



Legislation Text

File #: 21-0122, Version: 1

Resolution to Amend the Cost Allocation Agreement Between the Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, and the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

Like Transit Agencies across the Country, HRT is facing a decline in ridership due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decline is impacting bus fare revenues. The Federal government has provided relief funds to assist transit agencies with revenue losses and costs related to the pandemic. In order to allocate these Federal funds and available State funds to mitigate the loss of revenues from the decline in ridership, the HRT cost allocation agreement needs to be temporarily amended. All HRT member cities need to approve a change to this agreement for it to be put into effect. Member cities adopted a one year amendment to the formula last year to address this issue. Given the enduring impacts of the pandemic that are projected to continue in Fiscal Year 22, HRT has asked its local member cities to again temporarily amend the cost allocation formula so they can use the Federal relief funds and State funds to offset revenue losses. This action will allow us to keep our contribution to HRT level with the amount approved in the FY21 Budget.

Discussion:

See Purpose/Background above.

Impact:

See Purpose/Background above.

Recommendation:

Approve the Resolution.

WHEREAS, the Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach (each a "Participating City"; collectively, the "Participating Cities") and the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads ("HRT") are parties to that certain Cost Allocation Agreement, effectively dated October 1, 1999 ("Allocation Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Allocation Agreement, among its other provisions, defines how state and federal funding received by HRT is allocated to the Participating Cities for the capital and operating costs associated with acquiring, consolidating, rehabilitating, operating and expanding public transportation facilities and services for the Hampton Roads region;

WHEREAS, the Allocation Agreement currently requires HRT to distribute its eligible federal

and state funding to each of the Participating Cities on a pro rata basis based on the annual cost to provide transit services and the level requested by each Participating City;

WHEREAS, HRT may provide greater budgetary certainty to all Participating Cities through strategic allocation of its eligible state and federal funding;

WHEREAS, the current Allocation Agreement does not permit HRT to strategically allocate its state and federal funding amongst the Participating Cities;

WHEREAS, the Allocation Agreement may be amended, via a resolution from each Participating City, to permit HRT to strategically allocate its eligible state and federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hampton desires to modify and amend the Allocation Agreement so that HRT may help mitigate adverse financial impacts to it and the other Participating Cities from the date of this Resolution until June 30, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia that:

Beginning July 1, 2021 and continuing until June 30, 2022 (“Effective Period”), which corresponds with HRT’s fiscal year 2022, HRT is authorized to strategically allocate its available and eligible federal and state funding to the City of Hampton.

1. During the Effective Period, the City agrees to modify the Allocation Agreement by deleting Sections (D) and (E) of Article IX, Allocation of Revenues, and replacing them as follows:

Article IX. Allocation of Revenues

* * *

D. Federal funds received to reimburse net eligible operating expenses will be strategically allocated to each Participating City. Eligible federal funds, in combination with eligible state funds, will be allocated on an annual basis, in such combinations and amounts to be determined by the Commission. Subject to the requirements of Article X, and in the event eligible federal funds are available, such funds will be allocated to the Participating Cities to offset any deficiencies between the estimated Local Share in each Participating City TSP and the actual Local Share determined by the Commission at the end of each of the fiscal year.

E. State funds received to reimburse net eligible operating expenses will be strategically allocated to each Participating City. Eligible state funds, in combination with eligible federal funds, will be allocated on an annual basis, in such combinations and amounts to be determined by the Commission. Subject to the requirements of Article X, and in the event eligible state funds are available, such funds will be allocated to the Participating Cities to offset any deficiencies between the estimated Local Share in each Participating City TSP and the actual Local Share determined by the Commission at the end of the fiscal year.

2. During the Effective Period, the City agrees to modify Article X, Calculation of Local Share of Operating Costs, of the Allocation Agreement by adding Section (C) as follows:

Article X. Calculation of Local Share of Operating Costs

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C. The fiscal year of the Commission shall begin on July 1 and conclude on June 30. In the event the actual total local share of Local Funds is less than the budgeted total local share of Local Funds for a Participating City, after the Commission has strategically allocated federal and state funds in FY2022 ("Surplus"), then such Surplus shall be refunded in full by the Commission to that Participating City on or before August 1, 2023.

In the event the actual total local share of Local Funds, exceeds the budgeted total local share of Local Funds for a Participating City, after the Commission has strategically allocated federal and state funds in FY2022 ("Deficit"), then such Deficit shall be paid in full by the Participating City to the Commission on or before August 1, 2023. Except for the obligation for the Commission to pay any surplus to the City of Hampton or the City of Hampton to pay any deficit to the Commission by August 1, 2023, on July 1, 2022, all amendments to the Allocation Agreement contemplated by this Resolution shall automatically terminate, be deleted from the Allocation Agreement and of no further effect without the need of further action by any party to the Allocation Agreement.

That this Resolution shall be in effect from and after the date of its adoption.