

I-880 Express Lanes Proposed Operational Policies

City of Alameda Transportation Commission

July 24, 2019

Expresslanes.511.org



Bay Area Express Lanes

- Backbone of a better performing, large HOV network
- Improve HOV lane operations to encourage bus, carpool and vanpool use
- Make best use of freeway capacity
- Improve traffic management capability
- Offer choice

By the Numbers

600 miles authorized by State

70 miles in operation
by Alameda CTC, MTC and VTA

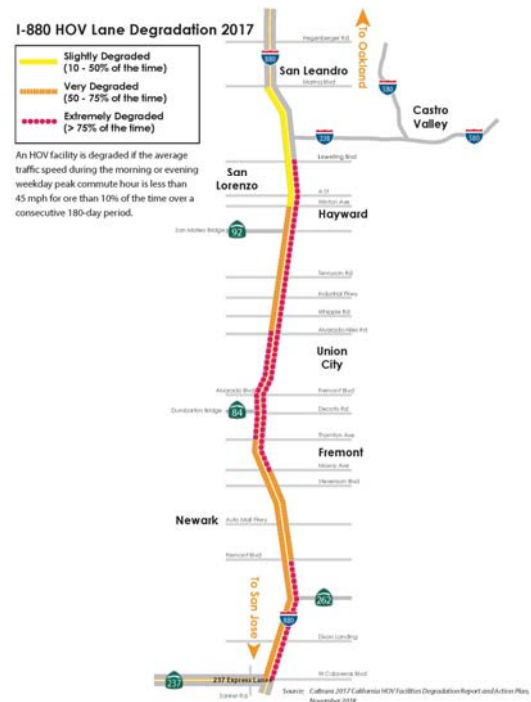
140 miles under construction

200+ miles open by 2022

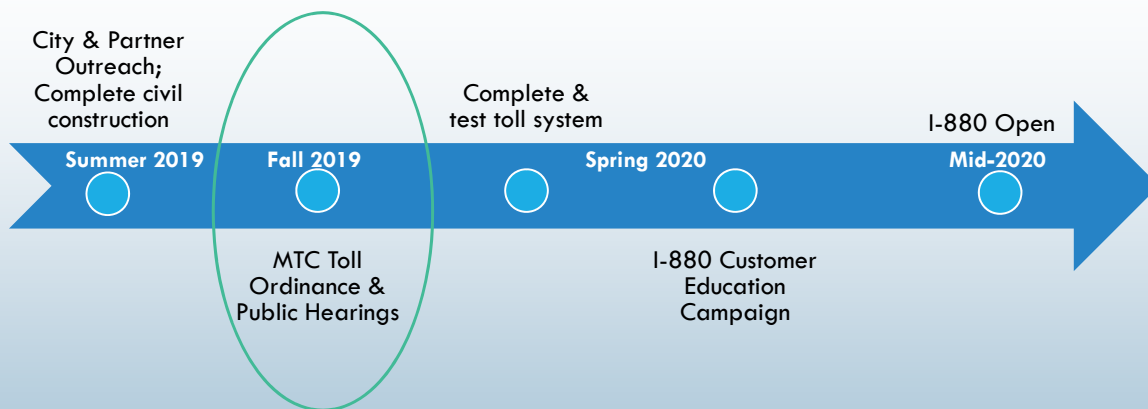


Backbone of HOV Lane Performance Improvement

- HOV lanes do not meet carpooler expectations
- 69% Bay Area HOV lane miles degraded in 2017
- I-880 HOV lanes degradation (2017):
 - 11% of corridor is slightly degraded
 - 42% of corridor is very degraded
 - 47% of corridor is extremely degraded



I-880 Express Lanes Milestones



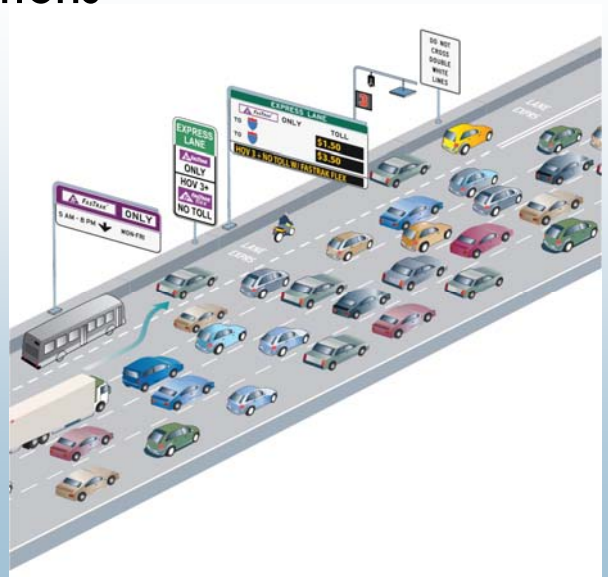
The I-880 Express Lane

- Conversion of existing HOV lanes
- Hegenberger/Lewelling to SR-237
- Operator: MTC



I-880 Express Lane Operations

- HOV Lane + Toll Options
- Electronic tolls change with congestion
- Enhanced enforcement
- Proposed scale tolling to improve lane performance (proposed)
 - 3+ carpools, vanpools, buses, & motorcycles travel toll free
 - 50% discount for 2-person carpools
 - 50% discount for clean air vehicles



Operating Hours are 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.

- Consistent with other express lanes
- Traffic peaks are growing
- Dynamic pricing: low toll when traffic is light
- Choice when there is mid-day traffic
- Set by Caltrans in coordination with MTC and CHP



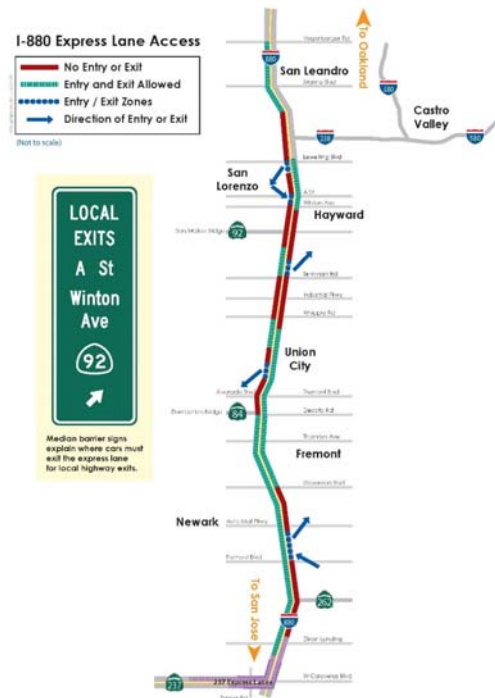
FasTrak[®] Required for All Vehicles



- FasTrak Flex
 - “1” position for single occupant vehicles
 - “2” position for 2-person carpools
 - “3+” position for everything else
- Regular (legacy) tags OK for solo drivers
- Clean air vehicles (red and purple stickers) need a clean air vehicle tag

Tags available at bayareafastrak.org or selected Walgreens and Costco stores

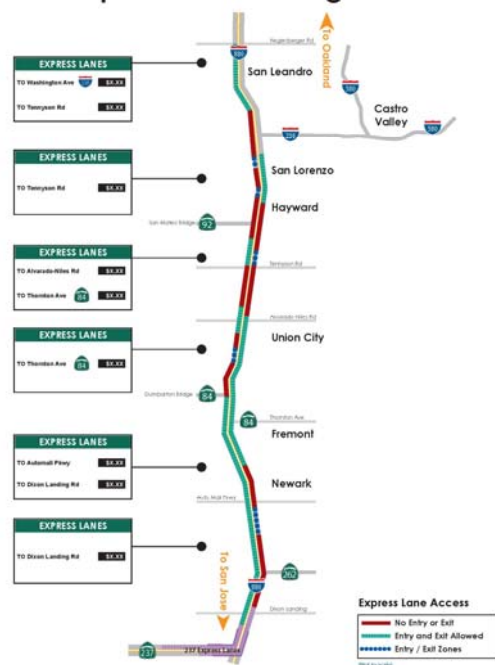
- Access restrictions strategically placed for reliability and safety
- Signage guides cars into and out of the express lanes
- Restricted access marked with double white lines



- Drivers see tolls before entering the zone
- Drivers are guaranteed the price they first see when then enter a zone or segment
- 6 Toll Zones Southbound; 5 Northbound

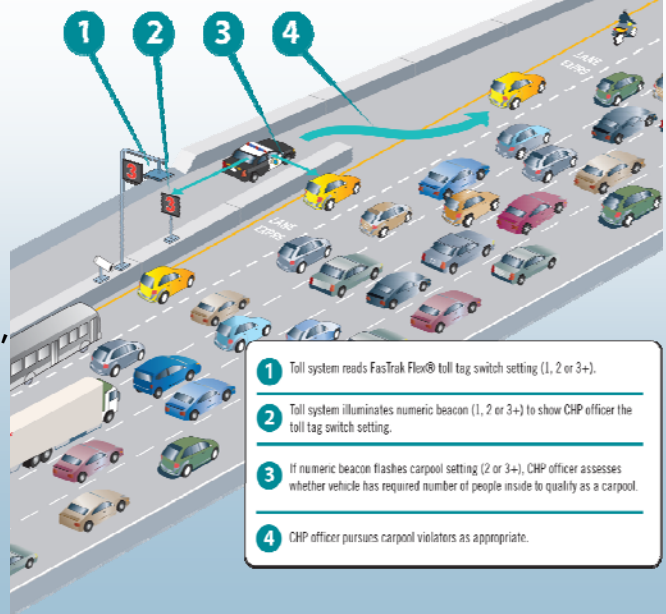


I-880 Express Lanes Tolling Southbound



Performance Improvement: Enforce Violations

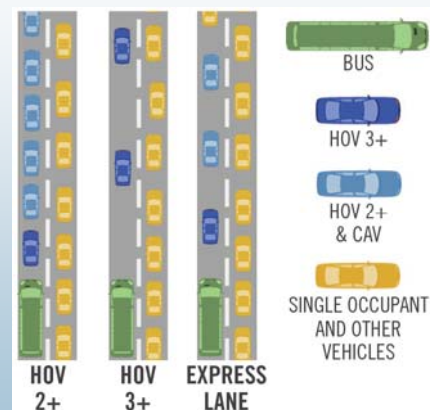
- I-880 HOV lane violation rates range between 18% and 23%
- Express Lanes have enhanced enforcement
 - **Automated** enforcement by toll system, toll violation
 - **Manual** enforcement by CHP
- MTC is also piloting **new technologies**



 BAY AREA EXPRESS LANES

Performance Improvement: Scaled Tolls

- Free for carpools with 3 or more people also vanpools, motorcycles and transit
Set by Caltrans in cooperation with MTC and CHP
- 50% tolls for 2-person carpools and clean air vehicles
- Full toll for single occupant vehicles -



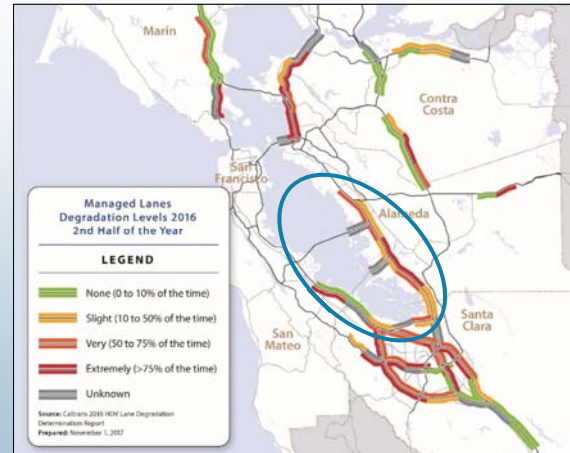
 BAY AREA EXPRESS LANES

HOV Policy Consistency Goal: Ring Around the Bay

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Very degraded corridors that ring the bay should have consistent toll policies

- Carpools with 3 or more people go free
- 50% discount for 2-person carpools



Clean Air Vehicle Policy Consistency Goal: All Express Lanes

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- **Bay Area: 50% toll discount proposed for all Bay Area Express Lanes**
- 12% Clean Air Vehicles on I-880 NB in a.m. in 2017
- Clean Air Vehicle growth from 2013 to 2017
 - Alameda County: 426%
 - Santa Clara County: 369%



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Areas of Public Concern

- Equity
- 2-person carpools no longer free
- Clean Air Vehicles no longer free
- Mid-day “lane take-away”
- Additional tax



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Outreach and Education

Fall 2019

- Toll ordinance hearings & adoption
- Post educational information to web (video, maps, FAQs)



Spring 2020 (3 months before opening)

- On-corridor banners
- Advertising & social media
- Employer “Pool Party”
- FasTrak notice





"Be Three, Go Free" Carpool Campaign

Starts 3 Months
Before 880 Express
Lanes Open

- Call-to-Action: Carpool.511.org
- Matching : Regional Matching System, Scoop & Waze Carpool
- Employers: Scoop & Waze employer packages
- Rewards Promotion
- Leverage park 'n ride lots and casual carpooling



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Questions & Comments

ExpressLanes.511.org

MTC.ca.gov/our-work/plans-projects/major-regional-projects/mtc-express-lanes

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