



ADDING NEW TOLL ROADS



More Information: tti.tamu.edu/policy/how-to-fix-congestion

Description

Toll roads use an alternative method to pay for construction costs: users of the facility pay instead of the public. Toll facilities (including roads, tunnels, and bridges) charge a fee when the user passes a collection point.

Technological advances such as electronic plazas and virtual toll points (geofences) have replaced traditional toll booths. These systems allow fees to be collected without slowing down users or causing congestion on the road.

Target Market

Toll roads may be appropriate for a broad range of corridors in cities of many sizes. In general, tolls can be used to finance the construction of new roads, the reconstruction or rehabilitation of existing toll roads, and the reconstruction and widening of existing non-toll roads.

How Will This Help?

- **Provides a mechanism to fund a project** where no public funds are available or funds are limited.
- **Accelerates implementation** of projects that are funded or partially funded.
- **Allows toll revenues to be used to fund** other transportation infrastructure needs in the region, or to support operations and maintenance activities on other non-toll roads.

Implementation Issues

The top hurdles for adding new toll roads or adding tolls to existing facilities to pay for reconstruction, expansion, or operations and maintenance are:

- **Securing funding**, particularly now that many toll facilities have been experiencing decreasing traffic and revenues.
- **Obtaining the proper environmental clearances**, which is usually a time-consuming process that can significantly delay any project.
- **Addressing the public reluctance** to pay for tolls, which they generally see as another tax.

COST



TIME



IMPACT



WHO



TOLL AUTHORITY

HURDLES



FUNDING

SUCCESS STORIES

Loop 49, Tyler, Texas:

By building this as a toll road, the entire project opened by as much as **20 years ahead of schedule.**



Inter County Connector (ICC), Maryland:

This new toll road provides a new, direct connection between IH 95 and IH 270.



Travel times were cut in half from 45 minutes to 23 minutes.

