



# I-485 and U.S. 74 Express Lanes Network

Warren Cooksey

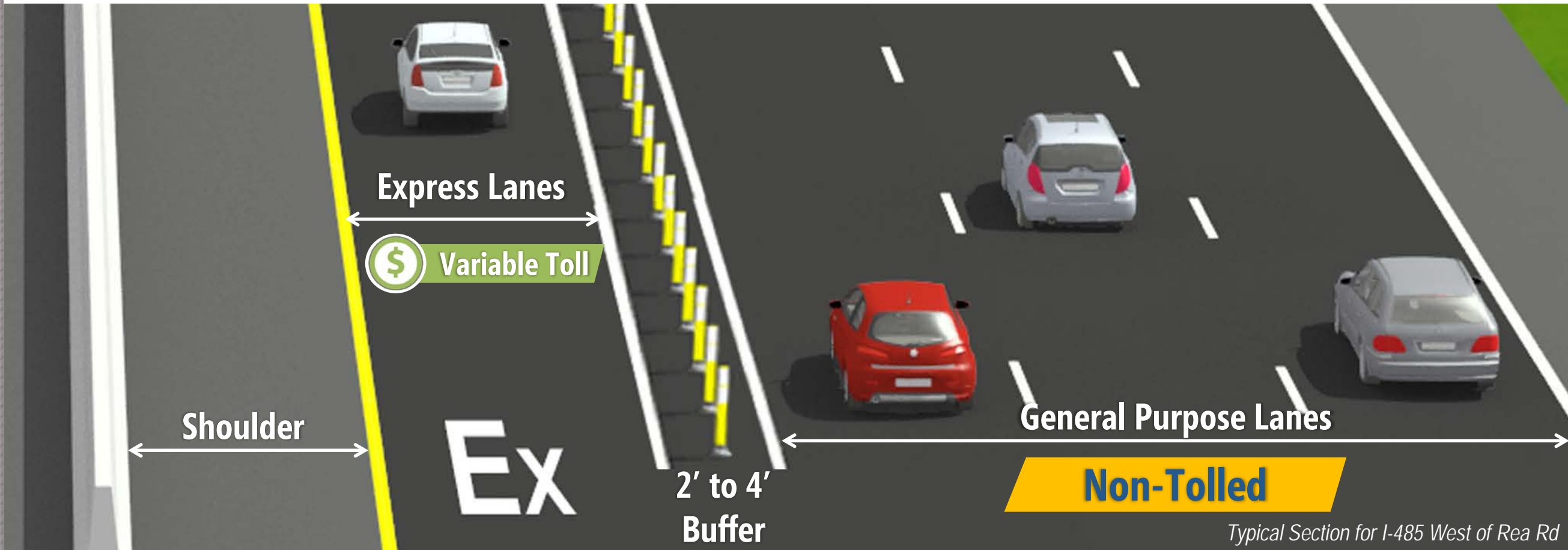
*June 25, 2018*

# Meeting Purpose

- Present a Brief Introduction to the Concept of Express Lanes.
- Give an Overview of the Proposed I-485 and U.S. 74 Express Lanes Projects.
- Provide an Opportunity for You to Ask Questions about the Proposed Projects.



# What Are Express Lanes?



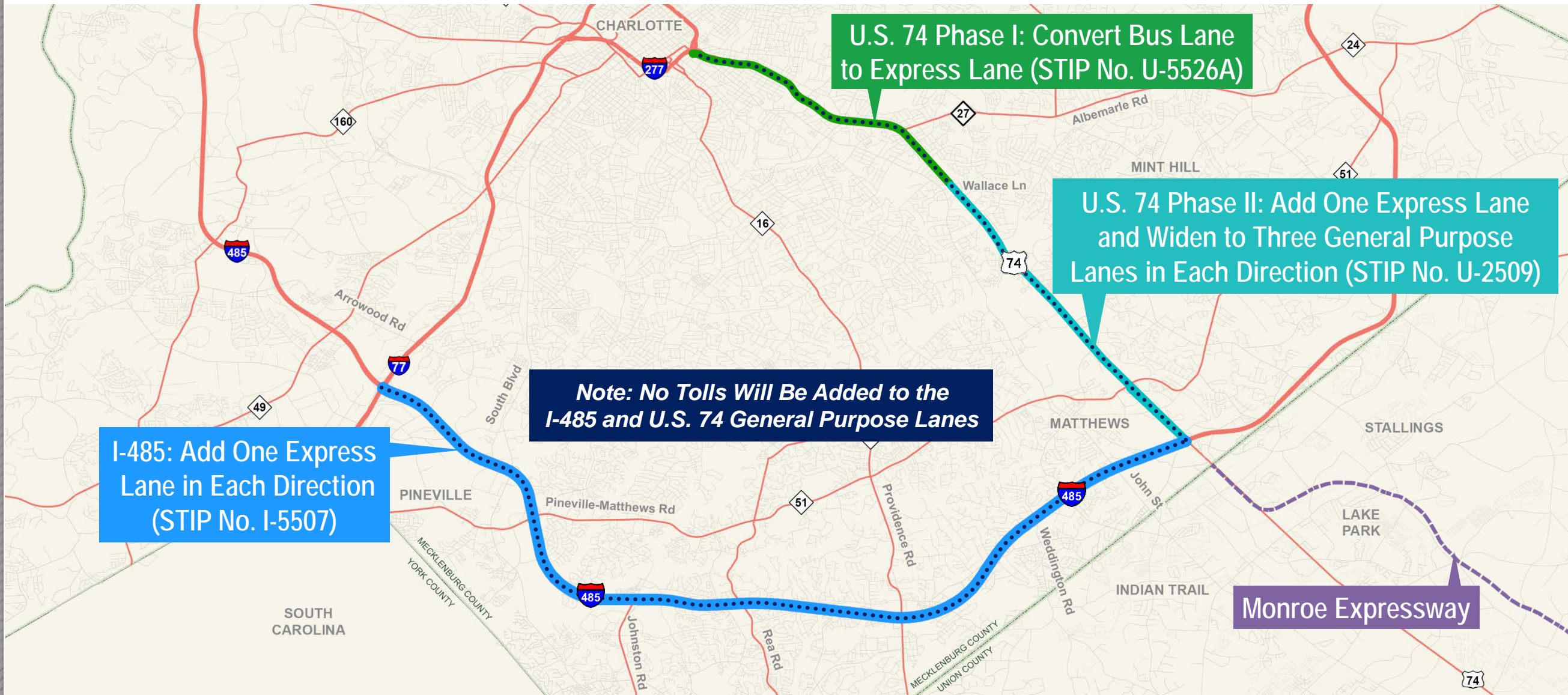
Separate Lanes in a Highway Corridor in which Drivers Can Choose to Pay a Variable Toll for a More Reliable Travel Time

# Express Lanes Nationwide



19 Metro Areas with  
~40 Express Lanes  
Projects in Operation

# I-485 and U.S. 74 Express Lanes Network



# How Did We Get Here?

Fast Lanes Study Phases I, II, & III



2013: Fast Lanes Study Phase III

*Public Involvement and Technical and Policy Evaluation of I-485 and U.S. 74 Express Lanes Projects*

Initiation of I-485 Preliminary Design and Environmental Studies (I-5507)

Inclusion of I-485 and U.S. 74 Express Lanes Projects in the 2040 MTP and 2016-2025 STIP

Initiation of U.S. 74 Preliminary Design and Environmental Studies (U-5526A and U-2509)

Public Meeting for I-485 & U.S. 74 Projects

Additional Financial Analysis for I-485 and U.S. 74 Projects

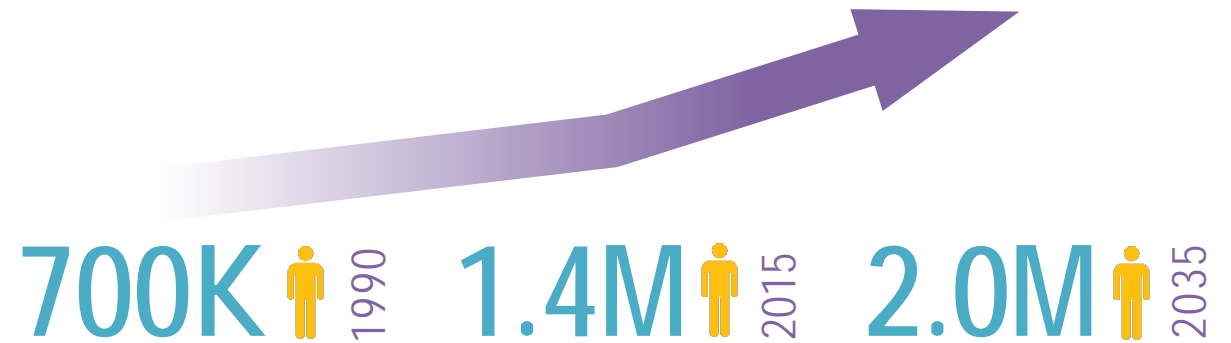
2013

2007 - 2013

2014 - 2017

# Why Express Lanes?

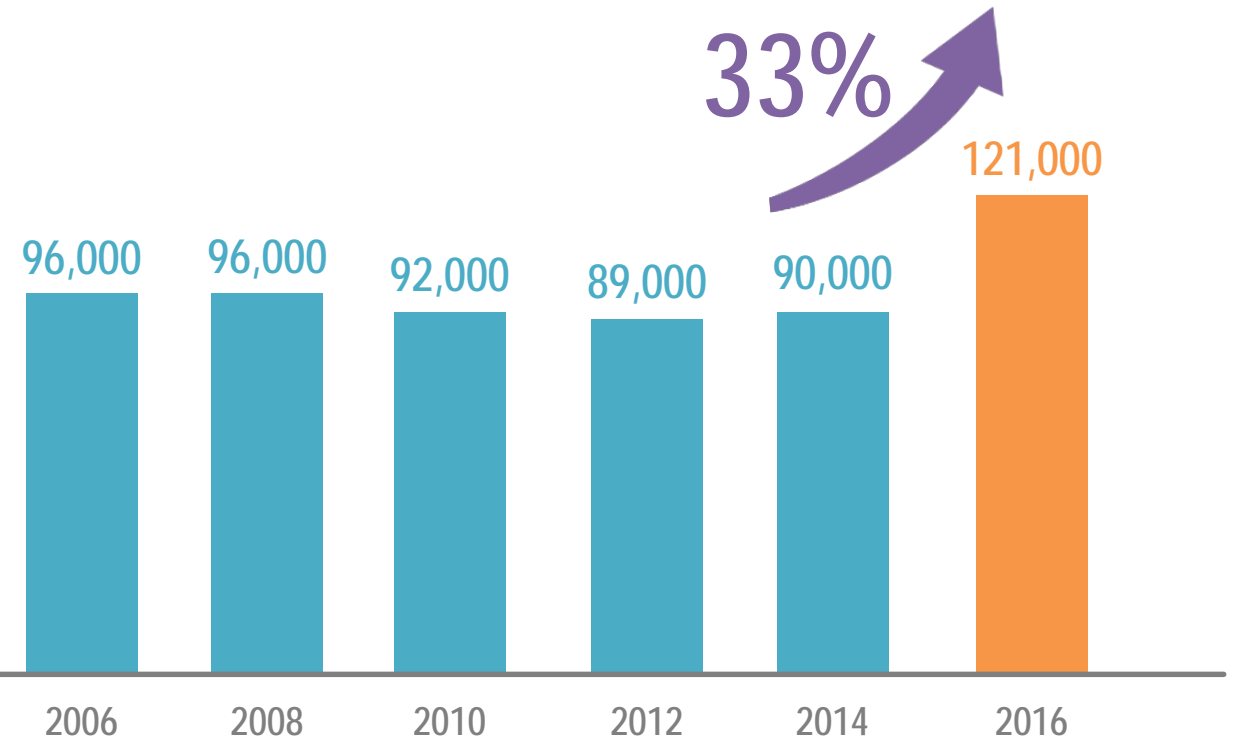
- Growing Charlotte Area Population
- Cost-Effective, Long-Term Transportation Alternative
- Reliable Trip Times



# Why Express Lanes?



Average Number of Vehicles per Day



Two years after New General Purpose Lanes opened, traffic volumes on I-485 increased by 33%.



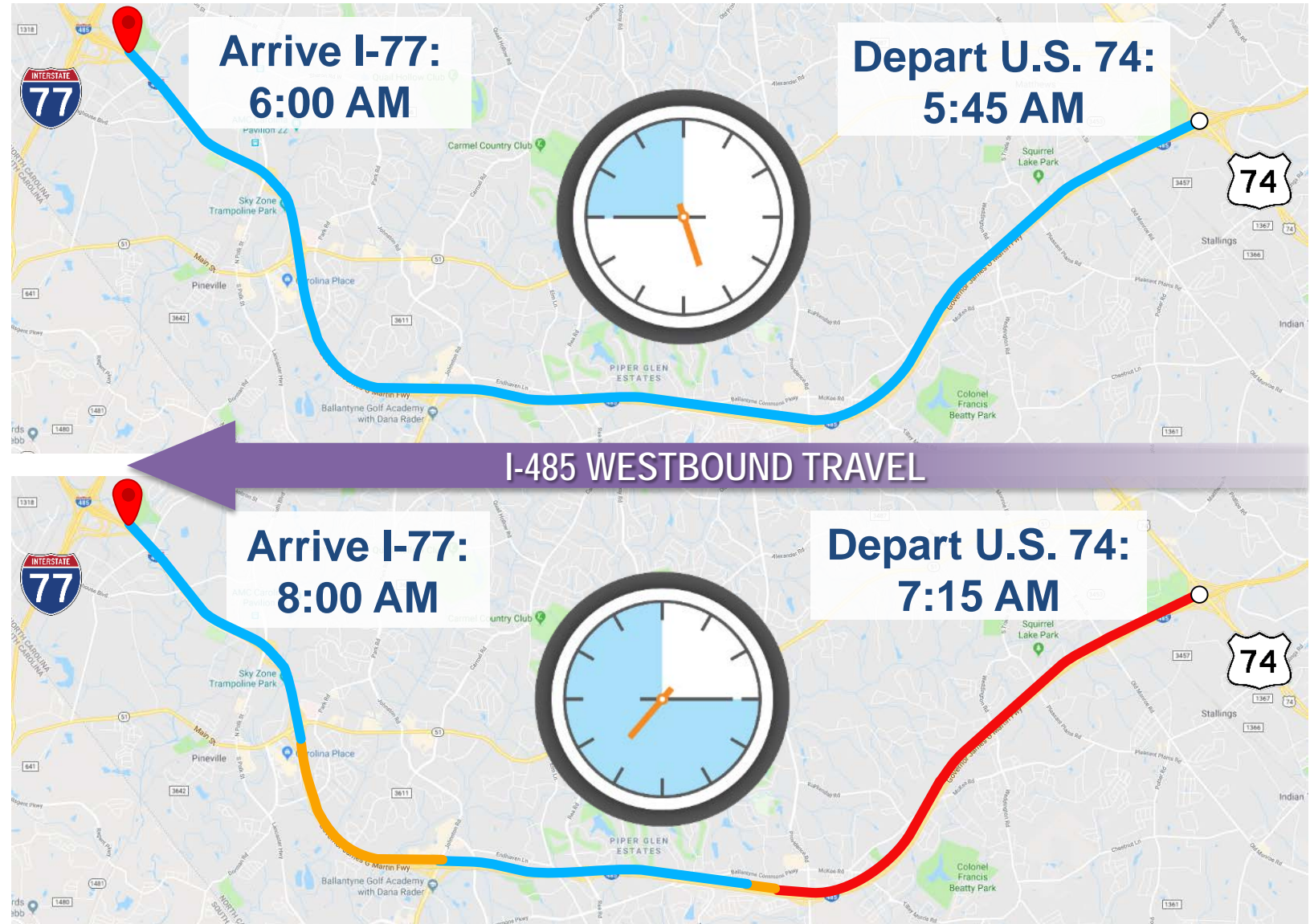
# Why Express Lanes?

## Non-Rush Hour

Travel Time: 12–16 Mins.  
Variation: 4 Mins.

## Rush Hour

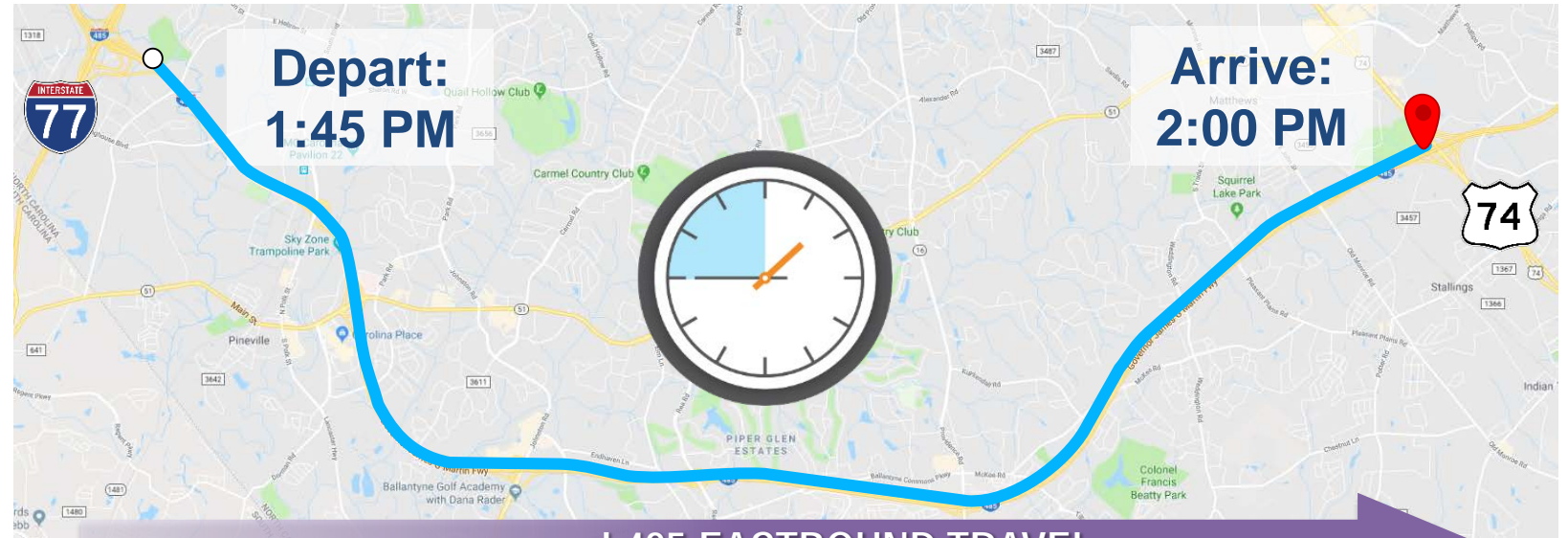
Travel Time: 26–45 Mins.  
Variation: 19 Mins.



# Why Express Lanes?

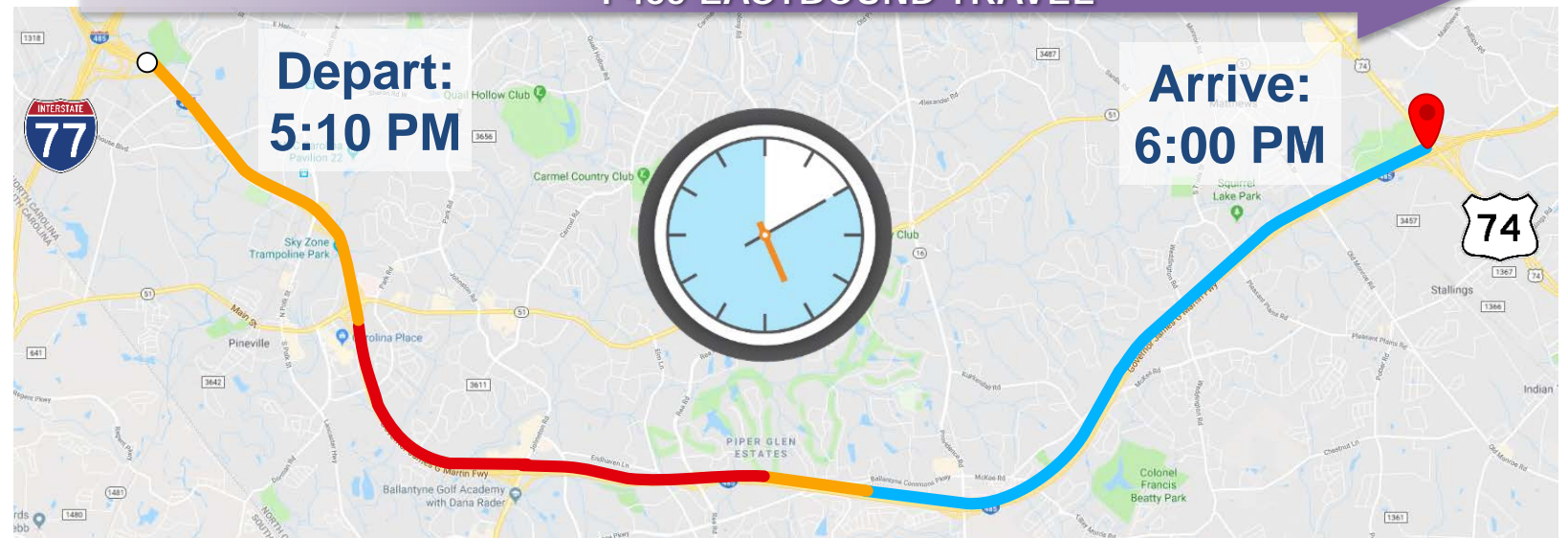
## Non-Rush Hour

**Travel Time: 14–16 Mins.**  
**Variation: 2 Mins.**



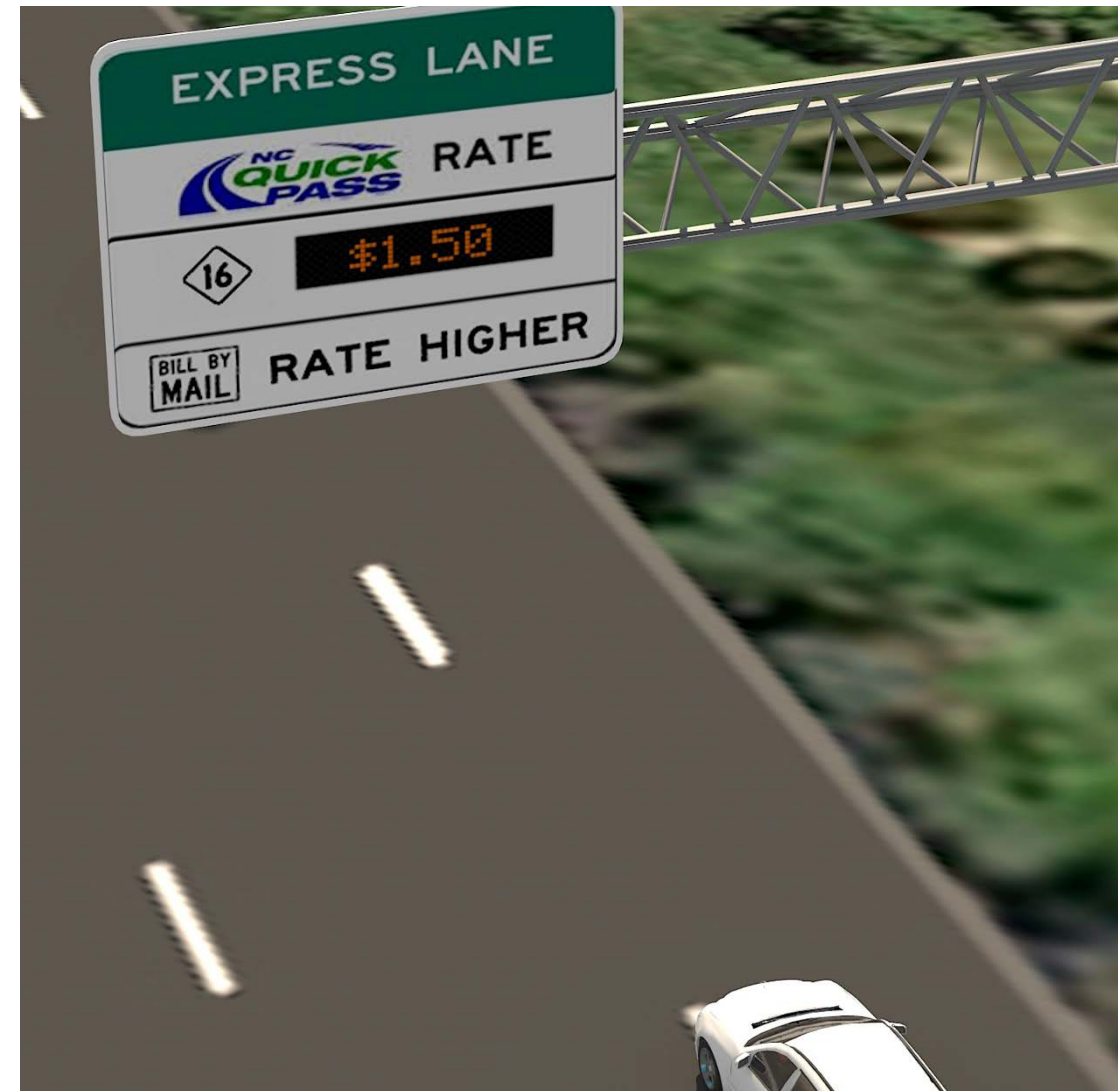
## Rush Hour

**Travel Time: 24–50 Mins.**  
**Variation: 26 Mins.**



# How Do Express Lanes Work?

- Variable Toll to Provide Reliable Travel Time
- Drivers Know the Price Before Choosing Express Lanes



# How Are Tolls Collected?

- At Highway Speeds
  - No toll booths
- NC Quick Pass Mounted on the Vehicle
  - Discounted toll rate
- Photo of License Plates of Users without NC Quick Pass
  - Bill by mail/email



I-485

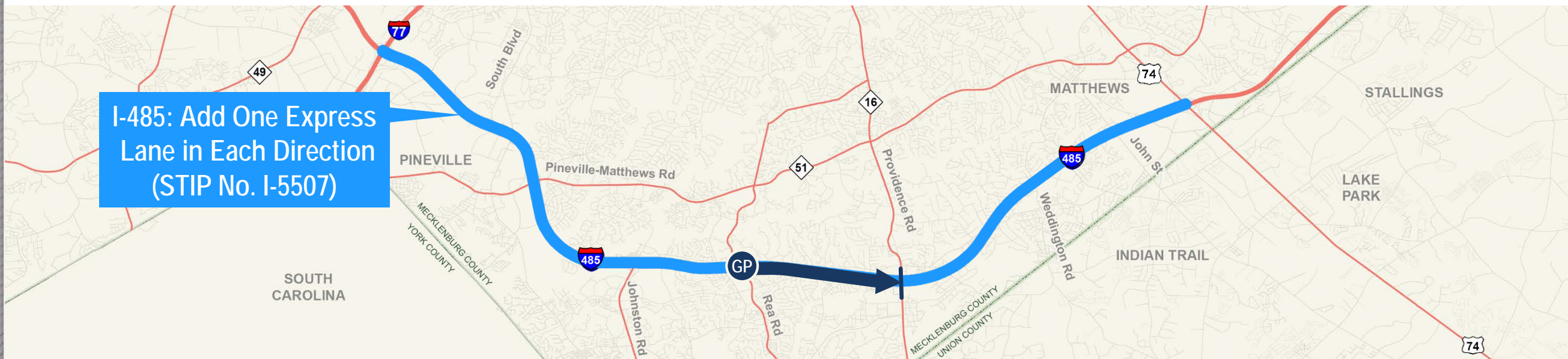
Express Lanes

STIP Project No. I-5507



# I-485 Express Lanes

- Add One Express Lane in Each Direction Between I-77 and U.S. 74
  - Approximately 17.0 miles
- Extend Third General Purpose Lane from Rea Road to Providence Road (Both Directions)
  - No tolls will be added to the Existing General Purpose Lanes

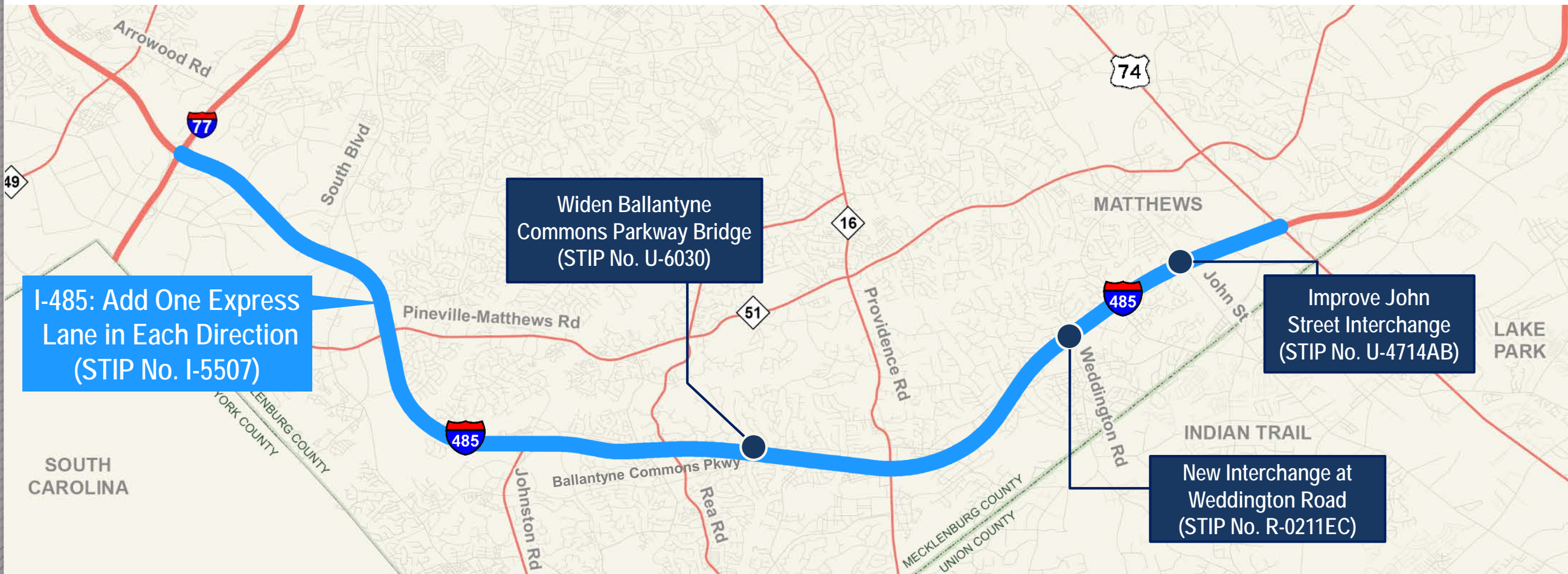


# I-485 Express Lanes

[Click here to view the I-485 Express Lanes Video](#)

# I-485 Express Lanes

- Three Other Projects are Combined with I-485 Project





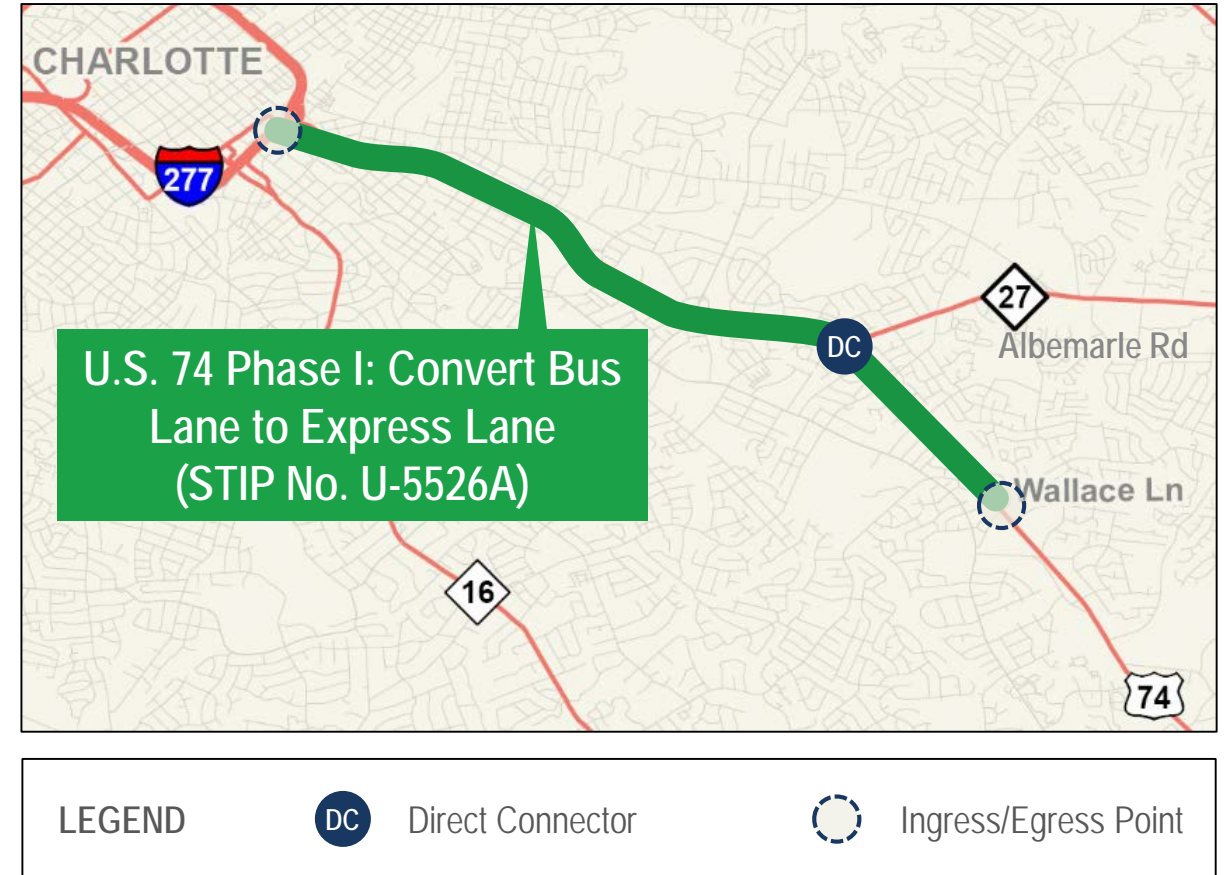
# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase I

STIP Project No. U-5526A



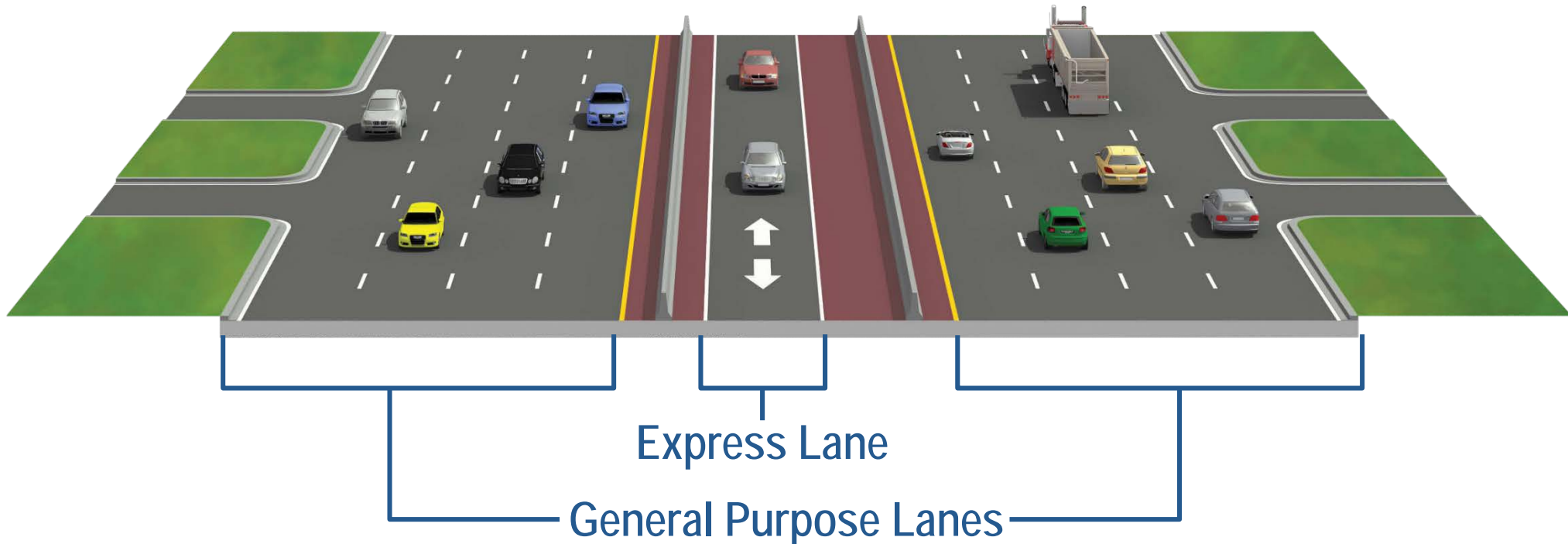
# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase I (U-5526A)

- Convert the Bus Lane Along U.S. 74 to Express Lane
  - Approximately 6 miles
  - Reversible express lane between I-277 and Albemarle Road
  - One express lane in each direction between Albemarle Road and Wallace Lane



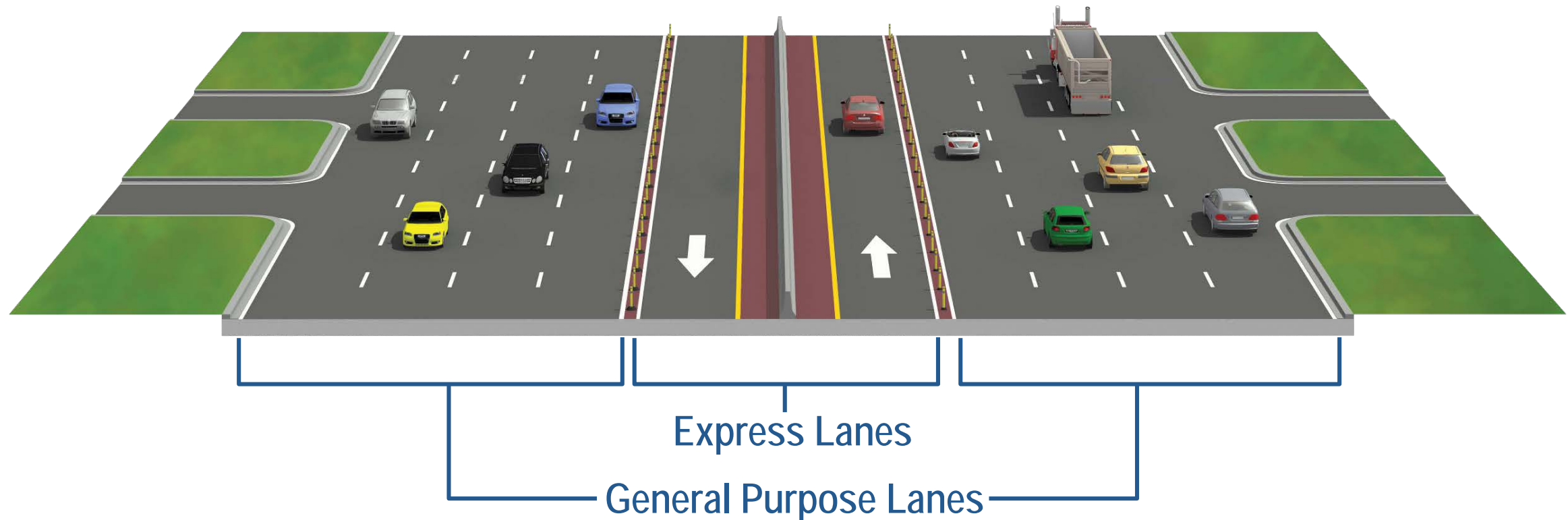
# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase I (U-5526A)

*I-277 to Albemarle Road*



# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase I (U-5526A)

*Albemarle Road to Wallace Lane*

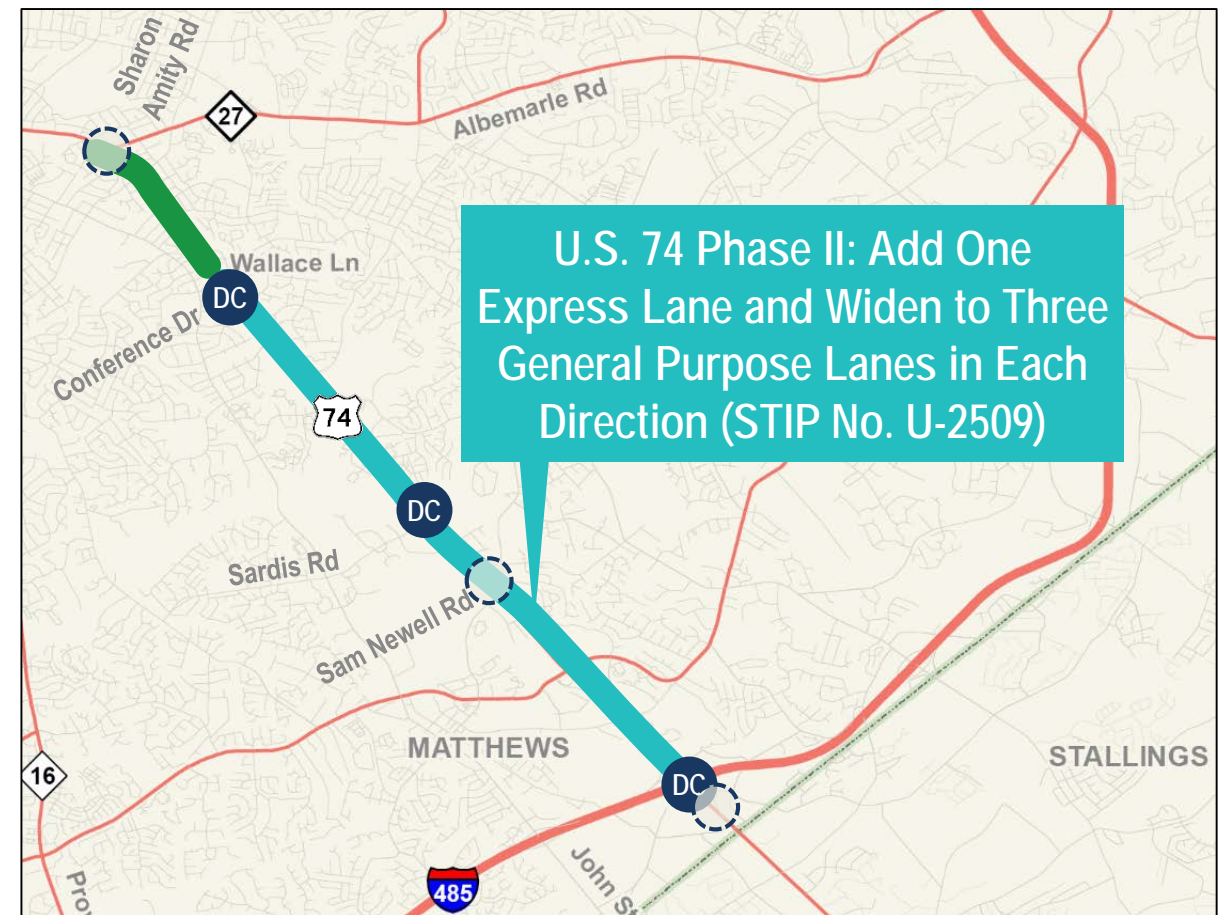


U.S. 74  
Express Lanes  
Phase II  
STIP Project No. U-2509



# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase II (U-2509)

- One Express Lane in Each Direction Between Conference Dr and I-485
  - Approximately 6 miles
- Other Improvements
  - Upgrade U.S. 74 to expressway (remove at-grade intersections)
  - Convert multiple at-grade intersections into grade separations or interchanges
  - Several parallel road connections to improve connectivity



LEGEND



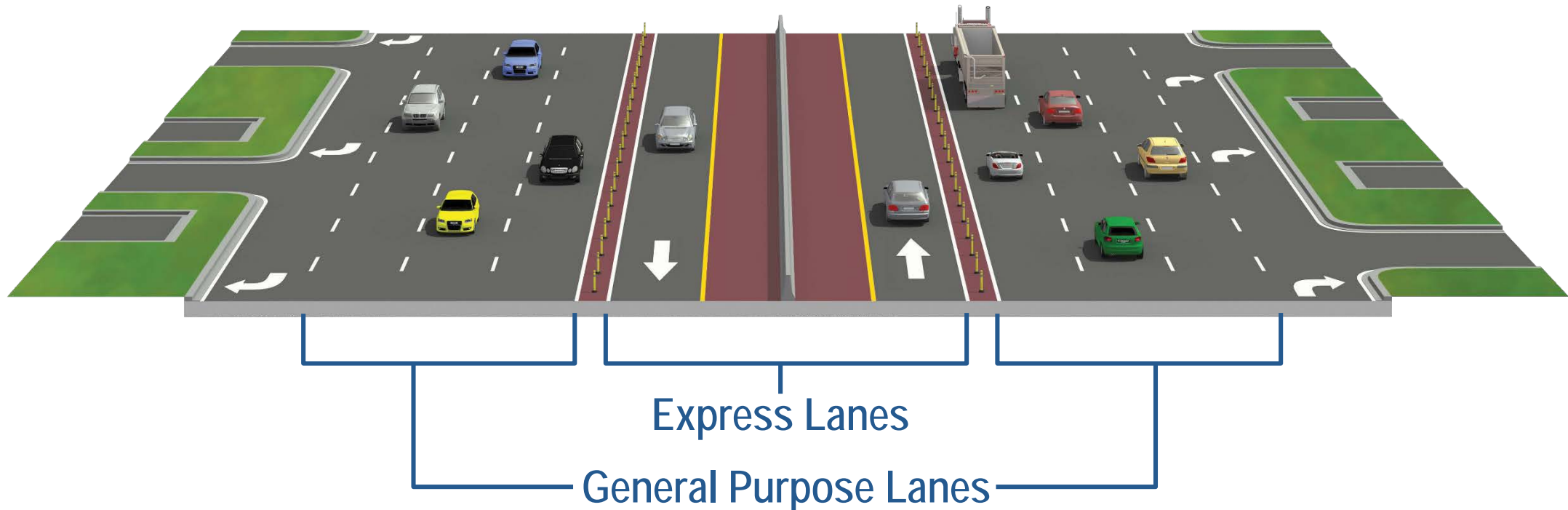
Direct Connector



Entrance/Exit Point

# U.S. 74 Express Lanes Phase II (U-2509)

*Idlewild Road to I-485*



# Coordination to Date

## STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC

### I-485 Express Lanes

5 

Stakeholder Meetings

8 

Small Group Meetings

2 

Public Meetings

+ 

Additional Public Meetings this Summer

### U.S. 74 Express Lanes – Phases I & II

3 

Stakeholder Meetings

3 

Small Group Meetings

2 

Public Meetings

+ 

Additional Public Meetings this Summer and Fall

*In Addition, Multiple Meetings were held with CRTPO*



# Project Schedule

Task	US 74 Phase I (U-5526A)	I-485 (I-5507)	US 74 Phase II (U-2509)
Public Meetings	Summer 2018	Summer 2018	Summer & Fall 2018
Completion of Environmental Studies	Summer 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018
Begin Final Designs	Already in Progress	Summer 2018	Late 2019
Start Construction	Summer 2018	Summer 2019	TBD
Open to Traffic (Anticipated)	Fall 2019	2022	TBD

# Contact Us



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# Questions?