



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Jennifer L. Mitchell  
Director

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October 24, 2016

Mayor James Foley  
Town of Ashland  
101 Thompson Street  
P.O. Box 1600  
Ashland, Virginia 23005-4600

Dear Mayor Foley:

Thank you for your September 30, 2016 letter regarding the Washington, D.C. to Richmond Tier II Environmental Impact Statement (DC2RVA) and we appreciate your continued interest in working collaboratively with us to chart the path forward.

Over the past year, a wide range of alternatives for the Ashland area have been considered and screened for further study. We solicited and incorporated public comment as we went through this process. The alternatives we considered included additional tracks along the existing corridor through town as well as bypass alignments outside of town. The Draft EIS is still being prepared and once completed later this fall, it will document all the alternatives considered and their associated benefits and impacts. This Draft EIS will also identify the alternatives considered but dismissed from further study during the screening process.

Once the Draft EIS is completed, and is made available for public review, we would like to meet with you to discuss design issues and next steps. DRPT remains committed to soliciting input from all interested stakeholders and will fully consider all comments received on the Draft EIS.

In the meantime, as you know, we plan to conduct a tour on November 1, 2016 for members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board of the alignment options for Ashland. We are looking forward to this tour and welcome your participation in it. We have been communicating tour details to the Town of Ashland through your Director of Planning & Community Development, Nora Amos.

If you have any questions about the upcoming tour or the Draft EIS process and timeline, please contact Emily Stock at [Emily.stock@drpt.virginia.gov](mailto:Emily.stock@drpt.virginia.gov) or by phone at (804) 786-1052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer L. Mitchell".

Jennifer L. Mitchell