



Testimony to Prince William County Board of Supervisors
August 6, 2013

The Committee for Dulles supports the planning for the Bi-County Parkway from I-66 in Prince William County to Route 50 in Loudoun County.

The Committee for Dulles is dedicated to achieving the full potential of Washington Dulles International Airport and the economic growth of its region. The Committee for Dulles is a dynamic community of business leaders, policy makers and individuals dedicated to the Dulles community. Founded in 1966, the Committee plays a pivotal role in making Dulles the premier air travel service provider for the national capital region and generating economic support for the business community that surrounds it.

Washington Dulles International Airport is widely acknowledged to be a major economic engine for the Commonwealth and northern Virginia, in particular the counties of Loudoun and Prince William. However, the Airport's ability to fulfill its potential is heavily dependent upon improving accessibility for passengers, freight and workers from the north and south. Improved north-south multi-modal transportation between I-95 in Prince William County and Routes 7, 50 and the Dulles Greenway in Loudoun County is essential to enhance Dulles Airport passenger and freight access. The Bi-County Parkway is key to future development for the Airport and the Commonwealth.

The Bi-County Parkway would generate jobs, enhance regional economic prosperity, and ease commuting for current and future residents living and working in Loudoun and Prince William Counties. These counties are among Virginia's fastest growing communities.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments projects that much of the region's future population and job growth will occur in or adjacent to these counties. Attracting and keeping cutting edge employers requires improved mobility especially additional north-south connectivity. The benefits also include providing a critical link to Dulles Airport connecting emerging economic development centers in these counties, diverting traffic around Manassas Battlefield Park, and away from historic US 15 and other existing rural roads.

The Committee for Dulles supports a limited access Bi-County Parkway from I-66 to Route 50 that provides access for existing landowners, protects the environment and historic sites including the Manassas Battlefield, and maintains the rural character of communities. While construction of the Parkway may not occur immediately it is essential that both Prince William County and Loudoun County include this future project in their comprehensive plans. This Parkway is critical to inter-county mobility and northern Virginia's national economic competitiveness.

Anita Grazer, President