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## **Dulles Toll Road Transfers to Airports Authority**

Toll Road Users Will Not See Changes from November 1 Transfer

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and the Commonwealth of Virginia have completed the transfer of the daily operation, maintenance, and control of the Dulles Toll Road from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to the Airports Authority. The transfer was effective November 1, 2008 and is in accordance with the December 2006 agreement between VDOT and the Airports Authority.

In accordance with this agreement, the Commonwealth retains ownership of the Dulles Toll Road and VDOT will continue to operate and maintain the toll road as a contractor to the Airports Authority for approximately 18 months. Dulles Toll Road users should not experience any changes in the operation of the road as a result of this transfer.

The Dulles Toll Road transfer is the final component of the financial plan for the construction of the Dulles Metrorail Project. The Airports Authority has submitted its final application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a full funding grant agreement for the Dulles Metrorail Project and received certification from the US Department of Transportation regarding operating and maintaining the Dulles Toll Road. Once final FTA approval of the Dulles Metrorail Project is received, construction could begin as early as March 2009.

As called for in the agreement with VDOT, all toll road revenue collected by the Airports Authority will be used to maintain and operate as well as improve the Toll Road and to fund transportation improvements within the Dulles Corridor including the Dulles Metrorail Project.

The Airports Authority and VDOT have been working together for more than a year to ensure a seamless transition for transferring the Dulles Toll Road. The following became effective on November 1:

- All toll rates remain the same. Although no toll adjustments are planned until 2010, the Airports Authority will conduct public hearings prior to any future toll adjustment;
- No Toll Road revenues will be used to fund any activities at either Ronald Reagan Washington National or Washington Dulles International Airports;
- Responsibility for Dulles Toll Road operations, maintenance and improvements, and for the setting of toll rates, lies with the Airports Authority.

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