To: Chairman Skinner and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: December 16, 2016

Re: Authorization to Issue a GPC Task Order for the Crystal City Station Improvement Project

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a General Planning Consultant (GPC) Task Order to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) for planning, conceptual design, environmental documentation, and preliminary design services for the Crystal City Station Improvement Project in the amount of $253,425, plus a 10% contingency of $25,342, for a total not to exceed $278,767.

Background:

The existing 400-foot Crystal City platform was designed and built when VRE trains were shorter. The station has a single entrance at the southern end, which results in congestion for passengers entering or leaving the station. The platform has access to only one track, which creates an operational capacity constraint in the most heavily trafficked part of the CSXT RF&P Subdivision. VRE plans to run up to 8-car trains and the station needs to be served by two tracks. VRE, in consultation with Arlington County, has initiated a station expansion project at Crystal City Station, the next phase of which is to develop a design to rectify current deficiencies and accommodate future operational needs. This work is funded through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.
The Scope of Services for this task order includes: site selection, plans that account for the railroad geometry, pedestrian accessibility, and stakeholder and public interests; and advance the preferred alternative into preliminary engineering, and environmental documentation.

The design options will include a new island platform at the location of the existing Crystal City Station or further south. All designs will allow them to be incorporated within the railroad right-of-way of the future four-track configuration currently being designed by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation's DC to Richmond VA (DC2RVA) project. The designs will provide two platform edges that will accommodate eight-car VRE trains and two grade-separated access points between the platform and the street.

The primary goals of this project are to:
- Locate an 850-foot platform served by two tracks
- Improve the safety and reliability of the system
- Best serve employment sites in the Crystal City area
- Optimize access to the VRE station

The project will also enhance local and regional connectivity by optimizing multimodal access, especially to:
- Metrorail
- Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway
- Local buses and shuttles
- Taxi stand or kiss-and-ride area
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities

**Fiscal Impact:**

Funds for this project are included in VRE’s Capital Improvement Program. Funding for this project is provided by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Fiscal Year 2015-16 program.
Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board

Resolution
9D-12-2016

Authorization to Issue a GPC Task Order for the
Crystal City Station Improvement Project

WHEREAS, the VRE Crystal City Station needs to be expanded to meet current and future needs at this station; and,

WHEREAS, the Crystal City Station Improvement Project will provide a new island platform in the same or new location south of the existing station; and,

WHEREAS, the Crystal City Station Improvement Project will optimize multimodal connectivity to the VRE station; and,

WHEREAS, planning, conceptual design, environmental documentation, and preliminary design services are required for the Crystal City Station Improvement Project; and,

WHEREAS, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. has presented an acceptable proposal to perform said services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a General Planning Consultant Task Order to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. for the Crystal City Station Improvement Project in the amount of $253,425, plus a 10% contingency of $25,342, for a total not to exceed $278,767.

Approved this 16th day of December 2016

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Gary Skinner
Chairman

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Maureen Caddigan
Secretary