

Overview of Outreach Initiatives FOR FHWA Congestion Pricing Program

INTRODUCTION

Over the last several years, FHWA has continued its outreach and knowledge transfer efforts to facilitate information sharing among state and local transportation agencies that are implementing or evaluating congestion pricing, while motivating others to include pricing strategies in their congestion management programs and approaches. Under this effort, FHWA has published primers and white papers, conducted webinars and workshops, provided updates on projects funded through the Value Pricing Pilot Program (VPPP) in the form of website updates and reports to Congress and provided other relevant updates through the congestion pricing website.

“The VPPP has been of tremendous value to the congestion pricing industry over the past two decades.”

— DAVID UNGEMAH, CHAIR TRB CONGESTION PRICING COMMITTEE

Primer on the Second Generation Pricing Projects

Second-generation pricing projects refer to variably priced lanes and variable tolls on entire roadways, and the implementation of integrated networks of priced roadways within urban regions. The Primer:

- Explores the evolution of first-generation pricing strategies (conversions of existing HOV lanes into HOT lanes) into more complex express toll lanes using new or expanded capacity.
- Provides insights from case studies around US as well as guidance for agencies looking to develop second-generation pricing projects.

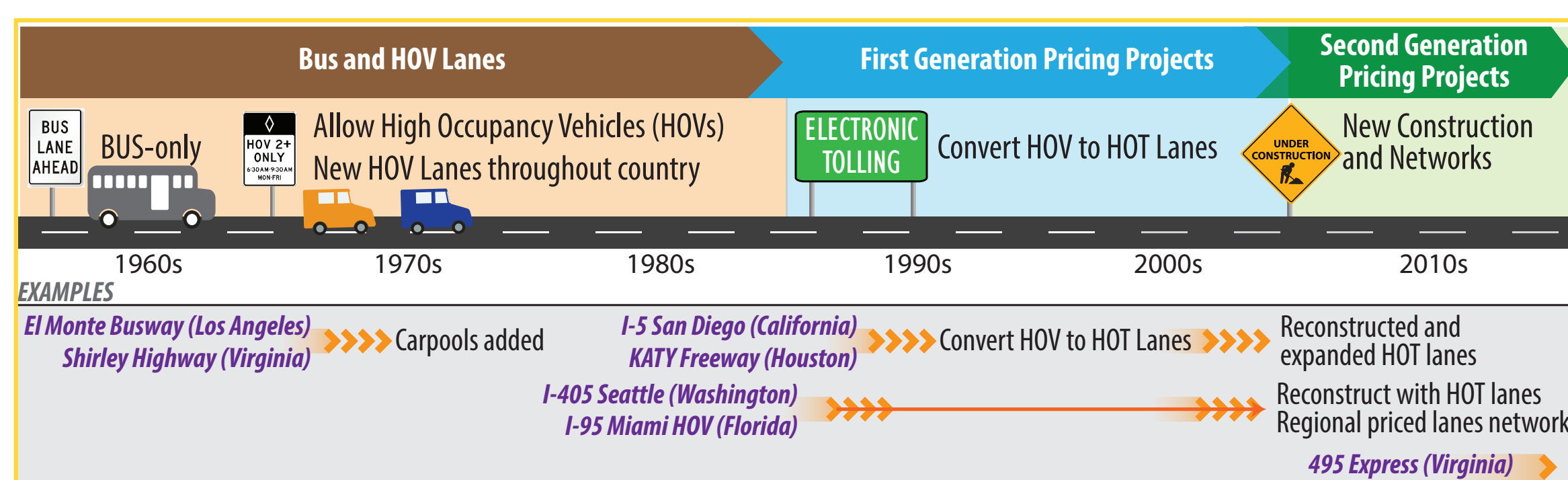


Figure 1: Timeline Depicting the Evolution of Roadway Pricing from the 1960s through Today.

Congestion Pricing: Effective Approaches To Streamlining Back Office Operations

“Back Office Issues” are defined as the critical issues related to operations, policy, and rapidly changing technology that impact behind the scenes operations of tolled facilities. This primer:

- Discusses eight such issues including: (i) Policy Decisions Drive Business Rules, (ii) Interoperability, (iii) Back Office Efficiency, (iv) Enforcement, (v) Data Analysis and Warehouse, (vi) Transparency, (vii) Privacy, and (viii) Private Sector Involvement.
- Makes the case that back office issues need to be addressed earlier in project development. Technology involved with back office operations evolves rapidly, so flexibility must be built in during the development of congestion pricing projects and systems.

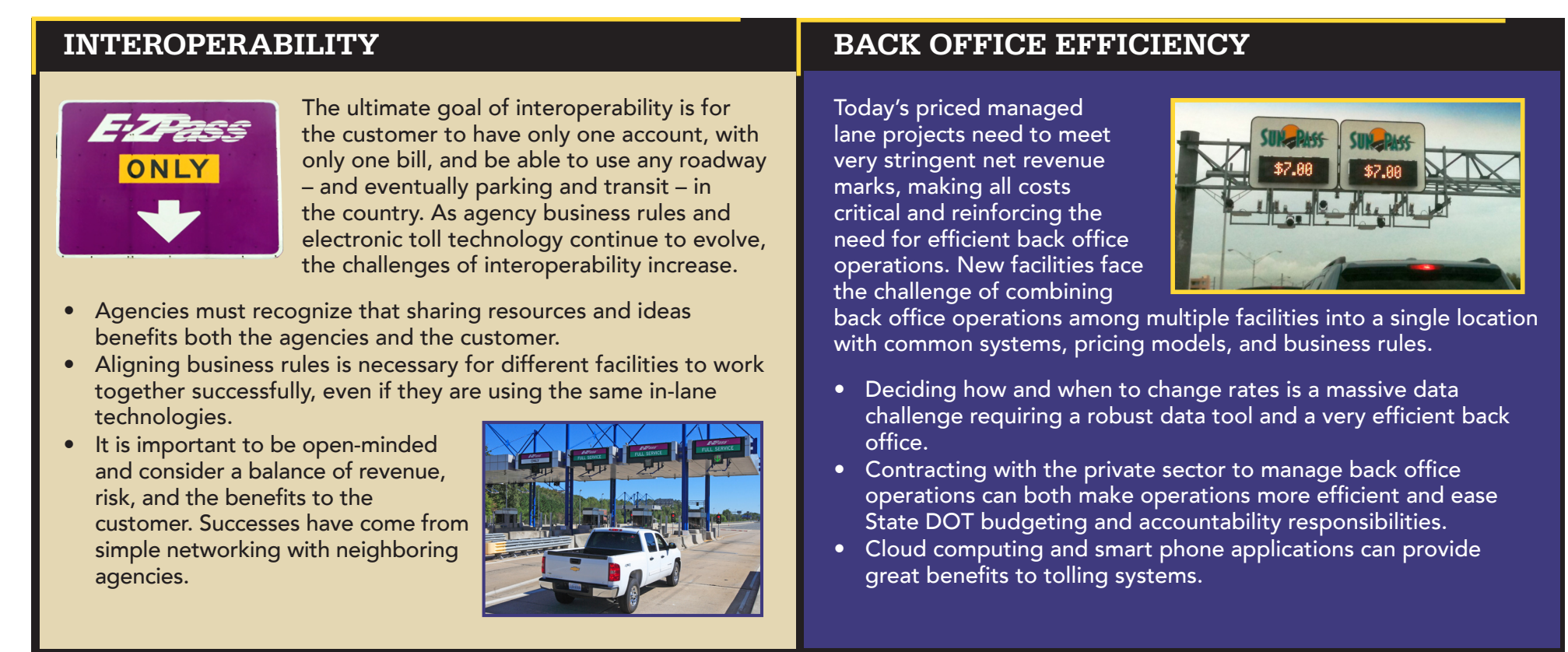


Figure 2: Interoperability and Back-Office Efficiency Issues: Two of Eight Topic Areas Identified that Need to be Addressed Early in Project Development.

2016 Congestion Pricing Program Report to Congress



Figure 3: Bay Area Express Lane Website (<http://bayareaexpresslanes.org/>)

Through a comprehensive Congestion Pricing program that includes the VPPP, as well as follow-on initiatives such as the Congestion Reduction Demonstrations (CRD), Urban Partnership Agreements (UPA), and Express Lanes Demonstration programs, FHWA has now funded more than 135 congestion pricing projects and studies across 19 States and the District of Columbia. These reports provide an update to the members of Congress on those projects including highlights such as:

- 33** Operating managed lane facilities exist nationwide. This number has more than doubled in the last four years.
- 8** Additional managed lane projects are under construction, and approximately **14** others in planning.

Report to Congress on the VPPP through April 2016 has been submitted and will be made available shortly.

FHWA Congestion Pricing Web Site

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/congestionpricing>
Launched in late 2014, this web site combines the four previously disparate sites on VPPP, Urban Partnership Agreements (UPA), Congestion Reduction Demonstrations (CRD), and the Express Lanes Demonstration Program. It provides:

- Links to publications, tools, and other resources to help agencies implement congestion pricing.
- VPPP quarterly reports with project updates

Contemporary Tools and Approaches for Parking Pricing and Management Workshops

The initial round of workshops concluded in March, 2015. This included workshops on tools and approaches for parking pricing in the District of Columbia, Denver, Houston, Boston, Minneapolis, and Atlanta. An additional round of workshops concluded in March, 2016. These took place in Chicago, Durham, and San Diego, Portland and Fort Lauderdale. These events are designed primarily for parking program managers and transportation policy leaders from local governments to exchange ideas with national leaders and among themselves.

Figure 4: Information on FHWA's document, Contemporary Approaches to Parking Pricing: A Primer, was presented by Allen Greenberg (FHWA) and Matthew Kaufman (UrbanTrans North America)



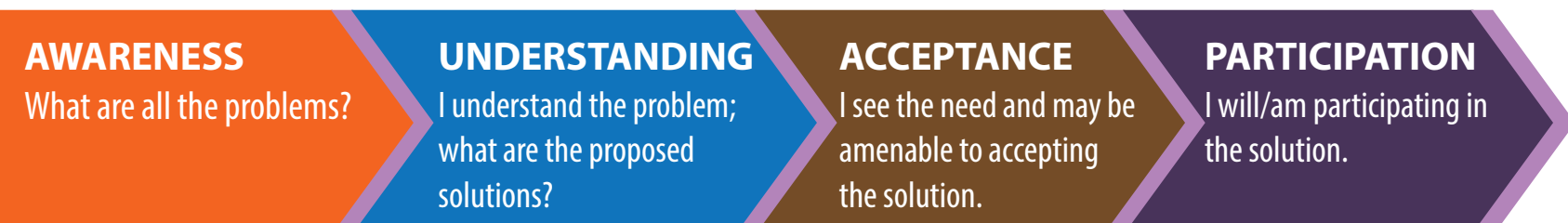
FHWA Congestion Pricing Program Products - COMING SOON

Congestion Pricing and True Cost of Driving paper
Communicating the success of Priced Managed Lanes (PML) for customers is vital to gaining public support of them. Overcoming misinformation about PMLs and resistance to change often requires building a better understanding among roadway users of the true cost of driving. This paper examines the case of public outreach undertaken by Washington State DOT (WSDOT) for the SR 520 tolling on the existing and new bridge across Lake Washington and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) efforts towards gaining public acceptance for the I-10 and I-110 Express Lanes.

Kick-starting Connected Vehicles Testing on Managed Lanes
Managed lane operators have a head start in terms of the technology and technical expertise required to implement test programs, conduct tests, and evaluate what works best for them. This paper will explain the state of CV and why the Managed Lane community should care about them, and help the managed lane community effectively implement successful CV test programs on their facilities.

Analytical Impacts of the Congestion Pricing Program
This paper will provide a summary of the analytical tools and processes that have been deployed on recent congestion pricing projects. Some examples of project attributes that have been measured include:

- Low Income impacts
- Impacts on communities, transit, rideshare
- Congestion relief (Managed Lanes and GP lanes)
- Safety
- Revenues



FHWA Congestion Pricing Program Other Products

Contemporary Approaches in Congestion Pricing: Lessons Learned from the National Evaluation of Congestion Pricing Strategies at Six Sites, August 2015.

- The final report of the national evaluation of congestion reduction strategies at six sites that received federal funding under the Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) and Congestion Reduction Demonstration (CRD) programs. The six sites, or “urban partners,” were Atlanta, Georgia; Los Angeles, California; Miami, Florida; Minneapolis, Minnesota; San Francisco, California; and Seattle, Washington.
- Other individual UPA/CRD project reports are available at <http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/congestionpricing>.

National Congestion Pricing Conference Summary and Outcomes

- Summarizes the panel sessions and outcomes from the National Congestion Pricing Conference, held in July 2013 in Seattle, Washington.

“Expanding the use of tolling and congestion pricing could help to reduce congestion, while generating revenues that could be used to finance the construction of new roadways and bridges or maintain existing facilities.”

BEYOND TRAFFIC 2045

