

## Memorandum

**To:** MPO Policy Board  
**From:** Ryan Mickles, Regional Transportation Planner III  
**Date:** August 23, 2023  
**Reference:** Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program

**Purpose:** The Commonwealth programmed \$111 million in CMAQ funds to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority to be used on four state-supported Amtrak routes. FHWA confirmed CMAQ funding can be used for new Amtrak state-supported service in the Commonwealth, to be applied to gross operational and capital equipment expenses.

### New Table

UPC NO	20299/25137	SCOPE	Operational expenses related to two trains.				
SYSTEM	Primary	JURISDICTION	Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO	OVERSIGHT			
PROJECT	Virginia State-Supported Amtrak Operations			ADMIN BY	VPRA		
DESCRIPTION	Operating expenses for two trains on the Roanoke route (Route 46). The cost included is only for a portion of the route and a portion of the train costs estimated for the jurisdiction.						
PROGRAM NOTE	TIP AMD - FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment – Virginia State-Support Amtrak Operations						
ROUTE/STREET	Roanoke Operations (Route 46)			TOTAL COST	\$22,170,853*		
	FUND SOURCE	Previous Funding	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	Total FY24-27
PE	Federal CMAQ	\$0	\$1,701,699	\$1,771,225	\$1,904,175	\$1,982,655	\$7,359,754
PE	State CMAQ	\$0	\$425,425	\$442,806	\$476,044	\$495,664	\$1,839,938
PE	VPRA	\$3,771,469	\$2,127,123	\$2,214,031	\$2,380,219	\$2,478,318	\$9,199,692

#### Notes:

- Oversight – No federal oversight
- Regionally Significant for Air Quality – No, FHWA considers the CMAQ-funded Amtrak projects to be exempt from air quality conformity requirements as the funding is going towards “operating assistance,” which is specifically listed as being exempt in Table 2 of EPA’s Transportation conformity rule.
- \* Total cost includes operating expenses from previous funding and estimated expenses through FY27 as these are operating expenses without an end date.

**Action Item:** MPO staff recommends a motion to approve the FY24-27 TIP amendment with including the fail project.

Once this TIP amendment is reviewed and approved by the MPO Policy Board, the FY24-27 TIP document will be updated with the modified table.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the MPO Policy Board on August 23, 2023, approved the amendments proposed above.

**Signature:**

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Chair  
Charlottesville-Albemarle  
Metropolitan Planning Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director  
Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission/  
Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization

WITNESS BY \_\_\_\_\_

If there are any questions, please contact Ryan Mickles at [rmickles@tjpd.org](mailto:rmickles@tjpd.org) or (434) 979-7310 Ext.119.