

# Washington Airports Task Force



www.washingtonairports.com

## Washington Airports Task Force Comment on the 495 Next Project October 26, 2020

The Washington Airports Task Force (WATF) supports the 495 Next Project as a critical first step to easing traffic congestion in Northern Virginia. The next logical step will be to identify a location for a second Potomac River Crossing. The WATF sees both as absolutely necessary to improve the quality of life for residents who spend way too much time in traffic on the beltway when trying to get to work, our airports, or home.

The WATF is a non-profit, 501(C)(3) organization dedicated to promoting the expansion and enhancement of aviation services for Virginia and the National Capital Region. We support enhanced connectivity in order to drive economic development and job creation. At a time when our region is struggling to cope with the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, this 100% privately-funded project will create thousands of new jobs and inject hundreds of millions of new dollars into our economy and improve access to our major international airport, Dulles.

The 495 Next Project is critical to Northern Virginia's transportation future. In addition to expanding travel capacity, creating new travel options, and relieving congestion at one of the area's worst bottlenecks, it is an essential component of an integrated express lanes network – one of this area's top long-range transportation priorities.

Expanding the region's HOT Lanes Network improves all modes of transportation in the 495 corridor. In addition to dramatically reducing congestion and delays for both managed lane and general-purpose lane users, HOT Lanes incentivize more carpooling and transit ridership by dramatically increasing the reliability of both modes for free. Additionally, this project's 3-mile shared use path will connect to local trails and greatly enhance bicycle and pedestrian travel.

Thank you,



Keith W. Meurlin, President  
Washington Airports Task Force  
44701 Propeller Court, Suite 100  
Dulles, VA 20166 (703) 572-8714  
[www.washingtonairports.com](http://www.washingtonairports.com)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CHAIRMAN**  
**Charles V. Stipanovic, Jr.**  
Aviation Facilities Company Management, LLC

**PRESIDENT**  
**Keith W. Meurlin**

**Joseph Abidin**  
Clark Construction Group, LLC

**Ronald D. Abramson**  
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney

**Theodore "Ted" Austell, III**  
The Boeing Company

**Cellerino Bernardino**  
DCT Consult, LLC

**David Birtwistle**  
Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance

**The Honorable Marion C. Blakey**

**Robert E. Buchanan**  
Buchanan Partners

**Douglas N. Carter**  
Davis, Carter, Scott Ltd

**Gen. John R. Dailey**  
USMC (Ret.)

**William H. Dean**  
MC Dean, Inc

**Mark Flynn**  
Virginia Department of Aviation

**Kenneth E. Gazzola**  
Four Stars Aviation

**Stephen L. Gelband**

**Martin G. Hamberger**  
Integrus Holdings, Inc

**John D. Hardesty, Jr.**

**Stanley E. Harrison**

**Todd P. Haymore**  
HUNTON ANDREWS KURTH, LLP

**John T. Hazel, Jr.**

**The Honorable A. Linwood Holton, Jr.**

**Todd R. House**  
WGL

**Mark G. Levy**  
Hilco Redevelopment Partners

**Tadeusz (Ted) W. Lewis**  
Terracon

**Paul Liberty**  
George Mason University

**John W. Marriott, III**  
JWM Family Enterprises LP

**Tanya C. Matthews**  
TMG Construction Corporation

**The Honorable T. Allan McArtor**

**Clay McConnell**  
Airbus Americas, Inc

**Carolina Mederos**  
Square Patton Boggys (US) LLP

**Mary Miller**  
Signature Flight Support

**John G. Milliken**  
George Mason University

**The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta**  
Mineta and Associates, LLC

**Jonas Neihardt**  
Hilton

**Michael L. O'Reilly**  
The O'Reilly Law Firm

**Steven B. Peterson**  
Peterson Real Estate (PRE)

**Thomas F. Pumpelly**  
PCI Financial Group

**Joe Ritchey**  
Transwestern

**The Honorable Thomas Davis Rust, PE, AICP**  
Perroni Associates

**Leo J. Schefer**

**Mark Sharer**  
Bank of America Merrill Lynch

**C. Stephen Shaw, Jr.**  
Phillips Realty Capital

**Ellen R. Stefan, PhD**  
National Air and Space Museum

**Kurt Thompson**  
Dewberry

**James W. Todd**  
JWT, Inc

**David F. Traynham**

**Jerry A. Van Voorhis**  
ACRE Investment Management, LLC

**Martin D. "Art" Walsh**  
Walsh Colucci Lubeley & Walsh, PC

**David C. Whitestone**  
Holland & Knight, LLP

**Paul J. Wiedefeld, A.A.E.**  
WMATA

**The Honorable Anthony A. Williams**  
Federal City Council