



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
OPERATIONS BOARD

Agenda Item 9-A
Action Item

To: Chair Bohmke and the VRE Operations Board

From: Rich Dalton

Date: January 19, 2024

Re: Authorization to Issue a GEC VIII Task Order for Final Design Services for Alexandria Station Improvements

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a General Engineering Consulting Services (GEC) VIII Task Order to HDR Engineering, Inc. for Final Design Services for Alexandria Station Improvements in the amount of \$532,000, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$53,200, for a total not to exceed \$585,200.

Summary:

The Alexandria Station Improvements project will remove the existing at-grade pedestrian crossing of two tracks and construct major renovations to provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access to both the station (west) platform and the center (east) platform. The scope of this Task Order will cover the final design of these improvements.

Background:

Alexandria Union Station, which serves both VRE and Amtrak trains, requires significant investment to improve passenger safety and accessibility as well as operational flexibility. VRE has three primary objectives at Alexandria: 1) eliminate the existing at-grade crossing while ensuring safe and ADA-compliant access to the center platform; 2) modify both the center and station platform heights to achieve FRA- and CSX Transportation (CSX)-required clearances, meet ADA requirements, and eliminate the need for step boxes; and 3) allow passenger trains to serve the station on any of the three existing tracks.



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14700 Potomac Mills Road
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VRE has developed 90% design plans and is in close coordination with the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) and CSX regarding adjacent works for the Alexandria Fourth Track project, and the replacement of the rail structures over King Street and Commonwealth Avenue.

In March 2021, the VRE CEO received Operations Board authorization to issue a Task Order to HDR Engineering, Inc. to advance the preliminary design for the Alexandria Station Improvements project, anticipating a probable alternate delivery method for construction. As the project has progressed and through coordination with VPRA, a more typical design-bid-build approach has been adopted for this project, thereby requiring 100% complete plans and specifications.

Therefore, the scope for this Task Order includes final design services as required to incorporate design revisions associated with the King Street and Commonwealth Avenue bridge replacements, and advance to 100% complete plans, technical specifications, pre-construction documents, and cost estimates that will be used to develop a future Invitation for Bids for construction.

VRE requested HDR submit a proposal to accomplish the scope identified herein. The proposal submitted by HDR was reviewed and deemed to be responsive to all aspects required. The proposed cost was also reviewed with HDR and compared with the independent cost estimate prepared by VRE staff and was determined to be fair and reasonable.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding is provided through a variety of previously committed sources:

- Federal Highway Administration Section 130 funds for rail safety and rail crossing improvement, previously administered through the Virginia Department of Transportation but recently transferred to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), with associated local matching funds;
- Smart Scale funding administered by DRPT as part of the broader Fredericksburg Line Capacity Expansion program; and
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) State of Good Repair funds (Section 5337) with associated state and local matching funds.

**Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board Resolution**

9A-01-2024

**Authorization to Issue a GEC VIII Task Order for Final Design
Services for Alexandria Station Improvements**

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Station Improvements will be designed and constructed to eliminate the at-grade crossing between the station platform and the center platform, improve passenger access to Track 1 and provide ADA-compliant access on the platforms; and,

WHEREAS, advancement of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Alexandria 4th Track and King Street and Commonwealth Avenue bridge replacement coordination has resulted in additional scope and cost; and,

WHEREAS, the scope of services for this task order includes project administration, advancement of the station design to incorporate changes resultant from the design of the adjacent projects, provide delivery of Issued for Construction plans and specifications; and,

WHEREAS, advancement of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Alexandria 4th Track and King Street and Commonwealth Avenue bridge replacement coordination has resulted in additional scope and cost; and,

WHEREAS, VRE has received a proposal from HDR Inc. for completion of the additional work and staff has deemed it fair and reasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a General Engineering Contracting Services VIII Task Order to HDR, Inc. for Design Services for Alexandria Station Improvements in the amount of \$532,000, plus a 10 percent contingency of \$53,200, for a total not to exceed \$585,200.

Approved this 19th day of January 2024

Meg Bohmke
Chair

Ralph Smith
Secretary