



NEWS

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New \$200 Go Card puts San Mateo County toll dollars back in residents' pockets

Toll revenues from the San Mateo 101 Express Lanes are being turned into direct help for people who need it most.

The San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA) has launched the **Go Card**, a \$200 prepaid transportation card for income-eligible county residents. The card helps cover everyday travel costs, including transit fares, FasTrak tolls, and bike- and scooter-share, giving people more ways to get to work, school, medical appointments, and daily errands.

"We are thrilled for this partnership," said South San Francisco Community Resource Center Director Elida Valencia Sobalvarro. "The Go Card program provides a breath of relief to so many families struggling with the high cost of travel in the county."

Unlike traditional transit subsidies, the new Go Card is flexible. Funds can be used across multiple transportation options and can go even further when paired with discounted programs like **Clipper Start**, which cuts transit fares in half for qualifying riders.

"This is about making transportation more affordable and more realistic for how people actually travel," said SMCEL-JPA Board Chair Michael Salazar. "The Go Card gives people choices — and puts toll dollars back into the communities using our roads."

The program builds on the nation's first express-lanes-funded, choice-based transportation benefit, originally launched in 2022. Based on community feedback, the updated program doubles the benefit, simplifies enrollment and renewal, and expands in-person help through local nonprofit partners.

Residents can apply through a countywide network of trusted community-based organizations, with assistance available in multiple languages.

The Go Card Program is fully funded by San Mateo 101 Express Lanes toll revenues.

How to apply

Income-eligible San Mateo County residents can [apply](#) through participating community organizations. Multilingual assistance is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and other commonly spoken languages.

More information: [101expresslanes.org](https://101.expresslanes.org)

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About the SMCEL-JPA: The San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) and the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) formed SMCEL-JPA in 2019 to manage the express lanes. The SMCEL-JPA is responsible for setting policies for operations of the express lanes.