SAN MATEO 101
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

US 101 · Caltrans · San Mateo County Transportation Authority · C/CAG City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

Project Overview:

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. The existing HOV lanes are being converted into express lanes from the San Mateo County/Santa Clara County Line to Whipple Avenue in Redwood City. Caltrans is also adding a lane to northbound and southbound U.S. 101 from Whipple Avenue to just north of I-380. This will create 22 miles of express lanes in both directions in San Mateo County and provide a seamless transition to the express lanes being constructed in Santa Clara County.

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

PROGRESS TO DATE

Phase One - San Mateo County/Santa Clara County Line to Whipple Ave in Redwood City

- **Timeline:** Construction began in March 2019. Express lanes in this section are anticipated to open late 2021.
- **Work Completed:** Caltrans modified the freeway median and installed toll system signs.
- **Continued Work:** Minor construction activities will continue throughout 2020 and 2021.

Phase Two - Whipple Ave to I-380

- **Timeline:** Construction began in February 2020. Express lanes in this section are anticipated to open late 2022.
- **Work Completed:** Caltrans has removed vegetation, placed temporary concrete barriers, and restriped the freeway.
- **Continued Work:** Preparing underground utilities for sewer work, removing and relocating three sections of sound wall in the City of San Mateo, installing traffic signals on ramps and temporary traffic detectors, and other related activities.

▲ Project Location Map
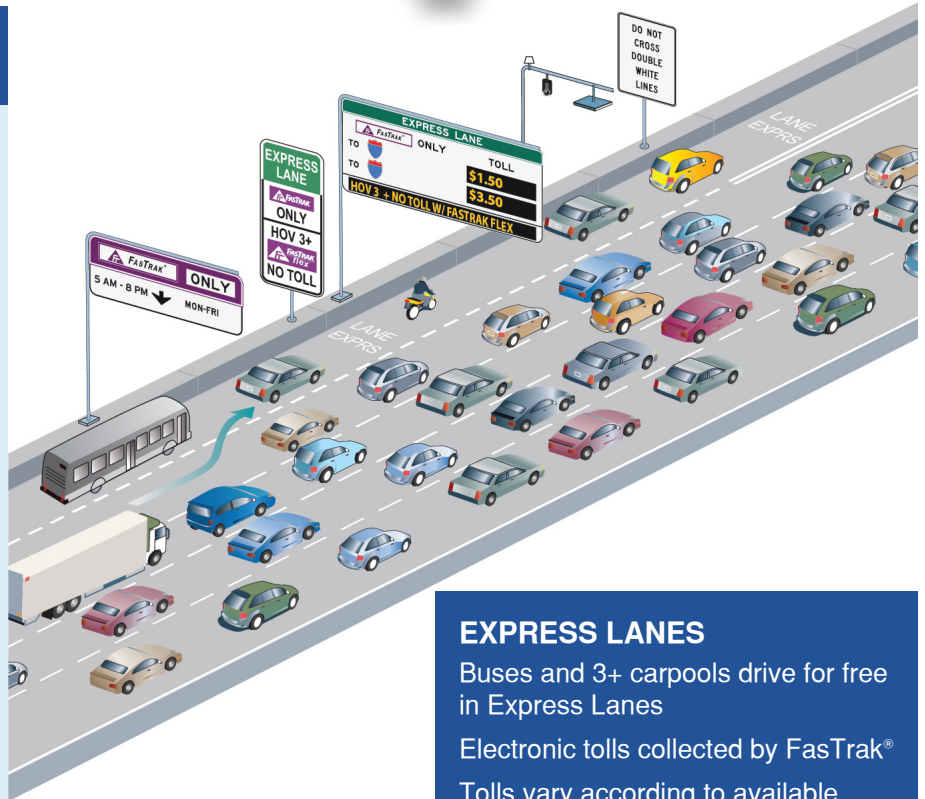
EXPRESS LANES GOVERNANCE AND POLICY

- The San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA) formed as owners of the lanes to make all policy decisions related to express lane operations.
- The SMCEL-JPA has a six member Board of Directors made up of three members of the C/CAG Board and three members of the SMCTA Board.
- Information related to the SMCEL-JPA is available at smcta.com/SMCELJPA

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HOW DO EXPRESS LANES WORK?

- Like a carpool lane, vehicles (such as cars or buses) with three or more occupants have unrestricted access to the express lanes.

- Non-carpoolers will be able to pay a toll for express lane access when extra space is available.

- Throughout the corridor, the express lanes will have a dynamic tolling system that is displayed overhead on Variable Toll Message Signs (VTMS).

- Toll prices will automatically be raised or lowered depending on traffic to encourage or discourage non-carpoolers from entering the lane.

- Selling excess capacity helps to divert traffic from the general purpose lanes, reducing congestion without overcrowding the express lanes, and generates revenue to support operation of the lanes, equity programs, and more.

EXPRESS LANES

Buses and 3+ carpools drive for free in Express Lanes

Electronic tolls collected by FasTrak®

Tolls vary according to available space in Express Lanes

PROJECT DETAILS

CONSTRUCTION START: Winter 2019

LANE OPENING:
- Phase One- Late 2021
- Phase Two- Late 2022

PROJECT COST: $581 Million

STAY INFORMED

For more information visit 101express.com. To sign up for weekly or quarterly updates, email 'Weekly' or 'Quarterly' to 101express@dot.ca.gov.

Follow us on Twitter @CaltransD4

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

Alejandro Lopez at (510) 385-6856 or 101express@dot.ca.gov.

RECENT WORK

Construction crews demolishing a section of sound wall along Bayshore Boulevard in the City of San Mateo

Construction crews placing temporary concrete barrier