



2026 Annual Conference & Bus Expo

Fredericksburg Convention Center | 2371 Carl D. Silver Pkwy, Fredericksburg, VA 22401



May 19-20, 2026

Expo Vendor Information Packet

Current Schedule & Agenda

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Time	Activity/Topic	Speakers	Room
8:00-9:00 am	Vehicle Exhibitor Enter		Exhibit Hall A
9:00-5:00 pm	Conference Registration		Conference Lobby
10:00-11:00 am	VTA Board of Directors Meeting		Ballroom C
11:30-1:00 pm	Welcome Luncheon brought to you by our Gold Sponsors	Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond (VTA President)	Exhibit Hall B
	General Session I: Navigating Uncertain Terrain: The CEO's Perspective	Melody Fowler (FXBGo!), William Harrell (HRT), Josh Moore (GLTC), and Bob Schneider (OmniRide)	
11:30-2:45 pm	Exhibitor Set-up		Exhibit Hall A
1:15-1:45 pm	Coffee Break		
Breakout Sessions I			
1:45-2:45 pm	Breakout 1 (Roundtable): MERIT and TRIP Program Changes	Zach Trogdon (DRPT), Grant Sparks (DRPT), and Tiffany Dubinsky (DRPT)	Ballroom A
	Breakout 2: 10 Years of Commuter Choice: A Decade of Investing of Toll Revenues into Transit Projects in Northern Virginia* (AICP CM Credit #9328240)	Daniel Knickelbein (NVTC), Ann McGrane (NVTC), and Perrin Palistrant (OmniRide)	Ballroom B
	Breakout 3: "Transit Operator Hiring Practices and Their Effect on Claims and Litigation"	Eric Kimpfler (VTLP), David Harmer (VTLP), and Keenan Hogg (GRTC)	Ballroom C
2:45-3:00 pm	Coffee Break		
3:00-5:30 pm	Mini-Raffles brought to you by our Exhibitors!	EXPO Fair!	Exhibit Hall A
5:30-6:30 pm	Cocktail Reception & Big-Raffles		
6:30-9:00 pm	"80's Night at the Arcade" at Reclaim Arcade sponsored by <i>Sonny Merryman</i>		
6:30-8:00 pm	Exhibitor Breakdown and Vehicle Exhibitor Exit		

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Time	Activity/Topic	Speakers	Room
7:30-8:30 am	General Session II: Federal Update and The Next IIJA (Breakfast) brought to you by our Silver Sponsors	Benji Schwartz (APTA) and David Schilling (FTA)	Exhibit Hall B
Breakout Sessions II			
8:45-9:45 am	Breakout 4 (Roundtable): MERIT and TRIP Program Changes	Zach Trogdon (DRPT), Grant Sparks (DRPT), and Tiffany Dubinsky (DRPT)	Ballroom A
	Breakout 5: <u>Expanding Access to All: Insights from the 2026 Coordinated Human Service Mobility Plan*</u> (AICP CM Credit #9328241)	Jess Maffey (DRPT) and Evan Tuten (DRPT)	Ballroom B
	Breakout 6: <u>Stories that Move People: Building Transit's Case in the Community</u>	Kayla Dixon (CSPDC) and Paula Melester (CSPDC)	Ballroom C
9:45-10:00 am	Coffee Break		
10:00-10:45 am	General Session III: Navigating Uncertain Terrain: The Legislative Perspective	Kate Mattice (NVTC), Joe Dillard (GRTC), Noelle Pinkard (HRT), and Lauren Gilbert (Advantus Strategies)	Exhibit Hall B
10:45-11:00 am	Coffee Break		
Breakout Sessions III			
11:00-11:55 pm	Breakout 7 (Roundtable): Rolling Stock Challenges, Opportunities, and the Future of Cooperative Procurement	Avery Daugherty (DRPT)	Ballroom A
	Breakout 8: <u>Selling Your Transit System: Crafting GRTC's Needs and Vision Plan</u>	Adrienne Torres (GRTC) and Scudder Wagg (JW&A)	Ballroom B
	Breakout 9: <u>Working with Federal Installations</u>	Caleb Smith (HRT), Perrin Palistrant (OmniRide), Moustapha Djama (Fairfax Connector), and Matt Scalia (WATA)	Ballroom C
12:15-2:15 pm	Awards Luncheon and Virginia Transit Leadership Institute Graduation brought to you by our Platinum Sponsors with special keynote from the Honorable Ghazala Hashmi , Lt. Governor of Virginia		Exhibit Hall B

*Denotes eligible for AICP CM credits.

80's Night at the Arcade

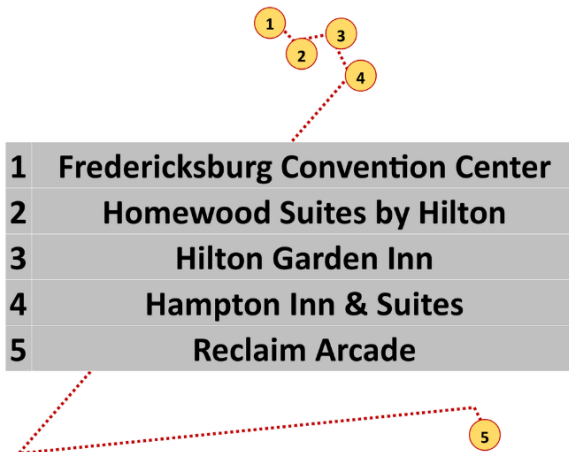
Brought to you by:



Evening Details

Come join us for a night of 1980's arcade fun from 6:30pm until 9:00pm at Reclaim Arcade! Join us for appetizers, games, and drinks; courtesy of our sponsor, **Sonny Merryman**. We also have several local restaurants offering deals for VTA Conference attendees when you show your nametag.

Shuttle Bus Route:



Before/After Dinner:

Special discounts with VTA Conference name tag.

The Alpine Chef

200 Lafayette Blvd

10% off with purchase of an entree

Carrabba's

1951 Carl D Silver Pkwy

10% off, please call ahead to ensure space

Check our app for more details!



Reclaim Arcade
2324 Plank Rd

Event Location Layouts &

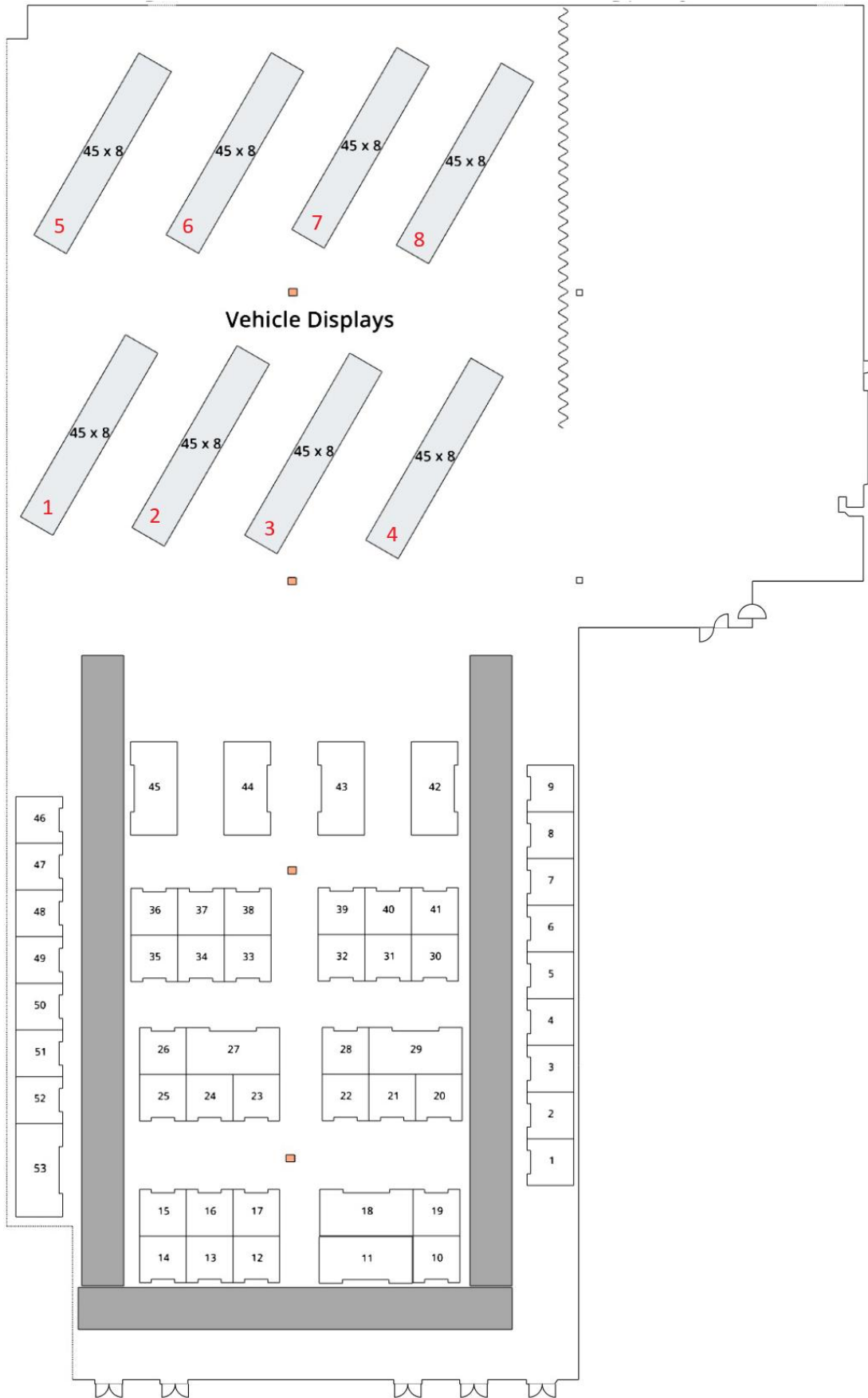
VTA 49th Annual Conference Location:

Fredericksburg Convention Center

2371 Carl D Silver Pkwy, Fredericksburg, VA 22401



Expo Layout



Expo Booth Location

Expo Space	Vendor	Expo Space	Vendor
1	Clever Devices	28	RK&K
2	Altro	29	Bus Stuf
3	Cummins	30	<i>Open</i>
4	Spheros	31	Turbo Images
5	Street Level Media	32	Fortress Mobile
6	<i>Open</i>	33	AngelTrax
7	<i>Open</i>	34	Joh Inc.
8	<i>Open</i>	35	Indel Power
9	<i>Open</i>	36	Transit Technologies
10	Siddall	37	<i>Open</i>
11	Systran	38	Safety Vision
12	VIA	39	Alan Tye Lifts
13	Kimley-Horn	40	Rosco Vision
14	IDIS Americas	41	<i>Open</i>
15	GMV	42	Blue Bird
16	Rosco Vision	43	Fenton Mobility
17	Q'Straint/Sure-Lok	44	Sonny Merryman
18	Wendel Companies	45	Hiko Inc.
19	Avail Technologies	46	ABC Companies
20	Huitt-Zollars	47	Seifert Transit Graphics
21	Jerico Palm	48	Gerflor
22	Transdev	49	ETA Transit
23	HDR	50	AFC Urgent Care
24	Kirks	51	Virginia Transit Liability Pool
25	Libbert	52	FTA
26	REI	53	DRPT
27	Bucket Brigade Raffle		
Vehicle Space	Vendor	Vehicle Space	Vendor
1	ABC Companies	5	<i>Pending</i>
2	Hiko Inc.	6	Sonny Merryman
3	Sonny Merryman	7	Sonny Merryman
4	Fenton Mobility	8	Blue Bird

Important Information:

Exhibitor Tables: 10x10 space with 6 feet table and two chairs. A tablecloth included.

Power/Electricity and **Carpet:** If you need access to electricity (\$50) and/or if you would like carpet (\$100) at your booth, please purchase the expo add-on items via our event registration page www.VATransit.com/Conference2026. Please pack an extension cord.

Exhibitor Move-in/out: Exhibitors may move in between 11:30 am and 2:45 pm on May 19. Move out is between 6:30-8:00pm on May 19 or anytime on May 20.

Vehicle Move-in/out: Vehicle vendors may move their vehicles in from 8:00 to 9:00 am on May 19 and you may move them out from 6:30-8:00 pm on May 19 or first thing on the morning of May 20.

Vehicles must have 1) fuel tank the lesser of 5 gallons or ¼ tank with refueling/draining happening off premises; 2) one batter cable disconnected and taped; 3) gas tank must be sealed with a locking cap or tape; 4) keys must remain in the facility; 5) liquid propene is not permitted inside the facility. No open flames are allowed inside the FCC. Trailers (non-engine) may be left on premises overnight in the 'Exhibitor Lot' located at the rear of the building. Vehicles with engines are not permitted in the FCC parking lot overnight.

Shipping Exhibitor Materials: If you need to mail materials ahead of your arrival, please follow the instructions below.

Boxes are not to arrive earlier than 3 business days prior to the Event. All boxes shipped to the Fredericksburg Convention Center should be addressed as follows:

Fredericksburg Convention Center
2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401
Re: Virginia Transit Association

'Your company' and please indicate # of shipments expected i.e.: 1 of 1, 1 of 2, 2 of 3, etc.

The following charges will apply deliveries and storage to the Convention Center:

Boxes up to 100 lbs: \$40 each | **Boxes 101-200 lbs:** +\$37 | **Boxes 201 to 300 lbs:** +\$32 |

Boxes over 301-400 lbs: +\$27 each | **Boxes over 401-500 lbs:** +\$22 each

Pay for shipping/holding here (<https://exhibitors.venueops.com/exhibitorStore/account-1744-A/exhibition-2817-A/category/category-74-A>)

Then email: exhibitorservices@fred-center.com to confirm arrangements and pick-up

Attendance Lists: The conference participant list will be sent out twice to our sponsors and exhibitors. A draft version a day or two before the event and a final version early the week after the conference concludes.

Conference Point of Contacts:

VTA: Danny Plaughter: 804-461-8165 | Diana Hall: 757-236-8648 | Oliver Harmon: 804.690.6003

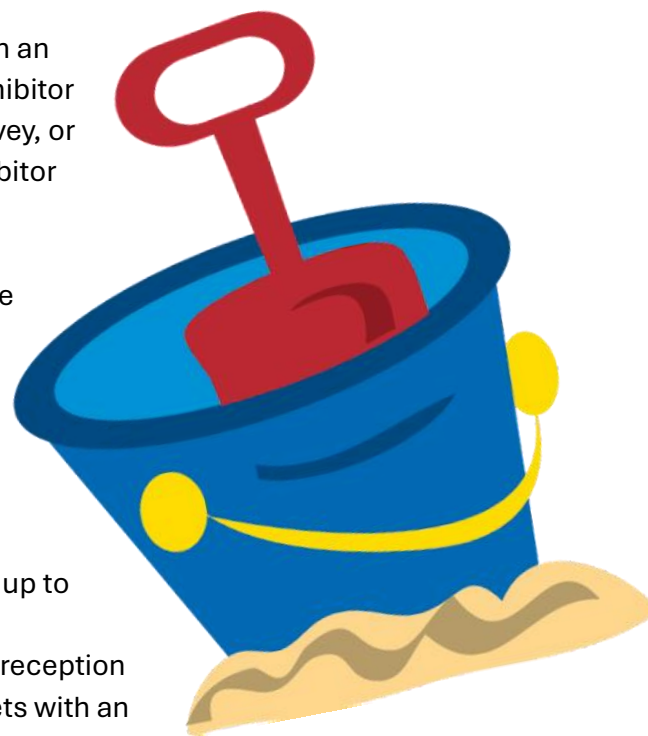
FBurg Convention Center: Kareana Lewis (540.548.5555x1114) or klewis@fred-center.com

Exhibitor “Bucket Brigade Game” and Prizes

Back by popular demand this year is the “*Bucket Brigade*” game- All exhibitors are invited to join the “Bucket Brigade” during the 2026 VTA Annual Conference and Bus Expo. This is a fun component of the expo where participants win prizes and exhibitors have an opportunity to collect contact information from prospective customers.

How will it work?

- All participating exhibitors who have prizes to contribute (televisions, gift baskets, gift cards, Yeti coolers, etc.) will notify VTA of what they have to give away. VTA will provide up to 12 beach buckets and will label each one with an exhibitor’s prize. For instance, a bucket might say “Television courtesy of ABC Bus Co.” The buckets will be on display in the expo hall.
- Each interested exhibitor will be given 100 double-tickets. When an attendee visits the exhibit and interacts with the exhibitor, the exhibitor can collect contact information, ask the attendee to fill out a survey, or anything else the exhibitor wants to set up. In exchange, the exhibitor issues the double-ticket to the attendee.
- The attendee will deposit half of their double-ticket in the bucket(s) of their choice in hopes of their ticket being drawn at the Exhibitor Reception on Wednesday evening. For instance, if an attendee collects 10 tickets, they can choose to put all their tickets into one bucket to increase their chances of winning that one prize or they can choose to deposit their tickets in several buckets for chances on multiple items. The attendee keeps the other half of their double-ticket for the drawing.
- At 5 p.m., the participating exhibitors will bring their prize items up to the bucket table.
- Prizes will be drawn by VTA officers during the exhibitor cocktail reception via the microphone. There will be a drawing for each of the buckets with an announcement of the prize and the contributing exhibitor. Winners must turn in their half of the ticket before claiming their prize.
- Only prizes donated via the “Bucket Brigade” will be announced during the exhibitor cocktail reception in an effort to better organize the prizes and the announcements.
- If any exhibitor would like for VTA to purchase gift cards for a prize on your behalf, we can work with you on how to arrange that.



We hope that this game will provide a value to our exhibitors by making the expo hall a beehive of activity while adding some fun for attendees. It is a further incentive to come and learn about the products and services available while helping to build relationships between vendors and customers.

Please contact **Oliver Harmon** at Oliver@plaugher.org by **May 15th** to let us know that you have a prize to contribute and want to participate.