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## [ Metro News Briefs ]

### California Lawmakers Approve Bill Allowing Congestion Pricing on Two Highways

[Online](#) at metro.net

(Sept. 2, 2008) On Saturday, Aug. 30 California lawmakers approved Senate Bill 1422, which allows [congestion pricing](#) on two Los Angeles County highways. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature.

The legislation allows Metro to use \$210.6 million from a federal grant to convert carpool lanes on segments of the I-10 (El Monte Busway) and I-110 (Harbor Transitway) highways.

Designed to reduce traffic congestion and gridlock, the one-year-long demonstration project, which Metro has named FastLanes, will convert High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes on segments of the highways.

Besides maximizing freeway capacity usage, Metro, Caltrans, and other FastLanes partners hope to use proceeds from congestion pricing to fund additional transit alternatives.

Senate Bill 1422, by Sen. Mark Ridley-Thomas, requires Metro to provide discount tolls for low-income commuters.

For the bill to become law, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger must sign it before Sept. 30.

