



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

NEWS RELEASE

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**Northern Virginia Regional Commission Urges Federal Government
To Reconsider Funding Dulles Project**

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission, a coalition of 14 local governments, voted overwhelmingly Thursday night (Jan. 24) to urge the Federal Transit Administration to reconsider its decision to not fund the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project – Extension to Wiehle Avenue (the Dulles Project). “The decision to not fund the Dulles Project would be catastrophic to the region,” said Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Chairman and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. “The federal government has a critical role to play in transportation for the national capital region, of which Northern Virginia is a part, and the federal government is abdicating its responsibility,” Connolly said.

In a letter to Sec. of Transportation Mary E. Peters, the Commission said “The national capital area and Northern Virginia in particular, continues to suffer from the second worst traffic in the United States. The Metrorail Extension to Dulles is the most important project for improving transportation in the Northern Virginia region. However, the benefits go beyond just transportation. This project is critical to the federal government and the entire national capital region for homeland security evacuation, air quality improvements, economic development and improved long-term planning. It is the federal government’s responsibility, in cooperation with state and local governments, to fund transit in Northern Virginia as part of the national capital area.”

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission is a regional council of governments representing Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties, the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and the Towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Purcellville and Vienna.

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