



Sell with CC & Get Results!!

Contact Us | Advertise | About Us | Work for Us | Email Subscription | Print Ads | FAQ

The **Times** Fairfax County **TimesCommunity.com** Your weekly newspaper, daily

FRIDAY 01 JUNE, 2007

Partly Cloudy 89°



5 Day Forecast

[News](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Classifieds](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Fairfax News](#)
- [Clarke News](#)
- [Fauquier News](#)
- [Loudoun News](#)
- [Prince William News](#)
- [Rappahannock News](#)
- [Culpeper News](#)
- [Alexandria Times](#)

RSS

NEWS SEARCH 14 DAYS



[Archives](#)

Feds confirm state's findings on tunnel study

By: Michelle Zimmermann
05/31/2007

[Email to a friend](#) | [Post a Comment](#) | [Printer-friendly](#)

A tunnel through Tysons Corner would indeed be too risky and costly to build, in terms of time and money, according to a new federal report on the Dulles rail project.

The review, conducted by the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) and released on May 31, concurs with earlier findings by Virginia contractor Carter & Burgess, which performed its own review of tunnel project proposals in February at the state's request.

Among the FTA's concerns with the tunnel proposal, put forward by advocate group TysonsTunnel.org in January, is the fact that insufficient technical work exists to justify postponing the overall project yet again to consider a tunnel alignment through Fairfax County's economic hub.

Too few details on soil conditions, cost estimates and time delays related to any drilling problems led as well to the FTA's conclusions.

FTA sources said the study was done as part of the agency's "due diligence" but also in response to a petition the tunnel group filed to re-open environmental reviews of the project.

TysonsTunnel.org president Scott Monett said what the study does not address are the long-term economic costs of building an elevated rail line through Tysons Corner.

"We understand it would be more expensive if it were being built in the middle of a cornfield in Kansas," Monett said. "But it will take longer and be more expensive because it's going through an operating city."

Fairfax County board Chairman Gerry Connolly (D) said too many consider tunnel advocates' claims as gospel, and that the federal study is a wake-up to reality.

"We need to deal honestly with the complexity of this issue," Connolly said. "Too much of this now is a matter of blind faith. It can't just be a matter of theology, but of facts, analysis, and objective independent review."

Several times over, the Board of Supervisors has come out publicly in favor of a tunnel, though not at any cost. At this point, Connolly said a no vote to aerial amounts to a no vote for the whole project.

"I've done everything in my power to get a tunnel," Connolly added. "We'll press the system in any way, but without jeopardizing the project itself."

A public briefing on the project by the board is scheduled for June 4.

©Times Community Newspapers 2007

[Email to a friend](#) | [Post a Comment](#) | [Printer-friendly](#) | [↑ Top](#)

McCREA
SINCE 1936
EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Experience
"The McCREA Way"
800.788.6216

Advertisement

9 to 5? Around here?
Please.

There's ONLY ONE local news that fits
your schedule.

9 NEWS NOW
at 7pm
with Derek McGinty
It's your time.
WUSA9.COM

We are also offering

12-MONTHS SAME AS CASH

NO PAYMENTS FINANCING
with approved credit.

And if the TV doesn't excite you how about a \$500 Gift Certificate to

Sponsored by **ONE HOUR HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**
Always On Time...Or You Don't Pay A Dime!


"Always on time... Or you don't pay a dime!"

CALL TODAY!
540-349-8030
888-333-8888

The Foremost Water Management Company in the Nation!

YOUR WATERPROOFING SPECIALIST

Specializing In:
Waterproofing
Mold Remediation
Structure Repair
Indoor Air Quality
Landscape Drainage



“Superior French Dining”
“You will never find a better meal for the price”


1118 King Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 www.bistrolafayette.com
 703.548.2525

**Sunday,
 May 20, 7:30pm**
 National Presbyterian
 Church, DC

**We're in it
 for YOU!**

Virginia
 National
 is for Golfers
888-283-GOLF

**Attend
 NETWORK
 SPRINGFIELD**
 Greater Springfield Chamber
 Tradeshow - June 13



*Michelle Perkins
 & Associates*
**RF/MIX
 REGENCY**

[Click here](#) to send us your community news, events, letters to the editor and other suggestions. [Click here](#) to read our privacy policy.



Copyright © 1995 - 2007 Townnews.com All Rights Reserved.