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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

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December 22, 2007

The Honorable Kathy Byron
Member, Virginia House of Delegates
523 Leesville Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

Dear Delegate Byron:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the draft Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements, as required in SB 1181.

Neither this administration nor the General Assembly intends for these regulations to force road maintenance responsibilities on any locality. We are, however, asking localities to do better planning. Each year the Commonwealth accepts nearly 200 miles of subdivisions streets for perpetual maintenance at a cost that can approach \$3,000 per mile annually. The unanimous vote of the General Assembly on SB 1181 reflected our shared desire for better land use and lower long-term highway maintenance costs.

I am pleased to inform you that VDOT staff will be present at the January meeting of the Region 2000 Metropolitan Planning Organization. Based on several other regional conversations like this, I anticipate the draft regulation will be published for public comment in early 2008. Additional information on this initiative can be found at <http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/ssar/>.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions regarding this or other transportation initiatives. Thank you again for your letter on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pierce R. Homer'.

Pierce R. Homer

PRH:nmd

Copy: Mr. David S. Ekern, VDOT Commissioner
Assistant Secretary Nick Donohue