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Virginians for High Speed Rail Congratulates Director Matthew Tucker On His New Position

Richmond, Virginia - Virginians for High Speed Rail (VHSR) would like to thank Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) Director Matthew O. Tucker for his service to Virginia. We wish him the best in his new position as Executive Director of The North County Transit District in San Diego.

"Matt accomplished a lot in his relatively short time at VDRPT," said Dr. Meredith Richards, President of VHSR.

"Virginia has seen across-the-board ridership increases for both rail and transit," Richards said. "The state is making unprecedented investments in its rail infrastructure, and for the first time, is prepared to invest in new passenger rail services, as well."

Richards called this a "historic first" for Virginia, which would join fourteen other states in forging a partnership with Amtrak to offer regional passenger service between cities.

"Expanding passenger rail in the Commonwealth will be a unique achievement of Matt Tucker's, and a lasting legacy of the Kaine Administration," Richards said.

"We have Matt and his staff at DRPT to thank for their leadership, hard work and commitment to 'putting shovels in the ground'," she said.

Richards continued "We wish Director Tucker great success in his new endeavors, and we urge Governor Kaine to promote from within so that a top staff member can continue his legacy."

"This will help create consistency and keep Virginia moving in the right direction," Richards said.

Virginians for High Speed Rail (VHSR) is a non-profit 501(C) (3) coalition of citizens, localities, economic development agencies, community organizations, and businesses that educate and advocate for the improvement and expansion of rail service in Virginia. For more information visit www.vhsr.com.

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