



Changes Coming to the Edgewater/Poland Intersection

As you may be aware, there has been an alarming increase in accidents at the intersection of Edgewater Street and Poland Road, several of which have been quite serious.

For over a year, I have been seeking to improve safety at this intersection. In the spring of 2012, I requested a VDOT warrant study to install a traffic light or a four-way stop. VDOT's analysis showed that neither option would meet their criteria.

As accidents continued to occur, I asked VDOT to examine other solutions, even if it meant thinking outside the box. As a result, their traffic engineers presented me with a plan to launch a pilot program at this intersection using off the shelf materials to build a roundabout. After a careful review, including input from the Ridings at Blue Springs community and the South Riding Proprietary Board of Directors, we have decided to move forward with this plan.

VDOT will be installing rubberized pylons at the intersection to create the roundabout. Changes to the lane configurations on both Edgewater and Poland will be made so that vehicles will enter the roundabout slowly. VDOT's analysis shows that the new configuration will significantly improve traffic safety and will move vehicles on Edgewater much better, reducing delays.

An advantage of this option is that it can be done quickly, with no additional right of way needed. This fact, along with the off the shelf nature of the materials being used, will allow a solution to be in place much quicker than in a normal construction project. In fact, the goal we have set is for everything to be in place by the end of the summer. In addition, all work will be paid for by VDOT.

The mini-roundabout installation is a temporary solution, and will be in place at least until the Route 50 project is completed. Once the Route 50 work is done, VDOT will be evaluating every major intersection in the 50 area and studying traffic patterns, which will likely change. Because this type of project has never been done in Virginia before, the intersection will be receiving a lot of attention from VDOT. At the appropriate time, we will collect community feedback, look at safety and traffic data, and make a decision as to how the intersection should be permanently configured.

Above all, my responsibility is to do what I can to improve the safety of my constituents. I appreciate VDOT's willingness to engineer and design a solution at Edgewater and Poland and I look forward to implementation. I also appreciate the support of Delegate Jim LeMunyon for this project. As that date gets closer, we will be providing additional information about what drivers should expect.

Route 606 Design Meeting Reminder

Don't miss your chance to see the future of Route 606! Now that the preliminary engineering phase on the project is complete, VDOT is ready to hold a design public hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Lunsford Middle School in South Riding. The design is for widening the road to 4 lanes between Evergreen Mills Road and the Dulles Greenway. The purpose of the meeting is for the public to see the plans, understand more about the project, and provide comments. VDOT officials will be present to answer questions and explain details.

VDOT has set up a Route 606 Widening project website, available [here](#). If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to provide comments, you may do so before July 11 by emailing meeting_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Reference "Loudoun County Parkway/Old Ox Road" in the subject line.

Widening 606 has been a major focus of mine since taking office, so I'm looking forward to this meeting as the next step in the process. I look forward to seeing you there.

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