

#### Maryland's ICC -

# MORE THAN JUST A ROAD



#### WHAT IS THE ICC?

The Intercounty Connector (ICC) is a six-lane, toll highway that connects I-270 at I-370 in eastern Montgomery County to US 1 in northwestern Prince George's County. As the State's eighth toll facility, the ICC is a state of the art highway with nine entry/exit points, providing a safer travel alternative to overcrowded local roads.

The Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) owns and operates the ICC and the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) managed the design and construction of the \$2.5 billion project.

#### WHY A TOLL ROAD?

The purpose of the ICC is to help deliver dependable travel times with a relatively congestion-free highway. To accomplish this goal, tolls vary to help manage the amount of traffic with a higher toll charged during the peak morning and afternoon rush hours and a lower toll charged during off-peak and overnight hours.

Tolling also provides funds for financing, operating and maintaining a large transportation project like the ICC. Without tolling, the ICC could not have been built. Conventional transportation funding was insufficient to build.

# How Does Tolling Work ON THE ICC?

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO USE THE ICC?

The MDTA Board established a formal tolling plan for what toll rates can be charged to those using the ICC. While the ICC is a variably priced toll facility to help manage congestion on the highway, the tolls charged must fall within the ranges established in the plan and outlined in the chart below:

PRICING PERIODS	APPROVED MILEAGE-RATE RANGES (two-axle vehicles)	
Peak Period Mon – Fri: 6 – 9am; 4 - 7pm (excluding federal holidays)	\$0.22/mile — \$0.35/mile	
Off-Peak Period Mon – Fri: 5 – 6am; 9am - 4pm; 7 – 11pm Sat & Sun: 5am – 11pm	\$0.17/mile — \$0.30/mile	
Overnight Period Daily 11pm – 5am	\$0.07/mile – \$0.30/mile	

Currently, toll rates are set at the lowest end of the ranges. To travel the ICC from I-370 to US 1 drivers of cars and light trucks with *E-ZPass* will pay \$3.86 during Peak hours, \$2.98 Off-Peak and \$1.23 Overnight. To download a two-axle vehicle rate card, visit mdta.maryland.gov.





#### **CAN ICC TOLL RATES CHANGE?**

Since the ICC is a variably priced toll facility, the toll rates vary by time of day and day of the week. While the MDTA continuously monitors traffic volumes on the ICC, toll rates do not change minute by minute in response to real-time traffic volumes on the highway. To manage travel demand and congestion and to help meet revenue needs, ICC toll rates will be reviewed periodically and may be changed within the approved tolling ranges by providing at least 10 days notice to the public. Increasing the tolling ranges requires a 60-day public comment period.

#### **HOW DO I PAY TO USE THE ICC?**

Since there are no toll plazas on the ICC, tolls cannot be paid in cash on the highway. Tolls are paid electronically at highway speeds using *E-ZPass* or Video Tolling as vehicles pass underneath tolling structures. All-electronic tolling on the ICC helps to maintain free-flowing traffic conditions and improves air quality by eliminating stop-and-go traffic at toll plazas.

## How Is The ICC DIFFERENT?

## WHAT IS *E-ZPASS* AND HOW DO I GET ONE?

E-ZPass® is an electronic toll collection system used at toll facilities in the Northeastern



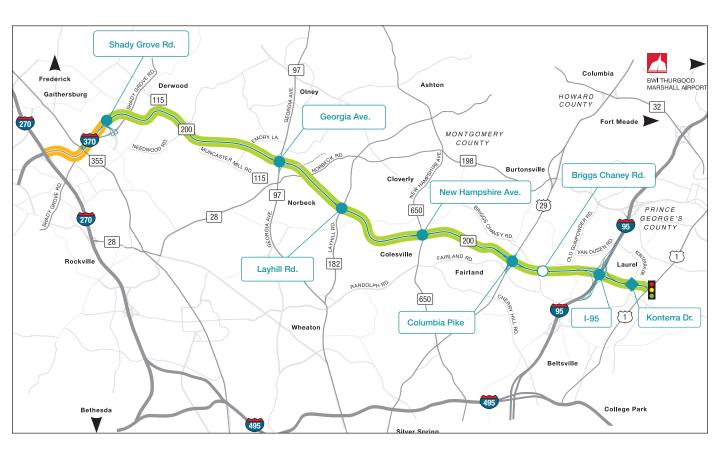
United States and in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and North Carolina. With *E-ZPass*, drivers set up a pre-paid account and place a small plastic device called a transponder on the inside of their vehicles' windshields. Their tolls are automatically deducted from their accounts when they travel beneath special tolling structures with the transponder in their vehicles. Tolls can be pre-paid by cash, check or credit card.

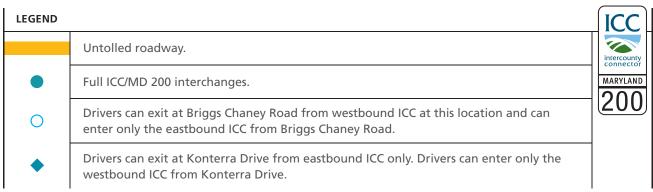
To get *E-ZPass* or for a list of *E-ZPass* "On the Go" retail locations, including local Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) offices in Gaithersburg (15 Metropolitan Grove Road) and Beltsville (11760 Baltimore Avenue), visit ezpassmd.com. *E-ZPass* Stop-in Centers are also located near all Maryland toll facilities.

E-ZPASS MARYLAND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER 1-888-321-6824



#### The Intercounty Connector (ICC)/MD 200











### CAN I USE THE ICC WITHOUT AN E-ZPASS?

Video Tolling is an alternative to *E-ZPass*, but is not recommended for frequent travelers. ICC motorists who do not have an *E-ZPass* will be sent a bill in the mail and charged the Video Toll Rate (VTR). VTRs at all Maryland toll facilities are 1.5 times the base toll rates with a minimum of \$1/maximum of \$15 above the base toll rate to help cover the higher cost of collecting tolls in this manner.

## WHERE CAN I GET ON AND OFF THE ICC?

Drivers can enter and exit the ICC at the following locations:

- I-370 at Shady Grove
- MD 97 (Georgia Avenue)
- MD 182 (Layhill Road)
- MD 650 (New Hampshire Avenue)
- US 29 (Columbia Pike)
- Briggs Chaney Road (Drivers can enter only the eastbound ICC.)
- I-95 at Laurel
- Konterra Drive (Drivers can exit at Konterra Drive from eastbound ICC only. Drivers can enter only the westbound ICC from Konterra Drive.)
- US 1 (signalized intersection)

#### TRUCKING ON THE ICC

If you move goods across the Baltimore-Washington region, the ICC will work for you.

From industry suppliers to owner-operators, from movers to intermodal carriers, from delivery trucks to dump trucks, the ICC can help you get there faster.

With no stop lights or toll plazas on the ICC, truckers have a safer and more efficient travel option to local roads. With generally free-flowing traffic, the ICC not only saves the trucking community significant time, but provides reliable travel for on-time pick-ups and deliveries. With these time savings and greater efficiencies, companies have the opportunity to better serve their existing customers and increase their customer base. Trucks will spend less time idling in stop-and-go traffic on local roads – decreasing fuel usage/spending and carbon emissions and enhancing safety for all.

Using the per-mile toll rates, currently set at the lowest end of the rate ranges, five-axle vehicles with *E-ZPass* traveling the ICC from I-370 to US 1 pay a maximum toll of \$23.14. Visit mdta.maryland.gov to download rate cards for three-, four-, five- and six+-axle vehicles. Open an *E-ZPass* account and let the ICC work for you.

mdta.maryland.gov



## HOW MUCH TIME WILL I SAVE IF I TRAVEL THE ICC?

Travel on the ICC saves users valuable time versus existing travel options on the local road network. A trip from Gaithersburg to Leisure World (near the intersection of Georgia Ave. and MD 28) via local roads takes up to 23 minutes during the morning rush hour. Typically, a driver would use Shady Grove Road, Muncaster Mill Road and Norbeck Road for the trip. Using the ICC, a driver can travel the same distance in approximately 7 minutes, a 16-minute time savings – or 70 percent less time.

## BWI THURGOOD MARSHALL AIRPORT

Catching a late afternoon flight out of BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport from the Shady Grove Metro Station takes more than 70 minutes using the local roadway network. Using the ICC, the trip takes 37 minutes – nearly a 50 percent time savings. Getting to work along the I-270 Technology Corridor is easier for Prince George's County residents traveling the ICC.

#### **SAMPLE TIME SAVINGS**

	TRAVEL TIME		TIME SAVINGS	
ROUTE	USING LOCAL ROADS	USING ICC/MD 200	IN MINUTES	%
Gaithersburg to Leisure World	23	7	16	70
Laurel to Gaithersburg	47	17	30	64
Gaithersburg to BWI Airport	71	37	34	48
White Oak to Gaithersburg	56	20	36	64
Laurel to Leisure World	25	13	12	48

## How Does The ICC WORK FOR ME?

A trip from Laurel to Gaithersburg that once took more than 47 minutes in the morning saves a commuter more than 30 minutes with a 17-minute trip on the ICC.

## **HOW DOES THE ICC IMPROVE SAFETY?**

The ICC helps relieve traffic clogged local roads, making them safer for commuters, residents and business people by preventing a projected 350 crashes annually. The ICC improves traffic flow and reduces traffic congestion on local roads at more than 51 key intersections.

## **HOW DOES TRANSIT WORK ON THE ICC?**

The ICC improves transit service along its east-west corridor. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) operates high-quality, tour-style commuter buses along express routes linking key employment and activity centers along the I-270 and I-95 corridors.

For more transit and ride sharing information contact www.commuterconnections.org and mtaiccbus.com