

Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda (Supplemental Kit)



TO: Chairman Fiset and NVTC Commissioners

FROM: Kelley Coyner

DATE: April 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda (Subject to Approval of Chairman)

The Commission is asked to authorize the Chairman to submit letters of endorsement for NVTC jurisdictions and the Commonwealth seeking funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation's 2016 FASTLANE and TIGER discretionary grant programs. Both of these programs provide opportunity for federal funding of capital investments that can support transit service in Northern Virginia. NVTC staff canvassed its members to determine who planned to submit applications and whether they sought endorsement.

In addition to the projects noted below, Prince William County also intends to apply for both the TIGER and FASTLANE programs for U.S. Route 15 improvements and the Virginia Railway Express is seeking approval to apply for station areas improvements under the TIGER program. (This action item is included in Agenda Item #11.)

A. Approve Letters of Endorsement for US DOT FASTLANE Grant Applications

The [U.S. DOT Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-Term Achievement of National Efficiencies \(FASTLANE\)](#) grant program is a new program under the December 2015 FAST Act. FASTLANE aims to fund freight and highway projects across the country, with \$800 million in authorized funding for FY2016. U.S. DOT's deadline for FASTLANE applications is April 14, 2016. The two FASTLANE projects seeking NVTC endorsement are:

- **Fairfax County -- Route 7**
 - Road widening from Reston Avenue to Jarrett Valley Drive
 - [Proposed letter of endorsement attached](#)
- **Commonwealth of Virginia – Atlantic Gateway**
 - Multimodal investments including passenger and commuter rail, highway, and transit investments from Stafford County to the Long Bridge
 - [A briefing paper](#) is attached
 - Note: the Commonwealth is also seeking TIGER funding for this project

B. Approve Letters of Endorsement for US DOT TIGER Grant Applications

The FY 2016 [U.S. DOT TIGER](#) program provides \$500 million in grant funding for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure and are awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. The 2016 TIGER grant program focuses on capital projects that generate economic development and improve access to reliable, safe and affordable transportation for communities, both urban and rural. U.S. DOT's deadline for the TIGER program is April 29, 2016. The two proposed TIGER projects seeking NVTC endorsement are:

- **City of Alexandria – Potomac Yard Metro Station**
 - [Proposed letter of endorsement attached](#)
- **Fairfax County – Frontier Drive Extension**
 - [Proposed letter of endorsement attached](#)



Vision – Expand, enhance and create additional freight and personal mobility choices in one of the Nation’s most congested multi-modal corridors.

- Expands access to employment opportunities leveraging significant private investment
- Increases commuter rail, Metrorail, highway (HOV, SOV and Express) and bus choices
- Accelerates key East Coast highway and rail freight improvements, including National Gateway
- Initiates link between Northeast and Southeast high speed rail programs

Significance: Volumes Traversing the Corridor Daily

- 153,000 vehicles
- 271,000 tons of freight by truck
- 83,000 tons of freight by CSX / NS
- 18,000 people by Virginia Railway Express
- 218,000 people by Metrorail

Destinations

- Navy Yard
- Pentagon
- Quantico
- Fort Belvoir

Constriction of movement and growth

- Region ranked worst congestion in the Country by Texas A&M Transportation Institute
- Contains the highest density of crashes of any major corridor in the Commonwealth
- Accounts for the highest freight delay of any major corridor in Virginia (350 Million tons - hours of delay)
- Provides for the only connection between the National Gateway and Virginia and East Coast seaports
- 10th largest commuter rail in the country is running at capacity during peak periods
- Solves southbound HOT lanes congestion at current terminus

Corridor-Wide Program

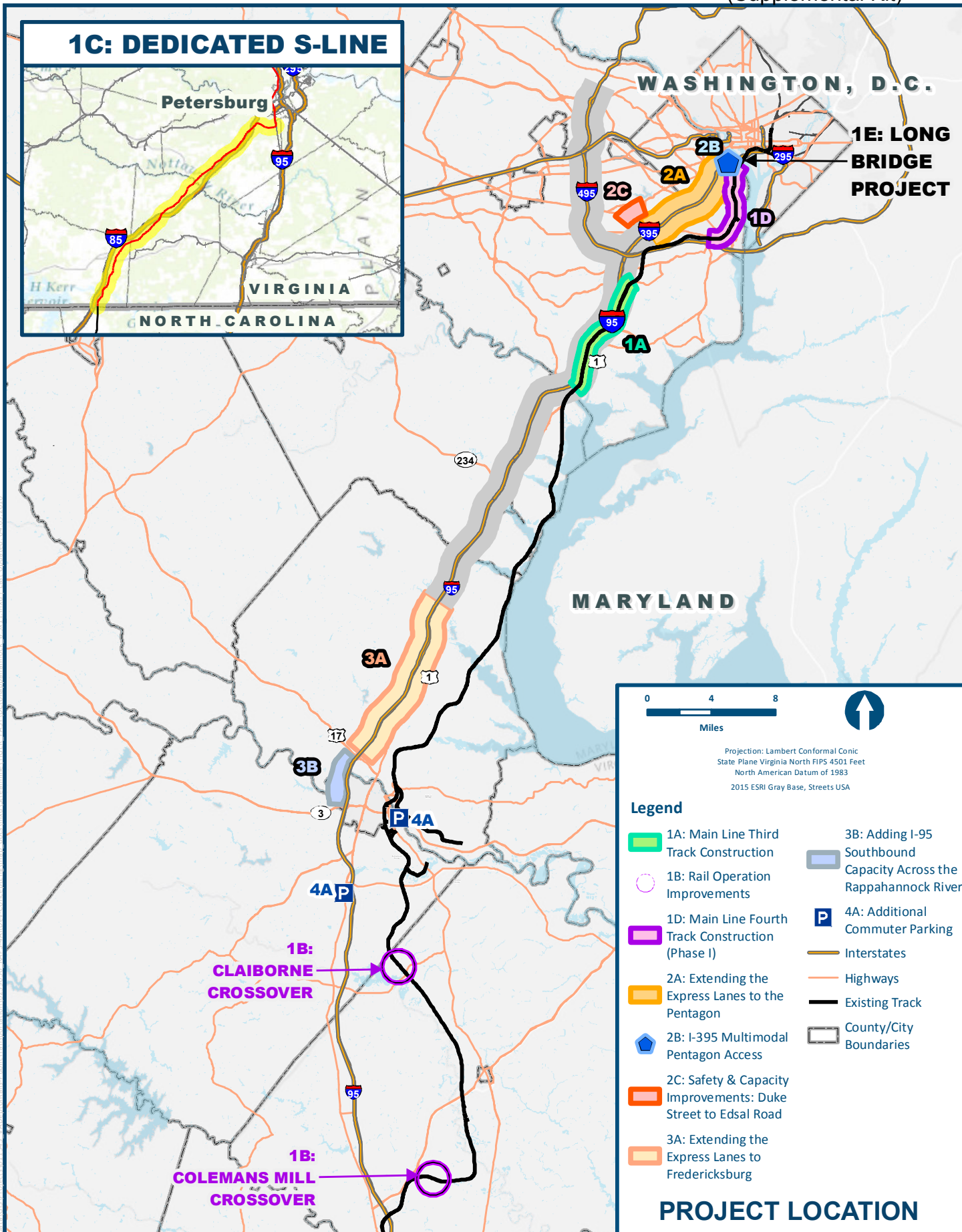
The Commonwealth is pursuing both a FASTLANE and TIGER grant to leverage a \$1.4B Corridor-Wide Enhancement to improve I-95/I-395 from Fredericksburg to the Pentagon.

- Highway
 - I-95/I-395 Enhancements (HOT extension north to Pentagon, south to Fredericksburg)
 - Estimated \$520M Private Investment in HOT lanes extensions
 - I-95/I-395 Capacity Improvements at Duke and SB across Rappahannock
 - Pentagon Access Improvements
- Freight, Intercity, and Commuter Rail Improvements
 - Phase I of Long Bridge (the East Coast rail chokepoint)
 - Construction of 14 miles of additional rail track within existing ROW
 - \$45M Private Investment in Rail Improvements
- Transit
 - Enhanced Bus Service (employment access)
 - Two additional VRE roundtrips (I-66 & I-95)
 - Additional Park and Ride Options (Stafford County)
- Innovation and Technology
 - Corridor-wide upgrades (TDM, ramp metering, etc.)

Schedule

Grant applications due April 14th (FASTLANE) and April 29th (TIGER)

1C: DEDICATED S-LINE



Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
State Plane Virginia North FIPS 4501 Feet
North American Datum of 1983
2015 ESRI Gray Base, Streets USA

Legend

- 1A: Main Line Third Track Construction
- 1B: Rail Operation Improvements
- 1D: Main Line Fourth Track Construction (Phase I)
- 2A: Extending the Express Lanes to the Pentagon
- 2B: I-395 Multimodal Pentagon Access
- 2C: Safety & Capacity Improvements: Duke Street to Edsall Road
- 3A: Extending the Express Lanes to Fredericksburg
- 3B: Adding I-95 Southbound Capacity Across the Rappahannock River
- 4A: Additional Commuter Parking
- Interstates
- Highways
- Existing Track
- County/City Boundaries

PROJECT LOCATION

Agenda Item #11: Virginia Railway Express (Supplemental Kit)



TO: Chairman Fiset and NVTC Commissioners

FROM: Kelley Coyner

DATE: April 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Virginia Railway Express

A. VRE CEO Report and Minutes

Mr. Allen will update the Commission on VRE highlights. The [VRE CEO March 2016 Report](#) and the [Minutes of the March 18th Operations Board Meeting](#) are attached.

B. ACTION: Resolution #2302 Approve the Submission of a USDOT TIGER Program Application for VRE Station Improvements

The Commission is asked to approve an application to the [FY 2016 U.S. DOT TIGER program](#) for the VRE Alexandria Station Pedestrian Tunnel project and Brooke and Leeland Road Platforms. As co-owners of VRE, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission will also be asked to approve this application.

VRE seeks \$20.7 million in U.S. DOT TIGER funding for the construction of the Alexandria Station pedestrian tunnel and for design and construction of the Brooke and Leeland Road platform improvements. These projects are necessary for VRE to meet conditions of the VRE-CSXT-DPRT Memorandum of Understanding related to the opening of the Potomac Shores Station. These projects will also provide a benefit to the entirety of VRE's Fredericksburg Line by allowing longer trains to more efficiently service stations and support operational flexibility for commuter rail, intercity rail and freight.

The deadline for applications to the TIGER program is April 29, 2016. If approved by all parties, PRTC will apply for the grant on behalf of VRE.

The FY2016 U.S. DOT TIGER program will fund up to \$500 million in capital investments for surface transportation infrastructure and are awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. As noted in the Consent Agenda, there are several projects in the region that are seeking this competitive TIGER funding: City of Alexandria – Potomac Yard Metro Station; Fairfax County – Frontier Drive Extension; and the Commonwealth's application for elements of the Atlantic Beltway; and U.S. Route 15 improvements.



RESOLUTION #2302

SUBJECT: Approval of Submission of a U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) TIGER Grant Application for Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Station Improvements

WHEREAS: The Second Amendment to the Virginia Railway Express - CSX Transportation - Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VRE-CSXT-DPRT) Corridor Improvement Project Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines a set of infrastructure improvements that must be made in order to allow the Potomac Shores Station to open; and,

WHEREAS: Improvements at the Alexandria, Brooke, Leeland Road Stations are included in this MOU; and,

WHEREAS: The engineering and constructability analysis for the Alexandria Station pedestrian tunnel has identified an additional \$10 million necessary to complete construction of this tunnel, which is critical to improving station safety; and,

WHEREAS: The funding available for design and construction of the Brooke and Leeland Road platform improvements are expected to fall \$10.7 million short of the VRE cost estimate to complete the project; and,

WHEREAS: The U.S. DOT has issued a notice of funding opportunity for the FY2016 TIGER grant program that is a potential source for the necessary funding to complete the Alexandria, Brooke and Leeland Road improvements;

WHEREAS: Completing the three platform improvements will allow VRE to fully comply with the terms outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding and allow VRE to expand service to a new station at Potomac Shores;

WHEREAS: These projects will also provide a benefit to the entirety of VRE's Fredericksburg Line by allowing longer trains to more efficiently service stations and support operational flexibility for commuter rail, intercity rail and freight.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission approves the submission of a FY2016 TIGER grant application for station improvements at the Alexandria, Brooke and Leeland Road VRE stations in the amount of \$20.7 million; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary corrections to project amounts or descriptions, and to execute all grant agreements on behalf of the Commissions.

Approved this 7th day of April, 2016.

Jay Fisette
Chairman

Paul C. Smedberg
Secretary-Treasurer