

## **SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**ITEM NO.: PATCO-16-038**

**SUBJECT: PATCO Electrical  
Maintainer Apprenticeship Program**

**COMMITTEE:**

**Labor**

**COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:**

**November 1, 2016**

**BOARD ACTION DATE:**

**November 16, 2016**

**PROPOSAL:** That the Board authorizes staff to create an Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program at PATCO designed to train selected candidates in the various responsibilities and functions unique to the position of Electrical Maintainer in the Way & Power Department.

**PURPOSE:** To create a PATCO Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program as a professional development opportunity for both current and potential PATCO employees with the demonstrated potential for success as Electrical Maintainers. This 18-24 month program provides each Apprentice with the fundamentals of electrical and signal maintenance, divided over three distinct tiers: Foundational, Transit-Specific, and PATCO-Specific courses.

**BACKGROUND:** The Electrical Maintainer position at PATCO plays an important role in the daily, safe operation of the rail system. The very nature of working on a high-speed rail system presents many unique challenges and hazards. These are compounded by the fact that PATCO's rail cars are powered by an electrified third-rail network. PATCO has developed this Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program to ensure a continued pool of high-quality candidates for the position, and to ensure consistent, rigorous training for those personnel. The Program is designed to ensure all Electrical Maintainers receive standardized basic training on how to best perform their job responsibilities in a safe and efficient manner.

The PATCO Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program is designed to be an approximately 18-24 month training program. Classroom instruction, taught by Camden County College, will support on-the-job training (OJT) led by designated Way and Power Electrical Maintainers and Forepersons who have demonstrated an in-depth knowledge of a particular area of expertise and a desire to assist with the training. Together, the classroom training and OJT will be instructive in the techniques and knowledge required to perform the work of an Electrical Maintainer.

Throughout the training program, much emphasis will be placed on the proper safety precautions required for working around an electrified rail system. While emphasizing the fundamentals of electrical and relevant mathematical principles, the training will include, but not be limited to, self-protection when working around rail cars and work equipment, proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), safety equipment, the proper use of test equipment, and PATCO's Safety Rules and Procedures.

The creation of this Apprenticeship program was a collaborative effort between PATCO, DRPA Human Resources and Teamsters Local 676. In addition, this program will be added to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Teamsters.

<b>SUMMARY:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
	<b>Source of Funds:</b>	<b>Operating Budget / Training</b>
	<b>Operating Budget:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Capital Project #:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Master Plan Status:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Other Fund Sources:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Duration of Contract:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Other Parties Involved:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**PATCO-16-038**  
**Labor: November 1, 2016**  
**Board Date: November 16, 2016**  
**PATCO Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board authorizes staff to create an Electrical Maintainer Apprenticeship Program at PATCO; and be it further

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

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