

VPRA Decision Brief

Ratification of Authority to Execute Manassas Line Funding Agreement between Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and VRE Commissions

January 16, 2025

Issue: VPRA is requesting the Board to re-authorize the VPRA Executive Director to execute funding agreement (the “**Manassas Line Funding Agreement**”) between VPRA and the VRE Commissions.

Facts: VPRA purchased from Norfolk Southern certain real property interests between approximately mileposts 36.23 in Manassas and 9.25 in Alexandria to facilitate passenger rail service along the Manassas Line. The VRE Commissions operate commuter rail services over the Manassas Line. Accordingly, VPRA staff and staff for the VRE Commissions have negotiated a funding agreement under which the VRE Commissions would supply to VPRA \$155,000,000 in support of VPRA’s acquisition of the Manassas Line and other VPRA initiatives. The Board originally authorized the execution of the Manassas Line Funding Agreement on August 27, 2024. Because the agreement is not yet executed and more than ninety days have passed since that original authorization, the *BYLAWS VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY* require re-authorization by the Board before the VPRA Executive Director may execute it.

Recommendation: Re-authorize the VPRA Executive Director to execute the Manassas Line Funding Agreement.

Action Required by VPRA: Re-authorize execution of the Manassas Line Funding Agreement by majority vote.

Options: Approve. Deny. Defer.