## **Braddock Road Comments from Friends of Accotink Creek**

To: Fairfax county Department of Transportation

Cc: Braddock District Supervisor

Date: Jul 21, 2015

## **Braddock Road Comments from Friends of Accotink Creek**

"Begin with the premise that the automobile must accommodate the earth, rather than vice versa."

At the June 9<sup>th</sup> public meeting, Supervisor Cook commented that this would be the last widening of Braddock Road. What then, will be our solutions in the fairly predictable future when traffic again becomes an issue? Why not examine such solutions now? Why not find solutions for the future instead of the past?

We needn't look very far for ideas:

- See the "Great Street" plans Fairfax City has in mind for Old Lee Hwy "Great Street" http://www.fairfaxva.gov/home/showdocument?id=5395
- See the "Greening DC Streets" concept <a href="http://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/publication/attachments/2014-0418-DDOT-Gl-GreeningDCStreets.pdf">http://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/publication/attachments/2014-0418-DDOT-Gl-GreeningDCStreets.pdf</a>

## Please further consider:

- The time has arrived to make transit solutions a priority, not an afterthought to road building.
- Colocation of the proposed transit center with rail transit is optimal. Consider the benefits of colocation with nearby VRE stations outside the immediate corridor (or establishment of a new station at Burke Lake Road) coupled with strong Bus Rapid Transit along Braddock Road and the underutilized 495 Express Lanes.
- Consider the benefits of elements of road and lane diet design vs. widening.
- No net loss of habitat or tree cover should occur in the watershed, whatever solution is chosen.
- The existing Braddock Road bicycle path provides routes from 495 to 28 and beyond. It should be
  maintained and enhanced, even if no other action is taken.
- Whatever solution is chosen, widen the concept of the corridor to find opportunities for enhanced stormwater controls outside the right of way, such as installing nearby green roofs and pervious parking lots.
- Consider the impact on impaired waters in the study area and their tributaries, including Accotink Creek, currently the subject of a TMDL process. Any solution should enhance the health of the waters crossed by Braddock Road, rather than further compromise them.

Sincerely yours,