RESOLUTION #2411

SUBJECT: Authorize the Acting VRE CEO to Extend the Amended and Restated Operating/Access Agreement with CSX Transportation (CSXT)

WHEREAS: The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (“Commissions”) currently have an Amended and Restated Operating/Access Agreement with CSX Transportation relating to VRE operations in the Fredericksburg to Washington corridor, with the agreement ending June 30, 2020;

WHEREAS: In December of 2019, the Commonwealth of Virginia announced the Virginia Rail Improvement Plan which includes the acquisition of CSX Transportation right-of-way in the Commonwealth;

WHEREAS: During the 2020 Virginia General Assembly Session, the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority was established;

WHEREAS: The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority will manage the right-of-way acquired by the Commonwealth, including operating access agreements with VRE;

WHEREAS: VRE staff is currently working with the Commonwealth and CSX Transportation on agreements to continue VRE service consistent with the Virginia Rail Improvement Plan;

WHEREAS: Necessary funding has been incorporated into the FY 2021 budget to allow VRE to continue its operations over CSX Transportation tracks via this extension; and

WHEREAS: The VRE Operations Board recommends the following action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission hereby authorizes the Acting VRE Chief Executive Officer to execute an extension of the existing Restated and Amended Operating/Access Agreement with CSX Transportation through June 30, 2021 in a form approved by legal counsel.

Approved this 4th day of June 2020.

Katie Cristol
Chair

Jeffrey C. McKay
Secretary-Treasurer