



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

April 30, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Interstate System Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Pilot Program – Virginia's
Interstate Route 81 conditional provisional acceptance

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On April 20, 2010, Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sean T. Connaughton sent FHWA Administrator Victor Mendez a letter requesting approval to switch the Commonwealth's conditional provisional acceptance to toll Interstate Route 81 under the Interstate System Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Pilot Program to Interstate Route 95. After a careful review of the Commonwealth's transportation needs, I believe that the ability to toll Interstate Route 95 will quickly enable the Commonwealth to begin addressing a number of these needs.

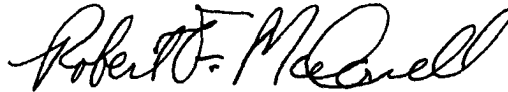
Interstate Route 95 is one of the nation's largest and most important transportation corridors, linking commercial and economic centers and tourist destinations up and down the East Coast. Currently, however, significant portions of Interstate Route 95 have deficient pavements and structures. These deficiencies contribute to I-95 having one of the highest accident rates of all of the Commonwealth's major transportation corridors. The Commonwealth intends to use revenues generated through tolling to address a number of safety concerns throughout the corridor, and then make improvements to the pavement conditions and infrastructure. Once these improvements are made, the Commonwealth will make capacity related improvements.

Over the last two years, the Virginia Department of Transportation has seen budget reductions of \$4.6 billion. We estimate that tolling on I-95 can generate between \$30 and \$60 million annually to begin addressing the needs in the Interstate Route 95 corridor, while at the same time freeing up maintenance dollars to be used on other transportation projects throughout the Commonwealth. The Secretary and I believe that the imposition of tolls on I-95 is the most efficient and timely method to generate the much needed revenue to make these improvements to the corridor.

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I respectfully ask for a favorable ruling to help the Commonwealth move forward with this project of lasting benefit to both Virginia and the entire East Coast. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Secretary Connaughton at (804) 786-8032 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert F. McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Robert F. McDonnell

RFM/ms