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In this June 2016 photo, traffic was backed up on Interstate 35W near Western Center and Basswood and Meacham boulevards. **Joyce Marshall** jlmarshall@star-telegram.com

FORT WORTH

Need to get away? I-35 TEXpress lanes now open at Basswood Boulevard

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SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 12:29 PM

FORT WORTH

So, you're in a long line of traffic on Interstate 35W in north Fort Worth and you need to get downtown.

If you're willing to pay, it just got easier for you.

The Basswood Boulevard entrance ramp to the North Tarrant Express TEXpress opened last week, allowing motorists to more easily access toll lanes. The lefthand on-ramp is located just past Basswood on the southbound I-35W frontage road.

Motorists can follow the TEXpress lanes to the I-35W/I-820 interchange — the only exit open on southbound I-35W at this time — and join the regular southbound lanes with access to eastbound and westbound Northeast Loop 820. Meacham Boulevard is next available exit.

Typical toll prices on the toll segment range from 15 to 35 cents per mile during lighter traffic, and 45 to 75 cents during rush hour, according to the TEXpress website.

Workers continue to make progress on other I-35W construction, with the section of the highway between I-820 and U.S. 287 nearing completion.

These entrances and exit ramps along I-35W are closed for an extended period:

• The off-ramp from southbound I-35W to westbound Spur 820 will be closed until December.

• Northbound I-35W on-ramp at Northside Drive and Yucca Avenue will be shut down through mid-October.

On-ramps to southbound I-35W from Weatherford and Gilvin streets have reopened.

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