



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Officials break ground April 5 on Reston Station, a new transit oriented development near the Metrorail station off Wiehle Avenue. The facility is a partnership between Fairfax County and Comstock Partners and is expected to be completed by 2013.

Breaking New Ground for Metro

By ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Reston's evolution."

Fairfax County and Comstock Partners broke ground on a new transit oriented development structure April 5 at the site of the future Metrorail station at Wiehle Avenue. The facility, called Reston Station, will feature a 1.5 million square foot subterranean parking structure with 2,300 spaces, as well as a kiss and ride, a 10-bay bus loop and parking spots for 150 bicycles. The facility is expected to be completed in 2013.

"This groundbreaking represents the beginning of the transformation of the Dulles Corridor into an urban, mixed use environment," said Christopher Clemente, CEO of Comstock Partners. "It will form the foundation of an exciting new development above and around the Metro facility that will include world-class architecture, dedicated civic gathering and activity spaces, multiple opportunities for public art, significant, affordable workforce housing and multiple commuter amenities and conveniences."

Fairfax County officials were present for the ceremony, as well as members of the Herndon Town Council, the Reston Association Board and Reston founder Robert Simon. Kathleen Driscoll McKeel, President of the RA Board, called the facility the "next step in

THE PARKING DECK will go seven levels underground and will require excavation of more than 500,000 cubic yards of dirt. According to a Reston Station press release, 28 football fields would fit in the garage. Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) called the event a culmination of the work that began in January 2008.

The development will contain 1.3 million square feet of mixed-use development, including office buildings, retail shops, a full service hotel and up to 900 residences.

Dr. Stephen Fuller, of the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis, said that the project sets a good precedent for future planning along the Dulles Corridor.

SHARON BULOVA (D-at large), chairman of the Board of Supervisors, said the development will set an example for future public-private partnerships.

"What you've got is a poster child for transit oriented development. Everything is coming together right here, you've got the public and private sector coming together," she said. "I look forward to coming back in 2013 where we can actually cut the ribbon and start riding the Metro."

More information on the Reston Station facilities can be found at www.restonstation.com.