

Scott,

VDOT actually performed a safety study of Route 743 this year and found the crash and injury rate to be less than the District average. In light of this information, combined with the peak hour for the Church unlikely to coincide with peak hour traffic of Earlysville road, as well as the expectation of a very small percentage of the entrance's traffic to be trucks, the Department at this time will not require a left turn lane.

Please note that Virginia Code 24VAC30-73-110 allows for VDOT to require reconstruction, improvement (like turn lanes), or closure of entrances at the owner's cost should any number of factors contribute to an unsafe condition for the roadway. This can include an increase or change in the nature of traffic using an entrance.

However, it has been shown that providing turn lanes at entrances and intersections can reduce the incidence of rear-end crashes. That said, there are not enough contributing primary (peak hour trip generation, opposing peak hour volume), or secondary (high percentage of trucks making turns, high operating speeds, higher classification of roadway) factors in this instance to justify requiring a left turn lane.

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