Marriage of ITS & Toll Technologies Gantry Controlled Access: Georgia's Electronic Barrier & Enforcement System Christopher Tomlinson

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I-85 Express Lanes Overview

- ➤ 15.5 miles
- 1 lane in each direction
- painted buffer; no physical barriers
- \succ 67 toll points, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile apart
- Dynamically priced
- > 24/7 operations
- Registered lane, even for toll-exempt vehicles





Overview: I-85 Express Lane Users

Toll-Exempt*	Tolled	Prohibited
Transit	• SOVs	 more than 6 wheels
 3 or more person carpools 	• 2 person carpools	
Motorcycles		
Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV)**		
On-call emergency vehicles		

* All Express Lane Users must register prior to using the lanes

** AFV Vehicles must have the proper license plate (does not include hybrids)



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Enforcement Challenges in Highly Constrained Urban Corridors

Difficult enforcement of HOV lane configuration



Limited right-of-way for engineering solutions





Enforcement Needs for I-85 Express Lanes

1. Lane Integrity and Weaving

- Separation between HOT lane and general purpose lanes due to lack of physical barrier
- Access and egress allowed only in designated sections to reduce weaving to maintain effective capacity & flow

2. Toll Avoidance

• Lack of transponder, insufficient funds, or avoidance of physical toll readers (avoiding transponder detector stations)

3. Vehicle Occupancy Enforcement

- Meeting occupancy level for toll-free passage in HOT lane
- Peak period HOV violation rate in Atlanta: 11-12%



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Double White Line Enforcement Challenge on I-85

- Separation between HOT lane and general purpose lanes due to lack of physical barrier
- Access and egress allowed only in designated sections to reduce weaving to maintain effective capacity & flow
- Challenge: Monitoring and enforcing the prohibition against crossing the solid, double white line





Gantry Controlled Access (GCA) US Patent #: 8,044,824

"Invisible Barrier" solution Entry/Exit Overhead tolling system **Toll Gantry** ٠ weaving zone detects vehicle entry/exit with skip lines Gantry spacing deters • **Double white** dodging into the HOT lane **Toll Gantry** line separation Gantry to gantry monitoring ٠ detects entry/exit violations Violation Enforcement **P**P Tolling system logic will Camera ٠ issue toll violation notices, **Toll Gantry** based on number of missed gantries Enforces double white line weaving www.PeachPass.com

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I-85 Gantry **Tolling & ITS Equipment**



Keen Movin

GCA Automated Violations

- DWL Violations: Entering or exiting Express Lane by crossing the solid, double white line
- Unregistered Use: Using the Express Lanes without a transponder
- Penalty: \$25 Violation Fee + unpaid toll amount

Note: Law enforcement may also issue citation for officer-observed DWL as well as Occupancy violations







Potential GCA Uses: Flexibility for Future Growth

Gantry Controlled Access can provide flexibility for future expansion



• Build new outside lane and shift General Purpose (GP) lanes to the right to maintain the same number of GP lanes



Potential GCA Uses: Flex Toll Lane Scalability

• Gantry Controlled Access can potentially be dynamically scalable by converting adjacent lanes based on time of day and traffic conditions





GCA Benefits

- Toll payment and entry/exit point violators receive violation notice by mail
- 24/7 automated enforcement, allowing police to focus on other violations
- Mailed citations = less need to stop violators, disrupt traffic flow, or risk officer safety
- Less right-of-way required, reducing design, engineering & construction costs, traffic disruption, & environmental impact
- Provides flexible options to create & expand toll facilities in congested, constrained urban corridors





QUESTIONS?



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Rules of the Road

Toll Rates:

- Toll rates sign show min and max rate
- Customers locked into toll rates on sign seen when entering Express Lanes

Violations:

- Crossing the solid, double white line
- Using the Express Lanes without a Peach Pass/Cruise Card transponder
- Occupancy (vehicle does not meet the appropriate number of occupants for tollfree access)

Penalties:

- SRTA toll violation = \$25 + toll amount
- May also be issued citation by law enforcement



Express Lanes Toll Rates \$0.01 to \$0.90 per mile



Occupancy Enforcement and Toll Mode

- 3+ carpoolers self-declare Toll Exempt status by telephone, smart phones, or online account.
- SRTA transmits list of 3+ vehicles to a Mobile License Plate Recognition (ALPR) system onboard police cars
 - ✓ Full list updated daily
 - ✓ Incremental updates
- ALPR reads license plate of passing vehicles and notify officers to check occupancy of only "Toll Exempt" vehicles
- Officer's on board computer system will send information back to SRTA





