# EXPRESS LANES

## TRAFFIC? I'LL PASS.

*Express Lanes offer choice and reduced congestion.*

**LEGEND:**

- CDOT Express Lanes / HOV
- CDOT Express Lanes / Toll
- Toll Road (Northwest Parkway / E-470)
- Coming soon: C-470, North I-25 from Johnstown to Ft. Collins, and potentially on Central 70.

COLORADO HPTE PARTNER. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.

COLORADO Department of Transportation

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## HOV 3 IS NOW IN EFFECT

What is HOV 3? HOV stands for High Occupancy Vehicles, which is the term used for carpool vehicles. HOV 3 means a carpool with a driver plus two passengers. In February 2013, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Transportation Commission passed a resolution that all CDOT High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Express Lanes would change from HOV 2+ to HOV 3+ on Jan. 1, 2017. HOV 3+ equals a driver and at least two passengers. The Denver Regional Council of Governments also approved this change on US 36 and I-25, the two corridors with HOV Express Lanes in operation or development.

### Why HOV 3?

Colorado has passed the point where it can build its way out of congestion. With the state's population exploding and transportation funding decreasing, CDOT and the High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE) must look at innovative ways to move traffic across the state. Express Lanes, which are being built throughout the state, help relieve congestion without the need for a lot of infrastructure (new or widened highways) and provide a desperately needed source of funding for transportation. HOV 3 ensures that those lanes remain free-flowing now and into the future, so that those who choose to ride the bus, pay a toll or carpool always have a reliable and faster trip. In addition, getting more people into carpools with HOV 3 reduces overall congestion and vehicle emissions – a good thing for a state with a growing population.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Express Lanes have always been about choice. There are many options. You can:

- Find a third carpooler -- CDOT and HPTE are partnering with organizations that can help. Visit our website for more information.
- Use the general purpose lanes – Free general purpose lanes always exist alongside CDOT's Express Lanes. Drivers benefit from less congestion in those lanes because of the traffic that diverts to the Express Lanes.
- Ride the bus – RTD has many options for a fast commute, including bus rapid transit (BRT) along the US 36 corridor. Go to rtd-denver.com to explore your options.
- Pay a toll – Go to expresstoll.com to get a pass and pay lower tolls for a quick and easy trip.

## GET A PASS!

**Drivers who want to pay the toll without additional surcharges need a pass.**

**Visit www.expresstoll.com to get yours today!**

**Visit codot.gov/programs/expresslanes for more information.**

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