

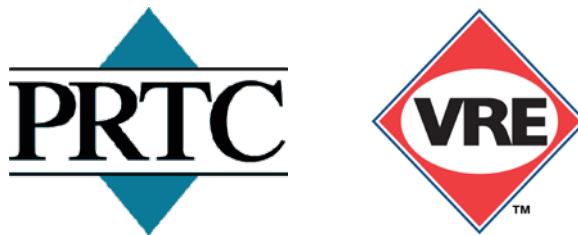
Transit Subsidy

Transit Service in Prince William County

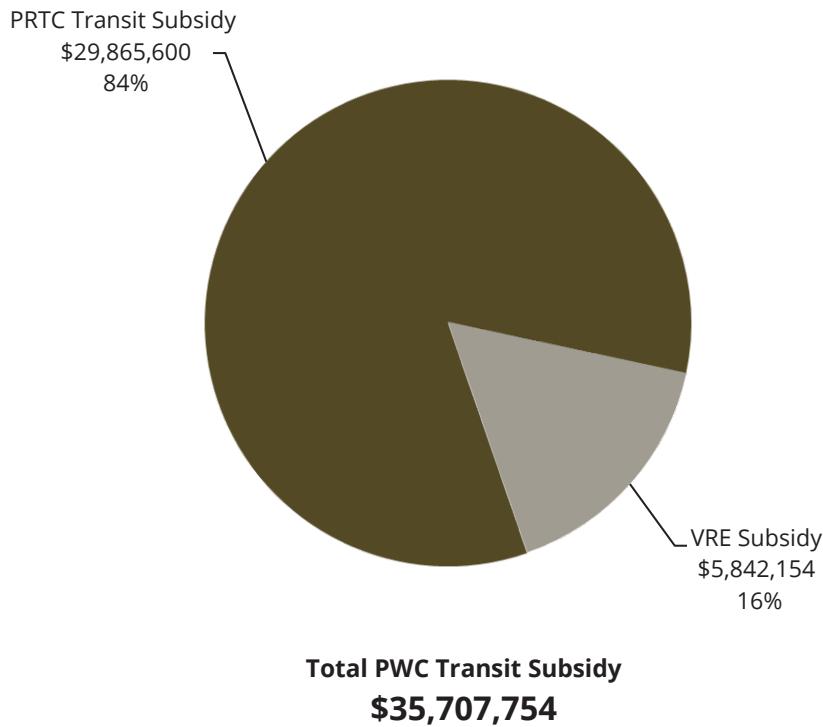
The Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) is a multi-jurisdictional agency representing Prince William, Stafford, and Spotsylvania Counties, and the Cities of Manassas, Manassas Park, and Fredericksburg. Located in Virginia about 25 miles southwest of Washington, D.C., PRTC provides commuter bus service along the I-95 and I-66 corridors to points north (OmniRide Express) and local bus services in the County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park (OmniRide Local).

PRTC also offers OmniRide Ridesharing Services, a free ridesharing service. Operated by PRTC in partnership with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) provides commuter rail service along the Manassas and Fredericksburg lines, connecting to transit providers at stations in Virginia and the District of Columbia.

For more information, go to omniride.com and vre.org.



FY2027 Transit Subsidy



Mandates

There is no state or federal mandate requiring the provision of mass transit services. Some federal and state transportation funds require certain activities to be performed; however, these are not considered mandates since the County is not obligated to accept the funding.

Transit Subsidy

Expenditure and Revenue Summary



PWC PRTC Transit Subsidy	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed	% Change Budget FY26/ Budget FY27
PRTC Administration	\$104,900	\$388,600	\$404,200	\$327,400	\$317,300	(3.08%)
OmniRide Express (Commuter Bus Service)	\$4,542,300	\$6,375,400	\$8,071,500	\$8,201,300	\$7,930,100	(3.31%)
OmniRide Ridesharing Services/Marketing	\$1,676,000	\$1,837,100	\$2,025,300	\$2,357,600	\$2,217,500	(5.94%)
OmniRide Local (Local Bus Service)	\$1,427,100	\$6,405,800	\$12,237,600	\$12,538,200	\$13,709,500	9.34%
Local Capital Match	\$3,168,500	\$1,397,900	\$2,553,100	\$591,700	\$864,100	46.04%
Vanpool Program	\$2,016,600	\$2,013,700	\$2,080,800	\$2,121,000	\$2,465,600	16.25%
Paratransit	\$166,900	\$2,545,700	\$2,704,700	\$2,692,600	\$2,361,500	(12.30%)
Total PRTC Subsidy Expenditures	\$13,102,300	\$20,964,200	\$30,077,200	\$28,829,800	\$29,865,600	3.59%

Revenue and Use of Fund Balance

PWC Fuel Tax Revenue (PRTC Estimate)	\$13,683,100	\$17,636,900	\$16,881,900	\$17,581,500	\$17,623,500	0.24%
Interest on Fuel Tax	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
PWC Grantor's Tax Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$4,650,000	\$5,900,000	\$5,900,000	0.00%
PWC Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$4,500,000	\$3,523,024	\$3,300,000	(6.33%)
PWC General Fund Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$0	-
PWC NVTA 30% Funding	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,221,344	-
PWC TOT Contribution for Wheels-to-Wellness	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	0.00%
PWC Fuel Tax Trust Fund Balance	\$2,388,334	\$6,410,647	\$3,195,300	\$1,675,276	\$1,670,756	(0.27%)
(Contribution To)/Use of PWC Fuel Tax Fund Balance	(\$3,124,134)	(\$3,238,347)	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
PRTC Subsidy Revenues	\$13,102,300	\$20,964,200	\$30,077,200	\$28,829,800	\$29,865,600	3.59%

PWC VRE Subsidy	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed	% Change Budget FY26/ Budget FY27
VRE Subsidy (Commuter Rail Service)	\$4,389,276	\$4,924,666	\$5,468,148	\$5,842,154	\$5,842,154	0.00%
Total VRE Subsidy Expenditures	\$4,389,276	\$4,924,666	\$5,468,148	\$5,842,154	\$5,842,154	0.00%
PWC NVTA 30% Funding	\$4,389,276	\$4,924,666	\$5,468,148	\$5,842,154	\$5,842,154	0.00%
Total VRE Subsidy Revenues	\$4,389,276	\$4,924,666	\$5,468,148	\$5,842,154	\$5,842,154	0.00%
PWC Net General Tax Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-

Total Subsidy	FY23 Adopted	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed	% Change Budget FY26/ Budget FY27
Total Subsidy Expenditures	\$17,491,576	\$25,888,866	\$35,545,348	\$34,671,954	\$35,707,754	2.99%
Total Subsidy Revenues & Use of Fund Balance	\$17,491,576	\$25,888,866	\$35,545,348	\$34,671,954	\$35,707,754	2.99%
PWC Net General Tax Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-

General Overview

A. Prince William County (PWC) Budget Allocations to Transit Services – The following funding allocations are proposed in FY27:

- 1. Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Revenue** – The proposed budget continues allocation of the 2.1% motor vehicle fuels tax collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles from wholesale fuel distributors and remitted monthly to PRTC. The tax will support the operating and capital expenditures in the PRTC FY2027 Budget. PRTC's estimated motor fuels tax revenue for FY27 is \$17.6 million. The designation of the motor vehicle fuels tax revenue to PRTC is consistent with prior practice.
- 2. Grantor's Tax Revenue** – The proposed budget includes a contribution of \$5.9 million in grantor's tax revenue designated for transportation purposes to support the operating and capital expenditures in the PRTC FY2027 Budget.
- 3. Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Revenue** – The proposed budget includes a contribution of \$3.3 million in TOT funds designated for public transportation purposes to support the operating and capital expenditures in the PRTC FY2027 Budget.
- 4. Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 30%** – The proposed budget includes \$1.2 million of NVTA 30% funding to support the operating and capital expenditures in the PRTC FY2027 Budget. When combined with funding VRE's \$5.8 million local subsidy (see below), NVTA 30% revenue provides a total of \$7.0 million for PRTC and VRE.
- 5. Jurisdictional Subsidy to VRE** – The proposed budget includes \$5.8 million of NVTA 30% funding to support FY27 operating and capital expenses at VRE. The PWC subsidy amount is approximately 30% of VRE's total jurisdictional subsidy revenue. The FY27 subsidy is unchanged from the FY26 subsidy request.
- 6. Support for PRTC Wheels-to-Wellness** – The proposed budget includes \$150,000 of Transient Occupancy Tax funds designated for public transportation purposes to support the Wheels-to-Wellness program. The program is a medical transportation assistance program to help eligible residents access health services and is administered by PRTC through support from community partners including medical service providers and the County.

B. PRTC FY2027 Budget – The Proposed PRTC FY2027 Budget was presented to the Commission on December 4, 2025, and the Commission authorized the referral of PRTC's proposed budget for consideration by member localities. PRTC's proposed budget is based on a PWC total local subsidy increase of \$1.0 million.

The total PWC transit subsidy request of \$29.9 million to PRTC is budgeted for PRTC Administration, OmniRide Express, OmniRide Ridesharing Service/Marketing, OmniRide Local, Local Capital Match, Vanpool, and Paratransit programs. Of this amount, \$17.6 million is funded by PWC fuel tax revenue projected by PRTC, local PWC contribution of \$5.9 million in grantor's tax revenue, local PWC contribution of \$3.5 million in TOT tax revenue (including \$0.2 million for Wheels-to-Wellness), \$1.2 million in NVTA 30% revenue, and a \$1.7 million net use of PWC fuel tax fund balance. Based on PRTC projections, a \$1.7 million use of PWC fuel tax fund balance in FY27 would fully deplete the fuel tax fund balance.

The table on the next page compares the total PRTC budget for FY26 to the PRTC budget for FY27. Note, this table represents the total PRTC budget and therefore reflects total expenditures and revenues for all jurisdictional partners.

Transit Subsidy

PRTC - FY2026 and FY2027 Budget Comparison				
Budget Category	FY26	FY27	\$ Diff	% Diff
Passenger Revenue	\$8,449,600	\$12,962,000	\$4,512,400	53.4%
State Grants	\$20,011,800	\$20,110,500	\$98,700	0.5%
Federal Grants	\$13,535,000	\$19,484,400	\$5,949,400	44.0%
Jurisdictional Subsidies	\$30,247,900	\$31,264,000	\$1,016,100	3.4%
Other	\$288,000	\$289,400	\$1,400	0.5%
Total Revenue	\$72,532,300	\$84,110,300	\$11,578,000	16.0%
Bus Service Contract/Incentives	\$40,631,400	\$43,726,800	\$3,095,400	7.6%
Personnel and Fringe Benefits	\$8,805,000	\$9,277,500	\$472,500	5.4%
Fuel	\$5,030,800	\$5,374,400	\$343,600	6.8%
Professional Services	\$2,715,300	\$3,487,600	\$772,300	28.4%
Vanpool	\$1,516,000	\$1,708,000	\$192,000	12.7%
Other Services & Supplies	\$1,303,700	\$1,512,100	\$208,400	16.0%
Facility, Shelter, Equipment Maintenance	\$1,705,300	\$1,692,400	(\$12,900)	(0.8%)
Software Maintenance	\$834,100	\$767,200	(\$66,900)	(8.0%)
Advertising/Printing	\$1,214,800	\$1,223,500	\$8,700	0.7%
Utilities & Communications	\$886,500	\$918,700	\$32,200	3.6%
Total Operating Expenses	\$64,642,900	\$69,688,200	\$5,045,300	7.8%
Bus Purchases	\$7,300,000	\$10,504,000	\$3,204,000	43.9%
Hardware/Software	\$368,100	\$476,300	\$108,200	29.4%
Bus Shelters	\$25,900	\$1,987,000	\$1,961,100	7571.8%
Rehabilitation/Renovation of Admin/Maint Facility	\$195,400	\$1,454,800	\$1,259,400	644.5%
Total Capital Expenses	\$7,889,400	\$14,422,100	\$6,532,700	82.8%
Total Expenses	\$72,532,300	\$84,110,300	\$11,578,000	16.0%

C. VRE FY2027 Budget – The VRE Operations Board recommended the Proposed VRE FY2027 Budget on December 19, 2025, and forwarded it to NVTC and PRTC for adoption. On January 8, 2026, the PRTC Commissioners adopted the VRE FY2027 Budget and referred it to the local jurisdictions for inclusion in their budget and appropriations in accordance with the VRE Master Agreement.

The recommended VRE budget is balanced, with no funding gap, and all projected expenditures in FY27 are supported by reasonably expected sources of funding. The FY2027 budget includes a 5% increase to passenger fares compared to FY26 and no change to the total jurisdictional subsidy contribution of \$19.8 million. Ridership revenue is forecasted to be \$22.7 million based on a projected weekday average daily ridership of 9,300 and 32 daily weekday revenue trains.

Information regarding the VRE FY2027 Budget may be viewed on the VRE [website](#).

Transit Subsidy

Program Summary

PRTC Administration

The PRTC is a multi-jurisdictional agency representing Prince William, Stafford, and Spotsylvania counties, and the Cities of Manassas, Manassas Park, and Fredericksburg. PRTC administration performs executive management, grants management (including federal rail service grants since PRTC is the federal grantee on VRE's behalf), human resources, and financial services as well as legislative support to the 17 PRTC Commissioners.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
PRTC Commission meetings	11	11	11	11	10
Public hearings	9	2	2	3	2

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
PRTC Administration	\$105	\$389	\$404	\$327	\$317
Employees Paid (PRTC)	49	52	54	57	58
Employees Paid (VRE)	54	56	60	61	61
Vendor checks produced	2,272	2,376	2,363	2,400	2,400
State grants (bus only) expended	\$19.3M	\$26.2M	\$17.4M	\$20.0M	\$20.0M
Federal grants (bus & rail) expended	\$66.7M	\$84.4M	\$58.8M	\$90.9M	\$103.1M
2.1% Motor fuels tax receipts	\$31.7M	\$35.1M	\$34.4M	\$35.1M	\$34.9M
2.1% Motor fuels tax disbursements	\$28.9M	\$34.2M	\$48.5M	\$34.5M	\$38.7M

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

OmniRide Express (Commuter Bus Service)

OmniRide Express provides services from eastern PWC and the Manassas area to points in Northern Virginia and the District of Columbia. In addition to morning and evening commuter service, limited mid-day service is also available.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Complaints per 10,000 passenger trips - OmniRide Express	8	5	5	8	6
Farebox recovery - OmniRide Express	12%	18%	48%	21%	30%
Passenger trips per vehicle revenue hour - OmniRide Express	12	7	9	8	10
PWC local subsidy per passenger trip - OmniRide Express	\$4.74	\$0.00	\$5.81	\$6.80	\$4.75

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
OmniRide Express (Commuter Bus Service)	\$4,542	\$6,375	\$8,072	\$8,201	\$7,930
OmniRide Express passenger trips	958,689	1,162,323	1,523,993	1,332,800	1,828,930

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

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OmniRide Ridesharing Service/Marketing

With the assistance of an extensive regional database, OmniRide Ridesharing Services matches residents with carpoolers and vanpoolers who have similar commutes and work hours. Carpoolers and vanpoolers have access to high-occupancy vehicle lanes that allow them to cruise to work faster and at less expense than driving alone. To encourage the development of new vanpools, OmniRide Ridesharing Services also offers a start-up subsidy program.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Annual vehicle trips reduced by slugging/carpool/vanpools	3,628,488	3,980,095	4,196,573	4,221,450	4,320,239

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Ridesharing/Marketing	\$1,676	\$1,837	\$2,025	\$2,358	\$2,218
Carpool, vanpool, slugging trips	1,771,663	1,985,097	2,773,742	2,202,824	3,166,579
Vanpool passenger trips	-	613,518	705,259	620,000	800,000
PWC local subsidy per passenger trip - Vanpool	-	\$3.90	\$3.20	\$3.80	\$3.40
Customer inquiries handled by customer service staff	55,125	81,116	86,740	77,000	89,300

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

OmniRide Local (Local Bus Service)

OmniRide Local provides local bus service to the communities of Dale City, Manassas, Manassas Park, Dumfries (including Quantico), and Woodbridge/Lake Ridge. The buses operate on a "flexroute" system that allows for deviation of up to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile away from the route.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Complaints per 10,000 passenger trips - OmniRide Local	3	3	2	5	4
Farebox recovery - OmniRide Local	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Passenger trips per vehicle revenue hour - OmniRide Local	10	11	10	10	10
PWC local subsidy per passenger trip - OmniRide Local	\$2.31	\$8.92	\$17.47	\$17.14	\$17.53

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
OmniRide Local (Local Bus Service)	\$1,427	\$6,406	\$12,238	\$12,538	\$13,710
OmniRide Local passenger trips	618,054	787,838	768,219	808,300	856,863

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

Transit Subsidy

Local Capital Match

PRTC purchases capital items such as OmniRide Express and OmniRide Local buses, facilities, support vehicles, and shop equipment using a combination of federal and state grants. Local capital match is the PWC contribution required as a condition of receiving the federal or state grant.

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Local Capital Match	\$3,169	\$1,398	\$2,553	\$592	\$864

FY23-25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

Vanpool

PRTC is the administrative home for a regional vanpool incentive program. This program collects mileage driven from vanpools and submits it to the National Transit Database where it increases PRTC's share of federal transit formula funding. Net program earnings are used to support the County's bus expenses, reducing the strain on the 2.1% motor fuels tax.

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Vanpool Program	\$2,017	\$2,014	\$2,081	\$2,121	\$2,466

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

Paratransit

OmniRide Local provides service to support the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide "complementary paratransit" service to people with disabilities who cannot use the fixed route bus service because of a disability. The program supports both eastern and western service areas.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Complaints per 10,000 passenger trips - Para/Micro Service	-	1	1	2	2
Farebox recovery - Para/Micro Service	-	0	0	0	0
Passenger trips per vehicle revenue hour - Para/Micro Service	-	1	1	1	1
PWC local subsidy per passenger trip - Para/Micro Service	-	\$185.15	\$59.75	\$67.93	\$48.89

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Paratransit/Microtransit Program	\$167	\$2,546	\$2,705	\$2,693	\$2,362
Paratransit/Microtransit Service passenger trips	-	22,303	49,646	43,800	52,928

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.

Transit Subsidy

VRE (Commuter Rail Service)

The VRE is a transportation partnership of the NVTC and PRTC, the counties of Fairfax, Prince William, Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Arlington and the cities of Manassas, Manassas Park, Fredericksburg, and Alexandria. VRE provides commuter rail service from the Northern Virginia suburbs to Alexandria, Crystal City, and downtown Washington, D.C.

Key Measures	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
Trips on-time	84%	79%	77%	90%	90%
Cost recovery ratio	15%	15%	19%	20%	22%
Passenger trips per vehicle revenue hour	19	20	25	24	29
Local subsidy (all jurisdictions) per passenger trip	\$9.24	\$10.06	\$9.21	\$9.63	\$8.50

Program Activities & Workload Measures <i>(Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)</i>	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Proposed
VRE (Commuter Rail Service)	\$4,389	\$4,925	\$5,468	\$5,842	\$5,842
VRE passenger trips	1,466,480	1,589,675	1,987,269	2,052,000	2,325,000

FY23-FY25 program costs are based on adopted budgets.