To: Chairman Milde and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: September 19, 2014

Re: Authorization to Increase Amount for General Engineering Consulting VI Contract

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to increase the authorization for General Engineering Consulting VI Contract task order projects by $500,000 to total accumulated value of $5,500,000.

Background:

VRE uses General Engineering Consulting (GEC) contracts to provide on-call engineering, planning, environmental and construction support services. VRE has found the use of GEC contracts to be more efficient than completing numerous, separate procurements. GEC contracts help VRE access specialized skills and expertise from consultants as an extension of staff on an as-needed basis. GEC contracts are not intended to address all projects and separate procurements will continue to be issued using the RFP process when appropriate.

VRE has used a succession of GEC contracts over the years, each awarded to multiple offerors in order to promote competition and allow tasks to be assigned based on specific areas of expertise and qualifications. The VRE Operations Board approved the current GEC contract (GEC VI) in March 2013, for a period of up to five
years or an accumulative value of $5,000,000. GEC VI was awarded to five consulting firms: AECOM, Gannett Fleming, Michael Baker Associates, Parsons Brinkerhoff, and STV/Ralph Whitehead.

GEC VI is rapidly approaching its $5,000,000 authorization limit after only 19 months of activity. As of August 2014, about $4,433,000 (89 percent) of the current authorization for GEC VI had been allocated to 23 task order assignments, leaving $567,000 of the original authorization available for new task orders. With the addition of task orders currently pending, the GEC VI authorization is expected to be full committed by the end of October.

Actions have been initiated to procure new GEC contracts, but uninterrupted access to a GEC contract is needed to progress on several important and/or timely projects. Procurement and legal counsel advise it is permissible to increase the accumulated value authorized. Based on the recent rate of task order commitments, amending the GEC VI contract to increase its authorization limit by $500,000 to an accumulated value of $5,500,000 is recommended to provide sufficient GEC capacity until new contracts can awarded.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the increase of authority. Funding for individual task orders would be drawn from federal, state and/or local funds defined for specific projects in the VRE operating and capital budgets.
Virginia Railway Express  
Operations Board  

Resolution  
9B-09-2014  

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WHEREAS, it is the experience of VRE that General Engineering Consulting (GEC) Contracts are an efficient and cost-effective means of performing engineering, planning, environmental and construction related activities required for a limited duration or needed in a timely manner on an as-needed basis; and,  

WHEREAS, the VRE Operations Board approved the current GEC Contract (GEC VI) on March 15, 2013, for a period not to exceed five-years up to an authorization limit of $5,000,000; and,  

WHEREAS, it is projected that the task order commitments under GEC VI will reach the contract's present authorization limits before procurement of a new GEC contract can be completed; and,  

WHEREAS, an interruption in GEC services would likely delay progress on several important and/or timely projects.  

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to amend the current contract for General Engineering Consultant services to increase the authorization limitation for task order projects by $500,000 to total accumulated value of $5,500,000.  

Approved this 19th day of September, 2014  

_________________________________  
Paul Milde  
Chairman  

_________________________________  
Gary Skinner  
Secretary