



66 Alliance | | gscott@66alliance.org | <http://66alliance.org>

66 Alliance Members --

It has been a great effort over the past year. Together, we achieved -- at least temporarily -- two of the three 66 Alliance goals -- VDOT dropped its plan for reverse tolling inside the Beltway and its plan to move to HOV-3, at least until 2020. But we clearly lost on Clean Fuel Vehicles. As a result, unless something changes, it is my understanding that on 1/1/17 vehicles with CFV plates will no longer be able to use the HOV lanes on Interstate 66 with one person in the vehicle during rush hour.

For those of us with these CFV plates, this is a bitter defeat. I personally can't help but feel a sense of betrayal towards the elected leaders in the General Assembly who encouraged us to purchase these more expensive clean fuel vehicles and enticed us to move to areas along 66 where our plates would insure us a quicker commute -- only to renege on that "promise" in favor of extracting thousands of dollars in toll revenue from us.

Personally, however, I haven't given up. I think we are done for 2016 in terms of VDOT and the General Assembly, but if there is one thing I have learned after 30 years as a lobbyist -- there is always next year!

I've already started to talk with auto manufacturers, dealers, enviros and others about forming a broad coalition for 2017 to push to "advance technology" CFV [program](#) that the Alliance was advocating late in the 2016 General Assembly.

I'm getting some interest in the concept and plan to keep working the issue in the coming months.

In addition, for current HOV-2 carpoolers, your "stay of execution" lasts only until 2020, and VDOT can "reverse" its reverse tolling administrative decision at any time -- without going back to the General Assembly.

So, I'd like to know from each Alliance member -- do you want to continue the Alliance past the end of March and continue to work these issues in 2017? If you are not interested, there is no need to do anything.

But if you are interested in continuing the fight, please e-mail me back and let

me know. Our efforts would be focused solely on the 2017 General Assembly, as VDOT is a lost cause, and passing pro-commuter legislation -- backed by a broad cross-section of interests -- in 2017.

It has been a great pleasure to work with many of you and to meet scores of you at meetings and outings over the past year. It has been fun, heartbreaking, exhilarating and deflating -- sometimes all in the same week or day.

I believe in what we were trying to do and the power of individual voters and commuters to move the needle with state legislators. I am not planning to give up the fight. Please let me know if you agree, and we'll put in place a plan to win this fight in 2017 and beyond.

Again, thanks to all for your support, kind words, hard work and collective effort. Heck, if the 66 Alliance were a baseball team and we won two out of every three games, we would be World Series champions! I suggest we finish the job we started. Please let me know if you agree.

Many thanks! Greg

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