To: Chairman Cook and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: May 15, 2015

Re: Publication of Proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Overall Annual Goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2018

PRTC has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. VRE falls under PRTC’s DBE program. PRTC’s Transportation Project Manager is the designated DBE Liaison Officer and is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program on behalf of PRTC and VRE.

The DBE program intends to provide contracting opportunities to small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. The goal of the program is to “level the playing field” on which DBE businesses compete for contracts and subcontracts in the transportation industry.

The regulations specify that DOT grantees must establish an overall annual goal for DBE participation in federally assisted contracts and prescribe implementation methods, which are included in Attachment A hereto. The proposed Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016-2018 DBE overall annual goal of 7.5% for Federal Transit Administration-assisted contracts is based on an assessment of the FTA projected expenditures for FFY 2016-2018, a review of U.S. Census and other sources concerning the availability of DBE companies in the industries and geographic...
markets relevant to PRTC/VRE contracting activity, and consideration of PRTC/VRE historical utilization of DBE companies. The goal represents a reasonable projection of DBE participation overall for the upcoming fiscal years.

At its May 7, 2015 meeting, PRTC authorized advertisement of the proposed FFY 2016-2018 overall annual goal in a transportation trade publication as well as local newspapers to provide for public inspection for a period of 30 days and public comment for 45 days from the date of publication. The public notice is included as Attachment B hereto. The goal, once adopted, will be posted on the websites of PRTC and VRE and included in relevant procurement documents involving DOT-assisted contracting opportunities. No action by the VRE Operations Board is required.