

The Town of
**Leesburg,
Virginia**

PRESENTED: July 23, 2013

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-092

ADOPTED: July 23, 2013

A RESOLUTION: LEESBURG TOWN COUNCIL NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR
POSITION STATEMENT

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Town Council supports a timely-funded, and efficiently functioning, multi-modal transportation system to alleviate traffic congestion in the Town of Leesburg and its surrounding area for the benefit of residents of, and visitors to, the Town; and

WHEREAS, the planned interchange at Edwards Ferry Road and the Leesburg Bypass has been an identified critical need for decades; but has just been added to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) 6-year plan with only funding for the Design Phase identified; and

WHEREAS, other needed transportation improvements for the Town of Leesburg, such as the interchange at Route 7 and Battlefield Parkway, the completion of Crosstrail Boulevard, a potential interchange at Battlefield Parkway and the Leesburg Bypass, and continuation of a public transportation system in and through the Town of Leesburg are not yet funded; and

WHEREAS, the recently approved Virginia Transportation bill, that would add funding for needed projects, is inadequate for the list of projects needing funding, with no direct revenue stream to the towns, like Leesburg, that bear financial responsibility for construction and maintenance of projects within their borders; and

WHEREAS, VDOT and the Commonwealth Transportation Board have identified a new North-South Corridor of Statewide Significance that would connect Route 7 east of Leesburg with I-95 in Prince William County, defined as the area generally east and west of: Route 234 (Dumfries Road) between I-95 and I-66; the Bi-County Parkway between I-66 and Route 50;

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connections to the Dulles Greenway and Route 7 along Northstar Boulevard and Route 659 (Belmont Ridge Road); and

WHEREAS, the North-South Corridor could compete for funding with critical projects in the Town of Leesburg; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Leesburg has taken the position that any new north-south highway, such as the North-South Corridor, that connects I-95 with Route 7 and terminates on Route 7 and does not cross the Potomac River east of Goose Creek, will increase the burden on the Town's taxpayers by increasing traffic through the Town on the Leesburg Bypass and Route 15, especially large truck traffic; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia establishes the following to be communicated to local, State and Federal elected officials representing the Town:

The Town Council Opposes:

1. The North-South Corridor of Statewide Significance as a corridor connecting I-95 to Route 7 with a northern terminus on Route 7 just east of Leesburg with no plan for an additional bridge crossing of the Potomac River east of Goose Creek; and
2. Any prioritization of funding for the North-South Corridor over needed projects in Leesburg and Loudoun County, such as interchanges on the Leesburg Bypass and Route 7; and
3. The recommendations within the Northern Virginia North-South Corridor Master Plan study; and
4. A North-South Corridor Study that does not demonstrate relief of traffic on U.S. 15 in Loudoun County; and
5. The widening of U.S. 15 outside of town limits, which is part of the Hallowed Ground corridor.

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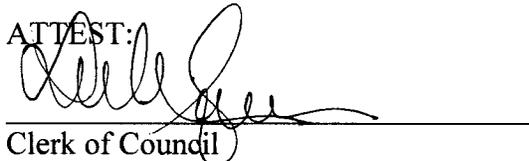
The Town Council Supports:

1. Funding roads to alleviate regional roadway congestion and substantially improve the transportation system of the region, including construction of the interchange at the Route 15 Bypass and Edwards Ferry Road, construction of an interchange at Battlefield Parkway and Route 7 with possible financial assistance from Loudoun County; construction of Crosstrail Boulevard from Route 7 to Sycolin Road; urges county financial assistance and consideration of an interchange at Battlefield Parkway and the Leesburg Bypass; and
2. Funding for local traffic calming projects which would help reduce speeding and improve safety; and
3. Funding safe pedestrian and bicycle travel; and
4. Continued funding for the County's Bus Transit System and Virginia Regional Transit local routes to help reduce the number of vehicles on the roadways, improve access for all residents and help commuters improve travel time to and from offices in and around Leesburg, as well as to points east in Loudoun County, Northern Virginia and the entire Metropolitan Region.

PASSED this 23rd day of July, 2013.


Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council