



I-485 Express Lanes

STIP Project I-5507 | Mecklenburg County

Winter 2020

About the project

- Between 2007 and 2013, the **Fast Lanes Study** examined existing and planned major highways throughout a 10-county area and identified corridors that could benefit most from implementing express lanes to **help manage congestion** during peak travel periods. The findings of this study recommended additional analysis on I-485 in southern Mecklenburg County. (see the project timeline to the right)
- The I-485 Express Lanes project will **add one express lane** in each direction along I-485 between I-77 and U.S. 74 (Independence Boulevard). The project will also **add one general purpose (GP) lane** in each direction between Rea Road and Providence Road.
- In coordination with other projects in southern Mecklenburg County (see map on next page), this project will serve as part of a **larger network of express lanes** offering drivers the option of more reliable travel times.
- Construction began in summer 2019 and the express lanes are **scheduled to open to traffic in fall 2022**. Additional information about the construction schedule is on page 4.
- To minimize the duration of construction along the project corridor, **three other projects will be constructed at the same time** as the I-485 Express Lanes – the Ballantyne Commons Parkway bridge widening, a new interchange at Weddington Road, and John Street interchange improvements. (see map on next page)

For more information on the project:



@NCTurnpike



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Scan to visit the project website
publicinput.com/I-485-Charlotte

Timeline*

2007

City of Charlotte in coordination with several local, regional and state agencies initiated Fast Lanes Study

2013

NCDOT Initiated Preliminary Design and Environmental Studies

2014

Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO) and NCDOT included I-485 Express Lanes project in the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and 2016-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

2015

I-485 Public Meeting #1

2018

July: I-485 Public Meeting #2

August: Environmental Document Approved

September: Design-Build Contract Awarded

2019

June: Public Meeting #3

Summer: Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction Started

Winter 2019/2020

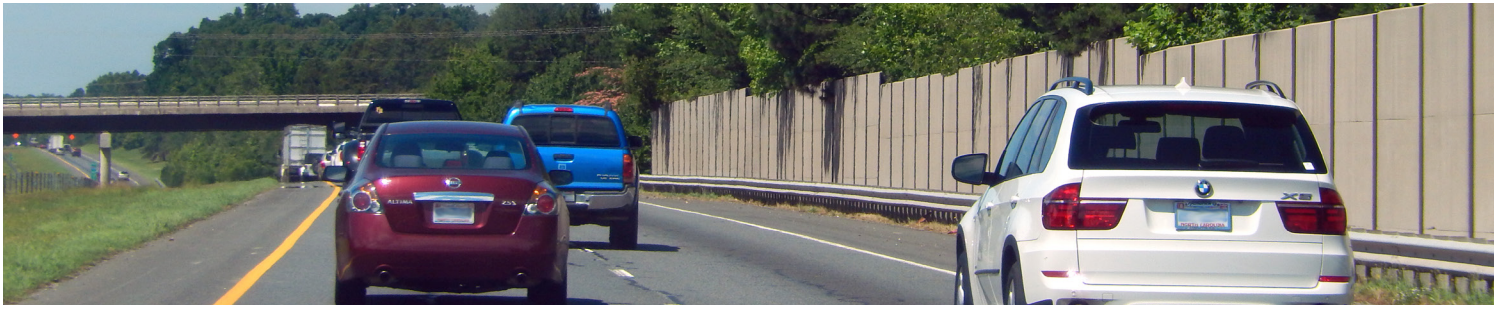
Recommend Noise Wall Locations and Conduct Noise Wall Balloting

2021

Fall: Third GP lane between Rea Rd & Providence Rd Anticipated to Open to Traffic

2022

Fall: New Interchange at Weddington Rd and Express Lanes between I-77 & U.S. 74 Anticipated to Open to Traffic



Potential Noise Wall Locations

The initial noise study for the I-485 Express Lanes (called a Traffic Noise Report) was completed in 2018 and identified locations that preliminarily met the criteria for noise walls in accordance with the NCDOT Traffic Noise Policy.

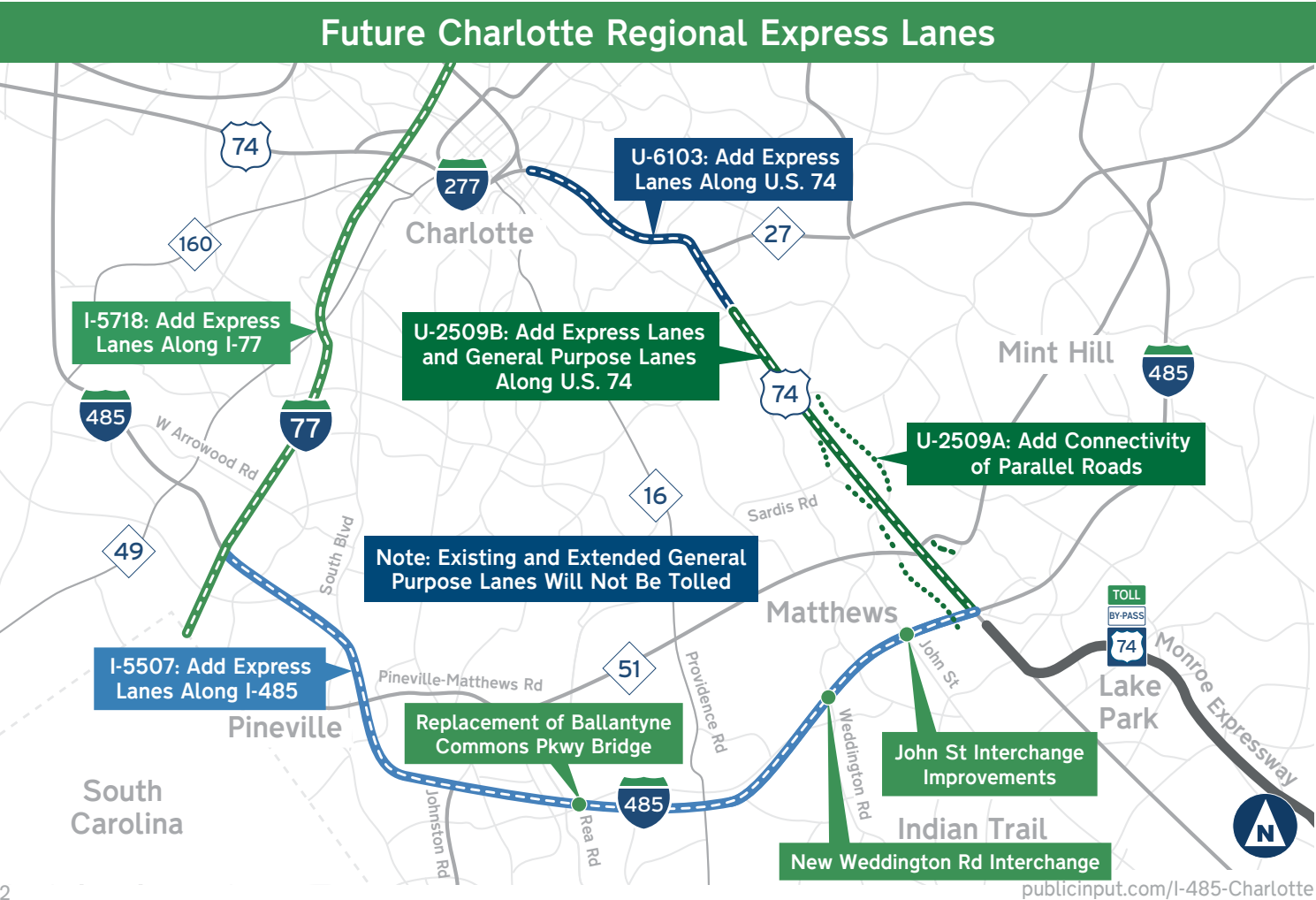
A final noise study based on the project's final designs is underway and is nearing completion. This final study, called a Design Noise Report, will identify recommended noise wall locations.

While the Design Noise Report is not yet complete, the locations, heights and lengths of the noise walls recommended for construction have largely been determined. The findings of the Design Noise Report, once complete, will be posted on the project website listed on the front of this handout.

All property owners and tenants who are benefited by a recommended noise wall will be asked to vote for or against construction of the wall. This is called balloting, and it is the last step in the noise wall approval process. Recommended noise walls that pass the balloting process will be constructed.

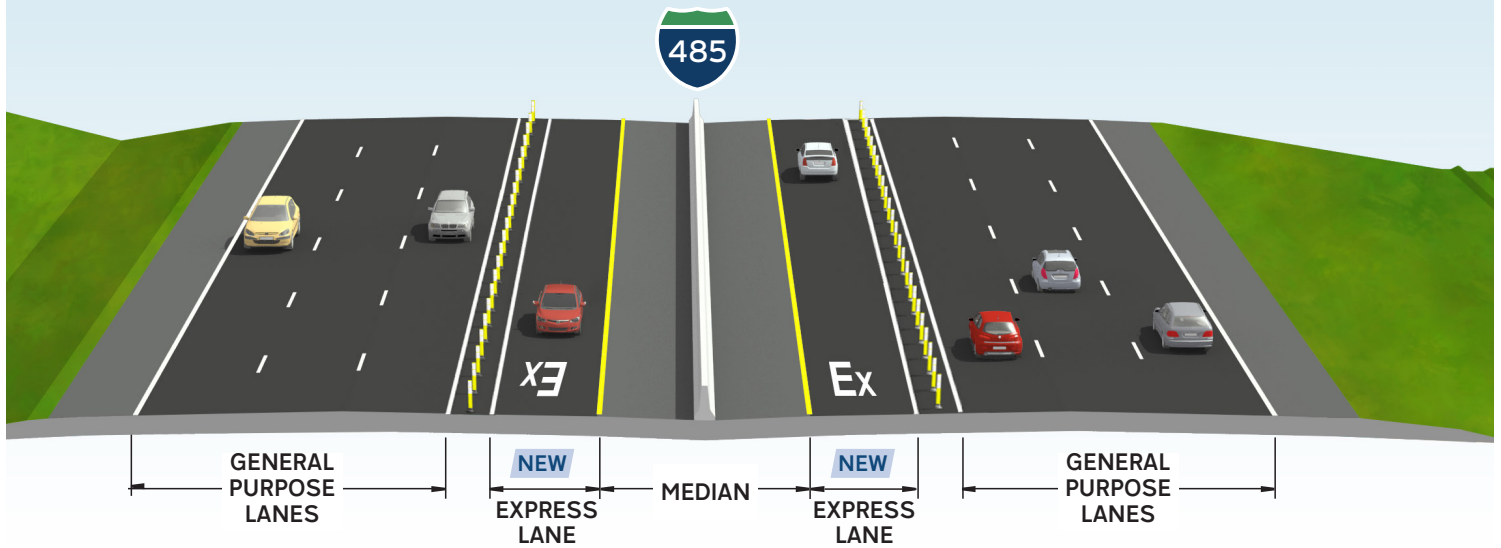
Right-of-Way Process

NCDOT worked to minimize impacts to homes and businesses during the final design process, but there are some areas where private property will need to be acquired either by permanent right-of-way or by easement. NCDOT treats all property owners fairly, explains legal rights, pays just compensation in exchange for property rights, and furnishes relocation assistance, if needed. All impacted property owners will be contacted individually by a NCDOT right-of-way agent or by a right-of-way consulting firm representing NCDOT as the project progresses.

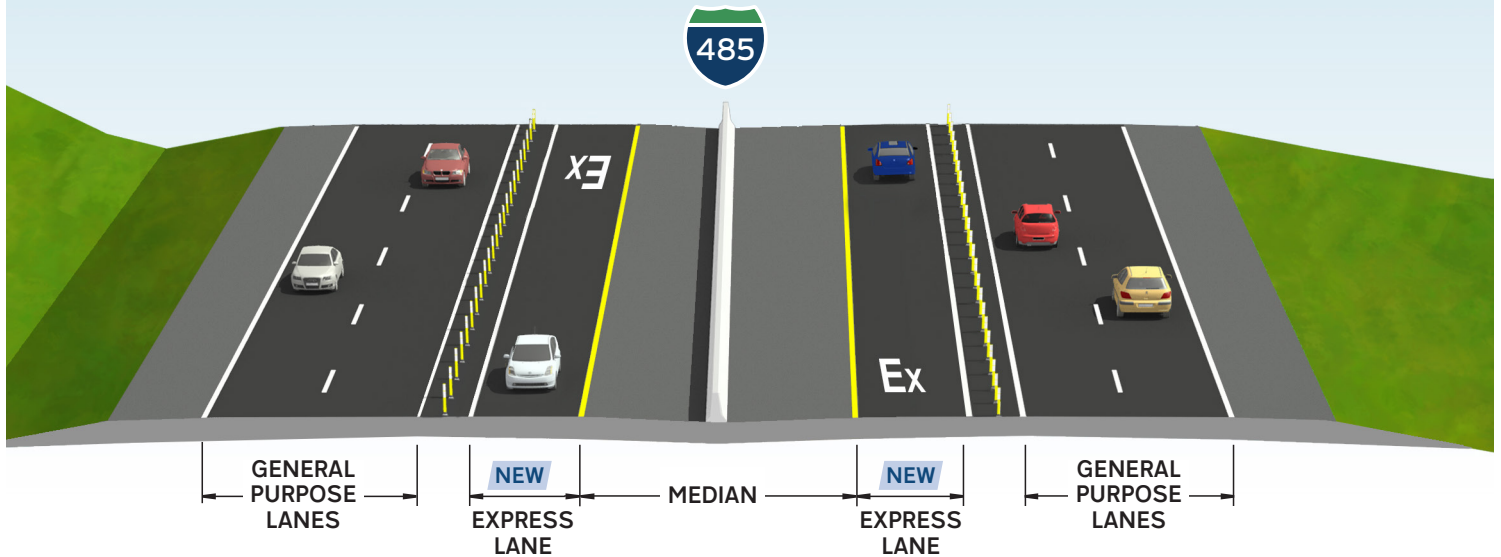


I-485 Express Lanes Typical Sections Rendering

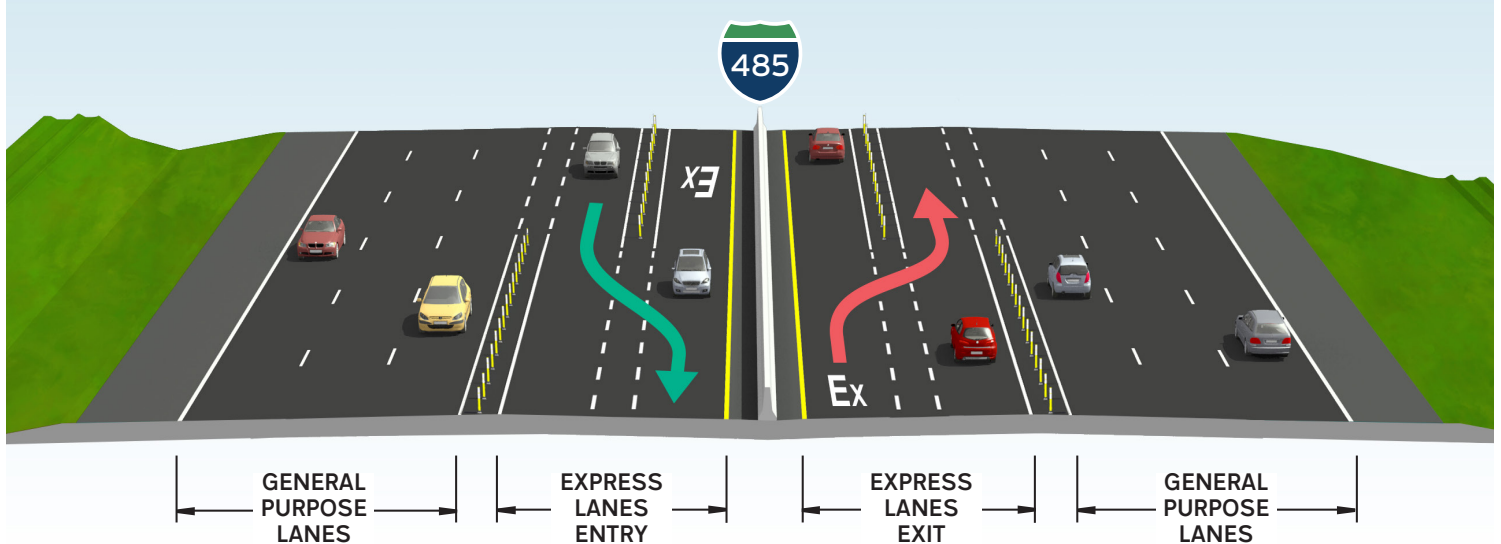
I-77 to Providence Road



Providence Road to U.S. 74



Access Point



Note: Typical section for I-485 West of Providence Road

I-485 Express Lanes Construction Schedule*

