

VIRGINIA BEACH
VISION

February 17, 2014

Ms. Alice Allen-Grimes
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
803 Front Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Ms. Allen-Grimes:

I write today to provide comment on behalf of Virginia Beach Vision, Inc., a non-profit, issues oriented business organization. representing 125 CEOs and senior executives in the Virginia Beach area. The organization is dedicated to creating a vision and advocating actions that will ensure economic prosperity and a high quality of life for our citizens. As a part of the Hampton Roads MSA, we believe the construction of a limited access, interstate quality roadway parallel to the existing Route 460 will be significant to our region's future economic growth, military commands and transportation system.

In response to the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers' and the Federal Highway Administration's Notice of Intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Route 460 Location Study, Virginia Beach Vision encourages that the SEIS and permitting process be expedited so that this critical project can move forward.

The Route 460 Bypass Project will improve travel safety and speeds along the corridor, serve as a jobs generator by attracting new business and accommodating tourist traffic, significantly enhance ingress and egress from the port, and provide a critically needed alternative evacuation route from Hampton Roads. There is no question that the existing roadways in and out of the Hampton Roads area are grossly inefficient to handle the travel expectations and commerce of the region. An interstate quality Route 460 aligned facility will provide a large measure of relief to growing needs for port access, tourist related travel and transportation safety.

Respectfully,

Craig Poppen
President

cc: The Honorable Terry McAuliffe, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
The Honorable Aubrey Layne, Secretary of Transportation
The Honorable Commonwealth Transportation Board
James S. Utterback, District Administrator, VDOT Hampton Roads District
The Honorable Virginia Beach City Council
The Honorable Virginia Beach Legislative Delegation

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February 17, 2014

Mr. Ed Sundra
Federal Highway Administration
400 North 8th Street, Suite 750
Richmond, VA 23219

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