



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MS 16 131/3
Beaub...



Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner

The Honorable Neal M. Kurk, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Bureau of Rail and Transit
July 11, 2016

Approved by Fiscal Committee
Date 9/16/16

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

1. Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Transportation to Budget and Expend prior year carry-forward funds in the amount of \$580,745 from the Special Railroad Fund for the maintenance and repair of State-owned railroad lines effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2017.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows: 100% Other Funds (Special Railroad Funds).

Table with 4 columns: Fund Code, FY 2017 Budget, Requested Change, FY 2017 Revised Budget. Rows include Expenses (Overtime, Current Expense, Rents-Leases, Engineering Consultants, Benefits, Grants Non Federal, Construction) and Revenue (Agency Income).

2. Pursuant to RSA 228:69, I (b), authorize the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Rail & Transit, to expend an amount not to exceed \$580,745 from the Special Railroad Fund for maintenance and repair of State-owned railroad lines and bridges effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2017.

EXPLANATION

RSA 228:68 establishes the Special Railroad Fund for the deposit of revenues produced on the state-owned railroad corridors through user fees paid by railroads, leases and fees paid by other landowners, and other revenues. This dedicated fund is required to comply with Federal regulations that require lease or other income on property acquired with Federal funds to be used to maintain those properties.

RSA 228:69, I (a) requires that 20 percent of the 2016 calendar year railroad user fees deposited in the Special Railroad Fund be paid to the cities and towns through which the state-owned railroad lines pass. These amounts will be paid out to the respective towns during fiscal year 2017.

RSA 228:69, I (b) authorizes the Department of Transportation to expend funds from the Special Railroad Fund on maintenance and repair of state-owned railroad lines. The Department will use these funds to continue repairs and maintenance activities including track, minor bridge and drainage projects on state-owned lines in 2017. The cost of engineering and construction administration will also be paid from these funds. The Special Railroad Fund receives revenues derived from railroad user fees, leases and crossing agreements, and a portion of the state railroad tax. The Department of Transportation, Bureau of Rail and Transit, will reimburse the railroads operating on the State-owned rail lines and other responsible parties for their infrastructure construction and maintenance expenses on the State-owned rail lines and bridges. The operating railroads on the State owned rail corridors and the estimated construction funds (400 500871) to be encumbered and expended on their operating lines are:

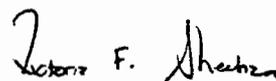
Department of Transportation	(Vendor 177927)	\$30,000
Plymouth & Lincoln Railroad	(Vendor 157711)	\$140,000
New Hampshire Central Railroad	(Vendor 157337)	\$30,000
Conway Scenic Railroad	(Vendor 154819)	\$140,000
New England Southern Railroad	(Vendor 161682)	\$40,000
Milford-Bennington Railroad	(Vendor 156441)	\$30,000
New England Central Railroad	(Vendor 160565)	\$20,000
<hr/>		
TOTAL CLASS 400		\$430,000

To resolve unanticipated events and circumstances on the State-owned rail lines, the estimated amounts listed above are subject to adjustment by the Administrator of the Bureau of Rail & Transit.

Consultant costs will be from statewide contracts; therefore, new consultants will not be contracted.

Your approval is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,



Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

Attachment

**Department of Transportation
Fiscal Situation Fiscal Year 2017
04-096-096-960010-2991**

Special Railroad Fund

Estimated revenue budgeted YTD:	\$ -
Prior year carryforward revenue:	\$ 824,432
Estimated FY17 revenue:	<u>\$ 509,638</u>
Amount available to budget:	\$ 1,334,070
Less current FY17 budget authorization:	<u>\$ -</u>
Total available for budgeting:	\$ 1,334,070
Amount to be budgeted this request:	<u>\$ 580,745</u>
Amount available to budget with future requests:	<u>\$ 753,325</u>

Source of Non-Budgeted Revenue	Amount	Expenses through 6/30/16	Balance
Prior year carry forward	\$ 824,432	\$ -	\$ 824,432
Estimated FY17 revenue	\$ 509,638	\$ -	\$ 509,638
Totals	<u>\$ 1,334,070</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,334,070</u>

Amounts from Statement of Appropriations for A/U 2991 Dated 7/1/2016