

SUMMARY
Commonwealth Transportation Board
Rail Subcommittee Meeting
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Members in Attendance: Aubrey Layne, Chair, Dana Martin, Roger Cole

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Aubrey Layne called the meeting to order and started with Public Comments: Julie Summs from Orange County expressed interest in bringing passenger rail to the Orange station as a stop on weekends. Their request will be taken under advisement. Dick Beadles from the Virginia Rail Policy Institute introduced himself and his organizations goals. Bruce Wingo, Resident Vice-President, Norfolk Southern introduced himself and stated their goal was to promote Norfolk, Petersburg, Richmond and passenger rail service.

DRPT Chief Operating Officer, Kevin Page, presented a rail update. In his updated, Mr. Page stated that VRE has surpassed its goal of 10,000 riders a day to 20,000 riders, along with VRE's desire to expand southward towards Richmond. Mr. Page discussed the performance statistics for trains along the Northeast Corridor, along with the expansion to the City of Norfolk. December 12, 2012 is the start date of the Norfolk train; however, tickets are not expected to go on sale until the end of July. DRPT is also starting a study on passenger rail service to Roanoke, VA that includes capacity improvements between Lynchburg and Roanoke. Mr. Page mentioned that DRPT has started meetings concerning rail for Arkendale to Powell's Creek.

Questions and Comments were brought up at the end of the meeting. The Hampton Roads Fast Service was discussed. The ferry service routing is under discussion including operations from Norfolk Downtown to the Norfolk Naval Station and to a location in Portsmouth.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m..