To: Chair Bennett-Parker and the VRE Operations Board

From: Rich Dalton

Date: April 16, 2021

Re: Authorization to an Issue an Invitation for Bids for Rehabilitation of Wheelsets and Traction Motor Assemblies

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for Rehabilitation of Wheelsets and Traction Motor Assemblies.

Summary:

This resolution will authorize a solicitation for the rehabilitation of Gallery IV railcar wheelsets and locomotive traction motor assemblies. The Contractor shall pick up and return wheelsets and traction motor assemblies to VRE’s Maintenance and Storage Facilities in Bristow and Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Background:

VRE locomotives and railcars operate approximately 624 miles on the Fredericksburg Line and 370 miles on the Manassas Line each week. Over the course of operations, wheelsets and traction motors incur normal wear and tear requiring regular maintenance and occasional replacement to support safe and efficient operations.

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 rehabilitation services for wheelsets and traction motor assemblies. Rehabilitation services for wheelsets include replacement, repair, or overhaul of axles, wheels, journal bearings, and journal boxes. Traction motor assembly services include wheel renewal (new wheels), wheel reprofile (wheel trim), combo disassemble/reassemble, and traction motor repair.

In July 2017, the VRE Operations Board authorized award of a contract to UTC|RAS, LLC for the Rehabilitation of Wheelsets and Traction Motor Assemblies. The final option year of this contract will expire on October 5, 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 the rehabilitation of wheelsets and traction motor assemblies is provided for in the current budget under ‘Mechanical Operations - Repair and Maintenance.’ Funding for future years will be included in each proposed annual budget.
Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board Resolution

2D-04-2021

Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for
Rehabilitation of Wheelsets and Traction Motor Assemblies

WHEREAS, authorization to advertise a solicitation for the rehabilitation of Gallery IV railcar wheelsets and locomotive traction motor assemblies is being requested; and,

WHEREAS, wheelsets and traction motors incur normal wear and tear requiring regular maintenance and occasional replacement to support safe and efficient operations; and,

WHEREAS, the current contract to provide these services will expire on October 5, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids for Rehabilitation of Wheelsets and Traction Motor Assemblies.

Approved this 16th day of April 2021

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Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Chair

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James Walkinshaw
Secretary