

MOTION:

SECOND:

**RE: AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH VDRPT
FOR FUNDING PROJECTS UNDER THE VANPOOL!VA PROGRAM**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) has made funding available for projects that promote and incentivize vanpooling through the Vanpool!VA program; and

WHEREAS, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission ("PRTC" or the "Commission"), on behalf of the Vanpool Alliance, has developed projects eligible for Vanpool!VA funding; and

WHEREAS, PRTC has applied for and been awarded project funding through Vanpool!VA; and

WHEREAS, required local matching funds will be provided using the "soft match" provision; and

WHEREAS, PRTC may receive funding for additional projects under the Vanpool!VA program; and

WHEREAS, execution of one or more funding agreements are necessary to receive these funds; and

WHEREAS, management will seek the review and approval of legal counsel prior to the execution of any agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission does hereby authorize the Executive Director to execute funding agreements under the Vanpool!VA Program.

ITEM 11-B
January 4, 2018
PRTC Regular Meeting
Res. No. 18-01-___
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Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent from Vote:

Alternate Present Not Voting:

Absent from Meeting:




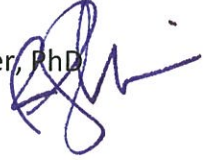
Potomac and Rappahannock
Transportation Commission

14700 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192

January 4, 2018

TO: Chairman Principi and PRTC Commissioners

FROM: Chuck Steigerwald 
Director of Strategic Planning

THROUGH: Robert A. Schneider, PhD 
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Agreements with VDRPT for Project Funding Under the Vanpool!VA Program

Recommendation:

Authorize the Executive Director to execute agreements with VDRPT for project funding under the Vanpool!VA Program.

Background:

As a part of the FY2018 grant cycle the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) created an opportunity to provide funding for projects or programs designed to promote and incentivize vanpooling through the new Vanpool!VA program. In its FY2018 grant application package PRTC included several projects eligible for this opportunity; however, grant funds were not awarded to PRTC for the proposed projects.

Working with VDRPT staff and Deputy Secretary of Transportation Nick Donohue, PRTC and Vanpool Alliance staff developed a refined proposal for a FY2018 mid-cycle grant application submission. VDRPT approved the application and awarded PRTC \$1.4 million.

The funded project consists of an additional monthly payment for new vanpools enrolling in the Vanpool Alliance program. The funds would allow doubling the current monthly payment of \$200 to \$400. Vanpools will be eligible for the increased payment if a minimum of 75% of the riders are new to the Vanpool Alliance program and the vanpool meets all of the requirements for participating in the Vanpool Alliance program. The increased payment is limited to a two-year period from the time the new vanpool is enrolled into the Vanpool Alliance program.

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Chairman Principi and PRTC Commissioners

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Management believes vanpool activity in the region has leveled off with the number of new vanpools being formed roughly equivalent to the number ceasing operation. It is expected the increased monthly payment will further encourage the formation of new vanpools by allowing vanpool operators to reduce the cost burden for riders.

The awarded grant also includes funding for one additional full-time employee (FTE) for Vanpool Alliance for a two-year period. This is necessary due to the additional work load involved in the implementation and administration of the increased monthly payment. When the two-year grant funding for the FTE is depleted, the position will be funded through Vanpool Alliance program earnings (which will increase as new vanpools are enrolled).

The Vanpool!VA grant has a local match requirement of 20% (\$350,000). VDRPT has agreed to allow the use of "soft match" funds to meet the local match requirement. Federal legislation allows the value of the privately owned vans enrolled in the Vanpool Alliance program to be used as local match for projects receiving certain types of federal funds. This "soft match" provision was introduced in MAP-21 and continued in FAST-ACT. VDRPT has agreed to extend this federal provision to apply specifically to this grant under the Vanpool!VA program. Management has determined sufficient "soft match" funds exist, not only to meet the local match obligations for this grant, but to also meet the "soft match" requirement for the anticipated federal funds that will be earned by the Vanpool Alliance program.

Because PRTC anticipates the potential for additional projects to be funded through the Vanpool!VA program, if authorized, the attached resolution will allow the Executive Director to execute any further agreements related to the Vanpool!VA program without further action from the Commission.

Fiscal Impact:

Local match requirements will be met using the "soft match" provision. Out year costs for additional staff will be paid for through Vanpool Alliance program earnings.
