



**Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee**

**Board Action Item #2**

**April 12, 2007**

**APTA Expert Panel Report on Tyson's Aerial vs.  
Tunnel Operating Cost Analysis**

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority  
Board Action/Information Summary**

<input type="checkbox"/> Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	MEAD Number:	Resolution: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**PURPOSE**

To provide a report to the Board on the Tyson’s aerial versus tunnel Operating Cost Analysis from an APTA expert panel.

**DESCRIPTION**

The currently approved Local Preferred Alignment (LPA) for the Dulles Corridor Project through Tyson’s Corner (Phase 1) is an aerial structure located in the median of Route 7 and Route 123. Fairfax County and several businesses have asked that consideration be given to an underground (large bore tunnel) option through the Tyson’s Corner area so as to provide a more pedestrian-friendly system that can be better connected with adjacent developments.

The APTA expert panel will perform an independent analysis of the Tyson’s aerial versus tunnel operating and maintenance costs. The comparison will be done in five year increments commencing with the completion of the project to delineate the time frame of the cost savings. In addition to evaluating operating and maintenance cost, the expert panel will qualitatively evaluate and identify advantages and disadvantages in customer service for aerial versus tunnel rail service. The panel is comprised of transit experts from APTA, New York MTA, New Jersey – SEPTA, New York PATH, Retired Professor from Northwestern University and Booz Allen.

**FUNDING IMPACT**

Costs for the APTA expert panel report is approximately \$5,000 to be paid by the project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational briefing. Therefore, there is no staff recommendation.