

Proposed BAIFA Toll Facility Ordinance Amendment Fact Sheet

This fact sheet describes proposed changes to the Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA) Express Lanes Toll Facility Ordinance and how members of the public can weigh in before decision-makers consider approving them.

WHAT ARE EXPRESS LANES?

Express Lanes are specially designated highway lanes that offer drivers a choice to save time by paying a toll while rewarding carpoolers with the same time savings at a lower cost. Learn more about Express Lanes at expresslanes.511.org.

WHAT IS BAIFA?

The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA), a joint powers authority between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), oversees the financing, planning, and operation of MTC Express Lanes and related transportation projects. BAIFA manages MTC Express Lanes and works with Caltrans, the California Highway Patrol and county transportation agencies on the overall Bay Area Express Lanes network.

WHAT IS THE TOLL FACILITY ORDINANCE?

The ordinance establishes express lane tolls, a toll collection process, and civil penalties for the evasion of tolls on MTC's express lanes. Learn more about the history of the toll facility ordinance and review the version currently in effect at mtc.ca.gov/express-lanes-policies.

WHAT CHANGES ARE PROPOSED?

BAIFA is considering five changes:

- 1) **Interstate 80 Express Lanes:** Adopt tolling policies for the newly constructed I-80 Express Lanes in Solano County. The new corridor must be added to the ordinance before tolling operations begin later this year.
- 2) **Pilots:** Increase the allowable timeframe and parameters for pilot projects on BAIFA Express Lanes. Pilots could be extended beyond the current limit of three years in certain circumstances, and pilots would be permitted to test alternative hours and days of the week for tolling operations.
- 3) **Minimum Toll:** Increase the minimum toll per zone from \$0.50 to \$0.75 for all BAIFA Express Lanes. The minimum toll is the toll when there is little or no congestion, and the increase ensures that each such transaction covers the transaction cost.
- 4) **Clean Air Vehicle (CAV):** Clarify that the CAV discount will end September 2025, at the sunset of existing federal law regarding CAV usage of carpool lanes without the qualifying number of occupants unless the law is amended prior to that date.
- 5) **Toll Zones:** Adjust the boundaries of the toll zones on southbound I-680 to reflect the gap closure between BAIFA's and Alameda CTC's express lanes on I-680.

Other minor clarifications and clean-up language are also proposed.

