

Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority
Network and Operations Committee

June 12, 2026

Agenda Item 5a – 26-0675

**Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA) Express Lanes Quarterly Report:
Annual Year First Quarter (January– March 2026)**

Subject:

Summarizing weekday operational statistics for the Interstate 80 (I-80) Solano, Interstate 680 (I-680) Contra Costa, and Interstate 880 (I-880) Express Lanes, and operational statistics for the weekend pilot on Interstate 80 (I-80) Solano Express Lanes.

Background:

BAIFA operates Express Lanes on three corridors – I-80 in Solano County, I-680 in Contra Costa County and I-880 in Alameda County - to provide drivers with the choice for faster, more reliable trips by carpooling, using transit, or paying tolls. Express Lanes are intended to increase person throughput and use HOV lane capacity effectively, supporting Plan Bay Area’s goals of strengthening regional mobility and positioning the Bay Area for future growth. The Express Lanes operate Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. BAIFA is also piloting weekend operations on the I-80 Express Lanes from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. The I-80 Express Lanes began operating December 16, 2025. This is the first operations report including I-80 statistics.

The format of the Q1 2026 BAIFA Express Lanes Operations Report differs from past reports. Beyond adding I-80 data, the format has been simplified. The report presents weekday operating statistics for the three corridors followed by weekend operating statistics for the I-80 weekend pilot.

Highlights:

- About 8.5 million express lanes trips were made on BAIFA’s network in Q1 2026, of which 7.9 million were on weekdays and 0.6 million were on weekends.
- I-880 remained the highest used express lanes corridor in the network, with about 66,000 average daily trips (ADT) in Q1 2026, while I-680 carried about 38,000 ADT. Compared to a year ago, Express Lane trips increased less than 1% on I-880 and about 7% on I-680 with the same number of tolling days.

- I-80 average weekday daily trips reached 21,000, while average weekend daily trips were around 24,000. On a daily basis, more drivers chose the I-80 Express Lanes on weekend days versus weekday days.
- I-680 Express Lane toll revenue increased 32% from a year ago. The number of paid trips fell less than 1% while the average toll increased by 32%.
- I-880 Express Lane toll revenue decreased 2% from a year ago. The number of paid trips fell 6.5% while the average toll increased by 1%.
- Across the network, and including data from the Solano 80 weekend pilot, drivers chose to pay tolls to use the lanes for 46% of trips and to carpool toll-free for 41% of trips. The remaining 13% of the trips are violations, made by express lane drivers without a FasTrak® account.
- All express lane segments maintained higher average speeds than their general-purpose lane counterparts.

Next Steps:

The three-year I-80 weekend operations pilot will have a separate analysis beyond the scope of the quarterly report to evaluate conditions before and after the pilot. The evaluation will analyze before and after performance of the weekend operations including traffic volume, person throughput, speeds, congestion, travel time, incidents, diversion to local streets and revenue and cost impacts. The first annual interim report of the pilot evaluation will be presented in mid-2027. A second-year interim report will be presented in mid-2028, and the final full evaluation report will be presented prior to the end of the three-year pilot term. The final pilot evaluation report will include recommendations to continue the pilot, establish weekends as part of regular operations on I-80, or terminate weekend operations. Recommendations about the pilot will come to BAIFA with input from the Solano Transportation Authority and Caltrans.

Issues:

Shortly after the Solano I-80 Express Lanes opened in December, staff became aware through social media posts that some drivers were being charged tolls despite not having entered the express lanes (“cross-lane reads”). Based on information identified through these posts, staff conducted an audit of approximately 136,000 transactions and identified 38 cross-lane reads

attributable to an issue in the license plate image review process. Image reviewers have since been retrained to prevent recurrence. In cases brought to the attention of customer service representatives, the charges were reversed. Staff also reversed all cross-lane read charges identified through the audit process.

In the most recent audit conducted in April, no cross-lane reads were identified among approximately 64,000 transactions reviewed. Drivers who believe they were charged incorrectly are encouraged to contact the FasTrak Customer Service Center at 877-BAY-TOLL (877-229-8655).

Recommendations:

Information

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Presentation
- Attachment B: Quarterly Report



Andrew B. Fremier