



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

66 Alliance Members --

Somewhat quiet week this week after the long holiday week-end. I spent a good deal of time seeking additional allies for our fight on CFVs from "environmental groups" against VDOT and the "tolling industry" such as Transurban. Please take a look at the attached list and discussion and let me know if you have contacts or angles with these groups that might help our effort:

- **American Lung Association** -- As part of my "day" job, I have developed good relationships with the American Lung Association, which among other worthy causes lobbies for clean air. I've talked with ALA's lead federal lobbyist, who is going to hook me up with their Virginia lobbyist in the coming couple of weeks. In general, any proposal that reduces emissions from mobile sources such as light duty vehicles (cars) can gain the support of ALA.
- **Virginia Sierra Club** -- I had a great call this week with the head of the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club's transportation policy guy. He started off negative on the Alliance CFV goals because they pursue land use issues (trying to stop urban sprawl and promote public transportation). However, by the time we discussed the low emissions of CFV vehicles, the promotion of next generation technologies, and the limited number (and decreasing) number of CFV plates out there, he had shifted from negative to neutral. While the Sierra Club is not ready to support publicly our CFV goals, they are moving in that direction.
- **Virginia League of Conservation Voters** -- I made initial contact with this group earlier this year in Richmond and their lobbyist seemed supportive of our CFV goals, but unwilling to commit mid-General Assembly session. I talked with the CLCV president this week and his response was very positive. We have a call scheduled next week with the president and the lobbyist to see if we can solidify their support.

- **Piedmont Environmental Council** -- The VLCV suggested I reach out to the PEC because they tend to follow the PEC's lead on some Northern Virginia transportation issues. I live in the heart of the PEC's territory and reached out to their president, Chris Miller, to ask for a meeting or a call.
- **Southern Environmental Law Center** -- Another suggestion from the VLCV, I have never heard of or worked with this group, which covers the Southeast and has offices in Richmond and Charlottesville. I've reached out to this group's transportation specialist by phone and e-mail, again asking for a meeting or a call.

I continue to pursue the joint congressional and General Assembly letters on the extension of the CFV deadline on 66 past 1/1/17, but don't have much new to report. Hopefully, more on those efforts next week.

Finally, we've got two important meetings with state legislators and their staff this coming week: on Monday morning, with Delegate Tim Hugo, the #3 GOP member in the House of Delegates and a state legislator who could help the Alliance a lot if we can gain his active support; and, on Tuesday with a bi-partisan group of House of Delegates staffers regarding the joint CFV letter. I'll certainly report on those meetings in the next newsletter.

Thanks to Tim Lewis, Lisa Picard, Paula Hamm, Steven Cosby, Marcus Faust and Tom Altmeyer for making financial contributions to the Alliance over the past week. Your contributions keep the Alliance's "back office" humming along and help pay my out of pocket expenses as I head to these Alliance meetings.

CFV Plate Owners -- Support the Alliance Now, or Pay VDOT Later -- Please help the Alliance continue this fight against VDOT. If you want to support the effort financially, please go to www.66alliance.org/support-66-alliance/ and make a contribution.

In advance, many thanks for your support! Have a great week! Greg