

MOTION:

SECOND:

**RE: AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO IMPLEMENT SERVICE AND FARE
ADJUSTMENTS IN RESPONSE TO MAJOR REGIONAL EVENTS NEGATIVELY
IMPACTING OMNIRIDE SERVICE**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the recent partial Federal government shutdown has had a negative impact on OMNIRIDE ridership; and

WHEREAS, the loss in ridership was accompanied by a commensurate loss in fare revenue; and

WHEREAS, any subsequent full or partial Federal government shutdown may be of an unknown duration; and

WHEREAS, management has determined that regularly scheduled bus service levels would be unsustainable if ridership and fare revenues dropped significantly; and

WHEREAS, management is developing a short and long-term service and fare adjustment plan that can be implemented in response to a major regional event (e.g, Federal government shutdown, regional emergency, etc.) that negatively impacts OMNIRIDE service; and

WHEREAS, any service and fare adjustment plan would take ridership and revenue collection into consideration; and

WHEREAS, further service and fare adjustments may be necessary in response to a longer-term event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission does hereby authorize the Executive Director to implement service and fare adjustments in response to major regional events that negatively impact OMNIRIDE services.

ITEM

February 7, 2019

PRTC Regular Meeting

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission hereby directs the Executive Director to inform the Commission of any potential service or fare adjustment plans and implementation timelines.

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent from Vote:


Alternate Present Not Voting:


Absent from Meeting:



February 7, 2019

TO: Madam Chair Anderson and PRTC Commissioners

FROM: Perrin A. Palistrant, Director of Operations and Operations Planning 

THROUGH: Robert A. Schneider, PhD 
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the Executive Director to Implement Service and Fare Adjustments in Response to Major Regional Events Negatively Impacting OMNIRIDE Services

Recommendation:

Authorize the Executive Director to implement service and fare adjustments in response to major regional events negatively impacting OMNIRIDE services.

Background:

On December 21, 2018, approximately 800,000 Federal employees, many of whom live and work in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area, were either furloughed or required to work without pay. As a result, OMNIRIDE express service experienced continual decline in ridership, which was not associated with holidays or inclement weather. From January 1 through January 25, express service ridership declined approximately 15.6 percent, 788 passengers per day, resulting in a loss of fare revenue of \$5,169 per day.

During the recent Government shutdown, which ended on Friday, January 25th, ridership declined significantly enough that should a major regional event occur which negatively affects OMNIRIDE services, management recommends implementing service and fare adjustments that take ridership and revenue collection into consideration. Operating at normal service levels, coupled with fare revenue loss creates a budgetary strain. Should a major regional event continue for an extended period of time, further service and fare adjustments may be necessary.

In the event OMNIRIDE services are negatively impacted due to a major regional event, management will inform the Commission of potential service and fare adjustment plans and implementation timelines.

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Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact will need to be determined on a case-by-case basis.