

BAIFA Express Lanes Operations Report 1st Quarter 2025: January - March

I-680 Contra Costa and I-880 Express Lanes



Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority Network and Operations Committee
July 11, 2025

I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes

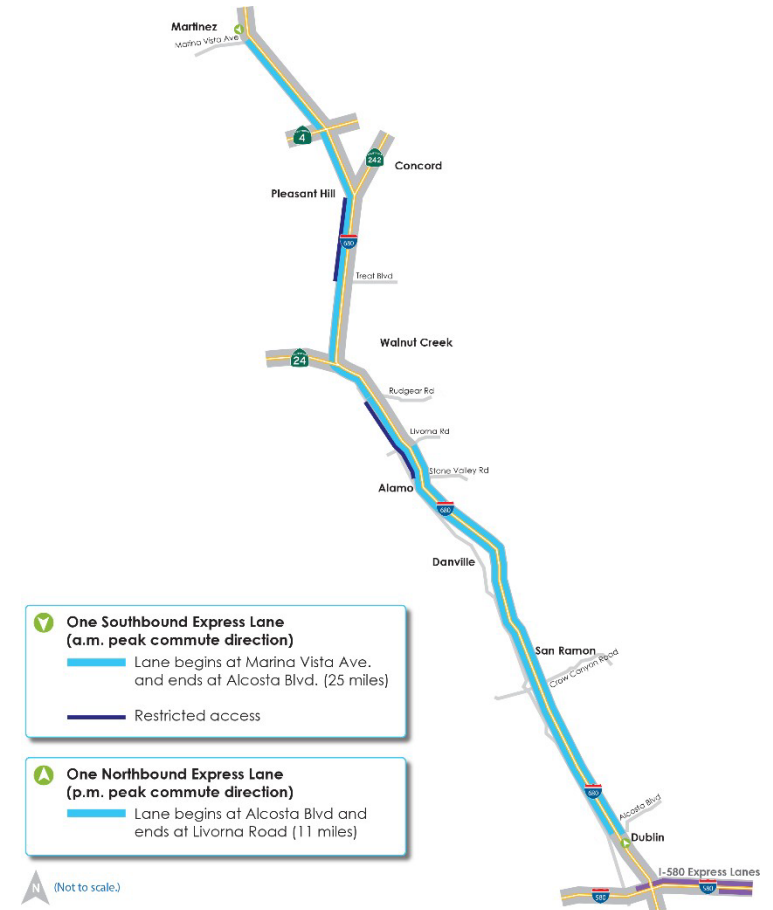


BAY AREA **EXPRESS LANES**

I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes Policies

- Tolling Hours are 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday – Friday.
- All drivers must have a FasTrak® account to avoid penalties.
 - Solo drivers can carry a standard FasTrak tag* or a FasTrak Flex® tag set to 1 or pay tolls via license plate.
 - Carpools (2+) travel toll-free with FasTrak Flex toll tags set to 2 or 3+.
 - Motorcycles travel toll-free with FasTrak Flex toll tags set to 3+.
 - Solo-drivers in eligible clean-air vehicles (CAV) pay half- price tolls with FasTrak CAV toll tags set to 1.

* Standard FasTrak tags do not have a switch and were issued prior to January 2020.



I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes – Q1 2025 Highlights

- 2.2 million express lane trips were made in Q1 2025. The Average Daily Trip count (ADT) and total trips decreased 7% from the prior quarter (Q4 2024). Compared to a year ago (Q1 2024), total trips were about the same and ADT increased 2%.
- The share of toll-free High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) 2+ trips was 43%, up 1% from Q4 2024 and up 1% from Q1 2024. This share has ranged between 30% and 46% per quarter over the history of the lanes and was at its highest in Q1 2020.
- 8% of express lane trips were violations – unpaid trips made without a FasTrak account – down 1% from Q4 2024 and down 3% from Q1 2024.
- Q1 2025 toll revenue was \$3.5M, down 29% from Q4 2024, and up 9% from Q1 2024. Tolloed trips decreased 8% from Q4 2024 and increased 6% from Q1 2024. The average toll paid decreased 23% from Q4 2024 and increased 3% from Q1 2024.

The goal of express lanes is to maximize lane use while keeping traffic moving to encourage carpooling and transit ridership.

I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes – Q1 2025

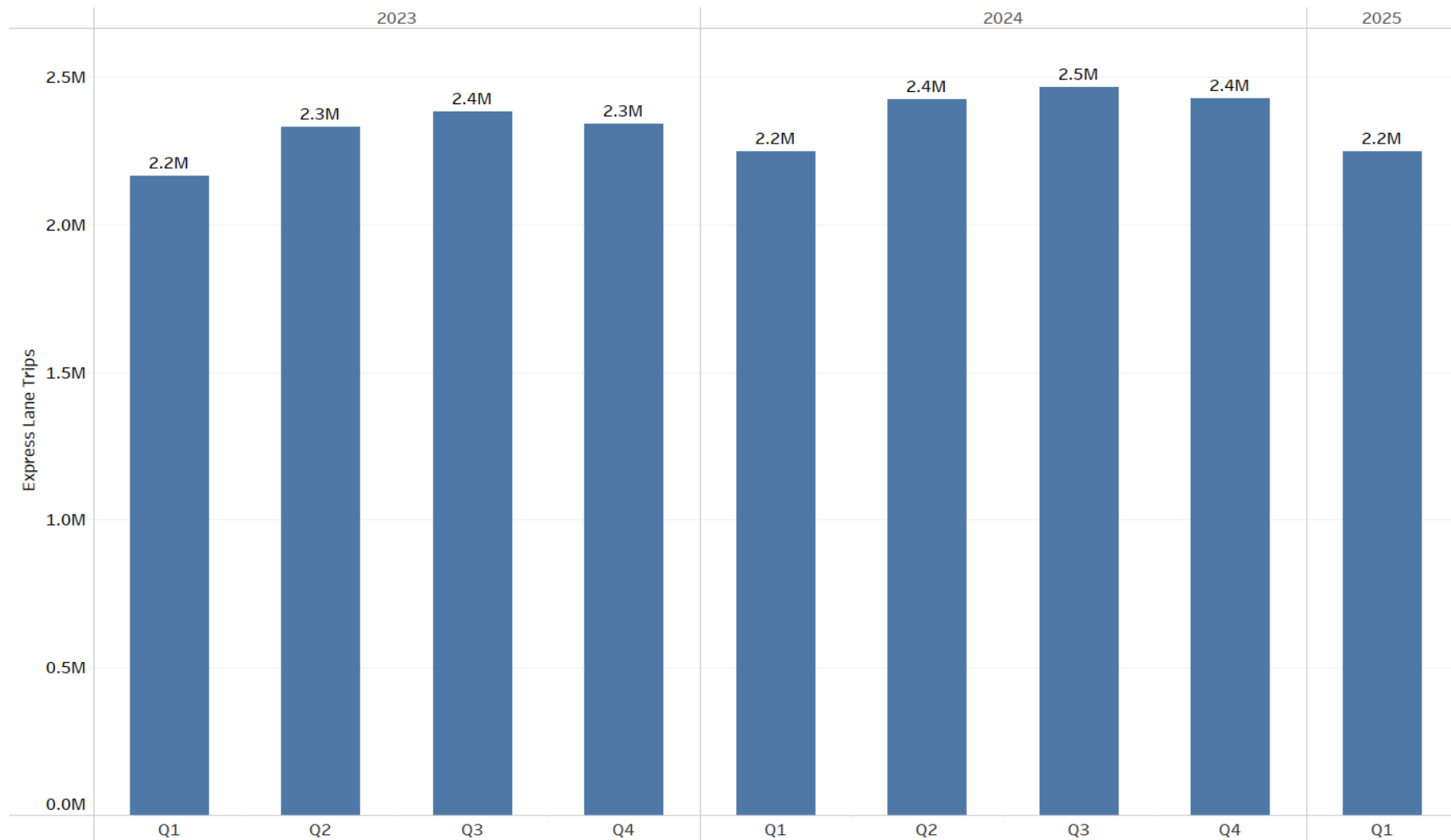
Performance Highlights, continued

- Corridor-length northbound travel was slowest between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. when express lane speed averaged 65 mph (11 mph faster than the general-purpose lanes) and the average toll paid peaked at \$8.80.
- Corridor-length southbound travel was slowest between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. when express lane speed averaged 67 mph (11 mph faster than the general-purpose lanes) and the average toll paid peaked at \$7.00.
- CHP provided 1,215 enforcement hours in the quarter, filling 96% of requested hours and resulting in 1,561 enforcement contacts in the express lanes. Of these, 36% resulted in citations related to carpool occupancy. Enforcement contacts were up 27% and occupancy citations were up 33% compared to Q1 2024.

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix C.

I-680 Express Lane Trips

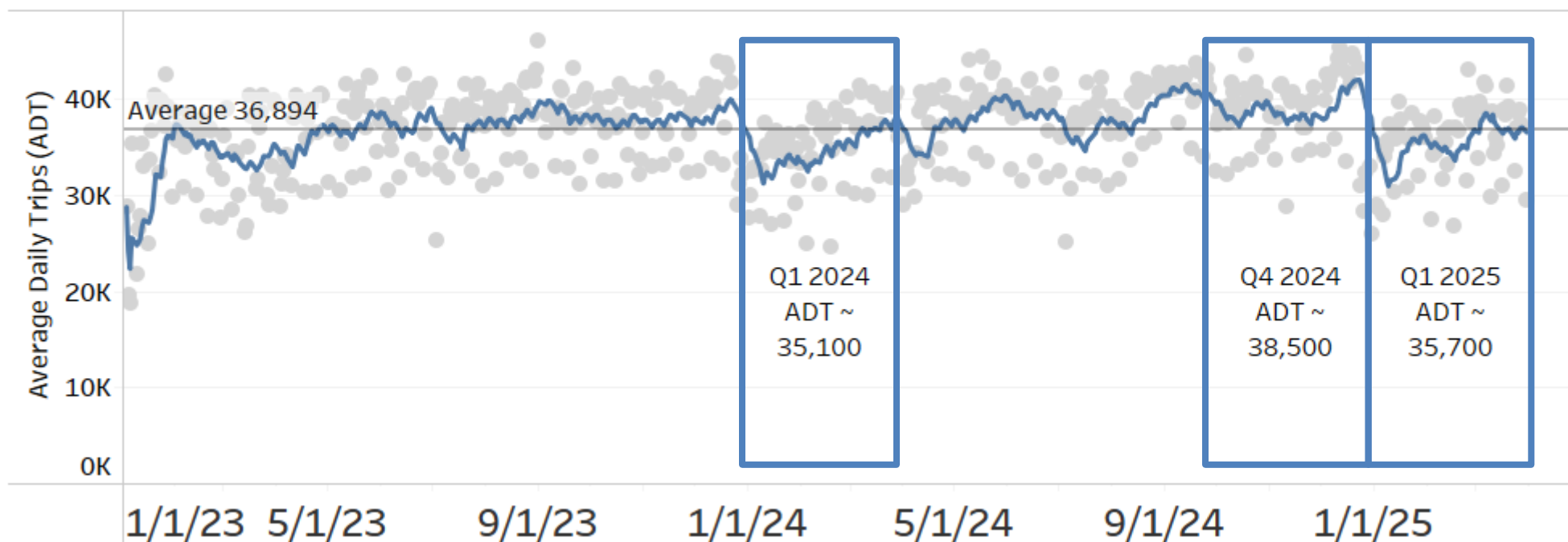
2.2 million express lane trips were made in Q1 2025. Trips were down 7% from the prior quarter (Q4 2024) and about the same as Q1 2024.



I-680 Average Daily Express Lane Trips

The Average Daily Trip (ADT) count from January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2025 was 36,894. Q1 2025 ADT was about 35,700, a 7% decrease from the prior quarter and a 2% increase from a year ago (Q1 2024).

Average Daily Trips (ADT) (grey dots) with 10-day Moving Average (blue line)
(Northbound & Southbound)



I-680 Express Lanes Trip Type

Share of Trips:

Toll-free trips (HOV 2+) = 43%

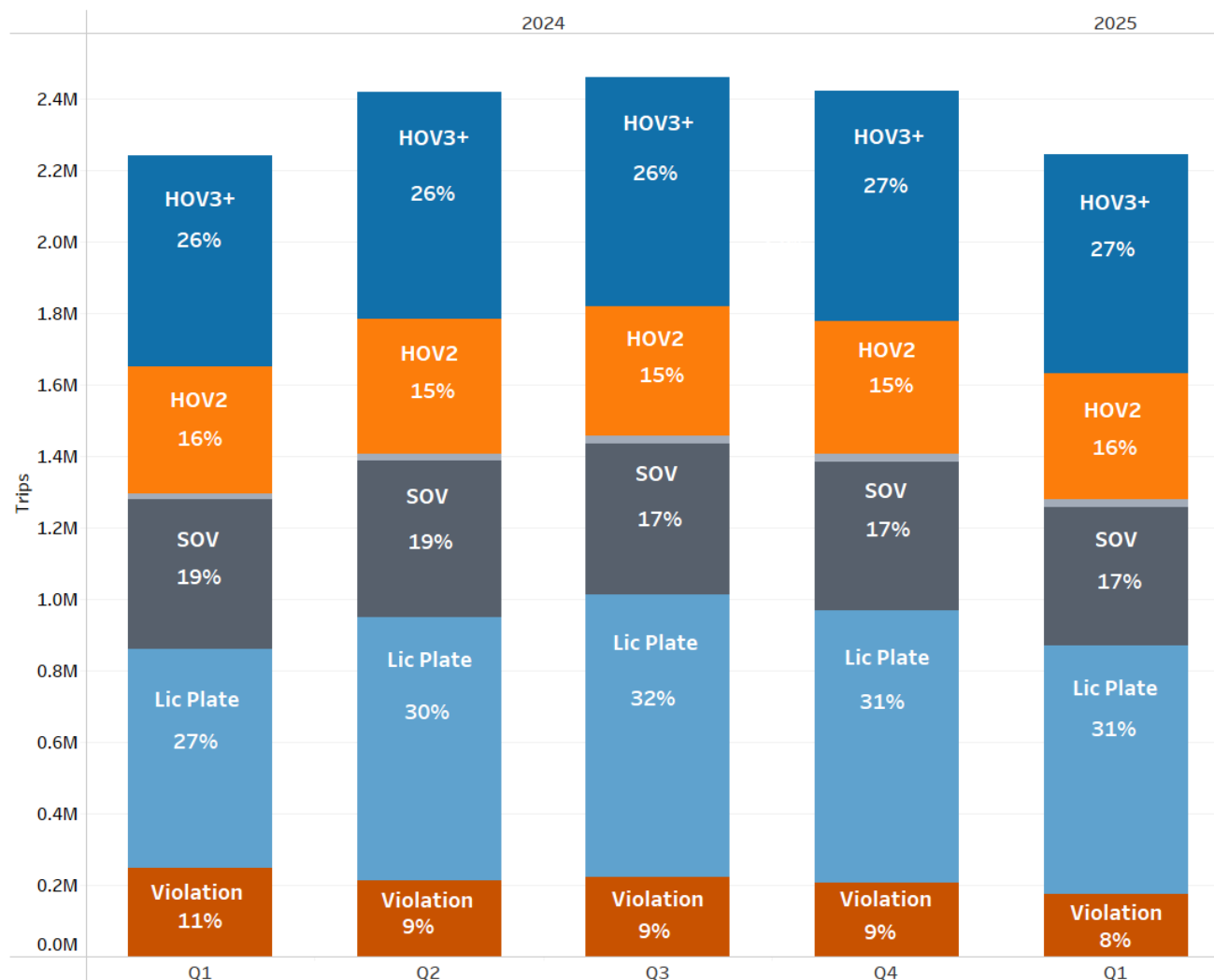
- Up 1% from both Q4 2024 and Q1 2024

Tolled trips (full toll + half-toll) = 49%

- 48% full toll (SOV toll tag + license plate match) + 1% half toll Clean Air Vehicles
- Same as Q4 2024
- Up 2% from Q1 2024

Violation trips = 8%

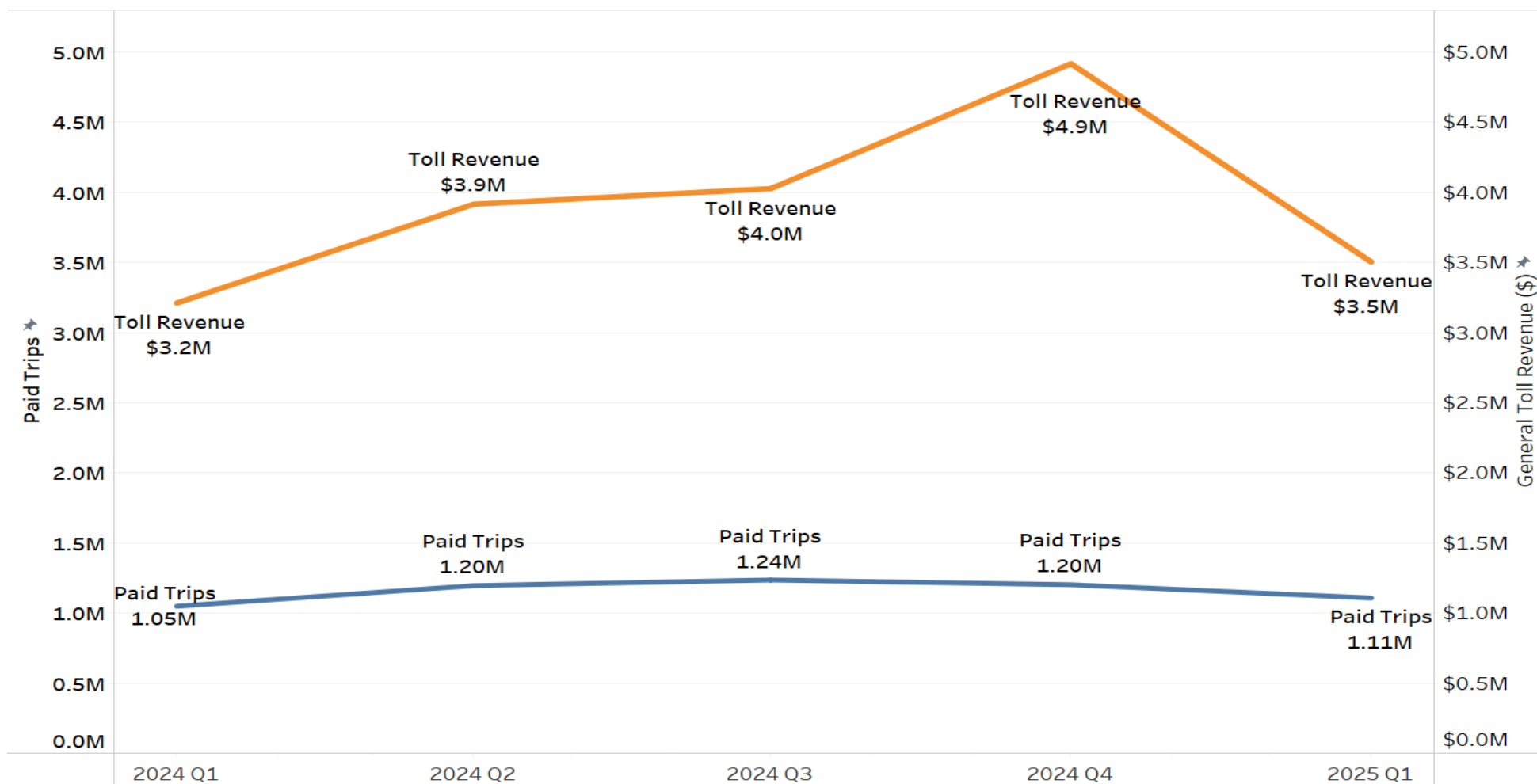
- No toll account
- Down 1% from Q4 2024
- Down 3% from Q1 2024



In each quarter, <1% to 1% of trips were made with Clean Air Vehicle Tags set to “1”, represented by the thin grey segments in the above bar chart.

I-680 Express Lanes General Toll Revenue and Tolled Trips

Q1 2025 Change	Toll Revenue	Tolled Trips	Average Toll Paid
from Prior Quarter (Q4 2024)	Down 29%	Down 8%	Down 23%
Year over Year (Q1 2024)	Up 9%	Up 6%	Up 3%



I-680 Express Lanes Northbound Peak Traffic and Corridor- Length Speed

Peak Traffic

Time	3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Location	Approaching El Cerro Blvd
Express Lane Speed	66 mph
GP Lane Speed	56 mph
Speed Differential	10 mph
Express Lane Volume	877 vehicles per hour
GP Lane Volume	1,283 vehicles per hour

Corridor-Length Slowest Travel

Time	4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Express Lane Speed	65 mph
GP Lane Speed	54 mph
Speed Differential	11 mph

I-680 Express Lanes Southbound Peak Traffic and Corridor-Length Speed

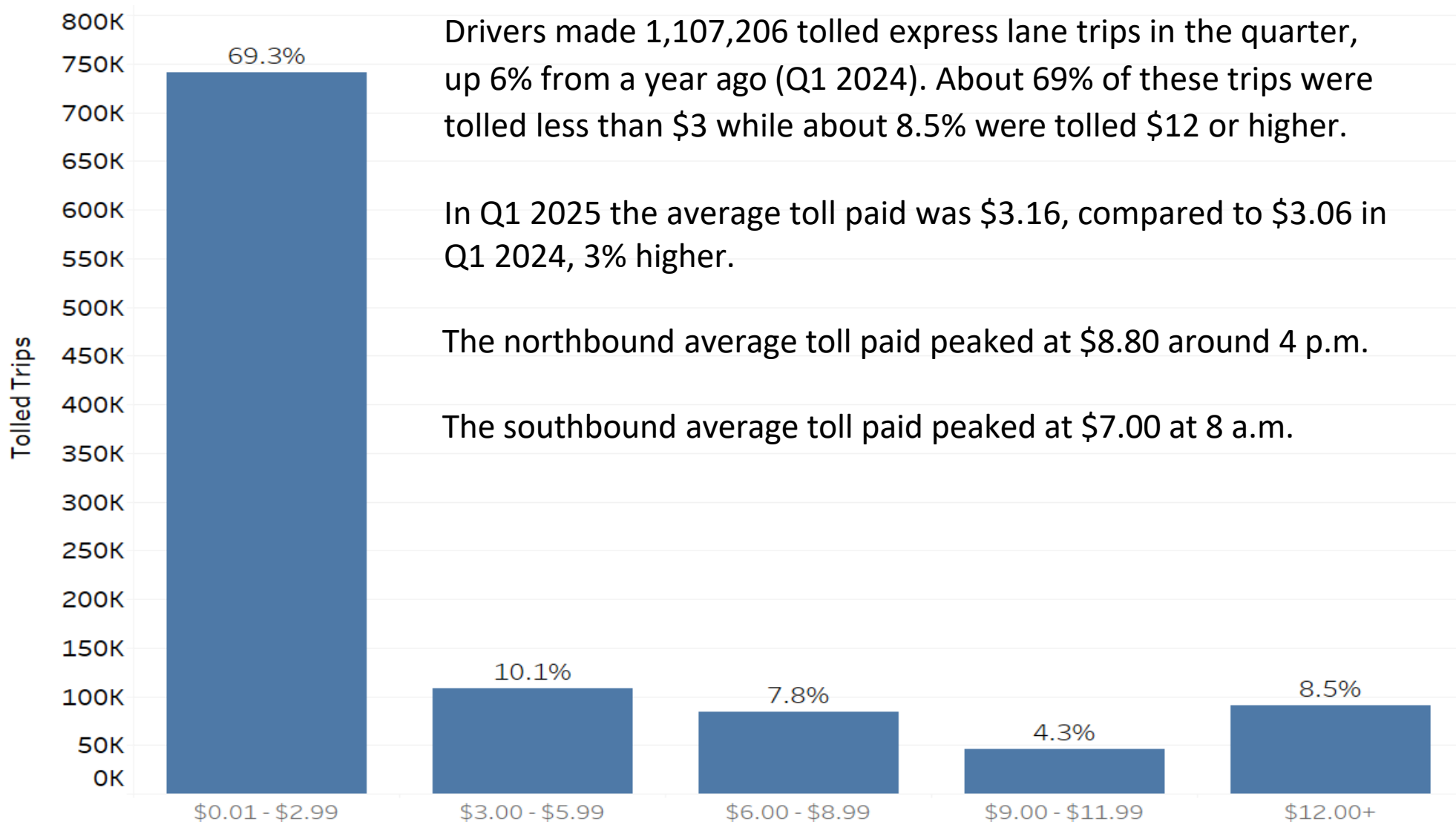
Peak Traffic

Time	7 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Location	Approaching Treat Blvd
Express Lane Speed	67 mph
GP Lane Speed	57 mph
Speed Differential	10 mph
Express Lane Volume	843 vehicles per hour
GP Lane Volume	1,203 vehicles per hour

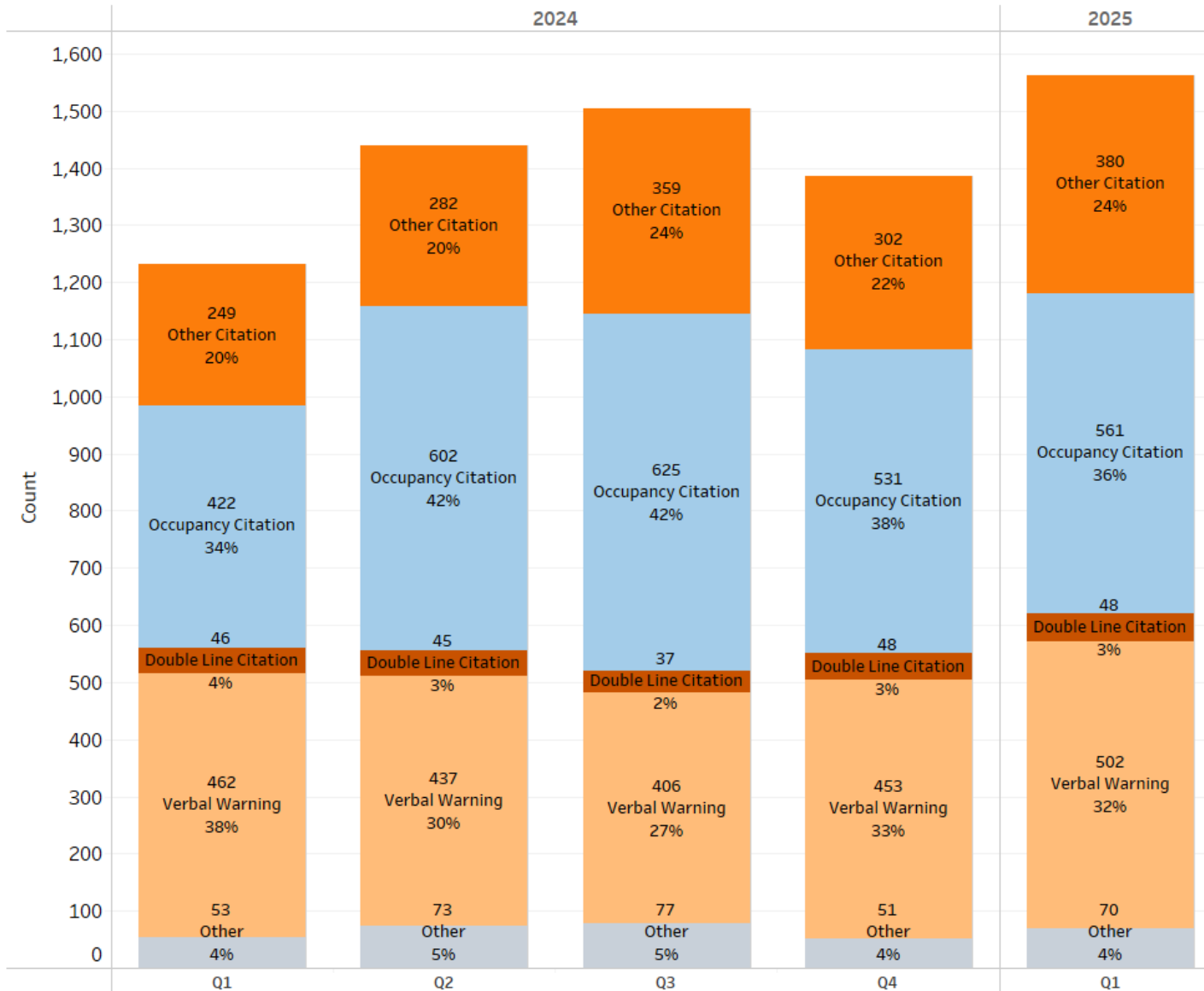
Corridor-Length Slowest Travel

Time	8 a.m. – 9 a.m.
Express Lane Speed	67 mph
GP Lane Speed	56 mph
Speed Differential	11 mph

I-680 Express Lanes Tolls



I-680 Express Lanes CHP Enforcement

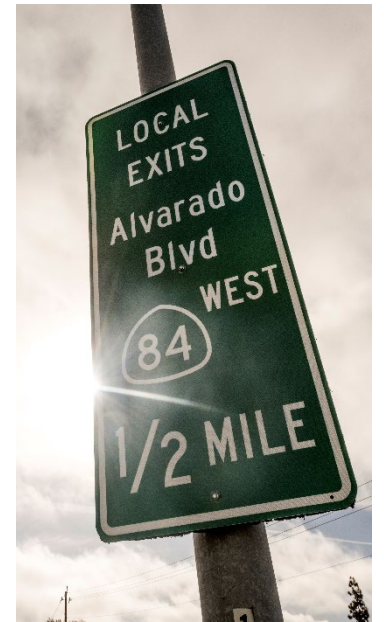


CHP provided 1,215 enforcement hours in the quarter, filling 96% of requested hours and resulting in 1,561 enforcement contacts.

36% of Q1 2025 contacts were related to carpool occupancy violations.

The average cost to BAIFA per enforcement contact was \$121.

I-880 Express Lanes

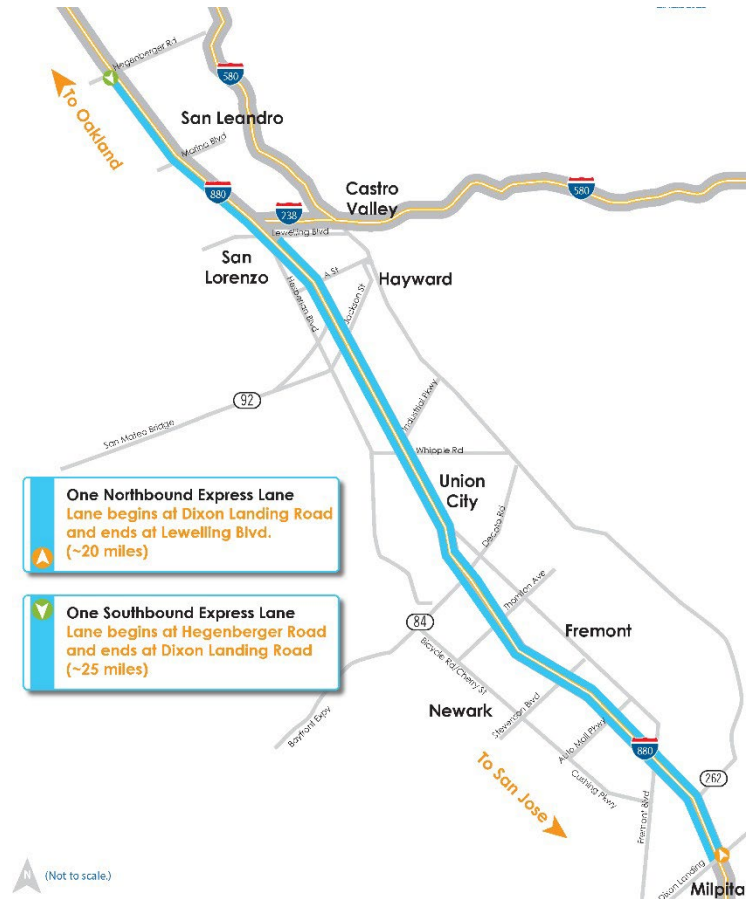


BAY AREA **EXPRESS LANES**

I-880 Express Lanes Policies

- Tolling Hours are 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday – Friday.
- All drivers must have a FasTrak® account to avoid penalties.
 - Solo drivers can carry a standard FasTrak tag* or a FasTrak Flex® tag set to 1 or pay tolls via license plate.
 - Carpools (3+) travel toll-free with FasTrak Flex toll tags set to 3+.
 - Carpools (2) pay half-price tolls with FasTrak Flex toll tags set to 2.
 - Motorcycles travel toll-free with FasTrak Flex toll tags set to 3+.
 - Solo-drivers in eligible clean-air vehicles (CAV) pay half-price tolls with FasTrak CAV toll tags set to 1.

*Standard FasTrak tags do not have a switch and were issued prior to January 2020.



I-880 Express Lanes – Q1 2025 Performance Highlights

- 4.1 million express lane trips were made in Q1 2025. The Average Daily Trip count (ADT) in Q1 2025 was 65,500 which was down 3% from the prior quarter (Q4 2024) and up 6% from a year ago (Q1 2024).
- The share of toll-free HOV 3+ trips was 46%, the highest since tolling began which was the same as Q4 2024 and up 2% from Q1 2024. The share of half-price HOV 2 trips was 6%, same as the prior quarter and down 1% down from a year ago.
- 9% of express lane trips were violations - trips made without a FasTrak account. Down 1% from the prior quarter and down 3% from a year ago.
- Quarterly toll revenue decreased 19% from the prior quarter as tolled trips fell 4% and the average toll paid decreased 16%. Quarterly toll revenue increased 7% from a year ago as tolled trips decreased 1% and the average toll paid increased 8%.

The goal of express lanes is to maximize lane use while keeping traffic moving to encourage carpooling and transit ridership.

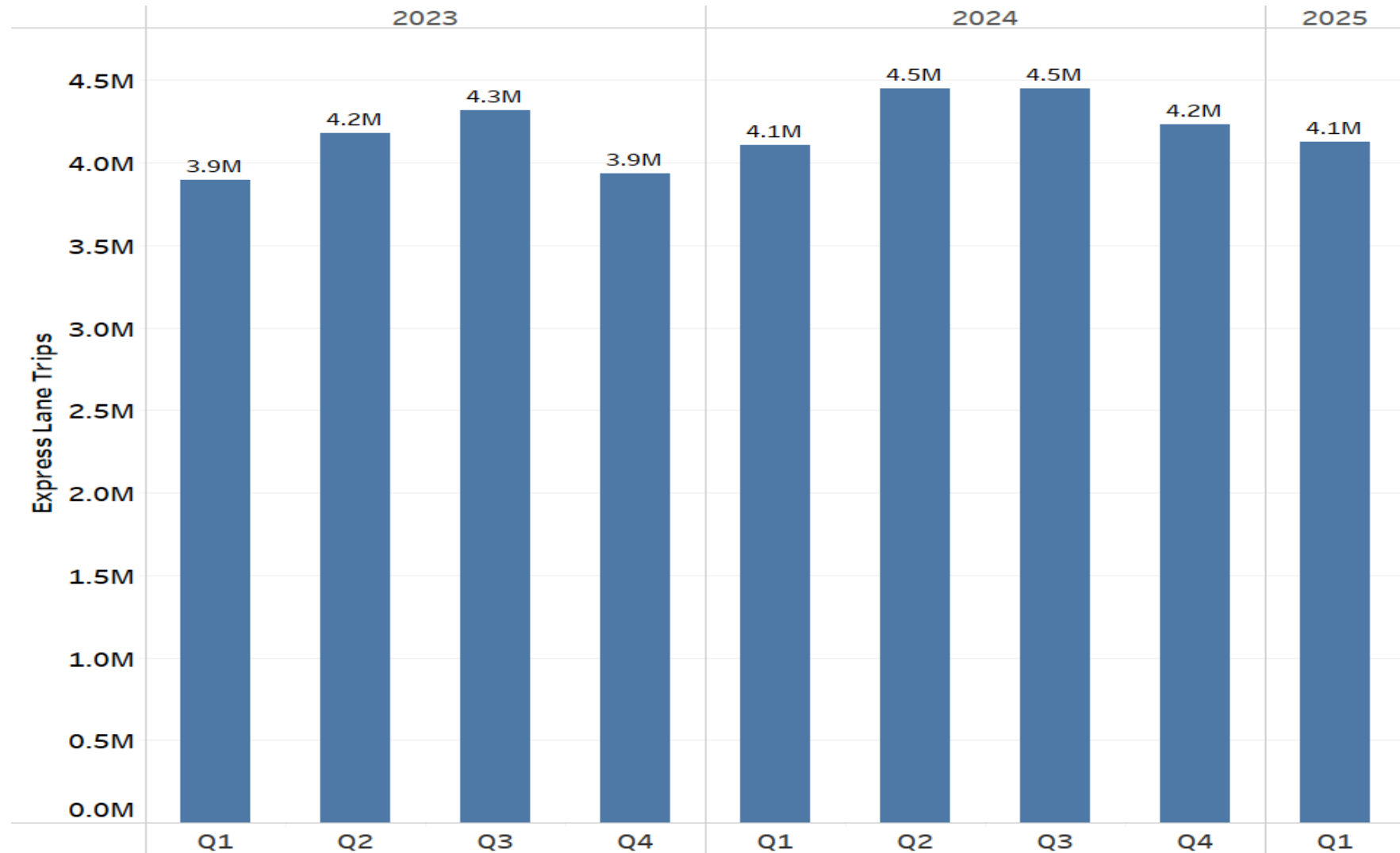
I-880 Express Lanes – Q1 2025 Performance Highlights, continued

- Corridor-length northbound travel was slowest between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. when express lane speed averaged 50 mph (16 mph faster than the general-purpose lanes). The northbound average toll paid peaked at \$14.80 around 4 p.m.
- Corridor-length southbound travel was slowest between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. when express lane speed averaged 54 mph (12 mph faster than the general-purpose lanes). The southbound average toll paid peaked at \$12.30 around 7 a.m.
- CHP provided 2,738 enforcement hours in the quarter, filling 109% of requested hours and resulting in 3,416 enforcement contacts. Of those, 15% resulted in citations for crossing double white lines and 28% in citations related to carpool occupancy.

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix C.

I-880 Express Lane Trips

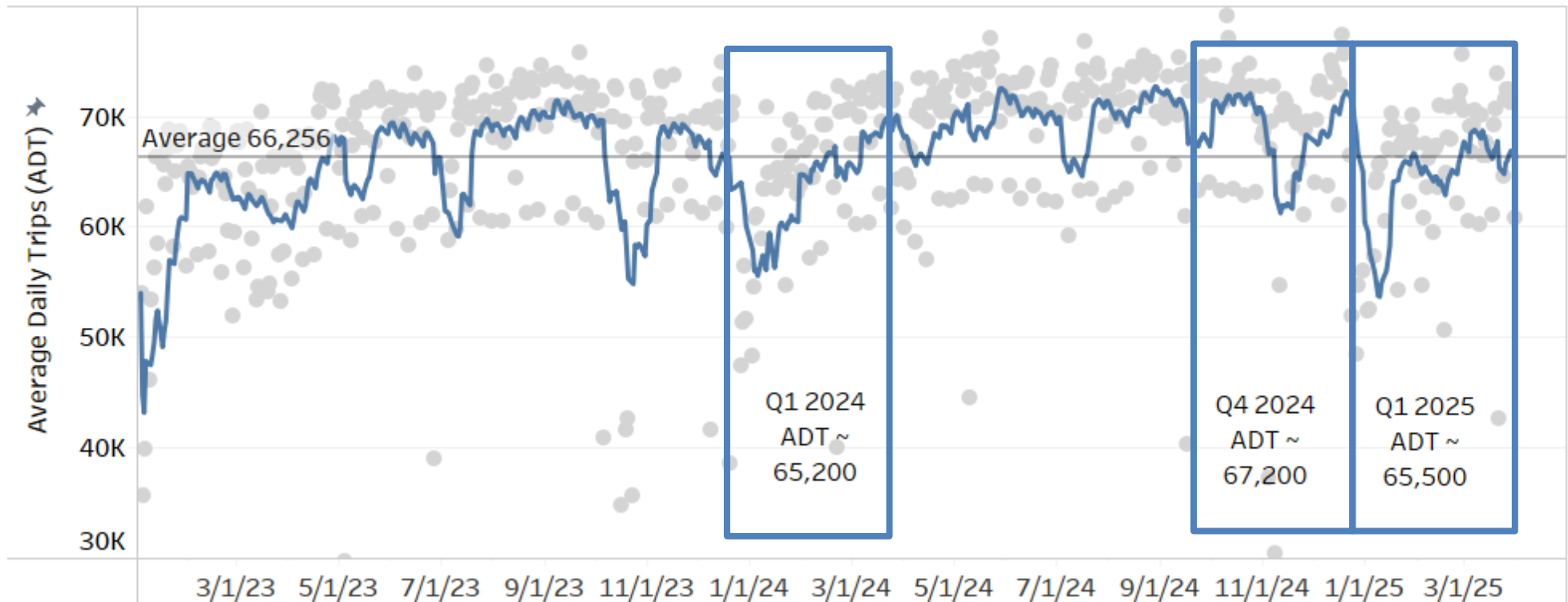
4.1 million express lane trips were made in Q1 2025. Trips were down 2.5% from the prior quarter (Q4 2024) and up 0.5% from a year ago (Q1 2024).



I-880 Express Lane Average Daily Express Lane Trips

The Average Daily Trip (ADT) count from January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 was 66,256. Q1 2025 ADT was about 65,500, down about 3% from the prior quarter and up about 6% from a year ago (Q1 2024).

Average Daily Trips (ADT) (grey dots) with 10-day Moving Average (blue line) (Northbound & Southbound)



I-880 Express Lane Trip Type

Share of Trips:

Toll-free trips (HOV 3+) = 46%

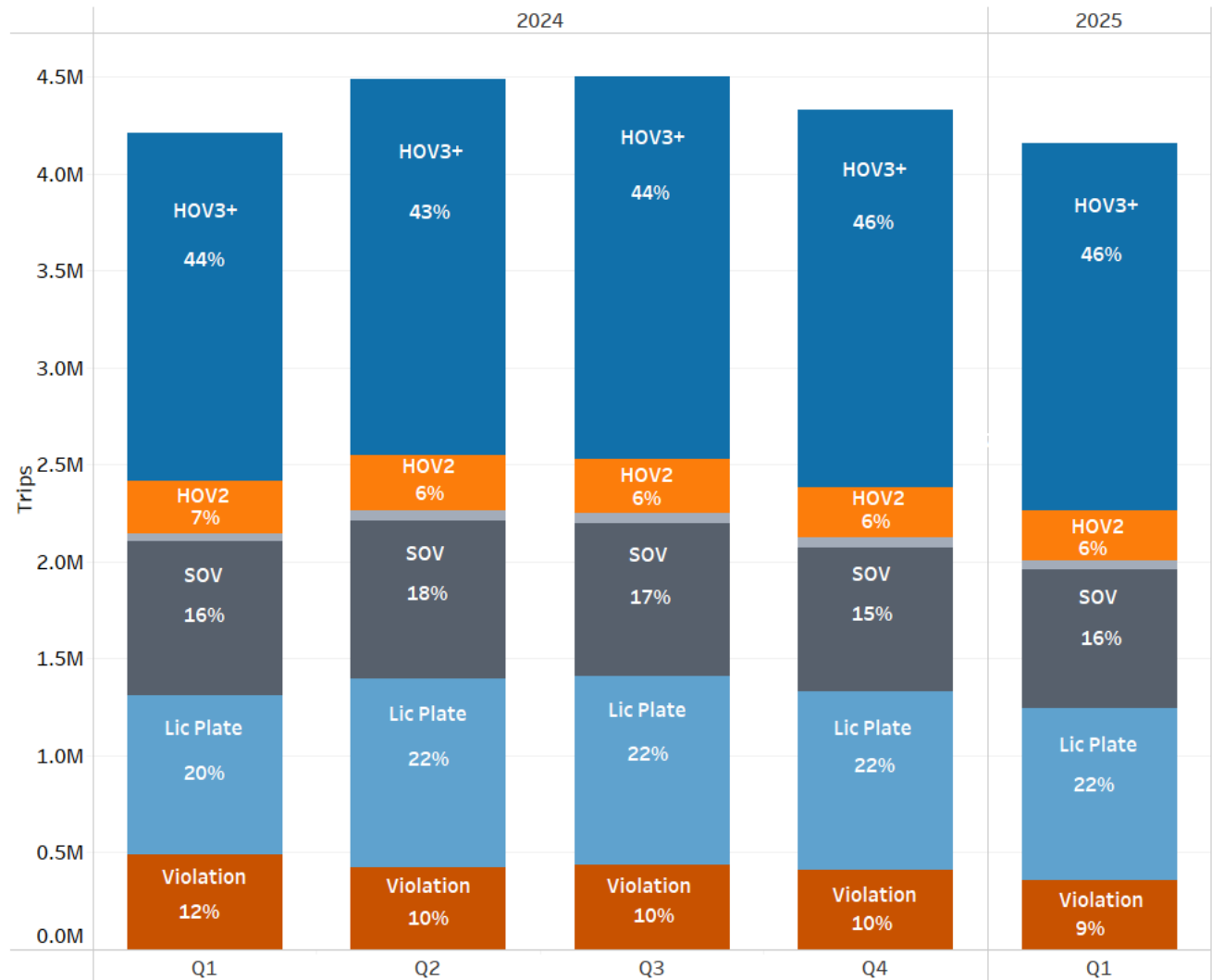
- Same as Q4 2024 and up 2% from Q1 2024

Tolled trips (full toll + half-toll) = 45%

- 38% full toll (SOV toll tag + license plate match)
- Full toll share up 1% from last quarter and up 2% from Q1 2024
- 7% half toll (HOV 2 + CAV (Clean Air Vehicle))
- Half toll share down 1% from a year ago and the same as last quarter

Violation trips = 9%

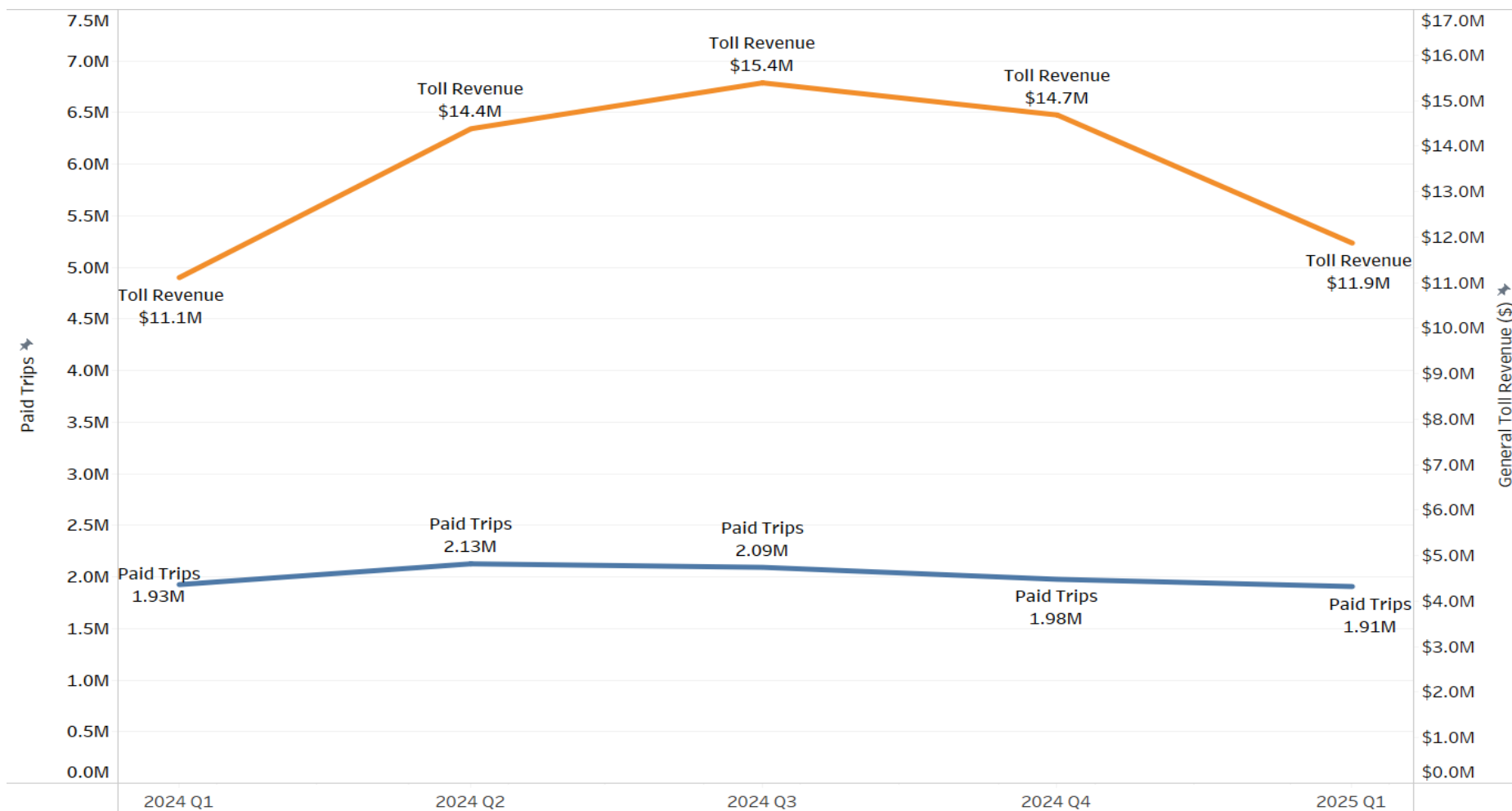
- No toll account
- Down 3% from a year ago and down 1% from last quarter



In each quarter, 1% of trips were made with Clean Air Vehicle Tags set to "1", represented by the thin grey segments in the above bar chart.

I-880 Express Lane General Toll Revenue and Tolled Trips

Q1 2025 Change	Toll Revenue	Tolled Trips	Average Toll Paid
from Prior Quarter (Q4 2024)	Down 19%	Down 4%	Down 16%
Year over Year (Q1 2025)	Up 7%	Down 1%	Up 8%



I-880 Express Lane Northbound Peak Traffic and Corridor-Length Speed

Peak Traffic

Time	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Location	Around Whipple Rd.
Express Lane Speed	52 mph
GP Lane Speed	35 mph
Speed Differential	17 mph
Express Lane Volume	1,151 vehicles per hour
GP Lane Volume	1,194 vehicles per hour

Corridor Length Slowest Travel

Time	5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Express Lane Speed	50 mph
GP Lane Speed	34 mph
Speed Differential	16 mph

I-880 Express Lane Southbound: Peak Traffic and Corridor-Length Speed

Peak Traffic

Time	7 a.m. – 9 a.m.
Location	Approaching Thornton Ave.
Express Lane Speed	55 mph
GP Lane Speed	42 mph
Speed Differential	13 mph
Express Lane Volume	1,024 vehicles
GP Lane Volume	1,162 vehicles

Corridor Length Slowest Travel

Time	8 a.m. – 9 a.m.
Express Lane Speed	54 mph
GP Lane Speed	42 mph
Speed Differential	12 mph

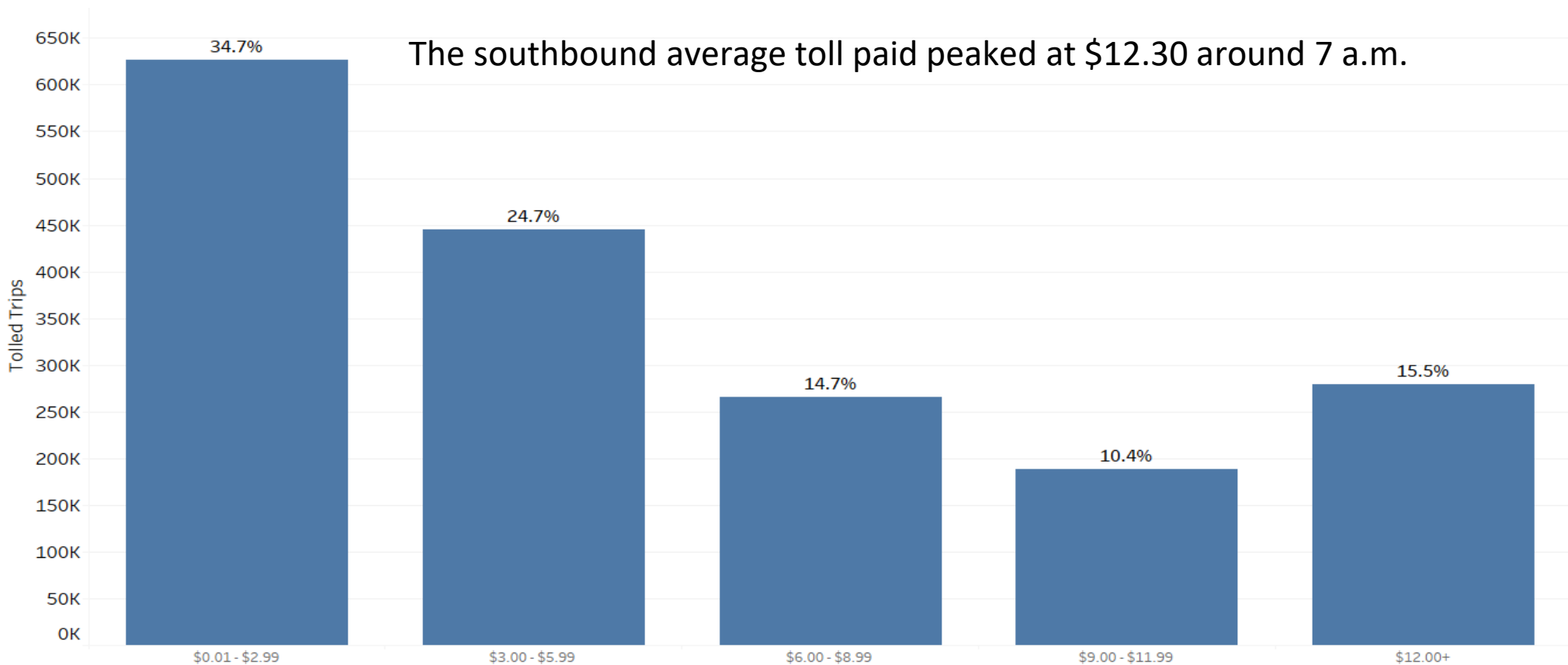
I-880 Express Lane Tolls

Drivers made 1,906,736 tolled express lane trips in the quarter, down 1% from a year ago (Q1 2024). Around 35% of these trips incurred a toll less than \$3 and 15% were for tolls \$12 or higher.

In Q1 2025 the average toll paid was \$6.22, compared to \$5.77 in Q1 2024, 8% higher.

The northbound average toll paid peaked at \$14.80 around 4 p.m.

The southbound average toll paid peaked at \$12.30 around 7 a.m.

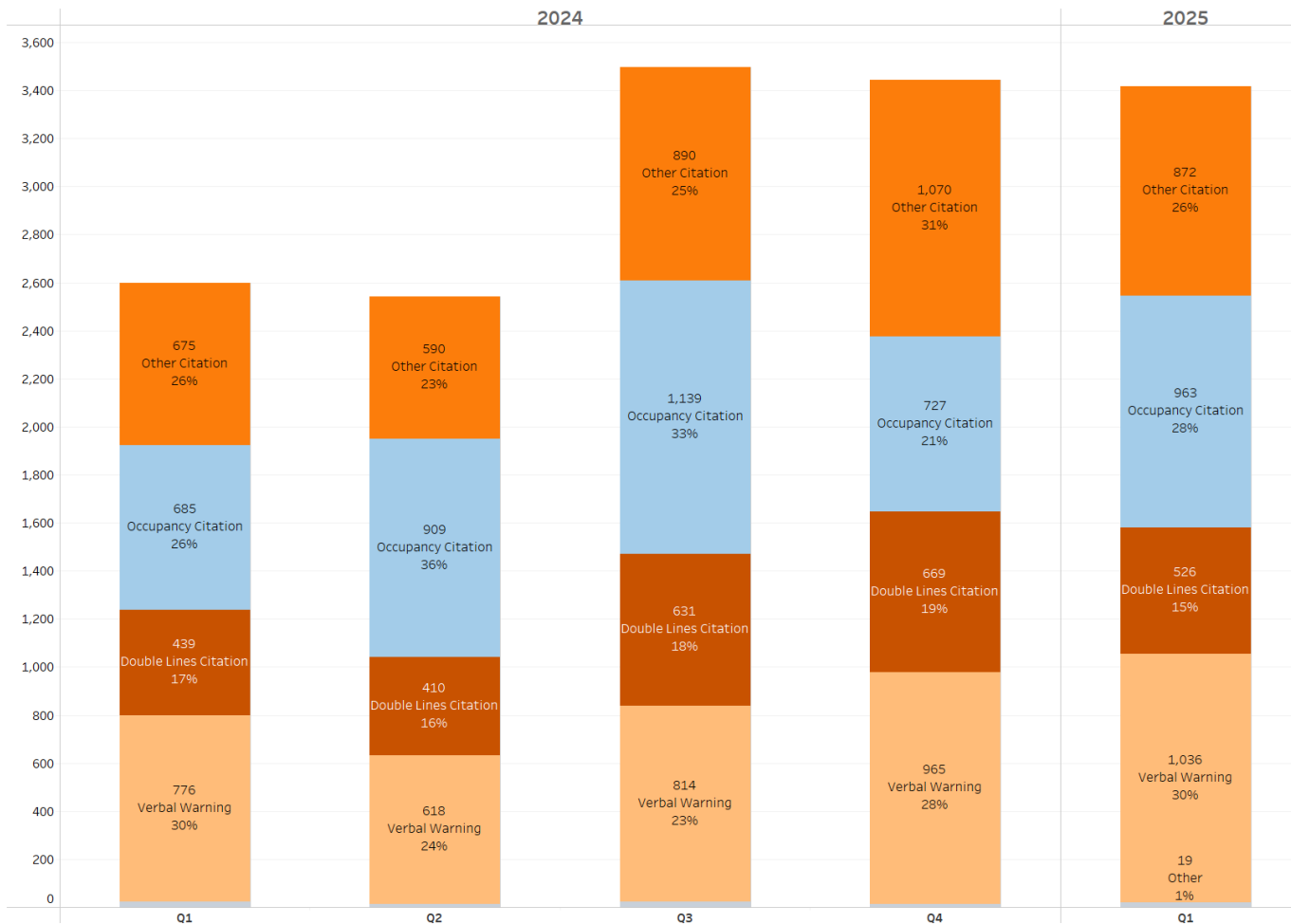


I-880 Express Lanes CHP Enforcement

CHP provided 2,738 enforcement hours in the quarter, filling 109% of requested hours and resulting in 3,416 enforcement contacts.

28% of Q1 2025 enforcement contacts were related to carpool occupancy violations.

The average cost to BAIFA per enforcement contact was \$119.



Appendix A: Select Chart Data – I-680 Express Lanes

Quarterly Express Lane Trips and Quarter-to-Quarter Percentage Change

Quarter	Year	Express Lane Trips	% Change
Q1	2023	2,164,166	3%
Q2	2023	2,331,921	8%
Q3	2023	2,381,431	2%
Q4	2023	2,339,130	-2%
Q1	2024	2,246,597	-4%
Q2	2024	2,425,050	8%
Q3	2024	2,465,948	2%
Q4	2024	2,426,638	-2%
Q1	2025	2,248,456	-7%

Express Lane Trips - Payment Type Share

	2023	2024	2024	2024	2025
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
HOV3+	26%	26%	26%	27%	27%
HOV2	16%	15%	15%	15%	16%
CAV	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
SOV-Tag	19%	19%	17%	17%	17%
LP Read	27%	30%	32%	31%	31%
Violations	11%	9%	9%	9%	8%

Appendix A: Select Chart Data – I-680 Express Lanes, continued

Toll Revenue and Tolled Trips

Year & Quarter	Revenue	Tolled Trips
2024 Q1	\$3,210,361	1,048,336
2024 Q2	\$3,915,316	1,195,179
2024 Q3	\$4,026,063	1,235,544
2024 Q4	\$4,916,609	1,201,619
2025 Q1	\$3,503,782	1,107,206

Toll Distribution

Toll	\$0.01 - \$2.99	\$3.00 - \$5.99	\$6.00 - \$8.99	\$9.00 - \$11.99	\$12.00+
% Tolled Trips	69.3%	10.1%	7.8%	4.3%	8.5%

Appendix A, Select Chart Data – I-680 Express Lanes, continued

CHP Enforcement

Year	Quarter	Enforcement Type	Quarterly Share	Count
2024	Q1	Other Citation	20%	249
2024	Q1	Occupancy Citation	34%	422
2024	Q1	Double Line Citation	4%	46
2024	Q1	Verbal Warning	38%	462
2024	Q1	Other	4%	53
2024	Q2	Other Citation	20%	282
2024	Q2	Occupancy Citation	42%	602
2024	Q2	Double Line Citation	3%	45
2024	Q2	Verbal Warning	30%	437
2024	Q2	Other	5%	73
2024	Q3	Other Citation	24%	359
2024	Q3	Occupancy Citation	42%	625
2024	Q3	Double Line Citation	2%	37
2024	Q3	Verbal Warning	27%	406
2024	Q3	Other	5%	77

Appendix A, Select Chart Data – I-680 Express Lanes, continued

CHP Enforcement

Year	Quarter	Enforcement Type	Quarterly Share	Count
2024	Q4	Other Citation	22%	302
2024	Q4	Occupancy Citation	38%	531
2024	Q4	Double Line Citation	3%	48
2024	Q4	Verbal Warning	33%	453
2024	Q4	Other	4%	51
2025	Q1	Other Citation	24%	380
2025	Q1	Occupancy Citation	36%	561
2025	Q1	Double Line Citation	3%	48
2025	Q1	Verbal Warning	32%	502
2025	Q1	Other	4%	70

Appendix B: Select Chart Data – I-880 Express Lanes

Quarterly Express Lane Trips and Percentage Change

Quarter	Year	Express Lane Trips	% Change
Q1	2023	3,892,636	0.75%
Q2	2023	4,181,145	7%
Q3	2023	4,320,592	3%
Q4	2023	3,936,751	-9%
Q1	2024	4,106,189	4%
Q2	2024	4,451,587	8%
Q3	2024	4,450,020	0%
Q4	2024	4,233,749	-5%
Q1	2025	4,127,224	-3%

Express Lane Trips - Payment Type Share

	2023	2024	2024	2024	2025
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
HOV3+	44%	43%	44%	46%	46%
HOV2	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%
CAV	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
SOV-Tag	16%	18%	17%	15%	16%
LP Read	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%
Violations	12%	10%	10%	10%	9%

Appendix B, Select Chart Data – I-880 Express Lanes, continued

Toll Revenue and Tolled Trips

Year & Quarter	Revenue	Tolled Trips
2024 Q1	\$11,109,532	1,925,508
2024 Q2	\$14,379,746	2,126,736
2024 Q3	\$15,387,716	2,092,863
2024 Q4	\$14,681,613	1,976,625
2025 Q1	\$11,868,671	1,906,736

Toll Distribution

Toll	\$0.01 - \$2.99	\$3.00 - \$5.99	\$6.00 - \$8.99	\$9.00 - \$11.99	\$12.00+
% Tolled Trips	34.7%	24.7%	14.7%	10.4%	15.5%

Appendix B, Select Chart Data – I-880 Express Lanes, continued

CHP Enforcement

Year	Quarter	Enforcement Type	Quarterly Share	Count
2024	Q1	Double Lines Citation	17%	439
2024	Q1	Occupancy Citation	26%	685
2024	Q1	Other	1%	22
2024	Q1	Other Citation	26%	675
2024	Q1	Verbal Warning	30%	776
2024	Q2	Double Lines Citation	16%	410
2024	Q2	Occupancy Citation	36%	909
2024	Q2	Other	1%	14
2024	Q2	Other Citation	23%	590
2024	Q2	Verbal Warning	24%	618
2024	Q3	Double Lines Citation	18%	631
2024	Q3	Occupancy Citation	33%	1,139
2024	Q3	Other	1%	24
2024	Q3	Other Citation	25%	890
2024	Q3	Verbal Warning	23%	814

Appendix B, Select Chart Data – I-880 Express Lanes, continued

CHP Enforcement, continued

2024	Q4	Double Lines Citation	19%	669
2024	Q4	Occupancy Citation	21%	727
2024	Q4	Other	<1%	14
2024	Q4	Other Citation	31%	1,070
2024	Q4	Verbal Warning	28%	965
2025	Q1	Double Lines Citation	15%	500
2025	Q1	Occupancy Citation	28%	919
2025	Q1	Other	1%	19
2025	Q1	Other Citation	26%	848
2025	Q1	Verbal Warning	31%	1,006

Appendix C: Glossary of Acronyms and Terms

General Acronyms and Terms

- **ADT: Average Daily Trips** - The number of express lane vehicle trips in a month divided by the number of express lane operating days in the month.
- **BAIFA: The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority** oversees the financing, planning and operation of MTC Express Lanes and related transportation projects.
- **CHP: California Highway Patrol** is the principal state police agency responsible for ensuring safety on California's highways. CHP enforcement of express lanes is an express lane operating expense.
- **Carpool: A vehicle with a driver and one to 5 passengers.** (Vehicles with a driver and 6 to 14 passengers are considered vanpools.)
- **Corridor Length: The physical length of an express lane or explicit highway portion.**
- **Corridor Length Slowest Speed: The end-to-end express lane speed that is slowest given the time of day.**

Appendix C: Glossary of Acronyms and Terms, continued, 2

General Acronyms and Terms

- Express Lane Volume: The number of vehicles passing a point on an express lane per hour.
- GP Lane: A general purpose lane is a standard traffic lane on the freeway that is open to all vehicles, regardless of occupancy or type and are available for use by any driver at any time.
- GP Lane Volume: The number of vehicles passing a point on a general purpose lane per hour.
- Peak Traffic: The most congested location on the express lane at the most congested time.
- Restricted Access: Areas where double white lines separate express lanes from GP lanes.
- Speed Differential: The difference between the express lane speed and the GP lane speed.

Appendix C: Glossary of Acronyms and Terms, continued, 3

Express Lane Trip Types

- CAV: Clean Air Vehicle - a vehicle that meets specific emissions standards and receives a sticker designation from the Department of Motor Vehicles for permitted use in applicable HOV lanes.
- HOV2: High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) in which two persons are in a single vehicle.
- HOV3+: High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) in which three or more persons are in a single vehicle.
- LP Read/ Lic Plate: A vehicle validated to have a FasTrak account by matching the image of the vehicle license plate to FasTrak account data.
- SOV: Single Occupancy Vehicle – a vehicle with just a driver.
- Violations: When no toll tag is present and no license plate attached to any FasTrak account is found associated for a vehicle going through the express lane.

Appendix C: Glossary of Acronyms and Terms, continued, 4

CHP Enforcement Categories

- **Double Line Citation:** A citation issued to a vehicle illegally entering or exiting an express lane by crossing over double white freeway lane lines.
- **Occupancy Citation:** A citation issued to a vehicle incorrectly stating the amount of persons inside the vehicle or choosing the incorrect switch for the FasTrak Flex tag.
- **Other:** A citation associated with a violation of express lane or highway usage other than HOV violations or double line citations. These can include CAV sticker violations, speeding, an unlicensed driver, illegal window tinting, cellphone usage, and other examples.
- **Other Citation:** A citation not specifically associated with improper express lane or highway usage but that requires CHP action. This could include making an unexpected arrest for someone inside the vehicle with a warrant.
- **Verbal Warning:** No citation given, but a CHP officer has made contact and pulled a vehicle over to speak with the driver.

For more information, visit expresslanes.511.org or [MTC's express lanes page](#).

