



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Pierce R. Homer
Chairman

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Agenda item # 10

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

March 19, 2009

MOTION

Made By: Mr. McCarthy Seconded By: Mr. White Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Grant Agreement for the Provision of Lynchburg and Richmond Passenger Rail Demonstration Service

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is committed to supporting an efficient and effective multimodal transportation system in Virginia, including passenger rail service; and

WHEREAS, passenger and freight rail service provides significant public benefits to the Commonwealth through increased mobility, greater connectivity and more transportation choices for all Virginians; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Rail Plan includes the expansion of intercity passenger rail service in the I-81/Route 29 and I-95/I-64 rail corridors; and

WHEREAS, the first phase of the I-81/Route 29 passenger rail service expansion includes the addition of one daily train between Washington, D.C. and Lynchburg, and the first phase of the I-95/I-64 passenger rail service expansion includes the addition of one daily train between Washington, D.C. and Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) must enter into rail agreements to begin the enhanced intercity passenger rail service and set a framework for corridor passenger and freight rail improvements; and

WHEREAS, DRPT has worked with Amtrak, CSX, Norfolk Southern and the Virginia Railway Express to enter into or modify existing grant or framework agreements to implement the first phase of passenger rail service expansion between Washington, D.C. and Lynchburg in the I-81/Route 29 corridor and between Washington, DC and Richmond in the I-95 corridor, including an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between CSX Transportation, Virginia Railway Express and DRPT; and

WHEREAS, DRPT has worked collaboratively with Amtrak to establish a grant agreement for the operations of the new passenger rail service for a demonstration period of three years; and

WHEREAS, the Amtrak Board of Directors shall authorize the execution of the Amtrak Grant Agreement for the Provision of Lynchburg and Richmond Passenger Rail Service at its April 23, 2009 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Six-Year Improvement Program for FY2009-FY2014 includes funding to support the capital and operating costs of new passenger rail service between Washington, D.C. and Lynchburg in the I-81/Route 29 corridor and between Washington, D.C. and Richmond in the I-95 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the CTB has allocated \$17.2 million in the Six-Year Improvement Program to support the operations of the three-year demonstration service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CTB hereby authorizes the DRPT Acting Director to execute the Amtrak Grant Agreement for the Provision of Lynchburg and Richmond Passenger Rail Service.

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