

# Colorado Transportation Investment Office Memorandum

To: CTIO Board of Directors

From: Kelly Brown, Chief Toll Operations Officer Nathaniel Benton, Toll System Specialist

Date: September 17, 2025

Subject: Proposed I-25 North Segments 6, 7, and 8 Toll Rates

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize staff's proposed toll rates for the I-25 North Segments 6, 7, and 8 Express Lanes, and to facilitate a discussion with the Board and the public regarding the establishment of toll rates.

### **Requested Action:**

This item is informational only and no action is requested at this time. The CTIO Board is being asked to consider the proposed toll rates at this month's meeting. The Board will be asked to take action on these recommendations at the October board meeting.

## Background:

I-25 North Segments 6, 7, and 8 comprise of 36 Express Lane miles that run from State Highway 56 to State Highway 14. Drivers are charged a separate toll rate for each of the segments they travel through. The I-25 North Segment 6, 7, and 8 Express Lanes are expected to open for tolled traffic in the first quarter of 2026, however, toll rates need to be in place when testing will begin in the last quarter of 2025.

#### Overview of Recommended Toll Rates:

CTIO staff recommends setting a base toll rate sufficient to cover toll collection costs, toll equipment maintenance costs, and cover debt service, but low enough to attract initial customers to use the toll lane, even when traffic in the general-purpose lanes is relatively light and the corridor is free flowing. CTIO consulted with its tolling advisory team to develop the rates being recommended.

In calculating the Transponder or Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) toll rates, the following assumptions were made:

• Tolls will be charged based on a Time-of-Day methodology consistent with the current regime on I-25 North Segment 2 and 3 and C-470, and not on a dynamic tolling basis. This

is a temporary tolling regime that allows for testing traffic patterns. Dynamic pricing is anticipated to be implemented by July 2026 or sooner as data is analyzed.

• The minimum AVI toll rate is set to recover the AVI toll operation cost.

License plate tolling (LPT) costs more than AVI tolling due to additional back-office costs and LPT leakage. Therefore, LPT rates are developed by imposing a surcharge on the AVI toll rates. In calculating license plate toll rates, the following assumptions were made:

- LPT surcharge covers back-office additional cost and LPT leakage.
- LPT leakage is assumed at 40 percent based on historical data.
- LPT leakage includes uncollectable and unbillable LPT transactions.

The following operations policies apply to the I-25 North Segment 6, 7, and 8 Express Lanes:

- Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- High occupancy vehicles with three or more passengers (HOV3+) use the Express Lanes for free, with a switchable HOV transponder.
- Motorcycles use the Express Lanes for free.
- Vehicles with four or more axles pay a surcharge of \$25 per segment.
- The current proposed tolling regime is Time-of-Day (TOD) pricing. Dynamic pricing is expected to start in July of 2026 or sooner as data is analyzed.

The tables below show the proposed time-of-day AVI and LPT toll rates for the I-25 North Segments 6, 7, and 8 for both the southbound and northbound directions:

Table 1: I-25 North Segment 6, 7, and 8 **Proposed AVI Toll Rates** 

From	То	Segment 6 Southbound	Segment 6 Northbound	Segment 7 Southbound	Segment 7 Northbound	Segment 8 Southbound	Segment 8 Northbound
12:00 AM	6:00 AM	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
6:00 AM	7:00 AM	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.20
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	\$2.75	\$1.50	\$3.50	\$1.65	\$2.70	\$1.25
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	\$3.40	\$1.85	\$4.55	\$1.95	\$3.45	\$1.30
9:00 AM	11:00 AM	\$2.95	\$1.75	\$4.75	\$1.75	\$4.05	\$1.75
11:00 AM	3:00 PM	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$2.80	\$1.55	\$2.40	\$1.50
3:00 PM	5:00 PM	\$1.75	\$1.55	\$1.90	\$2.90	\$1.75	\$2.15
5:00 PM	6:00 PM	\$1.75	\$2.60	\$1.75	\$4.35	\$1.75	\$3.10
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	\$1.75	\$3.40	\$1.75	\$4.75	\$1.75	\$4.05
7:00 PM	11:00 PM	\$1.75	\$3.15	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$3.80
11:00 PM	12:00 AM	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00

Table 2: I-25 North Segment 6, 7, and 8 Proposed LPT Toll Rates

From	То	Segment 6 Southbound	Segment 6 Northbound	Segment 7 Southbound	Segment 7 Northbound	Segment 8 Southbound	Segment 8 Northbound
12:00 AM	6:00 AM	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
6:00 AM	7:00 AM	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$2.40
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	\$5.50	\$3.00	\$7.00	\$3.30	\$5.40	\$2.50
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	\$6.80	\$3.70	\$9.10	\$3.90	\$6.90	\$2.60
9:00 AM	11:00 AM	\$5.90	\$3.50	\$9.50	\$3.50	\$8.10	\$3.50
11:00 AM	3:00 PM	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$5.60	\$3.10	\$4.80	\$3.00
3:00 PM	5:00 PM	\$3.50	\$3.10	\$3.80	\$5.80	\$3.50	\$4.30
5:00 PM	6:00 PM	\$3.50	\$5.20	\$3.50	\$8.70	\$3.50	\$6.20
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	\$3.50	\$6.80	\$3.50	\$9.50	\$3.50	\$8.10
7:00 PM	11:00 PM	\$3.50	\$6.30	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$7.60
11:00 PM	12:00 AM	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00

## **Next Steps:**

- The Board is being asked to review proposed initial AVI and LPT toll rates for the I-25 North Segment 6, 7, and 8 Express Lanes and provide feedback.
- CTIO staff will integrate requested changes to the proposed AVI and LPT toll rates for the I-25 North Segments 6, 7, and 8 Express Lanes and will return to the Board in October 2025 for the adoption of the initial AVI and LPT toll rates.