



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 18-25

PATRON: Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director
DATE: February 22, 2018

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MARTINE ADMINISTRATION (MARAD), AMERICA'S MARINE HIGHWAY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission has been involved in the coordination of a regional response to the transportation congestion as a result of the growth experienced during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), through development of alternative modes to single-occupancy vehicles traveling along I-95 and Route 1; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx designated the M-495 as a new Marine Highway in September, 2013; with the Occoquan, Potomac, and Anacostia Rivers making up the "M-495 Marine Highway Crossing;" and

WHEREAS, In May 2014, funding was received from the Federal Transit Administration from the Ferry Boat Program, to provide for two boats and two docks on the Potomac River, requiring, however, a National Environment Protection Agency Analysis completion prior to using the funding; and

WHEREAS, NVRC released the Final Market Analysis Report for Commuter Ferry Service on the Occoquan, Potomac, and Anacostia Rivers in June 2015, identifying corridors connecting terminals with the potential for market viability; and

WHEREAS, the Martine Administration's Marine Highways program awarded the Northern Virginia Regional Commission funding to support planning efforts focused on an Infrastructure Gap Analysis and completion of NEPA documentation for development of a new commuter ferry service on the Potomac River; and

WHEREAS, said alternatives analysis will focus on service from Woodbridge, to Joint Base Anacostia/Bolling, and then into SW/SE DC.

WHEREAS, the 2015 Potomac River Commuter Ferry Ridership Market Analysis recommended that next steps should provide development of a governance structure, and a pilot to demonstrate the operations and implementation plan; and

WHEREAS, a commuter ferry may alleviate traffic congestion on I-95 and Route 1; provide additional commuter transportation choices in lieu of the Metro; has the ability to move people out of Washington, DC, during emergency situations; is a more environmentally friendly commuter option than building more highway lanes; provides cheaper options than building a new bridge over the Potomac; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission agrees to sponsor, and authorizes the Executive Director to submit, a proposal to the USDOT, Marine Administration for up to \$500,000.00 for continued planning for a governance structure and pilot demonstration from Woodbridge to Joint Base Anacostia/Bolling and SE/SW DC.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on February 22, 2018.


ROBERT W. LAZARO, JR., CERTIFYING OFFICER