

# I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes



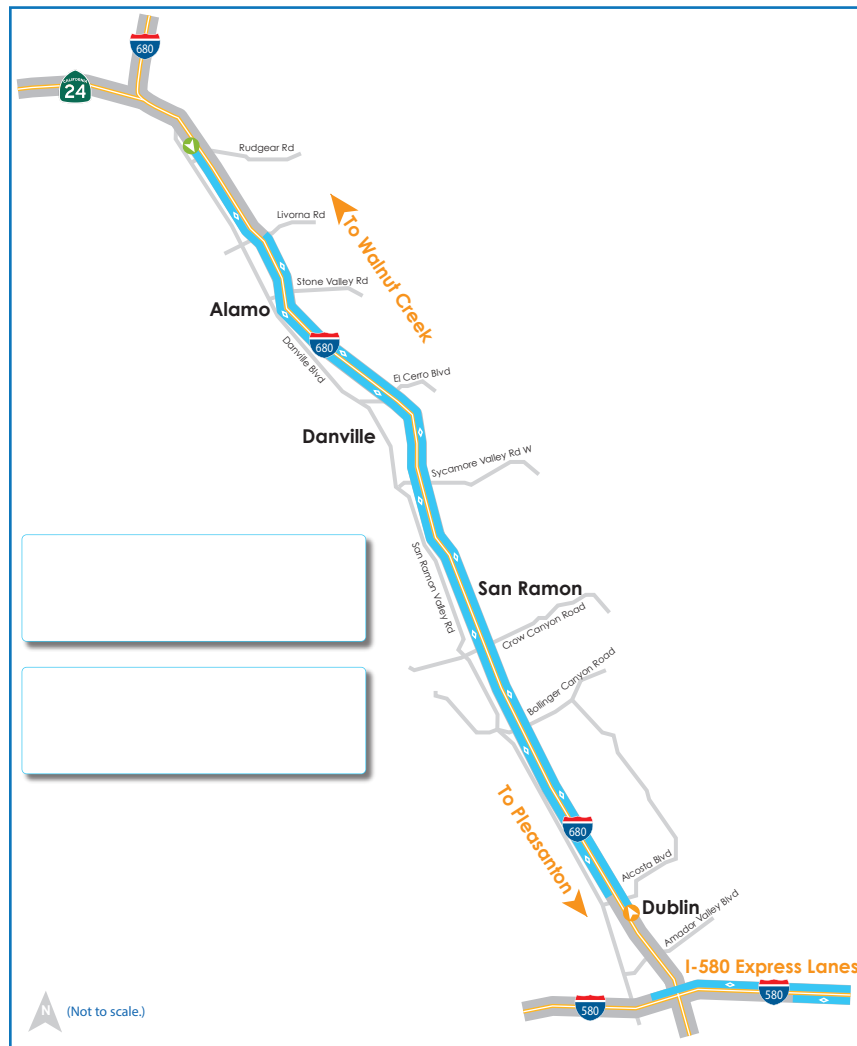
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## WHAT ARE THE I-680 CONTRA COSTA EXPRESS LANES?

The I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes provide toll-free travel to carpools, eligible clean-air vehicles, motorcycles and buses and provide solo drivers the choice to pay a toll to use the lanes.

## DO I NEED FASTRAK® TO USE THE LANES?

Yes. FasTrak is required to use the lanes Monday – Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Toll-exempt vehicles must have a properly-mounted FasTrak Flex® tag set in the “2” or “3+” position. Solo drivers can use either a standard FasTrak toll tag or a FasTrak Flex toll tag set in the “1” position to pay tolls to use the lanes.



## HOW DOES TOLLING WORK?

Tolls change as traffic conditions change. When traffic increases, tolls increase. When traffic decreases, tolls decrease. Solo drivers decide if the travel time savings are worth the price. Tolls incurred appear on FasTrak statements.

EXPRESS LANE	
<b>FASTRAK ONLY</b>	<b>TOLL</b>
To Crow Canyon Rd	\$1.00
To Livorna Rd	\$3.00
<b>HOV REQUIRES FASTRAK FLEX</b>	

The top price shows the toll to travel in the zone and where the zone ends.

The bottom price shows the toll to travel to the end of the express lane and where the lane ends.

Tolls vary with traffic congestion. Tolls shown above are examples.

A driver is guaranteed the price shown on the sign at the time the driver enters the express lane. If the toll amount changes while the driver is in the lane, the driver still pays the price posted when entering the lane. If a driver exits the lane prior to the end of the zone, the driver is charged the full toll for the zone.

## WHEN DO THE LANES OPERATE?

The I-680 Contra Costa express lanes operate Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. During times when traffic is light, tolls will automatically adjust lower so that traffic in the corridor flows across all the lanes and additional congestion is not created. All day operating hours are consistent with neighboring lanes on I-680 and I-580 in Alameda County. These hours also encourage carpooling whenever there is congestion, which often happens outside the peak commute hours.

## WHERE DO I GET IN AND OUT?

Cars can get in and out of the lane anywhere, similar to how cars enter and exit the existing carpool lanes.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE I-680 CONTRA COSTA EXPRESS LANES?

The I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes:

- Provide a new choice for solo drivers to use a lane they could not use before and get a more reliable trip;
- Improve carpool enforcement to reduce carpool lane cheating; and
- Take advantage of HOV lane capacity.

## HOW DO THE EXPRESS LANES REDUCE CARPOOL CHEATING?

Express Lane toll revenue will pay for increased enforcement by the California Highway Patrol (CHP). FasTrak Flex toll tags work with overhead beacons to show which cars should be carpools, helping CHP officers catch cheaters. Some cheaters will become paying customers and others will get out of the lanes.

## WILL THE EXPRESS LANES ELIMINATE TRAFFIC?

No. The I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes between Walnut Creek and Dublin are expected to improve traffic at the start and end of the peak period, but have a modest impact on traffic congestion in the peak of the peak. The lanes are the first of a series of projects planned for the I-680 Contra Costa corridor to deliver traffic congestion relief.

## HOW DO I GET FASTRAK?

- Visit [bayareafastrak.org](http://bayareafastrak.org). To open a new account, click “sign up.” If you have an account, log in and add tags. An account can have an unlimited number of tags and four tags can use one account deposit.
- Purchase a tag at Costco, Walgreens or Safeway and activate it online. Your purchase price is your toll deposit. Visit [bayareafastrak.org](http://bayareafastrak.org) for a map of participating retail stores.
- Call 1-877-BAY-TOLL
- Visit the FasTrak Customer Service Center at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco.



***Learn more at [expresslanes.511.org](http://expresslanes.511.org)***



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