

**Increasing Transportation Funding and Improving Roadway Services Delivery  
Transportation Advisory Commission's Preliminary Comments  
March 2, 2010**

Some thoughts on Fairfax County Department of Transportation's proposed tasks for consultant:

- All questions are fairly broad so offering specific recommendations on improvements or scope of the questions is difficult
- Are there any toll roads in VA that are not revenue sharing projects? Is so, Tolls should be added to item 1.
- What about sources of revenue that are hidden such as private sector road construction and maintenance?
- Is the school system getting parking and road maintenance without paying for it? Parks? If so, those of potential sources of revenue if they were to pay their way.
- Shouldn't the study be looking at what ALL the highway funding is being spent on – not just the amount being provided by type of road.
- Wouldn't it be helpful for the study to identify VDOT's funding priorities policies and their actual allocation of funds by region relative to some metrics of population or vehicle miles driven?
- How do the federal interstate highways factor into all of this?
- Are there potential issues with the State losing interest in contributing to Metro if they are not responsible for highways or congestion in Fairfax County?
- Does this study identify signage investments? It probably should.
- A study like this should also be looking at, and presenting analyses around, the whole issue of backlogs of projects in the area so decision makers could see what is NOT getting done under the current system.
- Since the task is to improve "roadway services deliver", wouldn't it make sense for the consultant to look at and display roadway service levels in the County today and their trends over the study period?
- First task for the Project should be "Define Range of Options." There have been several discussions about the range of options, but not put on paper. Data should be collected and evaluated in the context of how it informs the best option(s) going forward.

- The Project Team should define the range of options as a task, but they should include as a minimum:

Option A) Fairfax takes over road maintenance and construction

Option B) Fairfax gains greater share of VDOT revenues

Option C) Fairfax gets more effective service through an improved VDOT locally-housed organization.

- Another missing task is data gathering on operations, maintenance and capital costs. This is particularly relevant to Option A. Raises a series of data requirements such as:
  - a) County organization and manpower plan
  - b) Capital cost for new equipment or purchase of used equipment from Commonwealth
  - c) Ongoing operating costs.