



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

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Jennifer DeBruhl
Chairperson

RESOLUTION
OF THE
VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY BOARD

JUNE 4, 2024

MOTION

Made by: Rod Hall Seconded By: Cynthia Moses-Nedd
Action: Motion carried

Title: Small, Diverse, and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth, in collaboration with the federal government, is delivering on its vision to provide high-performance passenger and commuter rail service that connects communities and increases economic growth, by making generational investments in passenger and commuter rail infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Virginia General Assembly created the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (“**VPRA**”) – a new, independent authority dedicated to promoting, sustaining, and expanding passenger and commuter rail services across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Transforming Rail in Virginia program, VPRA will deliver a host of large-scale capital improvement projects that will significantly increase passenger and commuter rail options in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, VPRA’s capital improvement projects stand to not only serve as infrastructure models for the nation, but also create significant economic opportunities for numerous qualified small, diverse, and disadvantaged businesses, including those owned by women, minorities, and service-disabled veterans (collectively, “**SWaMs and DBEs**”); and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the importance of SWaMs and DBEs to a robust economy within the Commonwealth and the value of optimizing meaningful opportunities for these business entities, particularly in the construction trades; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 9.1 of VPRA's *Procurement Rules* adopted by the Board on May 23, 2022, VPRA staff reports to the Board annually with respect to VPRA's utilization of SWaMs and DBEs, and recommends prospective utilization goals for the Board's adoption each year.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby directs VPRA staff to:

1. wherever reasonable and feasible and subject to applicable legal requirements, actively promote the robust utilization of SWaMs and DBEs on VPRA's procurements, with particular emphasis on projects included within VPRA's Transforming Rail in Virginia program;
2. deliver to the Board at its regularly scheduled August 2024 meeting a report on VPRA's utilization of SWaMs and DBEs during fiscal year 2024, and
3. bring to the Board at its regularly scheduled August 2024 meeting a recommended SWaM and DBE and utilization goal for fiscal year 2025 for the Board's consideration and adoption.