

## **RESOLUTION #2403**

**SUBJECT:** Adopt and Refer the Amended FY2020 and Recommended FY2021 VRE Operating and Capital Budgets to the Jurisdictions

WHEREAS: The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Master Agreement requires the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) (the "Commissions") be presented with a fiscal year budget for their consideration at their respective January meetings prior to the commencement of the subject fiscal year;

WHEREAS: The VRE Acting Chief Executive Officer has provided the VRE Operations Board with the recommended FY2021 Operating and Capital Budget within the guidelines developed in cooperation with the staff representatives of the local jurisdictions;

WHEREAS: The FY2021 budget recommends no change to current passenger fares, including the Amtrak Step-Up fare;

WHEREAS: The FY2021 budget recommends a 3% increase in the jurisdictional subsidy contribution over the FY2020 level, to a total amount of \$18,300,780, with allocation to the individual jurisdictions in accordance with the VRE Master Agreement and utilizing the results of the October 2019 Master Agreement Survey;

WHEREAS: VRE staff recommends a budget based on a service level of 32 daily revenue trains and average daily ridership of 18,900 trips;

WHEREAS: VRE staff recommends a budget that includes five new full-time positions to support VRE's expanded capital and lifecycle maintenance programs and to ensure continued high-quality customer service;

WHEREAS: the VRE Operations Board authorized the Acting Chief Executive Officer, following adoption of the FY2021 Operating and Capital Budget by the Commissions, to initiate recruitment and hiring activities for the five new VRE employee positions prior to the start of the fiscal year on July 1, 2020;

WHEREAS: The VRE Operations Board authorized the Acting Chief Executive Officer to continue discussions with the Department of Rail and Public Transportation and other agencies of the Commonwealth regarding a potential contribution of Commuter Rail Operating and Capital funds to a broader funding package for the proposed Long Bridge expansion project, which may include both direct contributions and the issuance of debt backed by Commuter Rail Operating and Capital funds, and with any formal agreement regarding the commitment of such funds requiring the recommendation of the VRE Operations Board and the approval of the Commissions, and the approval of the individual jurisdictions if any debt is to be issued; and

WHEREAS: The VRE Operations Board recommends the following action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission hereby adopts the FY2021 VRE Operating and Capital Budget in the following amounts and forwards this budget to the local jurisdictions for inclusion in their budgets and appropriations in accordance with the Master Agreement:

Operating Budget \$ 91,387,287 Capital Budget 72,507,750 Total Operating and Capital \$163,895,037

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NVTC adopts the amended FY2020 VRE Operating and Capital Budget in the following amounts:

Operating Budget \$ 90,439,906 Capital Budget <u>67,681,751</u> Total Operating and Capital \$158,121,657

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NVTC authorizes the executive directors of both PRTC and NVTC to submit to the Transportation Planning Board of the National Capital Region and to the Federal Transit Administration or other federal agencies, the appropriate Transit Improvement Program and grant applications for FY2020 and FY2021.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NVTC authorizes its executive director to submit to the Commonwealth the approved budget as part of the FY2021 state aid grant applications.

Approved this 16th day of January 2020.

Katie Cristol

Chair

Jeffrey C. McKay Secretary-Treasurer