

## Occoquan Watershed Coalition

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August 2, 1999

Supervisor Elaine McConnell  
Springfield District  
6140 Rolling Road  
Springfield, VA 22152

Subject: Recommended Spot Improvement

Dear Elaine:

With the expenditure of very few dollars, a significant improvement could be made to the flow of traffic on Chapel Road where it intersects with Route 123.

During the morning rush hours traffic often backs up on Chapel Road from the west as it is queuing up in the left turn lane to turn north on Route 123. At times traffic backs up to and past Wolf Run Shoals Rd. When this happens it can take up to two or three cycles of the traffic light in order to make the left turn onto Route 123. There are two lanes on Chapel as it meets Route 123. The left lane being marked for left turns while the right lane is unmarked. There is very little traffic using the right lane to cross Route 123 or turn right going south.

Traffic would move much more efficiently through this intersection from Chapel Road if the right lane is marked so as to permit left turns. By doing this traffic could que up on both lanes and make it through the intersection more quickly. This will also reduce the wait time on Route 123 for the light to cycle. In that there is very little traffic from the west going through or turning to the right, the impact on those options will be insignificant.

It is recommended that the right lane of Chapel Road be marked with a triple arrow permitting left turns, straight through travel or right turns. It is also recommended that a turning line be painted on the road to separate the two left turning lanes. Signs indicating these turning options should also be installed for the traffic from the west.

Sincerely,

William W. Cole

cc: Jerry Little - Springfield TAC Representative