



WABA
WASHINGTON AREA
BICYCLIST ASSOCIATION

December 29, 2021

Re: Public Comments for CC2DCA

Dear Project Manager:

Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to weigh in on the Crystal City to DCA project. On behalf of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association and our nearly 7,000 members across VA, DC, and MD, we are writing to express our excitement for the project. National Landing's extensive transportation network is one of its greatest assets. By linking bus, regional rail, metro, and bike and pedestrian facilities together with an international airport, CC2DCA can make National Landing a leader in sustainable mobility.

To realize its full potential, CC2DCA should improve mobility for all users, regardless of mode. WABA appreciates the screening criteria's focus on functionality, such as minimizing grade changes and overall travel time, and accessibility, such as providing direct connections to the planned VRE/Amtrak station.

We want to emphasize that the select concept should support both walking AND biking. People who bike should have a wide, unobstructed path, built to AASHTO trail standards to safely travel. Bikers should not be asked to dismount their bikes or ride an elevator to access the connector.

Additionally, we appreciate the inclusion of a connection to the Mt. Vernon trail in the screening criteria, and encourage the project team to design the project to allow for a seamless experience that does not require riders of all types of bikes - including cargo bikes and bikes with trailers - to dismount. Furthermore, the connection should be ADA-compliant.

Of the concepts retained for further study, 7D best fulfills the Purpose and Need of the project. Unlike concepts 8A, 8B and 9A, 7D would not require additional grade changes to access the VRE/Amtrak station. We favor concept 7D because we believe that a bridge is the best design option for this project (vs a tunnel).

Also, concepts 8D and 9D would connect to the proposed Amtrak platform, which is not yet funded and is not currently part of the scope of the planned train station. In contrast, concept 7D would connect to the VRE platform, which is funded and moving forward, while still enabling a convenient connection for Amtrak passengers when the Amtrak platform is built in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Piperno
Trails Coalition Manager
Washington Area Bicyclist Association