

XI. Approval to Accept Staff's Final Toll Modernization Recommendation

After presenting the Toll Modernization Plan at nine public hearings around the state and providing 64 days of open public comment on the Toll Modernization Proposal, MDTA staff recommend the MDTA Board accept the final recommendation as described below. The final recommendation does not make any changes to the proposal that was advertised and presented to the public during the first public comment period.

- I. Expanded and New Vehicle Classifications:
 - Provides MDTA the ability to expand and create vehicle classifications for motorcycles, 3-wheeled cars, passenger vehicles towing trailers and campers, 3- and 4- axle recreational vehicles, and 2-axle recreational vehicles and tow trucks towing vehicles.
 - Staff proposes the toll rates for these vehicles to be reduced by 17% to 50% (50% for motorcycles and small vehicles; 25% for 3-axle vehicles (3A “light” classification); 17% for 4-axle vehicles (4A “light” classification)).
 - Effective date: no later than September 2020

- II. Establish New Payment Option (Pay-by-Plate):
 - A new payment method would be created for infrequent customers and those that do not want an *E-ZPass* account. This payment method allows customers to pay as they go by registering their license plate and credit card and eliminates the need to maintain a prepaid balance. The toll rates paid will mirror the cash and non-Maryland *E-ZPass* rates for the legacy facilities and be 25% higher than the *E-ZPass* rate on the Intercounty Connector (ICC) and I-95 Express Toll Lanes (ETL), and at least 20% less than the Pay-by-Invoice rate.
 - Effective date: no later than June 2020

- III. Video Toll Early Payment Discount (Pay-by-Invoice)
 - The MDTA proposes the introduction of an early payment discount structure, which would allow customers who pay their notice of toll due within a predetermined timeframe and prior to the mailing of the notice, to receive a 15% discount off of the video toll rate. Currently, customers have 45 days from the date notice is mailed to pay the video toll amount due without any penalty.
 - Effective date: no later than December 2020

Seizing these opportunities will save customers an estimated \$28.1 million over the next five years.

We are seeking the Board's approval to accept the final recommendation, and solicit public comment on the final recommendation, prior to MDTA Board vote, for 10 additional days.