To: Chair Bennett-Parker and the VRE Operations Board  
From: Rich Dalton  
Date: April 16, 2021  
Re: Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for Repair and Overhaul of Air Brake Equipment

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 Air Brake Equipment.

Summary:
This resolution will authorize a solicitation for the performance of required periodic maintenance of rolling stock air brake equipment as well as repairs following a malfunction or failure of service.

Background:
VRE’s current periodic maintenance interval for air brakes in trailer coaches, cab coaches, and locomotives is 1,472 days. When that interval is reached, or in the case of an apparent malfunction in service, the device operating portion of the air brake is removed from the vehicle and replaced with a similar portion from VRE’s stock of new or repaired equipment. The defective device is shipped by VRE to its service provider’s air brake repair shop.

An IFB is the preferred and normal method of procurement 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 a periodic maintenance procedure, commonly known as COT&S (Clean, Oil, Test, and Stencil) on VRE’s railcar and locomotive pneumatic (air) and electropneumatic brake systems.

In November 2016, the VRE Operations Board authorized award of a contract to Wabtec Global Services for Repair and Overhaul of Air Brake Equipment. The final option year of this contract will expire on December 13, 2021. Therefore, VRE must conduct a competitive solicitation now to reprocure this necessary service.

Upon receipt of the bids, staff will return to the VRE Operations Board to request authorization to execute the contract in order to continue the services without interruption.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Funding for repair and overhaul of air brake equipment is provided for in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2022 budget under locomotive repairs and maintenance. Funding for future years will be included in each proposed annual budget.
Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board Resolution

2C-04-2021

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WHEREAS, VRE requires the services of a qualified and experienced contractor to perform periodic and necessary maintenance on air brake equipment; and,

WHEREAS, VRE may periodically require the contractor to also perform repairs on air brake systems or components to address malfunction or failure; and,

WHEREAS, the current contract for Repair and Overhaul of Air Brake Equipment will expire on December 13, 2021, and authorization to advertise a solicitation for these required services is therefore requested;

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 Air Brake Equipment.

Approved this 16th day of April 2021

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Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair

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James Walkinshaw
Secretary