

# The Committee of 100 on the Federal City



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October 13, 2016

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Anna Chamberlin  
Program Manager, Long Bridge Study  
DC Department of Transportation  
100 M Street, SE, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20003-3515

Subject: Long Bridge Study

Dear Ms. Chamberlin:

We are pleased to provide the following comments, which are consistent with and also augment the issues identified in an earlier letter to you. These earlier comments are attached. Our comments have been transmitted separately to Ms. Amanda Murphy at the Federal Railroad Administration. I also want to reiterate our thanks to you for responding to the Committee of 100's request to extend the comment period to the full 30 days after study documents were posted.

We are keenly aware that this study is being done at the same time as there are several other major rail studies underway, which also are looking at the use of the Long Bridge and the approaches to it from Union Station, the Virginia Avenue Tunnel and Alexandria VA. In this context, we have concerns as to how those studies are being coordinated among the several sponsors: the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Federal Railroad Administration, Amtrak, and certain local civic and development interests seeking to restore Maryland Avenue to its original right of way. Chief among these issues is the current and future use of the Long Bridge, the technical and functional capacity of the Bridge, and the capacity constraints of the Bridge and its approaches. As is noted in comments that are attached for consideration, there is inconsistent information among the several studies on these "facts" and there are indications that not all major stakeholders are involved in the relevant studies<sup>1</sup>. These inconsistencies and coordination

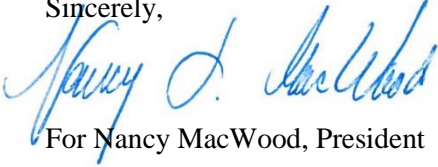
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<sup>1</sup> Currently, we know of the following studies, in addition to the Long Bridge Study, that are looking at some of the same trackage and access: three separate studies involving Union Station and two of these involve multimodal access to the Station, one involves rail access; the District's State Rail Plan; the VDRPT and FRA's Southeast High Speed Rail Study: Richmond to Washington, DC; on-going engineering studies for the VRE on access to DC. There also have been a number of recent studies covering part or all of the same real estate including: the VDRPT's 2006 Washington DC to *Richmond Three Track Feasibility Study*; the *MARC Growth and Investment Plan*.

issues pose a major impediment to an effective study, and we urge the DDOT to take the lead in trying to reconcile these matters due to the City's singular stake in the outcomes.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment and look forward to working with you throughout the study. Please contact Monte Edwards at 202-543-3504 or [Monte.Edwards@verizon.net](mailto:Monte.Edwards@verizon.net) or Sarah Campbell at 202-841-6272 or [sccampbell@verizon.net](mailto:sccampbell@verizon.net) if you have specific questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy J. MacWood". The signature is written in a cursive style.

For Nancy MacWood, President

Attachments (2):      Letter to Chamberlin  
                                 Committee of 100 Comments

Cc:      Councilmember Cheh  
            Director Dormsjo  
            By email to: info @longbridgeproject.com