Correspondence Section



David S. Butler *Mayor*

Kelly Burk Vice Mayor Council Members

Suzanne D. Fox

Katie Sheldon Hammler Thomas S. Dunn, II Fernando "Marty" Martinez

R. Bruce Gemmill

25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20176 · (703) 771-2733/(703) 771-2727 fax · council@leesburgva.gov · www.leesburgva.gov

May 10, 2016

The Honorable Martin Nohe Northern Virginia Transportation Authority 3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200 Fairfax, Virginia 22031

Dear Chairman Nohe:

The Leesburg Town Council was disappointed to learn that the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway interchange project was not included among the projects recommended for funding by the NVTA in Fiscal Year 2017. We urge you to reconsider this decision, and offer the following facts in support of funding this important project

The Route 7 Corridor is a major commuter route through Leesburg and Loudoun County and continues to be one of Northern Virginia's worst bottlenecks. The Route 7 Corridor Plan calls for the corridor to become fully limited access, from Algonkian Parkway to Leesburg. All of the remaining at-grade intersections along that section of Route 7 are under construction or in the planning stages for transition to grade-separated interchanges — with the exception of the Battlefield Parkway intersection. If not funded, the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway intersection will be the last intersection with a traffic signal from Route 28 to Berryville in Clarke County.

Further, this intersection has been consistently identified as the highest accident intersection in Leesburg by the Leesburg Police Department, with over 450 crashes, including two fatal and 50 with personal injuries, reported since 2009. A grade-separated interchange will improve traffic safety significantly in this area.

Finally, we would like to note that the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway interchange project is the only one of the 24 candidate projects located in Loudoun County. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

David S. Butler

Mayor