



Franconia Area Projects

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRRA) is leading a program of rail improvement projects in south Fairfax County along the existing rail corridor between Franconia-Springfield Station and Lorton Road.

The goals of these projects are to:

- Increase capacity to accommodate more passenger rail service and freight rail trains
- Improve reliability of passenger and freight rail services
- Improve connectivity between existing multimodal facilities

FRANCONIA TO LORTON THIRD TRACK AND RAILROAD BRIDGES

Project Status: In 60% engineering design

The Franconia to Lorton Third Track Project will increase rail capacity and alleviate congestion for passenger and freight services by adding a third mainline track along one of the most heavily traveled sections of rail between Washington, DC and Richmond, VA. The additional 6 miles of mainline track from Franconia to Lorton will create a continuous third track corridor between Alexandria and Lorton.

To accommodate the new third rail, the railroad bridge over Newington Road will be replaced with a longer and wider bridge, and the railroad bridge over Lorton Road will be widened. The images to the right illustrate the planned third track at the Franconia-Springfield VRE Station and the railroad bridge replacement over Newington Road.

The Franconia to Lorton Third Track Project is being carefully coordinated with the *Franconia-Springfield Bypass Project*.



Planned Third Track (Looking South from Franconia-Springfield Station)



New Railroad Bridge Over Newington Road



KEEP TRACK OF PROJECT UPDATES

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 Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

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FRANCONIA-SPRINGFIELD BYPASS

Project Status: Approaching the 60% engineering design phase

Franconia-Springfield Bypass, located just south of Franconia-Springfield station, is a rail bridge that will allow passenger trains to cross over the freight trains. This is necessary because the passenger rail stations south of the bypass are located on the east side of the railroad tracks and the passenger rail stations north of the bypass are located on the west side of the railroad tracks. Currently there is an at-grade crossing to allow passenger trains to switch sides with the freight trains, however this creates a bottleneck and significant delays. The bridge structure will eliminate the conflict, reduce congestion, increase capacity and reliability for freight and passenger trains, and improve safety. Project construction includes a single track on the Bypass Bridge with accommodations for a future second track

The Franconia-Springfield Bypass Project will be carefully coordinated with the *Franconia to Lorton Third Track Project*.



Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPR) is an independent authority created by the Virginia General Assembly in 2020 to promote, sustain, and expand the availability of passenger and commuter rail service in the Commonwealth. Partnering with Amtrak, VRE, Norfolk Southern (NS), and CSX, we are working to provide passenger rail service throughout the state that is convenient and affordable.