<u>6(a)</u> 10-17-09

Remarks to Council 10/17/2009 Public Hearing Alice Cave Parkfairfax Resident

Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Donley, and Members of the Council, thank you for this opportunity to speak out once again about the I-95/395 HOT lanes project. My name is Alice Cave; I am speaking as a resident of Parkfairfax, and I am also Secretary of the Board of Directors. I would like to acknowledge others from Parkfairfax who are here today. My remarks concern the environmental impacts that our task force's research shows would likely result, if the project goes forward.

The first point I would like to make concerns the Categorical Exclusion erroneously granted to the project by the Federal Highways Administration, This CE was originally granted based on project designs that only included restriping the existing two HOV lanes to create three HOT lanes. In reaffirming the CE in January 2009, FHWA, VDOT, and Fluor-Transurban neglected to consider major changes to the project scope and designs that had occurred since the CE was initially granted. The project scope had expanded significantly by 2009, adding major construction and/or reconstruction at multiple I-95/395 interchanges – including Shirlington Rotary and Seminary Road. This work goes far beyond simply restriping existing HOV lanes.

Many neighborhoods, along with public infrastructure such as schools and hospitals, are quite close to these interchanges – particularly along I-395. While adding HOT lanes would likely create large environmental impacts for the entire I-95/395 corridor, the Task Force has naturally given particular attention to negative environmental impacts upon Parkfairfax. The following project-related impacts are of major concern to us:

- Further deterioration in our air quality due to increased dust and emissions pollution.
- Higher rates of respiratory and other health problems due to worsened air quality.
- High noise levels this project would cause in Parkfairfax, particularly during construction.
- Damage to our buildings due to construction-related vibrations through underlying marine clay.
- New and significantly different traffic patterns due to increased cut-through traffic, both during and after the changes to the Shirlington Rotary, creating the following problems:
 - o Safety issues for children at Charles Barrett Elementary School and for residents parking on our streets; it can already be dangerous getting into and out of a car here.
 - o Safety issues for residents embarking/debarking on/from Metro and DASH buses.
 - o Increased road maintenance (e.g., repaving, repairing pot holes) costs, for Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia in a time of recession and budget problems.
- Decline in our property values and quality of life due to severe environmental impacts.

All of these potentially severe environment impacts on large numbers of residents warrant a full environmental assessment as mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Task Force believes this assessment should, and will, result in a mandated Environmental Impact Statement.

In summary, Parkfairfax has raised many valid environmental concerns about this project. Unfortunately, VDOT and Fluor-Transurban have not responded with many answers to our concerns. In preparation for our June 2009 meeting, the Task Force sent questions to VDOT in advance about the various impacts of the I-95/395 HOT lanes project. However, VDOT and Fluor-Transurban did not address them then, or after the meeting. Parkfairfax and Alexandria will likely experience severe environmental impacts if this project goes forward. I ask you to please pass a strong resolution opposing the I95/395 HOT lanes project, and also continue to consider any legal remedies at the City's disposal.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Heather Rogers

What We Want from the Alexandria City Council

- 1) Pass a City Council resolution specifically opposing the I-95/I-395 HOT lanes project and the Shirlington Circle redesign.
- 2) Join Arlington County's lawsuit to block the I-95/1-395 HOT lanes project. (or start their own legal action)
- 3) Request that VDOT propose other, more cost-effective, and lower-impact alternatives that move more people more effectively in the I-95/395 corridor.
- 4) Continue working with Parkfairfax and nearby neighborhood associations to keep the lines of communication between the City and its neighborhood associations open and opposition to the Hot Lanes strong.
- Build coalitions with municipalities and neighborhood associations all along the corridor that will be adversely impacted by the HOT lanes project.

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We, the undersigned city residents of Alexandria, VA, petition the Alexandria City Council for the following with regard to the proposed 1-395 Hot Lanes project inside the beltway:

- 1) Pass a City Council resolution specifically opposing the I-95/I-395 HOT lanes project and the Shirlington Circle redesign.
- 2) Join Arlington County's lawsuit to block the 1-95/1-395 HOT lanes project.
- 3) Request that VDOT propose other, more cost-effective, and lower-impact alternatives that move more people more effectively in the I-95/395 corridor.
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10-17-09

Statement of Alex Luchenitser at October 17, 2009 City Council meeting during Agenda Item #6, concerning I-395 HOT Lanes Project

(Note: footnotes containing citations to case cites will not be orally read.)

I am Alex Luchenitser, a Parkfairfax resident and an attorney with a nonprofit civil-liberties organization in the District.

My remarks will focus on whether Alexandria should become involved in litigation concerning the HOT Lanes project.

I deeply appreciate the detailed analysis provided by the City Attorney at Tuesday's work session.

I agree that it makes sense to review the responses to the lawsuits before taking any action, and I understand the importance of conserving City funds and resources.

But I do have some concerns about the strategy that has been proposed.

First, even when you are likely to be significantly affected by a lawsuit filed by someone else, the law only allows you to take part in the case if your request to intervene in the case is timely.

Courts have denied requests to intervene as untimely even when the requests were filed less than a year — in some cases, only about four months — after the case was filed.²

Courts have also often denied requests to intervene that were filed during the settlement stage of a case.³

The written version of my remarks, which I have submitted to the clerk, contain footnotes with citations to cases supporting these points.

If Alexandria is not able to participate in the legal proceedings concerning the HOT Lanes, one of two bad things could happen:

If there is no settlement, the lawsuits could result in a judicial ruling that harms Alexandria's interests.

More likely, Arlington's lawsuit could be settled without Alexandria being able to take part in the settlement discussions.

¹ See Stewart v. Rubin, 948 F. Supp. 1077, 1103 (D.D.C. 1996); Dize v. Amalgamated Council of Greyhound Local Unions, 684 F. Supp. 332, 338 (D.D.C. 1988); In re Lorazepam & Clorazepate Antitrust Litigation, 205 F.R.D. 363, 367 (D.D.C. 2001).

² See Stewart, 948 F. Supp. at 1103 (citing other cases); Dize, 684 F. Supp. at 338.

³ See Hirson v. Republic of Bolivia, 979 F. Supp. 908, 913 n.5 (D.D.C. 1997); Stewart, 948 F. Supp. at 1105; Lorazepam, 205 F.R.D. at 367-68.

A settlement of a lawsuit is the only way Alexandria can obtain a binding, enforceable commitment from VDOT concerning what will and what will not be done in and around the I-395 corridor.

And I think that FHWA and VDOT may well be willing to settle with Arlington without Alexandria's agreement, because they may view a decision by Alexandria not to take part in the legal proceedings now as a signal that Alexandria will not file a lawsuit of its own later.

FHWA and VDOT may also try to reach an agreement with Arlington that is not objectionable enough to induce Alexandria to sue, but not as good as what Alexandria could obtain by taking part in Arlington's case.

Finally, if Alexandria does end up filing a lawsuit of its own later, such a lawsuit would probably be much more expensive than taking part in Arlington's lawsuit now would be.

By intervening in the current case, Alexandria could focus on explaining how its positions agree with or differ from Arlington's, while letting Arlington do most of the heavy lifting.

For these reasons, I hope the Council gives further thought to its legal strategy.

Thank you.

Greg Com

Item#6 6(c) 10-17-09

Statement of Greg Cota on HOT Lanes Alexandria City Council Meeting October 17, 2009

Thank you, Mr. Mayor and members of the Council. I am Greg Cota – a resident of Parkfairfax and a volunteer on the community's HOT Lanes Task Force. We greatly appreciate the Council's focus on the HOT lanes issues – and I would like to focus my comments today on the traffic impacts here in Alexandria.

You have heard and read a lot over the past few months about the construction impacts on communities all along the I-395 corridor – and VDOT's ridiculous plan to put six traffic lights on Shirlington Circle.

We believe, though, that regardless of whether the Shirlington or Seminary interchanges are redesigned, the HOT lanes will increase traffic at both exits and in the adjacent neighborhoods because the HOT lanes encourage single-occupancy drivers. Not only is BRAC adding new drivers to the corridor, but people who now carpool or take public transit will be incentivized to drive their own vehicles because of the promise of free-flowing traffic.

Over time, the new HOT lanes will just lead to increased traffic congestion in Alexandria – just as we've seen over and over again in Fairfax County and across Northern Virginia. New traffic will access the HOT lanes from local neighborhoods in the West End, Del Ray, and Crystal City – and new traffic will exit the HOT lanes from Fredericksburg, Prince William County, and Fairfax County.

Moreover, the District of Columbia has no plans to increase capacity across the 14th Street Bridge, so traffic will back up on I-395 further than it does now during both the morning and evening rush. As a result, more people will bail out at the Arlington and Alexandria exits – worsening traffic throughout the city.

At Shirlington, we would see traffic backing up on Gunston Road, Martha Custis Drive, Quaker Lane, and Preston Road. Frustrated motorists likely will cut through Parkfairfax to Glebe Road, Quaker Lane, or Route 1 – as they do now whenever there is an incident on I-395. This added traffic would have a negative impact on our streets, especially at the bottleneck that already exists in front of the Charles Barrett Elementary School.

At Seminary, analysis from the city's transportation department shows that the additional BRAC congestion will worsen conditions at intersections and side streets in all directions. These spillover effects will impact all of the streets and neighborhoods in Alexandria's I-395 corridor – from Edsall Road to Duke Street to Seminary Road to Beauregard Street to Braddock Road to Van Dorn Street to King Street to Quaker Lane to West Glebe Road and everywhere in between.

The City of Alexandria repeatedly has asked VDOT for traffic count information along the local streets in the vicinity of the HOT lanes, but VDOT has failed to respond to these requests. I think many of us are wondering if VDOT will ever respond since they know that the city won't like the answers.

We also are concerned that VDOT promises today may not be kept tomorrow. While VDOT says, for instance, that Seminary Road will have a bus-only ramp – or that they'd consider this option for Shirlington – VDOT could come back in the future and push for the addition of cars – just as they now are pushing to widen I-66 inside the Beltway after promising years ago to leave it at two lanes in each direction.

We are all happy that VDOT has put the HOT lanes project on hold and promised another look at Shirlington Circle, but we are not out of the woods yet. The economy will get better; BRAC is coming; a gubernatorial election is just a few weeks away; and VDOT will be back at us even more vigorously once Fluor-TransUrban can lock in financing for the project. For us that means the fight isn't over. We need your help now (a) passing a strong resolution against the project, and (b) pursuing legal action to ensure that VDOT's environmental review documents properly address the significant impacts on Alexandria. A legislative strategy is a fine back-up plan, but I am not optimistic that we are going to see a sea-change in Richmond next year that suddenly is going to be against the promise of "free money" from the HOT lanes.

Thank you.

Itum#6 Greglota pg. 2

Geoffrey Goodale 64)



To Gloria Sitton/Alex@Alex

CC

bcc

Subject Fw: City Council Hearing of October 17, 2009 -- Comments

Regarding Docket Item No. 6

---- Forwarded by Jackie Henderson/Alex on 10/19/2009 09:27 AM -----



Geoffrey Goodale <geoff.goodale@gmail.com> 10/16/2009 09:16 PM

To William.Euille@alexandriava.gov, Kerry.Donley@alexandriava.gov, Frank.Fannon@alexandriava.gov, Alicia.Hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com

cc jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov

Subject City Council Hearing of October 17, 2009 -- Comments Regarding Docket Item No. 6

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

Attached please find comments that the Board of Directors of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. ("BSVCA") respectfully submits for your consideration in determining what actions the City Council ("Council") should take with respect to the proposed High Occupancy Toll Lanes project ("the HOT Lanes Project") being contemplated by the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT"). As discussed in the attached letter, we believe that it would be prudent for the Council to refrain from joining in the lawsuit that the County Board of Arlington has brought against the Federal Highway Administration and VDOT at this time, and we urge that the Council instead focus its immediate attention on engaging with VDOT regarding the Interchange Justification Report on proposed options for direct access from I-395 to the BRAC facility at Mark Center on which VDOT is currently working.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. We respectfully request that this e-mail and the attached document be included in the record relating to this proceeding, and accordingly, we are including the City Clerk as a "cc" recipient on this e-mail. If you have any questions regarding our comments and recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact me at geoff.goodale@bsvca.net or at (703) 618-6640.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey M. Goodale

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President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. BSVCA Comments on HOT Lanes Project pdf

BROOKVILLE-SEMINARY VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 23348 Alexandria, VA 22304

October 16, 2009

Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council 301 King Street – City Hall Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Comments on the Proposed VDOT HOT Lanes Project and Related Matters

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

The Board of Directors of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. ("BSVCA") respectfully submits these comments for your consideration in determining what actions the City Council ("Council") should take with respect to the proposed High Occupancy Toll Lanes project ("the HOT Lanes Project") being contemplated by the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT"). As discussed below, we believe that it would be prudent for the Council to refrain from joining in the lawsuit that the County Board of Arlington ("Arlington County Board") has brought against the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") and VDOT at this time, and we urge that the Council instead focus its immediate attention on engaging with VDOT regarding the Interchange Justification Report on proposed options for direct access from I-395 to the BRAC facility at Mark Center ("BRAC Access IJR") on which VDOT is currently working.

The BSVCA, which is comprised of individuals from several hundred households in the Brookville-Seminary Valley area of the City, is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the best interests of Alexandrians. We submitted comments to VDOT regarding our concerns about the HOT Lanes Project on February 20, 2009 (copy attached as Exhibit 1). Subsequently, we urged the City's Transportation Commission to recommend that the Council withhold support for the HOT Lanes Project until the issues raised by us and others were adequately addressed by VDOT on March 4, 2009 (copy attached as Exhibit 2), and we provided comments in support of the Transportation Commission's recommendation to this effect at the public hearing held by the Council on March 14, 2009. We were grateful to the Council for adopting a resolution withholding support for the HOT Lanes Project at its meeting on March 24, 2009.

While we understand why the Arlington County Board felt compelled to bring its lawsuit against VDOT, numerous reasons were raised as to why it would not be beneficial for the City to join in the lawsuit now at the Council's Work Session on October 13, 2009. As such, we urge the City to refrain from joining in the lawsuit at this time, but we recommend that the City Attorney monitor the lawsuit closely and, if warranted, the City may wish to join in the lawsuit at a later time or at least consider submitting an <u>amicus</u> brief in the case. Conversely, we urge the Council to become actively engaged with VDOT as soon as possible regarding the BRAC Access IJR on which it is now working, because we fear that VDOT may not be taking all necessary factors and options into consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Hoffrey M. Hoodale Geoffrey M. Goodale

President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.

EXHIBIT 1

BROOKVILLE-SEMINARY VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 23348 Alexandria, VA 22304

February 20, 2009

Mr. Ronaldo T. Nicholson, P.E. Regional Transportation Program Director Virginia Department of Transportation 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500 Alexandria, VA 22310

Re: 1-95/395 HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

The Board of Directors of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. ("BSVCA") respectfully submits these comments relating to the I-95/395 HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes project (the "Project"). As discussed below, we request that the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT") respond to crucial questions and conduct necessary additional studies requested by various entities, including Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission ("NVTC"), and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority ("NVTA"), before proceeding with the Project.

The BSVCA, which is comprised of individuals from several hundred households in the Brookville-Seminary Valley area of the City of Alexandria, is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the best interests of Alexandrians. Given the close proximity of the Brookville-Seminary Valley area to I-395, the Project is of great interest to the BSVCA.

We are aware that Arlington County has articulated a list of questions and issues about the Project, including fundamental inadequacies with the modeling that was used to support the environmental documentation, and that it believes that the Categorical Exclusion ("CE") documentation did not receive adequate review by VDOT and the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA"). We further understand that numerous multi-jurisdictional organizations, including the NVTC and the NVTA, have also expressed concern about the Project and its impacts on transit and mobility in the region. We also are cognizant of the fact that the City of Alexandria has requested that VDOT and Fluor/Transurban conduct a study to evaluate the potential impact of creating HOT access at the Seminary Road interchange connection on adjacent residential neighborhoods. In addition, we recognize that several municipalities, including Arlington County, have expressed the view that the Project, as it is designed today, will likely have an adverse impact on citizens across the Northern Virginia region.

For the reasons discussed above, we make the following requests. To begin with, we urge that the CE documentation be re-examined by the FHWA, including a more careful look at the modeling used to support the environmental conclusions, and that the FHWA and VDOT work with local jurisdictions to ensure that the impacts to localities created by this project are adequately captured and addressed in the environmental documentation and any subsequent Project agreements, consistent with the conditions of the CE. We also ask that the design exceptions currently under review receive the same level of scrutiny typical of a project of this magnitude, and that there be close coordination with the local jurisdictions that will be impacted. In addition, we request that VDOT and Fluor/Transurban conduct a study to evaluate the potential impact of creating HOT access at the Seminary Road interchange connection on adjacent residential neighborhoods, as has previously been requested by the City of Alexandria. Finally, we urge VDOT to keep

Mr. Ronaldo T. Nicholson, P.E. February 20, 2009 Page 2

in mind that the efficient movement of transit and HOV should continue to be the primary purpose of these lanes, and that the design of the Project should reflect this priority.

Your consideration of our comments is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at geoff.goodale@bsvca.net or (703) 618-6640.

Respectfully submitted,

Heoffrey M. Hoodale

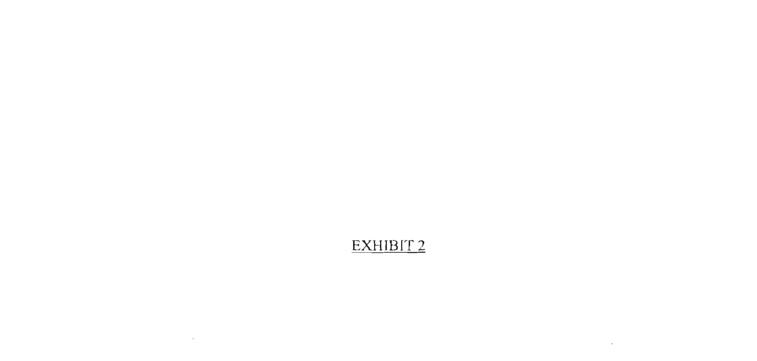
Geoffrey M. Goodale

President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.

cc: Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council

Mr. James Hartmann, City Manager of the City of Alexandria

The Honorable Patricia S. Ticer
The Honorable Charniele Herring





Geoffrey Goodale < geoff.goodale@gmail.com>

Transportation Commission Meeting of March 4 -- Comments on Docket Item No. 2

Goodale, Geoffrey M. < GGoodale@foley.com>

Wed, Mar 4, 2009 at 2:49 PM

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com, donna.fossum@verizon.net, jlr@cpma.com, seankumar@yahoo.com, kposey12@comcast.net, Jayme.blakesley@gmail.com, jennifer.mitchell@dullesmetro.com Cc: Tom.Culpepper@alexandriava.gov, TransportationCommission@alexandriava.gov, geoff.goodale@bsvca.net

Dear Mayor Euile and Members of the Transporation Commission:

It is our understanding that consideration of comments to the Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT") regarding the I-95/395 HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes project (the "HOT Lanes Project") will be discussed as Docket Item No. 2 at tonight's meeting of the Transporation Commission. In view of this fact, we wish to submit for your consideration the attached comments that the Board of Directors of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. ("BSVCA") has recently submitted to VDOT regarding the HOT Lanes Project. As discussed in the attached comments, we have requested that VDOT respond to crucial questions and conduct necessary additional studies requested by various entities, including Arlington County, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, before proceeding with the HOT Lanes Project.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our comments, and we hope that the City may consider submitting comments to VDOT along the lines of the "withhold support" resolution that the Arlington County Board of Supervisors recently passed. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at geoff.goodale@bsvca.net or at (703) 618-6640.

Sincerley,

Geoffrey M. Goodale

President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.

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BSVCA Comments to VDOT.pdf 734K



Timothy Ahern tahern@imagine-one.com

10/26/2009 10:48 PM

Please respond to
Timothy Ahern
<tahern@imagine-one.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: HOT LANES Letter from NRCA

Time: [Mon Oct 26, 2009 22:48:08] Message ID: [16425]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Timothy

Last Name: Ahern

Street Address: 2604 Ridge Road Drive

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22302

Phone: 703-548-4438

Email Address: tahern@imagine-one.com

Subject: HOT LANES Letter from NRCA

Comments:

Attachment: f7e508e2d98c408cb8d38a00301d323e.doc

1,61

f7e508e2d98c408cb8d38a00301d323e.doc

North Ridge Citizens' Association PO Box 3242 Alexandria, VA 22302 October 26, 2009

Dear Mayor Euille and City Council Members:

The purpose of this letter is to convey the concerns of the North Ridge community over the Shirlington HOT Lanes proposal. Our perspective can be expressed on two different scales:

- As Alexandria neighbors, we are concerned about the local traffic and construction impacts of the proposed modification to the Shirlington Rotary.
- As residents of Virginia, we are concerned that the public policy objectives of the larger HOT Lanes project have not been adequately defined or communicated by the State

<u>Local Concerns</u> – VDOT and Fluor/Transurban have not addressed the congestion or construction impacts on our community.

The original plan for the I-395 portion of the HOT Lanes project anticipated relatively minor changes to the carpool lane. Based on "preliminary environmental impact information," the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) granted VDOT a "Categorical Exclusion" in August 2006 allowing the proponents to dispense with the environmental impact and other studies that are normally required of such projects. Subsequently, the original plan was altered to include dramatic changes at four interchanges – including the Shirlington Rotary and Seminary Road – to permit vehicles to exit and/or enter the HOT lanes at these points. These changes would involve large-scale, multi-year construction and would clearly impact local traffic, noise pollution, and air quality. The changes at Shirlington would also pose a threat to dwellings in the Parkfairfax historical district and possibly render some uninhabitable. Nonetheless, VDOT has asserted that these changes would not have significant impacts on any historical resource, on air or noise quality, or on local travel patterns in the area. In January 2009, FHWA reissued the Categorical Exclusion.²

In recent hearings and public meetings, and through the Arlington County lawsuit, many citizens have raised questions about the specific transportation, air quality, noise and construction impacts of the proposed modification to the Shirlington Rotary. Other than posting brief overview statements on the VDOT.

¹ See FHWA document, "Documentation of FHWA Review," January 7, 2009 at page 1.

² *Id.*, final paragraph on page 6.

website, neither VDOT nor Fluor/Transurban officials have addressed the concerns that have been voiced or provided answers to the many questions raised. In fact, they have failed to provide detailed plans or analysis addressing most of the issues raised by this project.

Regional Concerns – This project does not address the basic problem of congestion. Our members remain confused as to the basic purpose of an I-95/395 HOT Lanes project. It seems that the project would help a select group of private vehicles get more quickly to the congested approaches to the 14th St and Memorial Bridges. Since there are currently no plans to increase their capacity, this will only increase the problem at the bridges. The proposal also consigns a major public right-of-way to the control of a private consortium for 80 years to construct and operate the HOT Lanes, and uses tolls from single occupancy vehicles (SOVs) to fund the operation of these lanes.

<u>Unanswered Questions</u> – The many unanswered questions about both aspects of the HOT Lanes project include:

- 1) What is the justification for such a radical change at Shirlington? The surrounding area is not a major commuter destination, and none of the streets entering and exiting the rotary (e.g., Gunston, Quaker Lane, and Preston) are capable of handling the increased volume that a project of this magnitude implies. How can these changes fail to increase "cutthrough" traffic on local roads by commuters heading for National Airport or Crystal City?
- 2) What impact will this have on traffic on local streets in Parkfairfax, Fairlington, and Beverley Hills?
- 3) Will this exacerbate the traffic now choking Glebe Road heading east, which is already a major bottleneck frequently backing up traffic onto I-395 northbound?
- 4) What will the impact be on noise and air quality in the vicinity?
- 5) What is the plan to deal with accidents north of Shirlington with no shoulder or breakdown lane?
- 6) Does the contract guarantee the contractor to make a profit; does it include specific numbers; what are those?
- 7) How will single occupancy HOT Lane users with Seminary/New Federal Center destination be routed if they are forbidden to exit at Seminary Road rotary?
- 8) What studies have been conducted regarding location of major access/egress points?

<u>Serving the Public Interest</u> –The broad public interest is best served by moving the maximum number of people through this transportation corridor, while reducing the number of vehicles. This could be accomplished by investing in more robust Bus Rapid Transit – making public transportation more convenient and practical.

If we are irrevocably committed to a HOT Lanes approach in Virginia, then we should ensure that funds collected serve broader public objectives. For example, we should ensure that priority is given to investment in buses, bus stations, and access/egress points for buses along the I-95 corridor – in ways that will make public transportation more convenient and affordable. We must not allow HOT lanes to create an incentive for clogging the lanes with paying vehicles to maximize profits— and slowing public transit and carpools to the same pace as regular lanes.

Many of these issues and concerns have been well articulated in the discussions in Council, and in written briefs submitted on this topic. The document offered by the Parkfairfax Citizens Association is among the most complete, and we endorse their concerns. We ask that you incorporate our perspectives as you proceed forward with your deliberations.

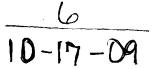
We support any course of action, including joining the Arlington County lawsuit, that will require the State to publicize plans, share their impact analyses, and respond specifically to our questions.

Thank you for creating opportunities for citizens to debate these issues, and to offer our opinions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Ahern

President, NRCA





Melissa Webb mwebb@rappaportco.com>

10/16/2009 02:08 PM

Please respond to
Melissa Webb
<mwebb@rappaportco.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: HOT Lanes

Time: [Fri Oct 16, 2009 14:08:00] Message ID: [16175]

Issue Type:

Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name:

Melissa

Last Name:

Webb

Street Address:

1416 Key Drive

Alexandria

City: State:

VA

Zip:

22302

Phone:

703-567-1492

Email Address:

mwebb@rappaportco.com

Subject:

HOT Lanes

I strenuously opposes VDOT's proposed I-95/395 HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes project.

I live near the intersection of Quaker and Janney's Lane at the top of Key

Drive. The traffic is already very heavy with the addition of HOT lanes;

Comments:

those who live on and near Seminary Road will suffer a serious, irrevocable

deterioration to our daily quality of life. Will you lower my tax bill as a

result? The ill-conceived HOT Lanes project should be abandoned. Thank

you.

6 10-17-09



Ana Kelly <anamvk@comcast.net>

10/15/2009 04:59 PM

Please respond to
Ana Kelly
<anamvk@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: HOT lanes on I-395

Time: [Thu Oct 15, 2009 16:59:02] Message ID: [16143]

Issue Type:

Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name:

Ana

Last Name:

Kelly

Street Address:

4911 John Ticer

City:

Alexandria

J.,,.

VA

State: VA

Zip: Phone: 22304 7035676052

Email Address:

anamvk@comcast.net

Subject:

HOT lanes on I-395

Please do not approve HOT lanes for I-395. I already think it is a big mistake to do this on the beltway. Do not make it worse by approving it for 395.

Here are some of the issues:

- How do we verify how much we will be billed for each trip if we don't have the minimum number of passengers? Already it is impossible to know how much you are billed for EZ-Pass on the state's highways unless you literally write it down while you are driving each time you cross a toll booth. We are never sent a bill that we can check, but have to take on the burden of going online to check. With the HOT lanes changing prices every minute, we will certainly have to write it down. This will increase hazardous driving in the area. If we don't write it down each morning and evening during our commute, then there are no checks and balances and we can be easily overcharged. Also, how do

we argue when the amount we wrote down does not match what we are

billed?

Comments:

- HOT lanes will make regular traffic worse. I take 395 to work every day (from Duke, although I often get on at Quaker instead). My trip is going to be much worse if you add the HOT lanes because it will create much more traffic and congestion for those of us who want to use the regular lanes.
- The technology is not yet well developed. How will we know with a 100% guarrantee that the technology can sense the exact number of passengers, even with a baby in a rear-facing carseat? We will all then have the burden to check each time to make sure we were not billed incorrectly. This is ridiculous. You are creating a nightmare situation for city residents if this is approved.

Please disapprove HOT lanes for

Thank you for considering these comments.

I=395. If you still are unsure, then just wait for the beltway to finish its HOT lanes first before you take any action. You will see what a terrible mess it is and how many angry travelers complain. After you witness this, I'm sure you will want to disapprove HOT lanes for 395.



Michele Evans/Alex 10/08/2009 06:22 PM

To Jackie.Henderson@alexandriava.gov, Valerie Moore/Alex@Alex, Tony Castrilli/Alex@Alex

•

bcc

Subject Fw: HOT Lanes Public Hearing Added to the October 17 docket

fyi

---- Forwarded by Michele Evans/Alex on 10/08/2009 06:21 PM ----



Mark Jinks/Alex

10/08/2009 06:19 PM

- To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, Kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com, del.pepper@alexandriava.gov, paulcsmedberg@aol.com
- cc Jim Hartmann/Alex@Alex, Michele Evans/Alex@Alex, Rich Baier/Alex@ALEX, James Banks/Alex@ALEX

Subject HOT Lanes Public Hearing Added to the October 17 docket

Tomorrow, when you get the Saturday, October 17 docket you will see an item has been added by the Mayor. It is #6: "Public Hearing to Receive Public Comment on the Proposed VDOT HOT Lanes Project". This new item came as a result of discussions at the Transportation Commission about HOT Lanes and a new proposed resolution drafted by Councilman Krupicka for Council to consider adopting. The resolution uses the original "Whereas" portion of the resolution adopted by Council last Spring and makes changes to the last three "Whereas" clauses. The key proposed policy position in this draft proposes changing (in the last Whereas clause) the Council position on HOT Lanes from its last Spring position of "withholding support" to a new position of "does not support". The "Be it further resolved section" will need to be crafted.

The Mayor wanted me to pass on that **this proposed new resolution is in a draft stage** and that Council members should consider it as subject to their ongoing thoughts and input.

The plan would be for Council to hold the HOT Lanes worksession on October 13, the public hearing on October 17, and then consider the new HOT Lanes resolution at Council's second legislative meeting of this month on October 27th.

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has asked numerous questions regarding the implementation of and impacts of the proposed HOT lanes project; and

WHEREAS, the majority of those questions have gone unanswered thus making it impossible for Alexandria to adequately review this project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is concerned that this project, as presently conceived, will have significant adverse impacts on mobility and quality of life along this corridor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has requested documentation from the HOT lanes project team that indicates how the HOT lanes will benefit Alexandria as well as how

possible adverse impacts of the HOT lanes to Alexandria are being addressed; and

WHEREAS, the County of Arlington, along with others, have entered into legal proceedings that raise numerous questions and concerns about the HOT lanes project; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria agrees with Arlington that the environmental documentation for this proposed project was not properly prepared; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria believes the presented concepts for the Shirlington Circle will have a negative impact on Alexandria neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria does agree that congestion along I-95 and I-395 create substantial challenges for Alexandria, the region and the new BRAC project at the Mark Center in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, according to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), during the morning peak period, the two existing HOV lanes on I-95 I-395 outside the Capital Beltway carry about 25 percent more people than the four conventional lanes, and inside the Beltway the existing HOV lanes carry 50 percent more people than the conventional lanes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has a strong desire to preserve and improve the person throughput on this corridor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is convinced that we can't solve this problem by building more and more roads and that mass-transportation solutions are the only sustainable and long-term ways to effectively address I-95 and I -395 traffic congestion; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Alexandria does not s	upport
the I-95 I-395 HOT lanes project as currently conceived.	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED		
DE II I CRIIIER RESCEVED		

10-17-09



Ruth Woods rt.woods@comcast.net>

10/14/2009 09:49 PM

Please respond to Ruth Woods <rt.woods@comcast.net> To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Hot Lanes

Time: [Wed Oct 14, 2009 21:49:07] Message ID: [16108]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Ruth

Last Name: Woods

Street Address: 1671 Preston Road

City: Alexandria
State: Virginia

Zip: 22302

Phone: 703-998-5889

Email Address: rt.woods@comcast.net

Subject: Hot Lanes

It is very important that you, Mr. Mayor and the City Council, take a

strong stand on stopping the Hot Lanes project.

am really appalled

that it got started and once again that Alexandria seemed unaware of the

negative impact on our city. I fear that it will be brought to a certain

stage where Alexandria & Arlington will stop it and the traffic will

backup and the backup blamed on out two cities and we will eventually be

forced to continue it. It needs to stopped in its tracks right now!

It is too late to undo the physical damage along the beltway but it

Comments:

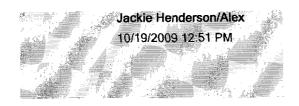
doesn't have to continue! It should never have been allowed to start.

Why can't Alexandria get a head start on these big projects that over whelm us before they get to the stage where one has to go to court to deal with them and where often that is too late. Who has the responsibility

of keeping abreast of projects in the Metropolitan area that might impact on us? Did you discuss this at your retreat?

We do not need any more highway lanes. We need light rail or its equivalent and a strong City

Council that can protect our city!



To Gloria Sitton/Alex@Alex

CC .

bcc

Subject Fw: COA Contact Us: Hot Lanes

----- Forwarded by Jackie Henderson/Alex on 10/19/2009 12:50 PM -----



Carolyn Griglione <arolyn.griglione@gmail.com

10/19/2009 12:16 PM

Please respond to Carolyn Griglione <carolyn.griglione@gmail.com To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com, rose.boyd@alexandriava.gov, jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov,

CC

Subject COA Contact Us: Hot Lanes

elaine.scott@alexandriava.gov

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Oct 19, 2009 12:16:06] Message ID: [16232]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Carolyn

Last Name: Griglione

Street Address: 1416 N. Ivanhoe Street

City: Alexandria

State: va

Zip: 22304

Phone: 703 370-0653

Email Address: carolyn.griglione@gmail.com

Subject: Hot Lanes

October 19, 2009

Dear Mayor and City Council, My husband and I totally

support Seminary Hill's position regarding the Hot Lanes

issue.

-Seminary Hill strenuously opposes VDOT's proposed I-95/395

HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes project, and we are especially opposed to HOT lanes

inside the beltway on I-395 and any access to or from such lanes at Seminary Road. The ill-conceived HOT Lanes project should be abandoned, and all efforts should be redirected posthaste to planning and funding direct access to and from all I-395 lanes into the BRAC site at Mark Center. Without direct I-395/BRAC access, those who live on and near Seminary Road will suffer a serious, irrevocable deterioration of our daily quality of life. City Council should pursue all appropriate means available to quash the HOT Lanes project, and to achieve direct access from I-395 to BRAC at Mark Center.-

Comments:

Reading that you plan to wait to take action until the results of Arlington's suit are determined seems to be a bit weak. Acting together and showing a united front would seem to have more force in preventing this extremely detrimental proposal of hot lanes to take place. A project of this magnitude does not only affect the surrounding areas. All of Alexandria will feel the impact of this poorly planned venture. It appears that Alexandria and Arlington are being swallowed up by what is deemed necessary for the surrounding areas that use us as a pass through. We should not be stepped on, smothered and lose our identity at the whim of others who could care less about the City of Alexandria.

Sincerely, John and Carolyn Griglione 1416 N. Ivanhoe

Street Alexandria, VA 22304 703 370-0653 July 31, 2009

RECEIVED

AUG 0 6 2009

City of Alexandria 301 King St., Room 2300 Alexandria, VA 22314

http://www3.alexandriava.gov/contactus/mailto.php?id=610

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council:

As a resident of the historic Parkfairfax neighborhood, I write to request that the City of Alexandria formally oppose the proposed I-95/I-395 HOT lanes project. The total costs and risks of this proposal have not been fully considered. Most importantly, there are better, more cost-effective, and lower-impact solutions to reducing congestion in the I-95/I-395 corridor.

Parkfairfax appreciates the March 24 resolution passed by City Council withholding support for the HOT lanes project until VDOT and its private partners provide more information about the impacts on Alexandria, and we thank many of you for attending our community's HOT lanes informational meeting on June 25.

- Pass a City Council resolution specifically opposing the I-95/I-395 HOT lanes project and the Shirlington Circle redesign. VDOT and Fluor-Transurban have ignored all of our requests for more information about the project – particularly the significant changes slated for Shirlington Circle – and we should waste no more time waiting for a response that is not forthcoming.
- Advocate that VDOT propose other, more cost-effective, and lower-impact alternatives that move more people more effectively in the I-95/395 corridor. An example of such an alternative is bus rapid transit, which also could qualify for Federal stimulus funding. Such alternatives would result in lower total cost and impact to Alexandria.
- The City of Alexandria should promptly join Arlington County's legal efforts to block the entire Hot Lanes Project. Since the project's Categorical Exclusion appears both improper and inadequate, a complete Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act and subsequent Federal regulations should be conducted to assess the full range of environmental impacts and transportation alternatives available for the corridor. We are concerned that Alexandria's and Parkfairfax's interests may not be taken into account in Arlington's lawsuit unless the City and Parkfairfax are involved.
- Continue working with Parkfairfax and nearby neighborhood associations to minimize the
 substantial impacts the HOT lanes project will have on our communities. We would like to keep
 the lines of communication between the City and its neighborhood associations open, and we
 would like to build coalitions with municipalities and neighborhood associations all along the
 corridor that will be adversely impacted by the HOT lanes project.

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Thank you for your consideration of these concerns. I hope the City Council will act swiftly to get on record opposing the proposed HOT lanes project. Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to your reply.

Yoli Frado 3715 Lyons Lane

Alexandria, VA 22302

yoliprado2@hotmail.com

July 31, 2009

RECEIVED

AUG 0 6 2009

City of Alexandria 301 King St., Room 2300 Alexandria, VA 22314

http://www3.alexandriava.gov/contactus/mailto.php?id=610

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- Pass a City Council resolution specifically opposing the I-95/I-395 HOT lanes project and the Shirlington Circle redesign. VDOT and Fluor-Transurban have ignored all of our requests for more information about the project – particularly the significant changes slated for Shirlington Circle – and we should waste no more time waiting for a response that is not forthcoming.
- Advocate that VDOT propose other, more cost-effective, and lower-impact alternatives that move
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Francisca Saavedra

Sincerely.

3715 Lyons Lane Alexandria, VA 22302 DATE: August 3 2009

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Sincerely, Month Walful NAME: Yvonne M Leifert

ADDRESS: 1705 Preston road

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Alexandria, VA 22302-2126 E-MAIL, PHONE (optional): shwari108@comcast.net DATE: 8/4/09

RECEIVED

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Sincerely, Sarah C. Hallan of

NAME: ADDRESS: 3137 martha Custis Drive CITY, STATE, ZIP: alyandria, VA 22302

E-MAIL, PHONE (optional):

DATE: AUGUST 4, 2009

RECEIVED
AUG 0 7 2009

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Sincerely, But Ziskind NAME: BURT ZISKIND

ADDRESS: 1555 MOUNT EAGLE PLACE

CITY, STATE, ZIP: ALEYANDRIA, VA 22302 E-MAIL, PHONE (optional): BLZISKIND @AOL, COM

703-671-9631