

I-285 Top End Express Lanes

A Major Mobility Project — P.I. Number: 0001758

Frequently Asked Questions

Project Overview

What is the project?

To improve mobility on I-285, Georgia DOT plans to add new, optional express lanes consisting of two at-grade and elevated, barrier-separated express lanes in both directions of I-285 between Paces Ferry Road and Henderson Road and on SR 400 between the Glenridge Connector and the North Springs MARTA Station in Cobb, Fulton, and DeKalb counties. The I-285 Top End Express Lanes will be constructed in two packages and be part of the Georgia Express Lanes network. This is one of the large-scale Major Mobility Investment Program (MMIP) projects to improve transportation in Georgia's metro areas.

decrease travel times. More information on the MMIP is located at <http://www.dot.ga.gov/IS/MMIP>.

Express Lanes

What are express lanes?

Express lanes are designed to offer drivers a choice to bypass traffic congestion and provide more reliable trip times. Motorists using the express lanes pay to use the lanes while transit riders and state registered vanpools can utilize the express lanes at no additional cost.

Who will be able to use the Express Lanes?

All drivers with two axles and six wheels or less will be able to use the express lanes if they register and obtain a Peach Pass. Freight vehicles and trailers are not



All current project layouts and alignments are available in the Document Library on the project webpage: <https://majormobilityga.com/projects/topend/>

What is the MMIP?

The Major Mobility Investment Program, or MMIP, is a grouping of projects expected to yield a significant reduction in congestion along key freight and passenger corridors. The projects will create additional capacity, improve the movement of freight, provide operational improvements and efficiencies, enhance safety, and

allowed. Regardless of the number of occupants in the vehicle, motorists who wish to access the express lanes will be required to pay a fee; however, transit vehicles, registered vanpools, and emergency vehicles are exempt from paying a fee.

Information on obtaining and using a Peach Pass is available at www.PeachPass.com or by calling the Peach Pass Customer Service Center at 855-PCH-PASS.

How will motorists use the express lanes?

These newly constructed lanes are optional and will be managed by congestion-based pricing, with the cost to access the lanes rising as demand increases during peak hours and decreases during non-peak hours. The cost to access the lanes will be clearly displayed on electronic overhead signs so drivers will know the trip cost prior to entering the lanes.

How much will it cost to use the express lanes?

To maintain a flow of traffic, toll rates will be set in real time depending on the level of congestion in the lanes. The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA), who manages the pricing on the operational express lanes, has a minimum toll of 10 cents a mile on all Georgia Express Lanes. During periods of very low demand, a minimum toll of 50 cents per trip, regardless of trip length, will be applied. The uniform pricing across all Georgia Express Lanes allows for greater customer ease and a consistent customer experiences.

Where will motorists be able to access the express lanes?

Access points from the general purpose lanes to the proposed express lanes are currently being evaluated.

What are the benefits of using the express lanes?

The proposed express lanes offer regional benefits including:

- Providing more reliable trip times
- Offering more consistent travel speeds
- Increasing transit options and opportunities
- Impacting regional economic growth positively
- Improving air quality
- Generating revenue

Project Funding

What will be done with any excess revenue from the express lanes?

Once all debt repayment is complete, any revenue above and beyond the amount required to fund ongoing operation and maintenance of the express lanes will be available for other transportation needs.

Transit

What transit systems will be able to use the express lanes?

Public transit providers that operate in this corridor including Xpress, MARTA, and state-registered vanpools will be able to use the express lanes free of charge. Transit and registered vanpool riders will only need to pay their standard transit rider fee.

Will transit riders be required to pay anything beyond normal fares on routes that access express lanes?

No, there will be no additional costs to access the lanes for public transit riders, state-registered vanpools or public transit providers. For more information about the Georgia Express Lanes network, please visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL>.

Stay Connected

How do I stay informed about the project?

Georgia DOT will provide regular updates through the project website, Georgia NaviGator 511, social media, newsletters, media announcements, and community outreach events. By bookmarking the project webpage to phones/tablets and computers, travelers can stay updated throughout the project duration. Project representatives are also available to speak to groups. A speaker's request form is available at the project webpage. To be added to the project distribution list to receive updates, please email TopEndExpressLanes@dot.ga.gov.

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<https://majormobilityga.com/projects/topend/TopEndExpressLanes@dot.ga.gov> (sign up for updates)
404-978-7490 (voicemail)

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