



For Immediate Release

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Wiley Mitchell, Former State Senator and Virginians for High Speed Rail Board Member, Will Head Rail Board



Former state senator Wiley F. Mitchell Jr. of Norfolk was elected chairman of the Rail Advisory Board at the board's April meeting.

The Rail Advisory Board serves as advisors to the Commonwealth Transportation Board on usage of the Rail Enhancement Fund. In addition, the board advises the director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and its staff.

Mitchell, an attorney with Willcox and Savage, was appointed to the new Rail Advisory Board in July 2005 by Governor Mark Warner. A member of the Virginians for High Speed Rail Board, Mitchell worked for the establishment of the Rail Advisory Board and assisted with the legislation that created the board during the 2005 General Assembly session.

The Rail Advisory Board is the first and only Virginia board dedicated to rail advancement. The Rail Enhancement Fund was established in the same legislation that created the Rail Advisory Board..

Virginians for High Speed Rail is a statewide nonprofit education and advocacy organization that seeks improved passenger and freight rail service.

Prior to joining Willcox and Savage, Mitchell was senior general counsel for Norfolk Southern Corporation. Mitchell was a member of the Alexandria City Council from 1967 to 1976, and a member of the Virginia Senate, where he served as Minority Floor Leader, from 1976 to 1988.

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