



## SB I-680 Express Lanes Review of Traffic Enforcement Issues and Strategies


A Presentation the  
Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority  
September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012



## Toll Violation Enforcement

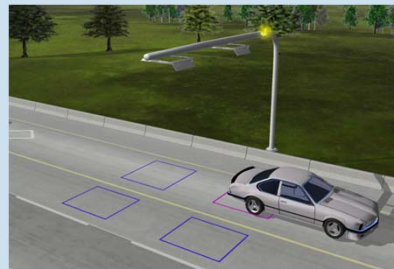


- ◆ **Vehicle detection mechanism**
  - ▶ How it works for Single Occupants
  - ▶ How it works for Carpoolers
- ◆ **Key Enforcement Issues**
  - ▶ CHP Enforcement Issues and Feedback
- ◆ **Enforcement Strategies**
  - ▶ Automated Violation Enforcement
  - ▶ Local Ordinance
    - ▶ SB949
  - ▶ Legislation Modification
- ◆ **Next Steps**



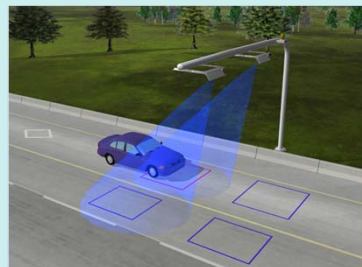
## How it works for Single Occupants?

- ◆ Use of valid FasTrak required
- ◆ Automated Vehicle Identification (AVI) reads FasTrak
- ◆ Enforcement beacon lights up
  - ▶ Green – Valid/Toll Charged
  - ▶ Yellow – Carpool/Potential Violation



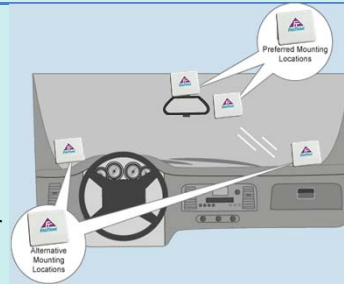
## How it works for Carpoolers?

- ◆ HOV Users (2+)
- ◆ Free of charge to use Express Lane
- ◆ Transponder in Mylar bag
- ◆ Enforcement beacon lights up
  - ▶ Yellow – Carpool/Potential Violation
- ◆ Visual verification by CHP



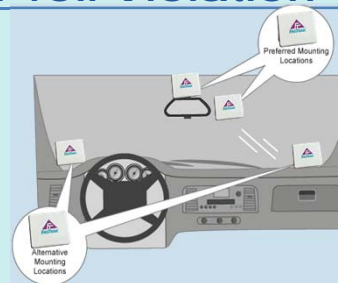
## Common Types of Toll Violation


- ◆ Crossing of double white line
- ◆ Straddling double white line
- ◆ Avoiding toll gantries (AVIs) (toll zone evasion)
- ◆ Single Occupant Vehicle w/o Transponder
- ◆ FasTrak Placement
- ◆ Weak battery in FasTrak
- ◆ Default/Low Balance account status
- ◆ Metallic windshield coating
- ◆ License plate mounted FasTrak
- ◆ HOV Patron Verification





## Common Reasons for Toll Violation

- ◆ Incorrect FasTrak Placement
- ◆ Weak battery in FasTrak
- ◆ Default/Low Balance account status
- ◆ Metallic windshield coating
- ◆ Incorrect license plate mounted FasTrak
- ◆ Incorrect HOV Patron Verification



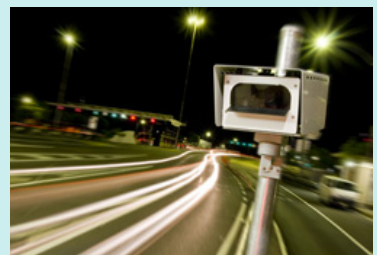




## California Highway Patrol Enforcement Issues and Feedback

### Automated Violation Enforcement Option

- ◆ Requires additional infrastructure and technology
  - ▶ Expensive fiber optic backbone for data
  - ▶ Additional cameras to detect
    - ▶ Double white line violators
    - ▶ License plate recognition
- ◆ Requires substantial system modifications
  - ▶ Self-contained Violation Processing Solution (VPS)
    - ▶ Image review
    - ▶ Patron account information
    - ▶ DMV lookup
    - ▶ Mail house
    - ▶ Remediation process
- ◆ Requires a Dispute/Resolution Board
- ◆ Hardware alone can serve as a deterrent
- ◆ Significant impact on implementation costs –  
Approximately \$2M to \$3M

## Local Ordinance Option

- ◆ Associated difficulties:
  - Consistency with recently approved State Statute
  - Jurisdictional issues between CHP and local enforcement authority and public perception
  - Requires unfunded additional administrative infrastructure for Appeal Process and Dispute/Resolution
  - Enforcement uniformity and consistency with other Express Corridors within Regional HOT Lane Network



### Senate Bill 949

Existing law prohibits a local authority from enacting or enforcing an ordinance on matters covered by the vehicle Code unless expressly authorized by the Vehicle Code.

This bill would prohibit a local authority from enacting or enforcing an ordinance or resolution on matters covered by the Vehicle Code, and would expressly include an ordinance or resolution that establishes regulations or procedures for, or assesses a fine, penalty, assessment, or fee for a violation of, matters covered by this code unless expressly authorized by this code, except as specified.

This bill would provide that its provisions become operative on July 1, 2011.



## Legislative Option

- ◆ Amend current Vehicle Code or introduce legislation to:
  - Add language to include transponder requirement to HOV section of the Vehicle Code
  - Add specific language requiring the dedication of revenues resulting from toll violation enforcement back to the JPA, instead of going to State general funds



## Next Steps

- ◆ No immediate modification to current operations
  - ▶ Continue to collect violation data
- ◆ Continue to evaluate various practical options to minimize toll evasion
  - ▶ Placement of rumble stripping near toll zones
  - ▶ Installation of additional AVI readers along the 14 mile segment
- ◆ Pursue legislative options to develop statewide/regional uniformity for toll enforcement and revenue redirection to local operating agencies

