

INTRODUCED: March 14, 2016

A RESOLUTION No. 2016-R018

To support the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit project.

Patrons – Ms. Newbille, Ms. Robertson, Mr. Baliles and Ms. Graziano

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAR 28 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit project, hereinafter referred to as the “Pulse,” is a 7.6 mile long rapid transit route that will connect the area of the city of Richmond around the Willow Lawn shopping center in the west with the area of the city of Richmond around the development known as Rocketts Landing in the east; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 2015-52-81, adopted May 15, 2015, the Council accepted a program of proposed Capital Improvement Projects, which included \$7,600,000 in funding for the Pulse over two fiscal years beginning July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, in addition to funding from the City, the United States Department of Transportation has awarded the project a grant in the amount of \$24,900,000, the Virginia

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: MAR 28 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

Department of Rail and Public Transportation has authorized \$16,900,00 for the project and the County of Henrico is expected to contribute \$400,000 to the project; and

WHEREAS, the City believes that the Pulse will improve transit service, increase livability, enhance economic opportunity, revitalize commercial properties, reduce travel times for existing users of the Greater Richmond Transit Co. services by approximately 33%, improve the reliability of transit operations on Broad Street, expand the range of access to jobs for transit users, create additional opportunities to increase system-wide efficiency for the Greater Richmond Transit Co., and further improve service on local transit routes; and

WHEREAS, the Council supports the Pulse with the expectation that the Greater Richmond Transit Co. will perform certain comprehensive studies, solicit input from the public and report the results of such studies to the Council prior to commencement of any operation of the Pulse;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Council supports the Pulse with the expectation that the Greater Richmond Transit Co. will do the following:

1. Conduct comprehensive studies concerning the best and most accessible routes for users of the Pulse, intra-community connectivity strategies and mechanisms that will ensure greater transit connectivity to the proposed Pulse route from neighborhoods, commercial corridors and areas in the city of Richmond not adjacent to the proposed Pulse route, including, but not limited to, the East End.
2. Engage and solicit input from the public regarding such studies and proposed connectivity strategies and mechanisms.

3. Submit to the Council, within six months after the adoption of this resolution, a report on the results of such studies that describes to the Council potential connectivity strategies and mechanisms for the Pulse prior to commencement of any operation of the Pulse.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Allen Jackson, Richmond City Attorney
Richmond Office of the City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Brown Ali
Council Chief of Staff *V. Jones for Lou Brown Ali*

FROM William E. Echelberger, Jr, Council Budget Analyst *[Signature]*

COPY Dr. Cynthia L. Newbille, 7th District Representative
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Vincent Jones, Council Deputy Chief of Staff
Sam Patterson, 7th District Council Liaison

DATE December 30, 2015

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TITLE **Bus Rapid Transit Connectivity**

RECEIVED

DEC 30 2015

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** **Resolution**

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Cynthia L. Newbille, 7th District Representative

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing, and Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The Patron requests a resolution to express the support of City Council for the Bus Rapid Transit project (PULSE) with the expectation that the Greater Richmond Transit Company will:

- Comprehensively study routes, intra-community connectivity strategies, and mechanisms that will ensure greater transit-connectivity to the BRT route from neighborhoods, commercial corridors, and areas in the City not adjacent to the BRT route ("Connectivity Strategies").
- Engage and solicit input from the public regarding such studies and proposed Connectivity Strategies.
- Engage Council by reporting the findings of such studies and proposing, to Council, Connectivity Strategies for GRTC to implement.

BACKGROUND

Summary: The Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), the "Pulse," project is a 7.6 mile long rapid transit route that will connect Willow Lawn and Rocketts Landing, with stops at stations to be constructed in Shockoe Bottom and along Broad Street.

- The BRT is intended to improve transit service, increase livability, enhance economic opportunity, revitalize commercial properties, reduce travel times for existing riders by approximately 33%, improve the reliability of transit operations on Broad Street, expand

the range of access to jobs for transit users, create additional opportunities to increase system-wide efficiency for GRTC, and further improve service on local transit routes.

- In September 2014, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) awarded the project a \$24.9 million grant from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.
- The remainder of the \$40.8 million project capital funds will be received from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) \$16.9 million, City of Richmond \$7.6 million, and Henrico County \$400,000.
- On September 15, 2015, GRTC signed and fully executed the \$24.9 million TIGER grant agreement with the USDOT.
- In June 2015, the Commonwealth Transportation authorized the Commonwealth's \$16.9 million share of the project funding.
- On May 15, 2015, the City Council adopted the City of Richmond's FY 2016-20 Capital Improvement Program, which budgeted the City's \$7.6 million share of the project funding.
- Henrico County has allocated its \$400,000 share to the project
- Ordinance No. 2015-263 authorizes the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit Project Development Agreement between the City of Richmond, the Greater Richmond Transit Co., the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the County of Henrico for implementation of the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit project.
- Along with its support of the Bus Rapid Transit ("BRT") project, Council recognizes the importance of connecting to the BRT those neighborhoods, commercial corridors, and other areas of the City not adjacent to the BRT route.
- The GRTC has undertaken a study of bus stops on routes that run along the Broad Street corridor to determine where stops can be consolidated near Pulse stations to facilitate safe connections.
- Richmond has secured state funding for a comprehensive study of GRTC Transit System's bus lines in the city, which will be undertaken in calendar year 2016.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no expenditure or revenue impact of the proposed resolution. The \$7.6 million City cost of the BRT project are covered by Appropriations in the City's FY 2016-20 Capital Improvement Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes No

Budget Amendment Required Yes No

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact

No additional funds are required for the requested study.

There is no revenue impact.

Attachment/s Yes No