



Senator Bell, Delegate Subramanyam, Supervisor Letourneau Vow to Oppose Greenway Toll Increase, Urge Public to Participate in SCC Hearings

Loudoun County – With news today that the Virginia State Corporation Commission has scheduled hearings in January on the Dulles Greenway’s request for higher tolls, Senator John Bell (D-13), Delegate Suhas Subramanyam (D-87), and Loudoun County Supervisor Matt Letourneau (R-Dulles) reiterated their opposition to the increases and called the Greenway’s latest proposal a scare tactic intended to facilitate a General Assembly bailout.

"Loudoun commuters already are forced to pay excessively high tolls," said Bell. "Under this proposal, even fewer drivers will use the Greenway, and the shareholders will be the only ones that benefit. I believe that the timing of this request is designed to scare the General Assembly into passing bad legislation that will bail out the Greenway but not solve the problem, and I’ll fight any attempts to use the budget process to do it."

The Dulles Greenway was built in 1993 for \$350 million but still carries over \$1.2 billion in debt. TRIP II, operator of the Dulles Greenway, has proposed a single year toll increase of up to 40%, making one of the nation’s most expensive roads per mile even more costly for drivers. The toll rate

Matthew F. Letourneau

Dulles District Supervisor,
Loudoun County Board of
Supervisors

Member

[Finance, Government
Operations and Economic
Development Committee](#)

Principal Director

[Washington Metropolitan
Area Transit Authority Board
of Directors](#)

Member

[Rt. 28 Transportation
Improvement District
Commission](#)

Member

[Northern Virginia
Transportation Commission](#)

Member

[Transportation Planning
Board](#)

Member

[Dulles Area Transportation
Association](#)

increase proposal will be reviewed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC). Bell and Subramanyam successfully passed legislation in 2021 that offers clear guidance to the SCC when considering toll rate proposals from the Greenway.

"My legislation makes it more difficult for the Greenway to enact this toll rate increase, and gives clear direction to the State Corporation Commission on how to consider this request," said Subramanyam. "I am not surprised that the Greenway is trying yet again to raise tolls, but I will continue to give voice to the many commuters who are forced to seek less direct alternatives to avoid paying excessive tolls. A toll rate increase is bad for businesses and families, bad for the environment, and even bad for the Greenway itself."

During the previous two General Assembly sessions, TRIP II and their lobbyists have attempted to pass legislation that could bail out the Greenway by directing the Secretary of Transportation to negotiate a new agreement, which would likely include long-term guaranteed toll rate increases. Such an agreement would have no oversight by the General Assembly, Loudoun County, or the SCC. That legislation was opposed by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and defeated by the State Senate.

"The owners of the Dulles Greenway are relentless in their pursuit of even higher tolls and long-term bailouts," said Letourneau. "Despite their attempts over the last few years, the County has successfully fought them all off. Rest assured that as long as I'm on the Board of Supervisors, I will continue to fight. I have no doubt that the facts are on our side - higher tolls will 'materially discourage' use of the Greenway, which is the standard by which the SCC must weigh any toll rate increase."

Members of the public may submit written comments through January 24, 2024. Written comments regarding the Greenway's request for

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increased toll rates can be provided online through the SCC's website at scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments (click on "Submit Comments" next to case # PUR-2023-00089).

Written comments can also be submitted by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments must refer to case number PUR-2023-00089.

The SCC has scheduled hearings regarding the Greenway's request for increased toll rates. The public witness session is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 1300 East Main Street in Richmond. Public witnesses will testify by telephone.

Public witnesses who wish to provide oral testimony must pre-register by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 24, 2024, in one of three ways:

- Complete a public witness form for case number PUR-2023-00089 on the SCC's website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting
- E-mail a [PDF version of the form](#) to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov
- Call the SCC at 804-371-9141 during normal business hours (8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) and provide your name and a phone number where you can be reached during the hearing

The SCC allots each witness five minutes to provide testimony.

A separate public evidentiary hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 31, 2024, to receive testimony and evidence from the company, any respondents, and the SCC staff. Although testimony from members of the public will not be

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accepted on January 31, 2024, the hearing will be open to the public.

Both hearings are scheduled to be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

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