



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**

**Environmental Assessment and Proposed General Plans
Preliminary Engineering Design Refinements for the
Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project
Phase 2: Extension to Dulles Airport/Route 772
Fairfax County and Loudoun County, Virginia
Docket R12-01**

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, in conjunction with the Federal Transit Administration and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, on proposed design refinements to the planned extension of Metrorail to Dulles Airport and Route 772 in Fairfax County and Loudoun County, Virginia, as follows:

Hearing No. 575
Wednesday, June 13, 2012
Herndon High School
700 Bennett Street
Herndon, Virginia 20170
(Fairfax Connector Routes 980 and 924, or Reston Bus 5)

**Hearing scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.
Open house at 6:30 p.m.**

This location is wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearing, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact Danise Peña at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-638-3780 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter, please call 202-962-1082.

For more information please visit www.dullesmetro.com and www.wmata.com/hearings



PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), in conjunction with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), regarding the Environmental Assessment and General Plans for the proposed design refinements to Phase II of the planned extension of Metrorail to Dulles Airport and Route 772 in Fairfax County and Loudoun County, Virginia. At the hearing, WMATA, FTA, and MWAA will receive and consider public comments and suggestions about the proposal. The proposed design concepts may change as a result of this hearing.

In the spring of 2005, FTA approved the alignment for a Metrorail extension in the Dulles Corridor and issued a Record of Decision for the project. This alignment had previously been approved by Virginia's Commonwealth Transportation Board and the WMATA Board of Directors. As part of Preliminary Engineering for Phase I, WMATA, MWAA, and FTA approved changes to the Phase I alignment, which were documented in FTA's Amended Record of Decision for the project, signed in November 2006.

Because these Phase II refinements could result in changes to the Project's previously-documented environmental impacts, the FTA asked MWAA to prepare an Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the current preliminary engineering design and to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In preparing the Environmental Assessment, MWAA requested WMATA's participation and support to ensure applicable WMATA Compact requirements are met.

Following the public hearing, MWAA and WMATA will review the testimony received for the record and prepare a report on the public hearing. This *Public Hearing Staff Report* will be circulated for ten days to allow public review and comment. At the completion of the public review and comment period, MWAA and the WMATA Board of Directors will consider the public hearing record, the *Public Hearing Staff Report* and public comments on the *Public Hearing Staff Report*, and will act on the proposed changes.

REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

The Environmental Assessment and General Plans for the proposed design refinements are available online at www.dullesmetro.com and www.wmata.com/hearings and may be inspected during normal business hours at the following locations beginning Wednesday, May 16, 2012:

WMATA

Office of the Secretary
600 Fifth Street, NW, Room 2D-209
Washington, DC 20001
202-962-2511
(Please call in advance to coordinate)

Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project Office

c/o Mr. Scott Peterson
1595 Spring Hill Road, Suite 300
Vienna, VA 22182
703-572-0500
(Please call in advance to coordinate)

Ashburn Library
43316 Hay Road
Ashburn, VA 20147
703-737-8100

Dolley Madison Community Library
1244 Oak Ridge Avenue
McLean, VA 22101
703-356-0770

Cascades Library
21030 Whitfield Place
Sterling, VA 20165
703-444-3228

Mary Riley Styles Public Library
120 N. Virginia Avenue
Falls Church, VA 22046
703-248-5030

Great Falls Community Library
9830 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066
703-757-8560

Herndon Fortnightly Library
768 Center Street
Herndon, VA 20170
703-437-8855

Patrick Henry Community Library
101 Maple Avenue East
Vienna, VA 22180
703-938-0405

Reston Regional Library
11925 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190
703-689-2700

Sterling Library
120 Enterprise Street
Sterling, VA 20164
703-430-9500

Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library
7584 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043
703-790-8088

WHAT IS PROPOSED

MWAA and WMATA propose three changes that require a public hearing under the WMATA Compact. Other changes are documented in the Environmental Assessment. These three changes are described below.

ROUTE 28 STATION

At the request of Fairfax County, MWAA and WMATA propose to relocate the entire north side facility to a new site to the west of the current site. The elements of the north side facility would remain the same, but the pedestrian bridge connecting the facility with the median platform would be modified. The south side would be reconfigured to include a second access from Dulles Station Boulevard. Although the south side facility would be located at the same location as previously approved, the shape of the facility would be altered. The station's parking structure would be moved slightly, and the pedestrian bridge connecting with the median platform would be modified. The original access from Sunrise Valley Drive would be shifted to the west. The second access would provide access to the bus bays and the parking structure's south end.

DULLES AIRPORT

MWAA and WMATA propose to move the Dulles Airport station from the currently approved underground location just north of the terminal building and within Saarinen Circle to an aerial location at the south face of the north parking garage. Passengers using the station would travel approximately 1,200 feet between the station and the main terminal using the existing pedestrian tunnel and moving sidewalks located underneath the hourly parking lot.

ROUTE 772 STATION

At the request of Loudoun County, MWAA and WMATA propose to modify the Route 772 station. The size of the north side facility would remain the same as designed and approved previously, with only minor changes to the configuration of the bus bays and Kiss & Ride lot. The size of the south side facility would be smaller than what is currently approved because the surface parking lot was reduced in size (approximately 300 spaces eliminated from the plan) and the bus bays and Kiss & Ride lot were reconfigured and moved to a new location in order to maximize land availability for future transit-oriented development.

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

The Property Identification Plans are included as part of the proposed General Plans. The Property Identification Plans indicate the general areas surrounding the proposed alignments, stations, stops, and ancillary facilities within which properties, businesses, and/or residences may be affected by the construction and operation of the proposed project.

Acquired properties may be used for station facilities, ancillary facilities such as traction power substations, ventilation and access shafts, off-street bus and parking facilities, temporary traffic detours, roadway relocations, and construction staging sites.

Based on the Proposed Refinements to the General Plans, acquisition of privately-owned property and public lands will be necessary for the construction and operation of this project. The procedures for property acquisitions and any relocations will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.

Persons interested in the real estate requirements for this portion of the project are cautioned that the requirements are tentative and based on general engineering plans. Precise property needs cannot be determined until they are established by final engineering design.

WMATA COMPACT REQUIREMENTS

WMATA's Compact requires that the Board, in amending the mass transit plan, consider current and prospective conditions in the transit zone should the project be built. The transit zone includes the area around the site and considerations include, without limitation, land use, population, economic factors affecting development plans, existing and proposed

transportation and transit facilities, any dislocation of families or businesses; preservation of the beauty and dignity of the Washington Metropolitan area; factors affecting environmental amenities and aesthetics, and financial resources. The mass transit plan encompasses, among other things, transit facilities to be provided by WMATA, including stations and parking facilities, and the character, nature, design, location and capital and operating cost thereof. The mass transit plan, in addition to designating the design and location of transit facilities, also provides for capital and operating expenses, as well as “various other factors and considerations, which, in the opinion of the Board, justify and require the projects therein proposed” all as more particularly set forth in WMATA’s Compact.

An Environmental Assessment was prepared by MWAA and WMATA to provide the environmental documentation required under the WMATA Compact, as well as by the National Environmental Policy Act. This document, along with a more detailed description of the project proposal, is available for public review at the locations indicated in the reference materials section above.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposal will be afforded the opportunity to present their views and make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. In order to establish a witness list, individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to be heard at the public hearing are requested to furnish in writing their name and organization affiliation, if any, via email to speak@wmata.com. The request may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Alternatively, you may fax this information to 202-962-1133. Please submit only one speaker's name per letter. Lists of individual speakers will not be accepted. Please note that the information you provide in testimony may be releasable to the public under the WMATA Public Access to Records Policy (PARP). The PARP can be viewed on WMATA’s website at wmata.com/about_metro/public_rr.cfm under the link marked “Legal Affairs”. Public officials will be heard first and will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS

Written statements and exhibits must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2012 by the Office of the Secretary and may be e-mailed to writtentestimony@wmata.com.

Written statements and exhibits may also be mailed to:

Office of the Secretary
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001.

Alternatively, statements may be faxed to 202-962-1133.

Please reference the Hearing or Docket Number in your submission. Any personal information such as name, e-mail address, address, or telephone number you provide in the statement may be releasable to the public under the WMATA Public Access to Records Policy, available at the website link noted above.