



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. What is the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector Project?

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) is preparing to build the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector, which will link the southbound 15 Express Lanes that are under construction now to the westbound 91 Express Lanes, and link the eastbound 91 Express Lanes to the future northbound 15 Express Lanes. The 15/91 Express Lanes connector is designed to provide a seamless transition between these Riverside County tolling systems for reliable, convenient travel for vehicles and express buses.

This connector is separate from RCTC's Interstate 15 Express Lanes Project, which is currently under construction and will open before the connector is completed.

## 2. How will this project help my commute?

The project is designed to provide a seamless transition between the existing 91 Express Lanes and the future 15 Express Lanes. The 15/91 Express Lanes Connector will allow motorists to remain in the express lanes while transitioning between the two express lanes facilities. In addition to providing convenience for express lane users, the connector is expected to improve traffic flow in the general-purpose lanes.

## 3. What is the project cost and how will it be funded?

Senate Bill (SB) 132 provided \$180 million for this connector. SB 132 allocated \$427 million for five projects known as the Riverside County Transportation Efficiency Corridor, including the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector. For more information, visit [rctc.org/15-91connector](http://rctc.org/15-91connector).

## 4. When will the connector open?

The Express Lanes Connector is expected to be open for use in 2022.

## 5. Will lanes be closed while construction is taking place?

While most construction activities will take place behind k-rail, some work may require lane closures during off-peak hours. Closures of the connector, lanes, and ramps likely will be required. RCTC will inform the public in advance of closures, using roadway changeable message signs, website postings, weekly Construction Updates, and social media. Whenever possible, the project team will schedule work that requires closures to take place at night, to limit inconvenience to drivers.

## 6. Will any soundwalls be built near this project?

Soundwalls were constructed in the area as part of the 91 Project. RCTC and Caltrans are evaluating the need for additional soundwalls near the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector. Decisions about soundwalls are expected to be completed in 2019.

## 7. How will I be able to access the 91 Express Lanes from the 15 Express Lanes?

The new 15/91 Express Lanes Connector will allow motorists traveling south in the future 15 Express Lanes to transition directly to the westbound 91 Express Lanes, and motorists traveling east in the 91 Express Lanes will be able to transition directly to the future northbound 15 Express Lanes. The new connector will provide a seamless connection between the express lanes on the 15 and the 91, allowing customers to stay in the express lanes, instead of needing to merge into the general-purpose lanes to transition between the 15 and 91.

## 8. Will there be a separate toll to use the connector? How much will it cost?

The new 15/91 Express Lanes Connector will be tolled as a part of the 15 Express Lanes dynamic pricing system. The cost to travel the 15 Express Lanes and the connector will vary with traffic demand to manage congestion. Users will pay the amount displayed on the price sign at the point of entry into the 91 or 15 Express Lanes. A FasTrak® transponder will be required. Any FasTrak® transponder issued by a California toll agency will be valid for trips on the 91 and 15 Express Lanes, including the new connector. A switchable transponder will be required for customers to receive a discount for carpooling with three or more passengers on the 15 Express Lanes and the connector.

All express lanes users, including carpoolers, will be required to have a FasTrak® transponder, which may be purchased from RCTC's Customer Service Center or any California toll agency.

## 9. Why wasn't the connector built as part of the 91 Project or the 15 Express Lanes Project?

The funding to construct the connector was not available as part of the 91 Project or the 15 Express Lanes Project. Plans for the connector originally were included in the 91 Project, but a downturn in the economy required the project to be reduced in scope. SB 132 provided the \$180 million to build the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector.

## 10. How can I stay informed?

Stay updated about the status of the 15/91 Express Lanes Connector by visiting [rctc.org/15-91connector](http://rctc.org/15-91connector), by emailing [15-91connector@rctc.org](mailto:15-91connector@rctc.org), by calling (844) 415-9777, or by following the project on social media: Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @15ExpressLanes