

EARLY OPENING OF 66 EXPRESS LANES WESTERN SECTION

Approximately nine miles of the new 66 Express Lanes between Gainesville and Route 28 in Centreville opened ahead of schedule on September 10, providing early travel benefits to I-66 motorists. This new express lanes segment is open to all traffic toll-free initially so that motorists can benefit from additional capacity, become familiar with the new express lanes and access points, and open an E-ZPass account, if needed. Tolling and HOV rules are anticipated to be in place on this western segment by the end of the month. At that time, motorists can choose to use the lanes by paying a toll or ride toll-free if traveling as a high occupancy vehicle (HOV) with two or more people and an E-ZPass Flex in HOV mode.

ACCESS POINTS AND EXITS INCLUDE

- Eastbound Entrances: From the I-66 East general purpose lanes prior to Route 29 in Gainesville; University Boulevard/University Boulevard Park and Ride Lot; Century Park Drive/Balls Ford Park and Ride Lot; Slip ramp prior to Route 234 Business (Sudley Road); Route 234 Business
- Eastbound Exits: Route 28 North; to the I-66 East general purpose lanes after Route 28 in Centreville
- Westbound Entrances: From the I-66 West general purpose lanes prior to Route 28 in Centreville; Route 28 South; Braddock Road/Walney Road
- Westbound Exits: Route 234 Business; Century Park Drive/Balls Ford Park and Ride Lot; University Boulevard/University Boulevard Park and Ride Lot; to the I-66 West general purpose lanes after Route 29 in Gainesville

BENEFITS OF OPENING THE 66 EXPRESS LANES WESTERN SECTION EARLY

- Opening nine miles of express lanes three months ahead of the remainder of the corridor provides early travel improvements
- Improvements include additional roadway capacity, new and smoother pavement, safety improvements, and new connections
- Provides travelers with a learning period to get acclimated with the 66 Express Lanes and new ramps and connections

HOW TO USE THE 66 EXPRESS LANES

- Tolls for the 66 Express Lanes will be based on traffic volumes and speed, in order to manage demand for the lanes and keep traffic moving.
- Drivers will see their individual toll price on electronic signs in advance of choosing to enter the lanes.
- Passenger vehicles such as cars, SUVs, most vans and pickup trucks will pay the same toll rate. Large and extra-large trucks will pay a higher rate to use the 66 Express Lanes.
- Drivers can pay using an E-ZPass transponder or by using one of the other payment options available through [Ride66express.com](https://ride66express.com) and the 66 Express Lanes Customer Service Center. These other payment options include online payment, mail-in payment, pay by phone, Walmart pay, or in-person payment at the Customer Service Center in Manassas.
- Drivers can order an E-ZPass at ezpassva.com or get one in-person at many AAA offices, Connector Stores, and Giant and Wegmans grocery stores in Northern Virginia.

HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLES

- Following the initial toll-free period on the western segment, eligible HOVs with an E-ZPass Flex in "carpool mode" can use the 66 Express Lanes toll-free.
- Vehicles must have two or more occupants to qualify as HOV and travel the western segment for free. When the remaining portion of the 66 Express Lanes opens later this year, drivers will need to have three or more occupants to qualify as an HOV and travel the express lanes for free.
- This change from HOV-2+ to HOV-3+ will apply across the entire I-66 corridor between Route 15 in Haymarket and the Washington, D.C. line – including 66 Express Lanes located inside and outside the Beltway – and is consistent with HOV requirements on the other express lanes networks in Northern Virginia.
- VDOT and Commuter Connections have partnered to offer an incentive of up to \$366 per person for new HOV-3+ carpools traveling the I-66 corridor. Learn more at Transform66.org.

PARK AND RIDE LOTS AND COMMUTER BUS

- The University Boulevard Park and Ride lot in Gainesville opened in 2019 offering 1,000 parking spaces and OmniRide commuter bus service. Additional OmniRide bus service is planned in late 2022.
- The Balls Ford Road Park and Ride lot in Manassas opened along with the 66 Express Lanes western segment. OmniRide bus service is planned to begin in late 2022.



66 EXPRESS LANES WESTERN SEGMENT GAINESVILLE TO ROUTE 28 IN CENTREVILLE

