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VDOT Breaks Ground on Pacific Boulevard Extension

\$26.7 million design-build project will connect Autoworld Circle and Severn Way

LOUDOUN COUNTY, Va.—The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and local officials broke ground on the Pacific Boulevard extension this morning, the third-largest design-build project currently underway in the Commonwealth.

This 0.6-mile project will provide a missing link between Autoworld Circle and Severn Way to the north. As part of the road system paralleling Route 28, the extension will provide additional access to the Dulles 28 Centre shopping plaza and future businesses, as well as improved access for emergency responders.

The four-lane divided section of Pacific Boulevard will continue from Autoworld Circle north over the Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) Railroad Regional Park via twin single-span bridges. It will transition to an undivided roadway on a two-span bridge over Cabin Branch and ultimately connect to Severn Way. The project includes a bike/walk path and a sidewalk, both of which will connect to the W&OD trail on both ends.

"Though the segment to be constructed here is a short one, it will provide an important connection for local businesses, customers and emergency services," said Bill Cuttler, VDOT's assistant district administrator for preliminary engineering. "This project represents a tremendous amount of work between VDOT, Loudoun County, the landowners, the developers, and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority."

Under the \$19 million design-build contract with Shirley Design-Build, LCC and Dewberry, design and construction have been closely coordinated to expedite the project. Pacific Boulevard will open to traffic in August 2010, while under traditional methods construction would not have begun until 2011.

The total budget, including right of way, permits, utilities, and other costs is \$26.7 million; however, with donation of right of way for this project by Eugenia Investments, Lerner Enterprises and Cypress Enterprises, VDOT anticipates a nearly \$3 million surplus.

More information on the Pacific Boulevard extension and other VDOT projects is available at www.VirginiaDOT.org.