



# FACT SHEET: Express Lanes

# Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Phase 4 (SR 85/US 101) Express Lanes Project

#### **Overview**

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program designs, builds, and operates Express Lanes throughout Santa Clara County. You may already be familiar with the SR 237 Express Lanes at the I-880 interchange in Milpitas, which we refer to as Phase 1. Phase 2 will extend the current SR 237 Express Lanes farther west to Mathilda Avenue in Sunnyvale. Phase 3 will implement the first Express Lanes on US 101 in Mountain View and Palo Alto. Phase 4 will implement the first Express Lanes on SR 85 in south San Jose.

# **Express Lanes Benefits**

- · 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 4 project on SR 85 and US 101 in south San Jose will convert existing single carpool lanes to Express Lanes at the following locations:

SR 85 from the US 101/SR 85 Interchange in San Jose to SR 87, including the existing US 101/SR 85 Direct HOV to HOV Connector Ramps and the approaches to/from US 101

The improvements include the following work elements:

- Re-striping of the existing lanes;
- Installation of express lane signs and sign poles along the corridor;
- Installation of electronic toll rate signs, toll readers, and other tolling equipment;
- Installation of a video enforcement system, closed circuit cameras, and other equipment;
- Construction of California Highway Patrol (CHP) enforcement areas;
- Reconstruction of concrete barriers and metal guard railings;
- Installation of communication and electrical services for the tolling system;
- Installation of lighting at various locations.

The improvements will not require construction of new lanes of traffic nor require the widening of any existing structures. The work will occur within the existing 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.

SVEL Phase 4 01/13/20 Continued on reverse side

#### **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 <a href="https://www.vta.org">www.vta.org</a>, or e-mail us at <a href="mailto:community.outreach@vta.org">community.outreach@vta.org</a>.

- **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.



