

ATLANTA CONGESTION REDUCTION DEMONSTRATION GRANT: A 2:1 INVESTMENT IN TRANSIT OVER HIGHWAYS

I-85 Corridor and Regional Transit Improvements

Approximately \$122 million (67 percent of total project costs) will be targeted at transit investments, including expanding GRTA's Xpress bus services. Out of the \$122 million, approximately \$80 million will fund new facilities including 11 new or expanded park-and-rides, while the remaining \$42 million will purchase 82 new passenger coach buses. More specifics on the transit investment include the following:

- In the I-85 corridor, investments include 36 new passenger coach buses, new park-and-rides at Hamilton Mill and Cedars Road, and expansion of the I-985/GA 20 park and ride lot.
- Elsewhere in the region, the CRD funding will be used to construct eight park and ride lots and the South Xpress Operating Center and procure 46 additional passenger coach buses.

I-85 Highway and Tolling Improvements

Phase I of the pilot project includes converting approximately 16 miles of existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to Express Lanes. Innovative technologies will enable tolls to vary dynamically based on the number of vehicles using the Express Lanes in order to keep the lane free-flowing and provide reliable travel time. I-85 Express Lane highway and tolling improvements will be approximately \$60 million (33 percent of total project costs). The \$60 million includes the tolling system, construction, public outreach, and performance monitoring.

The I-85 Express Lanes project is part of GDOT's Regional Managed Lane System Plan which was adopted as the framework for implementing a managed lanes network throughout the metro Atlanta Region. The plan establishes a tiered approach to delivering managed lanes projects on the region's congested highway corridors, ultimately providing commuters with reliable transportation options and time-saving benefits.

FIGURE 2:
Funding Sources
for the \$182M

