

I-80 Solano Express Lanes

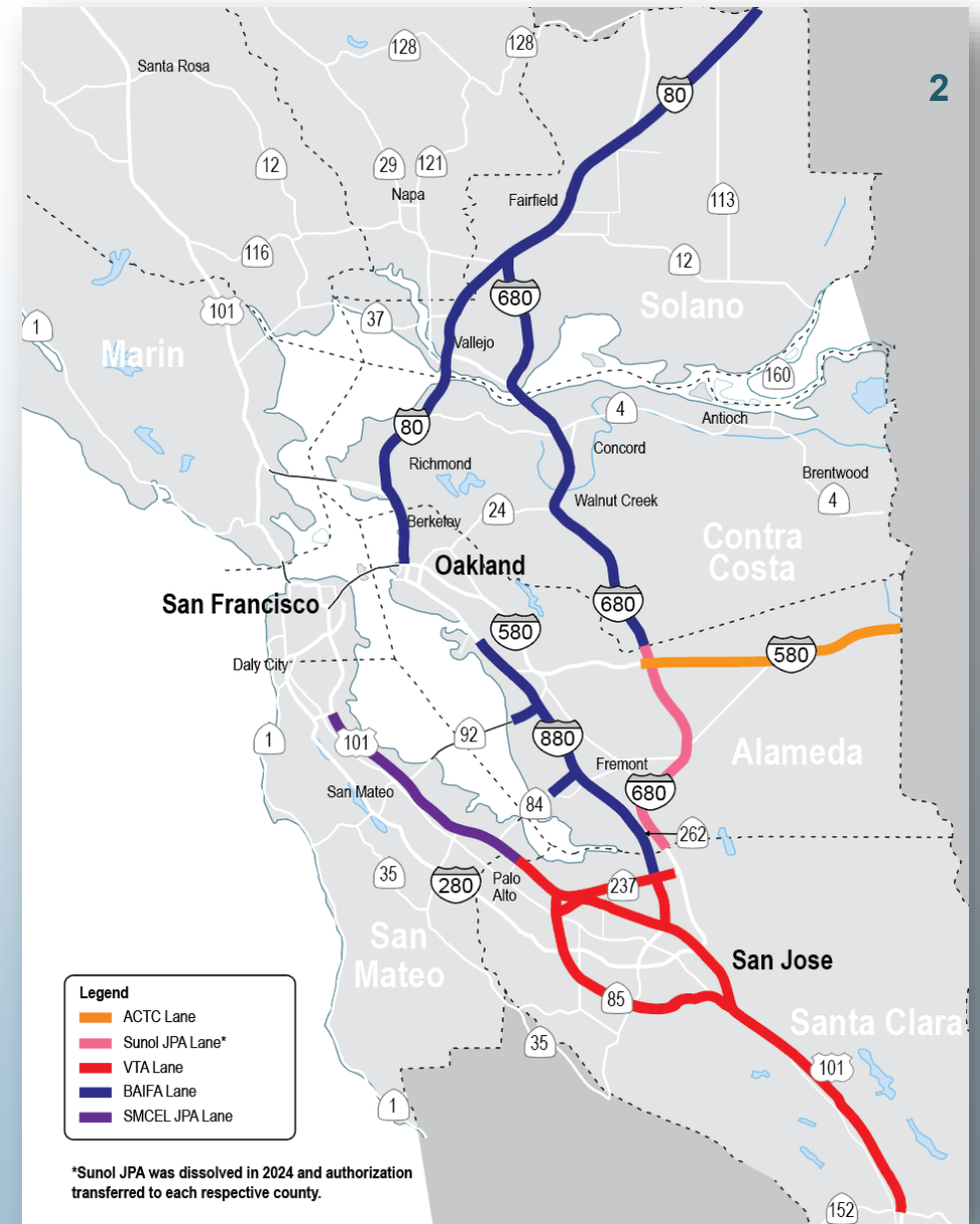
Operations and Weekend Pilot Update

May 13, 2026



State-Authorized Network of Express Lanes

- 550-mile express lanes network
 - 4 express lanes operators
- Continue to build out the network as envisioned by Plan Bay Area
- Increase collaboration and regional consistency



Express Lane Operations

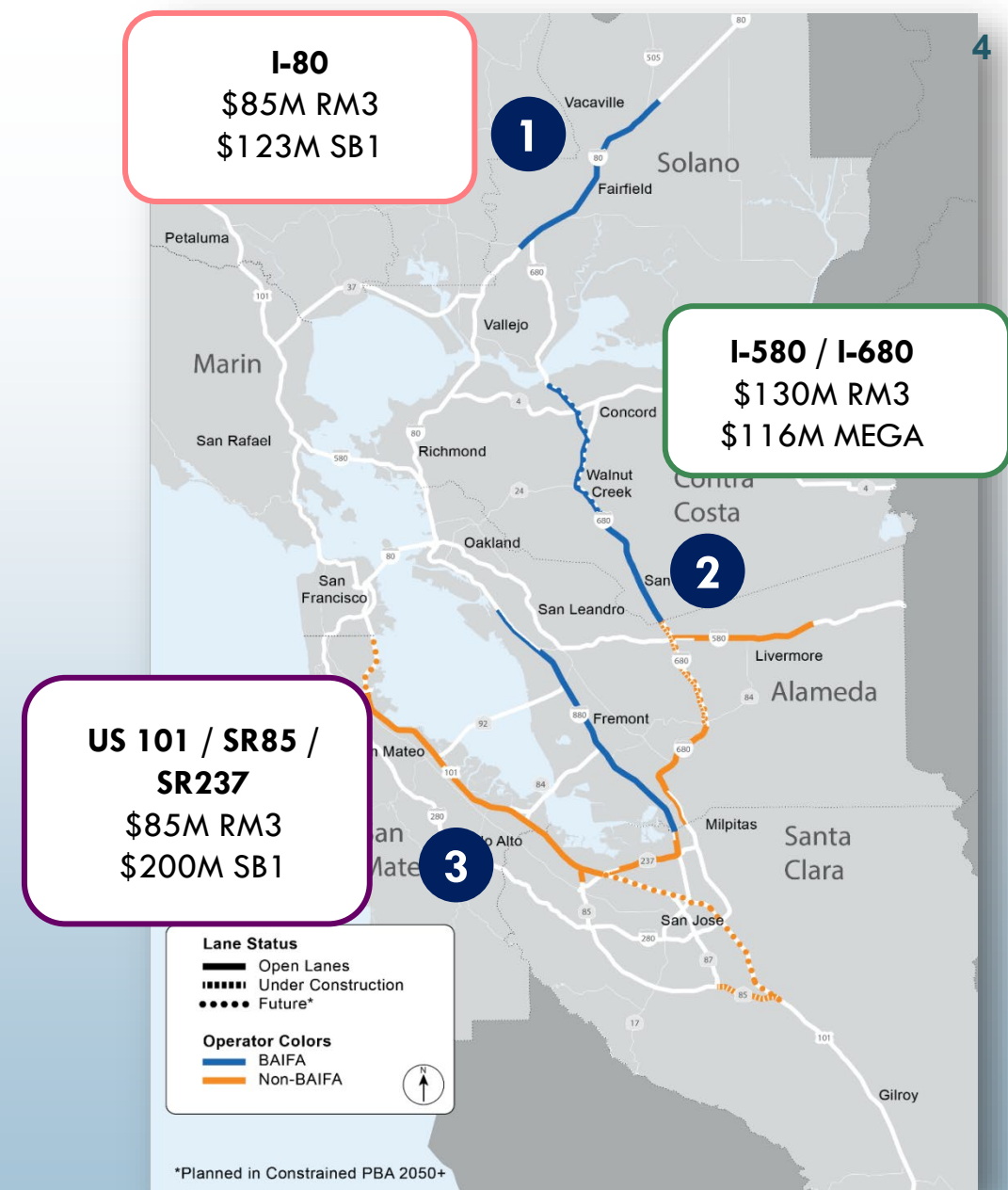
Consistent Throughout Bay Area

- Signage
- Operating hours: 5am – 8pm (traditionally Mon-Fri)
- HOVs free; toll option for others
- Electronic tolls change with congestion
- FasTrak required
- Regional Customer Service Center
- Income-eligible payment plan



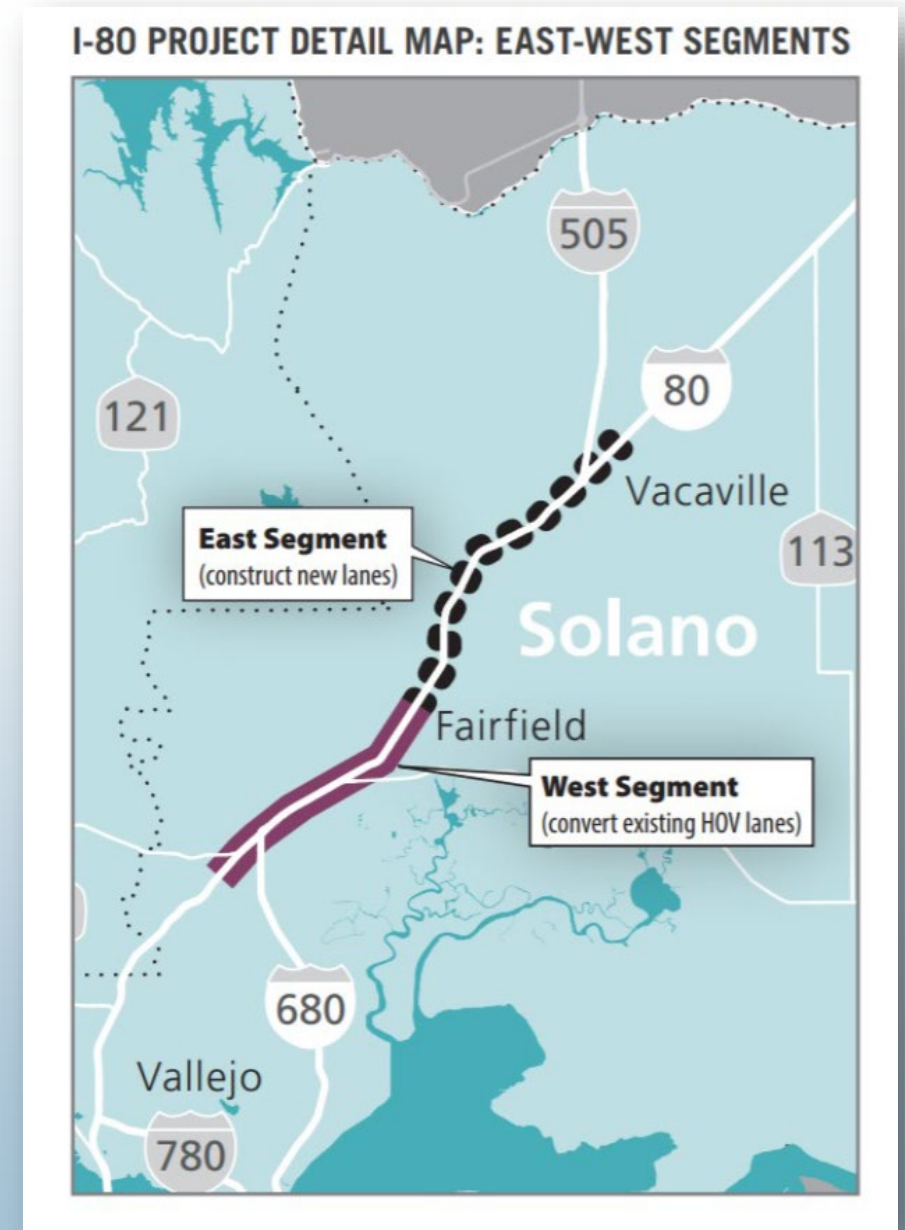
2020: Regional Measure 3 Invested in Express Lanes

- \$300M for express lanes in Regional Measure 3 (RM3)
- Deliver seamless system to Bay Area commuters
- Meet commitments by making regional funds available when needed
- RM3 to leverage state and federal funding in 3 major express lane corridors



Corridor Overview

- Partnership between STA, Caltrans, and BAIFA
- Relieves bottleneck and improves reliability
- Added new Express Lane in east segment
 - Airbase Parkway to I-505 interchange
- Converted one HOV lane in west segment to Express Lane
 - Red Top Rd. to Airbase Parkway
- New condition: 1 Express Lane and 4 general purpose lanes
- **Opened December 16, 2025**



I-80 Express Lane Weekend Pilot

- Express lane policies:
 - HOV3+ free; HOV2 discounted toll
 - Monday to Friday 5 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- 3-year weekend express lane pilot:
 - Saturday and Sunday 5 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Why pilot weekend express lanes?
 - Weekend traffic similar to weekday
 - Reliable option for commuters, carpools, and transit
 - Potential to generate revenue that would be invested in the corridor
 - Simplified messaging by introducing at opening
 - Aligns with upcoming Yolo County weekend policy



Meeting our Commitments

Conditions of STA Support

- Expand income-eligible discount pilot (Express Lanes START)
- Regular updates on weekend pilot performance and request for STA support at conclusion of pilot period
- Funding support for Project Initiation Document for express lane expansion through Dixon
- Broad outreach plan
- Development with STA of remaining revenue policy with a return to source



First Report Today



Starting Fall '26

Comprehensive Weekend Pilot Evaluation

Partnership with Caltrans & STA

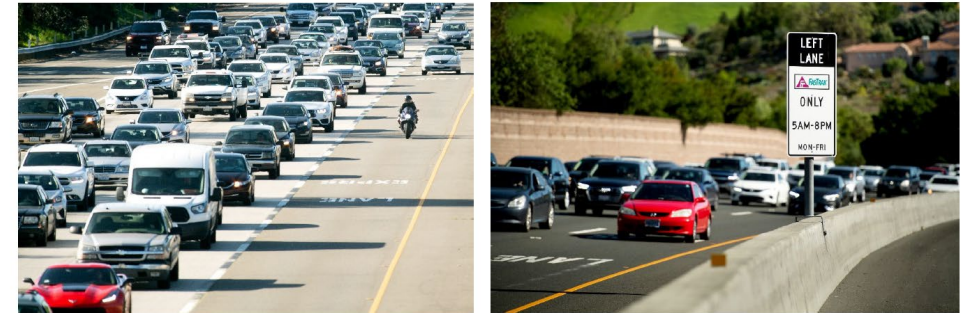
- Freeway & local streets performance
 - Traffic volume, person throughput and speeds
 - Congestion and travel time
 - Traffic incidents
- Diversions & community impact
- Express Lanes START enrollment
- Revenue and cost understanding



Reporting and Decision on Weekend Pilot

- Regular reporting
 - Quarterly express lanes report
 - Weekend pilot evaluation reports at end of Year 1 & 2 (Spring 2027 & 2028)
- Recommendation to make weekend operations permanent, extend pilot or terminate by end of 2028
 - To STA board for support
 - To BAIFA for approval and update to toll ordinance

BAIFA Express Lanes Operations Report 3rd Quarter 2025: July - September
I-680 Contra Costa and I-880 Express Lanes



Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority Network and Operations Committee
February 13, 2026

 BAY AREA EXPRESS LANES

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Early Observations

- Data Available: Dec. 16, 2025 through March 30, 2026
 - Lower traffic volumes during holidays
 - Drivers familiarizing with new operations
 - Average speeds faster in all lanes, all days in both directions



General Purpose Lane	Weekday Eastbound	Weekday Westbound	Weekend Eastbound	Weekend Westbound
2026	56 mph	67 mph	69 mph	69 mph
2023	55 mph	63 mph	62 mph	58 mph

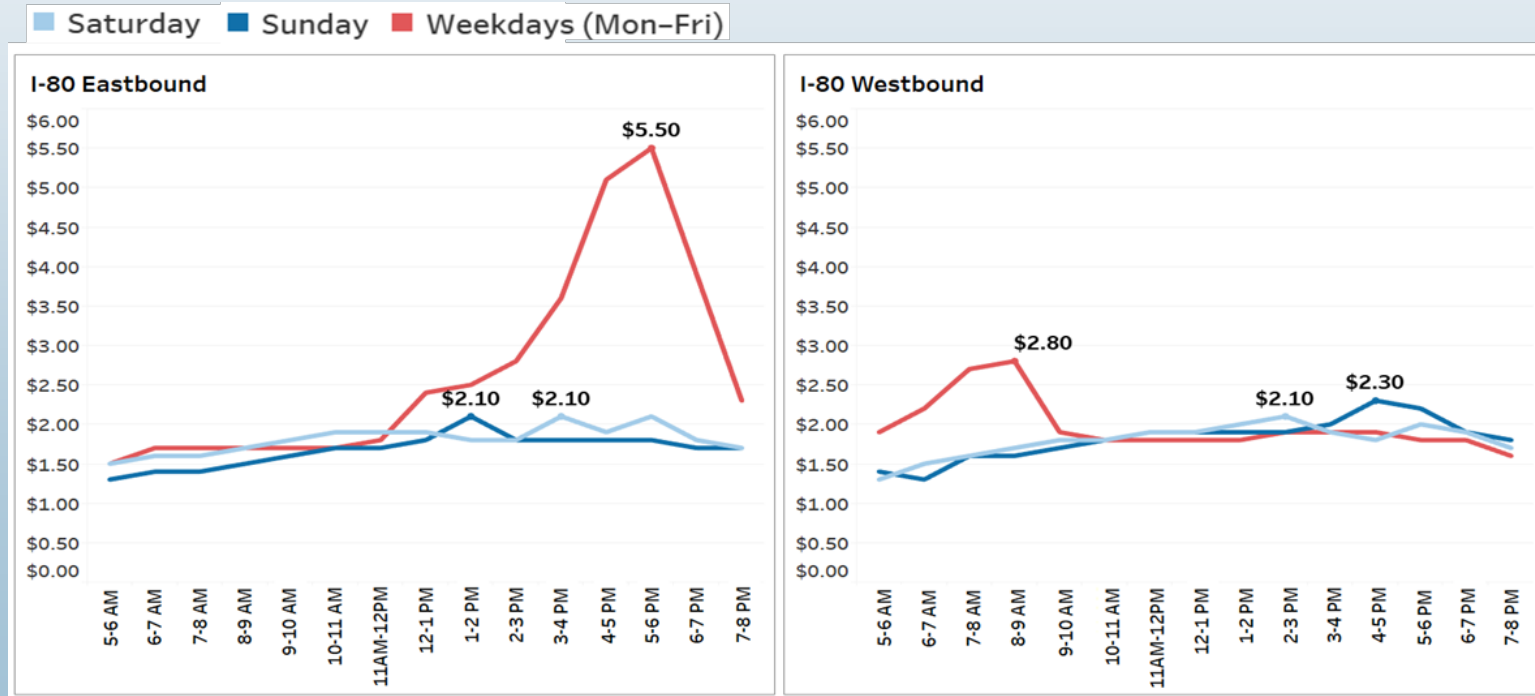
Express lanes speeds averaging 10 mph faster than GP lane speeds

Average Daily Trips and Average Hourly Tolls

2026 Quarter 1	Total EL Trips	Operating Days	Average Daily Trips
Weekend	634,500	26	24,400
Weekday	1,335,100	63	21,200

Average peak tolls paid:

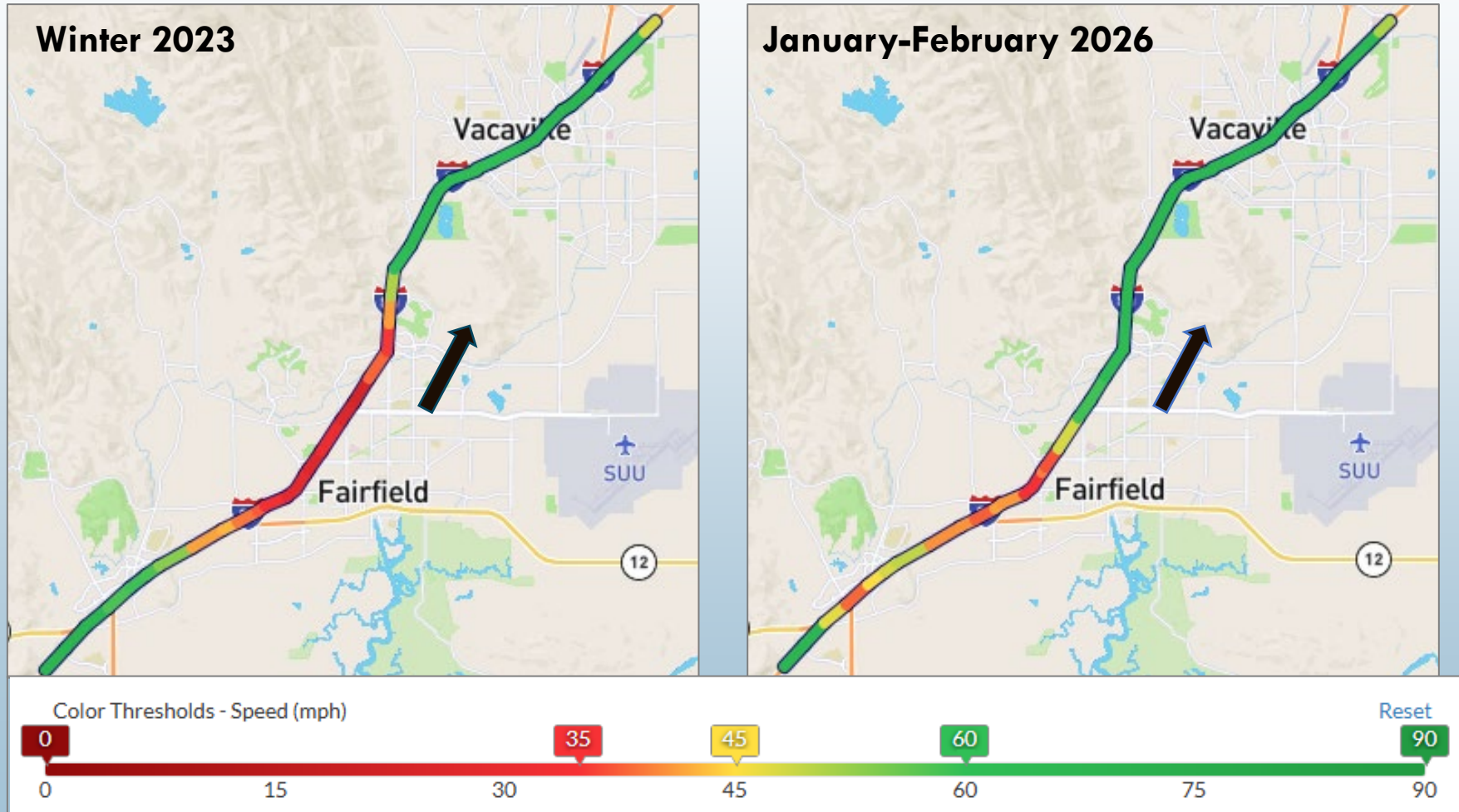
- Weekday: \$5.50 eastbound 5-6 pm
- Weekend: \$2.30 westbound 4-5 pm



Average hourly tolls are the average full-price toll paid per trip during a given hour. Individual tolls vary based on traffic conditions and trip distance.

Reduction in Eastbound Weekday Congestion

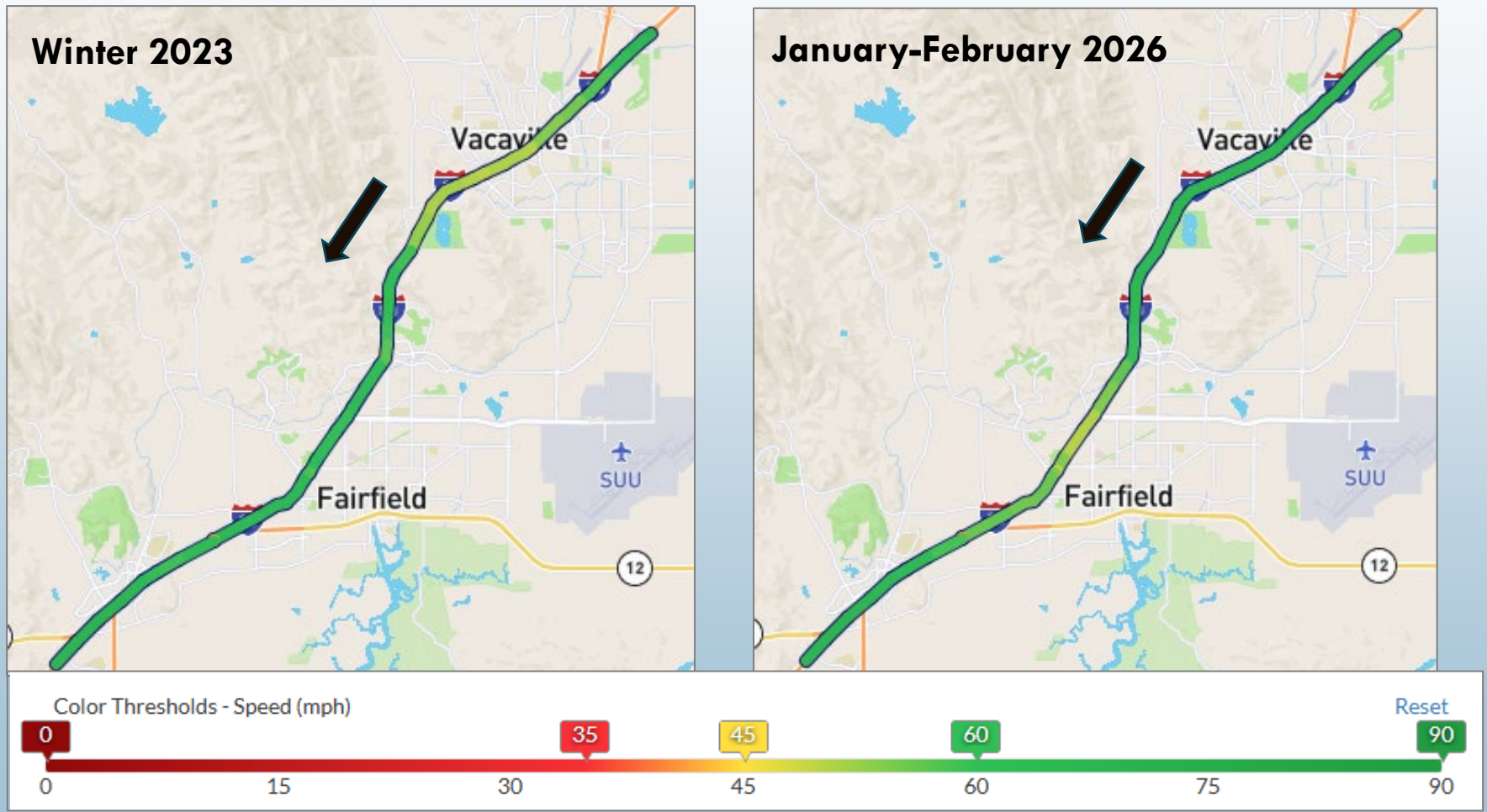
I-80 Eastbound Weekdays – PM Peak (4-5PM) Speed Maps



Data source: Inrix

Westbound Weekday at or Near Free Flow

I-80 Westbound Weekdays – AM Peak (7-8AM) Speed Maps

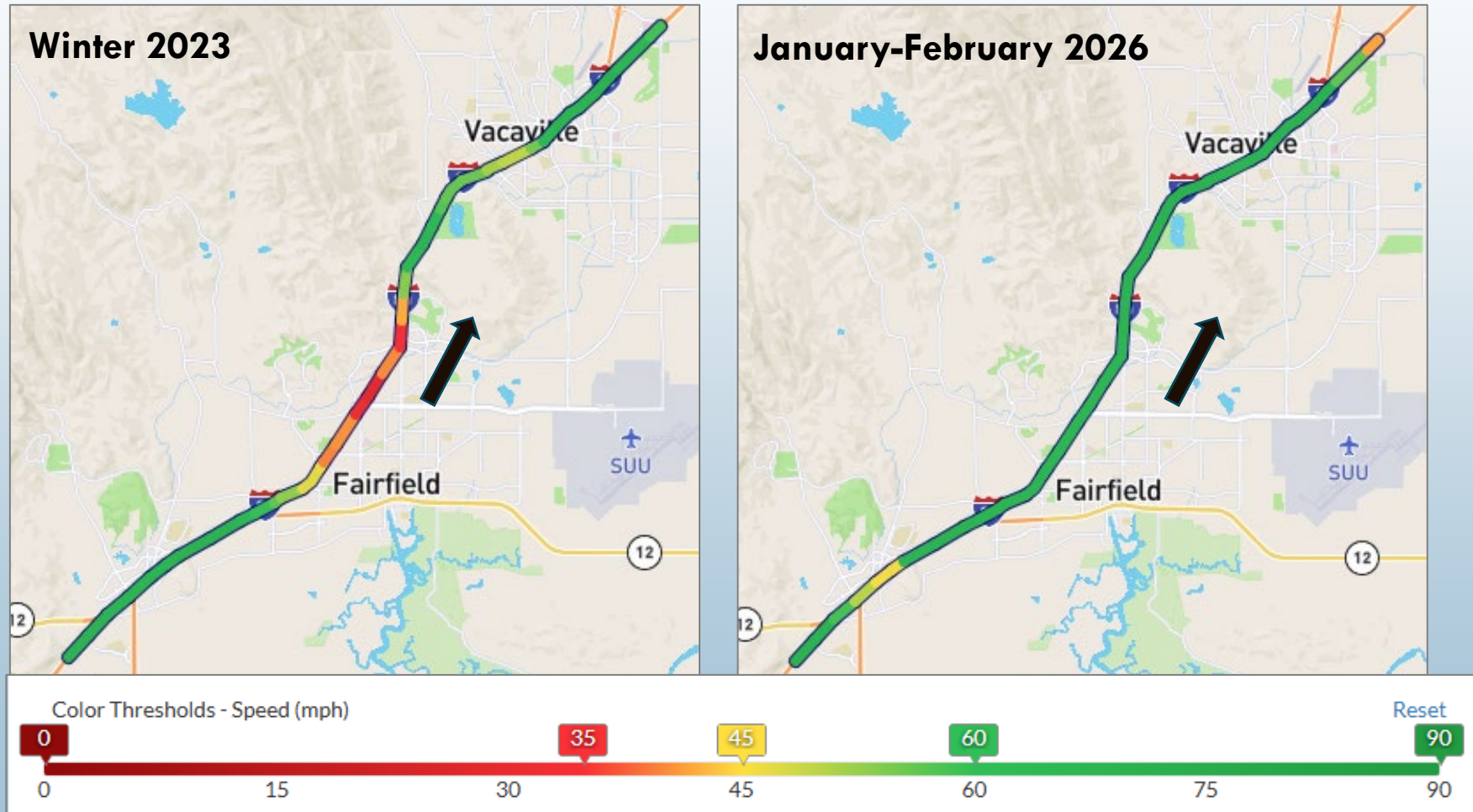


Data source: Inrix



Reduction in Eastbound Weekend Congestion

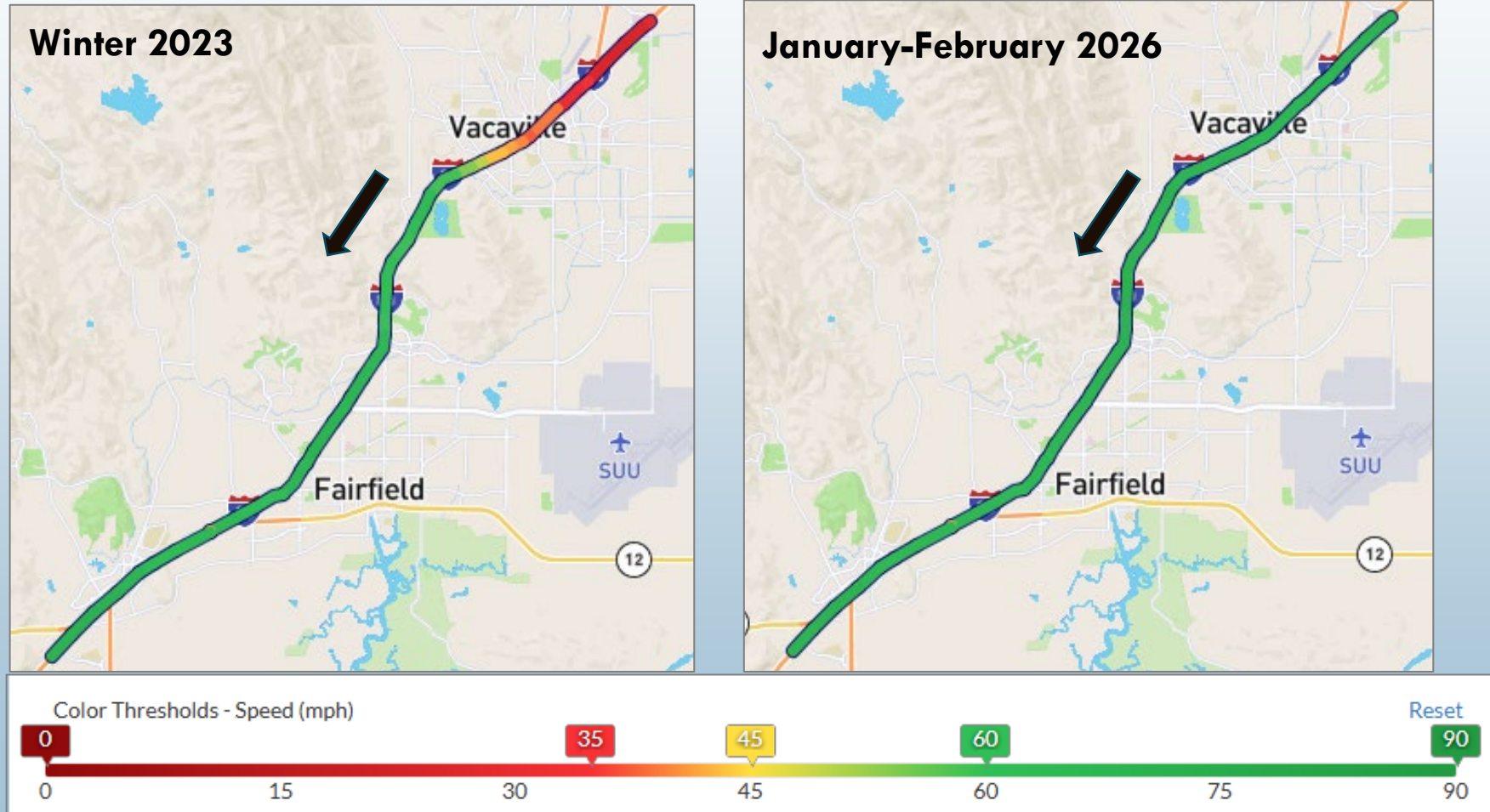
I-80 Eastbound Weekends – Mid Peak (12-1 PM) Speed Maps



Data source: Inrix

Reduction in westbound Weekend Congestion

I-80 Westbound Weekends – PM Peak (4-5 PM) Speed Maps



Data source: Inrix

Early I-80 Performance Data

Trip Type	Weekday	Weekend Pilot
SOV	46%	42%
HOV3+	26%	27%
HOV2	8%	7%
No Account	20%	24%

	Weekday	Weekend Pilot
Incidents per day across all lanes	2.5	1.5

Future reports to include travel time savings, diversion statistics and revenue and cost information





EXPRESS LANE
FASTRAK ONLY TOLL
To West 1.00
OPEN 7 DAYS 5AM-8PM

FEEL DROWSY?
EXIT AND REST

www.BayAreaFastrak.org

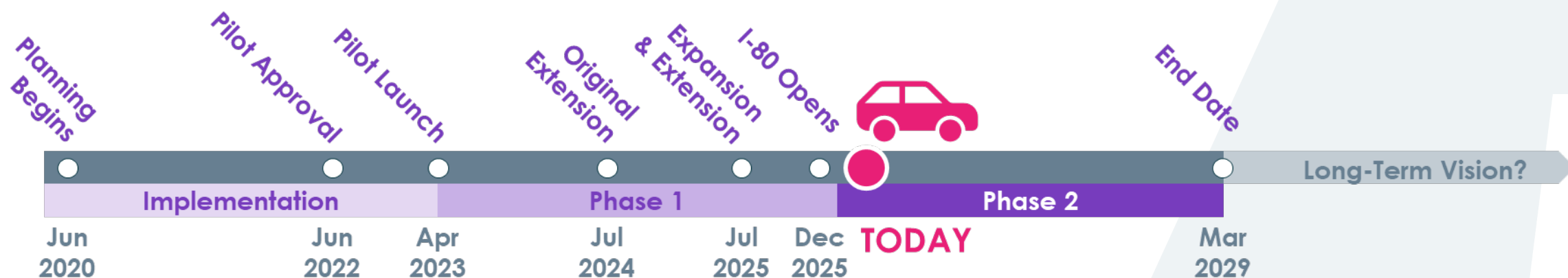
Express Lanes STARTSM Pilot Update

Solano Transportation Authority
May 13, 2026



History of Express Lanes START

- Pilot program that provides eligible users a 50% discount on express lane tolls on **I-880** and **I-80**
- Launched on I-880 in April 2023
- Expanded to I-80 when new lanes opened in December 2025
- Current pilot end date is March 2029



Express Lanes START Basics



- To qualify, applicant must:
 - Be a Bay Area resident (9 counties)
 - Have a household income \leq 200% of the federal poverty level
 - Have (or open) a FasTrak account with at least one toll tag
- Applicants provide proof of identity and income
- Discount is applied as account credit after each trip

Pilot Goals and Phase 1 Evaluation



Program Goals

Increase access to the I-880 express lanes (metrics 1-7)

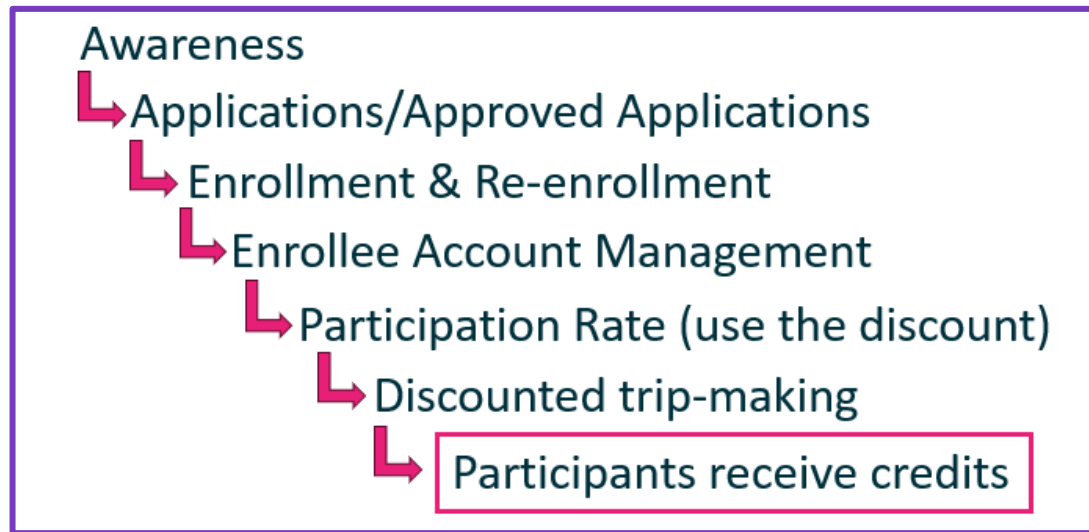
Customers have a **good experience** - registering and using lanes (metrics 8-10)

Maintain **operational integrity** - speed, reliability, and efficiency (metrics 11-12)

Evaluation Targets: First Year of Operations (Apr-2023 through Mar-2024)	Result
1) 16,000 Applications	×
2) 15,000 Approved Applications	×
3) 13,500 Enrolled Households	×
4) Existing FT customers increase use of express lanes 25%	✓
5) New FT customers make 1 or more express lane trips per month	✓
6) All ELS customers average 1 or more express lane trips per month	✓
7) Applicant race & ethnicity aligns with I-880 corridor residents	✓
8) Customers agree or strongly agree that applying for ELS is easy (rank >4)	✓
9) The # of monthly ELS customer calls to the FasTrak CSC ≤ 2% of customers	✓
10) 90% of ELS FasTrak customer accounts are in “Good Standing”	✓
11) Pilot operating cost is \$500 or less per enrollee	×
12) Express Lane speeds do not fall as a result of the pilot	✓

× = Target not met. ✓ = target met.

Anticipated Evaluation Metrics for Phase 2



1. Reduce total costs
2. Sustain usage levels
 - a. Share of accounts in good standing
 - b. Participation rate
 - c. Trip making rate
 - d. Average credit (savings) per trip
3. Maintain & grow enrollment
 - a. Completed applications
 - b. Enrollment rate
 - c. Reverification rate
 - d. Total enrollment

Express Lanes START by the Numbers

- Total Customers (status as of 3/31/2026)
 - Applications submitted to date: 8,938
 - Cumulative approved: 6,958 all-time
 - Cumulative enrolled: 4,938 all-time
 - Currently enrolled: 3,021 active accounts
- Discounted Trips (totals for Jan-Mar 2026)
 - I-880 in Alameda County = 6,805 trips
 - I-80 in Solano County = 1,187 trips

Marketing Efforts for I-80 Launch

- Tailored mix of advertising strategies includes both internet and out-of-home channels
 - Billboards
 - Paid digital
 - DMV TV in Fairfield, Vacaville
 - Amazon lockers (9 sites)
 - Programmatic video ad
 - Direct mail (planned)



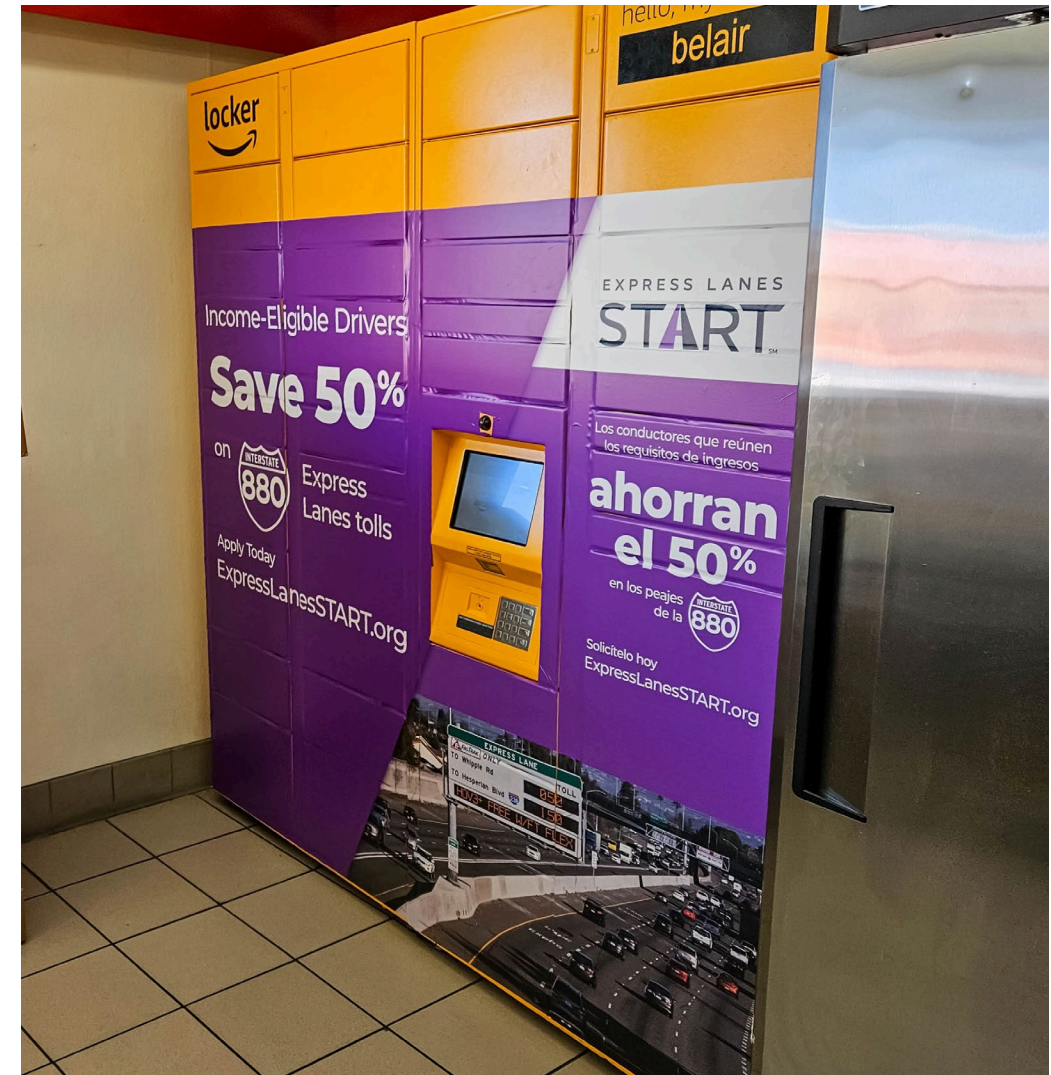
Current Examples: DMV TV & Amazon Lockers

Income-Eligible Drivers

Save 50% on  tolls



Apply at ExpressLanesSTART.org



Local Outreach Efforts in Solano

- Local Agency Partnership
 - Solano Health & Social Services
- Street Team
 - In-person tabling at over 13 events in Solano County since launch
- CBOs will act as in-person Hubs
 - Fighting Back Partnership in Vallejo
 - Solano Community College Basic Needs in Fairfield
 - Dixon Family Services



Next Steps

- Coordinate with other MTC programs (e.g., Clipper START)
 - Leverage opportunities for joint marketing & outreach
 - Explore new methods to verify eligibility
- Engage with advisory groups
- Continue marketing & outreach efforts



VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jySYX05Vgq8>

More information:
www.expresslanesstart.org