



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Nicholas Donohue
Chairperson

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Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Agenda item # 6

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

April 22, 2026

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Fowlkes, **Seconded By:** Mr. Good

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission/Omniride I-95 Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program-Funded Services Extension

WHEREAS, in June 2021, the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted the policy that governs the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program (IOEP); and

WHEREAS, the policy states that transit service operating costs will be covered for a period of three years, with the Board having discretion at the end of the three-year period to provide operating assistance for three additional years on high performing routes; and

WHEREAS, in the I-95 Corridor Improvement Program the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation District Commission (PRTC/Omniride) received funding to operate three commuter routes that continue to operate today; and

WHEREAS, these routes began in December 2023 and have performed well, surpassing ridership projections included in the I-95 CIP, and are critical to reducing congestion on I-95/395 in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the three-year limitation on operating funding will be reached in December 2026 for these routes and there is funding remaining in the current award to operate these routes for another three years, through December 31, 2029;

WHEREAS, the total amount of funding approved through IOEP was \$20,546,085 and the amount of funding requested for extension is approximately \$8,745,854 in operating funding and \$3,600,000 in capital funding that will be used to purchase commuter buses;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby approves the extension of operating funding to December 31, 2029, for the three routes funded under the I-95 CIP and operated by PRTC/Omniride (DRPT projects 50061-01, 50062-01, and 50063-01).

CTB Decision Brief
Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission/Omniride I-95 IOEP-Funded Services Extension

Issue: The Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (dba Omniride) has three active commuter bus service routes operating in the I-95 corridor that were part of the I-95 Corridor Improvement Program (CIP) that is funded by the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program (IOEP). CTB policy governing IOEP provides operating funds for transit service for a period of three years. The three routes were placed into service in December 2023 and in December 2026 the initial three-year period will be reached. Policy also states that the Board has discretion at the end of the three-year period to provide operating assistance for three additional years on high performing routes. The funded services continue to see strong ridership numbers and an extension as allowed under policy would be in the best interests of the Commonwealth as well as transit riders and drivers on the I-95/395 corridor.

Facts: In the current I-95 CIP, one of the challenges identified in the corridor is a lack of commuter bus service south of Dale City. To address this gap, the CIP advanced new commuter routes that serve from as far south as Fredericksburg to the DC core in the north. The three routes are part of the eleven total Omniride Express routes that serve points north for commuters during the week. The routes serve the following destinations:

- Stafford to D.C.
- Spotsylvania to Pentagon/Navy Yard
- Falmouth to Pentagon/Rosslyn/Ballston

As a commuter bus provider, Omniride was heavily impacted by the lingering impacts of the pandemic and the continuance of remote work policies on commuter service and so the new services did not begin operation until December 2023. The funded projects were expected to carry more than 150 riders from Spotsylvania and Stafford to points north each morning. As of January 2026, the routes outperformed the expected ridership serving over 800 riders per day. The services contributed to growth in ridership of over 27% on Omniride Express routes between FY24 and FY25, from 916,000 to 1.1 million, and have continued to grow ridership into the current fiscal year.

No additional funding is being sought as there are funds available in the current awards to continue the service through December 2029. The total amount of funding from IOEP was \$20,546,085 and the amount of funding requested for the extension is approximately \$8,758,854 in operating funding and \$3,600,000 in capital funding that will be used to purchase commuter buses.

Recommendations: DRPT recommends extending the three Omniride Express routes funded by the I-95 CIP for an additional three years through December 31, 2029. Specifically, the funds are in DRPT projects – 50061-01, 50062-01, and 50063-01.

Action Required by CTB: Adopt a resolution extending funding for the three routes through December 31, 2029.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer