



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING  
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

February 27, 2008

Honorable Mary E. Peters  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

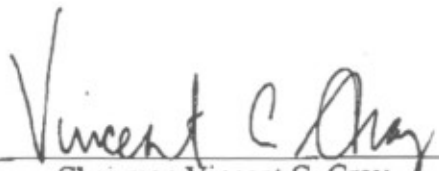
Mr. James S. Simpson  
Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
400 - 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Peters and Mr. Simpson:


Thank you for your leadership in improving our nation's transportation infrastructure. We are writing to you today regarding an issue of critical importance to our city and our region – the extension of rail service to Washington Dulles International Airport.

After many years of planning, process and funding challenges we are seeing the completion of important transportation infrastructure projects throughout the region, including the Frederick Douglass Bridge here in the District and others. Unfinished business remains, however, with the need to extend rail service to Washington Dulles International Airport. This improvement has been planned for years both at the state and local levels and at the FTA. All public reviews have been completed and all state and local financial commitments have been made. The strong votes in favor of the project by our regional planning bodies and the Metro Board underscore this commitment. Completion of this project will not only address a number of key mobility and transit oriented development goals but will also finally provide the United States with a transit gateway to our Nation's Capitol, which we call home, on par with other great world capitals.

For these reasons we strongly urge your expedited review and approval of this very important project.

  
Chairman Vincent C. Gray  
Council of the District of Columbia

Sincerely,

  
Councilmember Jack Evans  
Chairman, Committee on Finance and Revenue