

Scenic 250

Scott B. Peyton, President

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July 25, 2011

Mr. Duane E. Snow
Mr. Dennis S. Rooker
Ms. Ann H. Mallek

Re: MPO Hearing on Wednesday

Dear Supervisors Snow, Rooker, Mallek:

This is a sincere and urgent request to look hard at the impact of the southern terminus of the proposed 29 bypass on all of us in the 250 West corridor.

We are writing all of you as our three corridor representatives on the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors. As you know, Scenic 250 represents thousands of Albemarle County citizens for whom the 250 West corridor is a central part of their everyday lives. For almost 15 years, we have been involved in virtually every major planning decision regarding development along the corridor – with a special focus on roads and traffic – to ensure that this is the best possible place to live and work.

Very little thought has been given to the impact of the southern terminus of the proposed Route 29 bypass on the 250 West corridor, and we are extremely concerned. This matter has come up quickly in the summer when many people are out of town, and there has been very little time for public review and involvement. We believe that the proposed southern terminus has the potential to create a major traffic nightmare at the current intersection of 250 and the 250 bypass at Bellair.

As we all know, this intersection is close to dysfunctional now at rush hour when schools are in session, and is a place of major traffic snarls that, among other things, can cause cars to back up significantly. Because of the railroad tracks, this is an extremely challenging intersection to re-engineer, and we think that any re-engineering is highly unlikely.

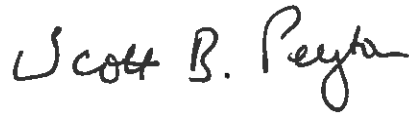
To our knowledge, there has never been a traffic engineering study of how a new bypass would affect this intersection. We urge all of you not to relinquish County control over bypass funding until a meaningful analysis can be completed for this intersection which is so critical to all of us.

We therefore urge you not to vote to approve funding for the bypass at the Wednesday MPO meeting, and to take the time to understand the consequences to this intersection before you act. If you must vote, please condition your approval on the completion of a traffic analysis of the Bellair intersection, and County approval and agreement to that analysis.

Finally, and in addition, we cannot help but share our concern that, for all of us on the 250 West corridor who travel into town on the current 250 bypass, it is very sad indeed to think that where there is now a beautiful parkway from the Bellair intersection to the City limits, we will have a 14-lane, multi-tier spaghetti interchange that will run the entire length of that zone. We will be losing the beautiful character of our community on this key entryway from all points west and south that use the current 250 bypass.

Thank you for your genuine consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott B. Peyton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott B. Peyton
Scenic 250

SP/hp

Cc: Mr. Lindsay G. Dorrier, Jr
Mr. Rodney S. Thomas
Mr. Kenneth C. Boyd