



# Broad Run Blast

## Supervisor Sylvia R. Glass



Broad Run Blast 8 | Friday, June 12, 2020

### Office Contact Information

Phone: 571-919-1292

Email: [Sylvia.Glass@Loudoun.gov](mailto:Sylvia.Glass@Loudoun.gov)

[Loudoun.gov/BroadRun](https://Loudoun.gov/BroadRun)

1 Harrison St. SE, Leesburg,  
Virginia 20175



[Supervisor Sylvia R.  
Glass](#)



[@SylviaBroadRun](#)



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## Loudoun Enters Phase 2 of Reopening Virginia

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced Tuesday that Loudoun County will enter Phase Two of the “Forward Virginia” reopening plan today, Friday, June 12, 2020. Phase Two is the next step in gradually easing public health restrictions that are designed to slow the spread of COVID-19. Governor Northam indicated Virginia's health metrics overall are “looking positive,” citing the downward trend in the percent of positive tests and hospitalizations due to COVID-19 over 14 days, sufficient hospital capacity and personal protection equipment (PPE) and increasing testing capacity. The governor's temporary stay-at-home order expired on June 4, 2020.

Phase Two of the plan:

- Increases the number of people allowed to gather in groups from **10 to 50 people**; the restrictions do not apply to people performing functions of their employment.
- Allows **restaurants, breweries, wineries**, etc., to offer indoor service in accordance with a number of guidelines, including seating patrons six feet apart, not exceeding 50% capacity of the establishment, and limiting total number of patrons to 50.
- Allows **fitness centers, gymnasiums**, etc., to reopen in accordance with a number of guidelines, including keeping patrons at least ten feet apart and limiting the total number of attendees to 30% of the facility's occupancy capacity.
- Allows brick and mortar **retail stores and personal grooming** businesses to continue to operate in accordance with a number of guidelines, including limiting the total number of patrons to 50% of the facility's occupancy capacity.
- Allows outdoor and indoor **swimming pools** to open for lap swimming, diving, exercise, and instruction only and must be

limited to no more than three persons per lane with ten feet of physical distance per swimmer.

- Allows people to attend **religious services** in accordance with a number of guidelines, including limiting the total number of attendees to 50% of the facility's occupancy capacity, seating attendees six feet apart (except for family members), and disinfecting frequently-contacted surfaces before and after religious services.

Some recreational businesses must remain closed in Phase Two, including indoor theaters, performing arts centers, and concert venues, as well as businesses and events, such as bowling alleys, amusement parks and fairs/carnivals.

- [Read the Phase Two Guidelines for All Business Sectors](#)
- [Read the Amended Executive Order 65](#)

The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) has announced the opening of many facilities, programs and services beginning Monday, June 15, 2020.

- [Read the PRCS news release for details](#)
- [View other impacts to Loudoun County operations](#)

While Loudoun County will move into Phase Two, Governor Northam's [Executive Order 63](#), which requires the use of face coverings in most public indoor locations, remains in effect until amended or rescinded by further executive order.

- [View Frequently Asked Questions regarding Executive Order 63](#)

Governor Northam also [announced Tuesday that all public and private schools in Virginia will be able to reopen this fall](#). The reopening plan for schools is a phased approach that allows Virginia school districts to slowly resume in-person classes for summer school and the coming school year.

## 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 at the bottom of the write-up, TRIP II wants to raise rates between 6% - 7%, for each of the next five years.

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 publicly 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 [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) sending an email to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) calling 804-371-9141 during normal business hours.

If you do not wish to speak at the public hearing, you can still submit comments online or through the mail. Comment submission is open through August 24, 2020.

- Online: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments)
  - PUR-2019-00218; Application of Toll Road Investors Partnership II, L.P. for an increase in the maximum level of tolls; 8/24/2020
- Mail: Include written comments, case number, and case name
  - Address: Hon. Joel H Peck, Clerk; State Corporation Commission; C/O Document Control Center; P.O. Box 2118; Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118

Should you desire to make a public comment at the public hearing, online, or by mail, the following is a list of points you may want to consider:

- 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.

Loudoun hopes 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](mailto:clark.lewis@troutman.com), 804.307.8237 or Jennifer Walle, [jennifer.walle@troutman.com](mailto:jennifer.walle@troutman.com), 804.852.7057.

	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	\$7.85
<i>Implied year-on-year increase</i>	6.0%	6.5%	6.1%	6.5%	6.0%

**Social Justice March in Ashburn**

For your situational awareness, below are details regarding a march planned for this Sunday in Ashburn

The power of the people is

**GREATER**

than the people in power.



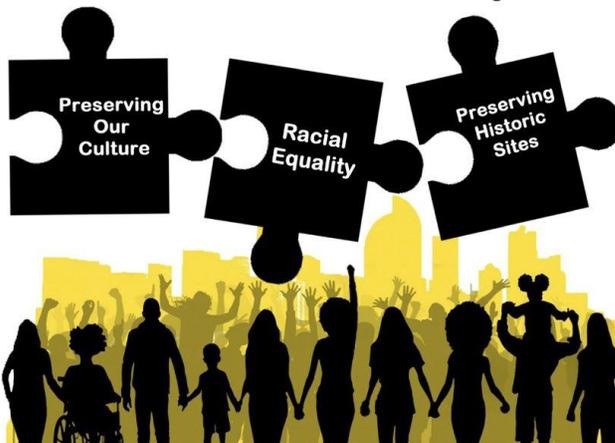
Supported by the NAACP Loudoun Branch

**MARCH ON SUNDAY, JUNE 14 - ASHBURN, VA.**

Start (3PM): Ashburn Village Plaza (Gloucester Pkwy & Ashburn Village Blvd)

Finish: Loudoun School for Advanced Studies/Historic Ashburn School for the Colored

### Preserving Loudoun's African American History



For more information visit [www.naacploudoun.org](http://www.naacploudoun.org)  
e: [info@naacploudoun.org](mailto:info@naacploudoun.org) | p: 703-779-2990

PLEASE WEAR A MASK AND ADHERE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES.

On Sunday, June 14 at 3:00pm, a social justice march will take place in Ashburn. The march will begin at the Ashburn Village Shopping Center, head northwest up Gloucester Parkway, turn left onto Ashburn Road, and end at the Historic Ashburn Colored School.

The march is sponsored by the Loudoun NAACP, and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office will provide law enforcement and traffic support for the event.

If you wish to participate, please wear a mask and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Avoid driving in the area if you are traveling around that time.

## Official Statement on the Courthouse's Confederate Monument

On Tuesday, July 7, the Board of Supervisors will begin the process of removing the Confederate monument that stands in front of the courthouse in downtown Leesburg. Along with 26 other elected officials in Loudoun, I responded to a request from the [Loudoun Times-Mirror](#) on my thoughts regarding the removal. My full, official statement is:

I wholeheartedly support removing the Confederate monument from its current location in front of the courthouse. It is a relic to slavery and has no place in front of our house of justice.

The Confederate monument so prominently displayed at the entrance to our courthouse is not appropriate in 2020, just as it was not appropriate when it was erected in 1908. "Equal Justice Under Law" is etched in the West Pediment of the United States Supreme Court Building, built in 1935 -- 32 years before it was legal for an African American to marry a white person in Virginia. The Confederate monument looming as one enters the courthouse might as well be etched with the words "Unequal Justice Under Law" as it represents centuries of slavery and oppression. Loudoun is 112 years overdue in removing this "monument."

I am a fifth-generation Virginian. My father was president of the Prince William County NAACP and worked tirelessly toward integration. Through his leadership, my four older siblings were the first students to integrate PWCPs. Fighting for racial equality is ingrained in my being. I grew up hearing stories from my older sister about how she was screamed at by parents and students at her school because she didn't "belong" with the white children. To me, the Confederate monument has just replaced those screams -- telling people of color in Loudoun we do not belong. The monument stands as a reminder to every black person entering our courthouse seeking justice that they are viewed as 3/5 of a person - brought to this country in chains, and the very people this monument is dedicated to - fought to keep us in chains.

Earlier this year, the Virginia General Assembly [passed a law](#) that now allows all localities in Virginia, including Loudoun, to remove war monuments that are on a county's publicly owned property. Previously, the law prohibited removal of war monuments even if it was on county owned land. I will describe the new law below in terms of Loudoun and our Confederate monument, even though it applies to all localities and war monuments in the Commonwealth.

The new law specifies that in order for Loudoun to remove the Confederate monument from in front of the courthouse, we must first announce that we intend to move the monument. The Board of Supervisors must then hold a Public Hearing on the removal, at least 30 days after the announcement. The Public Hearing will allow

citizens to voice their support or opposition to the removal of the monument. After the Public Hearing, the Board can vote whether or not to remove the monument. If the board votes for removal, the monument must, for a period of 30 days, be offered to a museum, historical society, government, or military battlefield, for one to accept possession of the removed monument. The Board will then decide the monument's final destination, when it can ultimately be removed from the courthouse grounds.

I understand that some Loudoun residents have ancestors who fought and died for the Confederacy, and I respect the desire to recognize them. However, I do not feel that this monument in front of the courthouse is the best way to do that. Removing the monument does not mean we are erasing Loudoun's history, it just means we are choosing how to properly honor our history.

## Republican Primary for U.S. Senate

Absentee voting is now underway for the Virginia Republican primary for the U.S. Senate on June 23, 2020. The winner of the Republican primary will run against incumbent, Democratic Senator [Mark Warner](#) in the November 2020 general election.

- **Tuesday, June 16, 2020:** Final day to request a mail-in absentee ballot.
- Saturday, June 20, 2020: Final day to vote absentee in person.

### **Absentee Voting During COVID-19:**

Virginia currently utilizes excuse absentee voting. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and in an effort to protect the health of Virginians, all voters may choose the reason "[2A-My disability or illness](#)" for absentee voting. Voters do not have to contract COVID-19 to use this excuse, the excuse is allowed for all voters by virtue of the pandemic. Voters may [apply for an absentee ballot online](#) by signing into the secure voter database.

- Beginning July 1, [absentee voting in Virginia will no longer require an excuse](#). If the pandemic is still ongoing during the November general election, absentee ballots can be requested without stating a reason.

**Candidates:**

Per the [Virginia Department of Elections](#), the candidates for the Republican primary for the U.S. Senate are as follows:

- [Daniel M. Gade](#)
- [Thomas A. Speciale II](#)
- [Alissa A. Baldwin](#)

**Voter Eligibility:**

As Virginia does not recognize party affiliation in voter registration; all registered voters are eligible to vote in the Republican primary. There is no Democratic primary taking place in any part of the Broad Run District.

**In Person Curbside Voting:**

In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, social distancing measures are in place for in-person absentee voting at the Office of Elections and Voter Registration, 750 Miller Drive SE, Suite C in Leesburg, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Only curbside absentee voting is offered. There are signs directing voters to contact election officials upon their arrival.

**Respond to The 2020 Census Online**

The Broad Run District is at approximately a [73.9%](#) response rate

Responding to the 2020 Census is one more way you can help Loudoun families during times of need, now and for the next 10 years. Your Census response helps fund our schools, healthcare services, affordable housing, roads, and more. The safest way to answer is at home and online—if you have not received Census mail, you can still respond. Take 10 minutes to be counted at [2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov).

### Will Census employees still be going door to door for residents that don't respond online?

In-person visits by Census employees will begin August 11 for those who have not submitted a response. Residents can respond before that time online, by phone, or by paper form to avoid an in-person visit.

## The 2020 Census Is Here!

Help shape your community's future



to respond to the Census!



#### Ways to Respond:



**Online:** [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov), available in 13 languages



**Mail:** A paper form will be mailed in April. You can only receive a paper form through the mail.



**Phone:** 1-844-330-2020



**In-Person:** If you do not respond by mid-May, a Census Bureau worker will visit your home.

Respond now at [2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov)

Loudoun County  
VIRGINIA

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your future  
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United States  
Census  
2020

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Supervisor Sylvia R. Glass | 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000

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