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- [Proposal to Toll I-66 INSIDE the Beltway a Bad Idea:](#) At last week's Board of Supervisors' meeting I asked the Board to send Aubrey Lane, Virginia Secretary of Transportation, a list of our concerns with his plan for I-66 inside the Beltway. While I oppose the project in its current form I asked the Board to reaffirm that we have not taken a position on the project.
- [Proposal for Express Lanes on I-495 into Maryland a Great Idea:](#) I seconded the motion to send a letter in support of extending the Express Lanes across the American Legion Bridge into Maryland. My request to include language clarifying the project does not remove the need to build a Northern Crossing was also included in the letter.
- [World Police and Fire Games Showcases Fairfax to the World:](#) The World Police and Fire Games were a great showcase for Fairfax County and I am proud of the way the county and community stepped up to the challenge of hosting the world's second largest sporting event. Thank you to all that helped.
- [BSA Patriot District 6th Annual Golf Outing to Support Scouting:](#) I'm proud to again co-chair this event supporting scouting in our community, please consider joining me, Monday September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- [Pohick Library Closing for Renovations in September:](#) The library will be undergoing renovations beginning in September. See below for details and other library options.
- [3 Day Tax Holiday this Weekend:](#) Take advantage of the 3 day tax holiday this weekend to purchase qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear, hurricane

and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star and WaterSense products without paying sales tax. Full details below.

### **Proposal to Toll I-66 INSIDE the Beltway a Bad Idea**

At last week's Board of Supervisors' meeting I put forth a motion to ask county transportation staff to send a letter to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation listing the Board's and my concerns with the Secretary of Transportation's plan for I-66 INSIDE the Beltway, and to affirm that the Board has not yet taken an official position on the plan. I am opposed to the plan based on the concerns listed below. The motion was amended to discuss a draft letter at our Transportation Committee meeting on September 11 but staff was directed to immediately make it clear to the Secretary that we had concerns, that a letter with our concerns would be coming and that the Board had no official position on the project.

On March 12, Aubrey Lane, Virginia Secretary of Transportation, announced a plan for Interstate 66 inside the Beltway. The plan called for tolling the interstate inside the Beltway without adding any additional lanes beyond what is already in place. This project for inside the Beltway has not been the subject of the considerable study and public input that most transportation projects (including the plans for I-66 outside the Beltway) usually get, yet it has been scheduled for completion in 2017.

Some of the major concerns addressed by my motion were:

- Tolling existing interstate lanes without adding additional capacity or toll free options is bad policy.
- The project's impact on surrounding intersections and roadways in Fairfax County.
- The proposal takes expansion of I-66 inside the beltway off the table until 2040 on a road that is regularly congested.
- Unlike other toll lane proposals, it does not leave a viable toll free option for commuters.
- Potential impacts on Dulles Airport.
- Lack of fiscal analysis and public input to date.

These issues have been raised by several members of the General Assembly delegation, Loudoun County, our Congressional delegation, and many businesses and communities. [The plan for I-66 inside the Beltway](#) (pdf) has been rushed through and slated to be completed in 2017 with no traffic, transit, or fiscal analysis, and no public input to date. It doesn't pass the sniff test. I simply cannot envision how tolling I-66 without adding capacity won't push existing commuters onto our neighborhood streets.

In contrast the Express Lanes solution moving forward for I-66 OUTSIDE the Beltway has been the subject of a thorough public and government process and needs to be moved forward quickly. The I-66 inside the Beltway project should get the same scrutiny before moving forward.

### **Proposal for Express Lanes on I-495 into Maryland a Great Idea**

Earlier in last week's Board meeting I was happy to second Chairman Bulova's motion to have county transportation staff prepare a letter supporting improvements to the American Legion Bridge and endorse the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) study's recommendation to extend HOT lanes across the bridge to the I-270 spur in Maryland. Its study outlines this need and states that the American Legion Bridge has the worst congestion of all Potomac River crossings and also serves the most vehicles.

I am completely in support of a HOT lanes solution as long as it does not take off the table the much harder but more urgently needed Northern Crossing. I successfully added to the letter the need to keep another Potomac River crossing (the Northern Crossing) on the table.

Details of VDOT's study of the American Legion Bridge can be found [here](#). When reviewing the comparison numbers please note VDOT does an apples to oranges comparison when comparing "riders" to "vehicles".

### **World Police and Fire Games Showcases Fairfax to the World**

*Below is an Op Ed that I submitted to the Fairfax Times the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>.*

On Sunday night, Fairfax's World Police and Fire Games came to an end with the ceremonial passing of the torch to the 2017 hosts, Montreal. The county had the honor of handing over the torch to the Montreal delegation the same way we were handed the torch two years ago in Belfast. Back then, the games seemed like a lifetime away, but we knew that we had to put in the hard work to make sure that the games could be the very best that they had ever been. Fairfax knew that the games would put us on the world stage for the world's second largest sporting competition, and I am happy to say that we did not disappoint.

Our success is in no small part to the staff that was tasked with pulling off this massive event - their efforts to ensure that the games went smoothly and on schedule cannot be understated. To put things into perspective, the ice hockey tournament alone took place over 8 days, at 3 venues, with 170 games, 570 referee slots, and required over 4,000 volunteer hours. There were over 60 different sporting competitions total for the games; the level of coordination and professionalism from the Fairfax 2015 staff and event coordinators was monumental. Thank you as well to

the over 5,000 volunteers who sacrificed their time and energy to help showcase Fairfax to the world. Our public safety personnel were visible and welcoming hosts at each of the venues and were clearly all hands on deck. We couldn't have done it without all of you, and based on my discussions with them the athletes and their families were overwhelmed by the welcome and support that you gave them during their time here.

Overall, this last week and a half have provided some lasting memories for me and I'm sure for many of you as well. Seeing the many different smiling faces and cultures from all over the world come here and have a great time has been one of my most rewarding experiences as a Supervisor. I met Norwegians wearing their Viking helmets, Canadian Mounties, and the Bermudans in their shorts! It's also not often you get to say you watched a Women's World Cup Final (congratulations USA ladies!) with a gold medalist from Belfast, Northern Ireland! It has truly been a great games, and I hope you have all enjoyed the festive atmosphere.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the tragic passing of Brazilian competitor Inspector Carlos Silva whose life was taken from him during an accident in the bike race in Prince William County. I was so proud how our public safety personnel with the rest of their public safety family from all around the globe responded to this tragedy as they planned and executed a moving vigil for Inspector Silva and his Brazilian colleagues. The greater Fairfax County community has also pitched in and has so far raised thousands of dollars to help with the medical bills of those involved in the bicycle crash. My thoughts and prayers go out to Inspector Silva's family, and I wish the other injured athletes a speedy recovery.

If you would like to contribute to the WPFPG cycling crash victims fund, you can make a donation here - <http://www.gofundme.com/fairfax2015>

### **BSA Patriot District 3rd Annual Golf Outing to Support Scouting**

Please join me for the National Capital Area Council, BSA Patriot District's 6th Annual Golf Outing to Support Scouting on Monday, September 14. I am proud to again be a co-chair for this important event to support Scouting in our region. The tournament will have a shotgun start at 9:00 am and include longest drive contests, closest to the pin challenge, prizes and raffles, and a Silent Auction.

You can register your foursome by going to [http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\\_details.asp?id=665361](http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=665361)

The National Capital Area Council, BSA is currently one of the 300 plus local councils chartered by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. It is a Class 200 council, (one of the largest) and is geographically comprised of ten counties in Northern Virginia, six counties in Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

The NCAC Patriot District seeks to bring the opportunities of Scouting to an increasingly diverse group of the youth in the community and expand services to existing units.

Please join me on a fun-filled day for a worthy organization in our community.

### **Pohick Regional Library Closing for Renovation in September**

Pohick Regional Library, a branch of the Fairfax County Public Library, will close for renovation at 5 p.m. on Sept. 5, 2015. Renovations to the branch are expected to take 18 months.

While Pohick Regional Library is closed, two nearby community library branches, [Kings Park Library](#) and [Burke Centre Library](#), will extend their hours beginning Sunday, Sept. 13. The new hours will match the county's regional library branch hours. These extended hours will be in effect until the renovated Pohick Regional Library reopens. For directions or hours of operation, please visit the [library website](#).

Pohick Regional Library opened in 1987 with its award-winning design and yellow-capped clock tower. The newly renovated library will include energy saving features, after-hours meeting room capability, a teen area and Wi-Fi bar, and additional seating.

For more information, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po>

### **3 Day Tax Holiday this Weekend**

This year during the General Assembly Session, legislators voted to combine three existing sales tax holidays into one three-day holiday. This weekend is the three-day holiday!

This means that during these three days, you can purchase qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear, hurricane and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star and WaterSense products without paying sales tax. Items can be purchased online, by mail or over the phone.

To be eligible for the tax break, school supply items must be priced at \$20 or less, and clothing and footwear must be priced at \$100 or less. Energy Star or WaterSense labeled items with a sales price of \$2,500 or less must be purchased for noncommercial home or personal use. In addition, certain hurricane and emergency preparedness items such as batteries, flashlights, and radios, must be under \$60.

For more information about the Virginia tax holiday, including complete lists of eligible supplies and qualifying items is available [online](#).

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