FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 25, 2024 Contact: Shelley Allen, BCDP Chair (804-721-8801; <u>shallenphd@gmail.com</u>) Jill Hopman, NHCDP Chair (917-566-8383; <u>chair@newhanoverdems.org</u>)



MEDIA ADVISORY

'No Toll Tax' Rally Scheduled for Monday, January 29

The Brunswick and New Hanover Democratic parties are reminding the media about the "No Toll Tax" community rally scheduled to take place Monday, Jan. 29 at Dram Tree Park, beginning at 4 p.m.

Several leaders, including **Wilmington Mayor Bill Saffo**, elected representatives from municipal and county councils in Brunswick and New Hanover counties, and speakers from several organizations with members or constituencies affected by the toll tax threat will speak at or attend the rally. They will urge the public to make sure the members of the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO) know residents of both counties support a new bridge but oppose a tax or a study that includes tolls as an option to finance its construction.

WMPO has scheduled a meeting at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31 to consider approving a study that will include tolls as a financing option. Toll opponents will be on hand to testify against adoption of the measure, noting among other arguments funding options exist that eliminate the need for tolls.

We urge you to cover the rally Monday and publicize the WMPO public meeting (and vote) on Wednesday. Thanks in advance for your consideration.