



Multimodal Solutions - 495 to Haymarket

**2017 DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING
October 10, 2017**

I-66 Outside the Beltway Project

***Between U.S. Route 15 in Haymarket and I-495/Capital Beltway in Fairfax County State
Project: 0066-96A-297,P101 / Federal Project: NH-066-1(300) / UPC: 105500***

I-66 Express Mobility Partners, the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) partner on the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project, plans to construct a park-and-ride lot in the northeast corner of the I-66 and Route 29 interchange (Exit 43) at University Boulevard in Gainesville to make it easier for commuters to use transit or carpool. The design includes bus bays, passenger shelters, bicycle racks, a pick up/drop off area, and future access to and from the I-66 Express Lanes.

The Design Public Hearing was held on October 10, 2017 at Piney Branch Elementary School in Bristow, Virginia from 6-8 p.m. The meeting had an open house format, where citizens were given the opportunity to review design materials and exhibits, and submit comments via a written form or by giving comments to a court reporter. Participants and interested parties could also submit comments via email or the project website.

Twenty-four people attended the meeting, including Delegate Bob Marshall, Chase Sawyer (aide for Delegate Jackson Miller), Mark Allen (aide for Prince William County Supervisor Pete Candland), Prince William County Department of Transportation Director Rick Canizales, Manassas Battlefield National Park Superintendent Brendan Bies, representatives of the impacted property at the site and others. Two media outlets, the Manassas/Bull Run Observer and WDMV both covered the event.

The comment period for the hearing was 30 days, concluding on October 20, 2017.

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**COMMENTS AND RESPONSES
UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD & PARK & RIDE LOT**

A total of six comments were received either in writing or via the court reporter.

- Two comments in support of the project;
- One neutral comment on potential impact of a Dominion Power project on the facility;
- One comment from the property owner (right of way);
- Two comments on bicycle issues (one specific to the facility, one more generally about trail design in Prince William County).

ONLINE AND EMAIL CORRESPONDENTS

- No comments were received via regular mail or email.

SUPPORT AND NEUTRAL COMMENTS

Comments Received:

- Support: *“Currently take the bus each day from Cushing lot and will enjoy having another option. Thank you for building this lot and keep up the great work.”*
- Support: *“I support it. Need 3 outbound lanes and only 1 inbound lane. 2 inbound lanes are not necessary with only single turn lanes from each direction into lot.”*
- Neutral Comment: *“Encourage VDoT to work with Dominion Power on power lines and usage so that project isn’t impacted.”*

Response:

- Given the nature of the comments, no public response necessary.
- Coordination with Dominion Power is ongoing.

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RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION COMMENTS

One comment was received on right of way acquisition (from the property owner.)

- Comment was made on impact of property owner relative to right of way acquisition process. *“Encourage VDOT to work with property owners and support a potential parking structure as well as partnering with Army Corps of Engineers for research on storm water management.”*

Response:

- The Department and I-66 Express Mobility Partners are continuing to coordinate a surface parking lot with key stakeholders including the landowners and others.

BICYCLIST / PEDESTRIAN COMMENTS

Two comments were received to improve bicycle and pedestrian access as part of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Project, however, they were not specific to the subject property of this hearing. Comments include requests that grade-separated crossings of major roadways be implemented, and build a bike/pedestrian trail parallel to I-66 in Prince William County.

Comments Received:

- Comment on park and ride facility: *“Project should consider storage space for bicycle accessories for bicyclist utilizing bike/pedestrian trail”*
- Comment on broader trails issue: *“Build the shared use path in PWC.”*

Response:

Covered racks providing space for a minimum of 75 bicycles are included in the project. Enclosed bike lockers are not included in the initial project.

There is an at-grade crossing on the Express Lane entrance ramps, which connects to an existing trail which runs along University Boulevard and eventually connects to Wellington Road.

Design adjustments that would potentially address grade separation of the trail in areas where it is adjacent to the highway, and exploration of alternatives has been done in conjunction with both the Prince William County and Fairfax County transportation departments and parks agencies. The Transform 66 project team has also been working closely with the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling on addressing issues of interest from the cycling community as alternatives are explored.