

MANAGED LANES

State Legislative Issues for Managed Lanes in Texas

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Presentation Overview

- **Managed Lanes Overview**
- **Legislation Research**
- **General Legislative Needs**
- **Strategy-specific Needs**
- **Final Remarks**



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Managed Lanes

“A facility that increases freeway efficiency by packaging various operational and design actions. Lane management operations may be adjusted at any time to better match regional goals.”

- TxDOT Project Monitoring Committee



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What are Managed Lanes?

- **Lane/group of lanes with a combination of operating and design strategies**
 - ✓ Maximize person moving capacity
 - ✓ Optimize vehicle carrying capacity
 - ✓ Provide travel options & increase flexibility
 - ✓ Achieve corridor and community goals
- **Designed for flexibility**


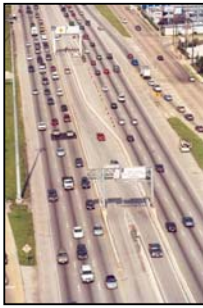


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Examples

- **HOV lanes**
- **HOT lanes**
- **Value priced lanes**
- **Express lanes**
- **Exclusive lanes**
- **Separation and bypass lanes**
- **Dual facilities**
- **Lane restrictions**



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User Groups

Who will use the facility?





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TxDOT Managed Lanes Research Vision


... to develop a better understanding of how managed lanes can improve mobility for people and freight.


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Legislation Research



- **Assess current statutes**
- **Legislative needs**
 - ✓ Design
 - ✓ Operate
 - ✓ Enforce
- **Legal/regulatory flexibility**
 - ✓ Operations
 - ✓ Eligible users



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Legislation Needs - General

- **Define "managed lanes"**
- **Authorize transportation agencies to operate all strategies**
- **Allow operational flexibility**





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Violations

- **Citations issued through a combination of statutes, county laws, and municipal ordinances**
- **Make violation of any managed lane facility in state punishable by fine**

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Enforcement

- **Ensure appropriate agencies have authority to enforce managed lanes laws**
- **Allow enforcement methods to change as technology becomes available**





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Legislative Needs Specific to Operational Strategy

Managed Lane Operational Strategy	Texas Legislative Changes Needed
HOV Lanes	No
Value-Priced/HOT Lanes	No
Express Lanes	No
Exclusive Lanes	Yes
Separation/Bypass	No
Dual Facilities	No
Lane Restrictions	Yes





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Value-Priced / HOT Lanes

- Number of facilities limited by federal program
- Remove "pilot" wording from federal value-price / HOT lane program & related legislation

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Exclusive Lanes

- Need authority to establish truck-exclusive lanes
- Ability to require trucks to use them
- Restrict passenger car use






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Lane Restrictions

- For congestion purposes
- Only municipalities currently have authority
- Extend authority to TxDOT
- Allow full-time operation
- Restrict vehicles *from* rather than *to* designated lanes





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Final Remarks

- Regulations broaden powers of states and other transportation organizations
- Provide tools to implement managed lane facilities effectively



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Web Site & Newsletter




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