



Supervisor Tony Buffington
Blue Ridge District
NewsFlash



Call for Resident
Action:

**Oppose Massive
Greenway Rate
Hike Request!**

**Sign-up now to provide telephone comments
against the Greenway's multi-year rate hike
request during the SCC Public Hearing scheduled
for 10:00 am on Tuesday, June 30**

Sign-up Now!

Sent: June 11, 2020

**State Corporation Commission (SCC) Seeks Public
Comment on Greenway Rate Hike Request**

Residents and businesses **wishing to comment on the Greenway's proposed rate hike, may sign-up now to do so by telephone** during the State Corporation Commission (SCC) public hearing, scheduled to begin **at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020.**

Toll Road Investors Partnership II, LP ("TRIP II"), the Australia-based company which owns **the Greenway, seeks a 6 to 6.8% toll rate increase each year over the next five years.** In April, Loudoun County announced its strong opposition to the proposed rate hike.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SCC is conducting the public hearing remotely. **Anyone wishing to provide up to five minutes of comment by telephone may sign-up in advance (now) for the SCC to call you during the June 30th Public Hearing. Use the below link to sign-up now:**

- **[Fill out a form on the commission's website](#)**

The deadline to sign-up by submitting the above form with your contact information to the SCC is Friday, June 26, 2020 at 5 p.m.

More information about the proposed rate hike, including links to documents associated with the case, may be found on the SCC's website.

Additional Details:

PUBLIC HEARING ON GREENWAY TOLL RATE INCREASES

On January 23, 2020, Toll Road Investors Partnership II, L.P. ("TRIP II") filed an application with the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for an increase in the maximum level of tolls on the Dulles Greenway ("Greenway"). In its application, TRIP II requests year-over-year increases in the maximum allowable toll rates for the next five years, beginning in 2021. As demonstrated in the

following chart, TRIP II wants to raise rates between 6% - 7%, for each of the next five years.

	January 1, 2021	January 1, 2022	January 1, 2023	January 1, 2024	January 1, 2025
Maximum two-axel toll for all off-peak traffic	\$5.00	\$5.25	\$5.55	\$5.85	\$6.15
<i>Implied % increase</i>	5.3%	5.0%	5.7%	5.4%	5.1%
Maximum two-axel toll for peak traffic (weekday traffic in peak time and direction)	\$6.15	\$6.55	\$6.95	\$7.40	\$7.90
<i>Implied year-on-year increase</i>	6.0%	6.5%	6.1%	6.5%	6.8%

The SCC Hearing Examiner has scheduled a telephonic public hearing to begin at 10:00 AM on June 30, 2020. Each person wishing to comment will have up to five minutes to speak. This would be a great opportunity to provide your comments about the Greenway tolls publicly and directly to the SCC. As of today, this is the only scheduled public hearing and it is not known whether another hearing is planned. If you would like to publically comment at this hearing, you will need to provide the SCC with your name and the telephone number that you wish the SCC to call during the hearing. This information must be provided to the SCC by 5:00 PM on June 26, 2020 by (i) filling out a form on the Commission's website at <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting>; (ii) sending an email to

SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) calling 804-371-9141 during normal business hours.

Should you desire to make a public comment at the public hearing, the following is a list of points you may want to consider making during your public comment.

- **TRIP II's request for a rate increase on the Greenway toll road amounts to over 30% over a five-year period.**
- **Northern Virginia is an important engine for the Virginia economy. This is the wrong time to increase costs for already struggling workers who will just be getting back to work after the COVID crisis.**
- **TRIP II's rate increase request is based on projections that cannot be relied upon today, much less looking forward for five years, because they do not take into account changes in people's travel habits due to COVID.**
- **TRIP II's high rates already unreasonably discourage travel on the toll road. The Northern Virginia population has steadily increased while traffic on the toll road has steadily decreased.**
- **While traffic on the toll road has decreased, traffic on the surrounding roads has increased dramatically as drivers who cannot afford the high rates of the toll road use alternate secondary routes. These drivers have determined that any benefits offered by the Greenway are not worth the high tolls.**
- **Increasing traffic on nearby roads creates a burden on the surrounding communities and VDOT, as maintenance costs for these roads must be passed on to the taxpayers of Northern Virginia.**

We hope that you will consider making your thoughts about the proposed increase of Greenway tolls known to the SCC.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Clark Lewis, clark.lewis@troutman.com, 804.307.8237 or Jennifer Walle, jennifer.walle@troutman.com, 804-852-7057

(Greenway photo credit: Tracy A. Woodward / The Washington Post. Feb 16, 2015)

Coronavirus - We're in it together, we'll get through it together - Tony

Be safe!



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