

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN

DATE: February 23, 2026

FROM: Tim Gwaltney, Deputy Town Engineer

SUBJECT: Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for Byhalia Corridor Signal Coordination

INTRODUCTION:

This agenda item is to consider entering into an agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for a wire and/or pipe occupation within a Public Right-of-Way related to the Byhalia Corridor Signal Coordination Project.

BACKGROUND:

The Byhalia Corridor Signal Coordination project involves installing underground fiber optic lines along Byhalia Road from Poplar Avenue southward to Shelby Drive, then eastward to Sycamore Road.

After completion, six traffic signals along the corridor will be interconnected, allowing for signal timing synchronization and improved traffic flow. A timeline of the project follows:

- July 2021 - Town applied to the TN Department of Transportation (TDOT) for a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant for this project.
- January 2022 - Project selected for funding.
- July 2022 - Project placed in the FY23 Capital Investment Program.
- January 26, 2023 - Town entered into a TDOT Local Programs Contract.
- March 10, 2023 - Received Notice to Proceed (NTP) to the environmental phase (NEPA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) obligated funds.
- May 22, 2023 – Entered into a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Kimley-Horn
- July 26, 2024 – Received NTP to the Design Phase
- October 2, 2025 – Received NTP to the Right-of-Way (ROW) Phase, including Railroad Coordination
- January 23, 2026 – Received Acknowledgement Form (Agreement) from Norfolk Southern Railway Company for Wire and/or Pipe Occupation within the Limits of a Public ROW (Ex. 2)

DISCUSSION:

The Town is required to approve an Acknowledgement Form for Wire and/or Pipeline Occupation within the railroad's property as part of the constructing the installation of traffic signal fiber within the Norfolk Southern right-of-way,

The attached Acknowledgement Form outlines the conditions under which the fiber installation will be permitted within the Norfolk Southern right-of-way. Approval of this document is necessary for the project to proceed in compliance with Norfolk Southern's requirements. Town staff has reviewed the Certificate of Insurance for the construction of the project and confirmed it meets the coverage requirements specified in the agreement.

The Town is required to pay two fees associated with this agreement as follows:

- Protection Services Coordination Fee in the amount of \$700.00
- Risk Management Fee in the amount of \$1,900.00

The total required fee is \$2,600.00 which is 100% reimbursable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approving the agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for a Wire and/or Pipeline Occupation.

**BUDGET IMPACT:
CIP**

Fund	Dept.	Obj. Code	Description	Approved Line-Item Budget	Previous Expenses	Proposed Expense	Balance	Budget Impact
131	43120	939-202301	Byhalia Rd Signal Coordination	\$916,730.00	\$226,500.00	\$2,600.00	\$687,630.00	N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

- [Exhibit 1 - Vicinity Map.pdf](#)
- [Exhibit 2 - AgreementCoverLetter.pdf](#)
- [Exhibit 3 - Agreement.pdf](#)

PROPOSED MOTION:

To approve the agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for a Wire and/or Pipeline Occupation within the limits of the Public Right-of-Way, as required for the installation and maintenance of traffic signal fiber related to the Byhalia Corridor Signal Coordination project.

Board Action: Motion By _____ Seconded By _____

Vote Total	Hall	Jordan	Robbins	Marshall	Stamps	Fraser
Yes						
No						
Abstain						