

## VHSR's 2017 Accomplishments

- Presented to the 2018 Class of Leadership Metro Richmond on the benefits of high speed rail 12/7/2017
- Action: Our members submitted over 1,000 public comments in support of the DC2RVA high speed rail study. 11/2017
- Comments: Submitted public comments for the Virginia State Rail Plan. 11/2017
- Comments: Submitted public comments for the DC2RVA draft EIS study. 11/2017
- Participated in launch of Roanoke Amtrak Regional Train. 10/31/2017
- Media: Richmond Times Dispatch "The two-station option is right for Richmond" op-ed. 10/28/2017
- Action: Our members contacted their members of Congress nearly 2,154 times in opposition to President Trump's elimination of Amtrak's National trains which will reduce Virginia's passenger rail service by 48% and cost VA taxpayers millions in additional costs to operate our Regional trains. 8/2017
- Media: Richmond Magazine "Talking Trains" 7/21/2017
- Meeting: Met with the offices of every member of Virginia's congressional delegation
- Media: CBS 19 "State Legislators speak out in support of Amtrak Service" 7/12/2017
- Media: Style Weekly "Richmond Train Advocates Say They're Not On Board with Trump's Budget" 6/29/2017
- Meeting: Held a Rally4Trains rally in Richmond with over 100 supporters. 6/28/2017
- Media: WINA 98.9 FM "Daniel Plaugher: Rally for Trains" 6/23/2017
- Media: NBC 29 "People in Charlottesville Rallied for Improved Rail Road Services" 6/23/2017
- Media: CBS 19 "Train organization rallies against proposed cuts to Amtrak" 6/23/2017
- Media: The Daily Progress "Rail advocates: Trump budget would cut C'ville Amtrak service by two thirds" 6/23/2017
- Meeting: Held a Rally4Trains rally in Charlottesville with 100+ supporters. 6/23/2017
- Media: WCVE 88.9 FM "Rail Advocacy Groups To Rally Against Proposed Amtrak Budget Cuts" 6/22/2017
- Comments: Submitted public comments for the Tri-Cities Multi-modal study. 5/22/2017
- Meeting: Attended the CTB's Rail Subcommittee 2/15/2017
- Meeting: Hosted our 2017 Transit and Rail Advocacy Day at the Virginia General Assembly 1/23/2017
- Media: Inside Business "2016 top stories | Transportation" 12/19/2016
- Spoke to the 5400 Club 12/19/2016
- Hosted the DC2RVA study team to discuss their recommendations 12/9/2016
- Media: Richmond Magazine "Rail Plan Endorses Local Stations" 12/7/2016
- Spoke to the 2017 Class of Leadership Metro Richmond 12/7/2016



## Our Mission

To educate and advocate for the expansion of fast, frequent, and reliable passenger rail service connecting Virginia to destinations up and down the east coast. We want to **triple** the number of Amtrak trains serving Virginia; reduce their travel times by up-to **35 percent**; increase their on-time reliability to over **90 percent**; and reach **85 percent** of Virginians.

## FY 2017 VA Amtrak Service

### Ridership:

Long Distance: 730,914  
Virginia Regionals: 851,443  
Total: 1,582,357 +1.9%

### Stations:

- 1) Ashland +10%
- 2) Burke Centre: +9.2%
- 3) Richmond- Main Street: +8.6%

### Corridor Ridership:

- 1) Urban Crescent: 1,285,509
- 2) Piedmont Corridor: 281,447
- 3) Long Distance Stations: 15,401

### Regional Corridor Performance:

1. Lynchburg Regional
2. Newport News Regionals
3. Richmond Regionals
6. Norfolk Regionals

\*Out of 30 corridors in the Nation, \$ per seat mile.

### Amtrak 2017 Benefits:

Passenger Miles: 255.5 million  
 Fuel Not Burned: 11.8 million gallons  
 CO2 Not Released: 231.8 million pounds  
 Economic Development: \$1.1 billion  
 Jobs Created/Sustained: +11,000  
 Tourism Spending: \$194 million

## 2018 Goals

1. See the DC 2RVA study completed
2. Protect VA Intercity Passenger Rail Funding and our Regional trains
3. Support federal transportation legislation that includes funding for a national intercity passenger rail network
4. Identify funding for Richmond-Hampton Roads passenger rail & high speed rail study

Visit: [www.VHSR.com](http://www.VHSR.com) to learn how to help our efforts

## 2017 Highlights

- \$777 million in funding to sustain, expand, and improve intercity passenger rail included in Virginia's six-year transportation improvement plan.
- Launch of Roanoke Amtrak service
- Continued operation of all of Virginia's Amtrak Regional trains
- DC-Richmond federal high speed rail study public comment period completed
- Advancement of the Long Bridge replacement and expansion study
- Transfer of the "S-Line" from Petersburg to NC border to VA for high speed rail
- Completion of the final Richmond to Raleigh High Speed Rail corridor study