



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Safety

#### **What safety measures will be in place to manage incidents on the lanes?**

The HOT lanes are designed to promote driver safety. The increased law enforcement located throughout the HOT lanes corridor will be among the most visible safety measures in place. In addition to HOV violation enforcement, these officers will enforce safe driving and will be available to respond immediately to incidents on the lanes.

Closed-circuit video cameras and traffic sensors will continuously monitor the lanes and identify incidents on the HOT lanes within a few minutes. Private, dedicated incident response crews will be deployed to manage incidents quickly, in cooperation with first responders and emergency service providers. Electronic signs will alert motorists to incidents ahead.

#### **Won't the HOT lanes make the bottleneck at the American Legion Bridge headed into Maryland worse?**

We recognize that the American Legion Bridge is highly congested and often a problem for drivers in the region. And, the Capital Beltway HOT lanes certainly won't fix all traffic troubles on the entire Beltway. However, the project is cognizant of the issues at the American Legion Bridge, and as a result, our project terminates at Old Dominion Drive (just north of the Dulles Toll Road), rather than the original northern terminus from the project's earlier design, which was at Georgetown Pike. This earlier termination of the project will allow vehicles to more gradually merge from the wider HOT lanes corridor (6 lanes) to the original Beltway configuration (4 lanes). Furthermore, both Maryland and Virginia are engaged in a longer-term Mobility Study for the Capital Beltway, which would potentially identify other enhancements for such Beltway bottlenecks as the American Legion Bridge.

#### **Will the HOT lanes promote increased cut-through traffic in local neighborhoods?**

The HOT lanes are designed to make the Capital Beltway flow more efficiently – keeping drivers on the interstate and out of local neighborhoods. During construction, VDOT is working with local officials and adjacent communities to manage spillover traffic through increased enforcement and other traffic-calming measures such as speed bumps, variable message signs, etc.