## I-395 EXPRESS LANES - SEMINARY ROAD DECEMBER 9, 2019 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING COMMENT SUMMARY REPORT – FULL COMMENTS

ID#	Comment Date	Individual /Entity	Source of Request	Comment/Question	Response
495VDOT 12092019.01	12/3/2019	Individual	Email	Hello, I am in favor of changing the I- 395/Seminary Road HOV ramp from HOV to HOT ramp.	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.02	12/3/2019	Individual	Email	To Whom It May Concern, I'd like to provide my comment via this message regarding the issue in the subject line. I would fully support Transurbran taking over the management of the 395/Seminary ramp and converting it to a HOT ramp. It makes no sense that the entire 95/395 toll lanes and all other ramps are accessible for a fee, but not this one. I've worked in the Mark Center for 7 years and understand the history behind it being an HOV only ramp, but with the implementation of the 395 toll lanes, there no longer a logical argument to keep it as HOV only. This ramp would provide an added exit point for those on the toll lanes and would keep cars from having to merge back into the general purpose lanes (and add to the congestion) at Edsall/Turkeycock in order to exit at Seminary. Please consider this message in support of the conversion. Thank you.	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.03	12/4/2019	Individual	Email	Strongly recommend making this ramp HOT accessible. Thank you.	Comment noted

495VDOT	12/4/2019	Individual	Email	REJECT ALL TRANSURBAN PROPOSALS! First off,	Safety
12092019.04				if it cannot even finish SAFETY ITEMS like lights on	As documented in the technical report for
				the north and south lanes FIRST, before it finishes	this project, I-395 at Seminary Road
				sound barriers (aka hardened walls designed to	Interchange Modification Report (Lite), the
				prevent expansion of the regular lanes later),	implementation of the conversion from HOV
				then why was this not part of the original	to HOT is expected to improve safety in the
				contract and bid? If they want the access, make	corridor. The safety improvements are the
				them pay a BILLION DOLLARS or give other	result of shifting traffic from the congested
				concessions like nullifying the State's limits on	general purpose lanes and ramps to the less
				expansion. As they already proved they are	congested HOT lanes and ramps.
				capable when VDOT tried to expand around the	
				Occaquan, Virginia residents are just going to be	Fixed Off-Peak Prices
				taxed to death. Second, Transurban has already	The I-395 Express Lanes are operated by
				IGNORED numerous safety issues and created	Transurban based on the requirements
				deadly and dangerous conditions on the regular	established in an Agreement between
				lanes all for the sake of profiting and finishing the	Transurban and VDOT. Under this agreement,
				TOLL ROAD! VDOT has utterly neglected to do	Amended and Restated Comprehensive
				anything to force them to fix roads that they have	Agreement Relating to the I-95/395
				damaged, move barracades blocking easy access	HOV/HOT Lanes Project (dated June 8, 2017),
				by 395/Little River, place traffic cones so that	the concessionaire is allowed to impose
				they are not dangerously cutting into the	congestion pricing with toll rate changes at
				roadways, move road lines properly and failed to	frequent intervals and with no restrictions on
				paint over or sheer off old lines, or repair the	toll rates.
				bridges that users are going to have to use. They	
				tore up the road next to the highway and failed	Usage of the I-395 Toll Lanes
				to repair it before opening it back up to traffic,	Vehicles with three or more passengers can
				and installed holes, access grates, and manholes	use the Express Lanes free of charge. The toll
				in the roadway of 395 and left them several	lanes operate with dynamic tolling. The tolls
				inches above the roadway destroying hundreds	of the I-395 Express Lanes are dynamically
				of car tires and rims. Third, if they want access,	changed throughout the day based on the
				may them agree to concessions like FIXED OFF	level of congestion of the general purpose
				PEAK PRICES?! Fourth, they have already proven	lanes. This helps improve the utilization of
				that their metrics are fraudulent designing	both the Express Lanes and the general
				them to collect data only when it suits	purpose lanes in the I-395 corridor.
				them. Every week they have been open traffic	
				has been WORSE on the regular lanes because	Impact on Seminary Road Traffic
				people CANNOT AFFORD to use the TOLL	As documented in the technical report for
				ROAD?!Fifth, giving access to TOLL CARS would	this project, I-395 at Seminary Road
				absolutely dump more traffic on at Seminary	Interchange Modification Report (Lite), the
				Road as people are forced to escape the	implementation of the conversion from HOV

				monopolistic prices in the last 5 miles EXACTLY AS THEY PREDICTED BUT FAILED TO DISCLOSE! Lastly, make them change the way that they bill. Prices should only go up when traffic on both TOLL SIDE and REGULAR LANES are equalized. Once they are equalized, then they can raise the tolls. Most other countries do this as they are proven to move more cars, faster, and more smoothly. In fact, Transurban does just the opposite in the US, based on false evidence. If VDOT continues to make these changes, we will be forced to sue against VDOT and Transurban for violating public policies against free access to the roads and seek to nullify the transurban century contract as VOID against public policy since it prohibits the state from taking many actions that benefit taxpaying residents. THIS WOULD DESTROY SEMINARY ROAD ACCESS ONTO 395 NORTH IN THE RUSH! Which would force all traffic back even farther, creating a "loop" and self-fulfilling prophecy of traffic gridlock for the poor minority residents of this particular stretch at Seminary and even worse the people at Little River	to HOT is not expected to result in a measurable increase in traffic on Seminary Road. The conversion from HOV to HOT is expected to shift traffic that currently uses the I-395 general purpose lanes and ramps to the Express Lanes and the converted HOT ramp.
				Turnpike who are already stuck in the middle of Transurban's raping of the residents.	
495VDOT 12092019.05	12/5/2019	Individual	Email	I recently read about the proposed change to make the Seminary 395 express lane exit a HOT lane exit. I am completely in support of this change and would be a daily user to commute between child care and my work location in the City of Alexandria. This is currently a huge burden to me and would significantly improve my commute times if the non-HOV restrictions were lifted. Having an HOV only exit defeats the purpose for many of us that work near this exit and again just created more traffic in the slower lanes during peak times. I hope this change is agreed to by the City Council to support the daily commuters/City employees in the area. The exit	Comment noted

				ramp doesn't serve much purpose if it can't be used by all drivers of the HOT lanes. The existing regular 395 lanes are so extremely, unnecessarily slow and underdeveloped for the commuting needs is this area. Any extra help to ease normal traffic should be changed.	
495VDOT 12092019.06	12/5/2019	Individual	Email	I look forward to seeing you next Monday eve at Minnie Howard at the public meeting re: converting the ramp from HOV only to HOT. I understand there will be the ability to have the informal review and discussion with staff with various information on poster boards, etc., and then a presentation. And I understand we can file written comments. But it was not clear whether the members of the public will be able to provide oral comments to VDOT and TransUrban like we would at a public hearing. Please let me know. There is no sense is preparing a statement if there is not an opportunity to give it. I hope you and I have time to talk about a few related issues in the same general area. I think the City and VDOT can cooperate on making a few minor changes to striping, marking, and signing that would help traffic flow in the area impacted by the BRAC building. I hope to bring some sketches to leave with you so you can see the simple ideas. See you Monday!	Members of the public were given the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments during the public meeting.
495VDOT 12092019.07	12/5/2019	Individual	Email	I am writing as someone who supports the conversion of the I-395 Seminary Road Ramp in the City of Alexandrina to a HOT ramp. It doesn't make sense for all of I-395 to be HOT accessible, but this one ramp is only HOV accessible. It is confusing as both a rider and a driver. Currently, the signage is not clear and it is easy for riders who have seen the NEW HOT lanes advertised to get confused and take this ramp. Thankfully someone told me or I have may have been one of	Comment noted

				those folks and potentially the recipient of a hefty ticket. Thanks for your time.	
495VDOT 12092019.08	12/6/2019	Individual	Email	Please change HOV ramp that connects Seminary Road and I-395 toward the south from HOV (carpool) only to High Occupancy Toll (HOT). The ramp should be available for HOT as well as HOV all of the time, why not we paid millions to make the HOV lanes HOT so go all the way.	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.09	12/6/2019	City of Alexandria	Letter	The City of Alexandria appreciates the opportunity to review the October 2019, I-395 at Seminary Road Interchange Modification Report (IMR) Lite. We expedited our review to get you our comments prior to the December 9 public meeting. Overall, we found the analysis methodology is consistent with good industry practice and there were no fatal flaws in the assumptions, projections or results. VDOT is to be commended because the analysis is very thorough. The analysis found converting the ramp to High Occupancy Toll (HOT) operation slightly improves travel times for the northbound I-395 AM peak both in 2020 and 2040. No improvements were noted for other times. However, no increase in the number of people or vehicles moved through the corridor was identified. Furthermore, the analysis did not identify any travel time improvements or other benefits to the local roadway network by allowing the conversion of the ramp. Based on the results of the IMR, the City finds no compelling reason to convert the Seminary ramp for High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) to HOT. There are still many unknowns and the City does not believe the risk is worth the minimal benefit. Additionally, the Alexandria City Council adopted a resolution in 2012 stating the City position with respect to the operation of the Northbound I-395/Seminary Road HOV/Transit Ramp. I can be	The analysis shows no meaningful changes in traffic demand on the side roads within the influence area of the ramp from a traffic operations and safety point of view. With that, the conversion of the ramp from HOV to HOT provides an additional travel choice making a more direct connection to the area than using side roads. It also reduces the access inconsistency and driver confusion along this corridor with the implementation of the I-395 Express Lanes. As documented in the technical report for this project, I-395 at Seminary Road Interchange Modification Report (Lite), there are no risks from this conversion to the operations and safety within the influence area of this ramp.

				reached at 703-746-4017 should you have further questions.	
495VDOT 12092019.10	12/8/2019	Individual	Email	I have no objection changing the HOV entrance to a HOT entrance. Last Saturday (7 Dec 2019) afternoon, I was heading into Washington and saw a toll for \$1.50 to avoid several hundred cars crossing on 395 into DC in the local lanes. For me it was worth it – for hundreds of others it was not. It strikes me that a toll gantry and sign showing the toll for using the Seminary Road entrance / exit would regulate the traffic sufficiently as it does on the entrance to the 395 HOT Lane entrance to the 14th Street Bridge while allowing since drivers who want to get on the Express Lanes that option. It's amazing what a deterrent \$1.50 can do to clear up traffic	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.11	12/9/2019	Individual	Comment Sheet	1. What features of the proposed Seminary Road Ramp conversion do you like? I like the proposed ramp b/c it will allow me to get in the sb hot lanes. It also seems like it will reduce congestion on the general purpose ramp to sb 395 from Seminary. 2. What features of the proposed Seminary Road Ramp conversion do you have concerns about? None—It seems like a basic, common sense idea. 3. Do you have any comments and/or suggestions regarding the information you received tonight? Keep the planned summer 2020 date for the project completion. Don't delay it! 4. Would you like to receive project information? Yes, Email.	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.12	12/10/2019	Individual	Email & Comment	1. What features of the porposed Seminary Road Ramp conversion do you like? Simple. Cost	Comment noted
			Sheet	Effective. Value to all drivers, neighborhood. 2. What features of the proposed Seminary Road Ramp conversion do you have concerns about? None – extra 200 cars peak hour – 2/3 to Bract – Extra 60 cars in 1 hr – cars/minute will not cause problems to Seminary. 3. Do you have any comments and/or suggestions regarding the	

				information you received tonight? Copy of charts please to email. 4. Would you like to receive project information? If so, how do you prefer to receive it? Absolutely! Email.	
495VDOT 12092019.13	12/10/2019	Individual	Email	I highly support the change of the ONLY HOV ramp on 395 to become a HOT ramp. This would provide many people the opportunity to access the Mark Center area much easier. It would reduce some of the chaotic traffic on the confusing AND very congested Seminary Rd/I-395 interchange, as well as the intersection at Seminary Rd and Mark Center Avenue. This intersection is extremely backed up and tons of cars don't properly utilize, they cross solid lines. If people were headed to the DoD Mark Center Bldg, they would be instantly removed by entering the turn only lane, reducing the number of cars in the mess of that intersection and the one at Seminary Rd and Beulah Rd. I sincerely hope this proposal moves forward ASAP!!!	Comment noted
495VDOT 12092019.14	12/10/2019	Individual	Email	Please stop making commuting so expensive. Changing lanes and exits to toll roads that were previously HOV is a terrible idea for improving traffic flow. It just makes the lanes usable by the privileged. It will not increase the amount of people car pooling. Schedules in this area are so complicated that it is not feasible for people to gather others just to avoid the toll cost.	The south-facing I-395 ramp from the Express Lanes to Seminary Road is currently operated as HOV-only. With the proposed conversion to HOT, it will continue to allow HOV vehicles access to this ramp for free. Solo drivers continue to have the same free choice as they do today with an option to pay a toll for a reliable connection to Seminary Road using the Express Lanes.

495VDOT	12/13/2019	Individual	Email	As a regular motorcycle commuter trying to	1. The VDOT Traffic Engineering Section is
12092019.15				reduce my carbon and vehicle footprints, the	evaluating these recommendations and will
				Seminary Rd ramp interchange is both necessary	implement improvements that are deemed
				and unavoidable. Though I have been riding for	to be effective.
				over twenty years, have completed formal rider	
				safety training, and wear high-visibility protective	2. This is a good observation and the safety
				gear, I find this area to be exceedingly dangerous	and feasibility of a shared through-left lane
				for motorcycle riders and other vehicle drivers	(adjacent to the left-only lane) will be
				alike. For the sake of this discussion, I will refer to	assessed by the VDOT Traffic Engineering
				the series of ramps in the interchange as a rotary	section.
				to signify the tight series of turns that ultimately	2 See response for 2 above
				service Seminary Rd eastbound and westbound,	3. See response for 2. above.
				as well as I-395 northbound, southbound, and	4. Comment noted.
				HOT ramp. Many of my concerns come from the	4. Comment noted.
				very poor lane marking and labeling, which lead	5. The VDOT Traffic Engineering Section is
				to frequent cutoffs and unclear rights-of-way. As	evaluating these recommendations and wil
				a motorcyclist, this puts me in a particularly	implement improvements that are deemed
				precarious position given my more limited ability to be seen and other drivers' inadvertent	to be effective in addressing the issue.
				tendency to not spot motorcycles.Referring to the attached satellite view of the Seminary Rd	ADD
				rotary and ramps, I would like to highlight the	
				following five areas of concern and confusion:	
				1. The left-hand turn ramp from Seminary Rd	
				Eastbound toward the I-395 north general	
				purpose and HOT north ramps (currently	
				assuming a morning commute) is very poorly	
			labeled. All too frequently, vehicles in the		
				innermost counter-clockwise lane will cut to the	
				middle or outermost lanes. This largely occurs	Googe
				mid-apex of turn, and mostly because those	
				drivers do not want to be stuck making the next	
				left turn.	
				2. Vehicles that do not cut from the innermost	
				counter-clockwise lane at point 1 mentioned	
				above often cut across to go straight onto the I-	
				395 north general purpose lane ramp at point 2.	
				This effectively cuts off vehicles (including buses)	
				that are turning left toward Seminary Rd	
			1	westbound and the northbound HOT lane ramp.	

In addition, buses frequently turn left from the	
innermost lane at turn 2 and cut directly across to	
the HOT lane ramp, which cuts off traffic that had	
turned left from the middle lane.	
3. At point 3, where traffic merges from the	
southbound HOT ramp (now assuming an	
evening commute), vehicles frequently cut	
directly across the two Seminary Rd westbound	
lanes so they may proceed around the rotary to I-	
395 southbound general purpose lanes or to	
Seminary Rd eastbound.	
4. Point 4 in the picture is confusing because this	
turn seems to be the only of the four "corners" of	
the Seminary Rd rotary that does not clearly	
allow for two left-hand turning lanes. Points 1, 2,	
and 5 all indicate that two lanes are able to make	
the turns simultaneously.	
5. Of all of the turns in the Seminary Rd rotary	
ramp, this is the only one that seems like a left-	
hand turn on red would be safely completed due	
to visibility and the one-way roadway turning	
onto another one-way roadway. It is currently	
unclear whether this is or should be allowable at	
this turn.	
I will add that all of these issues are seriously	
compounded at night and in the rain. Lane lines	
and markers that ARE present are not reflective	
and are seemingly invisible in darkened or wet	
conditions. I appreciate the opportunity to	
discuss my concerns and will gladly provide	

				clarification if necessary.	
495VDOT 12092019.16	12/14/2019	Individual	Email	The HOV entrance/exit ramp on I-395 at Seminary Road is under consideration for conversion to HOT lanes. Apparently, the City of Alexandria is not in favor of a conversion. This seems extremely mean-spirited and shortsighted. In a letter to VDOT, dated 6 December, Ms. Hillary Orr (Deputy Director for Transportation for Alexandria City) wrote: "Based on the results of the IMR, the City finds no compelling reason to convert the Seminary ramp for High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) to HOT. There are still many unknowns and the City does not believe the risk is worth the minimal benefit. Additionally, the Alexandria City Council adopted a resolution in 2012 stating the City position with respect to the operation of the Northbound I-395/Seminary Road HOV/Transit Ramp."I live in Fairfax County, near Seminary Road, and use the mainline of I-395 weekdays. I do not understand the City of Alexandria's position. What is the risk opening the ramp to HOT traffic? There are benefits to people who reside inside the beltway whom they seem to forget about.I do not use the HOV/HOT lanes frequently, but when I do, I would like the option to enter as a single driver (or 2 of us in the car) at	We agree that the conversion of the ramp from HOV to HOT provides an additional travel choice making a more direct connection to the area than using side roads.

495VDOT 12092019.17	12/20/2019	Individual	Email	Seminary heading south, rather than waiting until Edsall Road. When returning from the south heading north, I would like the option to exit at Seminary, rather than exiting at Edsall, or waiting until the next exit past Seminary. The ramp is available, so let's use it. Anything you can do to assist in getting the HOV ramp converted to a HOT ramp would be appreciated. Let's do the right thing for all of the residents of Northern Virginia. Providing options to the citizens is a proper thing to do. Opening the ramp can also reduce pollution, and traffic in the main lines. Let's keep traffic moving.  SEMINARY ROAD, QUAKER, HAVE ENOUGH TRAFFIC WHICH HAS WORSENED SINCE INSTALLING BICYCLE LANES ON SEMINARY IMHO.	N/A
495VDOT 12092019.18	12/29/2019	Individual	Email	I would like to express my whole-hearted support for the conversion of the Seminary Rd "Southside" HOV ramp to HOT status. I can see the highway from where I live at Seminary Towers, and at evening rush I see how jammed up the southbound mainline of 395 is where the traffic from Seminary Road comes in. I can also see how the HOV ramp is very under-utilized. The obvious thing to do to relieve the mainline congestion, it would seem to me, is to give drivers all drivers the option to use the HOT ramp. I personally would like to have this option for the times when I do need to go south on 395 during the evening rush. We need more transportation options in the DC region. HOT lanes are not perfect because they can be quite expensive – but they are nevertheless one of the best tools we have to get around jammed-up roads. While mass transit and biking/walking are important, we simply can't rely on them for all of our transportation needs. Please convert the ramp!!	Comment noted

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495VDOT	12/31/2019	Individual	Email	I spoke at the public meeting on the subject ramp	1. As documented in the traffic report, the
12092019.19				at Minnie Howard School on December 9. This is	increase in traffic volumes on the proposed
				a quick restatement of my remarks for the	Seminary HOT is nearly equal to the decrease
				written record.	of traffic on the regular lanes of the Seminary
					ramp. So while there may be an increase in
				<ol> <li>Any toll-paying traffic that gets</li> </ol>	traffic weaving to go west on Seminary or
				attracted to exit the NB lanes at this	points north on N. Beauregard St, there
				ramp would, if they are bound for	would also be a decrease of almost the same
				points on Seminary Road west of N.	amount of traffic coming westbound on
				Beauregard, or points north on N.	Seminary Road from the 2nd level of the
				Beauregard St., would add to the	interchange. Both conditions were analyzed
				congested weave westbound on	using Origin-Destination (O-D) data that
				Seminary at Mark Center Drive /	accounts for all weaving in the VISSIM
				Southern Towers. While the single	microsimulation software and results do not
				thru lane westbound on Seminary over	show any measurable degradation in
				the I-395 interchange seemed like a	operations along Seminary Road in both
				good way to help HOV traffic enter the	future year conditions.
				BRAC and Mark Center area, it has	
				proven very detrimental to City	2. This ramp has been operating as HOV-only
				residents who use it to get back to our	ramp since 2016 and is currently being used
				neighborhood west of N. Beauregard	by a lower volume of traffic than what was
				from the rest of the City. This	projected when the ramp was constructed.
				congested weaving area does not need	With the I-395 Express Lanes project, this
				any additional traffic.	ramp is now operating differently from the
				2. The whole idea of implementing this	other I-395 ramps. The conversion to HOT
				ramp in the first place was to	would help drivers understand better the
				encourage HOV usage via carpools,	operations of the I-395 facility by making all
				vanpools, and bus transit. The very	ramps operate with consistent rules. With
				idea of creating the Express (toll) lanes	the conversion to HOT, this ramp will
				on I-395 which are historic HOV lanes	continue to be free for HOV vehicles as
				is detrimental to the formation of any	before. The attractiveness to use this ramp
				further HOV activity. Putting more	for HOV users does not decrease with this
				cars into HOV lanes via tolling	conversion.
				decreases the speed differential	2.76
				between the higher-speed HOV Lanes	3. The vehicle occupancy is integrated into
				and the general purpose lanes. This	the regional travel forecast model. The model
				decreases the attractiveness to use the	uses person trips and assigns modes to the
				HOV lanes by forming carpools or	trips. HOV and transit are modes that the
				taking transit. Fewer cars in the GP	Metropolitan Washington Council of
				lanes means the LOVs in them flow	Governments (MWCOG) model takes into

- better, and more cars in the HOV lanes means the HOV cars in them flow slower. The best question I have for VDOT is: why do you wish to reduce incentives to carpool or take transit? Indeed, VDOT should set aside this ramp change, and instead work with the City, the US Army, MWCOG, WMATA, PRTC, et al, to create further incentives for carpools, vanpools, and bus transit to use this ramp. If it is not heavily enough used, then let's figure out a way to get more HOVs using it.
- 3. The analysis shown at the meeting focused on vehicle volumes, not person volumes on the ramp. Anyone who has done any multi-modal and HOV analyses over the past 40 years knows that the purpose of any transport improvement is to move people, not vehicles. The emphasis on low vehicle volumes belies how many people are in those vehicles. And certainly, if the ramp were to be opened to non-HOV traffic, we can be certain that the number of persons/vehicle added would be significantly less than 2.0, more likely in the range of 1.2 - 1.6. So, while the study shows vehicles increasing, a proper accounting would show the number of people using the ramp not going up much at all. Please revise the study to tell the real tale of how well the ramp helps person movement, not vehicle movement.
- 4. Irrespective of the more technical points made above, what I truly believe is at stake in this issue is whether the state government's word

- account. The traffic volumes reported are based on the recent count data. The regional model applies mode percentages to capture existing trip mode types and future trip mode types using regional growth. This methodology is applied to all regional transportation projects studies.
- 4. At the time the HOV Ramp was constructed, VDOT stipulated that the ramp would be opened as an HOV Only ramp. At that time, I-395 north of Turkeycock Run operated as an HOV facility (not as a HOT facility). The implementation of the ramp as HOV only made sense at the time it was planned and constructed. However, based on the current low traffic volumes using the ramp, reviewing new traffic forecasts and taking into consideration the conversion of the I-395 facility from HOV to HOT, VDOT recommends the change in the designation of the Seminary Road ramp from HOV to HOT. It is important to note that VDOT's practice is to continue to review the safety and operations of our transportation facilities, noting travel pattern changes and making adjustments as needed. As an example, the HOV occupancy requirement for I-395 HOV lanes was changed in 1988 from HOV-4 to HOV-3 to enhance the utilization of the HOV facility while maintaining adequate operations. The proposed change from HOV Only to HOT is anticipated to improve the utilization of the Seminary Road ramp while maintaining adequate operations.

				is good. The City and its residents were told "this would be an HOV-only ramp forever." That promise was made to induce support for a ramp, and I for one, supported it. An HOV-only ramp there made sense during the BRAC planning process, it makes sense now, and far off into the future, it makes sense. A ramp that includes toll traffic does NOT make sense. Such a ramp would show that VDOT and our state government lack credibility, and it would reflect an inability to keep a promise to its citizens and taxpayers. Our society has too many such examples of division between government and citizens. Please do not go back on your word to us and contribute further to a lack of trust in government.	
495VDOT 12092019.20	12/31/2019	Individual	Email	I spoke about this proposal at the December 9, 2019 public information meeting. The purpose of this letter is to reinforce my concerns about transportation safety issues on the western portion of Seminary Road and to ask for remedies. My understanding is the proposal to convert the Seminary Road HOV ramps to HOV/HOT involves bringing more traffic into this highly congested area so that Transurban can increase the usage of "two underperforming" ramps at the I395/Seminary Road interchange.It seems to me, that if VDOT and Transurban want this change, they have a responsibility to: assess safety and operational impacts on Alexandria traffic patterns and, develop and implement new traffic patterns to improve public safety, prevent traffic crashes, and eliminate fatalities in this area. The report entitled "I-395 at Seminary Road Interchange Modification Report (Lite)", dated	The traffic operations and safety analysis in the IMR (lite) report was conducted in accordance with FHWA and VDOT guidelines for the influence area of the project. The study area for the IMR (lite) was extended along Seminary Road up to N. Quaker Lane on the east and N. Beauregard Street on the west in accordance with the direction provided by VDOT and as coordinated with the City of Alexandria. The operations analysis concluded that majority of the increase in the HOV/HOT ramp volume was shift from the corresponding General Purpose ramp which does not result in a total increase in volume along Seminary Road. The remaining volume increase can be attributed to traffic that was previously cutting through local street network of the City of Alexandria that now uses I-395 instead. This small

	October, 2019, reviews crash data on the interstate and the ramps. I do not see a similar analysis for Seminary Road. Therefore, I am asking for a detailed analysis of the impact this proposal will have on Alexandria traffic patterns, with a special focus on Seminary Road between Howard Street and the Alexandria city line. I also want VDOT and Transurban to commit to make all appropriate changes to the I-395/Seminary Road interchange and surrounding areas to help Alexandria achieve our Vision Zero goals (i.e. Seminary Road between Howard Street and the Alexandria City line). Please feel free to contact me with any follow-up questions.	increase in volume along Seminary Road does not result in any significant impact on delays or travel times along Seminary Road as documented in the report. Hence, it is not expected to have any significant impact on safety along the corridor as well.
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