



Dear Leesburg Resident,

I am delighted that the Loudoun County Public Libraries, including Rust Library in Leesburg, have reopened, even though services are still limited. All branches, with the exception of the Law Library, are open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, and Friday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Law Library is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. For complete information, please visit the website.

[Loudoun County Public Library website](#)

## Phase Three Reopening

Last week, Governor Northam announced that every region of the Commonwealth will move into Phase Three on Wednesday, July 1st.

"Our Phase Three guidelines will help Virginia families and businesses plan for what the next stage of easing public health restrictions will look like in our Commonwealth," said Governor Northam. "While we may not have the same spike in infections that many states are seeing right now, Virginians need to remain cautious and do the things that we know reduce transmission: wear a face covering, maintain physical distance, and stay home if you are high-risk or experience COVID-19 symptoms. This virus is still with us, and we must continue to adapt our lives around it and ensure we are keeping our vulnerable communities safe."

Phase Three looks like this:

- Safer at home—especially if you are vulnerable
- No social gatherings of more than 250 individuals
- Continued social distancing
- Continued teleworking
- Face coverings required in indoor public spaces
- Expanded business operations

## Forward Virginia: Phase Three

	PHASE TWO	PHASE THREE
NON-ESSENTIAL RETAIL	Open with 50 percent capacity	Open
RESTAURANTS AND BEVERAGE SERVICES	Indoor and outdoor seating at 50 percent capacity	Open
ENTERTAINMENT VENUES	Low-contact indoor and outdoor open; high-contact closed	Open with 50 percent capacity
FITNESS AND EXERCISE	Open with 30 percent capacity	Open with 75 percent capacity
BEACHES	Open	Open
GATHERINGS	50-person limit	250-person limit
TELEWORKING	Strongly encouraged	Strongly encouraged
FACE COVERINGS	Required	Required
CHILDCARE	Open	Open
PERSONAL GROOMING	Appointment only	Open
PRIVATE CAMPGROUNDS	Open	Open
OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS	Closed	Closed
STATE PARKS	Open	Open

Phase Three Guidelines for all Business Sectors

## Route 7 and Battlefield Parkway Interchange

At the end of July or in early August, Battlefield Parkway will be closed between Russell Branch Parkway and the Marketplace at Potomac Station shopping center entrance for about ten months; traffic will be detoured via Fort Evans Road to the north, and Russell Branch Parkway and Crosstrail Boulevard to the south. This detour was approved by the Leesburg Town Council for a maximum duration of one year. Route 7 will remain open in both directions during the interchange project, however expect changes in traffic patterns



The project is replacing the traffic signal at Route 7 and Battlefield Parkway with a grade-separated interchange and includes the following improvements:

- Remove the signal at Route 7 and Cardinal Park Drive and modify intersection to a right-in / right-out. According to Wagman, the contractor, the light at Cardinal Park Drive and Route 7 will remain operational until the interchange is complete. The businesses along Cardinal Park Drive are already accessible from the east via Trailview Boulevard and Russell Branch Parkway.
- Add auxiliary lanes on eastbound Route 7 from the Leesburg Bypass to the new Battlefield Parkway interchange, and from the Battlefield Parkway interchange to River Creek Parkway.
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You can keep informed by visiting VDOT's project website.

[Route 7 at Battlefield Parkway website](#)

## Crosstrail Boulevard Extension and Tree Removal

Residents of Village Walk and Kincaid Forest will see a lot of trees coming down for the construction of the Crosstrail Boulevard extension from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell

Branch Parkway at the Village at Leesburg. This will be a shock. One of the biggest downsides of building a transportation network, or any development, is the tree loss that, unfortunately, goes with it. This project has been on County, Town and VDOT plans for many years.

The project will construct a new four-lane, divided road segment, extending Crosstrail Boulevard from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell Branch Parkway. When completed, Crosstrail Boulevard will provide a new connection between Sycolin Road near Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park and Route 7. Construction is scheduled for completion by fall 2022. The budget for this segment of the Crosstrail Boulevard project is currently \$50.2 million.

More information, including a link to sign up for updates on the project, can be found at the website below.

[Crosstrail Boulevard extension website](#)

## Confederate Statue

At the Tuesday, July 7th Board business meeting, staff will give us a legislative report about the additional local government authority from the 2020 General Assembly session. As of July 1st, for the first time in about a century, the Board of Supervisors will have the legal authority to remove the Confederate statue in front of the Old Courthouse in Leesburg.

My position has been, and still is, that, if the County was ever granted the legal authority by the General Assembly to remove the Confederate statue on the Courthouse grounds, we should do so as soon as legally possible. The Confederate statue on County land in front of the Old Courthouse in Leesburg has never been appropriate. It would not have been appropriate during the Civil War. It certainly wasn't appropriate during the Jim Crow era, when its placement would have sent a message to African Americans that equal justice was something they could forget about. The placement of the statue has always been more egregious on government land in front of a courthouse than it would ever have been on private property.

On June 29th, the County received a letter on behalf of the Loudoun Chapter (#170) of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, requesting the return of the Confederate Memorial on the Courthouse grounds in Leesburg. Assuming we can establish that the United Daughters of the Confederacy are still the rightful owners of the statue, I would favor returning it to them.

Advanced sign-up for the 6:00 pm public input session of the July 7th business meeting is available by calling (703) 777-0200. It will be limited to a 1 ½ hour time period and the order of and the number of speakers will be determined on first call in/register basis. Advanced sign-up is open until noon the day of the business meeting.

## Mask Up NoVA

As we move into Phase Three, please remember to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while in public, particularly indoors. The Northern Virginia Regional Commission created the following video where local elected officials talk about why they are wearing a mask. Thank you for wearing a face mask.

Mask Up NoVA video

## Unemployment Rate Near 10%

Due to the shutdown, Loudoun's unemployment rate has skyrocketed from around 2% to around 10% and the recovery back to full employment is expected to be a long one, since many of the jobs and small businesses that created them have disappeared. Our current unemployment rate is significantly higher than what we saw during the Great Recession. Virginia has seen higher unemployment rates than at any time since 1990. The loss of income has resulted in a huge increase in demand on area food banks. If you can afford to, please give to our closest food bank, [Loudoun Hunger Relief](#), the Business of the Month. Thank-you!

Warm Regards,

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## Business of the Month Loudoun Hunger Relief

For the duration of the COVID-19 crisis, Loudoun Hunger Relief has modified food distribution procedures:

- Clients will need to show a form of ID at appointment check-in. Only Loudoun County residents will be served.
- Grocery carts will be pre-packed for distribution according to family size at the appointment time.
- Clients are asked to remain in their cars and the groceries will be delivered to their vehicle.
- You will not be served without an [appointment](#).

Food donation is a no touch, no receipts donation process during COVID-19. Please visit the [website](#) for donation times.



## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

The Town of Leesburg continues to recover as Virginia enters Phase Three of Governor Northam's Forward Virginia Plan. Please remember to stop by as our local businesses are open and ready for your support. Visit the following link for a short video highlighting the reopening of Town businesses.

[Reopening of Town businesses video](#)

The A.V. Symington Aquatic Center will reopen to the public on Monday, July 6th. In order to stay in compliance with Phase 3 of Governor Northam's Forward Virginia plan, all interactive features will remain closed. This includes the water slides, floating snake, and lily pad crossing. The lazy river will be open but no tubes will be permitted. Deck chairs will also be unavailable. Residents are encouraged to bring a blanket or their own chairs. The pool will open to all town residents beginning at 11 am to 7 pm and 1 pm to 7 pm for non-residents, seven days a week. For more information, including rates,

visit [www.AVSAC.org](http://www.AVSAC.org) or call the front desk at Ida Lee Recreation Center at 703-777-1368.

On Monday, June 22nd, the Town hosted a ribbon cutting for the fourth and final phase of the Sycolin Road widening project. Phase IV of the improvement project began in summer 2018. It included widening and upgrading the road from two to four lanes from the Route 15 bypass to the southern corporate Town limits. Following recent milling and paving, the project is now complete.



The new installation of ArtsPARKs is underway. The sculpture garden, which can be found at Raflo Park, along Harrison Street in downtown Leesburg, will feature five new sculptures designed by local artists. They will be on display for two years. A dedication is scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 18th at 9 am. ArtsPARKs is a collaboration between the Public Art Commission and the Friends of Leesburg Public Arts, made possible by donations.

The Town of Leesburg has a new website. The address remains the same but it has a new look and is much easier to navigate. Please check it out.

[Town of Leesburg website](#)



## Update from Beth Barts

I want to thank each school community in Leesburg for working hard to keep us all safe during these uncertain times. I am so proud of the class of 2020 for their sacrifices and willingness to meet the challenges they were faced with this past spring and know they will find great success in their future endeavors.

As Loudoun County moves into Phase Three, we are carefully monitoring guidance from the Governor, CDC, VDOE and are in close communication with the Loudoun County Health Department. The School Board's top priority is the safety and mental health of our students and staff. This means we must provide a plan that is equitable and acknowledges the complexities of everyone especially our special needs students and parents. We anticipate developing a plan for the upcoming school year that provides students the opportunity for both in person and distance based learning knowing these plans are contingent upon local health conditions.

Next year, staff, parents and students can look forward to a new Learning Management System. This system is called Schoology. The ability to be a partner in your child's education is key for success and this tool will make this easier.

Please continue to reach out via e-mail and phone calls to share your thoughts, concerns and suggestions for areas of improvement as we move towards the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

## Community Information





**Rent and Mortgage Relief Program (RMRP)**: provides \$50 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding for households facing eviction or foreclosure due to COVID-19. Eligible households must demonstrate an inability to make rent or mortgage payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Monthly rent or mortgage must be at or below 150 percent Fair Market Rent (FMR), and eligible households must have a gross household income at or below 80 percent of area median income (AMI). The program will also give precedence to households without other federal and state eviction or foreclosure protections. To identify the local RMRP administering organization for a household and to conduct a self-assessment for eligibility, visit the website below or call 211 VIRGINIA.

[RMRP website](#)

**Are you facing unemployment?** For information about unemployment insurance benefits, contact the [Virginia Employment Commission](#) at 866-832-2363. Once you have filed your initial claim, you must continue to file your weekly continuing claims either online or by using the automated voice response system at 800-897-5630 to receive payment. If you are not eligible for regular/traditional unemployment insurance (individuals may include those who are self-employed, independent contractors, gig economy workers, clergy and those working for religious organizations), the CARES Act includes a provision for temporary benefits - called the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program. Learn more about this program at the website below.

[Pandemic Unemployment Assistance website](#)

**Loudoun County Relay for Life**: While we know the experience of relaying in person is unmatched, our reality is that we don't know when large group gatherings will be permitted locally. Therefore, we have created an event experience this year that will allow you to continue to honor your reasons for relaying, virtually!

On Tuesday July 7th at 7:00 pm, we will host a local virtual luminaria ceremony on our event Facebook page and website. This is an opportunity to honor and remember loved ones who have been affected by cancer. The deadline to purchase luminaria bags is Thursday, July 2nd at noon. Please submit photos of those you want to honor and remember to [RFLofLoCo@gmail.com](mailto:RFLofLoCo@gmail.com). Please include the following information with your photo submission: Your Full Name, Your Loved One's Name, and "In Honor" or "In

Memory” of. Feel free to also light your own luminaria bags at home and share photos to our Facebook page, using the hashtag #RelayLoCo.



## Testimony Against Greenway Toll Increases

Below is the testimony I gave today before the State Corporation Commission, opposing the Dulles Greenway's proposed multi-year toll increases.

First, I would like to address the red herring that was presented as a key part of the applicant's bid for an indefensible multi-year toll increase. In attempting to undermine the County's arguments against the proposed toll increases, the applicant has stated that the County is trying to compete for trips with the Greenway. This is nonsense and I'm astonished anyone would argue this with a straight face. If we were trying to compete, we would be arguing in favor of a Greenway toll increase, in order to drive more paying customers onto our paid bus system. If we were trying to compete, we wouldn't spend hundreds of millions of dollars to build free roads that bring us no revenue and impose costs on our taxpayers. We respond to public demand and our public cannot afford the already high tolls on the Greenway.

Second, and as another side of the same red herring, the applicant implies that road-building in Loudoun is somehow an effort to undermine the Greenway. Our residents are desperate to find the cheapest ways to get to and from their destinations. The cheapest way has always been a Greenway alternative, whether it's Route 7 or Route 50, both of which were in place long before the Greenway came onto the scene. If anything, the County's opposition to the Greenway's current high-toll proposal would hold the line on tolls, making the Greenway more viable, not less. Which brings me to point 3.

Third, the applicant forgets its own history. When the Greenway opened in September 1995, traffic fell short of projected levels, and tolls were reduced. Users increased. In July 1997, the Virginia General Assembly allowed the speed limit on the facility to be increased, which, if this were a competition, gave the Greenway a hypothetical advantage over the slower alternate routes. If Greenway users were a market, the Greenway has lost market share almost every time it increased its tolls.

Finally, the applicant's arguments on financial viability fall short given their study's underlying inadequate methodology. That methodology is rendered even more inadequate

by the transportation demand changes forced on us by the pandemic-related economic shutdown, which their study fails to consider. As these points have been thoroughly outlined by the County's expert witnesses, I won't go into them.

I request that the Commission reject the applicant's multi-year toll increase proposal and, if any toll increase is granted, limit it to no more than one year. That said, the Greenway is already unaffordable for many of the County's residents. Personally, the most recent toll increases have kept my neighbors and me from using it, except on very rare occasions. Years ago, I wouldn't think twice about driving the Greenway round trip to get down to Fairfax County. Now I only use it if I am picking up someone at Dulles and running late and I only use it one way. A round-trip toll is just way too expensive. Thank-you for your time and attention.

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About Constant Contact

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