

MOTION:

SECOND:

**RE: AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT VRE PROJECTS TO USDOT FOR FY 2018
BUILD GRANT FUNDING CONSIDERATION**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the VRE Crystal City Station Improvements and L'Enfant Station and VA to LE 4th Track projects are high-priority projects that are partially funded through the completion of Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review; and

WHEREAS, additional funding is needed to complete the Final Design for the Crystal City and L'Enfant projects; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary (BUILD) Grants program on April 25, 2018, to solicit applications for grants to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact; and

WHEREAS, the match for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary (BUILD) Grants is expected to be up to \$5,270,000 and, in the event the grants are approved, authorization for grant match funds will be presented to the Operations Board and the Commissions for approval; and

WHEREAS: The VRE Operations Board recommends the Commissions authorize the requested action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission authorizes the VRE Chief Executive Officer to submit, on behalf of the Commissions, application(s) for VRE station improvements under the U.S. Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary (BUILD) Grants program, to make any necessary corrections to project amounts or descriptions in the application(s), and to execute all project funding agreements that may be required upon approval or grants for the projects.

ITEM 6-D
June 7, 2018
PRTC Regular Meeting
VRE Agenda Item 9-C
Res. No. 18-06-__

Votes:

Ayes:

Abstain:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

Alternate Present Not Voting:

Absent from Meeting:



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
OPERATIONS BOARD

Agenda Item 9-D
Action Item

To: Chairman Nohe and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: May 18, 2018

**Re: Recommend Authorization to Submit VRE Projects to USDOT
for FY 2018 BUILD Funding Consideration and Authorization
of VRE Funds for Required Match**

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the Commissions authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to submit, on behalf of the Commissions, application(s) for VRE station improvements under the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants program, to make any necessary corrections to project amounts or descriptions in the application, and execute all project funding agreements that may result from consideration of the projects.

The Operations Board is also asked to authorize the commitment of VRE funds up to \$5,270,000, as the match for the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants program application(s).

Summary:

The Crystal City Station Improvements project and the L'Enfant Station Improvements / VA to LE Fourth Track project are identified in the VRE Capital Improvement Program and System Plan 2040. Funding has already been identified to complete the initial Preliminary Engineering Design and Environmental Review phases for each project using Virginia Rail



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1500 King Street, Suite 202
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VRE.org



Potomac and Rappahannock
Transportation Commission
14700 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192
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Enhancement Fund (REF) grants, VRE Capital Reserve funds, and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority funds. The BUILD grant application(s), if selected, would provide funding to complete the engineering design for the projects.

Background:

On April 25, 2018 the USDOT issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to solicit applications for the BUILD program, previously known as the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants program. Funds for the FY 2018 BUILD program will be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. Applications are due on July 19, 2018.

The BUILD program allows up to \$15 million of the total program funding for the planning, preparation, or design of surface transportation projects, referred to as BUILD Transportation Planning grants. In order to keep pace with the associated Alexandria Fourth Track Project and the Long Bridge Project, the following VRE projects are recommended for submission for consideration under the BUILD Transportation Planning grant program, for Final Design.

1. Crystal City Station Improvements: relocated and expanded station with longer platform for full-length trains and service on two tracks.
2. L'Enfant Station / VA to LE Fourth Track Improvements: relocated and expanded station with longer platform for full-length trains from two tracks and addition of related fourth through the station from Virginia (VA) interlocking to L'Enfant (LE) interlocking.

Federal BUILD grant funds may be used for up to 80% of the project cost. The balance of the project cost must be from non-Federal sources including State funds originating from programs funded by State revenue, local funds originating from State or local revenue-sources, or private funds.

Staff, along with our consultants, will develop the required Benefit/Cost Analysis (BCA) and analyze the results prior to submission. To be more competitive, a Non-Federal overmatch (a match greater than the 20% minimum) may be required. Therefore, the authorization request for VRE funds is for up to 50% of the total cost, but may be as little as 20%. If the application is successful, a formal amendment to the FY 2019 Operating and Capital Budget for the use of VRE funds for the grant match would be presented to the Operations Board for approval and referral to the Commissions.

	Total Final Design Cost
Crystal City Station Improvements	\$ 4,285,000
L'Enfant Station Improvements / VA to LE Fourth Track Improvements	\$ 6,253,000
Total	\$ 10,538,000
Non-Federal Match (20%)	\$2,108,000
BUILD Grant Request (80%)	\$8,430,000

Non-Federal Match (50%)	\$5,270,000
BUILD Grant Request (50%)	\$5,270,000

Fiscal Impact:

The submission of a project funding request has no fiscal impact. If selected for BUILD grant funding, a formal amendment to the FY 2019 Operating and Capital Budget to reflect the receipt of the BUILD grant funds and use of VRE funds for the grant match would be presented to the Operations Board in December 2018 for approval and referral to the Commissions.

**Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board**

**Resolution
9D-05-2018**

**Recommend Authorization to Submit VRE Projects to USDOT for FY 2018
BUILD Funding Consideration and Authorization of VRE Funds for
Required Match**

WHEREAS, the VRE Crystal City Station Improvements and L'Enfant Station and VA to LE 4th Track projects are high-priority projects that are partially funded through the completion of Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review; and,

WHEREAS, funding is needed to allow the Final Design for the Crystal City and L'Enfant projects to be completed; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants program on April 25, 2018 to solicit applications for grants to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby recommend the Commissions authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to submit, on behalf of the Commissions, application for VRE station improvements under the U.S. Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants program, to make any necessary corrections to project amounts or descriptions in the application(s), and execute all project funding agreements that may result from consideration of the projects; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby commit the use of VRE funds up to \$5,270,000, as the match for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants program application(s).

Approved this 18th day of May 2018

Martin Nohe
Chairman

Maureen Caddigan
Secretary