



For Immediate Release

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NEW LANES OPENED JUNE 6, 2016 TO REDUCE CONGESTION ON ROUTE 50 (FAIRFAX BOULEVARD) AND JERMANTOWN ROADS IN THE CITY OF FAIRFAX

\$6.5 Million Project Partially Funded by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

CITY OF FAIRFAX – The City of Fairfax announces the opening of a third westbound lane along Route 50 (Fairfax Boulevard) from Bevan Drive to Jermantown Road. The improvements include the widening of south bound Jermantown Road to allow for two through lanes adjacent to the left turn lane and additional intersection improvements. This \$6.5 million improvement project received \$1 million from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) as part of its FY2015-16 Program.

The Jermantown project will enhance operations on both Route 50 and Jermantown Road by improving capacity for westbound traffic exiting the City and improving the Jermantown Road southbound intersection approach. With the addition of a new westbound lane on Route 50 between Bevan Drive and Jermantown Road, PM peak period congestion on Route 50 traffic will decrease. The additional southbound right turn lane on Jermantown Road will decrease PM peak period traffic congestion for Jermantown Road commuters. The geometric improvements on southbound Jermantown Road will improve mobility in the vicinity of the intersection with Route 50. This combination of improvements will allow for additional green-time at the intersection signal to be assigned to Route 50, which enhances regional mobility and improves operations on the route.

R. Scott Silverthorne, Mayor of the City of Fairfax and Vice-Chairman of the NVTA, stated, *“It is important that as our city grows, we continue to improve our transportation system to increase access and reduce congestion for our citizens and visitors as they live and work in the City of Fairfax. We appreciate the commitment and support of the NVTA as we increase mobility in our region.”*

Martin E. Nohe, NVTA Chairman and Prince William County Supervisor, commented, *“As part of the National Highway System, this segment of Route 50 is a critical component of the regional transportation network, serving as a link between the City of Fairfax, Fairfax County and I-66. The NVTA is committed to improving transportation in Northern Virginia by funding regional projects that reduce the most congestion relative to cost.”*

The NVTA is the premiere planning, prioritizing and funding transportation organization in Northern Virginia. The Authority is responsible for the region’s long range transportation plan and works regionally to fund projects based on congestion reduction relative to cost. To date, the Authority has funded 68 projects for a total of \$535 million. It has also distributed \$233 million, as of March 2016, to member jurisdictions for local transportation projects of their choice, within the parameters set by HB 2313. The Authority is currently developing its FY2017 Program, with adoption anticipated in July 2016, and is in the

process of updating the region's long range transportation plan, TransAction. The update to TransAction is a two year process and adoption of the new plan is anticipated in fall 2017.

Photo #1: Mayor R. Scott Silverthorne (right) and NVTA Chairman Martin E. Nohe (left) cutting a ribbon at the opening of the new lanes.

Photo #2: Mayor R. Scott Silverthorne (right) and NVTA Chairman Martin E. Nohe (left) shaking hands at the newly improved intersection.

Title for Photos: Regional Cooperation Funds Transportation Improvements in Northern Virginia.

Caption: City of Fairfax Mayor R. Scott Silverthorne and NVTA Chairman Martin E. Nohe open new lanes on Route 50 and Jermantown Road in the City of Fairfax.

The NVTA was created by the General Assembly on July 1, 2002, to offer a common voice for Northern Virginia on transportation issues confronting the region. The Authority is made up of nine jurisdictions including: the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; as well as the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. The Authority is responsible for updating Northern Virginia's long-range transportation plan, TransAction, and since 2014 manages approximately \$340 million annually in public funds for transportation projects designed to provide congestion relief throughout Northern Virginia. For more information visit www.thenovaauthority.org.

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