SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.    SUBJECT: Federal Transit Administration Section 5309 Camden NJ Ferry System Earmark Grant Application

COMMITTEE: Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: September 19, 2007

BOARD ACTION DATE: October 17, 2007

PROPOSAL: That the DRPA Commission authorize staff to prepare an application to the Federal Transit Administration for Section 5309 earmarked capital funds in the amount of $4,000,000 for design and construction of a ferry dock on the Camden NJ waterfront. Also, that the DRPA Commission authorize the non-federal matching share which must be provided by the Authority in the amount of $1,000,000 or 20% of the total.

PURPOSE: To make application to the federal government for SAFETEA-LU FTA Section 5309 earmarked capital funds for Camden NJ waterfront ferry system design and construction improvements in the amount of $4,000,000. These funds must be matched by the Authority in the amount of $1,000,000.

BACKGROUND: The U. S. Congress makes funds available through the SAFETEA-LU Federal Transit Administration earmark process for certain projects. Federal Law mandates that applications be advanced in relation to adopted regional programs for transportation improvements. This application contains a program which is part of the approved Transportation Improvement Program of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission for FY07.

Staff is now preparing an application which requests $350,000 ($280,000 federal; $70,000 local match) funding for engineering/design of a ferry dock on the Camden waterfront. Subsequent grant applications will request the remainder of these earmarked funds for the construction phase of the project. Before the construction phase funding can be released, as part of the design phase, DRPA will undertake an Environmental Assessment for the project, as required by law.

The accompanying resolution has been drawn to satisfy federal requirements concerning specific Board approvals which are necessary to the grant approval process.
SUMMARY STATEMENT                              -2-                          Federal Transit Administration
O&M 10/17/07                                                                                  Section 5309 Camden NJ
Ferry System Earmark Grant Application

SUMMARY:  Amount:   $5,000,000
          Source of Funds:  General Fund 20% $1,000,000
          Capital Project #:  PI0105
          Master Plan Status:  2001
          Other Fund Sources:  Federal Transit Administration 80%
          Duration of Contract:  Grant Completion
          Other Parties Involved:  Federal Transit Administration
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the appropriate officers of the Delaware River Port Authority be and hereby are authorized to execute and file an application in proper form on behalf of the Authority with the U.S. Department of Transportation, requesting Section 5309 financial assistance in the amount of $4,000,000 and to expend such funds from federal appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the appropriate officers of the Authority be and hereby are authorized to negotiate an agreement to commit Authority funds in the amount of $1,000,000 and to expend such funds as a non-federal contribution to secure the federal grant; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chair, Vice Chair and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive Officer and if thereafter either the Chair or Vice Chair is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent or unavailable, and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s) while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such documents on behalf of DRPA.

SUMMARY:

Amount: $5,000,000
Source of Funds: General Fund 20% $1,000,000.  
Capital Project #: PI0105
Master Plan Status: 2001
Other Fund Sources: Federal Transit Administration 80% $4,000,000
Duration of Contract: Grant Completion
Other Parties Involved: Federal Transit Administration