



495 Northern Extension, rr <495northernextension@vdot.virginia.gov>

---

## Support for hte 495 NOVA project

1 message

---

**John O'Donnell** <jod@wanada.org>

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 1:45 PM

To: "495NorthernExtension@VDOT.virginia.gov" <495NorthernExtension@vdot.virginia.gov>

Cc: Kathy Teich <kt@wanada.org>

Hello,

On behalf of the Washington Area New Auto Dealers Association (WANADA), I write to express our full support for the 495 NEXT Project. WANADA represents retail automobile businesses throughout Northern Virginia and actively advocates for community projects and programs that will benefit the automobile industry. By extending the Express Lanes on I-495 to the American Legion Bridge, the 495 NEXT Project will bring significant improvements to the Northern Virginia roads in an important transportation corridor. The automobile dealers and I urge the Commonwealth to approve this project.

The proposed Express Lanes will offer a more reliable option and improve overall safety for commuters and travelers on I-495 near the Virginia-Maryland border. As recognized by much of the Northern Virginia community, this section of I-495 is one of the most congested and trafficked roads in the Washington Metropolitan network. The Express Lanes in the 495 NEXT Project offer an attractive solution to this problem.

Perhaps most importantly, this project will establish a critical foundation for the Capital Beltway Accord. 495 NEXT serves as the first step in Virginia that will invite a smooth transition to further projects such as rebuilding the American Legion Bridge and extending the Express Lanes into Maryland. The economic growth generated by this project is significant. Estimates demonstrate that the project will create more than six thousand new jobs and produce millions in economic activity at no cost to Virginians. The 495 NEXT Project is important step in improving transportation in Northern Virginia which WANADA is committed to supporting.

I strongly encourage the Commonwealth to move forward with the 495 NEXT Project. The Washington area automobile dealers support this project because it will address much needed improvements in a critical transportation corridor. WANADA appreciates your consideration.

John O'Donnell

President & CEO

Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association

MobilityTalks International & The Washington, DC Auto Show

202/237-7200 office

202/669-8144 mobile

[www.wanada.org](http://www.wanada.org)

[www.washingtonautoshow.com](http://www.washingtonautoshow.com)

[www.washingtonautoshow.com/mobilitytalks](http://www.washingtonautoshow.com/mobilitytalks)

