



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

GREGORY A. WHIRLEY
COMMISSIONER

March 4, 2011

National Capital Region: 2010 CLRP Amendment

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Chairman, National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.; Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

Dear Chairman Bowser:

I am writing to inform you, on behalf of Prince William County, and VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, that we plan to request the Board to add another project to the proposed amendment to the 2010 CLRP and its air quality conformity analyses. We ask that this proposed addition be made before the Board acts on the proposed amendment at its March 16, 2011 meeting. You will recall that the Board released VDOT's request to amend the 2010 CLRP and its air quality conformity analyses for a 30-day public comment period on February 10, 2011. That amendment included changes to the I 95/395 HOV/HOT lanes project and the new HOV lanes ramp at Seminary Road. We plan to request the TPB to add to that amendment the proposed extension of I 66 between US 29 in Gainesville and Rte. 15 in Haymarket. The extension will include both the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) and single occupancy vehicle (SOV) lanes. The I 66 HOV/SOV lane extension project has previously been proposed to be included in the 2011 CLRP and its air quality conformity analyses. The proposed 2011 CLRP project list, including the I 66 HOV/SOV lanes extension project, was also released for a 30-day public comment period on February 10, 2011.

The purpose of our request to include this project in the air quality conformity analyses of not just the 2011 CLRP but also in the analyses for the amended 2010 CLRP is for VDOT to be in the position to obligate anticipated federal funds for all the phases of this project prior to the end of federal fiscal year in September. The TPB's schedule for adopting the 2011 CLRP is November of this year which would be after the end of federal fiscal year 2011. Being able to obligate the funds before the end of federal fiscal year 2011 is critical to securing the construction funds for this project and being able to start construction of this project at the earliest opportunity.

This project is a top priority for Prince William County and one of the priority projects for Northern Virginia. I 66 is one of the most heavily traveled corridors in Northern Virginia and supports a significant socio-economic system. Over the past several years, VDOT has made a series of major improvements on I-66 in the Manassas /Gainesville area: completing construction of University Boulevard, a 1.3-mile, four-lane road connecting Route 29 and Wellington Road; adding HOV/SOV lanes on I-66 to eight lanes for 3.8 miles from Route 234 Business/Sudley Road to the Route 234 Bypass and extending these new HOV/SOV lanes on I 66 another 3.3 miles between Route 234 Bypass to Route 29 at Gainesville. This proposed improvement in addition to the I 66/ Rte. 29/Linton Hall Road Interchange in Gainesville which will start construction this spring, are the last projects to complete the I 66 corridor improvements.

Representatives of Prince William County and I plan to attend the Board meeting. Thank you for your advance consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garrett W. Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

Garrett W. Moore, P.E.
District Administrator
Northern Virginia District