



January 22, 2019

Virginia Department of Transportation
Northern Virginia District
Sitaram Kodali, P.E.
4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

RE: Fairfax County Parkway Widening

Dear Mr. Kodali,

As a primary focus of the Alliance at its founding in 1987, the Fairfax County Parkway has been one of the unsung success stories of transportation in Northern Virginia. Moving hundreds of thousands of trips every day, it provides a critical north-south connection in Fairfax County that has been instrumental to the County's and region's evolution, quality of life, and economic prosperity. Now - thanks to the work of the Alliance and others in securing new regional and state transportation dollars - long needed improvements are finally moving forward.

The Phase 1 improvements that remove additional traffic lights are critical to continuing to convert the Parkway into an efficient limited access facility, which the Alliance has supported since before the Parkway was initially constructed.

With the goal of increasing throughput and reducing travel time delays on the Parkway, **the Alliance supports the additional ramps that are proposed in option 1A Modified at the Popes Head Road interchange.** Improving direct access onto and off the Parkway going northbound from Popes Head Road will reduce congestion at the interchange and improve the long-term success of the new design. In view of the region's unfortunate history of opting for short-term improvements that must be upgraded later at a higher cost, the Alliance believes the investment of a few million dollars extra for these ramps in Option 1A Modified is warranted.

The Alliance also supports option A at Burke Centre Parkway because it furthers the goal of converting the Parkway into a more efficient limited access facility by eliminating a traffic light that has become a hotspot for accidents. However, the Alliance supports preserving the future option of a southbound flyover on the County's Master Plan.

The Alliance appreciates the coordinated efforts of VDOT, Fairfax County, and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to invest state, regional, and local funding and move forward with this key project.

The Alliance also supports and recommends the highest priority be assigned to the full funding of Phase 2 and the continued efforts to widen and improve the Fairfax County Parkway to meet the growing needs of Fairfax County residents and our region. Improving north-south travel and taking tens of thousands of vehicles off neighborhood roadways is critical to our region's long-term quality of life and economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jason Stanford'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason Stanford
Executive Director
Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance