



FACT SHEET: **Express Lanes**

Silicon Valley Express Lanes Phase 5 Project – on US 101 from SR 237 to I-880

Overview

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program deploys express lanes throughout Santa Clara County, including the initial implementations on State Route (SR 237), Interstate Route 880 (I-880), and the I-880/SR 237 high occupancy vehicle (HOV) Direct Connectors in Milpitas. VTA is implementing the program in phases based on funding availability.

Phases 1 and 2 implement express lanes on I-880 from Dixon Landing Road to the I-880/SR 237 interchange, and on SR 237 from the I-880/SR 237 interchange to Mathilda Avenue by converting existing HOV lanes to express lanes. Phase 3 implements express lanes on US 101 from the San Mateo County Line in Palo Alto to the US 101/SR 237 interchange including the US 101/SR 85 HOV Direct Connectors in Mountain View, and Phase 4 will implement express lanes on SR 85 from the SR 85/SR 87 interchange to US 101 through the US 101/SR 85 interchanges in south San Jose. Phase 5 will continue the conversion of the existing HOV lanes to express lanes on US 101 at the US 101/SR 237 interchange, conforming to the Phase 3 express lanes, and add a second express lane from Fair Oaks Avenue in Sunnyvale to the US 101/I-880 interchange in San Jose.

Express Lanes Benefits

- Results in more efficient use of existing roadway.
- Provides a new, reliable travel option.
- Provides a new revenue stream for transportation, including public transit.

Project Features

The Phase 5 project on US 101 will:

- 1) Convert existing single carpool lanes to express lanes in both directions on US 101 from approximately SR 237 to the US 101/I-880 interchange
- 2) Add a second express lane in both directions on US 101 from Fair Oaks Avenue to the US 101/I-880 interchange
- 3) Construct an auxiliary lane on northbound and southbound US 101 between Great America Parkway and Lawrence Expressway
- 4) Modify existing on- and off-ramps

The improvements include the following work elements:

- Widen roadway pavement, widen the Guadalupe River and San Tomas Aquino Creek bridges to accommodate the added second express lane;
- Construct and/or reconstruct drainage, concrete barriers, metal beam guard railings, and California Highway Patrol (CHP) enforcement areas;
- Re-striping of the existing lanes;
- Installation of express lane signs, electronic toll rate signs, toll readers, sign poles, and other tolling equipment;
- Installation of video enforcement system, closed circuit television cameras, communication, electrical services for the tolling system, and other equipment;
- Installation of lighting at various locations.

The improvements will require construction of new lanes of traffic and the widening of existing bridge structures. The work will occur within the existing Caltrans right-of-way or intersecting local street right-of-way.

Operations

Upon completion, VTA will operate, manage and maintain the express lanes.

Schedule

Please refer to www.vta.org/expresslanes for the project schedule.

How to Reach Us

If you have any questions about the VTA Express Lanes Project, please contact VTA's Community Outreach Department at (408) 321-7575, (TTY) for the hearing-impaired at (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at www.vta.org, or e-mail us at community.outreach@vta.org.

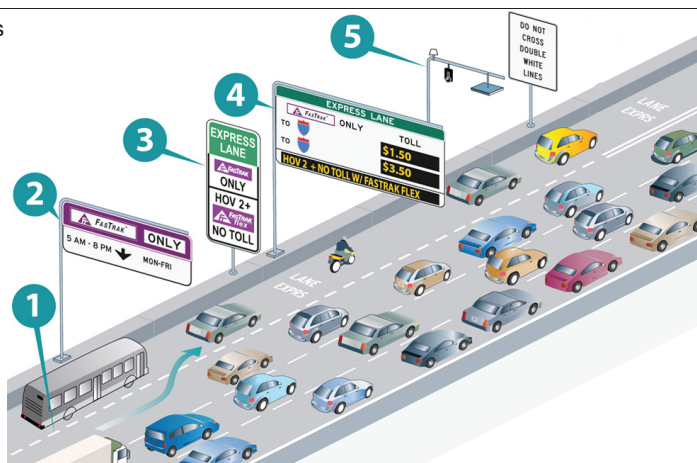
1 Lane Separation – Express lanes will be separated from regular lanes by a double white lined buffer or dashed white stripe where applicable.

2 All drivers must have a FasTrak® tag to drive in the express lane during express lane hours of operation.

3 Carpools, vanpools and other toll-exempt vehicles may drive in express lanes for free. Signs will show requirement for toll-exempt drivers.

4 Electronic Toll Information – Electronic signs will display the current toll. Tolls will vary based on the level of congestion in the express lanes and will be adjusted to maintain the flow of traffic.

5 FasTrak Toll Collection – An overhead antenna will read FasTrak transponders and the correct toll will be automatically deducted from prepaid FasTrak accounts. In addition, a **Violation Enforcement System (VES)** camera will capture a license plate image of the user's vehicle.



SILICON VALLEY EXPRESS LANES

