



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: March 23, 2023

CONTACT: Lynee Bixler, CVSR Director of Marketing & Communications, lbixler@cvsr.org, 234-759-0097

Cuyahoga Valley scenic railroad continues with plans to operate between Peninsula and Akron

Peninsula, Ohio – After the disappointing decision to suspend all operation in early March, the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) received encouraging news today that will likely return trains to the rails sooner than originally anticipated.

Earlier this morning, an independent engineering firm re-evaluated the erosion area that has been causing safety concerns and modifying operations since last year. Results from today's inspection by geotechnical specialists deemed the tracks safe for equipment-only (no passenger) crossings. Subsequently, a consist of 12 railcars and 3 locomotives was safely moved from the Fitzwater Maintenance Yard in Valley View to Peninsula, Ohio.

"We are beyond excited! Moving the train allows us to continue exploring the logistics of operating excursions between Peninsula and Akron. This is a huge step forward!" said CVSR President/CEO, Joe Mazur. "The staff, volunteers and CVNP have been incredibly patient and helpful. We're so thankful for everyone's support."

The coordination of running operations from Peninsula to Akron will be elaborate and expensive. Establishing a temporary maintenance shop to service the train, storing event supplies, and procuring utilities necessary for passenger travel will be costly. While ticket prices will not increase to compensate for these unexpected costs, donations to the CVSR annual appeal are greatly appreciated. Over the past four years, uncontrollable situations caused by the COVID pandemic and riverbank erosion forced CVSR to modify, and in some cases, cancel excursions resulting in financial loss. Gifts can be made by visiting www.cvsr.org/annual-fund.

"Details about our return to operations are evolving," said Mazur "Now that the most critical component of the plan is complete, we can move forward with determining dates, times, schedules, and passenger experiences. We'll be sure to keep the public posted on our website and social media platforms." said Mazur.

###

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) is a private sector, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer supported organization operating in partnership with Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and is dedicated to the preservation of passenger rail transportation in Cuyahoga Valley and the historic Ohio & Erie Canalway. CVSR has been providing excursion rail service for 50 years. For more information about the railroad, visit www.cvsr.org