

## GA 400 Tollway Demolition Project Work Begins October 25



Thanksgiving, weather permitting.

Southeastern Site Development, Inc., of Newnan, has been contracted for the construction component of the project and will be managed through the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

Phase I of the project will include the restriping in the electronic Peach Pass lanes and the removal or modification of about one third of toll-related signage from areas approaching the GA 400 Toll Plaza within the next two to three weeks. A total of 66 signs will be removed or modified before and after toll collection ends the week before Thanksgiving.

In Phase II and III, preparation for no tolling continues with the completion of restriping and the installation of concrete barriers between the Peach Pass and cash lanes in anticipation of the eventual shifting of traffic into the electronic lanes when toll collection ends. Once traffic is shifted, no heavy demolition work is expected to take place during the winter holidays. In Phase IV, toll booth demolition, which includes removal of plaza toll booths and canopy, as well as reinforcement and filling in of tunnel stairwells, is expected to be completed between January 2014 and Fall 2014.

Beginning on Friday, October 18, portable message signs will alert motorists to pre-construction activities for the ending of tolls and the demolition of toll booths on GA 400.

The first phase of a four-phase demolition project will begin on Friday, October 25, with restriping to create a third lane in the Peach Pass electronic lanes and modification/removal of redundant signage.

In July 2012, Governor Deal announced that the state would pay off its bond debt and end tolls on GA 400 by December 2013. The ending date for toll collection has been tentatively set for the week before

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## Tolltalk

**YOU DON'T NEED TO  
PAY A TOLL TO FIND  
OUT WHAT'S GOING  
ON WITH THEM.**

Read the latest on our blog.

The public can learn more about the demolition project at the upcoming public information open house meetings on the demolition project is scheduled for Thursday, October 24 from 4:00-7:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia, 4355 Ashford Dunwoody Road in Atlanta.

For more details about the GA 400 demolition project, go to: [www.PeachPass.com](http://www.PeachPass.com) and check out future issues of the *Peach Pass Press* newsletter.

## GA 400 ROAD RACE: November 17 Run/Walk to Commemorate the Ending of Tolls



On Sunday, November 17, 2013, the Georgia State Games will conduct a four-mile road race celebrating the 20th anniversary of the opening of the GA 400 Extension and the ending of tolls on the roadway later that week.

The race will begin at 8:30 am at Glenridge Drive running straight down GA 400 through the Toll Plaza and finishing at Phipps Plaza on Lenox Road. Tolls paid by runners as they move through the toll lanes will support local charities.

The northbound lanes of GA 400 from I-85 to I-285 will be closed from 5:00-11:00 am on Sunday, November 17, 2013 to accommodate the GA 400 Road Race. Motorists should look for portable signage detailing race-related road closures as they approach the area. The northbound lanes north of I-285 and all southbound lanes will remain open.

Go to: <http://www.georgiagames.org/GA400> to register to participate or learn more about the GA 400 Road Race.

## I-85 EXPRESS LANES ANNIVERSARY UPDATE: Usage at an All-time High in Year Two

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or sold an old one?**



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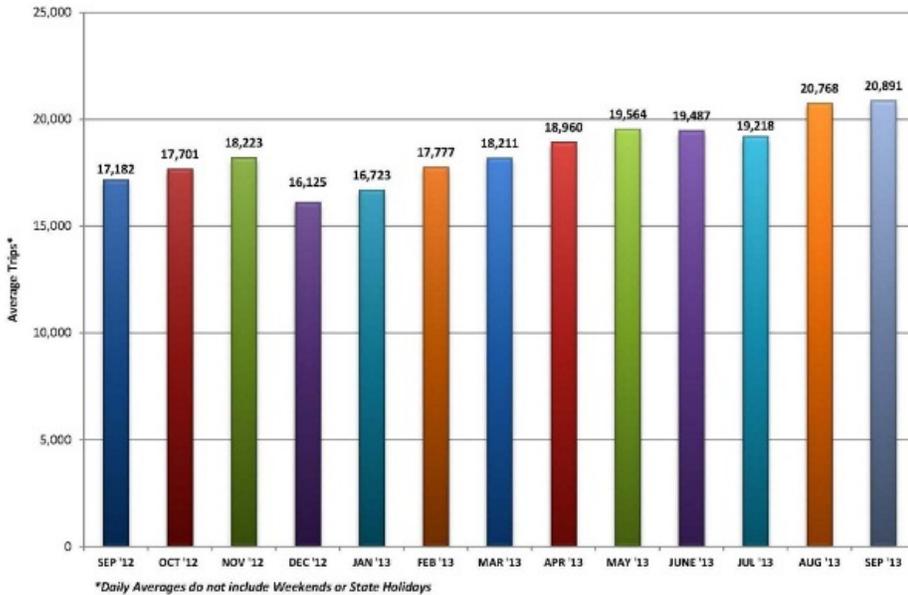
**Expired or new  
credit card?**



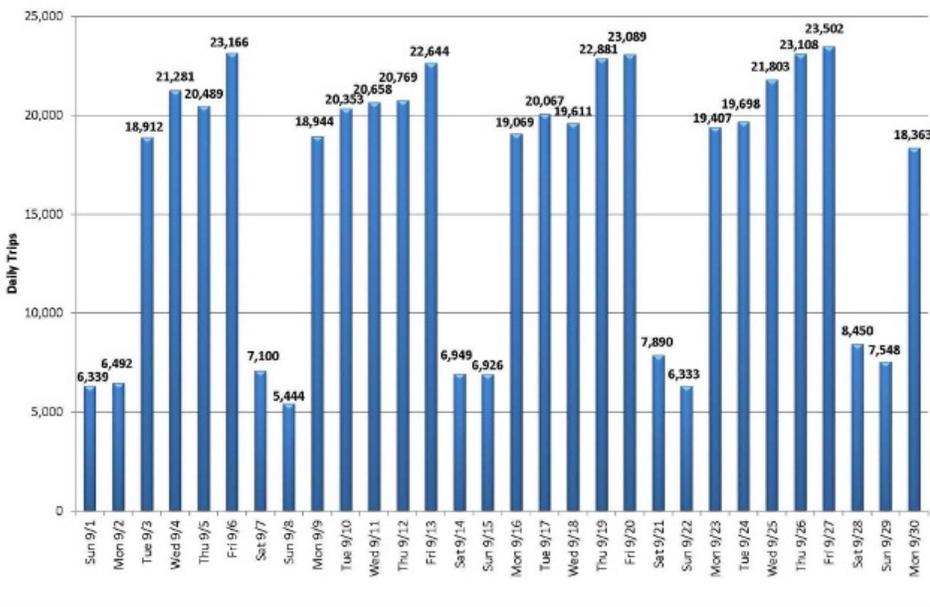
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### I-85 Express Lanes Daily Trip Averages by Month\*



### I-85 Express Lanes Daily Trips: September 2013



October 1, 2013 marked the second anniversary of the opening of I-85 Express Lanes and according to the latest travel data, usage is at an all-time high. Record-breaking usage was reported for the month of August 2013-highest number of trips in one month (more than 527,000), highest single day trip count (nearly 24,000) and highest average daily trip count (20,768). And the upward usage trend continued through September 2013, with an even higher average daily trip count of 20,891 for the month.

"All indications are that the I-85 Express Lanes usage is gaining momentum, with more commuters making the choice to use the lanes every day," said Chris Tomlinson, SRTA Executive Director. "Motorists are recognizing that using the Express Lanes is a viable travel option when you absolutely need to get someplace on time."



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

## GA 400 IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: MARTA Buckhead Bridge Nearing Completion; Lane Closures for Removal of Old Structure



Despite one of the rainiest springs and summers on record, construction of the MARTA Buckhead Pedestrian Bridge is still on schedule.

The MARTA Buckhead Bridge, which will provide convenient pedestrian access to MARTA between Stratford Road and Tower Place Drive, is expected to be open to rail commuters in December 2013. Noticeable progress on the project has been made in recent weeks, with the concourse level fully in place and structural work nearing completion.

### Lane Closures Scheduled November 1-2

On Friday, November 1 at 10:00 PM through Saturday, November 2 at 6:00 PM, the Georgia Department of Transportation will close the Lenox Road on ramp and two southbound lanes of GA 400 to accommodate removal of the existing MARTA emergency exit bridge located across GA 400 southbound, just south of the Lenox Road exit.

The demolition will require the removal of four beams and a concrete landing over the MARTA station. During this work, one crane will take up the right lane of GA 400 and the Lenox Road on ramp, while a second crane is stationed in the left lane. One lane on GA 400 southbound will always remain open to travel unless the contractor has a beam lifted in the air. Police officers will be placed at the GA 400 southbound on ramp from Lenox Road to divert traffic away from the work zone and to assist with the traffic pacing when the beams are lifted into the air.

To learn more about other GA 400 Improvement Projects, go to [www.georgiatolls.com](http://www.georgiatolls.com).

## SRTA Executive Director Named to IBTTA Board of Directors

*By Erica Ehive*



*Christopher Tomlinson*

SRTA Executive Director Christopher Tomlinson was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the International Bridge Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA), the worldwide association for owners and operators of toll facilities and related businesses.

In this role, he will leverage his extensive background in transportation and government service to help set the strategic direction of IBTTA and promote the association's mission of advancing transportation around the world. Tomlinson will serve an initial one-year term as an IBTTA Board Director beginning in January 2014.

"I welcome the opportunity to continue my public service as a board member for this critical organization," Tomlinson said. "IBTTA plays an essential role within the tolling industry and as a board member I can contribute my talents and expertise towards achieving IBTTA's goals, such as toll interoperability. I look forward to sharing my experience in state governance and the tolling industry with other leaders to enhance transportation in Georgia, the United States and around the world."

## 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 [www.PeachPass.com](http://www.PeachPass.com).

**QUESTION:** Where can I find up-to-date information on the GA 400 Tollway Demolition Project?

**ANSWER:** Go to the [www.PeachPass.com](http://www.PeachPass.com) home page and click on the blue and white "Tolls Ending Soon," button, which will direct you to our GA 400 Tollway Demolition Project page. Currently, the page includes a project overview and timeline, schedule of public information open houses on the project and a variety of handouts and fact sheets for easy reference. Soon, there also will be video features focused on the historical and economic significance of the GA 400 Extension, as well as construction updates once the demolition project begins. So, check out the page now and in the future to keep informed about the project's latest developments.