Fact Sheet: Pricing for the I-85 Express Lanes Extension

The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) are adding 10 miles of managed lanes to the existing I-85 Express Lanes with the I-85 Express Lanes Extension, opening in fall 2018.

With the extension, the I-85 Express Lanes will run a total of 26 miles. The extension begins along I-85 at Old Peachtree Road and extends to Hamilton Mill Road.

How much will the toll cost?

As with other Georgia Express Lanes, the I-85 Extension is dynamically priced, meaning as demand for use of the lanes increases, the toll amount rises to ensure that you experience more reliable trip times.

The minimum toll rate for all Georgia Express Lanes is $0.10 per mile. You can also expect toll rates above the $0.10 per mile minimum to vary based on travel conditions at each express lane facility rather than a predetermined max rate. During periods of very low demand, per mile toll rates on an express lane facility may be replaced with a fixed toll of $0.50 per trip, regardless of the length of the trip.

You can see the posted toll amount before you enter, allowing you to decide whether you want to use the lanes. Tolls are collected electronically with no toll booths requiring you to slow down or stop.

Toll rates are displayed at each lane entry point on changeable message signs. The top rate displayed on the sign is the fee from the upcoming entry point to the next exit, while the bottom rate is the fee from that entry point to the last Express Lane exit. When you exit between entry points, the toll rate will be between the two displayed rates. Once you enter, your toll rate does not change.

The I-85 Express Lanes Extension will be charged separately from the original I-85 Express Lanes. This makes it easier for customers who may only want to travel on one or the other. After traveling in the Express Lanes, customers will see two separate charges on their Peach Pass account as 85 A (I-85 Express Lanes) and 85 B (I-85 Express Lanes Extension).

Charging for the extension separate from the existing I-85 Express Lanes allows for the toll pricing to reflect the typically lower level of congestion that will be experienced on the Extension than on the portion of the existing lanes closer to I-285. If both segments were priced together, the pricing would be based on the higher levels of congestion that occur closer to I-285, resulting in the extension pricing being higher than traffic conditions warrant on the new 10 mile section.
How are the tolls collected?

Tolls on the I-85 Express Lanes Extension are collected electronically through the Peach Pass tolling device, with no toll booths requiring drivers to slow down or stop. The Peach Pass is a small electronic transponder (sticker) that is connected to a Peach Pass customer’s debit or credit card. It can be adhered to a vehicle windshield OR a bumper that mounts to the front of your vehicle, as well as devices that mount to the front headlamp of vehicles and motorcycles.

Will drivers have to stop to pay tolls?

There are no toll booths on the I-85 Express Lanes Extension. Tolls will be collected electronically through their Peach Pass. Use of this innovative technology allows drivers to maintain highway speeds instead of slowing down or stopping at a toll booth.