

## **Joint Declaration of Intent**

Between

**The German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development,**

**The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation**

And

**The Virginia Department of Transportation**

(hereafter called the "Sides")

The Federal Republic of Germany (hereafter "Germany") and the Commonwealth of Virginia (hereafter "Virginia") share unique economic ties, with over 140 German companies located in Virginia. Germany is the second largest export destination for Virginia products and services.

Germany has long been recognized as a leader in the development of intercity light railtrains and high-speed passenger trains. Virginia is planning to expand its light rail systems and has been designated as one of ten high-speed rail corridors.

Both Sides are of the opinion that Virginia has the potential to lead the United States of America in the development and application of compact, efficient, and transportation-oriented systems.

Germany as well as Virginia are recognized as leaders in the use of technical innovations and applied research to promote sustainable transportation systems and urban development.

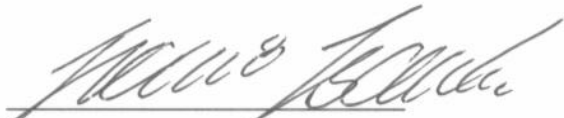
Germany and Virginia share the view that the common exchange of information on policies related to urban transportation and urban development is mutually beneficial to promote mobility, economic development, sustainable energy use and urbanization.

Therefore the Sides, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, hereby declare their common intent to:


1. exchange publically available data and best practices regarding the development and application of intercity light rail and high-speed passenger trains;
2. work together to improve the exchange and application of best practices and policies regarding transportation-oriented development;
3. cooperate in the research and development of best practices to support environmentally friendly transportation systems and urban development;
4. make an effort to develop and apply innovative mechanisms that promote congestion relief;

each bearing their own costs and expenses incurred in association with this matter.

Both Sides declare that cooperation on the basis of this Joint Declaration of Intent will take effect upon signature of the Declaration and will continue until either side informs the other in writing of its intention to terminate cooperation on the basis of this Joint Declaration of Intent. This Declaration may be modified by mutual consent.

  
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Rainer Bomba  
German Federal Ministry of Transport  
Building and Urban Development

10.05.2011  
Date

  
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Sean T. Connaughton  
Secretary of Transportation  
Commonwealth of Virginia

10 MAY 2011  
pDate