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**STATEMENT TO ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 12, 2009**

My name is Alice Cave, and I speak to you as a resident of Parkfairfax and I am Secretary of the Parkfairfax Board of Directors.

"On June 25, 2009, the Board of Directors of the Parkfairfax Unit Owner's Association passed a resolution formally voicing our strong opposition to the proposed I-95/395 HOT lanes project. One of the clauses in that resolution states:

- 'Whereas, the degree of probable environmental impact from the I-395 HOT lanes project likely warrants a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) rather than a Categorical Exclusion (CE)'

On August 19, 2009 the Arlington County Board announced that it had filed a law suit against the United States Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Commonwealth of Virginia over this project. The Arlington County Board's press release on that date included these statements:

- 'The suit alleges that the FHWA and the Commonwealth failed to meet necessary requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Clean Air Act before FHWA approved a Categorical Exclusion for the project.'
- "'The Federal Highway Administration and VDOT should rescind the Categorical Exclusion classification and, at a minimum, undertake an environmental assessment,'" said Arlington County Attorney Stephen Maclsaac.'
- 'After a Categorical Exclusion is issued, the only avenue for appeal is a law suit.'

The City of Alexandria has repeatedly voiced major concerns about this proposed project for many months.

On March 24, 2009, City Council passed a resolution withholding support for this project, which included the following wording:

- 'Alexandria believes that the environmental documentation for this proposed project was not properly prepared nor did it receive adequate review, and that this project will have an adverse impact on the citizens of Alexandria and the Northern Virginia region as it is currently designed.'

In a July 2009 letter from Mayor Euille to VDOT, the Council escalated their questions about the project, and noted that VDOT and Fluor/Transurban had still not provided substantive responses to Alexandria about them.

Though VDOT recently delayed the project, they still plan to pursue it and have not substantively responded to local governments' requests for a full environmental assessment vs. a categorical exclusion.

Opposing this project as currently conceived, and demanding a full Environmental Impact Statement for it, are actions in the best interests of the City of Alexandria and its residents.

Therefore, as a resident of Parkfairfax and member of the Parkfairfax Board of Directors, I urge the City to do the following:

- Pass a resolution formally opposing the proposed I-95/395 HOT lanes project, citing the concerns identified in the Council's March 2009 resolution and July 2009 letter to VDOT.
- Become a supporting party in the law suit filed by the Arlington County Board, as this is the only way Alexandria can support appealing the CE and ensuring an Environmental Impact Statement is conducted."

Signed,

Alice M Cave 9/12/09

Alice Cave
Secretary, Parkfairfax Board of Directors