



NEWS RELEASE

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Ten-Dollar ‘Express Lane Bonus’ for New FasTrak Customers ***Toll Credit Promotion Offered for Use on I-680 Express Lane***

PLEASANTON, CA (August 1, 2010) -- With the new I-680 Express Lane set to open next month, drivers who sign up for a FasTrak[®] account starting today will receive a \$10 toll credit incentive to use on the new lane.

“This \$10 toll credit will help introduce the I-680 Express Lane by encouraging people to sign up for FasTrak,” said Union City Mayor Mark Green, Chair of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, which will operate the new Express Lane. “The Express Lane means that even if drivers don’t use a bridge, they now have a good reason to get FasTrak in order to avoid congestion.”

The I-680 Express Lane, Northern California’s first Express Lane, will open Monday, September 20 and totals 14 miles on Interstate 680 going southbound from Pleasanton to Milpitas. It will operate Mondays to Fridays from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., and, unlike regular carpool lanes in the Bay Area, it will be separated from general purpose lanes by triple solid striping to help reduce illegal entry. Solo drivers who want a faster trip can choose to use the lane by paying a toll electronically via a FasTrak toll tag. Carpools, transit vehicles, and motorcycles, as well as hybrid vehicles with a valid sticker, will continue to use the lane for free.

“The first Express Lane is opening soon, so drivers with FasTrak who don’t want to sit in southbound I-680 traffic will now have the choice of avoiding backups,” said Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Chair of the I-680 Express Lane Joint Powers Authority. “We’re making it easier for people to decide to get FasTrak.”

The new FasTrak toll credit promotion is being offered because traffic studies show that many regular commuters on I-680 do not yet have FasTrak accounts, and therefore would not be able to use the new Express Lane.

Anyone who opens a FasTrak account between August 1 and October 20 will receive a \$10 credit for use on the new I-680 Express Lane. The credit will be applied to the posted toll amount each time the driver uses the Express Lane until the \$10 credit is exhausted. Unused

credits expire November 20 (60 days after the Express Lane opens). Credits do not apply to bridge tolls, though having a FasTrak toll tag means a speedier trip through the toll plazas at the Bay Area's bridges. Full details of the toll credit promotion are online at www.680expresslane.org/promotion.

Drivers can sign up for FasTrak by calling 511 and saying "FasTrak" or by visiting www.511.org. FasTrak toll tags are also available at participating Costco, Safeway and Walgreens stores.

"Clearly, now is the ideal time to get FasTrak," Green said.

Once the I-680 Express Lane opens, solo motorists with a FasTrak toll tag can enter the Express Lane at one of three designated places. An overhead electronic sign will display the current toll being assessed. Toll costs will vary based on real-time traffic levels on the Express Lane to ensure that traffic in the lane flows smoothly.