



# Crystal City Civic Association

## VPRA and VRE Projects Update

May 21, 2025



# Presenters



**Meredith Judy**  
VPRA, Community  
Affairs Manager



**Adeel Mysorewala**  
VPRA, Project Manager,  
Alexandria Fourth Track



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VRE, Project Manager  
Design and Construction



**Naomi Klein**  
VPRA, Planning Manager



**Geoff Pelletier**  
VPRA, Senior Director

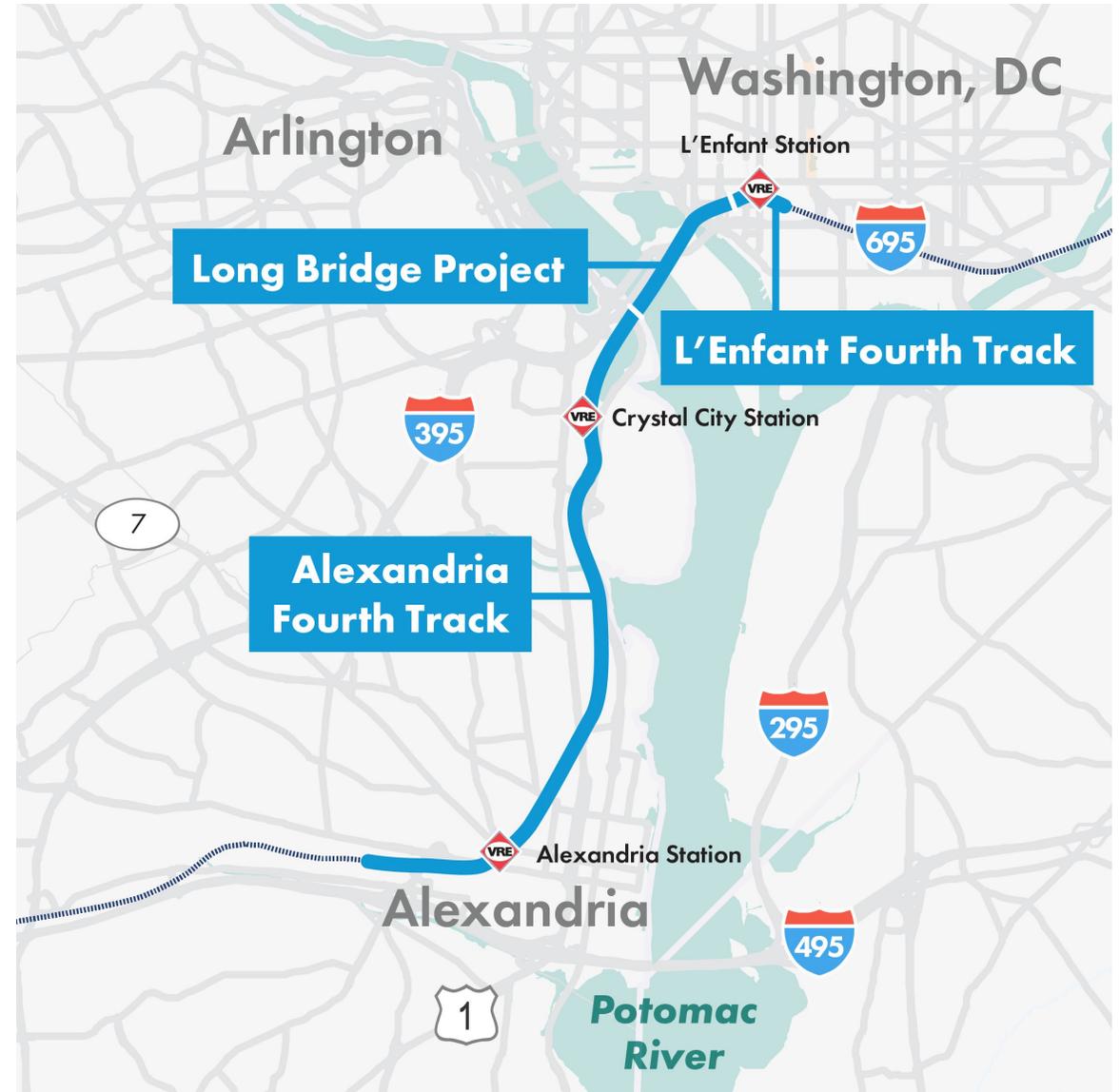


**Mark Schnauer**  
VPRA, Engineering Project  
Manager



# Agenda

1. Welcome
2. VPRA Overview
3. Long Bridge Project
4. Alexandria Fourth Track Project
5. Crystal City Station Improvements
6. Q&A



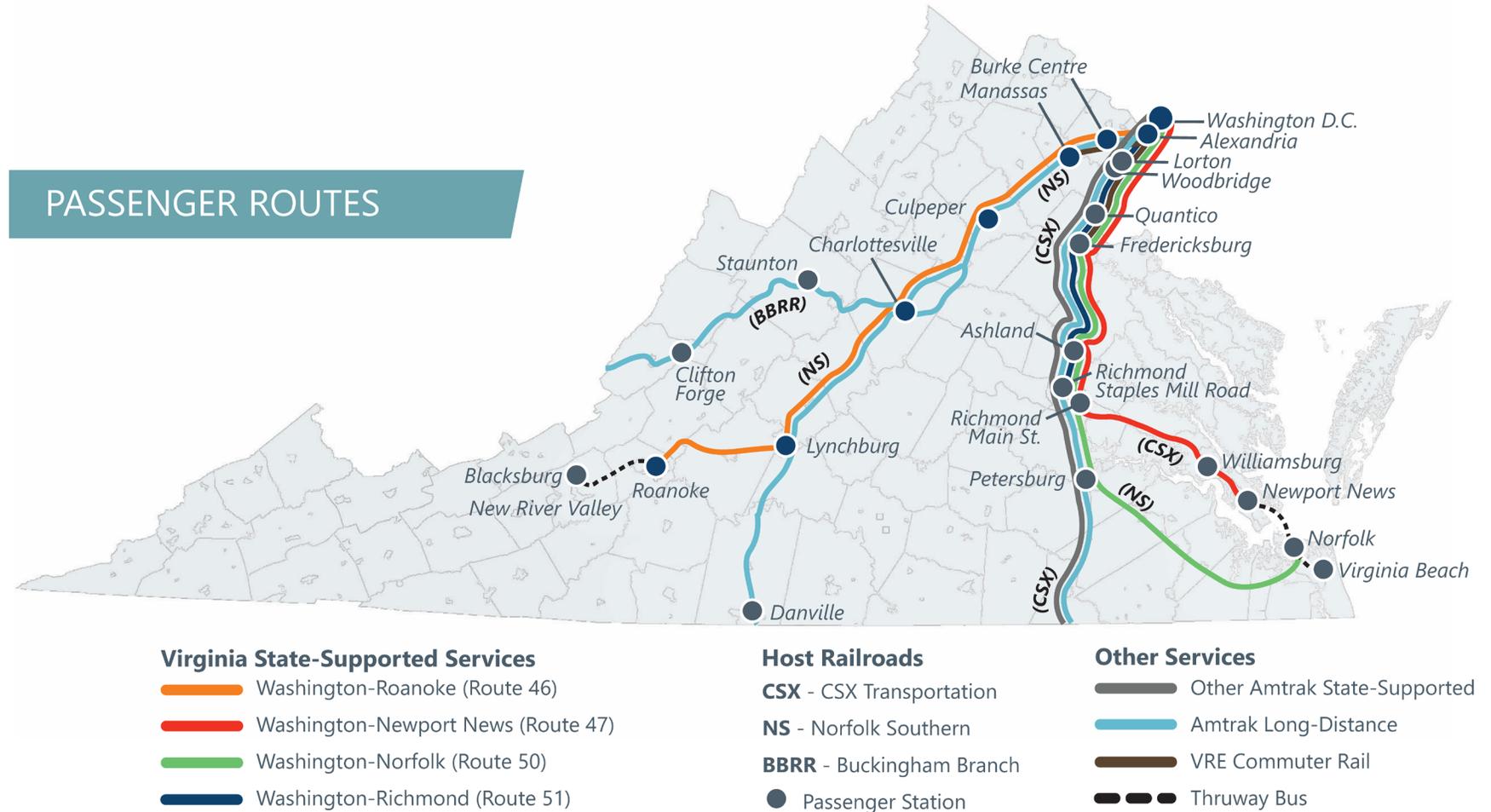
# Who is Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA)?

- Created in 2020 by the Virginia General Assembly
- Responsible for expanding and promoting passenger and commuter rail
  - State-sponsored Routes and Marketing
  - Capital Program



# Virginia Passenger Rail Network: 2025

- **Four state-supported Amtrak routes: 8 daily roundtrips**
- **Five Amtrak long-distance roundtrips**
- **One NC state-supported roundtrip**
- **Two VRE commuter routes: 16 daily roundtrips**
  - Manassas: 8
  - Fredericksburg: 8



# Transforming Rail in Virginia Program Benefits



Increase **capacity** to accommodate more passenger rail service



Improve **efficiency** of passenger, commuter, and freight rail services by reducing the bottleneck along the existing corridor

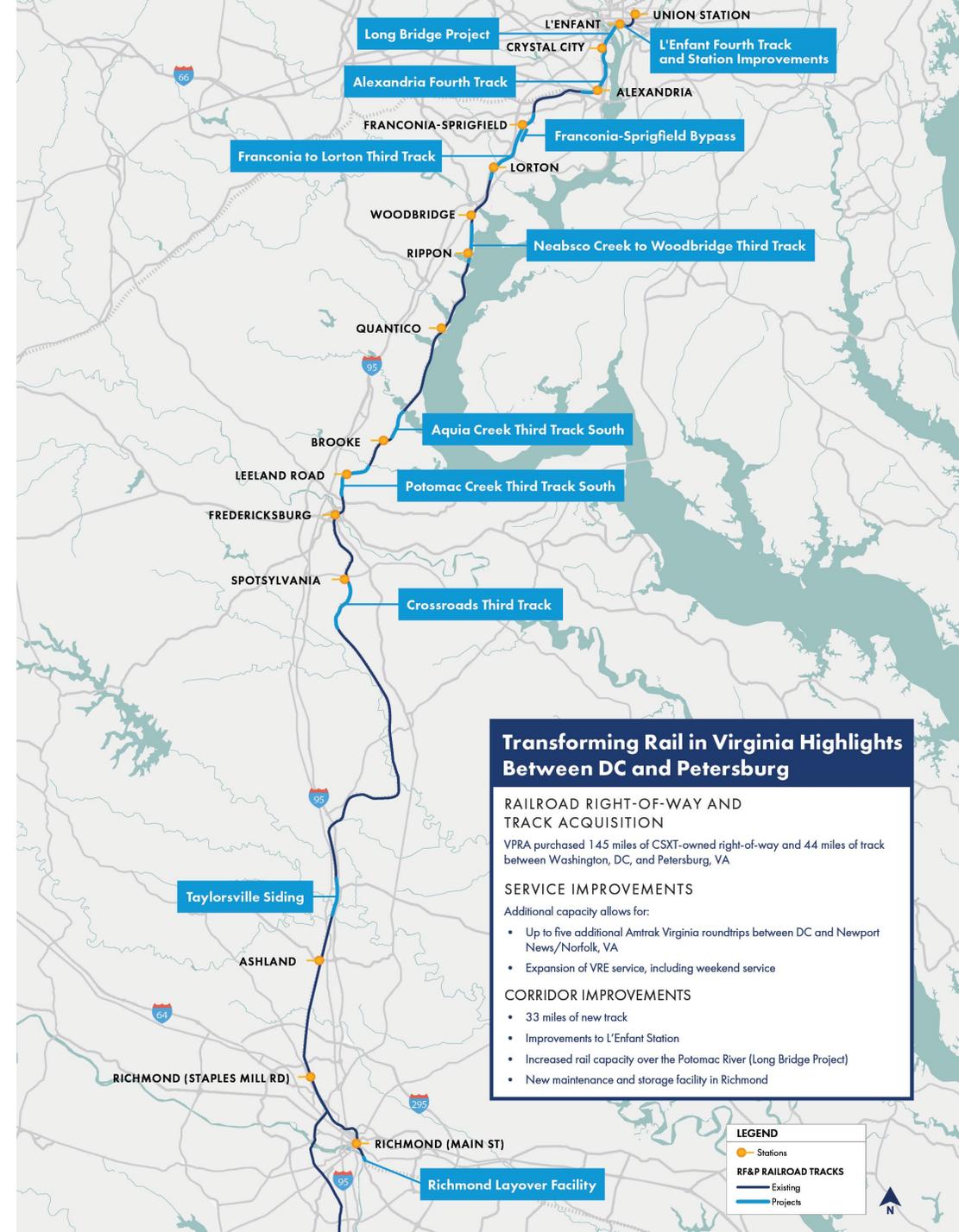


Improve **reliability** of passenger, commuter, and freight rail services

# VPRA Capital Program: DC to Richmond

**11 projects** unlock new passenger rail service and set the stage for future service expansion.

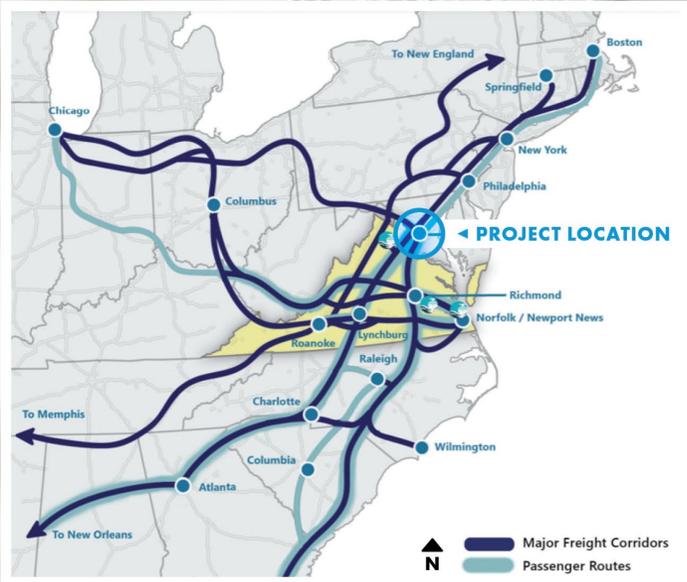
- **Two new Amtrak** and **three new VRE roundtrips** (including late night & weekend service).
- **Future capacity** for **three additional Amtrak roundtrips** and **two additional VRE trips**



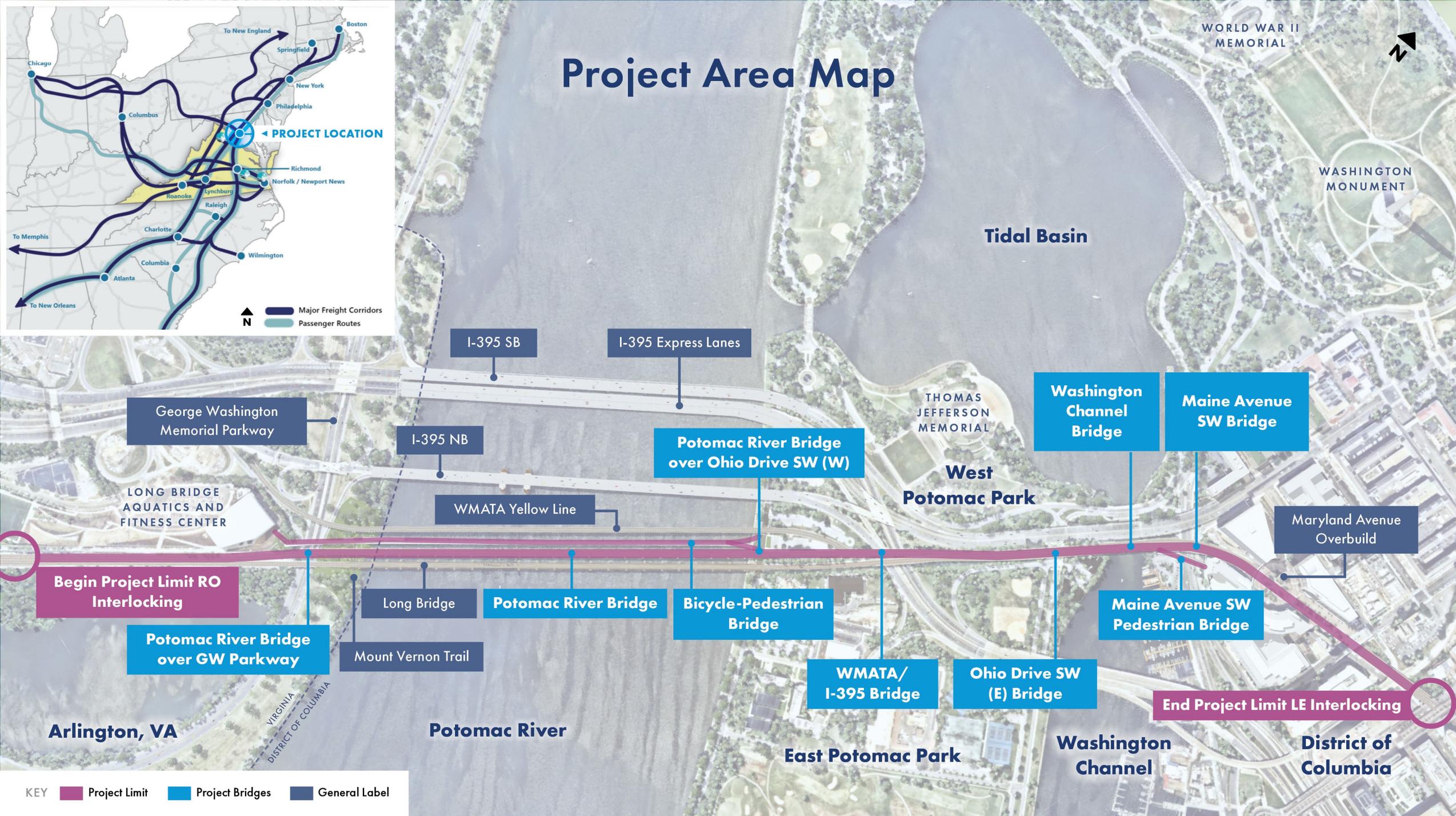
# Long Bridge Project Overview

- The existing two-track rail bridge is owned and operated by CSXT and operates at 98% capacity with nearly 80 CSXT, Amtrak, and VRE trains crossing daily
- The existing bridge will remain and continue to be owned/operated by CSXT
- The new Long Bridge will add two additional tracks, doubling rail capacity
- The 1.8-mile project corridor includes five rail bridges and two pedestrian bridges





# Project Area Map



Begin Project Limit RO Interlocking

End Project Limit LE Interlocking

KEY ■ Project Limit ■ Project Bridges ■ General Label

# Project Overview



**1.8 mile**

Project

**20,000**

Feet of Track

**6,500 ft**

Rail Bridges

**3**

Rail Operators

**2,800 ft**

Potomac River Bike  
-Pedestrian Bridge

**2**

New Tracks  
VA to DC

**3,500 ft**

Retaining/  
Crashwalls

**5**

New Rail  
Bridges

**70**

Daily  
Trains

**1**

New Potomac River  
Bike/Ped Bridge

**37 +**

Stakeholders

**1**

Maine Ave Pedestrian Bridge

# North and South Packages



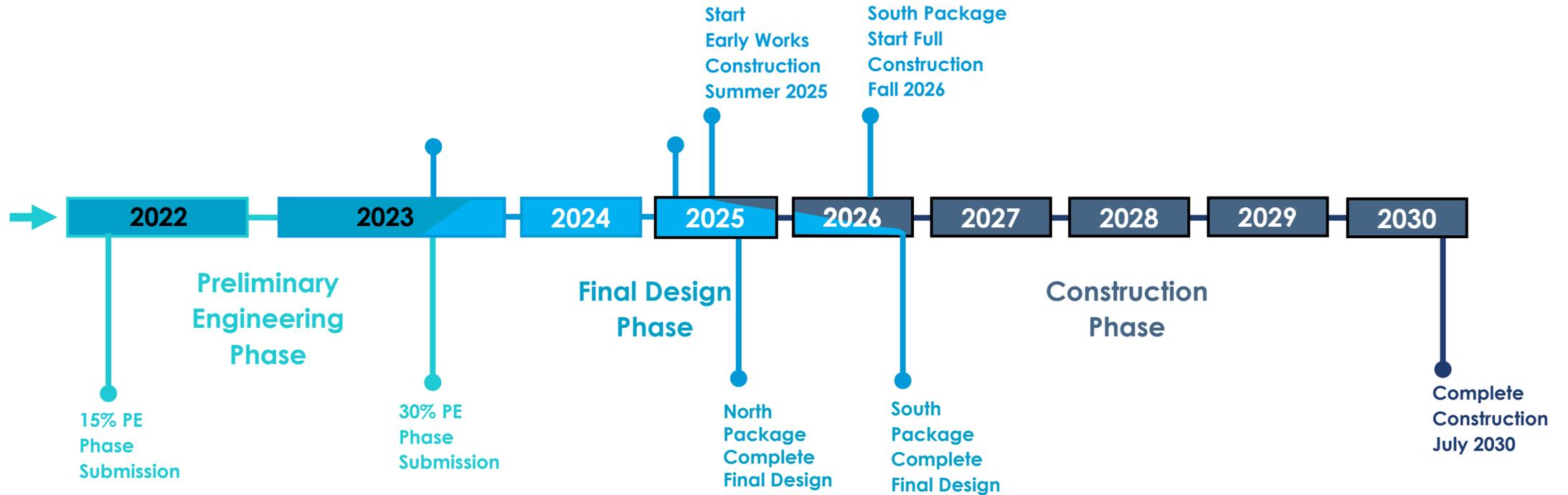
## South Package

- Constructs a rail bridge and bike/ped bridge over the George Washington Memorial Parkway & Potomac River
- Construction estimated to begin mid-2026

## North Package

- Constructs new bridges in the District north of the Potomac River, as well as retaining walls, embankments, ground improvements & crash walls
- Early works construction packages to begin Spring/ Summer 2025

# Design & Construction Timeline



# Potomac River Bike/Pedestrian Bridge



- New recreational connection between Mt. Vernon Trail and East Potomac Park
- DC to own and maintain
- More than double the width of the current bike/pedestrian path



# Existing Bicycle-Pedestrian Network

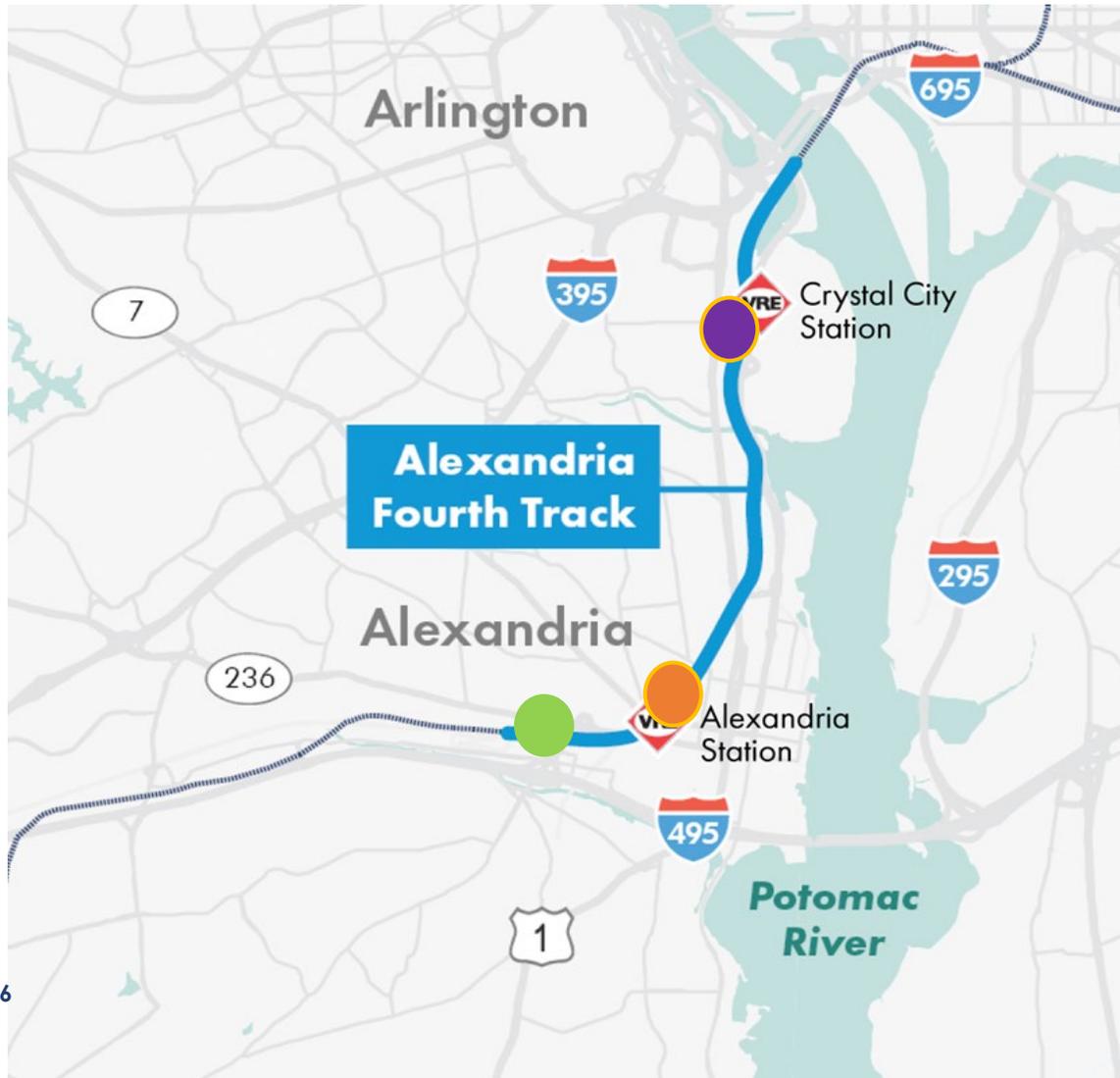


# Mount Vernon Trail, Arlington, VA



MVT – Existing 8- to 10-foot trail with planned widening to 11 feet

# Alexandria Fourth Track Project



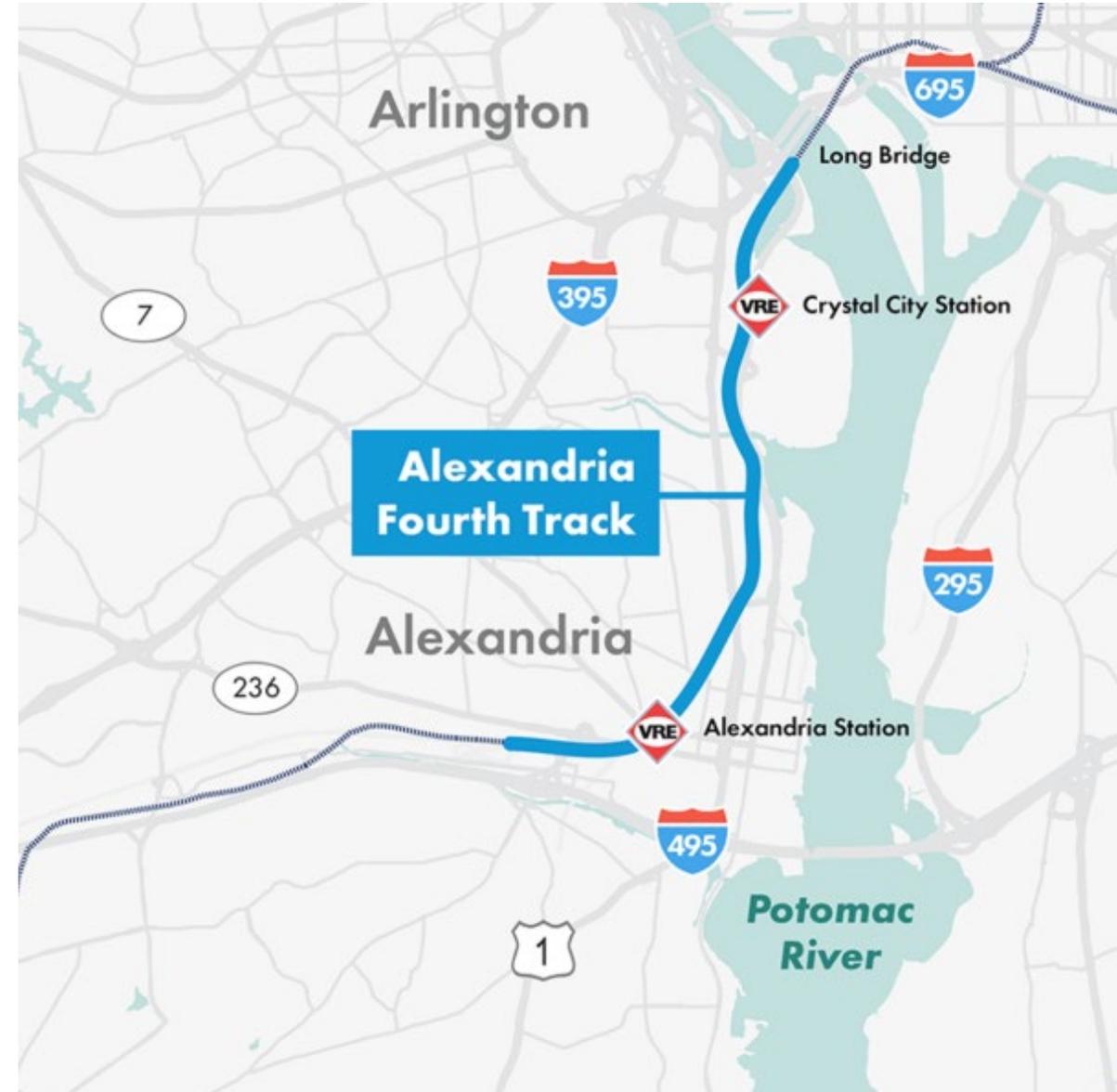
Six miles of 4<sup>th</sup> track from Long Bridge Park to Business Center Drive area (VPRA)

## Related sub projects:

- Crystal City Station (VRE)
- King Street area projects
  - Alexandria Station (VRE)
  - King and Commonwealth Bridges (VRE)
  - Streetscape Improvements (City of Alexandria)
- Telegraph Tunnel
  - Pedestrian mitigation improvements (VPRA)

# Alexandria Fourth Track Overview

- Approximately six miles of new track between Long Bridge and Alexandria VRE Station
- Adds a fourth track within existing right-of-way between Arlington and Alexandria
- Increases rail capacity and addresses current bottleneck that delays passenger and freight trains traveling north into DC, where five tracks converge into three
- Construction to begin Q4 2025



# New Fourth Mainline Track (looking south from Rt. 1 bridge)



Braddock  
Road Metro  
Station

The George Washington  
Masonic National Memorial

Existing Rail Track

Main Line Boulevard

Nelson Avenue



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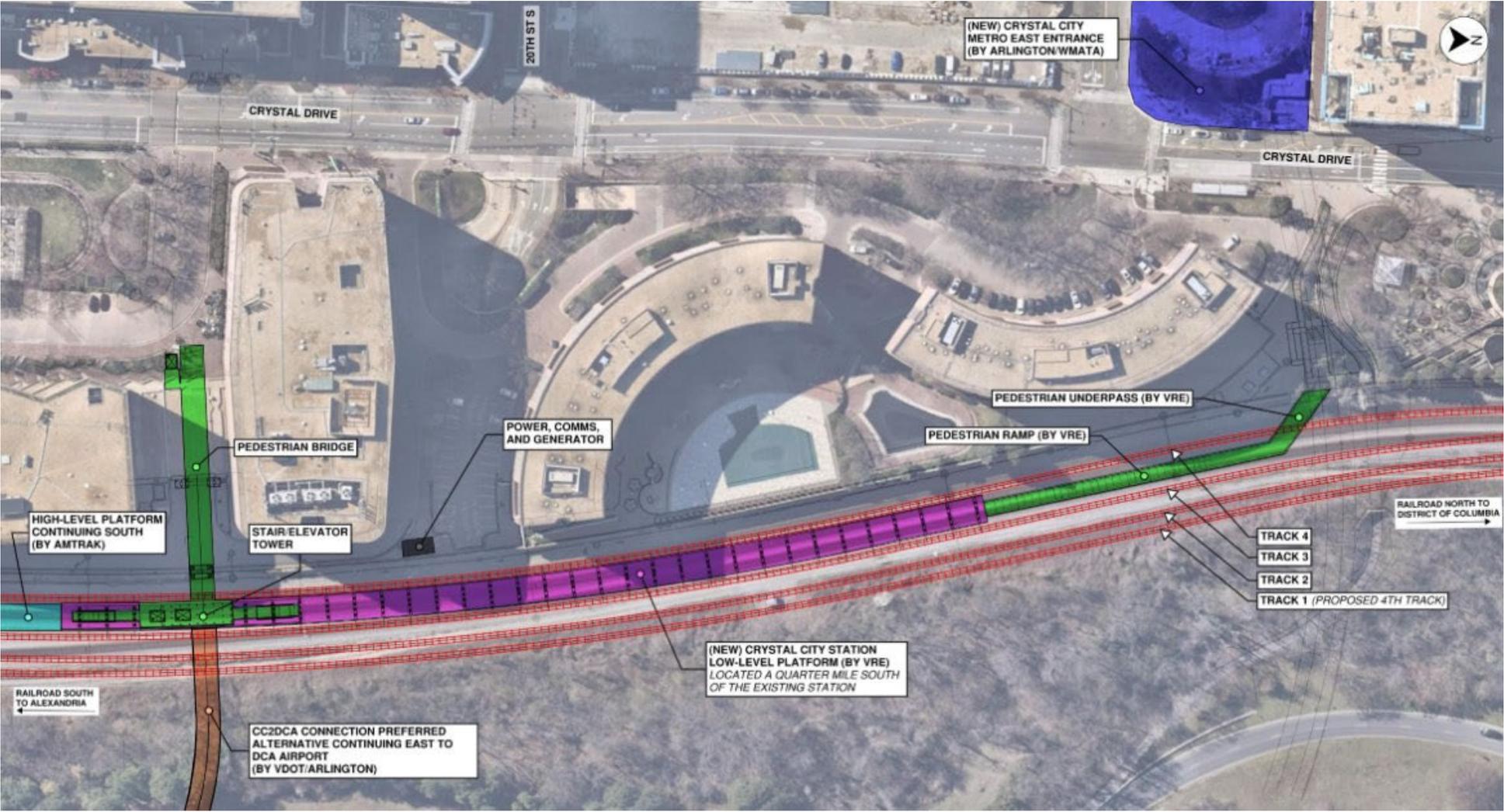
Nelson Avenue

Proposed Fourth Track

# Alexandria Fourth Track – Project Timeline



# Crystal City Station Project Overview

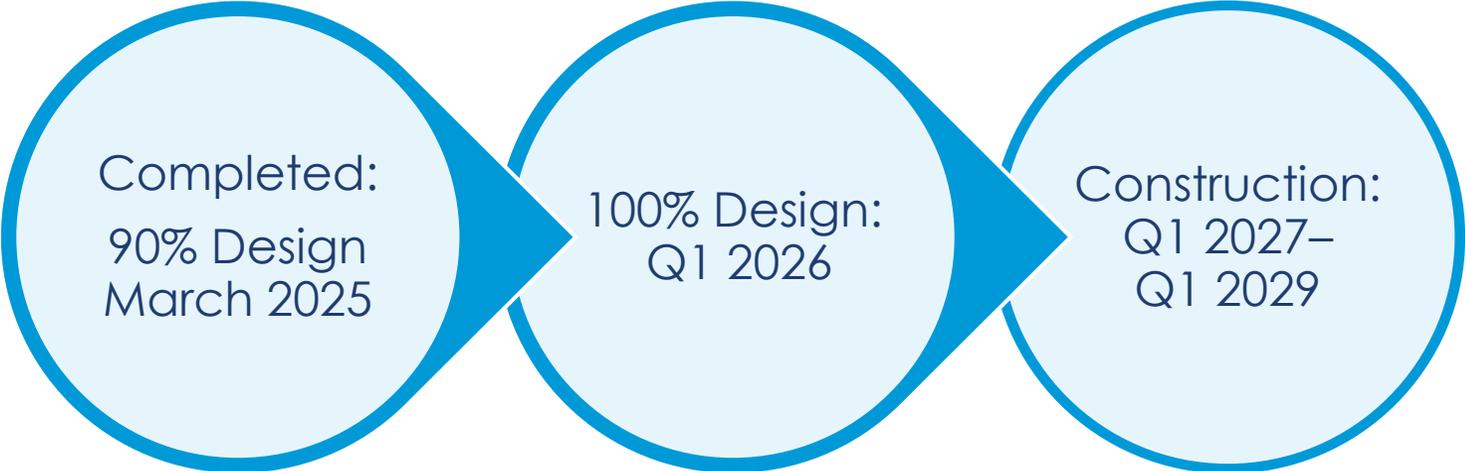


# Crystal City Station Improvements

- Station with island platform to accommodate 8-car train sets
  - Island platform will enable simultaneous boarding, and improve operational flexibility
  - Longer platforms allow all train car doors to open, improving operational efficiency
- Entrances provide enhanced intermodal transit connectivity
  - North entrance reduces distance to new Metro entrance, and Mt Vernon Trail Connector
  - South entrance accommodates future pedestrian/bicycle connection between the station and airport



# Crystal City Station Improvements Timeline



# Community Advisory Group (CAG)

- Sounding board for community questions, concerns, and impacts.
- Represent the diverse interests in Northern VA
  - Residents
  - Business owners
  - Property manager
  - Boaters
  - Special interest groups (e.g., bike advocacy)
  - NoVA agencies
  - Elected officials
  - Other key stakeholders
- Quarterly meetings (more often, as needed)
- Virtual Meetings
- Site walks/tours



# Keeping the community informed

- Project Hotline
- Digital Newsletter
- Project Fact sheets
- Traffic, Boating, and Pedestrian/Bike Advisories
- Signage
- Multi-media outreach



**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE**  
Upcoming Construction Activity

**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE**  
Upcoming Construction Activity

**Upcoming Construction**

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPR) in coordination with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), will close one right lane on Maine Avenue SW Eastbound between Ohio Drive SW and the ramp to I-395 Northbound to support construction activities. Construction activity is scheduled to begin on February 18, 2025 (weather permitting) and will continue through February 20, 2025.

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPR) is an independent authority established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2020 to promote, sustain, and expand passenger and commuter rail services.

Our mission is to provide integrated, affordable, and convenient rail travel options for all. As part of our commitment to improving rail infrastructure, we are completing early construction activities for the Long Bridge Project. This project will add a new two-track rail road bridge alongside the existing Long Bridge across the Potomac River, increasing rail capacity and alleviating a significant bottleneck for Amtrak and Virginia Rail way Express. The 1.8-mile project includes five new rail bridges and two new pedestrian/bicycle bridges.

Posted signage and detours will be provided to assist motorists and pedestrians as they travel through the area. This work will not impact parking.

To ensure the safety of our crews, motorists and pedestrians are asked to stay clear of work zones and follow posted signage and detours.

**Stay Connected!** For more information and to stay updated on traffic impacts and construction progress, please visit [VPRPassengerRailAuthority.org](http://VPRPassengerRailAuthority.org). If you have questions, contact us at [info@longbridgeproject.com](mailto:info@longbridgeproject.com).

# VPRA Construction Disruptions Map

## Construction Projects and Travel Disruptions

Select Disruption Type(s)

0 Selected

Select Travel Mode(s)

0 Selected

Train Construction

### Alexandria Station

Ongoing construction at Alexandria Station. North end of the platform is closed.

Alexandria Station Improvements (VRE)

Vehicle Changed Conditions

### King Street Railroad Bridge



# How to stay connected



**Visit project website:**  
[VAPassengerRailAuthority.org](http://VAPassengerRailAuthority.org)



**Sign up for email updates:**  
[vapassengerrailauthority.org/contact](http://vapassengerrailauthority.org/contact)



**Contact us:**  
804.303.8700 | [contactus@vpra.virginia.gov](mailto:contactus@vpra.virginia.gov)



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# Q & A