



Hello, I'm Governor Martin O'Malley.

As our state has grown, so has the challenge to keep up.

To keep up with traffic needs and to manage congestion.

And today I'm here to share with you some important progress.

After years of planning and engineering, including a multitude of studies specific to the needs of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, I am pleased to formally present the Intercounty Connector or, as many of us have come to call it, the ICC.

The ICC is a major step toward making travel within Maryland more convenient and efficient.

Its creation has far-reaching economic benefits including shorter employee commutes, improved access to BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport for both freight and passengers, and greater access to affordable housing.

Congestion management through tolls and pricing is part of the environmental stewardship for this project--reduced fuel and vehicle operating cost means fewer cars idling and lower emissions in our air.

The ICC keeps us moving, quite literally, toward a Smart, Green and Growing future for our one Maryland.

I am excited about what the ICC will do for Maryland and, most importantly, for each Marylander who uses it, and I hope you are too.

Thanks a lot.

We've all been hearing about the ICC for some time now, but let's take a closer look.



The Intercountry Connector is Maryland's first cashless, all electronic, toll road that will create a new east-west route between the 1-370 and the 1-95 / US-1 corridors within Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

The ICC, designated as Maryland 200, will accommodate both personal and commercial vehicles and will facilitate the movement of passengers and goods.

As a multi-modal facility, the ICC is being built to improve mobility, connectivity and provide reliable travel options.

That's whether you drive on the roadway, use it to access park and rides, Metrorail, MARC, or local transit services.

You can also use the Maryland Transit Administration's new Commuter Bus Service, or enjoy the connections to the established bike trails and pedestrian paths.

With the ICC in place, commuters can expect a reduction in traffic congestion as well as improved safety on local roads.

And you might not realize it, but the ICC will also play a part in maintaining homeland security.

A state-of-the-art, congestion managed highway like this one allows emergency personnel to move in more quickly, and to assist area residents more efficiently, if needed.

The ICC is sure to help all of us in our daily lives through greater mobility, reduced travel times and safer roads.

Imagine being able to save about half an hour going from Shady Grove to BWI Thurgood Marshall airport, or saving about 15 minutes traveling from Olney to Laurel.



That's an average time savings of 30% for each trip!

So, how will the ICC actually work?

Entering the ICC will be as simple as changing lanes.

The first segment of the ICC can be accessed from two interchanges, for both entry and exit, at I-370 / Shady Grove Metro Access Road on the west, and Georgia Avenue / Maryland 97 on the east.

Once the entire roadway is complete, there will be nine interchanges in all connecting the ICC to other local roads.

The ICC is a cashless toll road, meaning that NO cash is accepted.

It's one of the first all electronic toll roads on the east coast to use highway-speed toll collection,

so you don't have to stop at toll booths—

in fact, you don't even have to slow down!

All electronic tolling technology means tolls are paid using an *E-ZPass* as motorists pass under an overhead gantry, which resembles a large overhead sign structure.

There will be no toll booths on the ICC!

Toll rates will differ by peak and off-peak travel periods and will be set at levels designed to keep the ICC relatively free of congestion.

Variably tolled facilities like the ICC allow rates to be reviewed and adjusted periodically to manage the traffic volume.





Current ICC toll rates will be available online at icc.maryland.gov.

Cashless toll roads are convenient, efficient and environmentally friendly.

E-ZPass is the primary payment method for using the ICC.

If you already have an *E-ZPass*, there's no need to change anything.

If you'd like to open an *E-ZPass* account, visit ezpassmd.com.

The ICC will also have video tolling capability for those drivers who do not have an *E-ZPass*.

Video tolling is when a picture is taken of your license plate upon entry and exit.

Then a notice of toll due, plus a \$3 service charge per transaction, will be sent directly to the registered vehicle owner for payment.

So now that we've told you how the ICC will operate and how it's going to save you time and increase your mobility and connectivity, you're probably wondering when you can start using it.

The ICC will open in separate phases.

The roadway, between I-370 and Georgia Avenue, in Montgomery County is set to open in fall 2010.

The segment, between Maryland 97 and I-95 is set to open in late 2011 or early 2012.

The remainder of the ICC will follow soon thereafter.

So don't wait! Get your *E-ZPass* today! And be ready for the ICC tomorrow!





Visit ezpassmd.com to open an *E-ZPass* account, or visit icc.maryland.gov to learn more about the ICC.

Thanks for your time.

I can't wait to see you on the ICC!

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