



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**SUITE 700, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0349**

**J. BRUCE SALTSMAN, SR.
COMMISSIONER**

**DON SUNDQUIST
GOVERNOR**

July 30, 2002

Ms. Victoria L. Foster
2624 George Miller Lane
Knoxville, Tennessee 37932

Dear Ms. Foster:

Senator Frist requested that we respond to your letter on the 475 Beltway in Roane, Loudon, Knox, and Anderson Counties.

We know there are many people who are opposed to any alternative or the very concept of a bypass around Knoxville. We realize that a bypass around Knoxville will not eliminate the traffic congestion along the Interstate 40/75 corridor. While it will not eliminate the congestion, it will provide a transportation facility that will improve the regional transportation network. It will also improve safety on the existing I-40/75 corridor. The project will enhance traffic service by improving access and circulation among the cities and communities within the project area.

I appreciate your concern regarding this project.

Sincerely,


J. Bruce Saltsman, Sr.
Commissioner

JBS/TL

cc: Senator Bill Frist