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**SENATE BILL NO. 1396**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 11, 2017

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 1 of Chapter 6 of the Acts of Assembly of 2008, Special Session II, as amended by Chapter 130 of the Acts of Assembly of 2010 and Chapter 100 of the Acts of Assembly of 2011, relating to the Norfolk Southern Railway right-of-way.*

Patron—Wagner

Referred to Committee on Transportation

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 1 of Chapter 6 of the Acts of Assembly of 2008, Special Session II, as amended by Chapter 130 of the Acts of Assembly of 2010 and Chapter 100 of the Acts of Assembly of 2011, is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**1. § 1.** The General Assembly determines that construction of a public *transit or multimodal* transportation project ~~extending from the terminus of the Norfolk Light Rail starter line at Newtown Road in the City of Norfolk to the oceanfront area in the City of Virginia Beach,~~ along the Interstate 264 corridor on the right-of-way of the Norfolk Southern Railway, is in the public interest and qualifies for public funding, to the extent that any may be required, from the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund, established by § ~~33.1-221.1:8~~ *33.2-1529.1* of the Code of Virginia, or other funding available to the Commonwealth. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, the funds provided to the City of Virginia Beach under the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund ~~to purchase railroad right-of-way from the Norfolk Southern Railway shall be expended and used subject to such requirements as the Federal Transit Administration shall determine to be most effective for the construction of a public transit or multimodal transportation project. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to preselect the mode of public transportation to be constructed on the right-of-way to be acquired or any other public transportation alternative under study. Any public multimodal transportation project selected pursuant to the federally required environmental process currently underway will be deemed to satisfy the requirements of this act may include the construction of a pedestrian walkway or bike path, or both, and the construction of such project shall not preclude the construction of a mass transit facility after the completion of such multimodal transportation project. Construction of any public transit or multimodal transportation project on the acquired right-of-way shall be commenced by July 1, 2027.~~

INTRODUCED

SB1396