



December 1, 2010

## News Release

### Ribbon Cutting Marks Completion of New Beltway Sound Wall at North Springfield Elementary School

*Virginia Delegate Vivian Watts, Fairfax County Supervisor John Cook,  
School Officials and HOT Lanes Project leaders Attend Ceremony*

ANNANDALE, VA – Today, the Virginia Department of Transportation and its private partners for the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes, Transurban-Fluor, held a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating completion of a new sound wall constructed at the North Springfield Elementary School.

The North Springfield Elementary School sound wall runs along the Inner Loop of I-495 to connect with newly installed walls, creating a continuous wall from Hemming Avenue to Braddock Road. The new wall is approximately 3-6 feet taller than the old wall depending on the topography.

“Sound wall construction is a major benefit of the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes project,” stated Larry Cloyed, VDOT senior project manager for the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes. “In order to expand the Beltway with four new Lanes, it was critical to upgrade the noise protection along the project corridor.”

Project leaders worked with Delegate Watts, Supervisor Cook and school officials to ensure the safety of elementary school children while the wall was under construction.

“As former Virginia Secretary of Transportation and now as State Delegate, I’ve been a strong advocate for building and upgrading sound walls along the Capital Beltway,” said Delegate Vivian Watts. “The higher sound wall at North Springfield Elementary provides significantly increased child safety and is welcomed support to the learning environment the school provides for our students.”

As part of the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes project, new sound walls are being constructed along both sides of the 14-mile Beltway corridor from Heming Avenue to just north of the Dulles Toll Road to nearly triple the noise protection for adjacent communities. Over 80,000 linear feet of new sound walls are being built as part of the project.

“The Capital Beltway HOT Lanes project is not only delivering new travel choices for motorists, it’s providing benefits for local neighborhoods including improved noise protection,” remarked Tim Steinhilber, Transurban-Fluor’s General Manager for the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes Project. “Delivering the new sound wall at North Springfield Elementary School in a safe and efficient manner was a priority to our team.”

For more information on the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes, please visit [www.vamegaprojects.com](http://www.vamegaprojects.com) or [www.virginiahotlanes.com](http://www.virginiahotlanes.com).



Front from left to right: Cassie Kruse, SGA Treasurer; Kaitlyn Sulser, SGA secretary; McKenzie Yi, safety patrol captain; Charlotte Getsey, SGA VP; and Aklilu Gessesse (safety patrol). Back left to right: Larry Cloyed, VDOT senior project manager; Braddock District Supervisor John Cook, Delegate Vivian Watts.

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