



December 6, 2011

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly  
United States Representative  
United States House of Representatives  
327 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0001

**RE: Request For Support for Vienna's Walk to Downtown Sidewalk Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Congressman Connolly,

**The Vienna Town Council and I ask your assistance in obtaining \$1,000,000 of Federal Highway Administration FY 2012 Discretionary Grant Program funds to complete sidewalk projects at the edges of Vienna's commercial corridor. The Vienna Town Council and I fully support this grant application and the projects it would fund.**

The Town of Vienna's commercial corridor consists of stores, restaurants and offices along both sides of Maple Avenue (Route 123), a Federal-aid highway. Sidewalks exist along Maple Avenue but do not extend to the side streets into the adjacent residential communities. We would like to establish a walking and bicycling route that connects the commercial corridor to the residential communities. This would reduce auto use and provide safe sidewalks for everyone.

The Federal Highway Administration 2012 Discretionary Grant Program solicitation memorandum and Vienna's Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) program application are attached. Vienna will apply the TCSP funds to complete the missing sections of sidewalks along local side streets adjacent to our commercial corridor.

In traffic-choked Northern Virginia, Vienna is in the enviable position of influencing citizens' decisions not to travel by automobile by providing a network of public sidewalks along our roadways. Sidewalks allow our citizens to make local trips and patronize our local merchants without using a car. Because Maple Avenue is a Metrobus route, a good all-weather connection to local bus stops makes riding the bus a more attractive option to commuters. The individual citizen walking or riding a bike along a sidewalk strengthens his heart and remains healthy by staying active.

Please provide a letter of support for Vienna's Walk to Downtown Initiative. We appreciate your continued help in improving the quality of life for Vienna citizens. Please contact me if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jane Seeman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

M. Jane Seeman,  
Mayor

Enclosed: FHWA 2012 Discretionary Grant Program solicitation memorandum  
Vienna's TCSP program application