

# Virginia Light Rail Symposium



Highlighting the five Virginia localities with light rail and circulator streetcar projects in the study, planning or implementation stages: Norfolk, Arlington/Fairfax, Richmond, Roanoke, and Charlottesville

Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Science Museum of Virginia 2500 W. Broad Street Richmond, Virginia

Richmond Friends of Rail Breakfast & keynote speaker 7:30 AM-8:30 AM

# Main symposium 9:00 AM-3:30 PM

Accompanying displays to be on exhibit at the Science Museum through November 26.

Principal coordinators The Virginia Association of Railway Patrons

Restore the Core Committee of the Virginia Sierra Club

Richmond Friends of Rail

Virginia Light Rail Symposium Purposes Statement

"Dedicated to educating Virginians of light rail transit's role in shaping livable and economically vibrant communities"

### Purposes

Provide a forum for networking among Virginia communities undertaking or considering light rail transit, and for those interested in promoting such a system.

Provide a vehicle to learn from the experiences in other communities; locally, nationally, (and internationally)

Gain an understanding of the full range of benefits as well as the obstacles of creating a light rail transit system integrated with effective transit-oriented development.

Provide a background in effective implementation strategies and funding mechanisms.

Learn about the implications of local, state, and federal policies, the potential as well as limitations of federal and state support for support for transit and its implications for land use, particularly in light of the priority being given to transportation initiatives in the legislature.

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# Symposium agenda:

7:30-8:30—Richmond Friends of Rail Breakfast Welcome by local dignitaries Keynote speaker, Shirley DeLibero, Houston (tentatively confirmed) Topic: "If Houston can build light rail, anyone can."

9:00-10:30—First session Light Rail 101—What, Why, Who?

- Best practices applications for light rail vs. rubber tire transit
- Linking transit to land-use planning/
  economic development
- Funding:
- · Federal-state-local/private;
- State-local/private;
- Local/private

Rick Gustafson, COO, Portland Streetcar Jeff Boothe, Federal Transit Administration's New Starts Working Group

10:30-10:45—Break

10:45-12:15—Second Session Using the "tool" of light rail to spur economic development and promote livable/ walkable communities Case studies: Portland, Charlotte

John Carroll, Carroll Investments, Portland, OR John Muth, Charlotte Light Rail

12:30-1:45 Luncheon—Keynote speaker: Dr. Peter Newman, Director, Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy, Murdoch University, Perth, Australia Topic: "The Global Rail Revival"



2:00-3:30—Closing Session

Virginia's Emerging Light Rail/Streetcar projects—overviews of each, and Q&A with panelists, relating these projects with the morning's presentations:

- Arlington-Fairfax, Hon. Chris Zimmerman, Arlington
- Norfolk—Ray Amoruso, USR Consultants
- Richmond—Greater Richmond Transit Company
- Charlottesville—Todd Gordon, Okerlund Associates (tentative)
- Roanoke—Hon. Beverly Fitzpatrick, Roanoke City
  Council

Adjourn

#### Directions

From outside Richmond, take I-95 or I-64 to Richmond. Take EXIT 78 toward BOULEVARD. Drive 0.2 miles. Turn RIGHT onto BOULEVARD (VA-161). Drive 1.0 miles. Turn LEFT onto West BROAD ST. (US-250/US-33). Drive 0.2 miles, and look for the Museum entrance on the left. Science Museum parking is free.

For further information contact Michael Testerman P.O. Box 867, Richmond, VA 23218-0867 (804) 649-1405, <u>testertrain@erols.com</u>

## Yes! Please register me for the Virginia Light Rail Symposium.

Your response is requested by **Novem**ber 14, 2006. Please submit one registration form per attendee.

Clip and mail this form to Virginians for High Speed Rail, 5101 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23230

Enclosed is my check made payable to "VHSR-Light Rail Symposium" for:

Richmond Friends of Rail breakfast only,
 \$15 (Includes continental breakfast buffet)

 Main symposium event only, \$ 35 (Includes mid- morning break and sit-down lunch)

or

 Whole day, breakfast and main event, \$45 (Includes continental breakfast, midmorning break and sit-down lunch)

### 🗆 Check for vegetarian option

Total amount Enclosed \$
Name
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E-mail To register on-line, visit
http://www.varprail.org/lt_rail_symp_nov06.html

Virginians for High Speed Rail/ Richmond Friends of Rail is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization that does not support or endorse any political party or candidate. The Virginia Light Rail Symposium is a nonpartisan educational event.

Donations and sponsorships are tax deductible, payable to: "VHSR-Light Rail Symposium."