

April 29, 2011

Mr. Charles D. Snelling, Chairman
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
1 Aviation Circle
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Snelling:

I am writing on behalf of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce to express our disappointment regarding your recent decisions to construct an underground Dulles Metrorail station, and implement a mandatory Planned labor Agreement (PLA) for Phase II of the Dulles corridor Metro Project.

Your decision to construct an underground rail station contradicts the recommendations of MWAA staff. In addition, many employees of the Fairfax and Loudoun County businesses represented by our chamber (as well as other chambers) will bear the costs of the more expensive below-ground option in the form of higher tolls.

The decision to require a mandatory PLA will decrease the opportunity for competitive bidding and may contribute to higher project costs. We believe an open, competitive bidding process will reduce the chance of cost overruns while serving the best interests of all stakeholders.

The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce urges you to reconsider the need for an underground rail station and mandatory PLA. Your decisions may add hundreds of millions of dollars in unnecessary costs and risk substantial delays, while jeopardizing the regional consensus that is so important to the success of Phase II of the Dulles Corridor Metro Project.

Sincerely,



Bill Lauer, Chairman
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce