

HISTORIC
HUNTLEY



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF FAIRFAX



Telephone (703) 971-6262
Fax (703) 971-3032
E-mail: leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov
Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee

6121 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310

JEFFREY C. MCKAY
LEE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

Joint Board Matter

Chairman Bulova
Supervisor McKay
Supervisor Hyland

April 27, 2010

Madam Chairman— Following the events of September 11, 2001, Woodlawn Road and Beulah Street through Fort Belvoir property, between Route 1 and Telegraph Road, were closed to public travel. This action eliminated one of the very few east-west arteries in the southeastern portion of Fairfax County. As a result, traffic congestion in this area has significantly deteriorated. To make matters worse, 13,000 additional employees (4,500 to Fort Belvoir and 8,500 at EPG) will be relocating to this section of the County in the fall of next year under the BRAC plan.

In a cooperative effort, the U.S. Army at Fort Belvoir, FHWA, VDOT, and Fairfax County have worked together to fully fund and construct a replacement east-west roadway named Mulligan Road. Anticipating the congestion on Telegraph Road to increase significantly with the opening of Mulligan Road unless Telegraph Road was widened and improved, Fairfax County funded and initiated a cooperative alliance to also widen and improve a segment of Telegraph Road from Beulah Street to Leaf Road. FHWA is

managing the design and will manage the construction of both Mulligan Road and this segment of Telegraph Road. VDOT will be performing the right-of-way acquisition.

The Mulligan Road and Telegraph Road projects will restore the vital connection through Fort Belvoir property between Route 1 and Telegraph Road that was lost when Woodlawn and Beulah were closed. A portion of the Mulligan Road connector is already under construction. However, Phase 2, which includes a full 4-lane roadway and improvements to Telegraph Road from Beulah Street to Leaf Road, is still awaiting authorization to advance to the right-of-way acquisition stage. Construction completion was scheduled for 2012, but this date is now in danger of not being met.

Under ordinary circumstances, land acquisition and construction can be a long process, but we submit that this is not an “ordinary” project. With the large influx of BRAC traffic into an area already crippled by the loss of an essential east-west roadway, it is imperative that this critical replacement link be completed and opened to the public as soon as possible. To get the project back on schedule will require creative solutions and flexibility, but it is absolutely essential with the anticipated large influx of BRAC traffic next year into an already intolerably congested network.

We ask the Board to direct staff to prepare a letter to FHWA and VDOT, asking them to develop and implement creative solutions to advance the Mulligan Road and Telegraph Road Project as expeditiously as possible, with the goal of opening the road to traffic no later than 2012.