



















# Charlotte Regional Express Lanes Network – How Do They Work?

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2019 NCAMPO Conference

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April 24, 2019

### Let's Connect

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### On average, how much time does the Charlotte commuter spend in congestion?



1-10 Hours

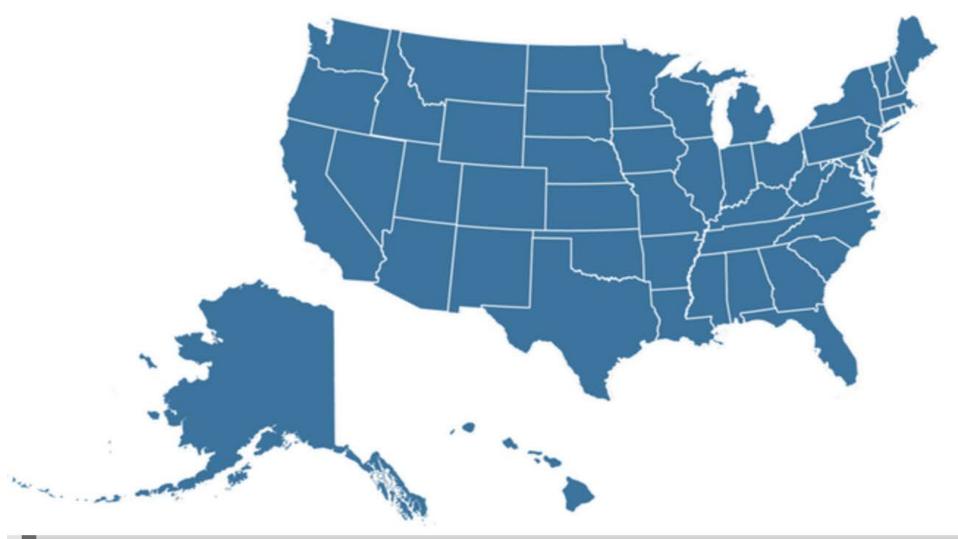
90-100 Hours

50-60 Hours

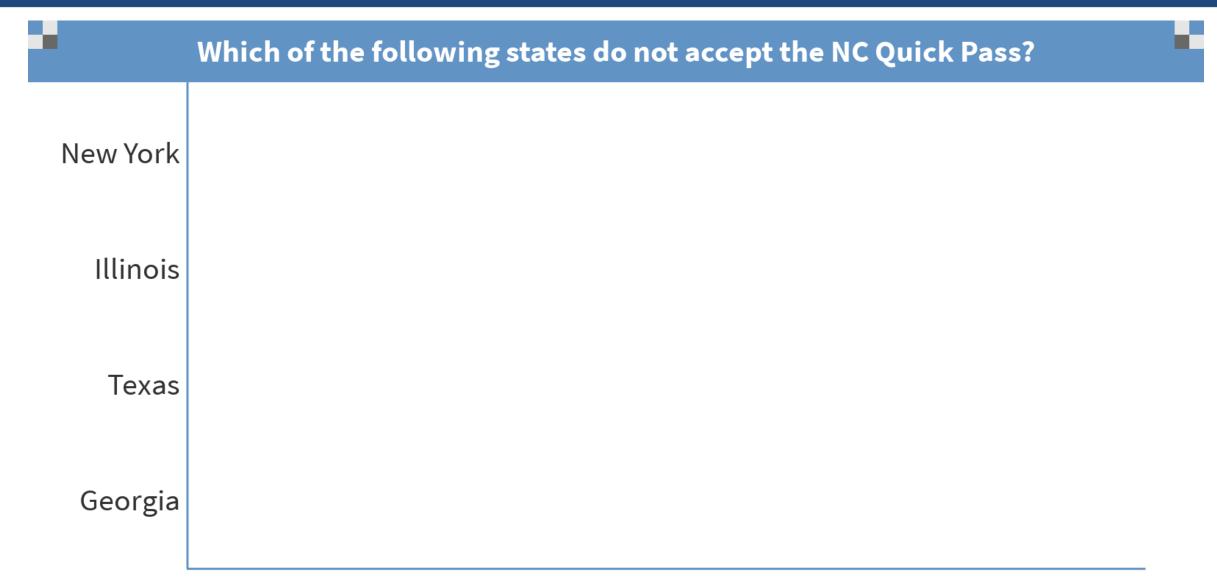








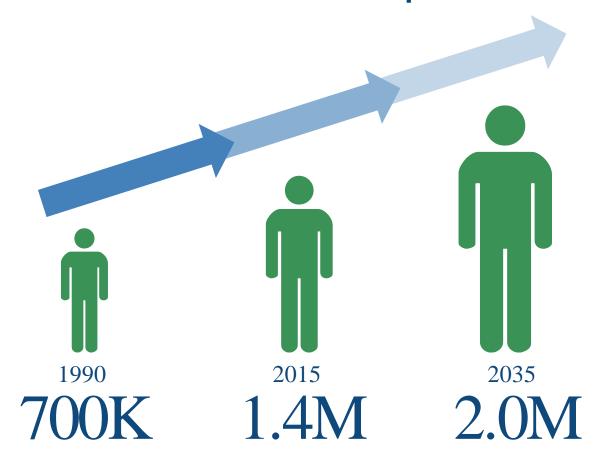






## Charlotte is Growing...

**Charlotte Area Population** 



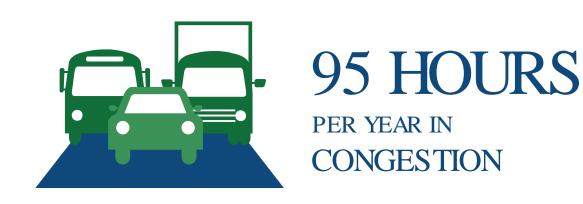
### Charlotte is Growing...

**Increasing Capital Investment** 



## Charlotte is Growing...

**Increasing Congestion** 





\$1,332 PER YEAR IN **COST** 



### **Fast Lanes Study**

 Led by Charlotte DOT with support from many local, regional, and state partnering agencies



 Conducted in three phases between 2007 and 2013





 Purpose was to identify corridors where HOV/HOT/TOT facilities could help manage congestion during peak travel periods



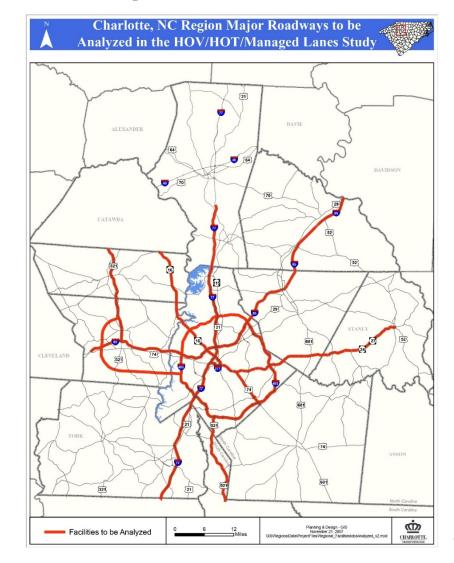


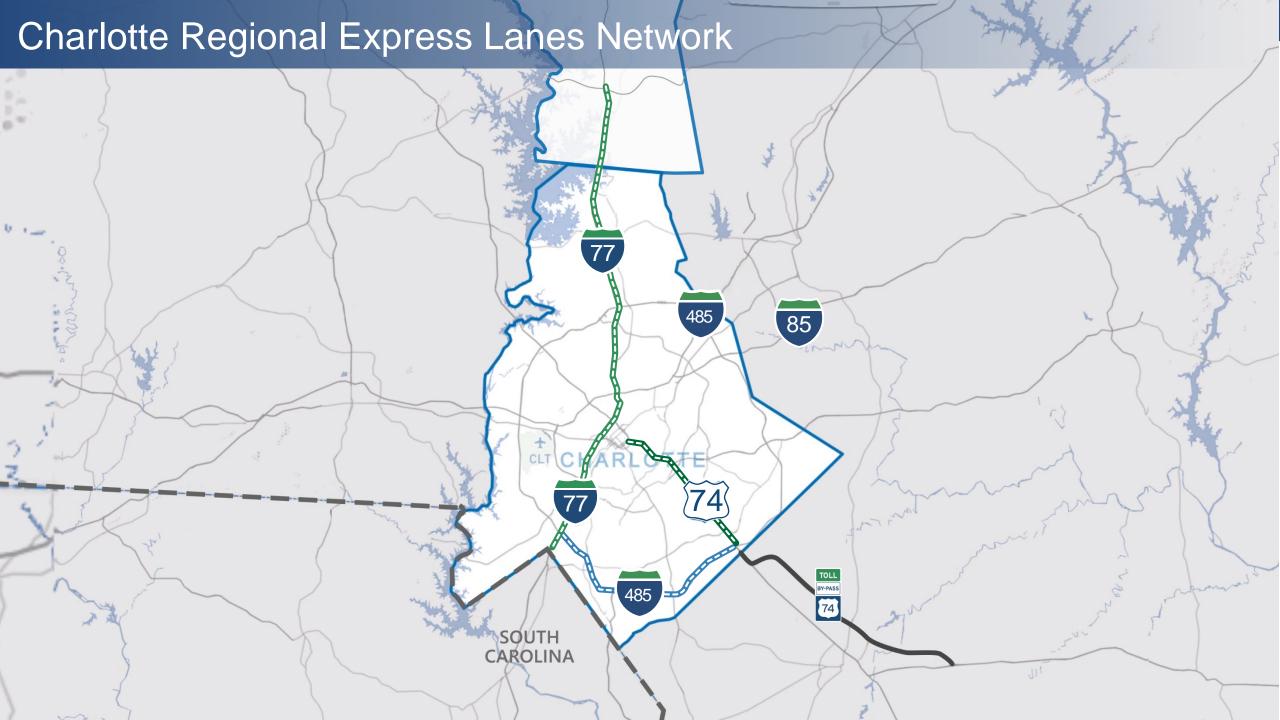


### **Fast Lanes Study**

- Evaluation included operational, revenue, engineering, and public acceptance factors
- Screened 11 corridors (>300 miles in length)

 Result of the study is the Charlotte Regional Express Lanes Network





### What is an Express Lane?

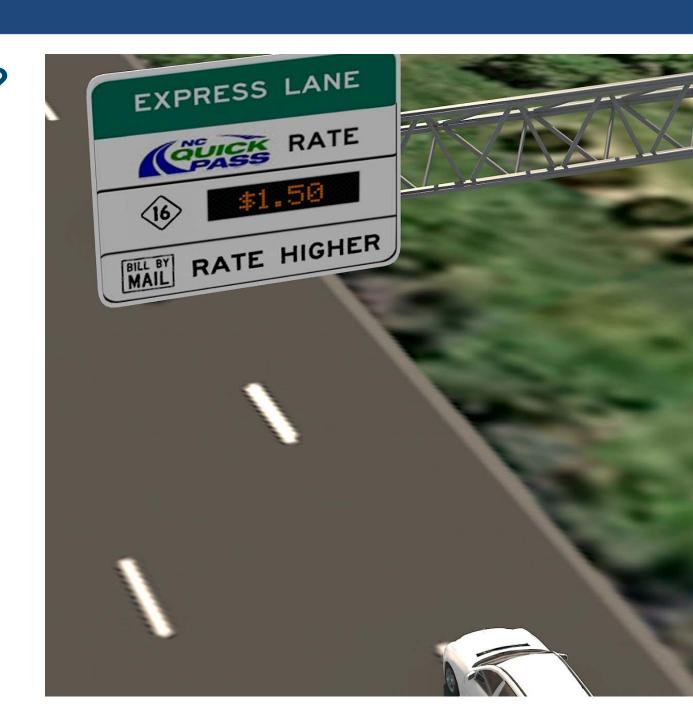


A separate lane in a highway corridor in which drivers can choose to pay a variable toll for a more reliable travel time

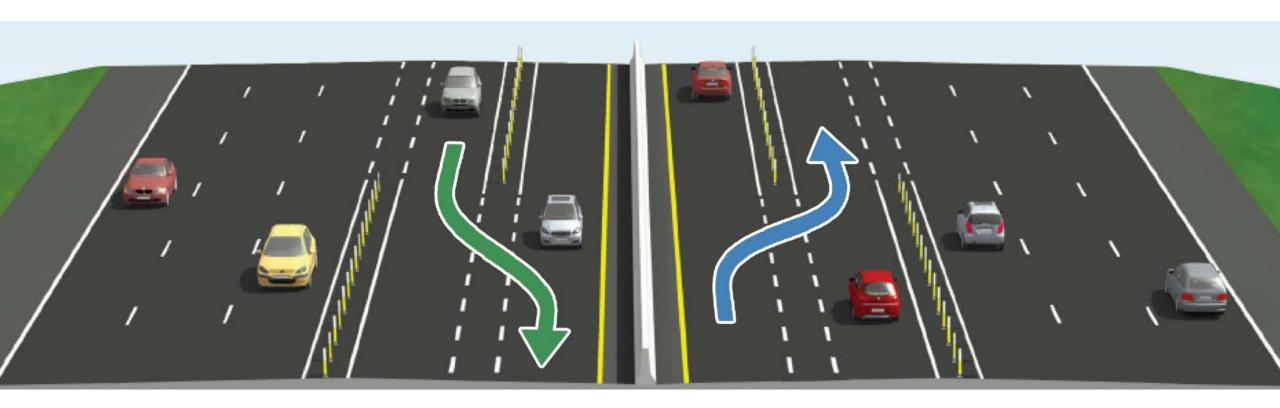
Note: transit vehicles and emergency responders do not pay tolls to use express lanes.

### **How Do Express Lanes Work?**

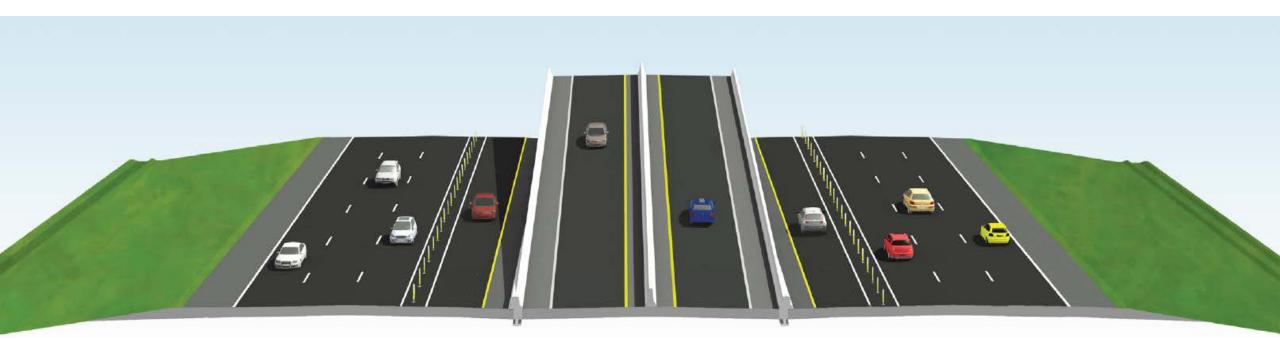
- Variable toll manages express lanes traffic volume
- Express lanes provide reliable travel times throughout the day
- Drivers know the price <u>before</u> choosing express lanes
- All-electronic tolling



### **At Grade Express Lanes Access Points**

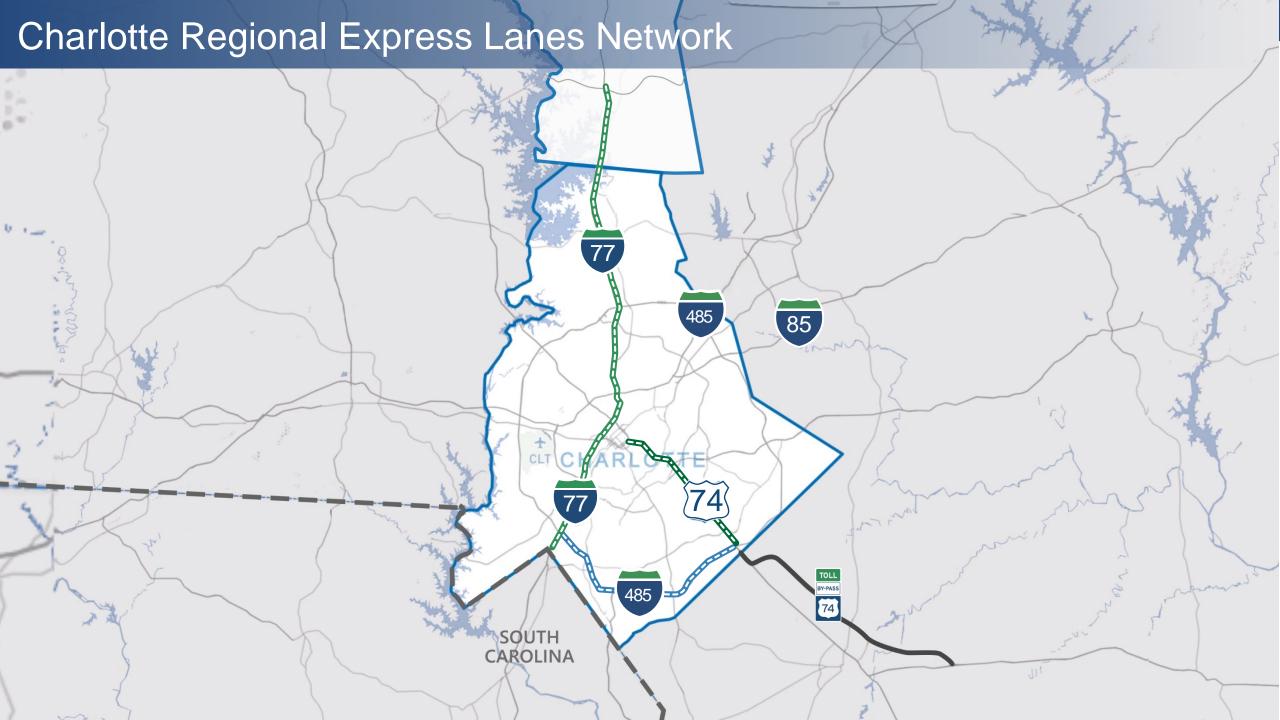


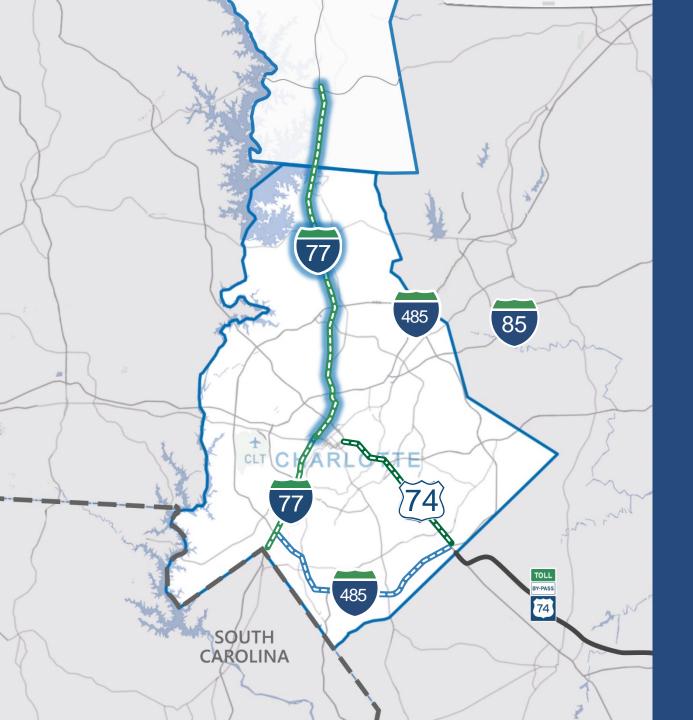
### **Express Lanes Direct Connectors**



### **Express Lanes Nationwide**







### I-77 North



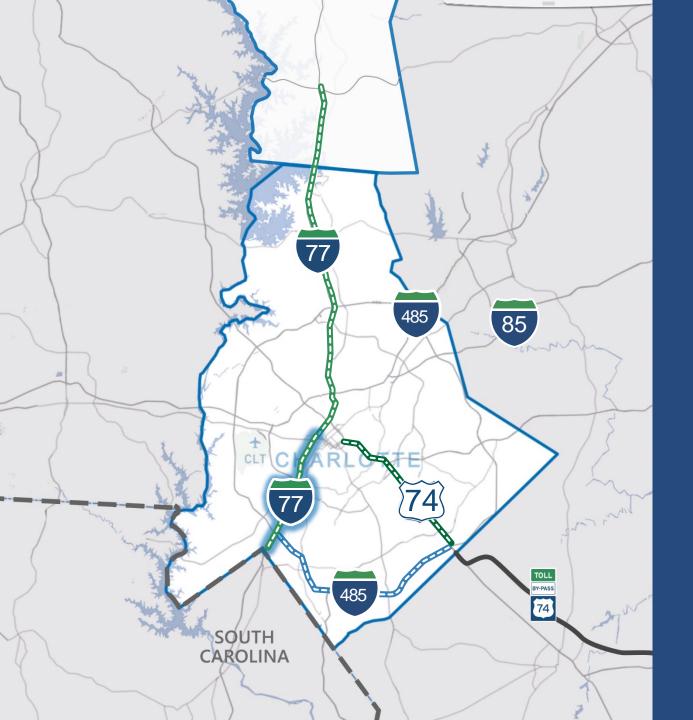
26 Miles (Uptown to Mooresville)



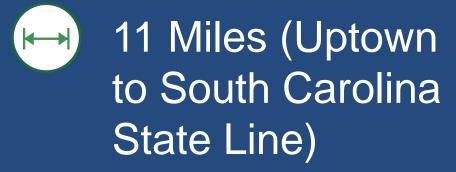
1-2 Express Lanes



First Segment Opens
This Spring

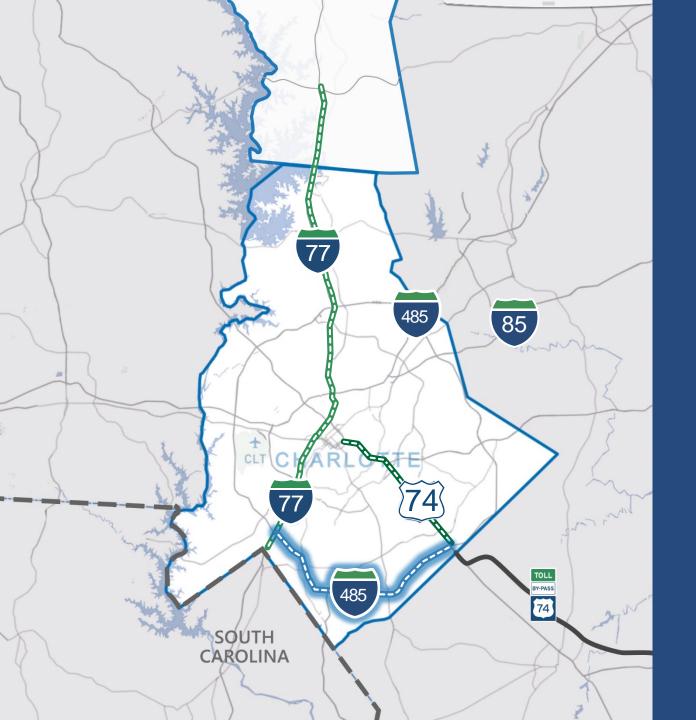


### I-77 South





Planning and Design
Studies Have Been
Initiated

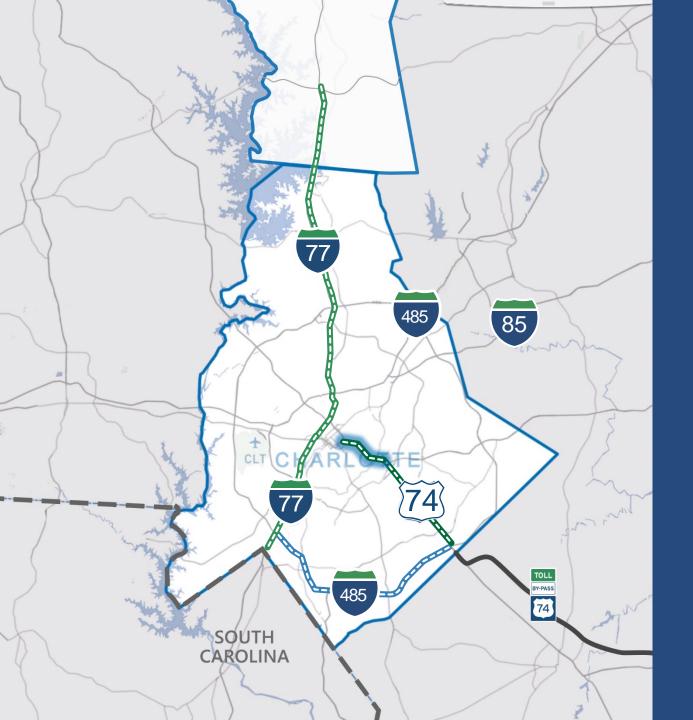


### **I-485**





Construction Will Begin This Summer



### US 74 Phase I



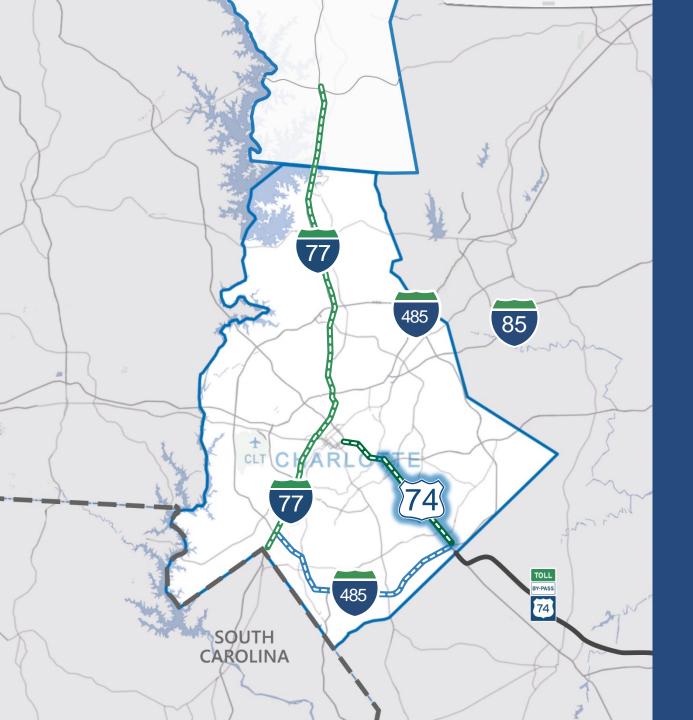
5 Miles (Uptown to Idlewild Rd)



Convert Bus Lanes to Express Lanes



Planning and Design Studies are Ongoing



### **US 74 Phase II**



6 Miles (Idlewild Rd to I-485)



1 Express Lane



Planning and Design Studies are Ongoing

# Charlotte Area Express Lanes Network

How Do they Work?

Andy Lelewski, P.E.



### **Toll Collection Roles**

### With the I-77 Express Lanes



### **I-77 Mobility Partners**

- Develops toll rates
- Classifies vehicles
- Develops fully-formed transaction



### **NC Turnpike Authority**

- Receives and processes transactions
- Account management & customer service
- Transponder fulfillment

### **Toll Payment**

Drivers pay a toll to utilize the I-77 Express Lanes for a reliable travel time

A vehicle with three or more people is considered a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) and is eligible to travel the express lanes for free

### **How to Pay**



### **NC Quick Pass Transponder**

- Save 35% on tolls in NC
- Tolls automatically deducted from a pre-paid balance
- Interoperable options



### **Bill-by-Mail Program**

- Vehicle identified through license plate
- Invoice mailed to address associated with the vehicle's registration
- Higher toll rates



Pays tolls in NC, GA & FL



Pays tolls in NC, GA FL & all E-ZPass States



### **How to Travel for Free**

**High-Occupancy Vehicles (HOV)** 



### **High-Occupancy Vehicles**

- Three or more people in the vehicle
- Free to ride on the I-77 Express Lanes
- Must have an NC Quick Pass transponder and set HOV status

# How to Travel for Free Hov Status Options



### **NC Quick Pass E-ZPass Transponder**

- Pays tolls in NC, FL and GA & all E-ZPass states
- \$16.49 + tax



### **NC Quick Pass HOV App**

- Must use with an NC Quick Pass transponder
- App is FREE
- Can use from phone or website

# How to Travel for Free HOV Exemptions

### **Motorcycles**

- Ride the I-77 Express Lanes for FREE
- No account or transponder needed

### **Transit Vehicles**

- Ride the I-77 Express Lanes for FREE
- Transit transponder needed

### First Responders

- Ride all roads for FREE
- First Responders transponder needed

