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Contact: Jessica Smith – 202-228-5185
Kimberly Hunter – 202-420-1484

SENATOR WEBB ON PROGRESS OF DULLES RAIL PROJECT

Washington, DC – Senator Jim Webb today issued the following statement on the advancement of the Dulles Rail Project:

“I am pleased to see that the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority have identified \$306 million in cost savings for the Dulles rail project. The Federal Transit Administration stated the need to shed project costs to meet its cost effectiveness criteria, and I believe the sponsors of the Dulles project have made good on that request. Working with FTA, I believe the Commonwealth and MWAA have made the difficult, but necessary, reductions and revisions to the project to allow FTA to advance the project into the Final Design stage.

The Dulles International Airport is one of the principal economic engines that drive the Northern Virginia economy. To ensure that the airport and the Northern Virginia region remain competitive in an increasingly globalized business environment, it is imperative that the Dulles rail project be completed in an expeditious manner. The project will take thousands of cars off the road, improve the region’s air quality and connect some of the region’s most important job centers with the Metro system. When completed, this critical transportation project will have a profound effect on the Virginia economy and the quality of life of so many Virginians who battle congestion everyday.

I am committed to working with FTA, the Governor and the Airport Authority, the members of the Virginia delegation, with the leadership of Fairfax and Loudoun Counties and with the Northern Virginia business community in order to advance this project into construction.”