



## **The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998**

<http://www.mvcca.org>

June 7, 2021

The Hon. Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
703 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Don Beyer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1119 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Tim Kaine  
United States Senate  
231 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Senator Surovell's letter of May 27, 2021

Dear Senators Kaine and Warner, and Representative Beyer:

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations has supported the undergrounding of utilities on Rte.1 (Richmond Highway) as part of the almost \$1 billion project to widen the highway and provide bus rapid transit lanes for many years. There is unanimous agreement among our members that this is essential to accomplish the goal of transforming this old highway into our "Main Street" by enhancing smart development, livability, and equity along the corridor, increasing the number of mature trees to reduce the heat island effect, providing a modern transportation link between Washington, Alexandria, and Fort Belvoir, and protecting the grid from disruption of utility and communications services by natural or manmade disasters. To this end, we have worked closely for many years with the Fairfax County Federation of Citizen's Associations, the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce as well as Fairfax County and state elected officials to make undergrounding a reality.

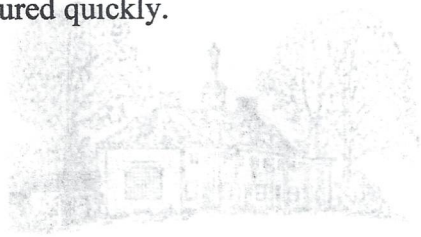
We therefore strongly support the proposal made to you by State Senator Surovell and Delegates Krizek and Tran in their letter of May 27, 2021 to earmark \$45 million in federal funds for undergrounding utilities as this project moves forward. The citizens of Fairfax County's Mount Vernon and Lee Districts have seen this as a top priority since the Richmond Highway widening

and bus rapid transit was first proposed. As the project's design is in progress, it is essential that funds for undergrounding be secured quickly.

Sincerely,



**R. Lynn Pascoe**  
**Co-Chair, Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations**



- Senator Scott Surovell**
- Delegate Paul Krizek**
- Delegate Kathy Tran**
- Chairman Jeffrey McKay**
- Supervisor Dan Stork, Mount Vernon District**
- Supervisor Rodney Lusk, Lee District**
- Secretary Shannon Valentine, Virginia Dept. of Transportation**
- Ms. Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Virginia Dept. of Rail and Public Transit**
- Mr. Brian Hill, County Executive, Fairfax County**
- Mr. Tom Biesadny, Director, Fairfax County Dept. of Transportation**
- Ms. Helen Cuervo, District Engineer, Virginia Dept. of Transportation**
- Ms. Katherine Ward, Co-Chair, Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations**
- Ms. Holly Dougherty, Executive Director, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce**