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Central Intelligence Agency

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3 APR 1984

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Committee on Public Works
and Transportation
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Thank you for your letter of 20 March 1984. We too are encouraged by the progress that has been made in addressing everyone's concerns with regard to local road improvements. While there may still be a distance to go in reaching a final decision on the exact road designs to be implemented, the cooperation displayed by the members of our Traffic Advisory Committee has given us hope to believe that reasonable designs will soon be completed.

Your thought of adding an additional lane on I-495 between Route 193 and the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) is appreciated. We had discussed this concept previously with Mr. Lamb of the Federal Highway Administration, who also saw merit in the additional lane. Since then, the analysis prepared by Dewberry and Davis has dealt with the problems associated with the Parkway/I-495 interchange. Their conclusion is that, for the horizon year 2005, congestion on I-495 will be so severe that no reasonable improvement to the interchange will improve the capacity of the Parkway.

Prompted by your letter, we have asked Dewberry and Davis to comment on the benefits of adding the additional lane now to provide relief to the Parkway for the shorter term while I-495 capacity is still available. Their assessment is that the current a.m. backups that would be addressed by this widening will be dissipated by the widening of Cabin John Bridge to four lanes.

This assessment gives us optimism for traffic flow during the early years of our expanded operation. The bridge widening promises to provide the incentive we have been looking for to draw more of our employees to the GWMP and away from Routes 123 and 193.

Rest assured that we are continually looking for ideas that will help us respond to the community desire to divert CIA traffic to the Parkway. We continue to investigate all avenues, including design of an effective visitor center for the Parkway entrance.

Sincerely,

STAT

Harry E. Fitzwater
Deputy Director
for
Administration

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