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July 27, 2010

The Honorable James P. Moran
United States House of Representatives
2239 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4608

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Office of the CHAIRMAN
SHARON BULOVA

Dear Congressman Moran:

On behalf of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to you about an issue of great concern to the residents of the County – the immediate need for significant transportation improvements to implement the Fort Belvoir Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions. As we are all aware, approximately 12,000-19,000 personnel will be relocating to Fairfax County by September 15, 2011. With this arrival mere months away, our shared constituents have become increasingly alarmed by the lack of federal funds committed to mitigating the impact of this federal decision, as transportation improvements frequently take several years to construct. The urgency of this issue has never been greater.

We are particularly appreciative of your efforts to include \$150 million for transportation projects providing access to the new Fort Belvoir Community Hospital in the FY 2010 Defense appropriations bill, passed by Congress and signed by President Obama. These improvements will ease traffic congestion along the Richmond Highway (Route 1) corridor, which provides the primary access to Fort Belvoir and the new community hospital – the most significant federal investment in preparing for the BRAC relocations to date. Without these vital improvements, there will be significant delays in the Route 1 corridor with the opening of the new Belvoir Community Hospital and the other BRAC installations at Fort Belvoir.

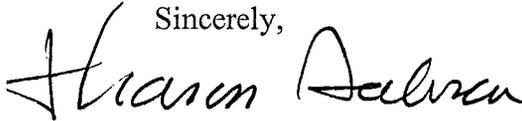
Subsequent to the passage of the FY 2010 Defense appropriations bill, a technical problem with how the funds were appropriated was identified. Since that time, you have led the effort to attain passage of the technical adjustment needed to release these funds. However, concerns about the struggling national economy and rising deficit have made what should have been a minor, easy fix more difficult to approve as you work to complete legislative business before the November elections. We thank you for your ongoing efforts on this front, and we are asking our entire Congressional delegation to make releasing these already appropriated federal funds a top priority, as they are so crucial to the hospital access improvements in the Route 1 corridor.

While Fairfax County has and will continue to do what is locally possible to facilitate a smooth transition for all involved, making that promise a reality requires a true partnership with the federal government. We have already provided \$57.88 million in local funding for BRAC related transportation improvements. Nevertheless, as this BRAC relocation is a federal action, responsibility for ensuring appropriate mitigation must rest with the federal government.

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We thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter. We look forward to working with you in the weeks and months ahead to ensure appropriate federal funding for these essential transportation improvements.

Sincerely,



Sharon Bulova
Chairman

Jeffrey C. McKay
Legislative Chairman
Lee District Supervisor



Gerald W. Hyland
Mt. Vernon District Supervisor

cc: Members, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Anthony H. Griffin, County Executive
Susan E. Mittereder, Legislative Director
Katharine D. Ichter, Director, Department of Transportation

Similar letters were also addressed and sent individually to:

The Honorable James H. Webb, United States Senate
The Honorable Mark R. Warner, United States Senate
The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Frank R. Wolf, United States House of Representatives