



July 8, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I wrote to you on June 23 on behalf of the members of the Dulles Corridor Rail Association (DCRA) in support of your efforts to move forward Phase 2 of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project. I have also shared letters that DCRA has sent to Mr. Charles Snelling, Chairman, and the Board of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, urging support of the aerial alignment at Washington Dulles International Airport and other measures to reduce the cost of the Phase 2 Silver line extension.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment of time and energy, and those of Peter Rogoff, Federal Transit Administrator, and his staff to efforts over the last month to develop a financially viable proposal for Phase 2. The cost saving opportunities you have identified reduce project costs by nearly \$1 billion to \$2.767 billion with the potential for further reductions. We think that your proposal to share funding of project elements among the stakeholder partners is a reasonable approach to reducing costs of the project.

As I have written in the past, DCRA supports the aerial alignment at Dulles Airport which is estimated to save \$562 million, by far the largest cost saving.. We also think that the proposal to shift responsibility for construction of the required station parking to Fairfax and Loudoun counties opens up financially beneficial opportunities for the counties to implement creative transit oriented development projects with the potential to generate revenues that would repay the counties for their investment in parking

We continue to urge stakeholders to approve the proposal, and we will support the additional work that will be needed to implement the cost saving proposals.

We appreciate your interest in this critically important project and will work to see that your efforts are successful. Once again, thank you very much. Your intervention has been vital to resolution of the problems.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth R. Plum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth R. Plum
Chairman

Cc: Mr. Peter Rogoff
Mr. Amit Bose