

Abernathy Road Project Completed Early



From left, UPS Vice President Chuck Altimari, Sandy Springs Mayor Eva Galambos, Perimeter CIDs President and CEO Yvonne Williams, Former GDOT board member Brandon Beach and SRTA Director of Communications & Marketing Malika Wilkins celebrate Abernathy Road ramp opening.

On December 3, representatives from the SRTA, the Perimeter Community Improvement District (CID) and local municipal and business leaders celebrated the completion of improvements to the entrance ramp from Abernathy Road to GA 400 north. The project, which included the addition of a third lane and extensions to the two existing Abernathy Road entrance ramp lanes, was completed nearly two months early using a design-build format.

"The State Road and Tollway Authority is pleased to have partnered with the Georgia Department of Transportation, the City of Sandy Springs and Perimeter CIDs on this exciting project to significantly improve traffic flow, access and safety in this area," said SRTA Director of Communications Malika Wilkins. "Since the opening of GA 400 Toll Road in 1993, SRTA has committed more than \$60 million in transportation infrastructure improvements in the Georgia 400 corridor, which have enhanced mobility and quality of life for motorists using the Georgia 400 corridor."

Former Georgia Department of Transportation board member/freshman State Senator Brandon Beach and Sandy Springs Mayor Eva Galambos were excited about the potential for improved traffic flow on Abernathy Road and its impact on economic development in the area. United Parcel Service Vice President Chuck Altimari looked forward to a better afternoon commute for the nearly 2,000 workers located at UPS headquarters close by at Glenlake Parkway.

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"We appreciate the work that GDOT and the State Road and Tollway Authority are doing to enhance mobility in the Perimeter market," Perimeter CID President and CEO Yvonne Williams said during the commemoration event. "These improvements should reduce traffic congestion in this key employment center during rush hours."

C.W. Matthews Contracting Inc. of Marietta was awarded a contract for \$2.06 million for the Abernathy ramp improvements with a completion date of Jan. 31, 2013. The project was funded by GA 400 toll revenue as one of 12 Ga. 400 improvement projects. View the descriptions and status of each project at www.georgiatolls.com.

Continue to check the Peach Pass and State Road & Tollway Authority web sites (www.peachpass.com / www.georgiatolls.com) for updated information on I-85 Express Lane closures or delays.

Lindbergh Drive/I-85 HOV Ramp Closures for GA 400/I-85 Interchange Construction

On Monday January 21, the Georgia Department of Transportation began a long-term intermittent closure of the HOV ramps on I-85 at Lindbergh Drive to accommodate construction of the new I-85/GA 400 connector ramps.



The closures will be in place for up to six (6) months during the construction of a bridge foundation for the GA 400/I-85 Interchange project. The Lindbergh/I-85 HOV ramps are scheduled to reopen by July 21, 2013. In the interim, motorists should use Cheshire Bridge Road to access the Lindbergh MARTA Station.

In addition to construction of connector ramps from GA 400 southbound to I-85 northbound and from I-85 southbound to 400 northbound, the project includes construction of a pedestrian trail from Cheshire Bridge Road to Lenox Road, including a bridge across the North Fork Peachtree Creek.

As the project progresses, expect additional overnight lane closures on I-85 and GA 400, as well as on the arterial roadways in the area (i.e., Buford Highway, Cheshire Bridge Road, and Sidney Marcus Boulevard).

Archer Western Contractors, Ltd. was awarded a contract for \$21.5 million for the GA 400/I-85 interchange and pedestrian trail with a completion date of December 31, 2013. The project is funded entirely from SRTA Toll Revenue Bonds and is one of 12 GA 400 improvement projects. View the descriptions and status of each project at www.georgiatolls.com.

Public Information Open Houses Planned for Possible I-85 Express Lanes North Extension

Bought a new vehicle or sold an old one?



Update your Peach Pass account and avoid violations. Call 1-855-PCH-PASS (724-7277) or visit www.PeachPass.com

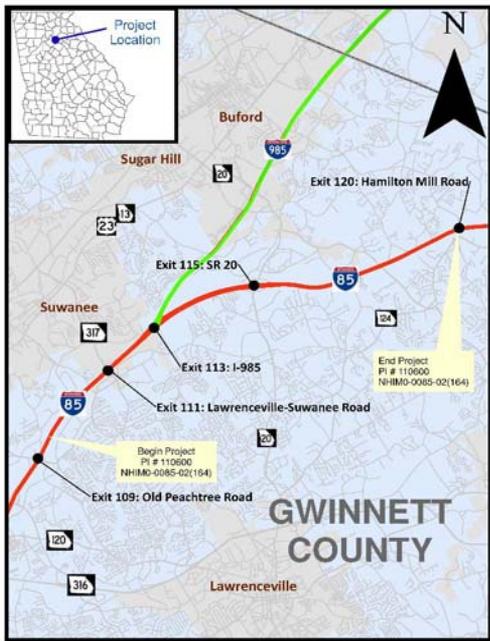
Expired or new credit card?



Update your Peach Pass account and avoid violations. Call 1-855-PCH-PASS (724-7277) or visit www.PeachPass.com



I-85 Express North Project Map



The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) would like your input on a possible planned extension to the I-85 Express Lanes. GDOT will hold Public Information Open Houses (PIOHs) in Jackson County and northern Gwinnett County on:

GWINNETT COUNTY

Thursday, March 21, 2013
 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
 Gwinnett Center Atrium
 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway
 Duluth, Georgia 30097

JACKSON COUNTY

Thursday, March 28, 2013
 4:00 PM-7:00 PM
 Braselton Police & Municipal Court Bldg.
 5040 Highway 53
 Braselton, GA 30517

Motorists that travel the of the I-85 North Corridor are invited to learn more and provide feedback on potential plans to extend the northbound and southbound I-85 Express Lanes from Old Peachtree Road to Hamilton Mill Road. The project would include newly constructed lanes for the full distance of the extension.

All vehicles, including those designated as "toll-exempt," must be registered on an active Peach Pass account and have a Peach Pass transponder mounted inside or on the vehicle to use the I-85 Express Lanes.

More information on the proposed I-85 Express Lanes extension is available at: www.dot.ga.gov/expresslanes.

MOTOR VEHICLE TAX CHANGES: One-Time Sales Tax Replaces Annual "Birthday Tax" for Vehicles Sold After March 2013

The "birthday tax" will be replaced by a one-time tax called the Title Ad Valorem Tax ("TAVT") based on the fair market value of the vehicle. Imposed at the time the vehicle is sold or titled, the TAVT rate will be 6.5% of the fair market value as identified by the Georgia Motor Vehicle Assessment Manual for the first year, according to the Georgia Department of Revenue. Other TAVT details to note:

- The TAVT is applicable to dealer and casual sales, but excludes non-titled vehicles, such as trailers and other non-motorized vehicles which will remain subject to ad valorem tax.
- Vehicles purchased in Georgia, then titled and registered between January 1, 2012 and March 1, 2013, may be eligible to opt-in to the new one-time TAVT, replacing the annual ad valorem tax.
- The opt-in period for qualified vehicles begins March 1, 2013 and ends January 1, 2014.
- New residents moving into Georgia on or after March 1, 2012 will be required to pay 50% of the TAVT within 30 days of moving to the state, and pay the remaining 50% within the next 12 months.
- Annual ad valorem taxes, ("birthday tax") will continue to be assessed for



PEACH PASS
 Keep Moving.

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motor vehicles purchased and/or titled in the state of Georgia prior to January 1, 2012.

For detailed information including, a title ad valorem tax (TAVT) calculator and frequently asked questions, go to www.newtitletax.com.

A new law (House Bill 386) enacted on January 1, 2013 officially ends the ad valorem tax, also known as the "birthday tax," for vehicles purchased or titled in the state of Georgia on or after March 1, 2013.

EXPRESS LANES UPDATE: Testing Begins for Permanent SB Toll Rate Signs Near Sugarloaf Parkway

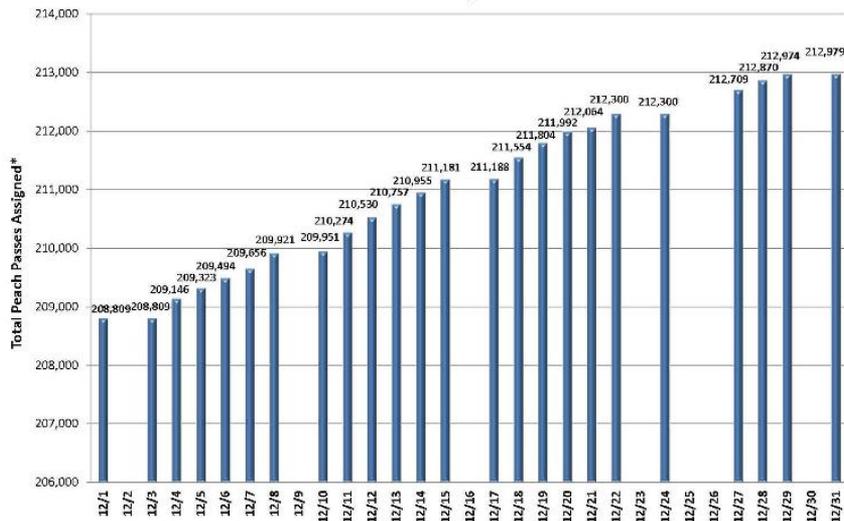


Testing is underway for the new overhead toll rate signs located at the Sugarloaf Parkway on ramp to I-85 South and the southbound I-85 Express Lane entrance just north of Duluth Highway. The sign will replace the temporary ground mounted and changeable message signage that now displays the toll rates for the nearest exit and the last exit in the 16-mile Express Lanes stretch. The sign will be operational in the Spring.

Look for updates on the new access point signage in the "News & Events" section of www.PeachPass.com and the "Latest News" section of www.georgiatolls.com.

Nearly 213,000 Peach Passes Assigned Since June 2011

I-85 Express Lanes PeachPasses Assigned: December 2012*



* PeachPass Totals are through End of Previous Business Day

Peach Pass issuance continues climb. As of December 2012, nearly 213,000 transponders had been distributed since Peach Pass registration opened in June 2012. More than 22,000 Peach Pass transponders were issued in September, October, November and December, about 5,700 Peach Passes per month and 1,400 per week.

[Click here](#) for more I-85 Express Lanes travel data.

FAQS Answered

Each issue of this newsletter will include a frequently-asked question. A full list of frequently-asked questions can be found on the Peach Pass Web Site at <http://www.peachpass.com/faq>.

QUESTION: Can I add a new vehicle to my account online?

ANSWER: Yes. If you have online access to your Peach Pass account, you can add vehicles to your Personal Toll account and order transponders for them at www.PeachPass.com. On the Peach Pass website:

1. Select the "Manage My Account" icon
2. Log in with your username and password
3. Choose the "Vehicles/Peach Pass" link in the left-hand sidebar.
4. When the "Vehicle Info" page appears, select the "Add Vehicle" button and follow the prompts.

If you are replacing an existing vehicle on the account with a new vehicle, you will need to contact the Peach Pass Customer Service Center at 1-855-PCH-PASS (724-7277) for assistance.