

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

For Immediate Release

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HAMPTON RAMP TO OPEN DESIGNATED “E-ZPASS ONLY” LANES
LANE 3 IN EACH DIRECTION TO BE OPEN ONLY TO E-ZPASS CUSTOMERS

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation announces the Hampton Ramp Toll Plaza connecting Interstate 95 and NH Route 101 will open a dedicated “E-ZPass Only” lane in each direction on Wednesday, August 31 at 5:00 pm. This coincides with the opening of an 8th lane at the Hampton Ramp as part of an improvement project at the plaza. While all lanes will accept E-ZPass, the dedicated lane will be lane 3 in each direction.

Also, Wednesday, August 31 will be the final day that New Hampshire turnpike tokens will be sold. Under state law, the tokens are to be no longer sold as of September 1, 2005 and no longer accepted for payment on January 1, 2006. The commercial charge program ends on September 30.

The percentage of New Hampshire turnpike customers using E-ZPass continues to climb with each passing week. The latest weekly figures show the highest usage is at the Bedford Road Toll Plaza (31%), followed in order by the Bedford Toll (30.1%), Merrimack Industrial (Exit 10) (29.2%), Hampton Main (28.9%), Merrimack Exit 11 (28.2%), Hampton Ramp (25.8%), Hooksett Main (25.5%), Dover (23.1%) and Rochester (22.9%).

To date, a total of 127,640 E-ZPass accounts have been established in New Hampshire, with the total number of transponders ordered currently at 228,427.