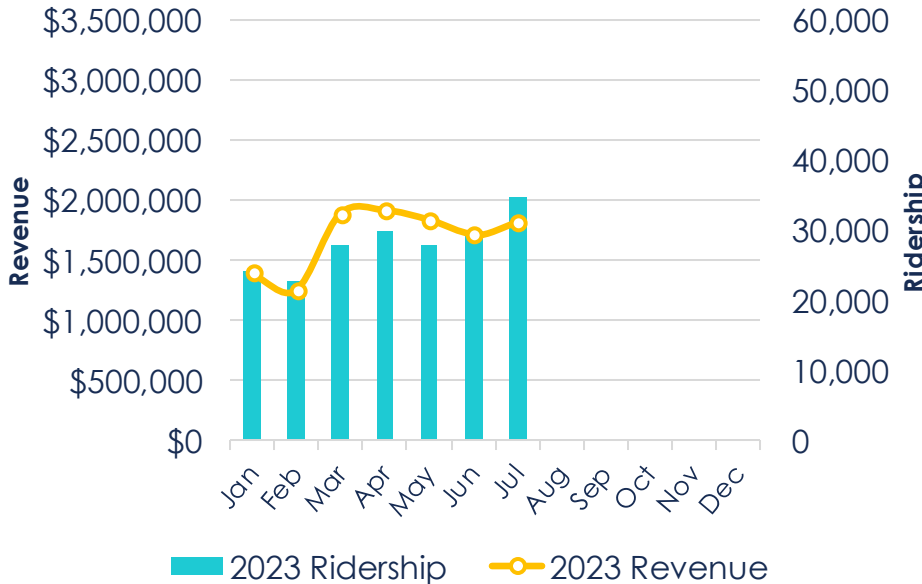
# Route 47: Washington – Newport News – 2 Daily Roundtrips

Train 194(NB), which operates on Saturdays, had the highest average daily ridership in July.

Revenue per Rider (July)

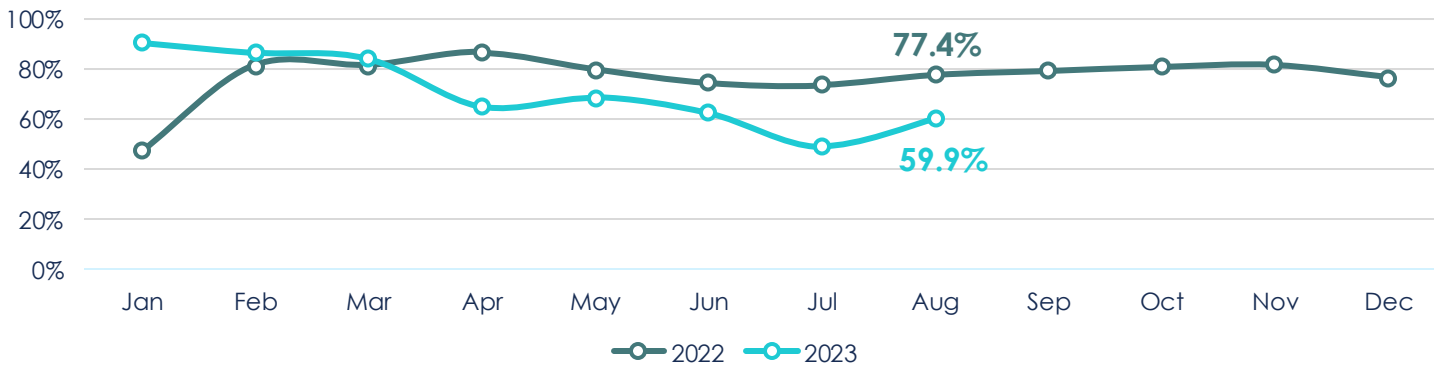


Revenue & Ridership (July)



Major Delay Factors  
Slow orders, weather related, and passenger train interference

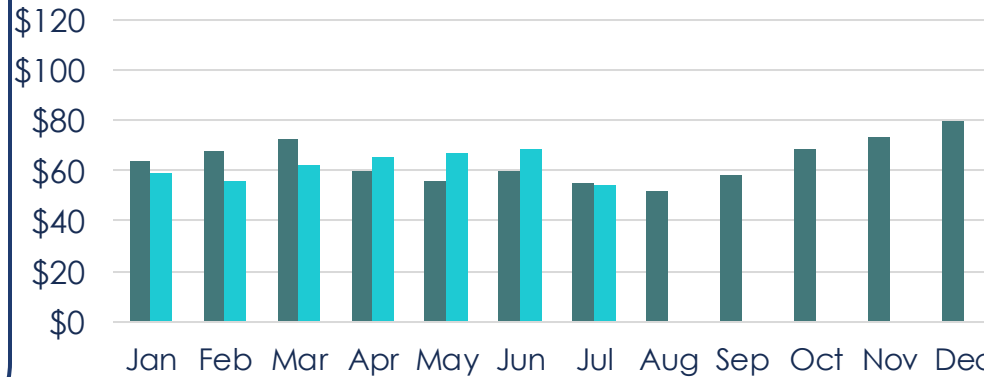
On Time Performance: All Stations (August)



# Route 50: Washington – Norfolk – 3 Daily Roundtrips

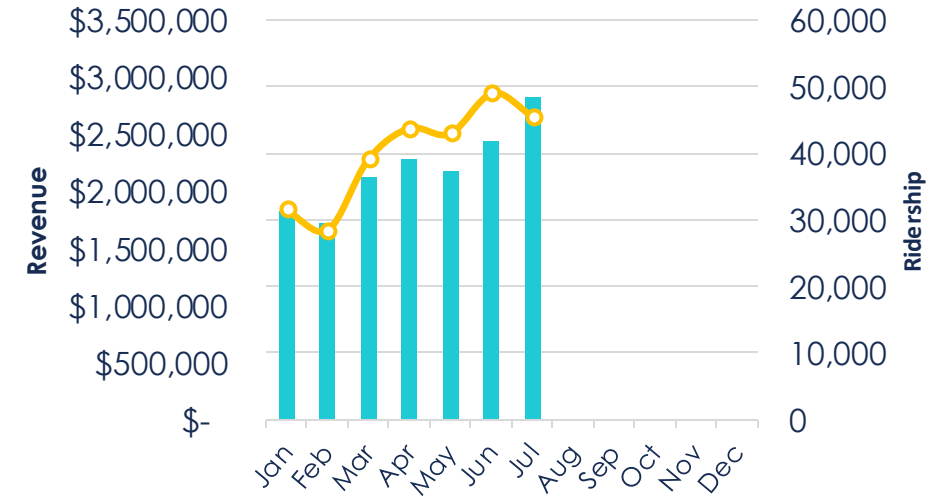
Train 153(SB), which operates on weekends, had the highest average daily ridership in July.

## Revenue per Rider (July)



■ 2022 ■ 2023

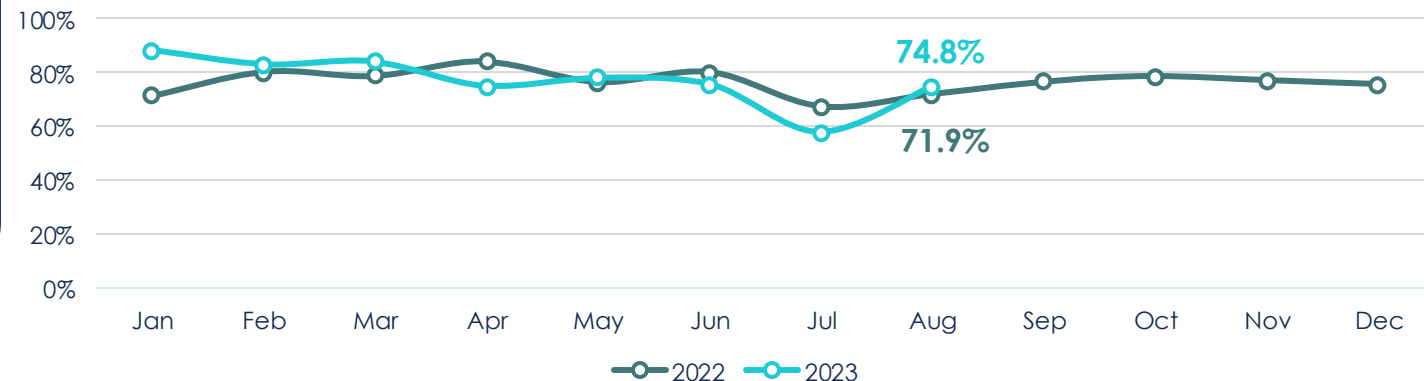
## Revenue & Ridership (July)



■ 2023 Ridership — 2023 Revenue

Major Delay Factors  
Slow orders, weather related, and commuter train interference

## On Time Performance: All Stations (August)



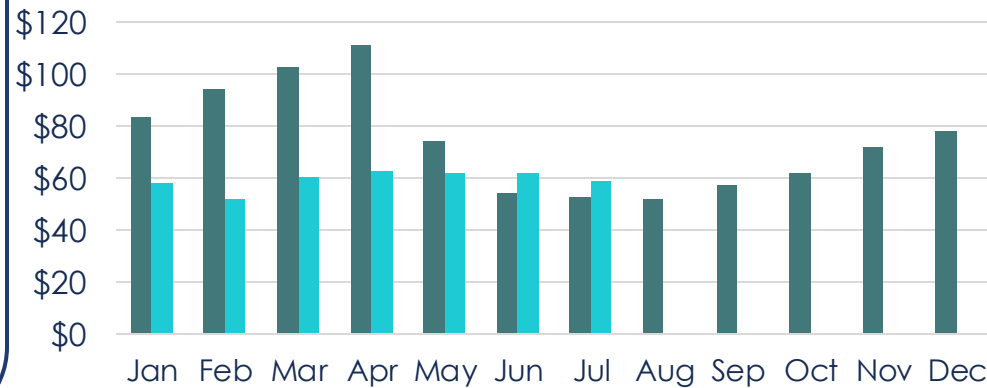
— 2022 — 2023



# Route 51: Washington – Richmond – 1 Daily Roundtrip

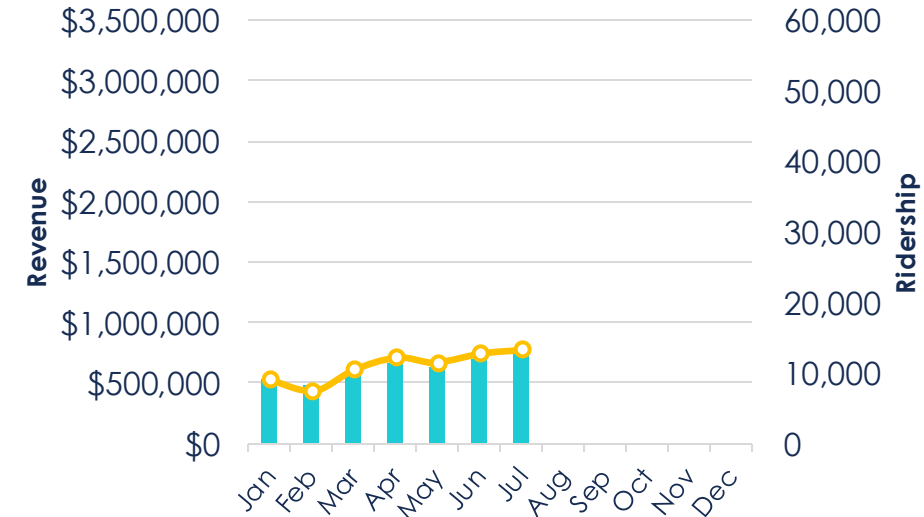
Train 195(SB), which operates on weekends, had the highest average daily ridership in July.

### Revenue per Rider (July)



■ 2022 ■ 2023

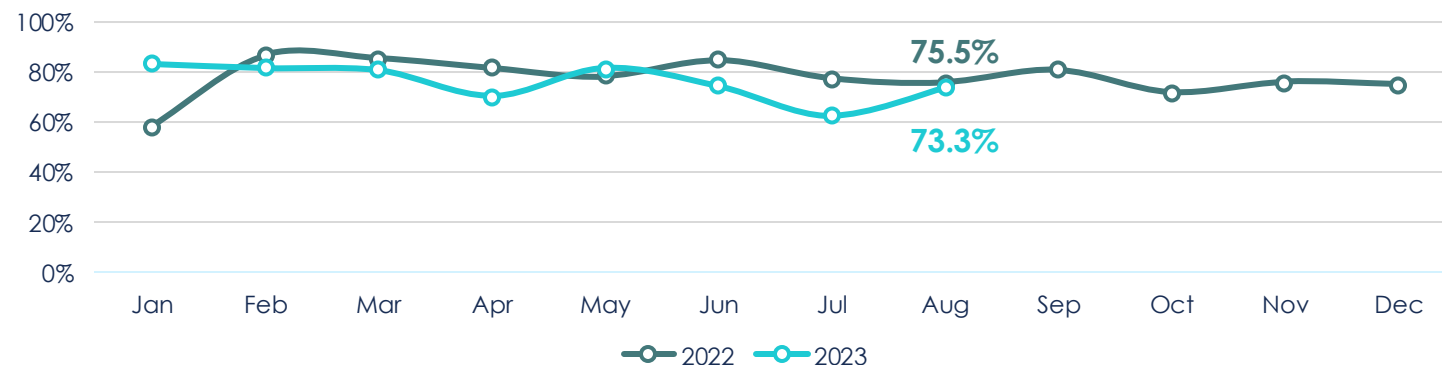
### Revenue & Ridership (July)



■ 2023 Ridership — 2023 Revenue

Major Delay Factors  
Slow orders, weather related, and commuter train interference

### On Time Performance: All Stations (August)



— 2022 — 2023



# Capital Project Updates

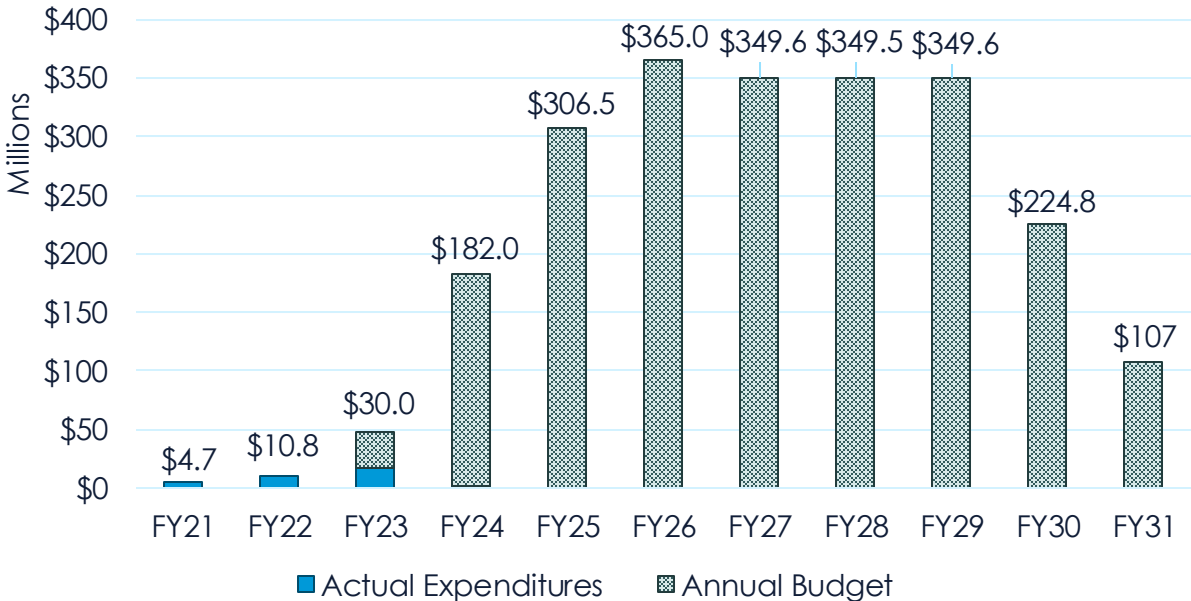
# Capital Projects: Long Bridge

Project Information			Financial Information (\$M)				
Completion Year	Project Lead	Project Status	Project Cost	Inception to Date Expense	FY24 Budget	FY24 YTD Actual*	Variance (%)
2030	VPRA	30% Design	\$2.279 B	\$32.6	\$182.0	\$-	-%

**NOTES:**  
Conformed 30% design plans will be complete in Fall 2023. **Test pile driving in East Potomac Park will start the week of October 2. The North Package Proposals are under review. A preferred proposer should be identified in October 2023.** South Package Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) are due on November 30, 2023. The North Package is fully funded, and the South Package funds cover design and partial construction. **VPRA applied for full funding for the South Package through Fed-State Partnership from FRA on April 21, 2023, and we should know the results by the end of 2023.**

Note: **Bold** indicates new information.

\* July and August actuals will be included in the October EDR.





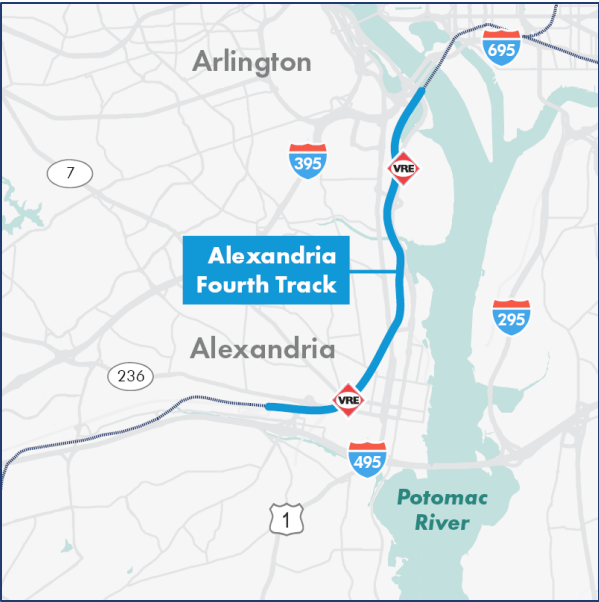
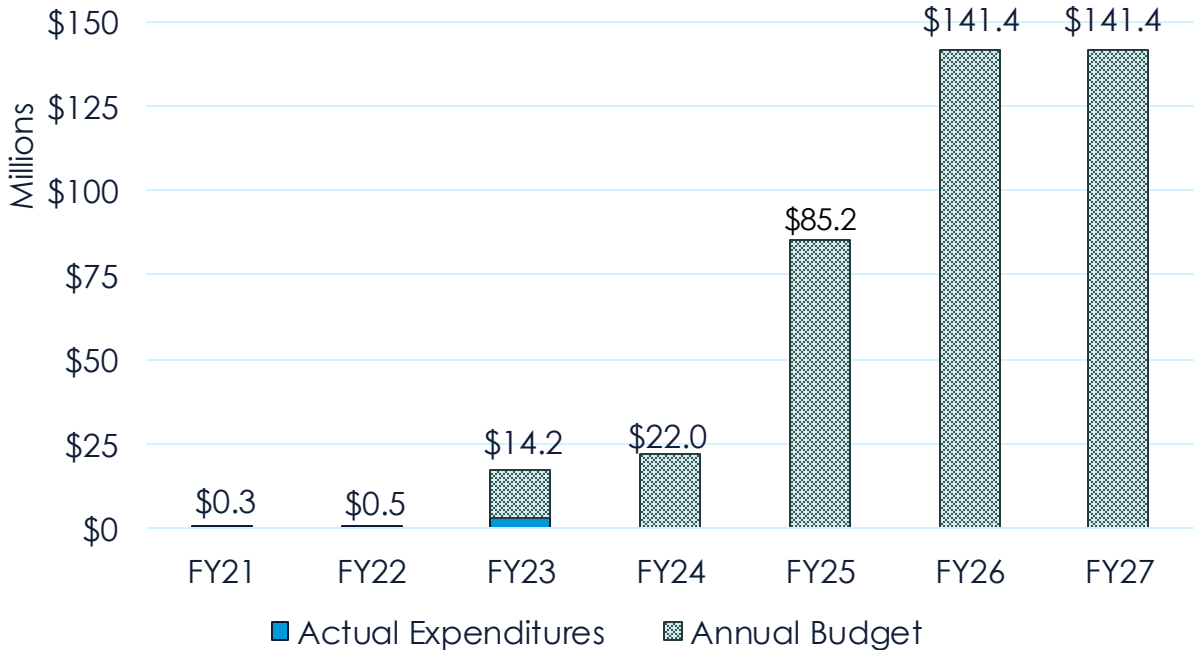
# Capital Projects: Alexandria 4<sup>th</sup> Track

Project Information			Financial Information (\$M)				
Completion Year	Project Lead	Project Status	Project Cost	Inception to Date Expense	FY24 Budget	FY24 YTD Actual*	Variance (%)
2026	CSXT	90% Design	\$210.5 M	\$8.1	\$53.7	\$-	-%

**NOTES:**  
The **90% design plan package** was submitted on September 12, 2023, and has been distributed for stakeholder review. An early works project consisting of relocation of an existing fiber optic duct bank within the rail corridor is anticipated to start construction in mid-November 2023.

Note: **Bold** indicates new information.

\* July and August actuals will be included in the October EDR



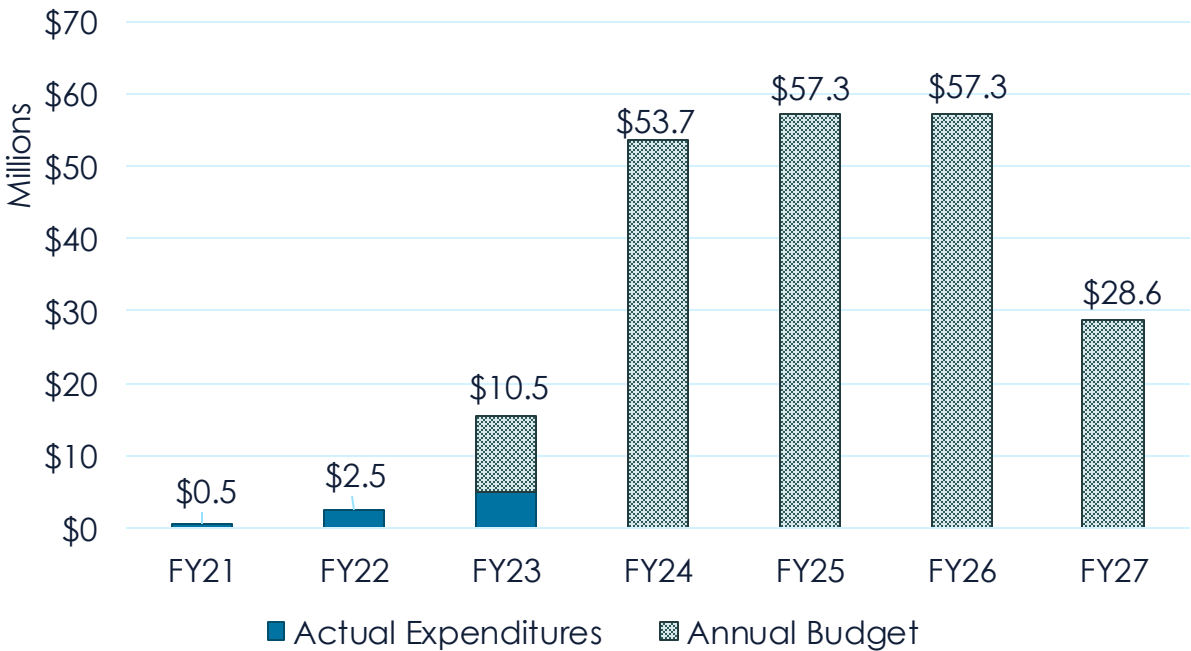
# Capital Projects: Franconia to Lorton 3rd Track

Project Information			Financial Information (\$M)				
Completion Year	Project Lead	Project Status	Project Cost	Inception to Date Expense	FY24 Budget	FY24 YTD Actual*	Variance (%)
2026	CSXT	30% Design	\$275 M	\$3.2	\$12.6	\$-	-%

**NOTES:**  
The 30% PE design review comments were reviewed and accepted. **The draft boundary surveys for the Franconia corridor were received on September 15th and are under review. CSXT also provided the draft wetland and waterbody report, which is currently under VPRA review.** VPRA is expecting 60% design plans from CSXT in October 2023.

Note: **Bold** indicates new information.

\* July and August actuals will be included in the October EDR



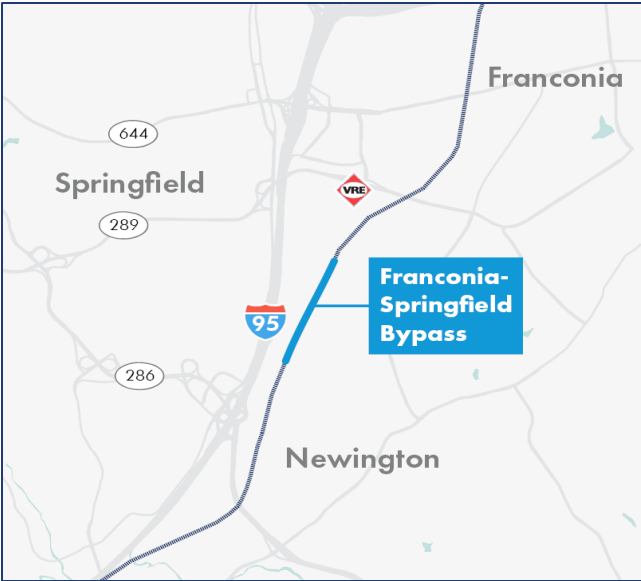
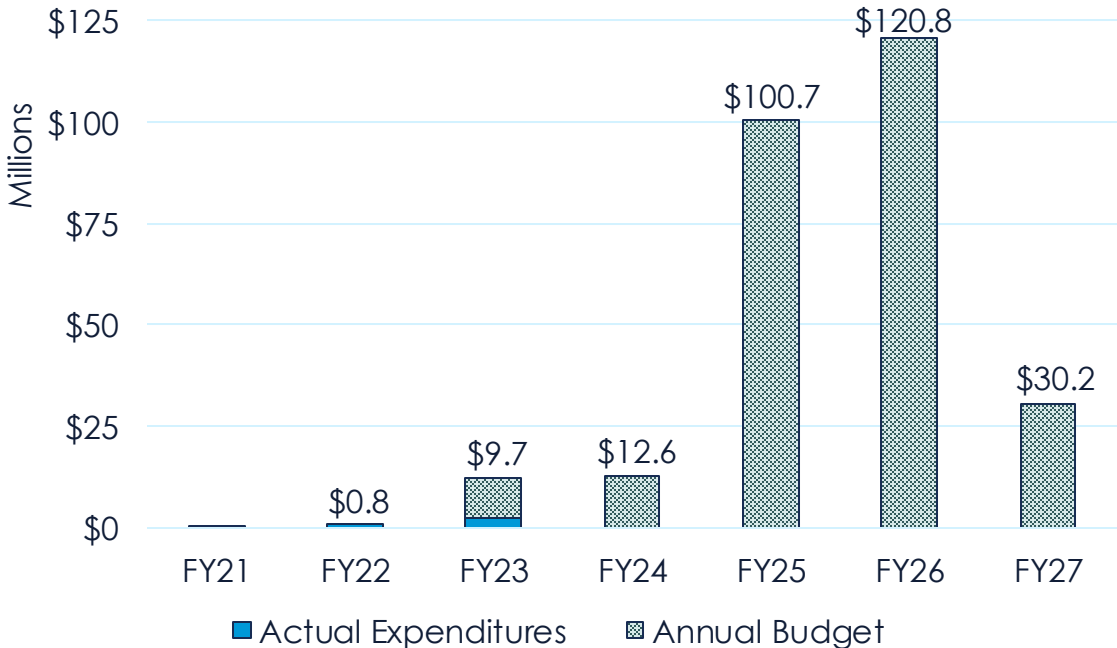
# Capital Projects: Franconia-Springfield Bypass

Project Information			Financial Information (\$M)				
Completion Year	Project Lead	Project Status	Project Cost	Inception to Date Expense	FY24 Budget	FY24 YTD Actual*	Variance (%)
2026	VPRA	30% Design	\$405 M	\$3.9	\$22.0	\$-	-%

**NOTES:**  
The 30% PE design review comments were reviewed and accepted. VPRA is in the process of negotiating with Parsons for the final engineering design option (which was part of the design contract). **Parsons submitted an early works Site Clearing Package on September 23rd. The draft Boundary Survey submittal was received in September and is under review.** The CM/GC Request for Proposal (RFP) was advertised on August 4th. **Contractor proposals were received on September 11, 2023. The proposals are under review by the Evaluation Committee with ranking of proposals to be completed by October 20.**

Note: **Bold** indicates new information.

\* July and August actuals will be included in the October EDR



# Other Capital Projects Updates

Project	Project Cost (\$M)	Completion Year	Project Lead	CD	PE	EC	FD	CN	Notes
King & Commonwealth Bridges	\$3.9M	2026	CSX	■	■	●	●		90% design is anticipated in October. Phasing coordination with VRE's Alexandria Station project is ongoing. *\$3.9M cost covers final design
Newington Road RR Bridge	\$61	2026	CSX	■	●	■	●		Incorporated into Franconia-Lorton project, grant pre-award activities underway. <b>VPRA and CSXT are jointly drafting a design waiver for VDOT's approval to formalize the agreement for vertical clearance following a September 6th meeting between all parties.</b>
Potomac Creek Third Track (Siding A)	\$143	2026	CSX	■	●	■			<b>30% design plans were received September 1, 2023, from CSX. 60% design anticipated in February 2024. CTB resolution allows VPRA to proceed with Leeland Road bridge replacement – VPRA finalized the PE task order for the Leeland Road bridge on September 26, 2023.</b>
Woodford to Milford Third Track (Siding B)	\$85.2	2026	CSX	■	●	■			Conceptual design alignments were received from CSXT on June 23, 2023. <b>30% plans are anticipated in November 2023.</b> The project will be entered into the rural long range transportation plan in 2023.
Hanover Third Track (Siding C)	\$84.4	2026	CSX	●		■			Notice to proceed (NTP) for design was issued to CSX on July 24, 2023. <b>CSX delivered the conceptual layout to VPRA on September 22, 2023.</b> CTB resolution allows VPRA to move forward with the Washington Hwy bridge replacement.
New River Valley Improvements	\$85.5	2026	VPRA	●	●	●			<b>Wetland delineation work was completed in early -September; work is ongoing and alternative concepts to be progressed through the Corridor ID process in Q1 2024. ~30% PE design to be completed by STV in late-November 2023.</b>



CD = Conceptual Design;

■ = Complete

PE = Preliminary Engineering;

● = Ongoing

EC = Environmental Clearance;

▲ = On Hold

FD = Final Design;

CN = Construction

Note: **Bold** indicates new information.





# Capital & Operating Grants Updates

# Capital & Operating Grants Update

Project	Project Cost (\$M)	Completion Year	Project Lead	CD	PE	EC	FD	CN	Notes
Nokesville to Calverton (Western Rail Initiative Grant)	\$50	2026	NS	■	■		●		Seven miles of double track by grant to Norfolk Southern (NS). Completion of definitive agreements 1/10/22; Financial close occurred in June 2022, NS to bill VPRA for ongoing design work. Construction is anticipated to start in early 2024 and complete in early 2026.
Roanoke West Yard	\$36.5	2026	NS	■	●				Five miles of track by grant to better streamline passenger and freight operations in Roanoke Yard. Horizontal track layout plans received from NS on 12/8/22. NS is aiming to begin construction work in late 2023. Estimated completion early 2026.
Arkendale to Powell's Creek Third Track	\$101	2024	CSX	■	■	■	■	●	CSXT is performing track and signal work at the northern project limits. CSXT to perform track work in the Quantico Station area beginning in <b>Fall 2023</b> in coordination with VRE construction activities at Quantico Station. Estimated completion Spring 2024.
Quantico Station	\$24	2024	VRE	■	■	■	■	●	VRE-led project, CSXT will construct track. <b>Ongoing construction activities include masonry work on the towers, electrical work at the station, and preparing subgrade for CSX trackwork.</b> Estimated completion Spring 2024.
Newport News Station	\$44	2024	City of NPN	■	■	■	■	●	Relocation and construction of a new multimodal transportation center on Bland Boulevard. \$20.5M from VPRA. Estimated start of Amtrak service in April/May 2024. <b>\$1.2M CDS request (earmark) included in Federal FY23 Omnibus Bill was adopted into VPRA budget in August 2023.</b>



CD = Conceptual Design;

■ = Complete

PE = Preliminary Engineering;

● = Ongoing

EC = Environmental Clearance;

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FD = Final Design;

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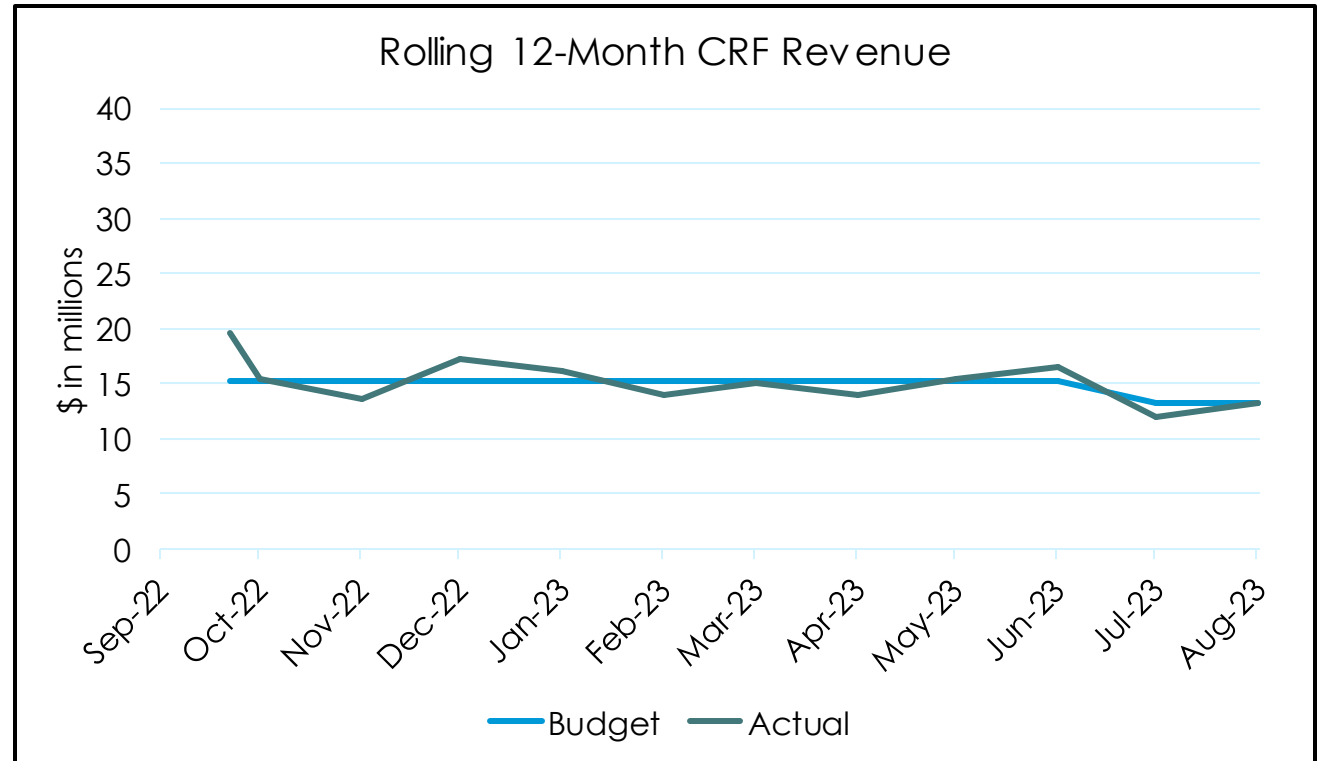


# Revenue & Investment Updates

# VPRA Monthly Revenues

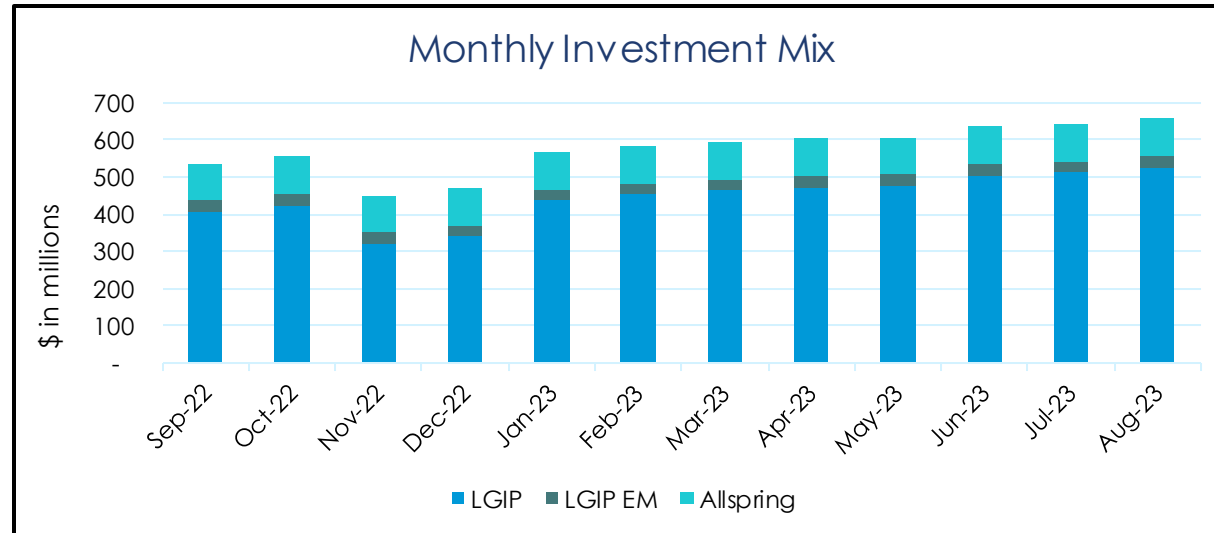
## Rolling 12-Month Trend Analysis

- FY24 Commonwealth Rail Fund (CRF) revenues are projected to be \$158.4M, a 13.5% decrease from FY23 as the 'on the top' allocations do not continue into FY24.
- For August, CRF revenues are on track with the estimate.



# VPRA Investment Mix & Earnings

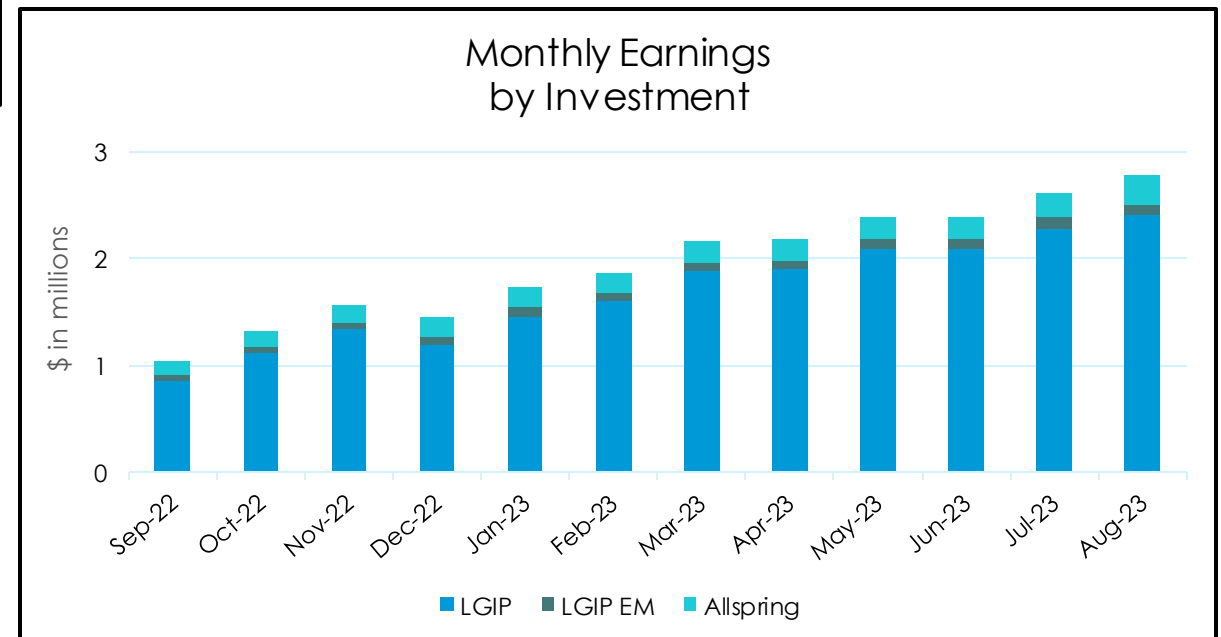
## Rolling 12-Month Trend Analysis



**\$5.4M**  
FY24 YTD  
income  
generated

**5.3%**  
FY24  
annualized  
rate of return

**\$661.2M**  
Current  
invested  
balance





# VPRA Investment Policy Principals

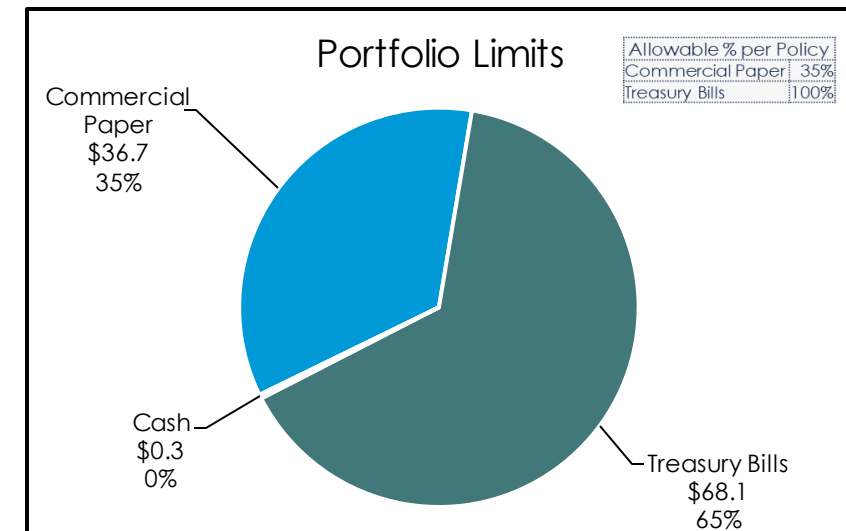
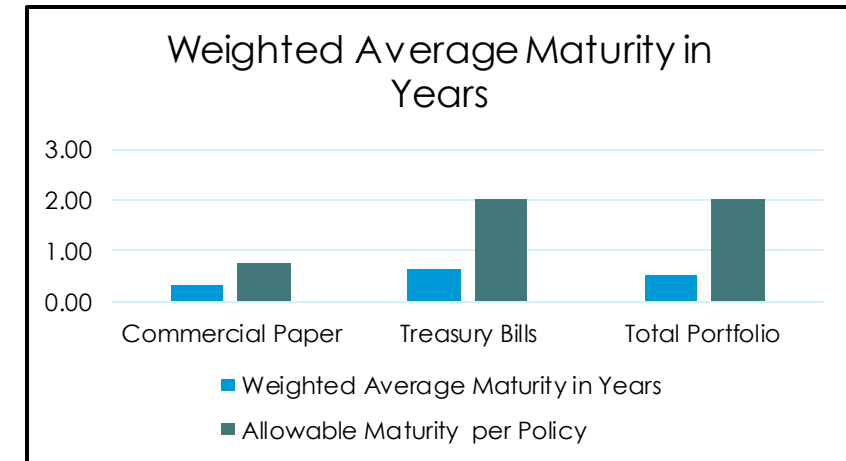
## Principal and Liquidity as of August 31, 2023

### 1. Principal

	Base	Market Value	Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Gain/(Loss) (%)
LGIP EM	31,085,836	30,912,707	(173,129)	(0.6%)
Allspring	103,488,976	102,928,014	(560,962)	(0.5%)

Currently, the investments in LGIP EM and Allspring have a 0.6% and 0.5% market value loss, respectively. As assets in the portfolio are reinvested in higher-yield securities, the market value will continue to rebound. VPRA has the ability and intent to hold the investments until the market value has rebounded.

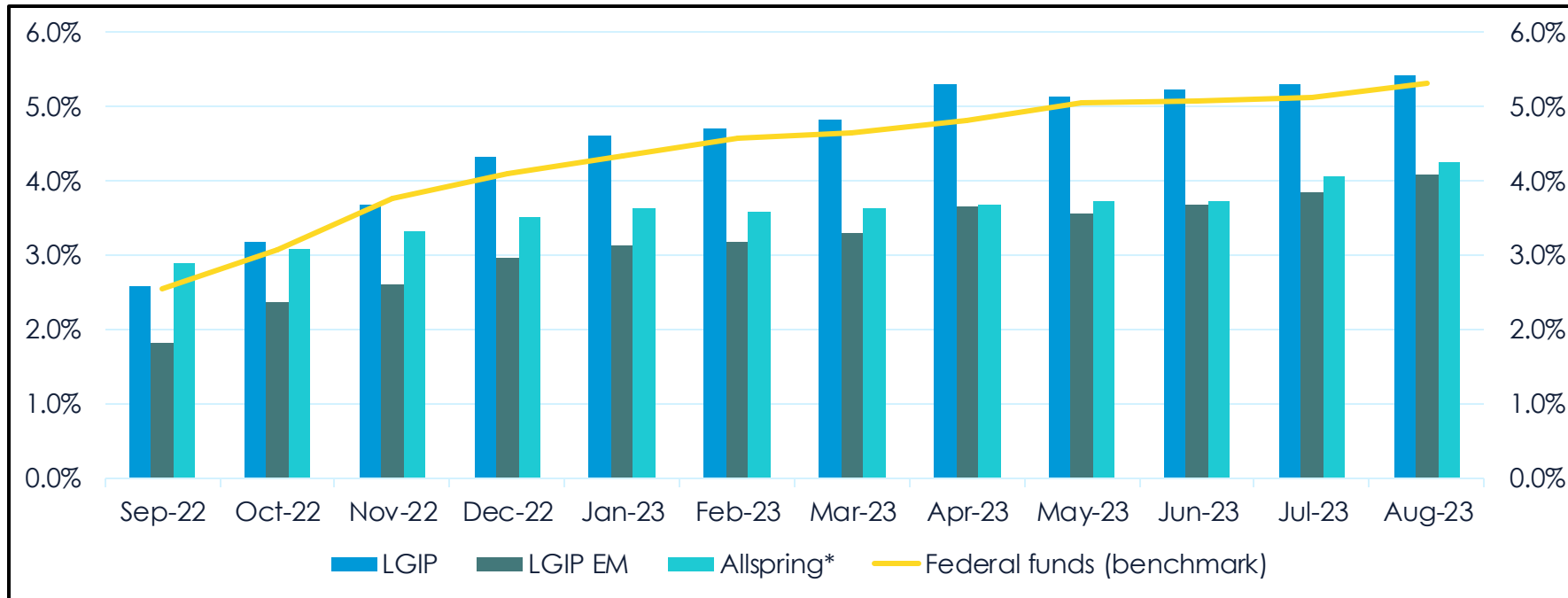
### 2. Liquidity



# VPRA Investment Policy Principals Cont.

## Return through August 31, 2023

### 3. Return



*\*Allspring's Effective Yield has been reduced by investment management & custodian fees.*

- VPRA continues to invest a majority (over 75%) of its cash in the LGIP as interest rates are expected to increase in the near term.
- LGIP's short-term strategy is advantageous during a time of interest rate increases. The longer-term maturities in Allspring and LGIP-EM will produce greater returns as interest rates level-off or decline.
- VPRA is close to finalizing selection of an entity to perform investment management services.

# Federal Funding Status

Project	Federal Programs	Requested Amount	Awarded Amount
<b>Franconia-Springfield Bypass</b>	<b>FRA - CRISI</b>	<b>\$100,000,000</b>	<b>\$100,000,000</b>
Long Bridge & Phase 2 Sidings	Fed-State Partnership	729,000,000	Open
New Ettrick/Petersburg Station & Platform (Project Development)	Fed-State Partnership	2,000,000	Open
Long Bridge & Phase 2 Sidings	USDOT Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant	729,000,000	Open

VPRA applied for Fed-State Partnership Grants on the Long Bridge Project & Phase 2 Sidings and the new Ettrick/Petersburg Station & Platform on April 21<sup>st</sup>.  
VPRA applied for the USDOT MPDG on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Project	Congressional Earmarks	Amount Requested	Appropriations Amount	Awarded Amount
New Ettrick/Petersburg Station & Platform (Project Development)	FY24 House Earmark Request	2,000,000	1,000,000	Open
Central Virginia Passenger Rail Network and Station Improvements	FY24 Senate Earmark Request	2,000,000	Not included In Senate Bill	Closed



Note: **Bold** indicates new information.



# THANK YOU

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Questions?