

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 8-A
ACTION ITEM

TO: CHAIRMAN ZIMMERMAN AND THE VRE OPERATIONS BOARD

FROM: DALE ZEHNER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE AN INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR GALLERY RAILCAR PARTS

RECOMMENDATION:

The VRE Operations Board is being asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for COT&S kits for the Gallery railcars.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) requires passenger railcars to have COT&S (Clean, Oil, Test and Stencil) maintenance inspections performed every four years. This work requires removal, inspection and rebuilding of a railcar's air brake components. Two options exist for completing this work. The first would be to take a railcar out of service for two months while the parts are removed and rebuilt. The second would be to use COT&S kits which provide new components to be installed in the railcars. Once installed, the old components are sent to VRE's air brake contractor for inspection and rebuilding for use on the next set of cars. By using the kit, a railcar is only out of service for one half day.

All 61 of VRE's new Gallery railcars require this work. In an effort to minimize the time out of service, VRE staff is recommending procurement of ten COT&S kits (four cab car and six railcar kits).

VRE staff will return to the Operations Board in November for permission to award the contract. Following this contract award, the work would begin in March 2010. Two cab

cars would be completed per month followed by three to four railcars per month until work on all 61 Gallery railcars has been completed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds for the project will be provided by the FY 2010 Operating Budget.

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RESOLUTION
8A-09-2009
OF THE
VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
OPERATIONS BOARD

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration requires COT&S maintenance be performed on passenger railcars every four years; and,

WHEREAS, this work requires removal, inspection and rebuilding of a car's air brake components; and,

WHEREAS, in an effort to minimize the time a railcar is out of service, VRE staff is recommending use of COT&S kits; and,

WHEREAS, VRE currently has no kits in its inventory.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids for COT&S kits for the Gallery railcars.