

October 17, 2016

Elizabeth Garvey  
Chair,  
Arlington County Board of Supervisors

Allison Silberberg  
Mayor,  
City of Alexandria

Re: I-395 Express Lanes / HOT Lanes

Dear Chair Garvey and Mayor Silberberg:

Fairlington and other I-395 corridor residents attended an I-395 Express Lanes presentation by VDOT, TransUrban, and DRPT during the Fairlington Citizen Association's (FCA) September monthly meeting.

*Whatever you may have read in FCA's October newsletter, I-395 corridor residents asked many questions about I-395 which were not answered by VDOT, TransUrban, and DRPT, regarding costs and benefits.*

It appears that I-395 Express Lanes through Arlington would be at the terminus of a DC-to-Fredericksburg Expressway and the primary beneficiaries would be TransUrban and residents of Prince William, Stafford, and Spotsylvania Counties, especially those who drive single-occupant vehicles. Other beneficiaries would be corporations that serve both expanding New Urbanist / Smart Growth populations inside the DC beltway and expanding suburban sprawl communities in Spotsylvania and Stafford Counties. These include housing, media, and transportation corporations.

We believe that I-395 / I-95 Express Lanes will only accelerate urbanization inside the DC beltway and suburban sprawl in outer suburbs and areas that are presently rural.

We believe that former Arlington County Board Members Chris Zimmerman and Mary Hynes were correct in opposing I-395 Express Lanes. We believe Express Lanes offer little or no benefit to I-395 corridor residents who live in Arlington and Alexandria and that we would suffer a number of negative consequences, should Express Lanes be constructed. *We oppose TransUrban having any role in the construction and operation of proposed I-395 Express Lanes.*

Therefore, we cannot support I-395 Express Lanes and instead advocate greatly increased telework and ridesharing, and greatly expanded VRE and interurban bus service, including express bus and rail service.

Finally, as you may be aware, FCA has for many years served as a facilitator of for-profit and non-profit organizations whose plans negatively affected quality-of-life in Fairlington and nearby neighborhoods. Consequently, a number of Fairlington residents have chosen to not be represented by FCA in civic matters.

Alexandria-Arlington I-395 Corridor Residents