

Now Poquoson Gets More Taxes

The '07 Transportation Tax Panic, otherwise known as the Compromise of Republican Principles Transportation Plan, now includes Poquoson. You can thank Senators Marty Williams and Tommy Norment for sticking new taxes to Poquoson. Delegates Tom Gear and Melanie Rapp voted against raising our taxes.

So, Poquoson readers, stop reading and go to your computers or the phone book and look up our city council members. Let them know that when this Transportation Bill is passed, in whatever Frankenstein form it is, that the Poquoson City Council needs to vote 'NO' to the Regional Government, the new taxes, and the plan which doesn't solve the problem.

York readers, you've already had a heads up, but you too could let the Board of Supervisors to vote 'NO'.

Then, send an email or contact your family, friends, and colleagues who live anywhere across Hampton Roads to contact their city and county elected officials. If 7 localities vote 'Yes', then everyone is FORCED into the Regional Government, the taxes and plan. This puts 'no taxation without representation' on the trash heap of history. Thanks again, Marty Williams and Tommy Norment.

The old kNOw Campaign will have to get fired up again to defeat this bill at the local level. What a pain in the butt to have to undo the bad work of two supposedly Republican legislators.

Republicans aren't supposed to increase government by creating whole new levels of government. Williams and Norment don't get it and don't care. No one will challenge them in the Primary. The Democrats won't run anyone because they are serving the Democrats every wishes for more government and more taxes.

And, let's go back to the first issue. The basic fact of governance – the plan does NOT work. If you build the same plan, which is the same plan in '02, ends up with MORE congested miles after 20 years of construction delays, construction accidents and delays. It's wrong to promote a plan that will spend billions and not solve the problem.

Every engineering plan has estimates. The estimates may be off, but there are the professional best guesses of experts. Ask Senators Norment and Williams how many congested miles will be reduced each year for the next 20 or 30 years. Ask them to put it up on the internet. They won't because they can't. Their plan does NOT reduce congestion.

Their plan will increase corruption. The appointed, unelected, unaccountable government can spend over \$209m from year one for anything they like – including 'cultural activities' – read the bill HB 3202 on line. Cultural activities for a transportation bill – what a joke.

The joke is on the voters. Please tell your elected city and county officials.

James Atticus Bowden