

**MANAGED LANES**

## *Managed Lane Facilities in Texas*

**2002 Transportation Short Course**

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## *Presentation Overview*

- **Managed Lanes Overview**
- **Research Project Background**
- **Year 2 Activities**
- **Recent Relevant Findings**
- **Year 3 Activities**
- **Questions**



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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?*

- **A lane or 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 so service options can be modified over time**



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## *Strategies*

- **Serve special user groups**
  - ✓ HOV, SOV, Truck, ILEV
- **Period-based options**
  - ✓ Time-of-day, day-of-week
- **Pricing**
- **Physical control**
  - ✓ Continuous barriers, gates
- **Operational control**
  - ✓ Lane assignment, reversible lanes, driver information





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## *Examples*

- **HOV lanes**
- **HOT lanes**
- **Value priced lanes**
- **Express 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

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

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## Project Objectives

... to investigate the complex and interrelated issues surrounding the safe and efficient operation of managed lanes.

... to develop a comprehensive manual to help TxDOT make informed decisions.

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## Key Year 2 Tasks

- Decision Matrix
- State and Federal Legislation
- Concept Marketing
- Funding and Financing
- Geometric Design
- Web Site and Newsletter

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## Conceptual Decision Process

*For Development of a Managed Lanes Project*

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## Possible Vehicle User Groups

- SOV
- HOV
- Bus/BRT
- Truck
- ILEV
- Taxi, shuttle
- Emergency vehicles
- Motorcycles
- Future rail

Selection of user groups will depend upon


- ✓ Corridor characteristics
- ✓ Project goals/objectives
- ✓ Policy issues

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### **Hierarchy of Vehicle User Groups** (Colorado Value Express Lanes)

- Highest: Buses and other transit operations
- Second: Vanpools and 3+ carpools
- Third: 2+ carpools
- Fourth: ILEV
- Lowest: SOV (toll-payers)




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### **State Regulations - General**


- Define “managed lanes”
- Authorize transportation agencies to operate all strategies
- Authority can cover more than one strategy
- Allow operational changes





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### **State Regulations - Specific**



- ILEV authorization should follow federal regulations
- Lane restrictions
  - ✓ Allow full-time operation
  - ✓ Restrict vehicles **from** designated lanes



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### **Concept Marketing**

- Build understanding of the managed lane concept
- Identify effective approaches for communicating concept and building consensus
- Develop position papers:
  - ✓ Policy-maker audience
  - ✓ Media editorial boards




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### **Concept Marketing**

- Common messages
  - ✓ Choice
  - ✓ Enforcement
  - ✓ Tool
  - ✓ Revenue use
  - ✓ Efficiency
  - ✓ Funding
  - ✓ Operations
- Determine public perception at the project level
- Gain support through political champions




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### **Funding & Financing**

- Types of financing available to a managed lanes project
- Match the financing method to the project goals
  - ✓ What is being managed?
- Leverage monies
- Update/change laws to attract private investment



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## Web Site & Newsletter



**FAST LANE**

**Welcome!**

Welcome to the Managed Lanes website at Texas Transportation Institute. This site highlights ongoing research that TTI is conducting on managed lanes - provides key research results and access to reports, has information on meetings and other events related to managed lanes across the country, and has links to key related internet sites. You can also read our quarterly newsletter, participate in online surveys, archives, and join our mailing list.

This site will advance and grow as managed lanes research progresses and we welcome and encourage your comments and feedback. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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## Year 3 Activities


- **Traveler Information**
- **Traffic Control Devices**
- **Incident Management**
- **Revisions to Traffic Operations Manual**
- **Interim Managed Lanes Manual**

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## Questions?



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