



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

September 4, 2012

Sean T. Connaughton
Secretary of Transportation

Mr. James Phelps
2010 Miracle Lane
Falls Church, VA 22043

Dear Mr. Phelps:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) and the extension of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project.

On August 14, 2012, the United States Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood; Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell; Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley and Washington, D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray sent a letter to MWAA stating that effective and ethical management is of the highest importance to them. These individuals feel that MWAA has a responsibility to operate in a manner that is both ethical and accountable to the public and the authorities that appoint them to the board and, during recent reports, it was brought to their attention that there were serious doubts that MWAA can competently promote, protect and manage the Airports and other transportation activities.

In May, the United States Department of Transportation's General Inspector issued a draft audit report of MWAA's operations. The report raised serious concerns about MWAA's policies and procedures, as well as their lack of accountability.

Secretary LaHood has appointed a Federal Accountability Officer to MWAA to ensure that these concerns are promptly addressed. MWAA is to grant her full access to personnel, documents, and access to all meetings. They must also upgrade all procurement and travel policies and procedures, ethics code, and bylaws, bringing them in line with federal practices.

Again, thank you for sharing the concerns of the McLean Citizens Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sean T. Connaughton', written over a horizontal line.

Sean T. Connaughton