

SR 400 Express Lanes

A Major Mobility Project — P.I. Number: 0001757

Frequently Asked Questions

Project Overview

What is the purpose of this project?

The SR 400 Express Lanes project aims to reduce congestion, improve travel time reliability, and enhance mobility along State Route (SR) 400 – one of Georgia’s busiest commuter corridors.

The project adds 16 miles of tolled express lanes:

- Two, tolled express lanes in each direction between the North Springs MARTA Station (exit 5C – Fulton County) and McGinnis Ferry Road (exit 12A – Forsyth County.)
- One, tolled express lane in each direction from McGinnis Ferry Road (exit 12A – Forsyth County) to McFarland Parkway (exit 12 – Forsyth County.)

The SR 400 Express Lanes project is part of the [Major Mobility Investment Program](#) (MMIP), which consists of state and federally funded mobility projects to improve congested regions of the state to boost Georgia’s competitiveness.

How long will construction last? And what are the major milestones?

Construction on the SR 400 Express Lanes is expected to begin in summer 2026, and open to traffic in 2031. Key milestones are listed on the project timeline (below).



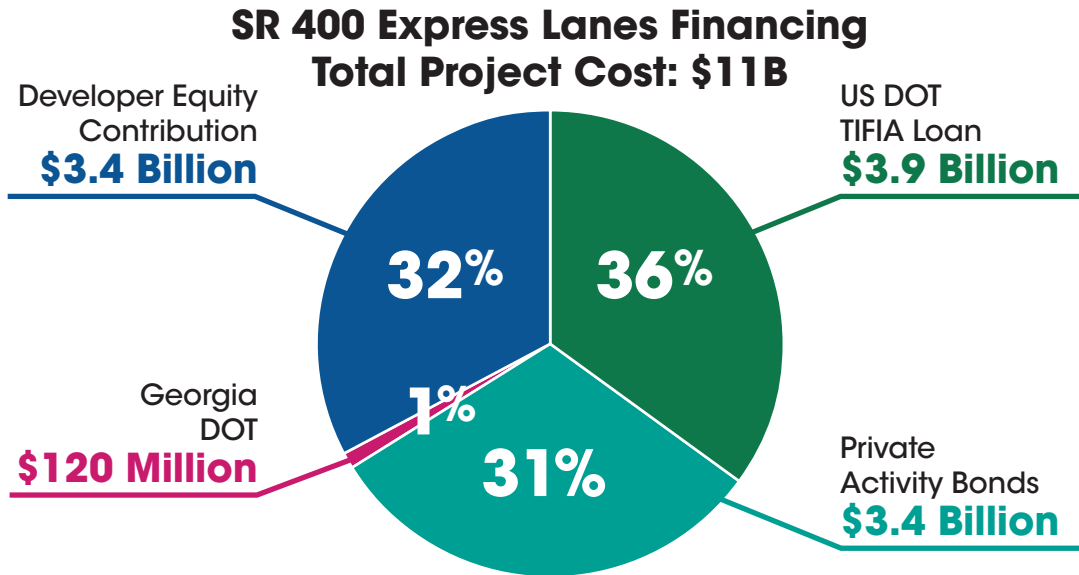
What are the expected benefits once the project is completed?

Upon completion of the express lanes, motorists on SR 400 should experience less congestion on both express and general purpose lanes, faster and more reliable travel times, improved overall traffic flow, and enhanced transit service. The SR 400 express lanes will also enhance regional travel by connecting motorists to the proposed I-285 express lanes and are designed to accommodate continued growth along the SR 400 corridor.

What is the total cost and how is it being funded?

The estimated total cost for the SR 400 Express Lanes project is approximately \$11 billion [see chart], making it one of the largest Public-Private Partnership (P3) demand-risk projects.

A combination of private sector, state, federal, and local dollars will be used to fund the project, including exchanging toll revenue to the private sector partner to design, build, finance, construct, operate, and maintain the SR 400 Express Lanes. As a result of this P3 procurement model, the project will not require any additional public funding to build, operate, and maintain.



How will tolls be managed for express lane users?

Tolls will be “dynamically priced” using the existing [Peach Pass](#) system, with toll rates adjusted based on traffic volume to maintain optimal speeds for travelers. Vehicles with two axles and up to six wheels (class 6 vehicles) can access the express lanes; freight vehicles and trailers are not allowed. Transit buses and registered vanpools will be allowed toll-free access to the express lanes.

Construction Details

What measures are in place to reduce impacts on communities/businesses along SR 400?

Georgia DOT and its contractors will use sound walls, dust control measures, traffic management plans, and ongoing public information outreach to minimize disruption to traffic flow during construction. Access to local businesses and neighborhoods along the project corridor will be maintained throughout construction.

When will construction work occur?

Construction will occur both during the day and at night, with overnight work (typically 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.) used to minimize daytime traffic disruptions. Work will not take place on holidays. Specific work schedules may vary by location and activity. Advance notification of traffic impacts will be provided to the public via local media, social media, [project subscriber alerts](#), road signage, and other means so motorists can plan their travel.

How will MARTA bus service be affected?

Local MARTA bus routes will continue during construction, although bus routes, schedule adjustments, or bus stop locations may be temporarily impacted based on construction activity at the interchanges along SR 400. Any modifications or impacts to stop locations will be advertised well in advance. MARTA patrons should reference [MARTA's webpage](#).

When the project is completed, MARTA will implement a BRT route with dedicated buses. Georgia DOT will coordinate closely with MARTA to keep riders informed of schedule changes so travelers can plan commute and trip times.

What is Express Lanes Transit (ELT), and how does it support Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?

Express Lanes Transit (ELT) is part of the Georgia Express Lanes system and will provide dedicated lanes for MARTA's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system on SR 400. The ELT functions similar to MARTA's rail lines to get passengers quickly and reliably to their destinations, bypassing highway congestion on the general purpose lanes. BRT service for SR 400 starts at the North Springs MARTA Station, with direct access to BRT stations at Holcomb Bridge Road, North Point Mall, and Windward Park and Ride commutes for all drivers.

How does this project help with congestion?

Travel in the express lanes is expected to be up to 30% faster than the general purpose lanes during peak travel times, according to a traffic analysis completed for this project. All motorists on SR 400 will benefit. As drivers opt for the express lanes, the number of vehicles in the general purpose lanes decreases, resulting in less congestion and quicker commutes.

Property and Environmental Impacts

What steps are being taken to minimize water/silt runoff, pollution, and other environmental impacts from heavy equipment and construction activities?

Georgia DOT will adhere to all federal and state environmental regulations throughout the scope of construction. All project contractors are required to follow strict erosion and sediment control plans, including the use of silt fences/ orange-barrier fencing, detention ponds, and water systems for drainage.

How will the environment and local wildlife be protected?

Extensive environmental assessments were conducted prior to the start of the project, and available for public review [here](#). These findings were instrumental in developing best practices in design and construction to avoid and/or mitigate environmental impacts. Efforts have been made to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, wildlife habitat, and restore vegetation as required.

Communication and Information

How can I stay informed throughout the scope of the project?

Georgia DOT recognizes the need to communicate clearly and consistently to the public throughout the duration of the project. Multiple communication strategies will be used, including the project [website](#), [subscriber list](#) for email notifications, newsletters, news media, social media, dedicated Public Information office for in-person visits, and information displays located in key locations throughout the communities.

Additionally, Georgia DOT is working collaboratively with local governments to ensure they stay informed of project activities and are provided information and materials to share with their constituents.

How can I submit a question, complaint, or concern about the project?

The public can reach the Project Communications Team through:

- The contact form on the [SR 400 Express Lanes project](#) website
- Project email @ 400expresslanes@dot.ga.gov
- Project hotline 770-209-2520* (*In the event of an emergency dial 911)

Georgia Department of Transportation

One Georgia Center | 600 West Peachtree Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

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