

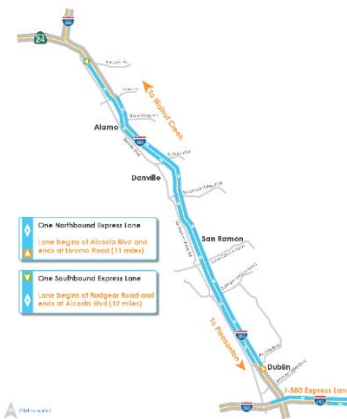


BAY AREA EXPRESS LANES

I-680 CONTRA COSTA EXPRESS LANES OPEN SOON!

Been wondering when those “Under Construction” stickers will be taken off the I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes signs? The wait will soon be over, as the lanes are scheduled to open in late September or early October 2017.

The Express Lanes offer better carpool enforcement and provide solo drivers a new choice to pay a toll for a more reliable trip. Carpools, motorcycles, buses and eligible clean-air vehicles still travel toll-free in the lanes, but *only* with a FasTrak Flex® toll tag set to “2” or “3+” position. Solo drivers can choose to pay the toll using either a standard FasTrak toll tag or a FasTrak Flex toll tag set in the “1” position.



The southbound I-680 Contra Costa Express Lane will start at Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek and end at Alcosta Blvd in San Ramon. The northbound lane will start just before Alcosta Blvd. and extend 11 miles to Livorna Road in Alamo. The Express Lanes will open as “open access” lanes. This means cars can move into or out of the lanes anywhere, similar to how cars enter and exit the existing carpool lanes.

The Express Lanes will operate 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tolls change based on real-time traffic conditions. When traffic increases, tolls increase. When traffic decreases, tolls decrease. A driver is guaranteed the price shown on the sign at the time he or she enters the Express Lane. If a driver exits the lane prior to the end of the zone, the driver is charged the full toll for that zone.

To find carpool partners, visit rideshare.511.org. Drivers can earn a few dollars for a trip they would be making anyway and riders can save the cost of driving. Rider and driver both save time by traveling in the Express Lane.

The I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes between Walnut Creek and San Ramon are the first of a series of projects planned for the I-680 Contra Costa corridor to deliver traffic congestion relief. As the first piece of this strategy, the Express Lanes are expected to improve traffic conditions in the shoulders of the peak commute hour, but likely will have only a modest impact on congestion during the heaviest travel times.

MTC'S I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes are part of a growing Bay Area Express Lanes network that will total [550 lane miles](#) by 2035. The network will fill gaps between existing carpool lanes, providing more advantages to buses, carpools and motorcycles, and offering solo drivers more options for a more reliable trip. Cars in the I-580 Express Lanes travel up to 23 miles per hour faster than those in the adjacent general purpose lanes during peak hours. In the I-680 Sunol Grade Express Lane, vehicles typically travel 9 mph to 14 mph faster than those in the other lanes during the peak period.

Learn more at expresslanes.511.org



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