

From: michael.hicks@dot.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:24 PM
To: Hameed, Faisal (DDOT) <faisal.hameed@dc.gov>
Subject: RE: VA Ave Tunnel - Lead agency request
Attach: DDOT Letter FHWA lead agency Va Ave Tunnel - Revised (4-20-11).doc

Faisal, I've made revisions to your letter. See attached file..

-Mike-

From: Hameed, Faisal (DDOT) [mailto:faisal.hameed@dc.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 4:02 PM
To: Hicks, Michael (FHWA)
Subject: VA Ave Tunnel - Lead agency request

Mike:

I have attached the draft of the letter. Please let me know your comments.

Thanks

Faisal

April 14, 2011

Joseph C. Lawson
Division Administrator
District of Columbia Division
Federal Highway Administration
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 510
Washington DC 20006

RE: Request for Lead Federal Agency for the Temporary Use of the I-295 Air Rights
and Temporary Closure of I-295 Ramp

Dear Mr. Lawson:

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) has requested the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) consider permits allowing CSXT the temporary usage of air rights in the vicinity of Interstate 295/11th Street Bridges and for temporary closure of the Southeast Freeway/I295 ramp on 8th Street, SE (?) to facilitate construction associated with the Virginia Avenue tunnel. This request will require oversight and approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as described in 23 USC 111, as well as compliance with the FHWA Right of Way and Real Estate Regulations as described in 23 CFR Part710. It is our understanding this approval will also require compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval as defined in 23 CFR 710.305, 23 CFR 771.117, and 40 CFR 1500-1508. In addition, there may also be historic preservation issues that have to be addressed regarding the proposed CSXT action.

Based upon discussions with the National Park Service and the National Capital Planning Commission, DDOT is requesting FHWA DC Division to be the lead federal agency for this undertaking due to the FHWA approvals required for closure/modifications of Interstate access points and air rights associated with the Interstate.

Sincerely,

Karina Ricks
Associate Director
Planning, Policy, & Sustainability Administration

cc: Ronaldo Nicholson (DDOT); Faisal Hameed (DDOT); Mike Hicks (FHWA); Keith Brinker (CSX); Steve Flippin (CSX).

Also copy NPS and NCPC