



September 10, 2009

The Honorable H. R. Crawford
Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
1 Aviation Circle
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Crawford:

The Dulles Corridor Rail Association (DCRA) is a non-profit organization formed in August 1998 to advocate rail in the Dulles Corridor. Members include business and civic leaders and organizations, elected officials, and residents.

The use of toll revenues was a key element of the financial plan when the Commonwealth of Virginia selected rail as the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Dulles Corridor in 2002. When Governor Kaine approved the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's (MWAA) proposal to operate the Dulles Toll Road and manage the Dulles Metrorail extension, toll revenues continued to be a key source of funding for both Phase 1 and Phase 2.

DCRA supports the MWAA proposal to increase tolls at the Main Toll Plaza and the ramps over the next three years. We also urge an aggressive lobbying effort to secure additional sources of funding (federal, state, and private) so that reliance on tolls as a source of funding can be reduced as the rail project proceeds.

DCRA supports exploring the potential for imposing tolls at the westbound Route 7 ramp and the Route 123 ramps on the Dulles Connector Road and urges study of improvements at the Main Toll Plaza and ramps to enhance collection of revenues by reducing nonpayment of tolls and improving the capacity to move vehicles through the toll booths.

We support the use of toll revenues to make improvements to the Dulles Toll Road that will increase safety, improve interchanges and sound walls, upgrade traffic management infrastructure, and enhance the travel experience of those using the road.

We are excited that this project is finally underway -- in large part because of the availability of toll road revenues. We believe that using these funds to add Metrorail to this important multi-modal facility is not only appropriate but a necessary next step in enhancing the Dulles Corridor as a 21st Century Main Street and gateway to the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth R. Plum", written in a cursive style.

Kenneth R. Plum
Chairman