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## Managed toll lanes will be free next week — if you sign up now

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By **BRANDON FORMBY**    
Transportation Writer

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North Texas drivers will get to test the region's growing network of managed toll lanes for free next week — if they have a TollTag and register online by at [texpresslanes.com](http://texpresslanes.com) until 11:59 p.m. Friday.

Managed toll lanes run alongside free lanes and give people willing to pay a chance to drive at least 55 mph. They have already appeared on two portions of LBJ Freeway, State Highways 114 and 121 near Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and State Highway 183 in Tarrant County.

Transportation officials are adding managed toll lanes, also called TexPress lanes, to virtually every major highway project in the area. In most cases, they replace free car pool lanes. The lanes feature fluctuating prices, which change depending on the amount of drivers already using them.

If the lanes become congested, the toll rates rise. If the lanes are less congested, the rates fall. The idea is to raise prices and deter other drivers from entering the lanes so congestion can unwind.

People who register online at [texpresslanes.com](http://texpresslanes.com) can drive the lanes for free from Dec. 1 to 7. The idea for the free week is to get people used to the lanes and an app that already provides discounts for car poolers.

“This is new for North Texas,” said Dia Kuykendall, corporate affairs director for private developer LBJ Infrastructure Group. “It’s a way for people to really get out there and drive these new roads.”

LBJ was the first road to debut managed toll lanes in Texas when the stretch from Preston

Road to Greenville Avenue opened last year. A second phase, that highway's connection to Interstate 35E, opened earlier this year. The biggest section, from Preston to Luna Road, will open next year.

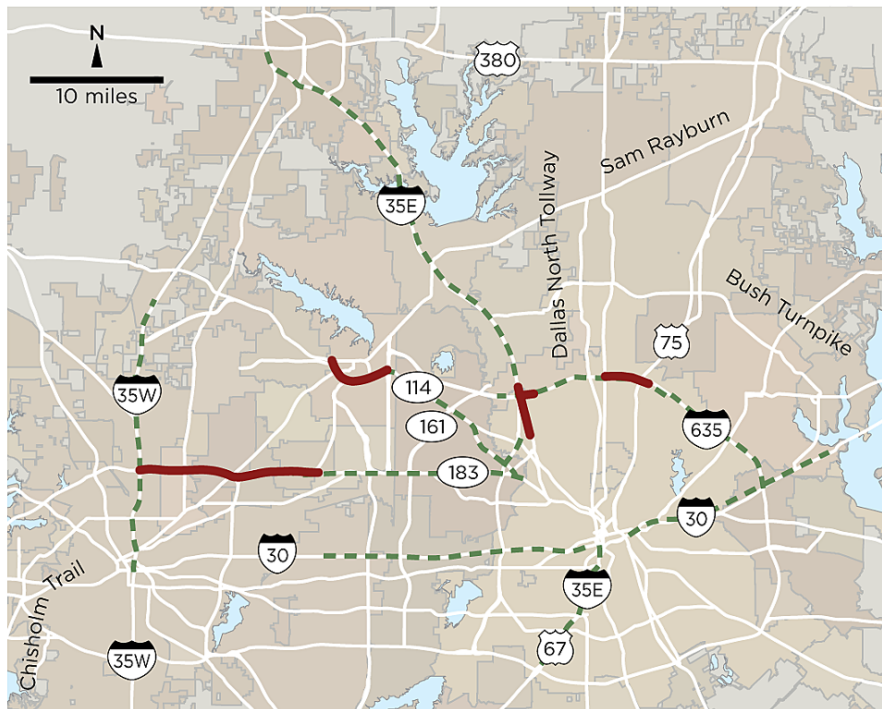
So far, 1.2 million trips have been made on LBJ's managed toll lanes. And more than 14,000 drivers have signed up to use all the lanes for free next week.

"So it's getting some legs," said Robert Hinkle, corporate affairs director for developer NTE Mobility Partners.

## Roadway plans

North Texas will soon be home to the nation's largest network of managed toll lanes. Here's a look at planned projects. Existing projects will be free Dec. 1-7 for TollTag users who register online at [texpresslanes.com](http://texpresslanes.com).

— Existing managed toll lanes    - - - Planned managed toll lanes



SOURCES: North Texas Tollway Authority; Texas Department of Transportation; Regional Transportation Council

Staff Grap

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