To: Chairman Smedberg and the VRE Operations Board  
From: Doug Allen  
Date: February 17, 2017  
Re: Recommend Approval of Rail Enhancement Fund Applications for L’Enfant Station Improvements and Fourth Track and Crystal City Station Improvements and Authorization of Funds from Capital Reserves as Required Match  

Recommendation:  
The VRE Operations Board is asked to recommend approval of the submission of two Rail Enhancement Fund (REF) applications. The first is for L’Enfant Station Improvements and Fourth Track in the amount of $3,180,000 and the second is for Crystal City Station Improvements in the amount of $1,010,000. The Operations Board is also asked to authorize the use of funds from capital reserves in the amount of $303,000 as match to the REF grant for the Crystal City project.

Background:  
The VRE FY 2018 to FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes three projects that complete the Long Bridge corridor improvements and support long-term VRE service plans: Crystal City Station Improvements, L’Enfant Station Improvements, and VA to L’Enfant (LE) 4th Track.

The VRE System Plan 2040 recommends expanding the L’Enfant and Crystal City stations to enable servicing two trains simultaneously and/or bi-directional service and to enhance
multi-modal access to the adjacent Metrorail station at each location and other transit options. The System Plan also recommends the addition of a fourth main line track from the Virginia (VA) interlocking in Washington, DC to the AF interlocking in Alexandria, VA in conjunction with expansion of the Long Bridge over the Potomac River from two to four tracks to expand system capacity and improve operational reliability and flexibility.

Initial planning for the Long Bridge expansion is currently being undertaken by the District of Columbia Department of Transportation in partnership with VRE and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). The construction of a fourth track from the south bank of the Potomac River from Rosslyn (RO) interlocking to AF interlocking is included in the Commonwealth’s Atlantic Gateway initiative.

The FY 2018 to FY 2023 CIP indicated additional funding was required to complete Development planning for the Crystal City and L’Enfant Station Improvements and the VA to L’Enfant (LE) 4th Track. VRE staff have identified the Virginia Rail Enhancement Fund (REF) discretionary grant program as a potential source to fund both the L’Enfant Station Improvements/LE to VA 4th Track and the Crystal City Station Improvements through the Project Development phase. Two REF applications were submitted to DRPT on February 1st as part of the FY 2018 VRE state grant application, as summarized below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Project Development Cost</th>
<th>Existing Funding</th>
<th>Total REF Request</th>
<th>State Funding Share (70%)</th>
<th>VRE Match Share (30%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L’Enfant Station Improvements/LE to VA 4th Track</td>
<td>$3,180,000</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$3,180,000</td>
<td>$2,180,000</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal City Station Improvements</td>
<td>$1,140,000</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$1,010,000</td>
<td>$707,000</td>
<td>$303,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The REF program requires a minimum 30% local match to the state funds. The L’Enfant project’s REF match source is the VRE Capital Reserve funds included in the FY 2017 and 2018 capital budgets for this project and no additional allocation of funds is required.

Development planning has been initiated for the Crystal City Station Improvements project with $400,000 of NVTA funds. Because the Crystal City Station Improvements must be designed in coordination with the Atlantic Gateway initiative, it is crucial to complete all Project Development activities within the coming fiscal year. Therefore, VRE staff recommend that $303,000 from the VRE Capital Reserve be allocated to this project as match to the REF grant.
**Fiscal Impact:**

If the REF grant is awarded for the L'Enfant Station Improvements/LE to VA 4th Track project, the VRE Capital Reserve will be used for the match. That funding is included in the adopted VRE FY 2017 and FY 2018 capital budgets. If the REF grant is awarded for the Crystal City station improvements project, the source of the VRE match will be an additional allocation of $303,000 from the VRE Capital Reserve.

A formal amendment to the FY 2018 Operating and Capital Budget to reflect the receipt of the REF funds and the additional allocation from the VRE Capital Reserve will be presented to the Operations Board in December 2017 for approval and referral to the Commissions.
Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board
Resolution
8A-02-2017

Recommend Approval of Rail Enhancement Fund Applications for L'Enfant Station Improvements and Fourth Track and Crystal City Station Improvements and Authorization of Funds from Capital Reserves as Required Match

WHEREAS, VRE System Plan 2040 recommends expanding the L’Enfant and Crystal City stations and the addition of a fourth main line track from the Virginia (VA) interlocking in Washington, DC to the AF interlocking in Alexandria, VA in conjunction with expansion of the Long Bridge over the Potomac River to expand railroad capacity and improve operational reliability and flexibility; and,

WHEREAS, the VRE L’Enfant Station Improvements/LE to VA 4th Track and the Crystal City Station Improvements must be designed in coordination with the ongoing Long Bridge expansion project being undertaken by the District of Columbia Department of Transportation and the Commonwealth’s Atlantic Gateway initiative; and,

WHEREAS, the two VRE projects are eligible for funding through the Virginia Rail Enhancement Fund (REF) discretionary grant program; and,

WHEREAS, an REF application was submitted on February 1, 2017 for each project that identified the VRE Capital Reserve as the source of the local match; and,

WHEREAS, the REF application for the Crystal City Station Improvements required an additional allocation from the VRE Capital Reserve in the amount of $303,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby recommend the Commissions approve the submission of Rail Enhancement Fund (REF) applications for L’Enfant Station Improvements and Fourth Track in the amount of $3,180,000 and Crystal City Station Improvements in the amount of $1,010,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the use of additional funds from the Capital Reserve in the amount of $303,000, as match to the REF grant for the Crystal City project.

Approved this 17th day of February 2017

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Paul Smedberg
Chairman

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Katie Cristol
Secretary