Agenda Item 8-A
Consent Item

To: Chairman Smedberg and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: July 21, 2017

Re: Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for the Repair and Overhaul of Passenger Car HVAC Assemblies

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Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the repair and Overhaul of Passenger Car HVAC assemblies for a base year and 4 option years.

Background:

Each VRE Gallery IV Passenger car is equipped with two (2) Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) assemblies that maintain a preset comfort level in the passenger area by cooling, heating or ventilating the air being circulated.

The HVAC assemblies installed on VRE Passenger cars delivered prior to 2011, 71 cars total, uses R-22 refrigerant which is a hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has labeled as a Class II Ozone Depleting Substance. The EPA has implemented phase-down regulations which will eliminate new production and imports of most harmful HCFCs, including R-22 refrigerant, by 2020 because of the damage these chemicals do to the ozone layer.

Once the phase-down regulations are in effect, procurement of R-22 to service and maintain the Passenger Car HVAC Assemblies will become increasingly more difficult.

Mixing refrigerants in the HVAC assemblies is not permitted and as such the recommended practice is to update the HVAC assemblies to accommodate use of R-407C, an environment-friendly refrigerant. The overall approach is to pump down (remove) and recycle the R-22 refrigerant, then repair, modify and overhaul the HVAC assemblies.
Invitation for Bids is the preferred and normal method of procurement suitable when seeking bids to provide goods and services at a firm-fixed price. This method is utilized when there is a complete, adequate, precise specification or purchase description. Award is made based on price alone without discussions or negotiations with the Bidders.

The scope of work for the IFB includes the removal of R-22 refrigerant, the disassembly, repair, inspection, overhaul, testing and shipping of the HVAC assemblies.

The mechanical contractor will remove and replace the HVAC assemblies as part of the ongoing life cycle maintenance strategy.

Upon receipt of the bids, staff will return to the Board to request authorization to award the contract.

**Fiscal Impact:**

This project is included in the CIP for Equipment Asset Management Program for FY 2018 funded through an annual allocation of FTA 5337 (State of Good Repair) grants.
Virginia Railway Express  
Operations Board  

Resolution  
8A-07-2017  

Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for the  
Repair and Overhaul of Passenger Car HVAC Assemblies  

WHEREAS, Passenger cars are equipped with HVAC assemblies to maintain passenger comfort; and,  

WHEREAS, the HVAC assemblies in installed on the first 71 Gallery IV cars have R-22 refrigerant; and,  

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has labeled R-22 refrigerant as a Class II Ozone Depleting Substance; and,  

WHEREAS, the EPA has implemented phase-down regulations which will eliminate new production and imports of R-22 refrigerant by the year 2020; and,  

WHEREAS, the repair and overhaul HVAC assemblies in FY 2018 aligns with the lifecycle maintenance plan established for passenger cars;  

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids for the Repair and Overhaul of Passenger Car HVAC assemblies.  

Approved this 21st day of July 2017  

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Paul Smedberg  
Chairman  

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Katie Cristol  
Secretary