

I-485 Express Lanes

STIP Project I-5507 | Mecklenburg County



PROJECT INFORMATION // Summer 2018



Project Overview

In 2007, the City of Charlotte partnered with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO), and other local and regional agencies to initiate the "Fast Lanes Study". This 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 initial findings focused on I-485 for additional study in southern Mecklenburg County. Please refer to the project timeline on page 3.

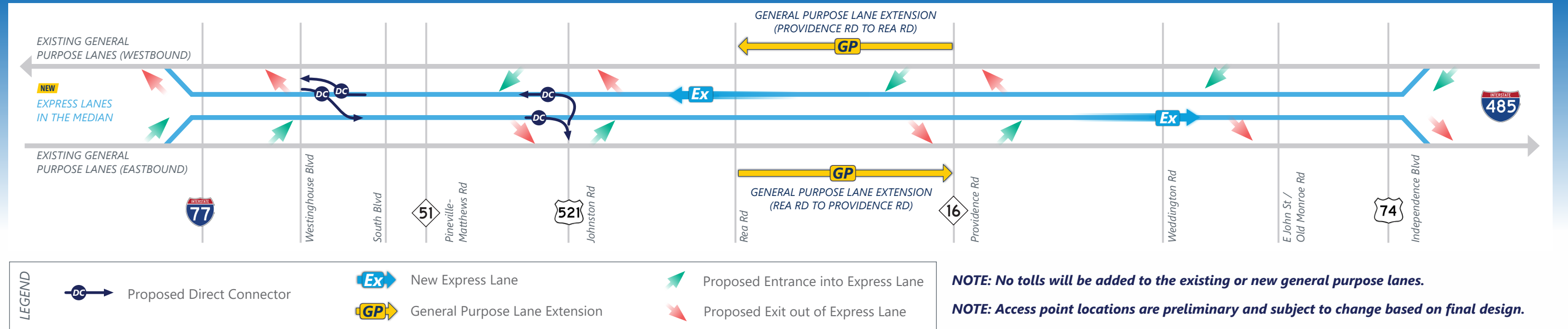
The proposed I-485 Express Lanes project would add one express lane in each direction along I-485 between I-77 and U.S. 74 (Independence

Boulevard), providing travel time reliability and improving traffic flows in this critical transportation corridor. This segment of I-485 carries between 80,000 and 146,000 vehicles per day and regularly becomes congested. The project would also add one general purpose lane in each direction along I-485 between Rea Road and Providence Road. In coordination with other projects in southeastern Mecklenburg County, this project would serve as part of a larger network of express lanes offering drivers the option of more reliable travel times.

To minimize the duration of construction along the project corridor, three other projects would be constructed at the same time as the I-485 Express Lanes (Ballantyne Commons Parkway bridge widening, new interchange at Weddington Road, and John Street interchange improvements - see map below).



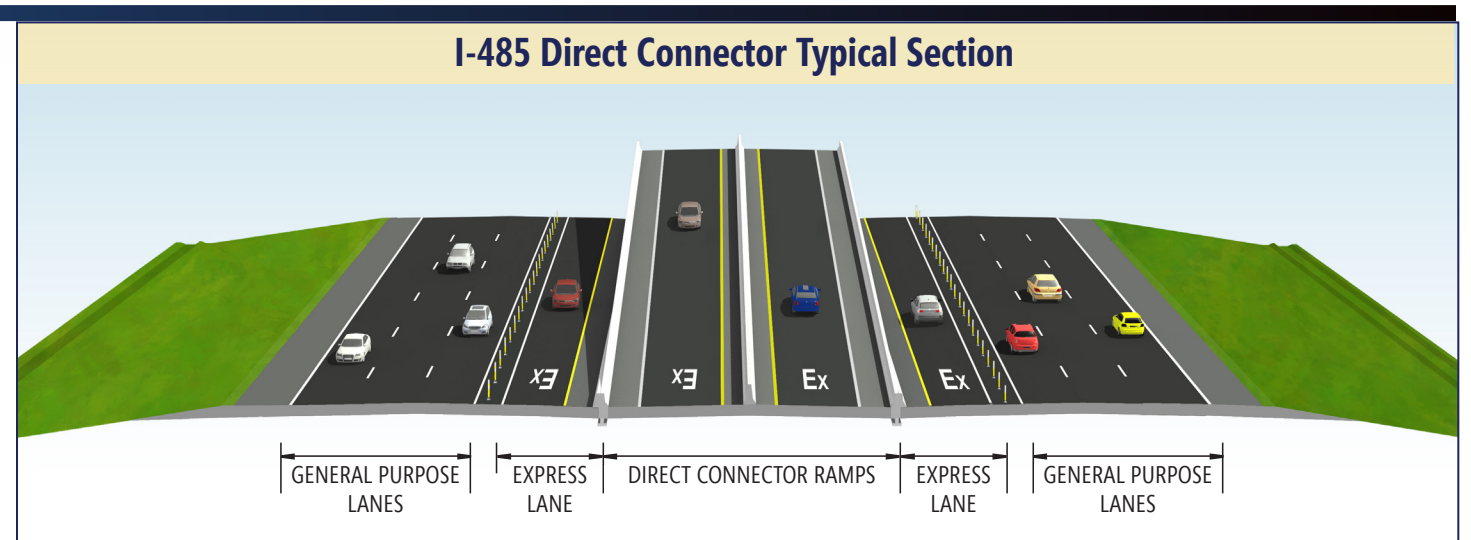
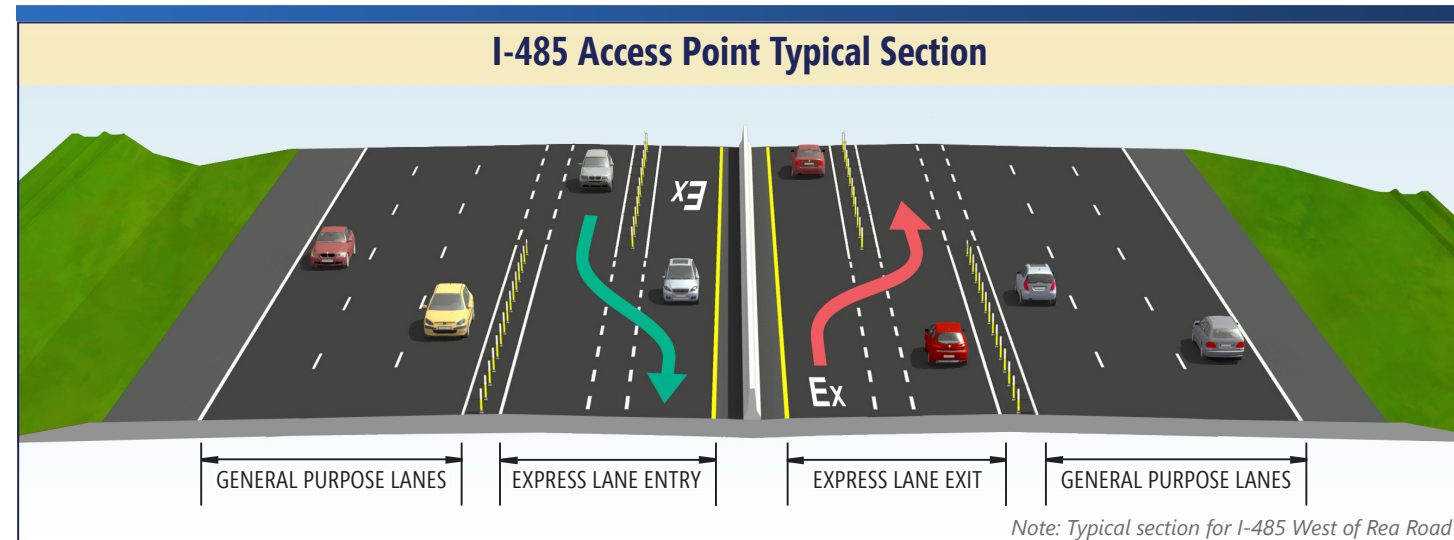
I-485 Express Lanes Preferred Alternative Access Points and Direct Connectors



LEGEND

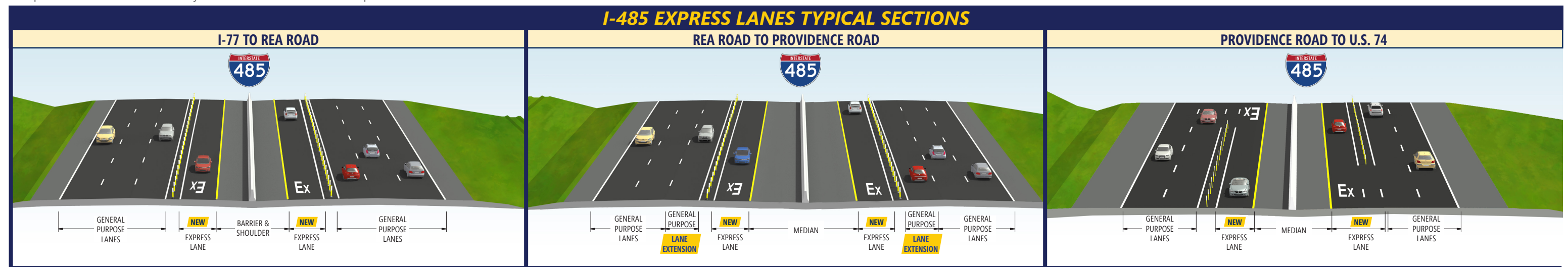
- Proposed Direct Connector
- New Express Lane
- General Purpose Lane Extension
- Proposed Entrance into Express Lane
- Proposed Exit out of Express Lane

NOTE: No tolls will be added to the existing or new general purpose lanes.
NOTE: Access point locations are preliminary and subject to change based on final design.



What Are Access Points? Access Points are locations where vehicles will be allowed to enter and exit the Express Lanes through openings in the separation between the general purpose lanes and Express Lanes. Access Points will be designed to allow adequate time for vehicles to safely maneuver in and out of the Express Lanes.

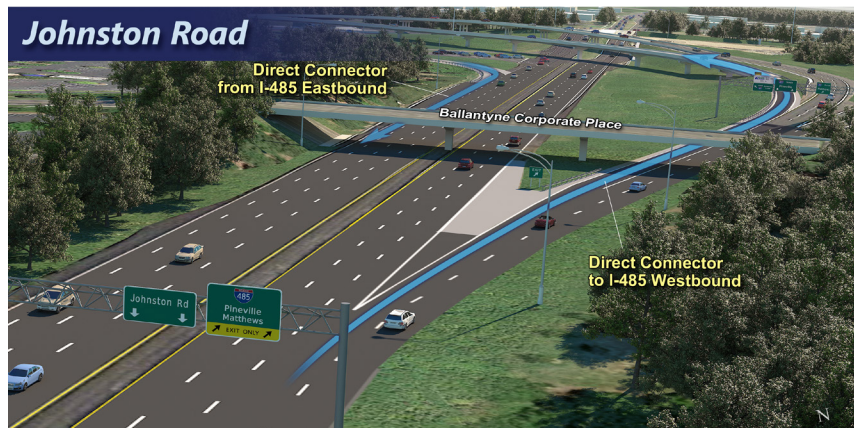
What Are Direct Connectors? Direct Connectors are exit and entrance ramps directly connecting Express Lanes and cross streets. The I-485 Express Lanes Project includes Direct Connectors at Johnston Road and Westinghouse Boulevard.



Current Status

The required environmental document for the project, known as a Categorical Exclusion, is anticipated to be approved by the Federal Highway Administration in Summer 2018. Preliminary design plans have been completed and are available for viewing on the project website.

This project will be constructed through a Design-Build process, meaning engineers and contractors will collaborate to finalize the design plans. The Design-Build process allows flexibility to develop innovative concepts to reduce the overall project cost and shorten the schedule, and can result in slight variations from the preliminary design plans. Please refer to the project timeline below for additional information.



Proposed Direct Connector at I-485/Johnston Road.

Potential Noise Wall Locations

The noise study for the planning phase of the I-485 Project (called a Traffic Noise Report) is now complete. In this study, noise walls were evaluated at 34 locations to see if they are feasible and reasonable. Of these, 21 preliminarily met the criteria and were identified as preliminary noise wall locations. During final design, additional analysis will be conducted to identify recommended noise wall locations.

Preliminary noise wall locations will be shared at the public open houses scheduled for July 25 and 26, 2018. If you have questions about a specific location, please call or email the project hotline at 1-800-254-0498 or I-485ExpressLanes@rsandh.com.

As the project designs move forward, there will be additional public outreach regarding noise walls before a final decision is made about the installation of noise walls.

Visit the project website or call the project hotline for more information and project updates!



Scan to visit the project website

www.publicinput.com/I-485_US-74_Charlotte



1-800-254-0498



@NCTurnpike

I-485 Express Lanes Project Timeline

