

# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Press Release

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## GEORGIA DOT ANNOUNCES I-85 EXPRESS LANE CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION SESSION

LAWRENCEVILLE, GA. – The Georgia Department of Transportation will hold a construction information session on the I-85 Express Lane Project on Sept. 1 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Gwinnett Civic Center. The project to convert 16 miles of HOV lanes to HOT lanes will offer more choices to all motorists, including single occupant vehicles and more reliable trip times in the corridor.

“This is the first project of its kind in Georgia,” said DOT Commissioner Vance C. Smith, Jr. “With construction expected to begin in mid-September, it is extremely important that motorists understand how changes along the interstate will impact their commutes.”

Representatives from the Georgia DOT, The State Road and Tollway (SRTA) and The Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) will update the public on construction schedules, tolling and transit enhancements. Additionally, the Clean Air Campaign will provide information on commute alternatives. The Gwinnett Civic Center is located on Sugarloaf Parkway and the information session will be held on the lower level in room 6ABC.

The I-85 Express Lanes Project includes installation of 16 miles of fiber and signage along Interstate Highway 85 between Chamblee Tucker Road and Old Peachtree Road and along State Route 316 between I-85 and Riverside Parkway. This \$11.7 million work contract was awarded to World Fiber Technologies, Inc., of Alpharetta. The contract completion date is July 31, 2011.

Weather permitting, lane closures are projected to begin mid-September. Additional construction details will be confirmed and distributed as we get closer to beginning lane closures.

When completed, transit buses, motorcycles, alternative fueled vehicles and vehicles with three or more passengers will be allowed to use the inside (left) HOT lane for free, while single- and double-occupant vehicles will be allowed to use the lane if they choose to pay a variably priced toll.

If you would like to receive updates on construction throughout the project please email Teri Pope at [tpope@dot.ga.gov](mailto:tpope@dot.ga.gov).

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about these or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at [www.511ga.org](http://www.511ga.org).

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