



I-77 South Express Lanes

I-277/ Brookshire Freeway to South Carolina Line

Project Fast Facts

- Last widened in 1990s from four to sixlanes
- Per state law, toll projects in NC must be approved by the local planning organization
 - CRTPO first submitted a toll lanes concept for the I-77 South corridor during P3.0 in 2014
 - Included in the most recent round of prioritization as I-5718 A&B
- Proposed improvements include:
 - Adding express lanes or general purpose and express lanes
 - Reconstruction of interchanges and non-interchange bridges
 - Adding access points and direct connectors to the express lanes
- Updated capital cost estimate (current dollars, summer 2024): \$3.2 - \$3.7 billion

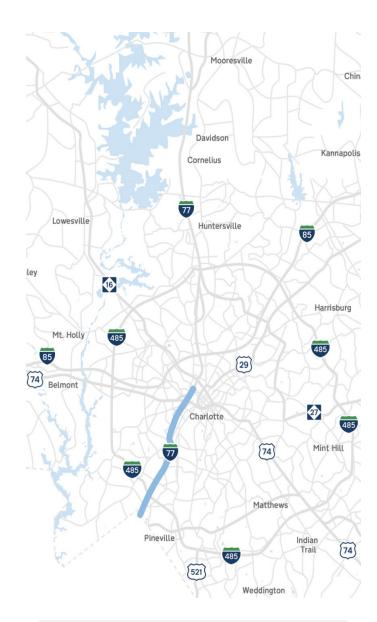
Latest News & Next Steps

- As CRTPO has requested, and as required by federal law for projects receiving federal financial assistance, NCDOT has analyzed Public-Private Partnership (P3) and NC Turnpike Authority delivery methods for the I-77 South Express Lanes project
- NCDOT shared analysis findings during CRTPO's August Board meeting
- The comparative analysis evaluated areas such as risk, financial feasibility, benefit-cost, and value-for-money
- The analysis showed a traditional toll delivery is not currently financially feasible due to escalating project costs and less funding capacity
- The analysis also showed a P3 delivery approach is likely financially feasible
- NCDOT will continue partnering with CRTPO and provide requested information to help the board make an informed decision on a delivery method
- As the region knows what is best for their communities, NCDOT is not

- advocating a particular path forward to deliver this project
- If CRTPO were to support NCDOT moving forward with a P3 toll delivery, NCDOT would partner with a CRTPO working group to define objectives and priorities prior to starting the procurement process
- A developer would be selected through an open and competitive bid process

Project Background

- 2007: Transportation planners from the Charlotte region, NCDOT and SCDOT examined the feasibility of managed lanes on interstates in the Charlotte area, known as the "Fast Lanes Study".
 - The I-77 Express Lanes South project was identified in this study.
- 2014: CRTPO approved the project list for scoring for the FY 2016-2025 STIP, including a project to widen I-77 South from I-485 to I-277 with express lanes.
- 2022: The draft FY 2024-2033 STIP included funding only for the preliminary engineering for the project to widen I-77 South from I-485 to I-277 with express lanes
- February 2022-August 2023: NCDOT received an unsolicited proposal from Cintra to deliver the project as a P3.
- February 2023: CRTPO voted for NCDOT to conduct a comparative analysis of potential P3 delivery and a public option delivered through NCTA
- February, April, August & September 2024: NCDOT presented comparative analysis updates to CRTPO Board. The CRTPO Board is expected to vote on a delivery method at its October meeting.



For more information on the project, contact:

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