

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE TIP ACTION 23-51.3 WHICH ADDS FUNDING FOR VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS'S PROPERTY ACQUISITION FOR PLATFORM EASEMENTS AS REQUESTED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL & PUBLIC TRANSPORTION (VDRPT) ON BEHALF OF THE POTOMAC & RAPPAHANNOCK TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (PRTC) AND THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (NVTC)

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, reauthorized November 15, 2021 when the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed into law, for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2022, the TPB adopted the FY 2023-2026 TIP; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of PRTC and NVTC, VDRPT has requested an amendment under TIP Action 23-51.3 which adds \$4.3 million in §5307 and local matching funds for the VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements (T13652), as described in the attached materials; and

WHEREAS, the attached materials include:

- ATTACHMENT A) Programming Overview report showing how the amended project and program records will appear in the TIP following approval,
- ATTACHMENT B) Letter from VDRPT dated November 22, 2024, requesting the amendments, and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments have been entered into the TPB's Project InfoTrak database under TIP Action 23-51.3 creating the 51st amended version of the FY 2023-2026 TIP, which supersedes all previous versions of the TIP and can be found online at www.mwcog.org/ProjectInfoTrak; and

WHEREAS, this project is exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Regulations as of April 2012; and

WHEREAS, this resolution and amendment to the FY 2023-2026 TIP shall not be considered final until the Transportation Planning Board has had the opportunity to review and accept these materials at its next full meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2023-2026 TIP to include TIP Action 23-51.3 which adds \$4.3 million in §5307 and local matching funds for the VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements (T13652), as described in the attached materials.

T13652 - VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements

Lead Agency VRE	Project Type Other	County Fairfax
From -	Agency Project ID -	Municipality City of Manassas, City of Manassas Park
To -	Completion Date 2025	Total Cost \$4,300,000

Project Description

VRE will acquire permanent easements for land underlying VRE Manassas Line station platforms and located in the railroad right-of-way from the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA). Specifically this includes the VRE Backlick Rd., Rolling Rd., Burke Centre, Manassas Park, and Manassas stations.

PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FUTURE	TOTAL
Right of Way	LOCAL	-	-	-	\$860,000	-	-	\$860,000
Right of Way	S. 5307	-	-	-	\$3,440,000	-	-	\$3,440,000
Total Right of Way		-	-	-	\$4,300,000	-	-	\$4,300,000
Total Programmed		-	-	-	\$4,300,000	-	-	\$4,300,000

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	New Project
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$3,440,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$4,300,000



November 22, 2024

The Honorable Christina Henderson, Chair
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

Dear Chair Henderson:

The Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) on behalf of the Virginia Railway Express (VRE), a commuter rail project jointly owned and operated by PRTC and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTTC), requests to add VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements project to the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements project is for acquisition of property utilized for VRE station platforms. The updated project cost is attached, and the proposed amendment is provided below:

VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements (TIP ID: T13652)

- Add \$ 3,440,000 (Section 5307) FFY25 for ROW Phase
- Add \$ 860,000 (Local Match) FFY25 for ROW Phase

The proposed amendment is requested to acquire new property interests related to VRE stations on its Manassas Line, specifically stations at Backlick Rd., Rolling Rd., Burke Centre, Manassas Park, and Manassas, resulting from the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA) acquisition of the Manassas Line from Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) in August 2024. The VRE station platforms are located within the railroad right-of-way. Under NS ownership, VRE had leased the land on which the platforms are built from NS through an Operating Access Agreement and a Commuter Facilities Agreement and paid using non-federal funds. With the transfer of ownership of the railroad ROW, VRE will now acquire a permanent easement from VPRA for the station platforms.

PRTC requests approval of this project to the TIP by the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on December 6, 2024. PRTC and VRE representatives will be available to answer any questions about this amendment request.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Cynthia Porter-Johnson at 703-580-6147 (cporter-johnson@omniride.com) or Christine Hoeffner at 703-838-5442 (choeffner@vre.org).


Letter to Ms. Christina Henderson

November 22, 2024

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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Robert A. Schneider, PhD
Executive Director

cc: Maria Sinner, VDOT
Regina Moore, VDOT
Amy Garbarini, DRPT
Todd Horsley, DRPT
Mike Mucha, DRPT
Kanti Srikanth, MWCOG-TPB
Andrew Austin, MWCOG-TPB
Phillip Parella, PRTC
Bhupendra Kantha, PRTC
Cynthia Porter-Johnson, PRTC
Mark Schofield, VRE
Steve Maclsaac, VRE
Christine Hoeffner, VRE

T13652 - VRE Property Acquisition for Platform Easements

Lead Agency VRE	Project Type Other	County Fairfax
From -	Agency Project ID -	Municipality City of Manassas, City of Manassas Park
To -	Completion Date 2025	Total Cost \$4,300,000

Project Description

VRE will acquire permanent easements for land underlying VRE Manassas Line station platforms and located in the railroad right-of-way from the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRRA). Specifically this includes the VRE Backlick Rd., Rolling Rd., Burke Centre, Manassas Park, and Manassas stations.

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Right of Way	LOCAL	-	-	-	\$860,000	-	-	\$860,000
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Total Programmed		-	-	-	\$4,300,000	-	-	\$4,300,000