

# Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA)

June 24, 2020

Agenda Item 4a - 20-0539

## Update on I-880 Express Lanes Opening

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**Subject:** An update on the opening of the I-880 Express Lanes, including plans for public information.

**Background:** The I-880 Express Lanes are on track to begin operation in September 2020. The project is converting the existing high-occupancy vehicle lanes to express lanes in Alameda County from Hegenberger Road to Dixon Landing Road in the southbound direction and from Dixon Landing Road to Lewelling Boulevard in the northbound direction.

From a construction standpoint, the major work (e.g., median barrier replacement, installation of signs and conduit) is complete. Some striping and signage work remains to be done to transition the lanes from high-occupancy vehicle lanes to express lanes. In addition, BAIFA's toll system integrator is focused on completing the installation and testing of the electronic tolling equipment.

In June, BAIFA's contractor began restriping the high occupancy vehicle lanes in preparation for express lane opening. The new striping will improve traffic flow by smoothing how vehicles enter and exit the lanes into adjacent traffic. It includes adding double white lines (which cannot be lawfully crossed) in several segments, leaving dashed lines in others, and creating new merge lanes in select locations.

BAIFA's adopted I-880 Express Lanes operating rules (Toll Facilities Ordinance, amended January 2020) will be effective when the express lanes begin operation, and are similar to other Bay Area Express Lanes in most respects:

- Operating hours will be 5 AM to 8 PM
- FasTrak® will be required for all vehicles
- Buses and eligible carpools will be toll free
- On the I-880 Express Lanes and the connecting SR-237 Express Lanes, carpools with 3 or more persons will be toll free. Carpools with 2 persons and clean air vehicles will pay half-price tolls.

As requested when BAIFA approved the toll ordinance amendment, staff will report to BAIFA within the first four to six months on lane operations and the impact of the tolling policies. In addition, staff will continue regular quarterly performance reporting, as currently done for the I-680 Express Lanes (See agenda item 2c.) This will allow evaluation of the policies that were the subject of considerable discussion, such as the discount for clean air vehicles and the ability to enforce the carpool requirements.



At your June meeting, staff will present the major changes in corridor operations and describe the ways in which staff is communicating the changes to the public.


**Issues:**

**COVID-19 Considerations** –While these are not the circumstances envisioned for opening the I-880 Express Lanes, the lanes remain an important traffic management tool in the current environment, and staff recommends opening as planned. Staff has been closely monitoring a variety of factors related to COVID-19. Traffic volumes, which initially dropped about 50 percent following shelter-in-place directives, have now rebounded to 80 to 90% of 2019 levels. Traffic is close to the tipping point where we expect to see congestion, though perhaps not as severe as pre-COVID levels, immediately. In corridors like I-880 and the Bay Bridge corridor, we have observed that driving is picking up faster than transit use. It is important that we work to make transit, carpooling and vanpooling as effective and safe as possible to discourage an increase in driving alone. Significantly, other express lanes and carpool lanes in the Bay Area, Southern California and nationally have continued to operate as planned, including those facilities that require three persons to qualify as a carpool (such as most BATA toll bridges and the I-80 HOV lane). Because express lanes use congestion pricing, lower congestion levels will mean lower tolls for drivers as we have seen on existing Bay Area Express Lanes since they resumed tolling on June 1.

**Equity** – The importance of providing equitable access to express lanes has been an important recurring discussion in relation both to BAIFA's Toll Ordinance and the Regional Express Lanes Network in Plan Bay Area 2050. As a result, staff is taking immediate steps to develop a pilot program for a means-based toll on one or more of BAIFA's express lanes. The concept is to leverage the tools and rules of the imminent Clipper START transit fare discount pilot into an express lanes toll discount pilot where the cost of pilot operations and toll discounts would be paid for by express lane tolls. While the pilot will not be operational when I-880 opens for tolling, staff endeavors to get it up and running as soon as possible. Staff is starting immediately to define the pilot, scope, timeline, cost and other details and will report back to BAIFA in the coming months.

**Recommendation:** This item is presented for information only.

**Attachments:** Presentation

  
Therese W. McMillan



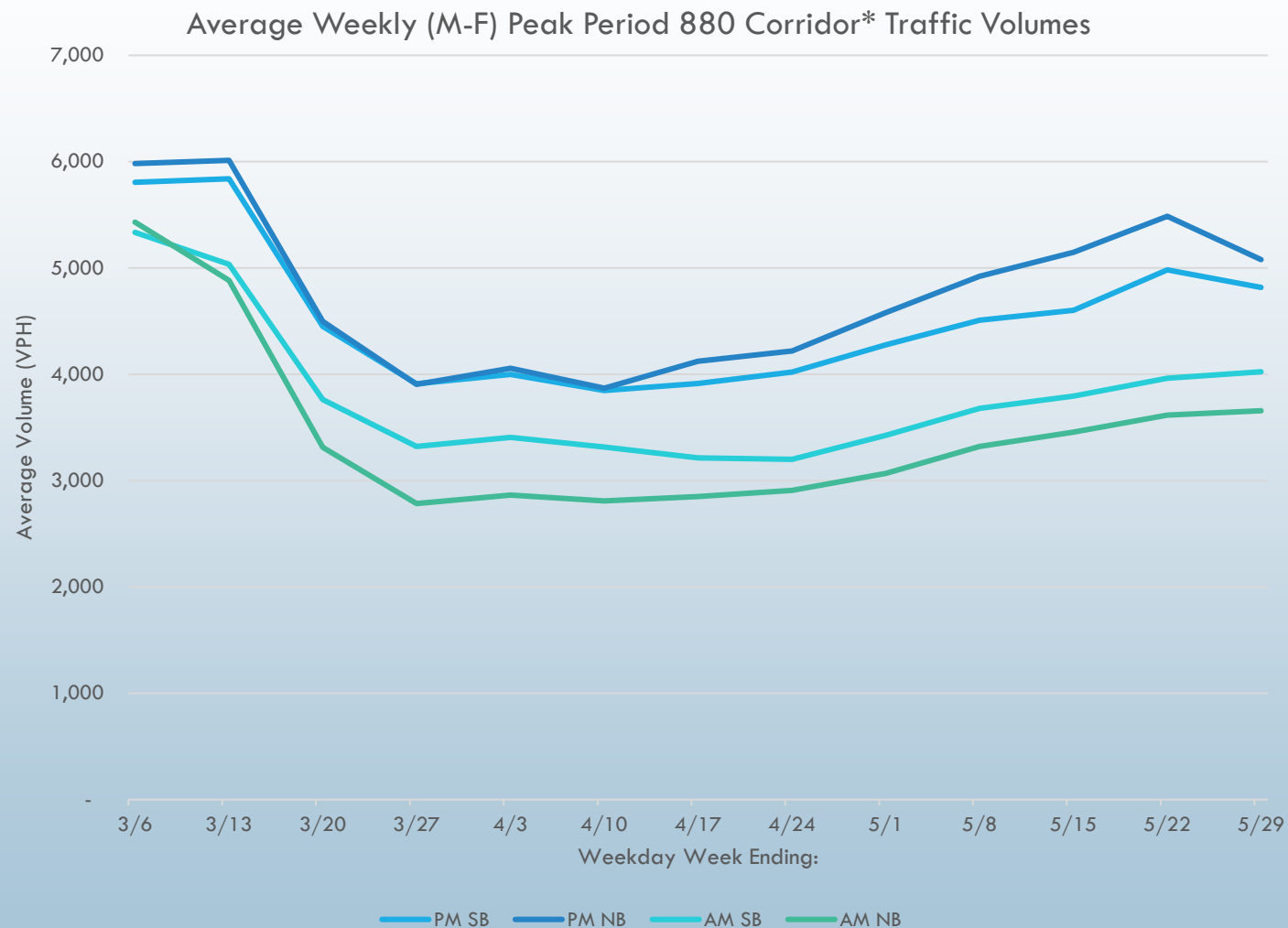


# I-880 Express Lanes Public Information Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority June 24, 2020



# Traffic Rebounding Despite Uncertain Times

- Traffic fell 34% to 49% during shelter-in-place
- Traffic is returning

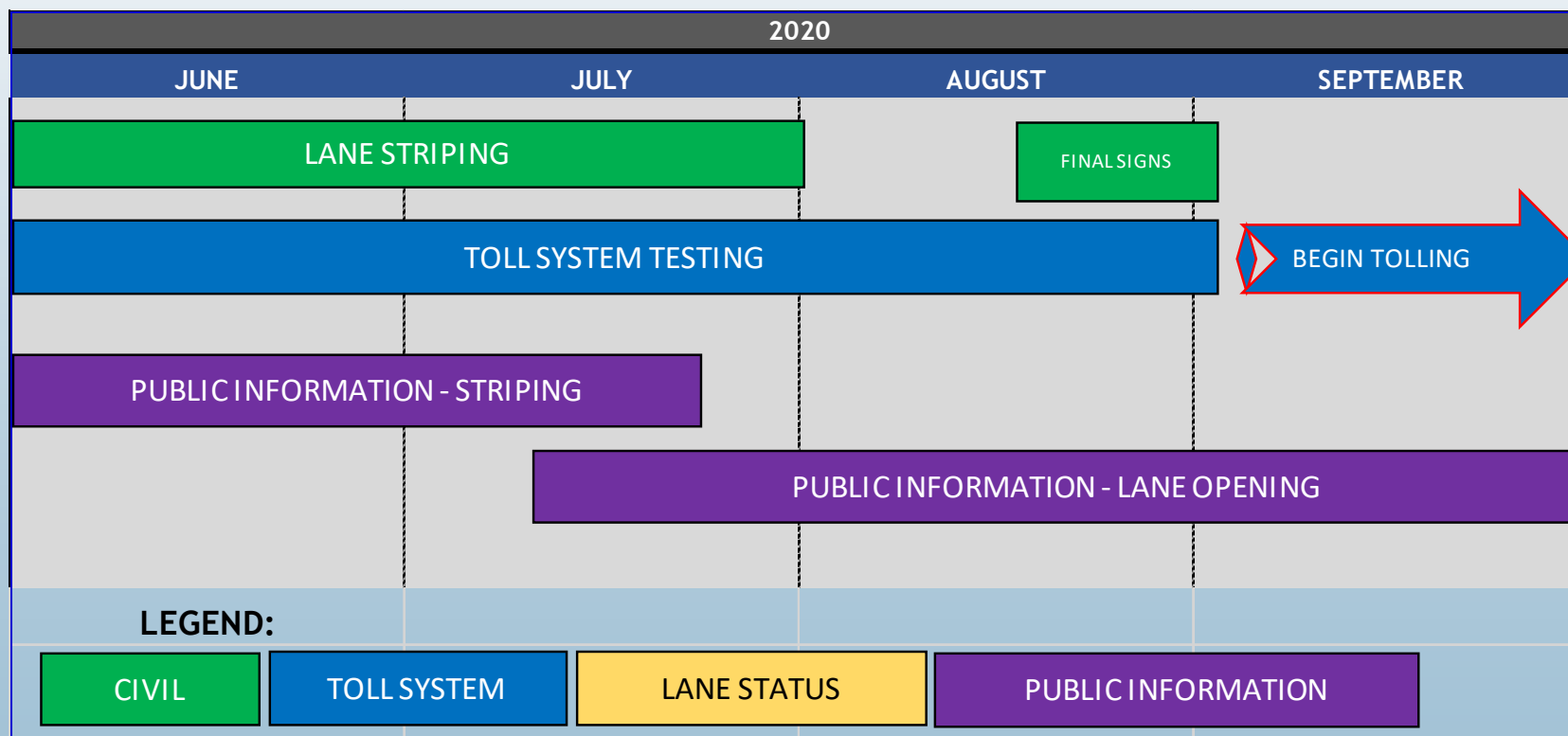


\* 7 a.m. – 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.; Boundaries of future express lane; All lanes


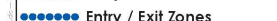
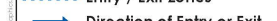


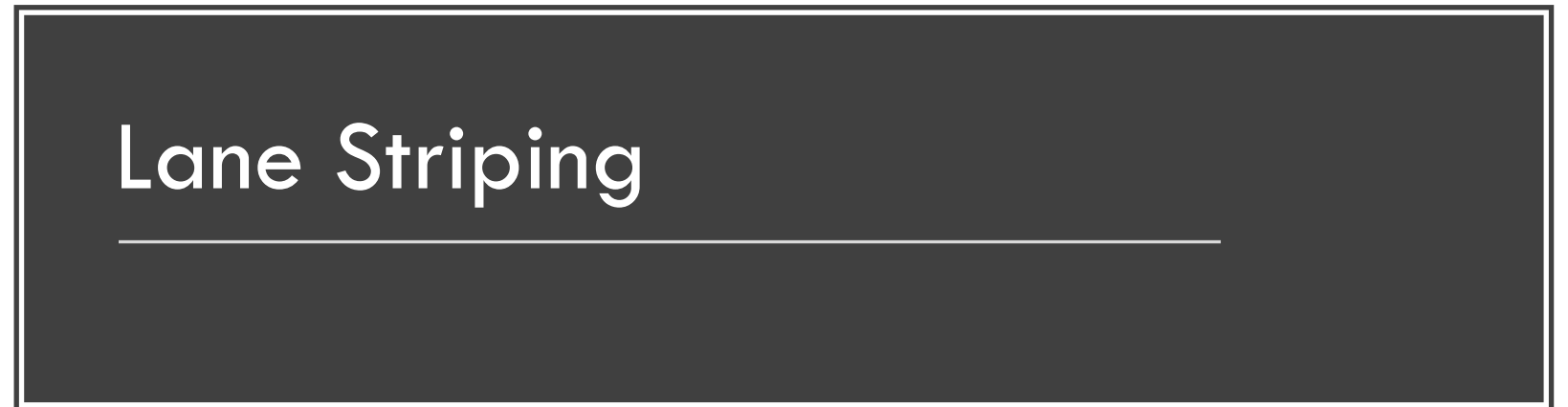
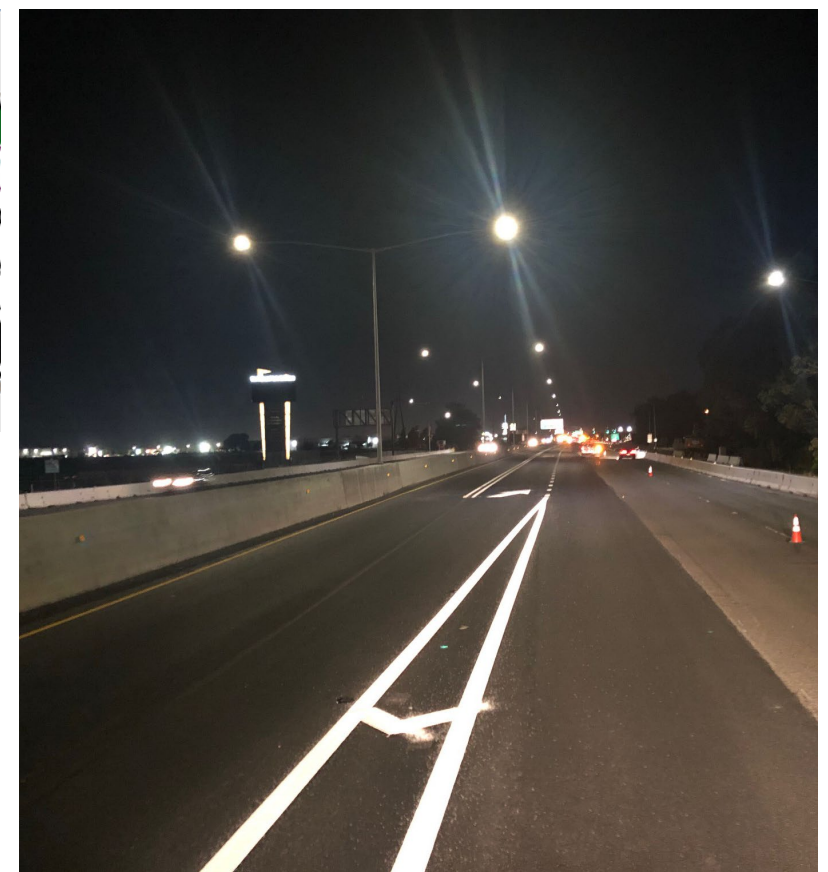
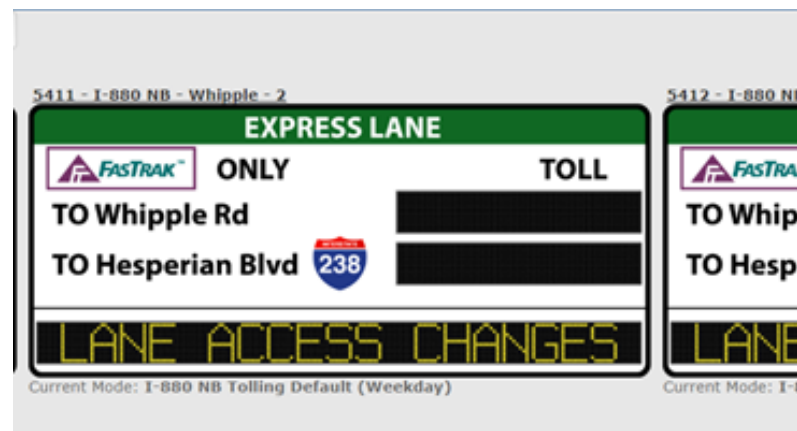
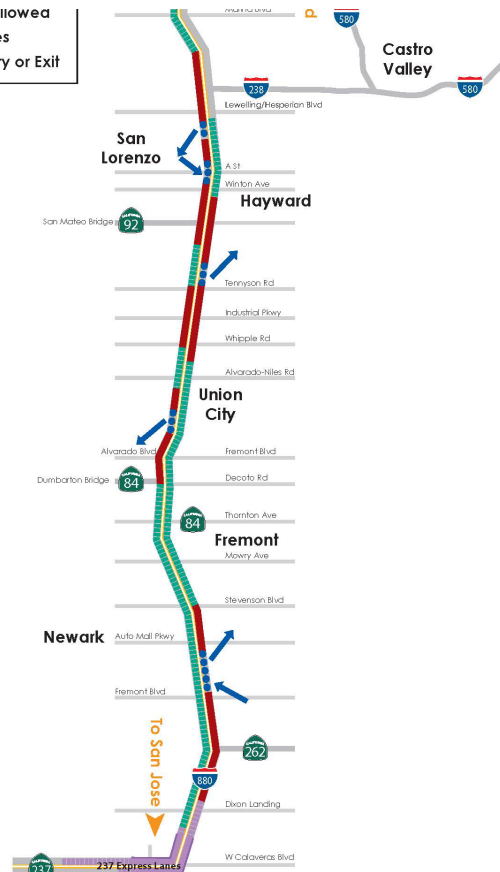
# Phases of Opening & Public Information

1. Lane Striping (Early June through July)
2. Open for Tolling (September 2020)





 Entry and Exit Allowed  
 Entry / Exit Zones  
 Direction of Entry or Exit  
 (Not to scale)





# Lane Striping – Social Media



**mtc** Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
May 27 at 8:39 AM · 🌐

I-880 lane striping is changing! Merge only across dashed white lines. Never cross double white lines.

**Always obey lane striping**

**880**

**DO NOT CROSS DOUBLE WHITE LINES**

**511.org**

511.ORG  
**Plan ahead to drive safely on I-880**  
Learn more about the new left-lane access rules.

**mtc** Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
**Plan ahead to drive safely on I-880**

Your drive on I-880 is changing! Obey the new striping. Merge only across dashed white lines. Never cross double white lines.

San Francisco, Oakland, Danville, Contra Costa, Alameda, Fremont, Milpitas, Palo Alto, San Mateo

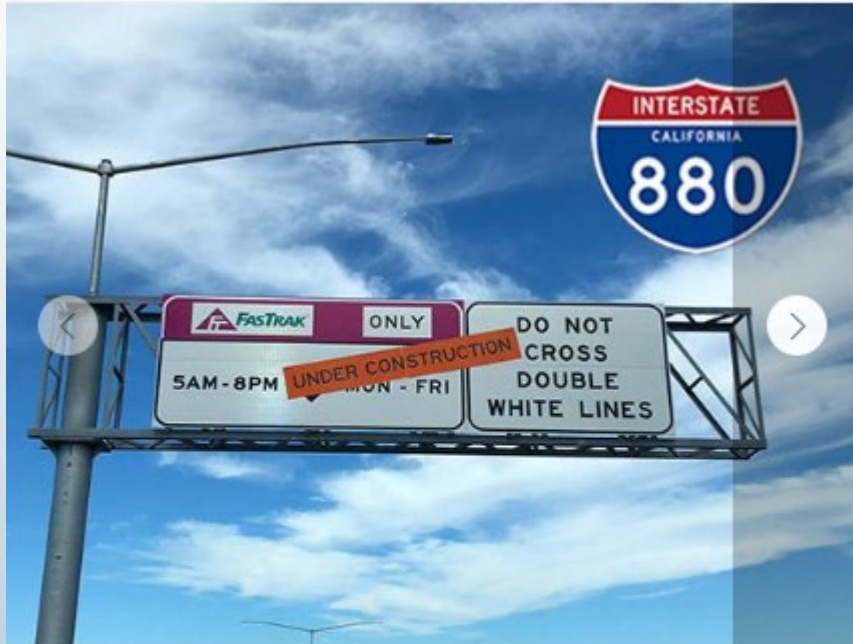
80, 580, 84, 680, 237, 101, 280

Like Comment Share

112 · 41 Comments



511



### Your Drive on I-880 is Changing

Lane striping for the far left-lanes occurs the week of June 8th through July. New traffic patterns will affect your drive. [Learn more](#)



### Entering & Exiting the I-880 Express Lanes

### Resources



#### Summer 2020 Lane Transition FAQ

Learn about striping and sign changes happening summer 2020 [🔗](#)



#### Getting In and Out of the I-880 Express Lanes FAQ

Learn how to get in and out of the I-880 Express Lanes [🔗](#)



#### I-880 Access Map

View a map showing where to enter and exit the I-880 Express Lanes [🔗](#)



#### Construction Notices

Read the latest construction notice [🔗](#)



#### Preguntas Frecuentes Sobre La Transición de Carriles en Verano 2020

Conozca sobre los cambios a las franjas y el señalamiento que ocurrirán durante el verano de 2020 [🔗](#)



#### Preguntas Frecuentes Sobre Como Incorporarse o Salir del Carril Exprés del I-880

Conozca como incorporarse y salir de los carriles exprés en la I-880 [🔗](#)



#### Mapa de Acceso del I-880

Vea el mapa que indica donde incorporarse y salir del carril exprés de la I-880 [🔗](#)





# Rules of the Road

**880 237** **FasTrak® Required**  
EXPRESS LANES



511 511.org

Ad 3

**880** **Always obey lane striping**  
EXPRESS LANES



DO NOT  
CROSS  
DOUBLE  
WHITE LINES

511 511.org

Ad 2

**880** **Opening Fall 2020**  
EXPRESS LANES 5AM-8PM MONDAY-FRIDAY



511 511.org

Ad 1

**880 237** **Clean Air Vehicles**  
EXPRESS LANES pay half-price tolls



511 511.org

Ad 4

**880 237** **Carpool with FasTrak Flex®**  
EXPRESS LANES



**2**  
HALF-PRICE

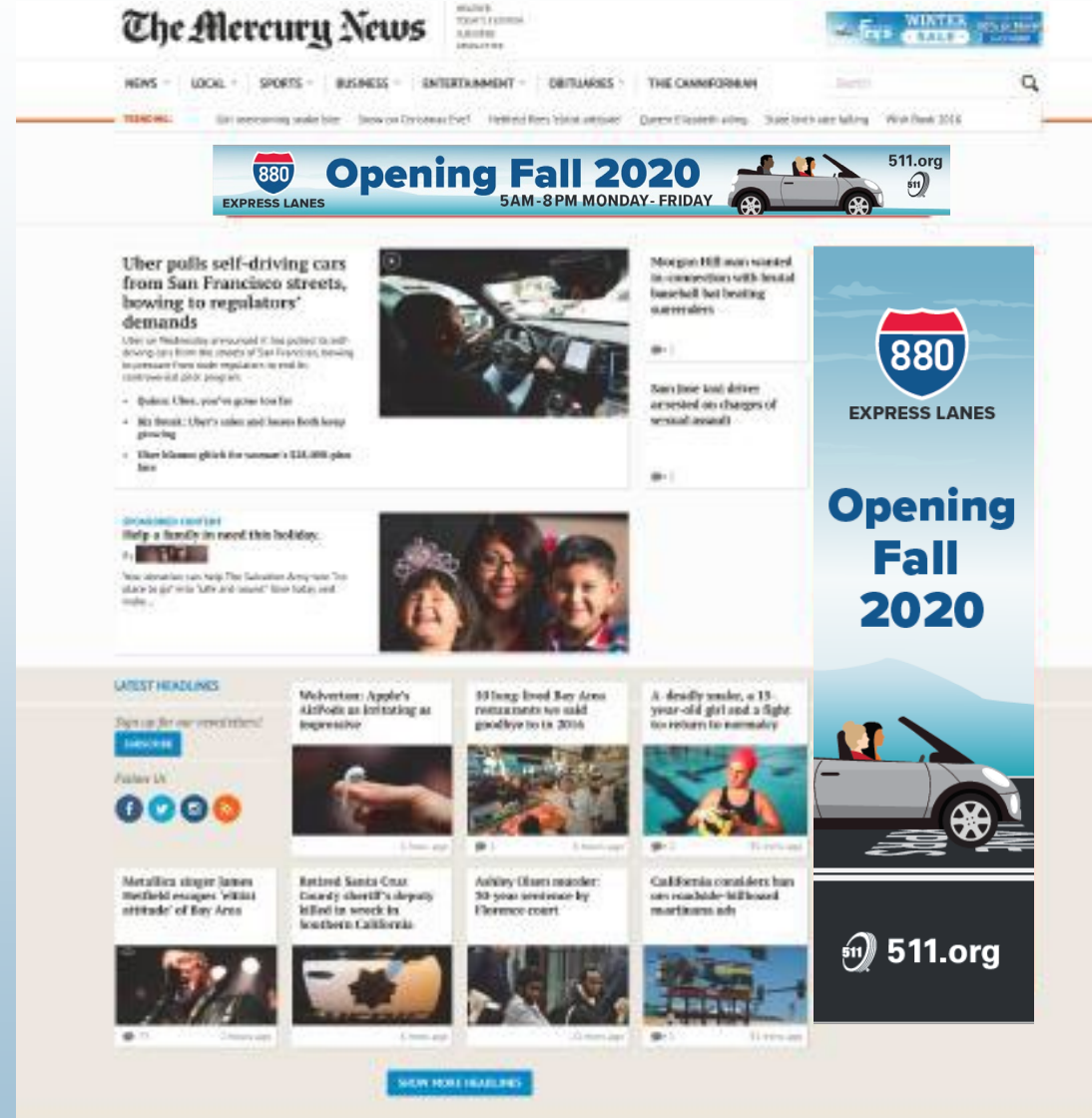
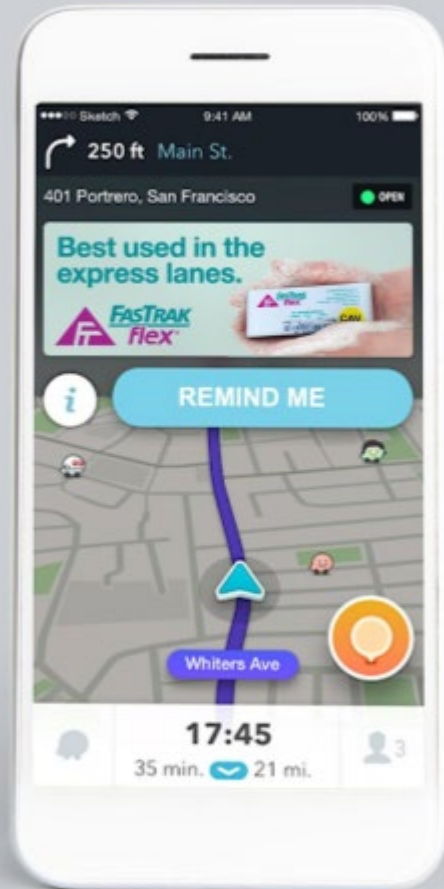
**3+**  
FREE

511 511.org

Ad 6a

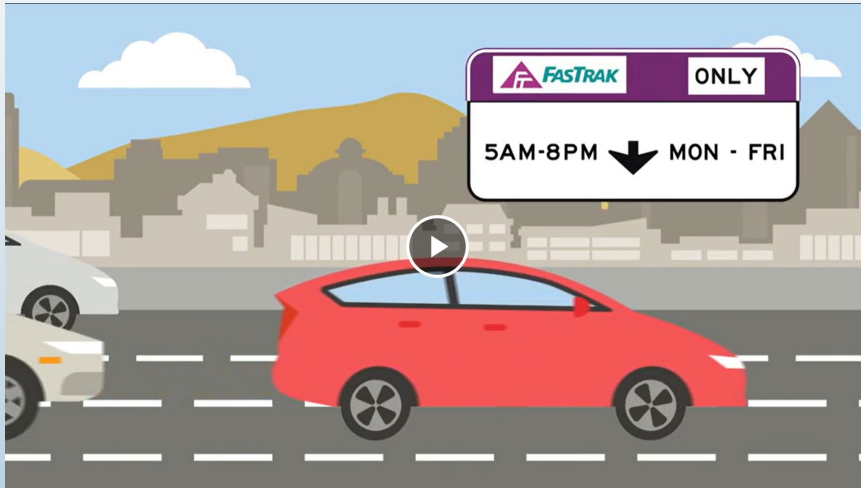


# Digital





# Out of Home



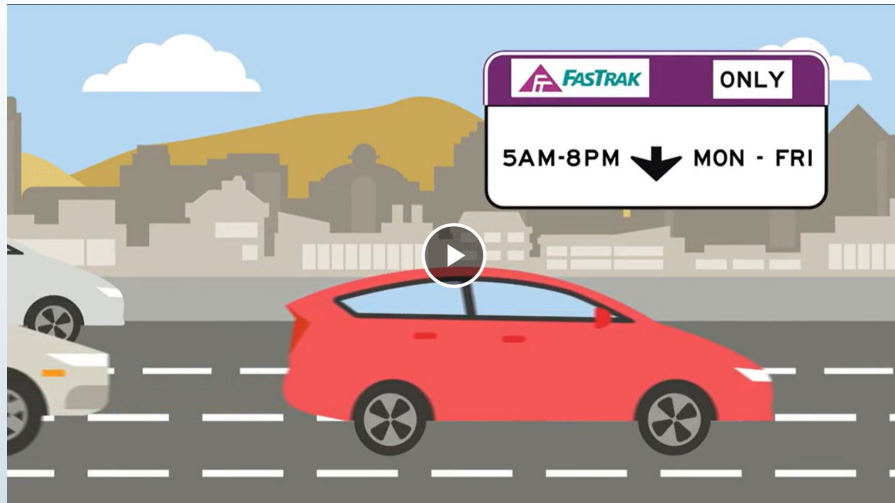
15-Second Gas Pump Video Ads





# Videos

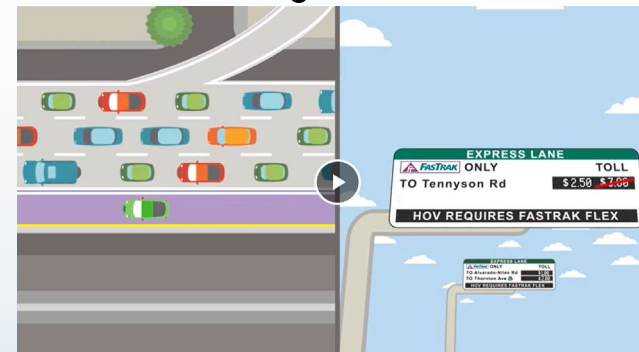
## Understanding the Basics



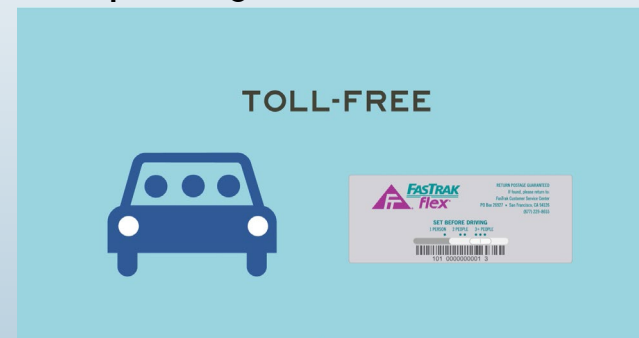
## Entering & Exiting



## Understanding Tolls



## Carpooling

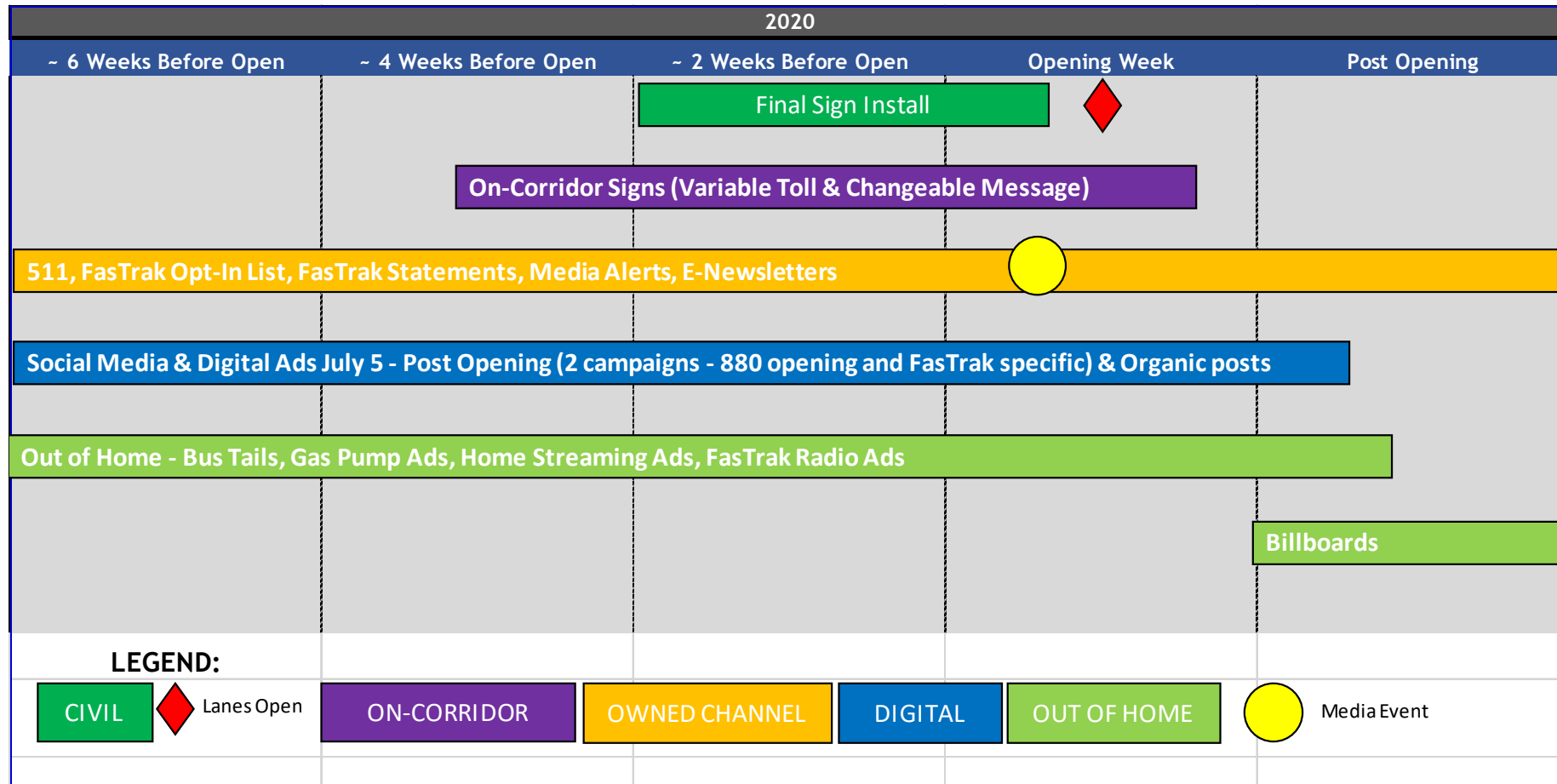


## Clean Air Vehicles





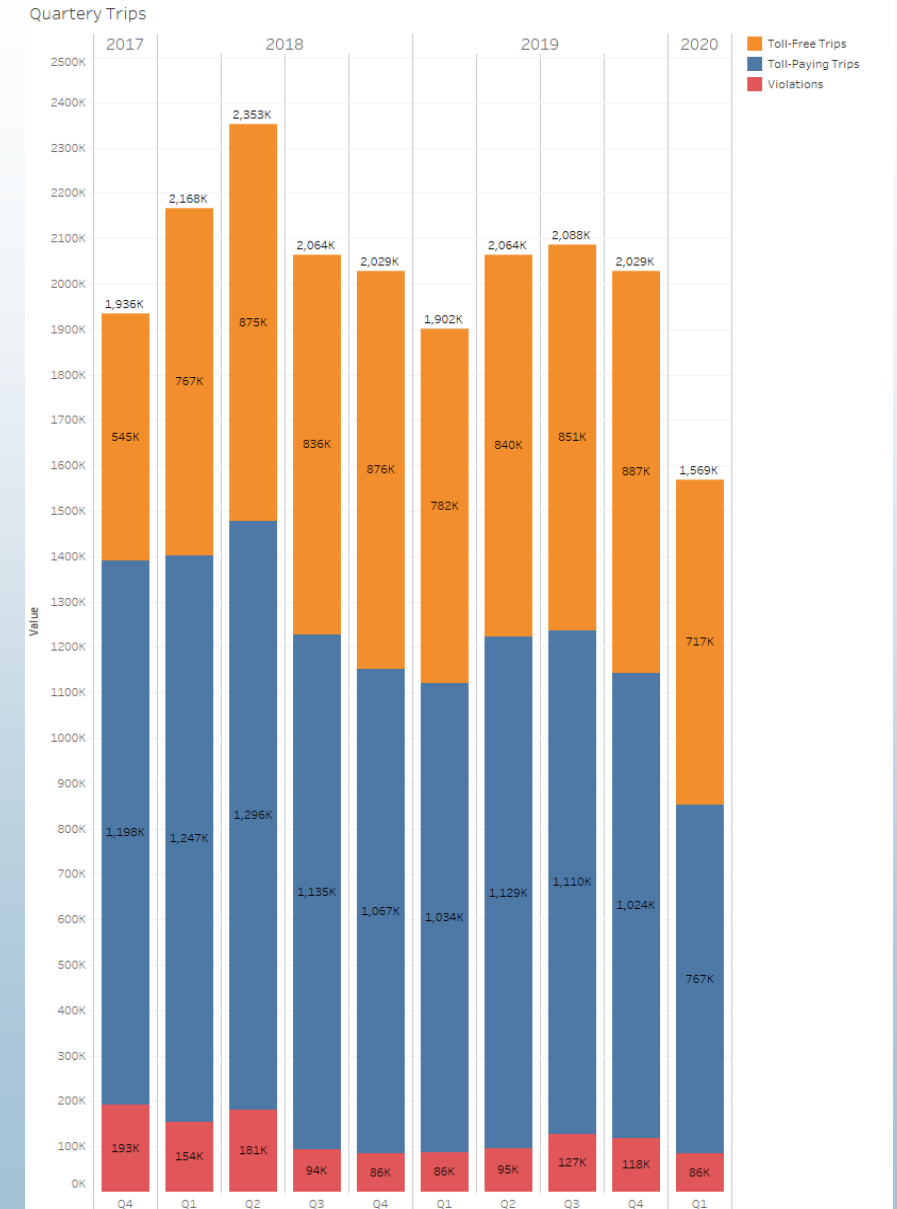
# I-880 Express Lane Operations Public Information Schedule





# Performance Monitoring

- Monitor tolls and incidents in real-time through the Regional Operations Center
- Report to BAIFA
- Regular, comprehensive performance reporting
- Means-based toll discount pilot program (starting now)





# Questions?

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