



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of September 8, 2007**

DATE: August 21, 2007

SUBJECT: Approve amendments to the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Master Agreement

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached Resolution to approve the amended VRE Master Agreement and Authorize its execution by the Chairman.

ISSUES: The County Board is requested by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) to formally approve proposed changes to the VRE Master Agreement.

SUMMARY: The County Board passed a resolution approving proposed amendments to the VRE Master Agreement at its May 8, 2007 Board meeting. The amendments, in sum, change the composition of and voting on the VRE Operations Board and revise the subsidy formula over a four year phase-in period. The amended Board composition allows Arlington County one voting member and based on subsidy, a weighted vote proportionate to its share of the total jurisdictional subsidy. Arlington County's contribution to VRE is based on a fixed amount escalated annually by 5%. There are no changes to the County's contribution to VRE. All of the County's contributions to VRE are financed with state grants.

BACKGROUND: See attachments:
Attachment A - May 8, 2007 County Board Report
Attachment B – Revised VRE Master Agreement

DISCUSSION: The resolution approved by the County Board at its May 8, 2007 meeting states "...amendments to the Master Agreement reflecting the changes detailed in Attachment A will be brought back before the Commissions and jurisdictions for formal approval..." The changes were approved by NVTC and PRTC at their July 2007 meetings and are now recommended for formal approval by participating and contributing jurisdictions.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no increased fiscal impact as a result of the County Board action to execute the amendments of the VRE Master Agreement.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Lynn M. Rivers, DES, Transit Bureau