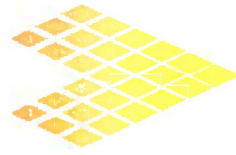


Virginians for Better Transportation



October 15, 2020

Mr. Abi Lerner, PE
Virginia Department of Transportation
Northern Virginia District
4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

Dear Mr. Lerner:

Virginians for Better Transportation (VBT) is a public education and outreach initiative that advocates for solutions to ensure Virginia's transportation needs are met. VBT was founded in 2005 as a collaboration of business and community leaders concerned about how lack of investment in Virginia's infrastructure was affecting the quality of life for all Virginians and impacting the state's economic stability. VBT has established its reputation as a credible and factual resource for transportation-related issues.

I write today to express our support for the 495 Next Project. This two-mile extension of the current 495 Express Lanes north to the George Washington Memorial Parkway will:

- Dramatically increase safety;
- Reduce travel time;
- Create a viable travel choice that will reduce cut-through traffic on local roads;
- Drive economic development in the area;
- Generate over \$850 million in economic activity during construction; and
- Create over \$6,000 jobs.

Each of these factors alone is important. Combined, the 495 Next Project benefits clearly meet the criteria of responsible and responsive transportation investment for the Northern Virginia region.

Please contact me when VBT can be of further assistance in moving the 495 Next Project forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Perkins', written over a white background.

Jeff Perkins

President – Boxley Materials Company