



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 24, 2015

Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Contact: Lynne McCarthy

Phone: (804) 786-4443

Email: lynne.mccarthy@drpt.virginia.gov

DRPT and FRA to Host Public Meetings to Present Alternatives for the Washington, D.C. to Richmond Southeast High Speed Rail Project

December 8, 9, and 10, 2015

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), in cooperation with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), has scheduled public information meetings for the Washington, D.C. to Richmond Southeast High Speed Rail (DC2RVA) project in order to present the most feasible improvement alternatives for faster, more reliable intercity passenger rail service. The public is invited to attend a public information meeting to learn details of the project and talk with the project team. Identical open-house meetings will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with a presentation offered at 6:00 p.m. An online public meeting also is available from December 7, 2015 through January 8, 2016 at www.DC2RVArail.com/online-meeting.

Fredericksburg	Springfield	Richmond
Tuesday, December 8, 2015	Wednesday, December 9, 2015	Thursday, December 10, 2015
Dorothy Hart Community Center 408 Canal Street Fredericksburg, VA	Hilton Springfield 6550 Loisdale Road Springfield, VA	VA Dept. of Motor Vehicles 2300 W. Broad Street Richmond, VA
Transit info: www.ridefred.com	Transit info: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector www.wmata.com	Transit info: www.ridegRTC.com

During the meetings, attendees will learn about and have an opportunity to provide input on:

- Results of the initial alternatives screening process.
- Preliminary alternatives for further design and detailed evaluation as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Richmond area station and track options.

“As part of this project we are evaluating opportunities to improve service reliability, increase the frequency of the trains and reduce travel time,” said Emily Stock, project manager for DC2RVA. “We are looking at potential station locations in Richmond along with various alternatives to add additional capacity to the corridor between Washington, D.C. and Richmond. DRPT’s goal is to make this service more dependable and provide the public with a competitive travel option.”

Although comments and questions may be submitted at any time, comments to be considered during this part of the alternatives review process must be received by January 8, 2016.

Ways to comment:

- Electronic comment form on the project website.
- Leave comments on the toll-free project hotline: 888-832-0900 or TDD 711.
- Mail comments to: Emily Stock, Manager of Rail Planning, DC2RVA Project Office, 801 East Main Street, Suite 1000, Richmond, VA 23219.

Meeting locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. DRPT strives to provide reasonable accommodations and services for persons who require assistance to participate. For special assistance, call the Title VI Compliance Officer, 804-786-4440 or TDD 711 at least 72 hours prior to the public meeting.

En Español: Si usted necesita servicios de traducción a participar, por favor manda un email: espanol@DC2RVArail.com. También puede llamar a la línea directa del proyecto a dejar comentarios: 888-832-0900.

Website: www.DC2RVArail.com

Facebook: DC2RVArail

Twitter: @DC2RVArail

Project toll-free phone number: 1-888-832-0900 or TDD 711

Background

The Washington D.C. to Richmond Southeast High Speed Rail (DC2RVA) project includes a Tier II Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 123-mile rail corridor that goes through all cities and counties along the I-95 corridor between Arlington, VA, and Chesterfield, VA. The DC2RVA Tier II EIS will evaluate track and safety improvements, bypasses, station options, and reasonable service alternatives for the entire corridor. A Tier I EIS, from Washington, D.C. to Charlotte, NC, was completed in 2002 and included this corridor. The current Tier II EIS is the next step in a rigorous environmental process.

The rail corridor that parallels I-95 is an integral component of the Commonwealth's transportation system. DC2RVA will improve this critical link in the U.S. intercity passenger rail system between Amtrak's Northeast Corridor (Boston, MA to Washington, D.C.) and the Southeast High Speed Rail corridor. This project is funded through a cooperative agreement between DRPT and FRA for the completion of preliminary engineering and Tier II environmental review.

About the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

DRPT's mission is to improve the mobility of people and goods while expanding transportation choices in the Commonwealth through rail, public transportation, and commuter services.

DRPT is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For additional information on DRPT's nondiscrimination policies and procedures or to file a complaint, please contact the Title VI Compliance Officer, Linda Balderson, (804) 786-4440 or TDD 711, 600 E. Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219.

###