

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2017-2022 TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY
REQUIREMENT, TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE SOAPSTONE CONNECTOR PROJECT,
AS REQUESTED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT)**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2016 the TPB adopted the FY 2017-2022 TIP; and

WHEREAS, in the attached letter of April 27, VDOT has requested that the FY 2017-2022 TIP be amended to include \$8.25 million in FY 2017 using Northern Virginia Transportation Authority PayGo Bond (NVTA-PAYGO) funding for planning and engineering of the Soapstone Connector project in Fairfax County (TIP ID 6583), as described in the attached materials; and

WHEREAS, this project was determined by TPB staff to be "not regionally significant" for the purposes of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the 2016 CLRP Amendment and the FY 2017-2022 TIP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2017-2022 TIP to include \$8.25 million in FY 2017 using NVTA-PAYGO funding for planning and engineering of the Soapstone Connector project in Fairfax County (TIP ID 6583), as described in the attached materials.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

CHARLES A. KILPATRICK, P.E.
COMMISSIONER

April 27, 2017

The Honorable Bridget Newton, Chair
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: National Capital Region FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments for the Soapstone Connector, Fairfax County, VA (UPC# T18907)

Dear Ms. Newton:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requests amendments to the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the Soapstone Drive Overpass in Fairfax County as a new project, and to add approximately \$8.25 million in local Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) funding for environmental assessment work and preliminary engineering.

This project, also known as the Soapstone Connector, is a new roadway between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston, near the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station. It will provide a crossing over the Dulles Toll Road corridor, with a four lane cross section, on-road bike lanes, sidewalks, and a shared use path. The Connector will address congestion on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway, will provide better access for transit buses to the Wiehle-Reston East Metro station, and will provide an improved bicycle and pedestrian crossing over the Dulles multi-modal corridor. We are submitting this amendment on behalf of Fairfax County. Attached is a letter from the County providing more information.

The Soapstone Drive Overpass is listed in the 2016 CLRP. The NVTA local funding is included in the 2014 CLRP Financial Plan. A review by the TPB staff determined that the project is not significant for air quality conformity analysis.

Ms. Bridget Newton
April 27, 2017
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VDOT requests that this amendment be placed on the agenda of the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2017; VDOT's representative will attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Helen Cuervo, P.E.
District Administrator
Northern Virginia District

Attachment

cc:

Mr. Tom Biesiadny, Fairfax County
Ms. Ms. Rene'e Hamilton, VDOT-NoVA
Ms. Maria Sinner, P.E., VDOT-NoVA
Mr. Norman Whitaker, AICP, VDOT-NoVA



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

April 27, 2017

Ms. Helen Cuervo
District Administrator
Virginia Department of Transportation
4975 Alliance Dr. Suite 4E-342
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Reference: Request For Transportation Improvement Program Amendment To Add Soapstone Drive Overpass At Dulles Toll Road Project

Dear Ms. Cuervo:

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) requests an amendment to the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new project and funding for the environmental analysis and preliminary engineering for the Soapstone Drive Overpass at Dulles Toll Road Project. The amendment is needed to include this project in the TIP with the anticipation that federal funding will be used for future phases of the project.

The project, as determined by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) staff, is exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations "40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Flexibility and Streamlining; Final Rule," issued in the May 6, 2005, Federal Register. The project is currently in the Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) as a study.

The TIP amendment includes approximately \$8.25 million in local Northern Virginia Transportation Authority funding for environmental assessment work and preliminary engineering. The purpose of the project is to provide additional multi-modal capacity on a new north-south alternative to mitigate congestion on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway in Fairfax County. Also known as the Soapstone Connector Project, it aims to provide a direct connection between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive crossing over the Dulles Toll Road (VA Route 267). The project is included in the Reston Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan, which was approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in February 2014.

Specifically, the project will address:

- The inability of Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway to accommodate current and forecasted traffic demand.

Fairfax County Department of Transportation
4050 Legato Road, Suite 400
Fairfax, VA 22033-2895
Phone: (703) 877-5600 TTY: 711
Fax: (703) 877-5723
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot



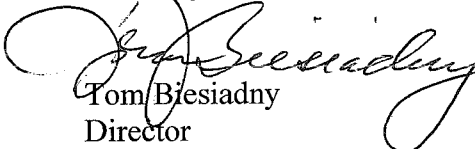
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- Delays on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway at the intersections with Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive.
- Lack of direct access from the south for buses to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station without requiring travel on Wiehle Avenue.
- Lack of connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists from the south to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, specifically from Soapstone Drive and Sunrise Valley Drive on the south and Sunset Hills Road on the north.

Fairfax County requests approval of this amendment by the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2017. Fairfax County and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) representatives will attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions about the amendment. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Mike Lake at (703) 877-5666, or michael.lake@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tom Biesiadny
Director

cc: Kanti Srikanth, Director of Transportation, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)
Lyn Erickson, Development and Coordination Program Director, Department of Transportation Planning, MWCOG
Norman Whitaker, Transportation Planning Director, VDOT Northern Virginia District
Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Hunter Mill District
Supervisor Linda Smyth, Providence District
Todd Wigglesworth, Chief, Coordination and Funding Division, FCDOT
Eric Teitelman, Chief, Capital Projects and Traffic Engineering Division
Audra Bandy, Transportation Planner, FCDOT
Mike Lake, Transportation Planner, FCDOT



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

March 3, 2017

Mr. Mike Lake
Fairfax County Department of Transportation
4050 Legato Road
Fairfax, VA 22033

Dear Mr. ^{Mike}Lake:

You requested information about the implications for air quality conformity of the Soapstone Drive Overpass at the Dulles Toll Road. It is our understanding that this project includes the extension of Soapstone Drive from Sunrise Valley Drive to Sunset Hills Road over the Dulles Toll Road. The new road will also provide access to Soapstone Drive from Association Drive and access to the Wiehle Metro station along the future extension of Reston Station Boulevard. After reviewing this project, we have determined that it is considered "not regionally significant", and may proceed without being included in the regional air quality conformity process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (202) 962-3331.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane A. Posey".

Jane Posey
TPB Transportation Engineer

cc: Mr. Kanti Srikanth, COG Transportation Planning Director
Ms. Lyn Erickson, Plan Development and Coordination Director
Mr. Andrew Austin, TPB Transportation Planner

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

FY 2017 - 2022

	Source	Fed/St/Loc	Previous Funding	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Source Total
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Soapstone Drive 4-Lane Overpass

TIP ID: **6583** Agency ID: **T18907** Title: **Soapstone Connector** Project Cost: **\$170,000** Complete: **2022**

Facility: Soapstone Connector NVTA-PAYGO 0/100/0 8,250 a 8,250

From: Sunrise Valley Dr

To: Sunset Hills Dr

Total Funds: 8,250

Description: New multimodal roadway between Sunset Hills Rd and Sunrise Valley Dr. in Reston. Near Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, includes crossing over the Dulles Corridor. Includes 4 lane cross section, on-road bike, sidewalk, and shared use path.

Amendment: Add New Project **Requested on: 5/5/2017**
Amend this project into the FY 2017-2022 TIP with \$8.25 million in NVTA-PAYGO funding for PE in FY 2017.