

S.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. Draft EIS Comments

State Agency Comments

Need for Further Explanation of Environmental Effects

State Comment: Pg S-27, 4th paragraph. (Summary, Environmental Effects) - Next to the discussion for secondary effects of increased development at transit stations, the sidebar comments (right margin) states one of the potential positive effects as being "Reduction in traffic congestion". By itself this statement appears counter-intuitive (you would expect more traffic congestion caused by increased development, as only a portion of new trips are captured by transit). Suggest the margin comment be further explained, such as by "Potential positive effects of concentrated vs. more spread out development". (0421, 0421-A –14)

Response: *In the Executive Summary of the Final EIS, the Project Team has replaced the bullet with one that reads '- Enhanced mobility'.*

Public Comments

Use of Photographs to Illustrate Conditions

Public Comment: Even your literature for the unsuspecting public is deceptive, seeking to portray rail as a panacea for alleviating congestion, air pollution and "sprawl." The photos of a congested freeway on page 2 of the slick-four-color "Executive Summary" with a rail station superimposed at Tysons showing a near empty Route 7 in the background is one such example. (See Exhibit 5). Another example (Page S-32) shows a congested freeway captioned: "Dulles Connector Road." That is not correct. This is a photograph of the northbound lanes of VA 123 (an arterial highway, not an access controlled facility such as the Dulles Connector) as it crosses under I-495. (Exhibit 6). (0112, 0462-L –29)

Response: *The photographs referenced were not intended to mislead the public. Rather they were meant to communicate that the Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Project is intended to provide mobility benefits to users. The Executive Summary of the Final EIS does not use the photographic simulation or the photograph that this comment addresses.*

B. Supplemental Draft EIS Comments

No comments pertaining to this topic were received.