

## Traffic Facts: Express Lanes Reduce Congestion In Metro Atlanta Area

*Commuters Are Spending Less Time In Traffic, Saving Fuel*

### Metro Atlanta Area Uses Express Lanes To Relieve Some Of The Worst Congestion In The Country



**Atlanta Was Recently Ranked As The 11th-Most Congested City In The Country.** (Mark Matousek, The 15 Most Congested Cities In The US, [Business Insider](#), 3/20/19)

**In September 2018, The Georgia Department Of Transportation Opened The New “Northwest Corridor Express Lanes” To Relieve Traffic In The Metro Atlanta Area.** The Northwest Corridor Express lanes stretch 30 miles along I-75 and I-575 in Cobb and Cherokee counties... The new lanes are part of a growing network of toll lanes that offer relief from traffic congestion for a price. (David Wickert, Atlanta Traffic: Rush Hour A Breeze On New Lanes, [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), 9/10/18)

#### ***Traffic Relief Solutions Are A “Hit” With Atlanta Commuters***

##### **[The Atlanta Journal Constitution Headline:](#)**

"Georgia DOT: New Toll Lanes Have Cut Rush Hour Traffic Congestion?"

**Express Toll Lanes Have Reduced Rush Hour By An Hour; Traffic Speed Has Doubled.** GDOT says the average speed on I-75 northbound from I-285 to I-575 at afternoon rush hour's peak was 40 mph in April, twice the speed from April 2018, before the new lanes opened. GDOT also says rush hour has been reduced by an hour in the morning and in the afternoon. (David Wickert, Georgia DOT: New Toll Lanes Have Cut Rush Hour Congestion, [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), 5/15/19)

**Express Toll Lanes In Atlanta Have Saved Drivers Up To 45 Minutes In Travel Time.** Nick DeAngelo was skeptical as he watched the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes rising in Cobb

and Cherokee counties. The Canton resident doubted the toll lanes would make much difference in traffic. And even if they did, he assumed they wouldn't be affordable. He never planned to use them. But, when the new lanes opened last month, DeAngelo decided to give them a try for a while. He saved 15 minutes on his morning commute and up to 45 minutes in the afternoon. (David Wickert, New Metro Atlanta Toll Lanes A Hit With Many Commuters, [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), 10/26/18)

**Express Toll Lanes Are A "Hit" With Atlanta Commuters; Commuters Using The Lanes Have Saved Up To 45 Minutes On Their Commute, Traffic In Other Lanes Is Moving Up To 15 Miles Per Hour Faster During Rush Hour.** The Northwest Corridor Express Lanes are a hit with many motorists. Some say they've shaved up to 45 minutes off their commute. Even those who don't use the toll lanes have benefited and traffic in the regular lanes is moving 10 to 15 miles an hour faster at rush hour. (David Wickert, "More Proof Toll Lanes Have Eased Traffic" Buses Are Arriving Early, [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), 5/3/19)

**Express Toll Lanes Have Been So Successful In Improving Traffic In The Atlanta Area, That Commuter Buses Are Arriving To Their Destinations 15 Minutes Early.** The latest evidence the lanes have improved traffic: Some commuter buses are arriving at their destinations too early. That's forced the State Road and Tollway Authority to change schedules for some of its Xpress bus routes. Chris Tomlinson, SRTA's executive director, told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution recently that buses are arriving at their destinations about 15 minutes early since the Northwest Corridor lanes opened last September on I-75 and I-575 in Cobb and Cherokee counties. (David Wickert, More Proof Toll Lanes Have Eased Traffic Buses Are Arriving Early, [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), 5/3/19)

**Atlanta Express Lanes Are Expected To Save Drivers Nearly 2.9 Billion Gallons Of Fuel A Year.** The state agency also cites U.S. Department of Transportation data that says in one year of the lanes' operation, an estimated 2.87 billion gallons of fuel are expected to be saved by reducing the waste of engines idling in traffic congestion. (Jon Gargis, GDOT: Faster Speeds, Less Wasted Fuel A Result Of Cobb's And Cherokee's New Express Lanes, [Marietta Daily Journal](#), 5/17/19)