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March 15, 2005

**EACH BOS MEMBER
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Dear County Board of Supervisors,

The Charlottesville-Albemarle Technical Education Center (CATEC) Board is writing to request your review and modification of the Meadow Creek Parkway encroachment onto CATEC property and the safety issues created with high school students.

The CATEC Board, at its September 2004 meeting, received a presentation regarding the Meadow Creek Parkway by Mr. Gregory Krystyniak, VDOT Transportation Engineer. Subsequent meetings and discussions have occurred with Albemarle County Schools Department of Transportation, CATEC Director and VDOT. The CATEC Board accepts the proposed plan taking approximately 20 parking spaces in CATEC's front overflow parking lot. The CATEC Board does expect compensation for the property and relocation of these parking spaces.

The CATEC Board has serious concerns with the Parkway and the 10 foot wide "planting strip" that requires further encroachment onto CATEC property resulting in: 1) loss of safety buffer zone between roadway and student parking/bus routing, 2) additional loss of parking spaces in the main parking lot in order to maintain a minimum sixty foot bus turning radius, and 3) disruption to school operations and student safety in the main parking lot during construction.

In working with VDOT, the CATEC Center Board requests that the County Board of Supervisors modify the parkway in the following manner: 1) Locate the sidewalk along the CATEC property frontage with a 2 foot wide grass strip between the back of the roadway curb and the inside edge of the sidewalk, 2) Create a physical buffer between sidewalk and parking/bus routing area (i.e. guard rail, earth mount), 3) Create a reduce speed school safety zone around CATEC.

This request would result in following benefits: Creates a physical buffer zone between roadway and parking/bus routing, reduces speed area around a school zone, protects integrity of the main parking lot, minimizes disruptions to school operations (by minimizing the work area on school grounds) and the accompanying management of these disruptions, and prevents the potential concentration of ground water at the proposed depressed sidewalk.

We thank you for your serious consideration and review of this matter and wait for your response. We would also be more than willing to present this information to the County Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pamela Moynihan
Chair, CATEC Center Board

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