

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, Virginia Railway Express (VRE) plans to construct a pedestrian tunnel that connects the mezzanine of the King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station to Alexandria’s Amtrak/VRE station, and upgrade the eastern Amtrak/VRE platform, a project entitled the Alexandria Union Station – King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station pedestrian tunnel project; and,

WHEREAS, the project will improve ADA access, eliminate the at-grade track crossing, provide a direct connection to the King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station mezzanine, and brings together many of the major public transportation entities in Alexandria in a unified and seamless fashion by connecting Alexandria’s Union Station, which is served by the Virginia Railway Express (VRE), and Amtrak, with the King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station, which is served by Metrorail and Metrobus, DASH, and the King Street Trolley; and,

WHEREAS, Amtrak/VRE railroad capacity and operational flexibility will improve by allowing passenger trains to use the eastern track; and,

WHEREAS, the Virginia Railway Express Operations Board approved an authorization to fund a feasibility study that focuses on the pedestrian tunnel and the challenges, design, permitting, and construction of the project and includes survey and geotechnical investigations, identification of improvements required to the CSX tracks to serve the east platform from both sides, identification of tunnel portal locations, and confirmation of scope and cost estimates challenges associated with designing, permitting and constructing the project; and,

WHEREAS, VRE, the City of Alexandria, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) have worked together to provide input and review the feasibility study, which will be completed this fall to allow the next phase of design to begin thereafter; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, hereby expresses its commitment of support for the Alexandria Union Station – King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station pedestrian tunnel project.

Adopted: _____

WILLIAM D. EUILLE **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC
City Clerk and Clerk of Council