



Dulles Corridor Rail Association

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Dulles Corridor Rail Associations Celebrates Ten Years of Advocacy Honors Governor Tim Kaine for Leadership in Advancing Project

The Dulles Corridor Rail Association (DCRA) and more than 150 of its members and friends celebrated its 10th Anniversary at a reception honoring Governor Tim Kaine, June 11, 2008. The event was sponsored by the JBG Companies and the newly opened Westin Reston Heights.

Governor Kaine told the group that Dulles rail was going to happen because the merits were so strong. He noted that Dulles Airport is one of the most spectacular



Robert E. Simon shares his thoughts with Phil Tobey, Smith Group

Kaine noted that while the timing has been affected, the project is going to happen because the merits are so strong. Dulles Airport is one of the most spectacular international assets this country has located in this most important region in the nation.

He continued, “It is one of the two most critical economic development assets that the Commonwealth of Virginia has Dulles Airport and the Port of Hampton Roads. We



DCRA Chairman Ken Plum applauds Governor Tim Kaine

international assets this country has and this is the most important region in the nation. “I am with you on this until we are riding together,” he said.

DCRA Chairman Delegate Ken Plum noted that 10 years ago, DCRA had met to form the association at the nearby Sheraton Reston Hotel. He introduced the Governor and praised him for his steadfast support of the Dulles rail project. “The Dulles Corridor rail project could have no better friend through its ups and downs, trials and tribulations, than our governor of Virginia,” he said.

Governor Kaine congratulated DCRA on its 10th Anniversary, “You have been solid making the case and making it in a persuasive way. I am with you on this until we are riding on this together.”



10th Anniversary Celebration hosts, John Schlichting and Ed Kopp, The JBG Companies with Governor Kaine



Kathy Hannon, Cassidy Pinkard Colliers, Leo Schefer, Washington Airports Task Force, and Joe Ritchey, Prospective

are so uniquely situated in this country to be global players because of Dulles Airport and because of the Port. A lot of governors when they hear globalism duck because they worry about what they will lose next but in Virginia we don't have to do that."

"We can hear globalism and say, hey, we are going to be optimistic and rest with the competitors and winners because we have these assets.

Governor Kaine continued, "You have been the individuals with the foresight and the fortitude to just say we are going to make this happen. And I just can't say thank you enough."

Kaine introduced other members of his transportation team who were present: Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer, Matt Tucker, Director of the Department of



Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kate Hanley

Rail and Public Transportation and Barbara Reese, Deputy Secretary of Transportation and the Dulles rail project's guardian angel.

In concluding, the Governor thanked DCRA for its steadfast support. "This project is so important to this nation. We are going to make it happen and it will be something that all of us will say decades from now when everyone has forgotten that we were on the board or that we were elected, we will be able to see it and will have an overwhelming feeling of pride when we see what it has done for this region."

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Governor Kaine's Remarks to DCRA's 10th Anniversary Celebration



Governor Tim Kaine

I am here tonight to say Happy Anniversary, 10 years and going strong. You guys have been solid making the case and making it in a persuasive way.

I am with you on this until we are riding on this together.

It is going to happen because you know winds can blow in different directions and politics can change different directions but something like this that has such unavoidable and ineradicable merit behind it will not be put off track.

But the timing. The timing could be affected. But it is going to happen because the merits are so strong. Dulles Airport is one of the most spectacular international assets this country has in this most important region in this nation.

It is one of the two most critical economic development assets that the Commonwealth of Virginia has Dulles Airport and the Port of Hampton Roads.

We are so uniquely situated in this country to be global players because of Dulles Airport and because of the Port.

A lot of governors when they hear globalism duck because they worry about what they will lose next but in Virginia we don't have to do that.

We can hear globalism and say, hey, we are going to be optimistic and rest with the competitors and winners because we have these assets and you have been the individuals with the foresight and the fortitude to just say we are going to make this happen.

And I just can't say thank you enough.

We have members of the state legislature here. Obviously Ken and Janet who were at that first meeting. I see Tom Rust, Margi Vanderhye who has served on transportation bodies in the region before she was elected.

All of you guys have been great supporters. I see Gerry Connolly. If you want to talk about a steadfast supporter of Dulles rail, Gerry Connolly has been it. And Cathy Hudgins, the Supervisor of the district. Cathy was also with me at that first meeting with Patty.

I'll just cut it short and say Happy Anniversary. We have great team members here. I see Matt Tucker head of DRPT and Pierce Homer, Secretary of Transportation, Barbara Reese, just say Dulles guardian angel.

But thank you for your steadfast support. This project is so important to this nation and we are going to make it happen and it will be something that all of us will say decades from now when everyone has forgotten that we were on the board or that we were elected, we will be able to see it and will have an overwhelming feeling of pride when we see what it has done for this region.

So keep up the good work. Thanks so much for coming tonight.



DCRA Chairman Delegate Ken Plum, Delegate Margi Vanderhye and Delegate Tom Rust

Plum concluded the program by honoring Patty Nicoson, DCRA President, for her 10 years of work in support of the Dulles rail project with a gift of crystal vase.

The event was held in the Westin Reston Heights wine bar, lounge and restaurant area. The hotel provided a sumptuous buffet of culinary offerings.

Governor Kaine's Remarks to DCRA's Founders and Partners Reception

As I deal with other Governors, globalism makes most Governors cower in fear but Virginia does not have to cower. We can be aggressive and optimistic competitors because of Dulles and because of the Port of Hampton Roads.

But only if we take advantage of these great assets. And there is no way we can do at Dulles what we need to do without rail access. Road access is great and we need to continue to do more and more but rail access is a necessity because people need to have choices. It is what the world standard is.

The project is a complicated one like any large transit project is. In a climate where politics is king like the DC area, there are an awful lot of people who are very savvy and on all sides of this and they can create a few more challenges than might be the case elsewhere.

But merit ultimately wins. The timing can be up in the air but merit ultimately wins. This is a project where it is going to be the merit that makes it happen.

Then 85, 150 years from now, people in this community are going to thank you guys for being so strong and sticking with it. So Patty and all you guys, the board, and the many donors and to Ken who was with me at that first meeting when I came up and Janet Howell and a number of other legislators who have been strongly supportive.



Lynn Gilmore, Northrop Grumman, Gov. Kaine, DCRA President Patty Nicoson, and Jim Greene, Northrop Grumman

I just want to say thank you for your persistence and I am with you in this all the way, all the way to make it happen.

I've got two people that I want to introduce from the state who have been so enormously helpful in this. Pierce Homer, my Secretary of Transportation. He may wish he

got battle pay for dealing with some of this. There are 134 projects in places around the commonwealth.. Every one of them has its problems but Pierce is indefatigable and that is great.

And we call her the guardian angel of Dulles rail, Barbara Reese. If it can be done, Barbara is going to find out a way to do it.



Tim Steffan, Cory Scott, and Hillary Zahm, Macerich, Tysons Corner Center and Gov. Kaine

And she has done a remarkable job of this working with Pierce and Matt Tucker of DRPT. She has had a laser-like focus on this project and it has been an enormous relief for me to know that she is watching this like a hawk.

So we will work together. Anything we've asked, you guys have done. DCRA has been so helpful in letting the FTA understand how important this project is to the region and I am sure there will be asks in the future.

We know that we can come to you and you guys will respond. Happy Anniversary!

And one more thank you. Today was a propitious day because today in the US House of Representatives, an Amtrak funding bill was passed with funding for Metro that Congressman Davis has been pushing for years. That is part of this whole Dulles rail issue, that is the strength of Metro and we have more work to do on that.

I am going to be bringing back the Virginia legislature on June 23 to consider transportation funding that will include Metro money.

But Congressman Davis's work on that is very much appreciated and the fact that it passed by such a strong margin in the House is a real good sign about the importance of this. So we need to remember to give him our best when we see him, too.