All Electronic Tolling Starts October 28th

Massachusetts goes to all electronic tolling this Friday at 10pm.

As you know, Massachusetts will begin All Electronic Tolling (AET) this Friday. The following are some questions your constituents may have about AET.

Constituent Resources

MassDOT Information: www.massdot.state.ma.us/allelectronictolling
General Questions: AETinfo@dot.state.ma.us
Ordering E-ZPassMA Transponder: www.ezpassma.com
E-ZPass/Pay By Plate Service Hotline: 1-877-627-7745
Highway Call Center: 857-368-3500 (Mon. - Fri. 7:00am to 7:00pm excluding holidays)

What Happens October 28th?

Cash toll collection ends on Friday night at 9:45pm. At 10pm the gantries will "go live" and all toll collections will either be by transponder or Pay By Plate. Preparations to demolish all toll plazas in the state (with the exception of the Sumner Tunnel Plaza) will begin immediately. As you know, the gantry rates for transponder customers are significantly lower than Pay By Plate. You should encourage your constituents to get transponders.

Toll Plaza Demolition

What will happen to the existing toll plazas?

At 10pm on Friday October 28, crews stationed at each toll location will begin setting up the new traffic patterns, laying new pavement markings, and turning on electronic message boards for the initial stage of toll plaza demolition. Various signs related to manual toll collection will be covered, and new signage for AET will be uncovered. On October 29, by 5:00 am, the appropriate toll demolition configurations will be in place at every toll plaza location statewide, where vehicles will be channelized to the outer lanes of the toll plaza.

Over that weekend, work will begin to demolish the center lanes of the toll plazas and reconstruct portions of the roadway. The **stage 1** demolition will include relocation of utilities, removal of concrete pads, the filling of tunnel areas, (passages manual collectors use to travel between booths and buildings), and the paving of the center lanes of travel after center plaza infrastructure is removed and tunnels are filled in. During this period, vehicles will be channeled into lanes and guided through the former toll lanes. The speed limit through this phase will continue to be 15 miles per hour, as it is today. This work will be completed in 30 days or less.

How long will the work take to complete?

Stage 1 will begin on the the weekend of October 28 is anticipated to end no later than November 22, 2016, at such time all center areas of I-90 toll plazas will have been removed. Traffic patterns will be shifted at the end of **stage 1** of demolition, and will involve shifting vehicles to the newly paved travel lanes where the centers of the toll plazas once stood. At all times, drivers will be warned to drive slow

and proceed at appropriate speeds in these active construction zones. **Stage 1** of toll plaza demolition work is scheduled to be completed no later than November 22, 2016.

Stage 2 is scheduled to begin after stage 1 when demolition work will begin on the toll plaza booths and tunnels to the right and left of center. In this phase, toll administration buildings will be demolished, ramp geometry and pavement will be reconstructed, and signage and pavement markings will be modified for a final configuration. At all times drivers will be warned to drive slow and proceed at appropriate speeds in these active construction zones.

(Stage 2 – Begins no later than Nov 22, 2016)

(Final – By end of 2017)

Drivers will begin to gain the benefit of this project during **stage 2**, and will gain the full benefit of AET once the toll booths have been removed and they can use the highways, bridges, and tunnels at safe highway speeds.

Transponders

Why should I get a transponder?

Transponder gantry rates are set lower than Pay By Plate rates to reflect the lower cost of collecting tolls via transponder than via monthly invoices mailed to turnpike users.

How to obtain an E-ZPass transponder?

The easiest way to obtain a transponder is by going online to www.ezpassma.com. Transponders are also available all RMV locations, AAA locations (for members), and E-ZPass Customer Service Centers (East Boston, Auburn, Natick, Saugus, Boston, and Lee), during their normal business hours. Those hours are listed online at www.mass.gov/ezpassma.

Under AET, how will I know when my E-ZPass balance is low?

Starting on November 1, customers will be able to elect to receive email or text notifications when their balance is low, since the yellow “balance low” warning lights will no longer be active at toll plazas. MassDOT encourages customers to utilize automatic replenishment on their accounts and reminds customers to keep their accounts in good standing.

Will transponders be used to track where I am going or how fast I am traveling?

No. All information collected by gantries is private, protected information that MassDOT and its contractors cannot give out to third parties without a court order. Massachusetts state law does not allow information gathered by gantries to be used to issue speeding tickets. MassDOT will not keep the gantry information longer than necessary for toll collection in accordance with Records Conservation Board approved retention schedule for this data.