

PRESENTED: June 25, 2013

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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(Dumfries Road) between I-95 and I-66; the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved location of the Tri-County Parkway between I-66 and Route 50; connections to the Dulles Greenway and Route 7 along Northstar Boulevard and Route 659 (Belmont Ridge Road); and

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

WHEREAS, the North-South Corridor was added to the State's list of Corridors of Statewide Significance without a complete public process and after the corridor master planning process was already completed, yet it was moved to the top of the list for funding ahead of long-planned projects in jurisdictions like Leesburg; and

WHEREAS, VDOT has asserted that the North-South Corridor would increase large truck freight traffic along the North-South Corridor;

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

WHEREAS, the Tri or Bi-County Parkway in Prince William County is a component of the North-South Corridor of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, construction of the Tri or Bi-County Parkway threatens the Manassas National Battlefield and adjacent National Register Historic District which are historic resources of national significance; and

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WHEREAS, the Town of Leesburg is on record opposing any new north-south corridor that threatens environmental and/or historical resources.

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; and
3. Construction of the Tri-or Bi-County Parkway without an updated ESI process and public hearing to eliminate any impacts on the Manassas National Battlefield and National Register Historic District.

The Town Council Supports:

1. Funding roads to alleviate regional roadway congestion including construction of the interchange at the Route 15 Bypass and Edwards Ferry Road, construction of an interchange at Battlefield Parkway and Route 7; construction of Crosstrail Boulevard from Route 7 to Sycolin Road; and urges consideration of an interchange at Battlefield Parkway and the Leesburg Bypass. Funding construction of these projects will substantially improve the transportation system of the region.

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2. In addition to funding of these regional roads, funding for local traffic calming projects.

These projects would help reduce speeding and improve safety.

3. Funding safe pedestrian and bicycle travel; and
4. Continued funding for the County's Bus Transit System 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 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

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Kristen C. Umstatt, Mayor  
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council