



County of Fairfax, Virginia

Supervisor Herrity Jointly with Supervisor Storck and Chairman McKay Board Matter Addressing Safety Concerns on Lee Chapel Road January 24, 2023

Background: As the Board is aware, the community recently lost two young lives and one remains seriously injured after a crash on Lee Chapel Road. In the weeks following the crash, I have (and no doubt you all have as well) received a significant number of calls, emails, and social media messages from people asking us to do something to prevent this from happening again including a petition signed by over 14,000 residents asking for improvements. This half-mile stretch of Lee Chapel Road has seen significant accidents as well as injuries over the past several years. After a previous fatal crash occurred on this road in 2015, I recommended a project that would fix the hills, curves, and alignment be added to our district's priority list of unfunded transportation projects. I attempted to have it moved forward during the 2017 Transportation Priority Plan process, but funding was not sufficient at that time, and it remains on our unfunded priority list.

After learning of the news of this terrible crash, I asked leadership at VDOT and FCDOT to meet to discuss short-term safety-related options we can take while we continue to work to obtain funding for the full improvement of this section of Lee Chapel Road. On January 18th I hosted a meeting with Supervisor Storck, Delegate Kathy Tran, and VDOT and FCDOT leadership to discuss short and mid-term improvements that we can undertake while we work to fund the full four-lane improvement project as shown on the Comprehensive Plan.

VDOT has already installed optical speed bars on the roadway as a timely first step. FCDOT has also asked Public Works to look at the feasibility of and costs associated with installation of streetlights in the vicinity of the hills. I am engaging with the Park Authority as recommended by VDOT and FCDOT. We, as well as VDOT and FCDOT, are clearly committed to improve safety on this short section of roadway and details on these proposals will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. While FCDOT is already looking at a mid-term solution to eliminate the hill that has been the primary source of accidents and fatalities on this road, we thought it prudent to bring this action to the Board for direction and approval.

Motion: While we continue to address short-term solutions, I move that FCDOT be directed to research and provide a preliminary cost estimate for a project to eliminate the hills on Lee Chapel Road between Ox Road and the Fairfax County Parkway and provide the Board with potential sources of funding for the solution. These interim changes should be designed with the ultimate goal of the four-lane widening currently envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan. I also direct the County Executive to coordinate with the Fairfax County Park Authority, FCDOT and VDOT to look at safety improvements along the FCPA owned road frontage on Lee Chapel Road.

**SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
6140 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
703-451-8873 TTY 711 Fax 703-451-3047
Springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov