

# Toll Rate Public Hearing

I-77 Express Toll Rate Hearing September 13, 2018

## AGENDA AND HOUSEKEEPING



- 6:30-6:35 Welcome and housekeeping
- 6:35-6:55 Presentation
- 6:55-7:00 Speaker signup
- 7:00 Public comment period begins

- Speaker Signup
- Bathrooms/Exits
- Facebook Live
- Introductions
- Thanks and Recognition

### PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP



I-77 Express is the first-ever toll lane public-private partnership with NCDOT









I-77 Mobility Partners is financing, developing, designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining I-77 Express. NCDOT remains the owner of the roadway.

NCDOT provides oversight of I-77 Express to ensure all requirements of the contract for the project are met. North Carolina Turnpike Authority is responsible for managing NC Quick Pass accounts, transponder distribution and customer service through the NC Quick Pass program.

NC Quick Pass Customer Service Center located at 8015 W. WT Harris Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28216.



## **I-77 MOBILITY PARTNERS**



- I-77 Mobility Partners was chosen by NCDOT as the best bid proposer for the I-77 Express project.
- We are financing, developing, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining I-77 Express for the first-ever public private partnership with NCDOT.
- I-77 Express is delivered as a design-build project, which allows for real-time changes to construction plans and scope to deliver the best-possible project.
- Our offices are located in Charlotte and our employees work, live, and play in the communities from Charlotte to Mooresville.



### **I-77 EXPRESS PROJECT INVESTMENT**



- I-77 Mobility Partners, the developer, and its investors directly invested more than \$250 million.
- Project financing also includes \$289 million of project debt.
- The private investment is instrumental for the construction of I-77 Express and other infrastructure improvements along the existing portion of I-77, including the ability to deliver the project sooner for the State of North Carolina and motorists.
- Tolls paid to use I-77 Express go toward paying operations and maintenance costs and debt service of the roadway before investors start seeing a return on their investment.



### **I-77 EXPRESS OVERVIEW**





- I-77 Express consists of 26 miles of dedicated tolled express lanes that will operate adjacent to the existing general purpose lanes.
- I-77 Express is separated from the existing general purpose lanes and have an interior shoulder for enhanced safety.
- Two express lanes per direction will run from I-277 in Charlotte to just south of Exit 28 in Cornelius.
- One express lane will run in each direction from Cornelius to just past Exit 36 in Mooresville.
- The same number of existing free lanes will remain along the entire highway in both directions.
- Drivers will have a choice whether to use I-77 Express, the general purpose lanes, or a combination of each.
- Dynamic pricing will be used to maintain a minimum average speed on I-77 Express.
- Express lanes will assist with traffic flow in all lanes.

#### ACTI-TTEXPRESS



### **Improving the I-77 Corridor**

- All along the corridor, existing infrastructure is being greatly improved in both the general purpose lanes and the express lanes.
- Since signing the original contract, additional work was added to the project scope to improve the roadway for drivers.
- We have worked closely with NCDOT in determining these project improvements and adjusting timelines to accommodate the broader scope of work.
- The following improvements are part of the additional work.

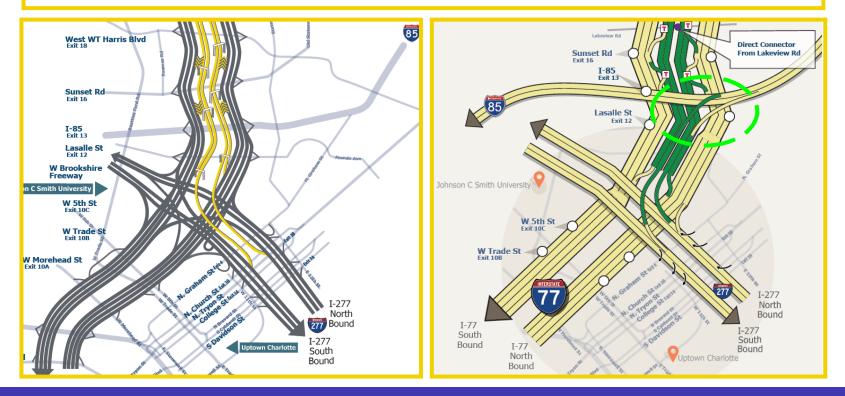




#### **Direct Connections for I-85**

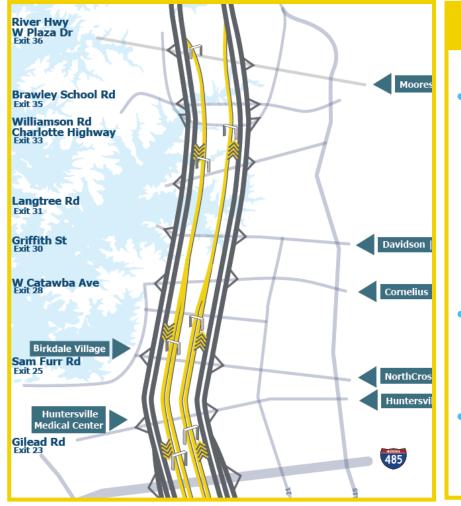
 I-77 Mobility Partners has added connections between I-77 Express and I-85 which will improve capacity in the interchange and better serve drivers.

• These connections are funded by additional developer equity.









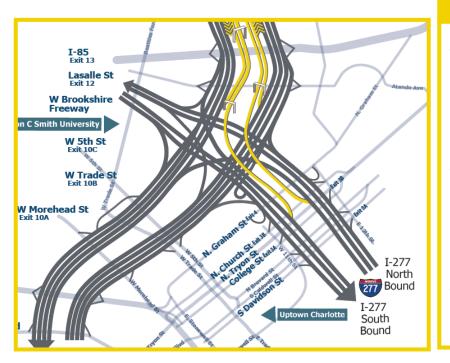
#### **Additional Entry & Exit Points**

- I-77 Mobility Partners has added additional entry and exit points for I-77 Express in the Lake Norman area to improve the connectivity between the existing crossing streets and the express lanes.
- I-77 Express, in this area, will now be accessible from/to Exits 23, 25, 28 and 30.
- These connections are funded by additional developer equity.









#### Improved I-77 & I-277 Connections

- Redesigned connection with I-277 will allow the use of the main streets accessing uptown Charlotte from/to I-77 Express.
- This change will increase merging distances and improves access to uptown Charlotte from I-77 Express.
- The redesign minimized impacts to adjacent neighborhoods.







#### **Lakeview & Hambright Direct Connectors**

- The regional planning organization added the new Lakeview and Hambright Road direct connectors for improved access to I-77.
- The change order for these direct connectors was signed in July 2017.
- When the direct connectors are completed in 2019, drivers will have direct access to I-77 Express in both directions.







### **Rehabilitating the Roadway**

- I-77 Mobility Partners is expediting the improvements to the condition of the general purpose lanes on behalf of NCDOT.
- In addition to the original requirement to resurface the existing road, the general purpose lanes in the 26-mile corridor are being rehabilitated to provide better driving conditions through a process called "mill and fill."
- The northern half of the rehabilitation is almost complete.
- The southern portion of the rehabilitation will begin in 2019 when temperatures allow.
- This work will occur overnight when traffic is lighter.
- If traffic needs to be diverted into the express lanes during lane closures, drivers will not be charged a toll.





#### **Improving the I-77 Corridor**

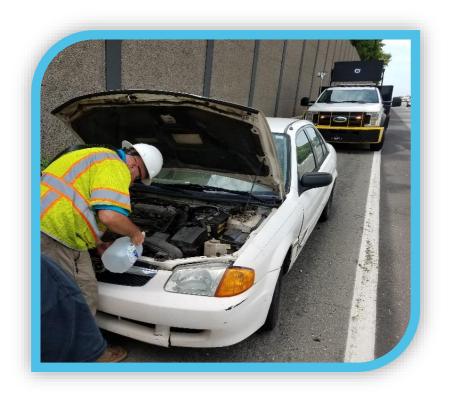
- A majority of I-77 Express will open as scheduled by the end of this year.
- However, the expanded scope of the project means that part of I-77 Express will open in 2019 to allow for the additional construction to be completed.
- In case the I-77 Express opens to traffic before all sections are complete, with the exception of the direct connectors, we will apply a discount to the toll rates described in this presentation.



### **I-77 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**



- I-77 Mobility Partners assumed maintenance and operations for the entire 26-mile corridor in October 2017.
- Motorists have a team available 24/7 that is fully dedicated to monitor the corridor and maintain both the general purpose lanes and I-77 Express to the same level of quality.
- Crews conduct roadway maintenance such as debris cleanup, vegetation control and road repairs.
- They also assist law enforcement and emergency responders in incident response with traffic control, roadway cleanup and coordinating vehicle removal.
- The team has provided roadside assistance such as changing tires, providing signaling, fuel or water to more than 900 motorists in need since beginning of operations.
- Motorists that received assistance from our crews between April and June gave an "Excellent" rating in all completed surveys.

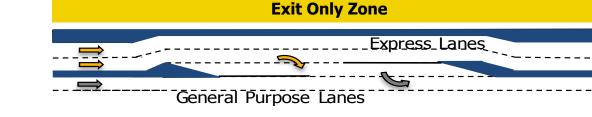




#### **Exit Only Zone**

Express Lanes

Express Lanes



**Transfer Area** 

**Entrance Only Zone** 

General Purpose Lanes

#### I-77 Express will have 11 access points in each direction.

- All of the entrances and exits have been placed to allow safe movement to or from the closest general purpose ramp.
- All merge lanes will exceed the minimum standards of 500 feet per lane change.
- One additional merge lane has been added to the transfer areas to improve safety.
- Merge lanes will be 1,500 2,000 feet long in most locations.

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www.I77Express.com

General Purpose Lanes

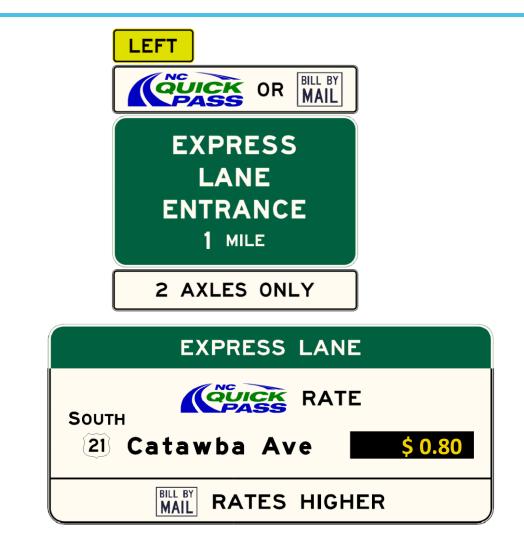




## **I-77 EXPRESS WAYFINDING**



- Signs will be strategically placed along the corridor to allow motorists ample time to decide if I-77 Express is the best option for their trip.
- Rates will be displayed ¼ mile ahead of each segment entry.
- The toll rate displayed when entering I-77 Express is the price motorists will be charged for that segment.
- Toll rates posted on the I-77 Express signs will display the transponder rate.
- Additional digital message signs will alert drivers to any traffic conditions ahead.





### NC QUICK PASS



- North Carolina Turnpike Authority will manage toll accounts, toll collection and transponder distribution through the NC Quick Pass program.
- There are two ways to pay when using I-77 Express:

**NC Quick Pass** – Purchase a transponder and tolls are automatically deducted from the prepaid account balance as a transponder passes under the toll gantries.

**Bill by Mail** – Cameras in the toll zone capture an image of a vehicle's license plate and an invoice is mailed to the registered owner. Bill by Mail customers will pay a higher rate than NC Quick Pass customers.

NC Quick Pass is interoperable with other regional toll transponders that will work on I-77 Express.

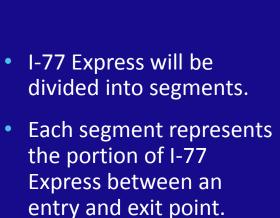


• HOV3+ carpoolers and motorcycles must have a NC Quick Pass switchable transponder or declare HOV3+ through the Turnpike's app in order to use the I-77 Express for free.



## **I-77 EXPRESS TOLL SEGMENTS**





 Each segment will have its own toll rate and will always be displayed ahead of each segment.



|                   | Segment |            | Description  |  |  |  |
|-------------------|---------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| in Lane           | 1N      | <b>7S</b>  | Between I-77 MM11 and Cindy Lane                           |  |  |  |
|                   | 2N      | <b>6S</b>  | Between north of Cindy Lane and Lakeview Road              |  |  |  |
|                   | 3N      | <b>5</b> S | Between Lakeview Road and south of Mt. Holly               |  |  |  |
|                   | 4N      | <b>4S</b>  | Between south of Mt. Holly and north of Stumptown Road     |  |  |  |
| Main              | 6N      | <b>2S</b>  | Between north of Stumptown Road and north of Catawba Avenu |  |  |  |
|                   | 7N      | <b>1S</b>  | Between north of Catawba Avenue and north of Langtree Road |  |  |  |
|                   | 8N      | <b>0S</b>  | Between north of Langtree Road and I-77 MM36               |  |  |  |
| Direct Connectors | ON      | <b>8S</b>  | Between I-277 and north of Cindy Lane                      |  |  |  |
|                   | 9N      | <b>11S</b> | Between I-277 and I-85                                     |  |  |  |
|                   | 10N     | <b>10S</b> | Between I-77 MM11 and I-85                                 |  |  |  |
|                   | 12N     | <b>9</b> S | Between Hambright DC and south of Mt. Holly                |  |  |  |
| Dir               | 11N     |            | Between Hambright DC and north of Stumptown Road           |  |  |  |



### UNDERSTANDING VARIABLE PRICING

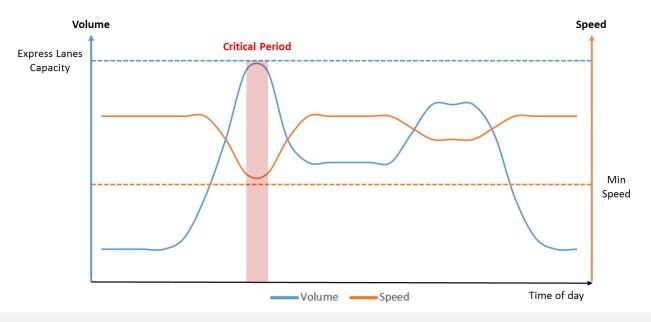


- Our two basic principles regarding pricing are:
  - Prices should always be aligned, to the extent possible, with the demand for using I-77 Express.
  - 2. Prices should be adequate to keep traffic on I-77 Express at average speeds above a minimum speed that ranges from 48 to 56 mph depending on the segment, as specified in our contractual requirements and federal law.
- Toll segments vary in length and have different traffic patterns throughout the day, so rates will vary by segment, direction and time-period based on those factors.
- Having multiple segments and multiple entry and exit points allows more flexibility for I-77 Express users to plan their trips and pay only for those portions of I-77 Express they use.



### **DYNAMIC ADJUSTMENT of RATES**





- On a road, the number of cars (volume) and the speed of those cars are related. As volume increases, speed normally decreases as roads become congested.
- The dynamic adjustment of toll rates allow I-77 Express to manage, in real time, varying traffic and demand conditions in order to maintain a minimum average speed.
- As an example, if volume on I-77 Express increases and speeds decrease, prices will rise in order to ease demand for I-77 Express, bringing the system back into balance.



### SCHEDULE vs. DYNAMIC MODES



As specified in our contract with NCDOT, there are two different modes of adjusting the toll rates:

1. Schedule Mode: will apply during the first 180 days from the opening of traffic on I-77 Express.

During Schedule Mode, toll rates are defined for every 30-minute period of every day of the week and won't change in real-time. This allows I-77 Express drivers to get used to the facility, knowing the applicable rate for their trip beforehand.

The full schedule of rates for this period can be found in our web page www.I77express.com

**2. Dynamic Mode**: will apply after the first 180 days from the opening of traffic on I-77 Express until the end of the term.

During Dynamic Mode, toll rates may change as often as every five minutes to accommodate changes in demand for I-77 Express.



### SCHEDULE MODE RATES



1-77 MM36

North Catawba

North Stumptown South Mt.Holly Hambright

The toll rates per segment and time of day for **<u>NC Quick Pass</u>** users\* will be the following during the first 180 days of operation of the project \*\*:

|                      |              |                          |                                      | Weekdays |                                       |                                      |        | Weekends                           |                                   |                                     |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                      | Segment      |                          | <b>AM Peak</b><br>6:30 AM<br>9:00 AM |          | <b>Mid Day</b><br>10:00 AM<br>2:00 PM | <b>PM Peak</b><br>3:00 PM<br>7:00 PM |        | <b>Night</b><br>8:00 PM<br>5:30 AM | <b>Day</b><br>10:00 AM<br>8:00 PM | <b>Night</b><br>8:00 PM<br>10:00 AM |
|                      |              |                          | NB                                   | SB       |                                       | NB                                   | SB     |                                    |                                   |                                     |
| Main Lane            | 1N-7S        | I-77 MM11- Cindy         | \$0.90                               |          | \$0.60                                | \$0.90                               |        | \$0.35                             | \$0.60                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 2N-6S        | Cindy - Lakeview         | \$0.60                               |          | \$0.50                                | \$0.60                               |        | \$0.35                             | \$0.50                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 3N-5S        | Lakeview – Mt. Holly     | \$0.65                               |          | \$0.50                                | \$0.65                               |        | \$0.35                             | \$0.50                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 4N-4S        | Mt. Holly – Stumptown    | \$1.00                               | \$1.10   | \$0.60                                | \$1.10                               | \$1.00 | \$0.35                             | \$0.60                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 6N-2S        | Stumptown – Catawba      | \$1.65                               | \$1.75   | \$0.80                                | \$1.75                               | \$1.65 | \$0.35                             | \$0.80                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 7N-1S        | Catawba – Langtree       | \$0.85                               | \$0.75   | \$0.60                                | \$0.75                               | \$0.85 | \$0.35                             | \$0.60                            | \$0.35                              |
|                      | 8N-0S        | Langtree – I-77 MM36     | \$0.90                               | \$0.80   | \$0.60                                | \$0.80                               | \$0.90 | \$0.35                             | \$0.60                            | \$0.35                              |
| Direct<br>Connectors | <b>0N-8S</b> | I-277 — Cindy            | \$1.30                               |          | \$0.90                                | \$1.30                               |        | \$0.65                             | \$0.90                            | \$0.65                              |
|                      | 9N-11S       | I-277 – I-85             | \$1.70                               |          | \$1.20                                | \$1.70                               |        | \$0.95                             | \$1.20                            | \$0.95                              |
|                      | 10N-10S      | I-77 MM11 – I-85         | \$1.30                               |          | \$0.90                                | \$1.30                               |        | \$0.65                             | \$0.90                            | \$0.65                              |
|                      | 12N-9S       | Hambright DC             | \$0                                  | .40      | \$0.30                                | \$0.40                               |        | \$0.30                             | \$0.40                            | \$0.30                              |
|                      | 11N          | Hambright DC - Stumptown | \$1                                  | .40      | \$0.90                                | \$1                                  | .50    | \$0.65                             | \$1.00                            | \$0.65                              |



\*\*The full schedule of rates for every 30 minute period is available at www.I77express.com



### SCHEDULE MODE TRIP EXAMPLES



| Trip                               | Rush Hour (Highest) | Midday or Weekends |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| From I-85 to Catawba Avenue        | \$4.10*             | \$2.40*            |
| From Uptown to I-485               | \$2.55*             | \$1.60*            |
| From I-485 to Catawba Avenue       | \$2.85*             | \$1.40*            |
| From Sam Furr Road to I-77 Exit 36 | \$3.40*             | \$2.00*            |
| From I-77 Exit 11 to I-77 Exit 36  | \$6.55*             | \$4.20*            |

\*Toll rate examples of a NC Quick Pass user. Bill by Mail rates are higher.





## **DYNAMIC MODE RATES**



- The toll rates per segment after the initial 180 days of operation will be set between the minimum and maximum values shown in the following table.
- In peak periods, the toll rates are expected to be closer to the upper limit.
- In off-peak periods, toll rates will be in the middle area of the range.
- At night time, toll rates will be in the lower end of the range.
- All toll rates will be reevaluated and adjusted dynamically as often as every five minutes.
- The minimum and maximum toll rates per segment will be adjusted periodically in accordance with the contract and North Carolina law.





### DYNAMIC MODE RATE RANGE



|                      |              | Segment                  | Minimum Rate (*) | Maximum Rate (*) |  |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
|                      | 1N-7S        | I-77 MM11- Cindy         | \$0.35           | \$1.20           |  |
|                      | 2N-6S        | Cindy - Lakeview         | \$0.35           | \$0.85           |  |
| ane                  | 3N-5S        | Lakeview – Mt. Holly     | \$0.35           | \$0.85           |  |
| Main Lane            | 4N-4S        | Mt. Holly – Stumptown    | \$0.35           | \$1.75           |  |
|                      | 6N-2S        | Stumptown – Catawba      | \$0.35           | \$2.35           |  |
|                      | 7N-1S        | Catawba – Langtree       | \$0.35           | \$1.20           |  |
|                      | 8N-0S        | Langtree – I-77 MM36     | \$0.35           | \$1.20           |  |
| (0                   | <b>0N-8S</b> | I-277 — Cindy            | \$0.35           | \$1.75           |  |
| tors                 | 9N-11S       | I-277 — I-85             | \$0.35           | \$2.35           |  |
| Direct<br>Connectors | 10N-10S      | I-77 MM11 – I-85         | \$0.35           | \$1.75           |  |
|                      | 12N-9S       | Hambright DC - Mt. Holly | \$0.30           | \$0.60           |  |
|                      | 11N          | Hambright DC - Stumptown | \$0.35           | \$2.35           |  |

\*Toll rates for a NC Quick Pass user. Bill By Mail rates are higher.

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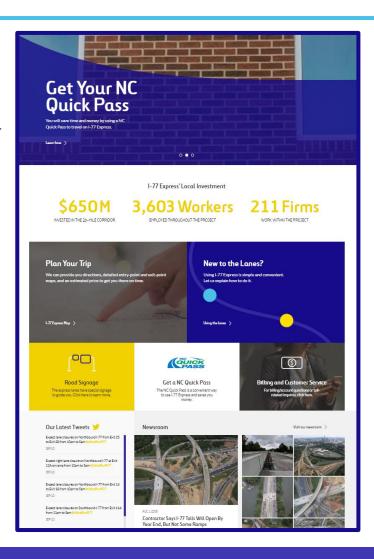




## MORE INFORMATION ONLINE



- Visit <u>www.I77Express.com</u> at any time to see more information about toll rates to help you plan your trip.
- Our website will soon contain other resources to help you with your trip:
  - Plan Your Trip tool
  - Average pricing calculator





### SUBMITTING QUESTIONS REGARDING TOLL RATES



- The public comment period on I-77 Express toll rates is currently open.
- Questions/comments are due by **September 24**.
- How to submit:
  - Online form at www.I77Express.com
  - Hardcopy forms available at tonight's meeting.

Comment forms can be submitted tonight or to our offices until the deadline.

• Printable form on website

Send via mail to: 8015 W. WT Harris Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28216





- If you would like to speak and have not already signed up, please do so now at the back of the room.
- We will begin the public comments in five minutes.



### **GUIDELINES FOR SPEAKERS**



- Time begins when you begin speaking.
- Please begin by stating your name and town.
- Speakers are not required to use their whole time allotment.
- Speakers may not donate time to others.
- Questions/comments should address toll rates only.
- Each person may speak only once.
- Questions will not be answered tonight, but will be addressed at a later date.



### THANK YOU FOR COMING



#### As a reminder:

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