

RESOLUTION NO. 2598

WHEREAS, Virginia Railway Express (VRE) seeks the design and construction of a rail crossover and related signals in the vicinity of Slaters Lane, north of Alexandria's Amtrak/VRE station,

WHEREAS, currently three tracks pass through Alexandria's Amtrak/VRE station, but passenger trains can only use the two tracks that are between the station's western and eastern platforms due to the lack of a crossover north of Alexandria's Amtrak/VRE station,

WHEREAS, as part of the planned construction of a pedestrian tunnel that connects the mezzanine of the King Street-Old Town Metrorail Station to Alexandria's Amtrak/VRE station, upgrades will be made to the eastern platform at Alexandria's Amtrak/VRE station which include replacement of the existing platform stair with a new stair to the pedestrian tunnel, a new elevator to the pedestrian tunnel, and a platform extension, alteration, and reconfiguration to allow for passenger rail service from both sides of the platform,

WHEREAS, the design and construction of a rail crossover will enable passenger rail trains to utilize both sides of the eastern platform, make all three tracks available for passenger boarding and alighting, and enhance operational flexibility and performance on the railroad by allowing the movement of passenger and freight trains from one track to another to preclude conflicts between trains and minimize the potential for delays,

WHEREAS, the Virginia Railway Express Operations Board recommended the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission approve the submission of the Slaters Lane Crossover and Signals project as one of several projects which increase transit capacity to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) for consideration for funding in FY2014-2016,

WHEREAS, House Bill 2313 levied additional taxes and a fee to be received by NVTa and distributed to fund regional transportation projects that provide the greatest congestion reduction relative to the cost of the project or mass transit capital projects that increase capacity; and,

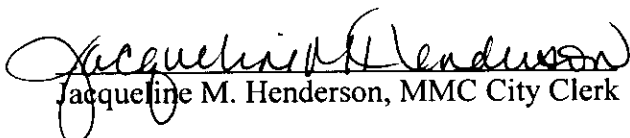
WHEREAS, House Bill 2313 also required that each locality's total long-term benefit shall be approximately equal to the proportion of the total of the fees and taxes that are generated by the locality,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, hereby expresses its support for the Slaters Lane Crossover and Signals Project subject to regional agreement that the benefits associated with the project will be credited toward VRE only or shared equally across all VRE member jurisdictions.

Adopted: January 28, 2014


WILLIAM D. EULLE MAYOR

ATTEST:


Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk