

INTRODUCED: March 28, 2016

A RESOLUTION No. 2016-R028

To support the Buckingham Branch Railroad Company's application for Rail Preservation Program funds for its Richmond and Alleghany Tie Replacement project estimated to cost \$10,000,000 to replace mainline ties, switch ties, siding ties and mainline deck ties, and to complete other work including adding ballast, tamping, surfacing and making drainage improvements between MP 85.5 and MP 276, and to request that the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation give priority consideration to such application in allocating funds.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Mayor Jones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: APR 25 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the Buckingham Branch Railroad Company ("the Railroad") has filed an application with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation for funding assistance for its Richmond and Alleghany Tie Replacement project, which will replace mainline ties, switch ties, siding ties and mainline bridge deck ties, and complete other work including adding ballast, tamping, surfacing and making drainage improvements on the Buckingham Branch Railroad line between MP 85.5 and MP 276 in Clifton Forge, Virginia; and

AYES:            9            NOES:            0            ABSTAIN:        \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED:       APR 25 2016    REJECTED:       \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN:       \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the Buckingham Branch Railroad estimates that this project will cost \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly, through enactment of the Rail Preservation Program, provides for funding for certain improvements and procurement of railways in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Railroad is an important element in the City's economic development efforts, provides relief to the highway system by transporting freight, and provides an alternate means of transportation of commodities; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the Project and desires to request that the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation give priority consideration to the Railroad's application for the Project in allocating funds;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the City of Richmond supports the Buckingham Branch Railroad Company's application for Rail Preservation Program funds for its Richmond and Alleghany Tie Replacement project estimated to cost \$10,000,000 to replace mainline ties, switch ties, siding ties and mainline bridge deck ties, and to complete other work including adding ballast, tamping, surfacing and making drainage improvements on the Buckingham Branch Railroad line between MP 85.5 and MP 276 in Clifton Forge, Virginia, and requests that the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation give priority consideration to such application in allocating funds.



# CITY OF RICHMOND

## INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

### O&R REQUEST

DATE: March 1, 2016

EDITION: 1

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: Dwight C. Jones, Mayor

THROUGH: Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: John Buturla, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Emmanuel Adediran, Director  
Department of Public Works

FROM: M. David McNeel, Sr. Policy Advisor - DPW

RE: **FORMAL REQUEST TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT) TO PROGRAM AND SUPPORT "BUCKINGHAM BRANCH RAILROAD COMPANY" USING DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION/RAIL PRESERVATION FUNDS.**

O & R REQUEST

FEB 24 2016

4-4837

Chief Administration Office  
City of Richmond

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2016

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNE

ORD. OR RES No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PURPOSE:** To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or her designee, on behalf of the City of Richmond, to formally request VDOT to program and support Buckingham Branch Railroad Company using Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation Rail Preservation funds.

**REASON:** In accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation board (CTB) and through the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation funding for Shortline Railway Preservation Funds; it is necessary that a request by resolution be received and a City Council public hearing of the resolution be held, for the application to be considered for VDRPT approval.

**BACKGROUND:** Buckingham Branch Railroad Company has applied for funding assistance from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Rail Preservation Fund for the Richmond and Alleghany Tie Replacement Project, which will replace mainline ties, switch ties, siding ties and mainline bridge deck ties. Work will also include adding ballast, tamping, surfacing and drainage improvements on the Buckingham Branch Railroad Line located between MP 85.5 in Richmond and MP 276 in Clifton forge, Va. Buckingham Branch Railroad estimates this project will cost \$10,000,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Department of Public Works recommends approval.

**FISCAL IMPACT/COST:** The resolution will not add any cost to the City of Richmond. Buckingham Branch Railroad will provide the local matching funds of 30% with the Department of Rail and Public Transportation Rail Preservation Fund providing 70% of the project cost.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** The adoption of this paper will increase the safe movement of railcars through the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY:** No budget amendment is necessary.

**REVENUE TO CITY:** No direct revenue to the City of Richmond  
0

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon adoption

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** March 28, 2016

**SUGGESTED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Land Use, Housing & Transportation  
April 19, 2016

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** April 25, 2016

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent Agenda.

**CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** None

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** Public Works

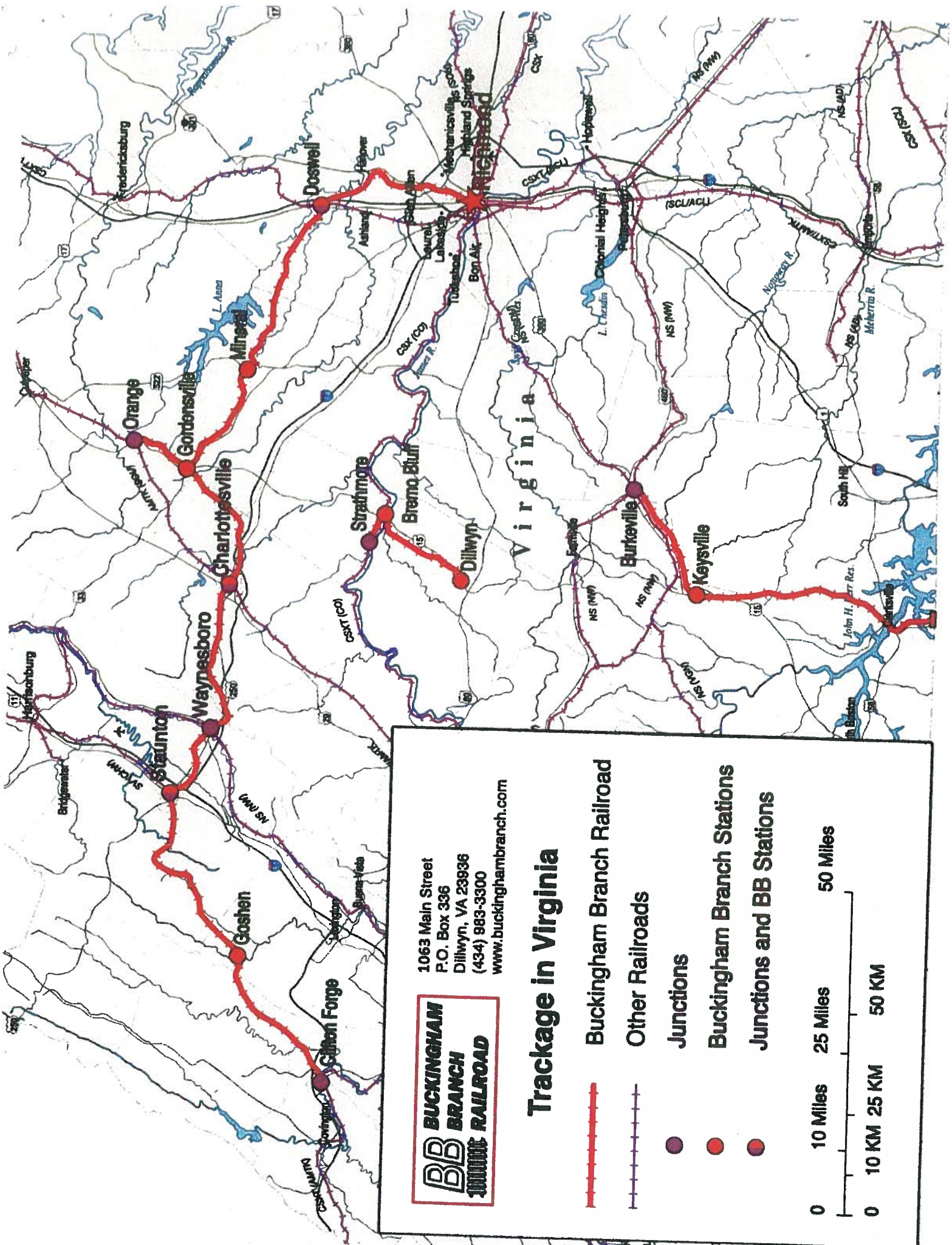
**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** None

**REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S):** None

**ATTACHMENTS:** Buckingham Branch Railroad Map

**STAFF:**






Prepared by M. David McNeel, DPW - Sr. Policy Advisor  
Contact number: 804-646-2022

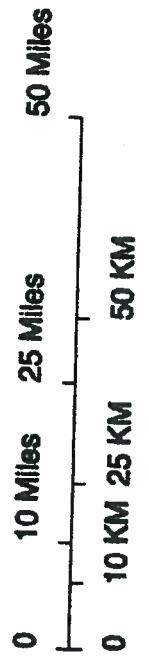


1063 Main Street  
 P.O. Box 336  
 Dillwyn, VA 23936  
 (434) 883-3300  
 www.buckinghambranch.com



## Trackage in Virginia

-  Buckingham Branch Railroad
-  Other Railroads
-  Junctions
-  Buckingham Branch Stations
-  Junctions and BB Stations





1063 Main Street  
P.O. Box 336  
Dillwyn, VA 23936  
434-983-3300 ext. 228  
[www.buckinghambranch.com](http://www.buckinghambranch.com)

February 12, 2016

City of Richmond - DPW  
Attn: M. David McNeel  
Senior Policy Advisor  
900 East Broad Street # 704  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear City Council:

Buckingham Branch Railroad Company is a family-owned short line railroad that operates 275 miles of railroad in Central Virginia. Buckingham Branch was founded in 1988 by Robert and Annie Bryant and ran its first train on March 6, 1989. Since then it has grown from a 17 mile line with two employees to its current size today of 275 miles of track.

Buckingham Branch leased 200 miles of track from CSX and commenced operations of the Richmond and Alleghany Division on December 20, 2004. This operating lease was for track from Clifton Forge, VA to Richmond, VA, including 9.9 miles known as the Orange Branch. Since that time we have leased 58 miles of track from Norfolk Southern Railroad and now operate our Virginia Southern Division which has tracks from Burkeville to Clarksville, Virginia.

We are requesting a resolution from the City of Richmond supporting Buckingham Branch Railroad Company's application for grant funds from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation Rail Preservation Fund. Buckingham Branch Railroad will provide all local matching funds for the grant.

The Richmond and Alleghany Tie Replacement project is a five year project which will help us replace mainline ties, switch ties, siding ties and mainline bridge deck ties. Work will include adding ballast, tamping, surfacing, and drainage improvements on the Buckingham Branch Railroad line located between MP 85.5 in Richmond Virginia and MP 276 in Clifton Forge, VA.

Work from the tie replacement project will help us to provide safe, reliable transportation of freight for you and all of the present and future industries located in the cities, towns and counties located on the Richmond and Alleghany Division of Buckingham Branch Railroad.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at our Dillwyn office. Additional information about our company and operations may be found at our web site: [www.buckinghambranch.com](http://www.buckinghambranch.com)

We sincerely appreciate your past support. We look forward to many more years of serving your communities. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

A sample resolution and a map showing the location of our operations are included with this letter. A copy of the approved resolution should be sent to Mr. Claude Morris at the mailing address shown in the letterhead.

Sincerely,

*Claude Morris*  
Claude Morris  
Project Manager

Enclosure

**SAFETY=SECURITY=SERVICE**