To: Chairman Cook and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: July 17, 2015

Re: Recommend Authorization to Execute an Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway for Analyses Related to the Gainesville-Haymarket Extension

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend the Commissions authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement with the Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) to perform analyses related to the proposed VRE Gainesville-Haymarket extension for an amount not to exceed $450,000.

Background:

A major service initiative contained in VRE’s adopted System Plan 2040 is to extend VRE rail service to the I-66 Corridor in Western Prince William County in the vicinity of Gainesville-Haymarket. A likely potential alignment for that extension is the NS Washington District “B-Line”, a heavily trafficked freight line extending northwest from Manassas Junction.

NS has agreed to consider VRE’s request to operate on its B-Line. NS proposes to conduct a series of engineering and planning analyses to determine the potential impact of the proposed Gainesville-Haymarket extension on its operations, infrastructure, and property. NS agrees to coordinate with VRE during the course of its analyses and provide VRE with a copy of its conclusions.
Fiscal Impact:

This agreement will be funded from the Core Capacity/Project Development project in the CIP. The original source of these funds was the Capital Reserve.
Virginia Railway Express  
Operations Board  

Resolution  
8E-07-2015  

Recommend Authorization to Execute an Agreement with  
Norfolk Southern Railway for Analyses Related to the  
Gainesville-Haymarket Extension  

WHEREAS, the VRE System Plan 2040 calls for the extension of service to the I-66 corridor in the vicinity of Gainesville-Haymarket in Prince William County; and,  

WHEREAS, the Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) Washington District “B-Line” is a likely alignment for said extension of VRE service; and,  

WHEREAS, NS has agreed to consider VRE’s request to operate on its B-Line in return for reimbursement for its efforts analyzing the potential impacts of said extension of VRE service on its operations, infrastructure, and property;  

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby recommend the Commissions authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway for an amount not to exceed $450,000.  

Approved this 17th day of July 2015  

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John C. Cook  
Chairman  

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Paul Smedberg  
Secretary