

SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT



FACTSHEET

FALL 2021



PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) and City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), is constructing express lanes on U.S. 101.

This project is being completed in two phases. During Phase One, Caltrans converted the existing carpool lanes from the San Mateo County/Santa Clara County Line to Whipple Avenue in Redwood City into Express Lanes. These Express Lanes are expected to open soon.

During Phase Two, Caltrans is adding a lane to northbound and southbound U.S. 101 from Whipple Avenue to just north of I-380 in South San Francisco. The project will ultimately create 22 miles of express lanes in both directions of U.S. 101 within San Mateo County and provide a seamless transition to the express lanes being constructed in Santa Clara County. The Express Lanes in this phase are expected to open in late-2022.



Project Location Map



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Under Construction

EXPRESS LANE	
FASTRAK ONLY	TOLL
TO Marsh Rd	0.00
TO Ralston Ave	0.00

Phase 1: January 2019
Phase 2: March 2020

Toll Equipment Testing

EXPRESS LANE	
FASTRAK ONLY	TOLL
TOLL TESTING	0.00
	0.00

Phase 1: October 2021
Phase 2: October 2022

Express Lane Open

EXPRESS LANE	
FASTRAK ONLY	TOLL
TO Marsh Rd	0.50
TO Ralston Ave	2.00
HOV3+NO CHARGE	

Phase 1: Early 2022
Phase 2: Late 2022



Construction Progress and Recent Work:



Construction crews repaving the freeway lanes north of Broadway.

Crews rehabilitated both sides of U.S.101 from Burlingame to South San Francisco and will add a final layer of asphalt/new paint by mid-2022.



Construction crews demolishing the median barrier.

A taller median barrier is being constructed north of Whipple Avenue to reduce glare throughout the corridor. The new median barrier is complete north of Broadway.



Construction crews removing an existing overhead sign structure on U.S. 101.

Caltrans removed six overhead sign structures and installed temporary orange roadside signs along the freeway shoulder on U.S. 101. Additional overnight freeway closures will be required to install new overhead sign structures in late 2021/early 2022.



A variable toll message sign south of Whipple Avenue.

Express lane toll equipment testing is underway south of Whipple Avenue in Redwood City (Phase One). During testing, the left-most lanes will continue to operate as HOV lanes. Visit SMCexpresslanes.org for more info about the rules for the Express Lanes opening soon.



PROJECT BENEFITS:

- Reduce congestion in the corridor
- Increase person throughput (the number of people moved)
- Encourage carpooling and transit use
- Improve travel time and reliability for express lane users
- Use modern technology to manage traffic
- Make upgrades to pavement and lane striping



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For questions during construction, contact the Caltrans Public Information Officer:

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