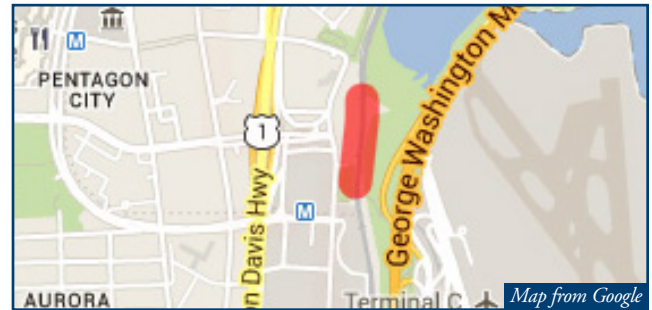




Project Description Form — 8D

Basic Project Information

1. **Submitting Agency:**
Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
2. **Project Title:** VRE Crystal City Platform Expansion
3. **Project Type:**
 Roadway Multimodal Transit
4. **Project Description/Scope:** This project is a 400 foot extension of the existing platform at the VRE Crystal City station in Arlington County to accommodate trains up to 10 cars in length.
5. **Route (if applicable)/Corridor:**
I-95 / I-395 / US 1 / Corridor 8
6. **Total Project Cost:** \$4,000,000
7. **Total Funds Required:** \$4,000,000
8. **Phase/s of Project Covered by Funding:** Requested funding includes NEPA, design, and construction.



9. **Project Milestones (by phase, include all phases):**
 - NEPA/Design Start: FY 2014
10. **In Transaction 2040 plan?**
 Yes No
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11. **In CLRP, TIP or Air Quality Neutral?**
 Yes. Air Quality Neutral
12. **Leverages Sources:**
 Local State Federal
 Other (please explain)
 Opportunities to leverage the NVTA funds with state and federal funds with be explored.

PROJECT ANALYSIS			
Tier I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	Tier III Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost:		
Tier II 4 out of 8 points	<i>Plan</i> <input type="checkbox"/> CLRP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TA2040 only	<i>Rating</i> <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Med <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low	

Stated Benefits

- 1. What regional benefit/s does this project offer?** The requested funding expedites the delivery of the project. The project will modify the VRE station platform to enable it to service longer trains and higher passenger loads. The expanded platform alleviates existing crowding at the station and expands VRE operational flexibility and supports the maintenance of on-time performance (OTP). Maintaining high levels of OTP and service predictability are crucial to sustain and grow commuter rail ridership and retain VRE as a viable regional travel option.

The station is used by an estimated 3,725 VRE riders each day. Of that total, VRE surveys indicate that 5% of are from Fairfax County, 34% are from Prince William County, 5% are from the City of Manassas, 4% are from the City of Manassas Park, 19% are from Stafford County, 16% are from the Fredericksburg area and 4% are from Fauquier County and other points west. As the station serves both the VRE Fredericksburg and Manassas Lines as well as Amtrak trains it will benefit riders from all VRE member jurisdictions, including jurisdictions beyond the NVTAs boundaries.

- 2. How does the project reduce congestion?** VRE helps reduce regional congestion by providing an alternative commuting mode to the single occupancy vehicle. Two VRE trains in an hour carry the equivalent capacity as one lane of traffic on either I-95/I-395 or I-66. By supporting expansion of VRE capacity in the region, the project expands the capacity of the I-95/I-395/US 1 and I-66 travel corridors and contributes to the reduction of regional congestion.
- 3. How does the project increase capacity?** (*Mass transit projects only*) The project will double VRE station platform/boarding capacity (from 10,000 trips/day to 20,000 trips/day). It also enhances operational flexibility for VRE and freight trains, which supports expanded operational capacity within the overall regional CSX rail corridor.
- 4. How does the project improve auto and pedestrian safety?** Commuter Rail is one of the safest modes of travel. Automobile and pedestrian safety is improved in the region by directly moving commuters and their vehicles from freeway system (one of the most dangerous) and other regional roads to commuter rail (one of the safest ways to commute).
- 5. List internet address/link to any additional information or documentation in support of project benefits.** (*Optional*) The VRE annual Master Agreement survey documents VRE ridership characteristics including the number of riders destined for each station and riders origin jurisdiction. Survey results are available from VRE.
- 6. Project Picture/Illustratives** N/A