

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Victoria F. Sheehan Commissioner William Cass, P.E. Assistant Commissioner

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman Fiscal Committee of the General Court State House
Concord, NH 03301

Bureau of Rail & Transit May 6, 2019

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the Honorable Council State House Concord, NH 03301

## REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 228:69 I (b), authorize the Department of Transportation to enter into agreements with Railroad Operators for an amount not to exceed \$1,393,626.00 from the Special Railroad Fund for the maintenance and repair of State-owned railroad lines for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval. 100% Other Funds (Special Railroad Funds).

Funding for this agreement is contingent upon the availability of funds in Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021, with the ability to adjust encumbrances through the Budget Office between State Fiscal Years if needed and justified.

FY 2020

FY 2021

04-96-96-964010-2991 Special Railroad Fund 400-500871 Construction Repair Materials

\$746,813.00

\$646,813.00

## **EXPLANATION**

The Department's Special Railroad Fund is established by RSA 228:68 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. Typical maintenance and repair activities of State-owned railroad lines include track, minor bridge and drainage projects as well as the cost of engineering and construction administration.

The Department, in accordance with RSA 228:69 I (b), has existing railroad operating agreements with the railroads that operate on the State-owned railroad lines that include provisions to maintain and repair the State-owned railroad lines on which they operate for State fiscal years 2020 and 2021. The Department's Bureau of Rail and Transit will reimburse the railroads operating on the State-owned rail lines, and other responsible parties, for their infrastructure construction, maintenance, and engineering and construction administration 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:

Agency	Vendor#	SFY 20	SFY 21	Total
Department of Transportation	177927	\$69,813	\$54,813	\$124,626
Plymouth & Lincoln Railroad	157711	\$197,500	\$156,000	\$353,500
New Hampshire Central Railroad	157337	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$180,000
Profile Mountain Holdings	289704	\$197,500	\$156,000	\$353,500
New England Southern Railroad	161682	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$160,000
Milford-Bennington Railroad	156441	\$82,000	\$80,000	\$162,000
New England Central Railroad	160565	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
TOTAL		\$746,813	\$646,813	\$1,393,626

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. Should funds not become available, no General Funds will be used.

Your approval of this resolution is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Victoria F. Sheehan

Commissioner