



News release

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E-ZPass soon to be accepted at all lanes on New Jersey Turnpike

WOODBIDGE, NJ, March 1, 2011 -- Drivers on the New Jersey Turnpike will be able to enjoy the convenience of E-ZPass in every lane at every Turnpike interchange starting this weekend.

The 136 cash lanes at the 28 Turnpike interchanges will be converted to accept both cash and E-ZPass. The conversion is scheduled to start at Interchange 1 at around 10:30 p.m. March 5 and continue north interchange by interchange until it's complete early in the day on March 6. Because the conversion schedule could be affected by adverse weather, drivers should pay attention to signs as they approach Turnpike interchanges. News about any changes in the schedule will be posted on variable message signs along the roadway and on the Turnpike Authority's Web site.

"We want our toll roads to be customer friendly, and this is an important step in that direction," said Turnpike Authority Chairman James Simpson. "Our E-ZPass customers won't have to worry any longer about moving into an E-ZPass lane as they prepare to enter or exit the Turnpike. That should make driving our road a little less stressful for them."

E-ZPass, which was introduced on the Turnpike only 11 years ago, is now widely used on the Turnpike. Payment through the electronic tolling system accounted for about 75 percent of all toll transactions on the road in 2010.

"We're happy to offer this added convenience for E-ZPass customers, but that's not the only benefit this change will provide," said Turnpike Authority Executive Director Ronnie Hakim. "By reducing the number of vehicles switching lanes, we'll be making our busy interchanges safer for all drivers."

The entry and exit lanes where E-ZPass is already accepted will not be affected by this change, and the number of lanes available for cash customers to take their tickets and pay their tolls will remain the same.

The final steps of the conversion on March 5th and 6th will involve installing and uncovering signs at the interchanges and rebooting computers in the lanes. There are not expected to be any significant impacts on traffic while that work is being done.

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