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FEDERAL TOLL FREE POLICY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES ON I-85 HOT LANES EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 29

Peach Pass certified AFV customers encouraged to prepare for upcoming changes

ATLANTA, GA – The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) is alerting Peach Pass customers that a federal exemption allowing certified Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFVs), including electric vehicles, to ride toll-free in the I-85 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes will expire at 11:59 pm on September 29, 2025.

This change, based on 23 United States Code 166(b), means that starting September 30, 2025, all electric vehicles and other AFVs, regardless of whether they were Peach Pass certified AFVs, traveling in the nation's high occupancy toll lanes including Georgia's I-85 HOT Lanes must pay tolls or meet the occupancy requirements of Peach Pass Verify.

All Peach Pass customers, including owners of electric and alternative fuel vehicles can still travel toll free in the I-85 HOT Lanes when carpooling with three or more occupants who have been validated through the Peach Pass Verify app. Information on Peach Pass Verify can be found at <https://peachpass.com/peachpassverify/>.

SRTA is also strongly recommending that Peach Pass certified AFV customers log into their Peach Pass accounts and confirm that payment methods are current and active before tolls are charged starting September 30, 2025, to avoid receiving a violation notice.

“Although the federal government is removing this toll-free benefit, SRTA is committed to a smooth customer experience during this transition,” said Jannine Miller, Executive Director at SRTA. “We’re sharing this update early to help customers plan ahead and avoid confusion, unexpected toll charges and unintended violations.”

What Peach Pass customers should know:

- Beginning September 30, 2025, all electric vehicles and other AFV customers regardless of whether they were Peach Pass certified AFVs must pay tolls unless they meet the carpool occupancy requirements through the Peach Pass Verify app.
- Alternative Fuel Vehicles include vehicles fueled solely by electricity, natural gas, propane, bi-fuel, or dual fuel.

- Peach Pass certified AFVs have obtained an AFV license plate for their vehicle and have been certified by Peach Pass through a partnership with the Georgia Department of Revenue.
- This change only applies to the I-85 HOT Lanes. All Peach Pass customers currently pay tolls on the I-75 Northwest Corridor and I-75 South Metro Express Lanes regardless of vehicle type and passenger number.
- There is NO change to toll free benefits for Peach Pass certified motorcycles in the I-85 HOT Lanes.

For additional details on the HOT Lanes AFV expiration, please visit PeachPass.com/AFV-Certification or call the Peach Pass Customer Service Center at I-855-PCH-PASS (724-7277).

About the federal exemption:

- Per the Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) which oversees operation of Georgia's HOV lanes, the expiration of the federal exemption also applies to usage of HOV lanes by AFV drivers. HOV lanes are not tolled but do have occupancy requirements for all vehicles in the lanes. As of September 30, 2025, like all other passenger vehicles, AFVs must be occupied by two or more persons to use HOV lanes. The change applies to all HOV lanes in the state of Georgia. More information about AFV usage of HOV lanes can be found at <https://www.dot.ga.gov/GDOT/Pages/AFV.aspx>.
- The Georgia Department of Public Safety is working in partnership with the State Road and Tollway Authority and the Georgia Department of Transportation to prepare for the federal policy change. For information regarding HOV enforcement visit: <https://dps.georgia.gov/high-occupancy-vehicle-lanes>.

For media inquiries regarding the HOV lane AFV exemption expiration contact:
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For media inquiries regarding enforcement of the HOV lanes contact:
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Captain Crystal Zion – gsppio@gsp.net

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About the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA)

SRTA is a state-level authority created to operate tolled transportation facilities within Georgia and act as the transportation financing arm for the state. SRTA manages the collection of tolls on Georgia's Express Lanes System through the use of Peach Pass. Since 2010, the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) – a grant and low-interest loan program administered by SRTA – has provided funding for eligible local transportation projects across the state. In 2017, SRTA combined with the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to jointly provide the services of both state authorities. The GRTA board continues to oversee developments of regional impact, air quality reporting and regional transportation plan approval.