

How does active traffic management benefit me?

These efforts pay off when agencies and travelers work together. Congestion can be addressed faster, more cost-effectively, and with less impact on the community through traffic management strategies.

Applying new technologies and strategies also can improve driver safety. The risk of secondary crashes increases for every minute a primary crash continues to be a hazard. Freeway service patrols and better coordination with emergency responders are essential to keep traffic flowing while keeping both drivers and responders safe.

By reducing idling and congestion, these strategies can help reduce transportation emissions and improve air quality. Maximizing the use of existing roadways means minimizing impacts on the environment by adding pavement where it is most beneficial.

Partnering for Success

Managing and operating roadways successfully requires coordination among federal, state, and local transportation professionals, elected officials, and community members. Support the efforts of your transportation agency by promoting the efficient use of your tax dollars to manage the system.

You can help reduce traffic congestion too.

- Check traffic conditions before leaving to determine the most efficient route
- Ask whether your employer offers flexible work schedules or telecommuting options
- Obtain an electronic toll access pass
- Stay alert, especially in work zone areas
- Consider public transportation options

To learn more about what is being done and how you can help, contact information is provided below.

Placeholder for State DOT contact information.

New technologies and innovative approaches to keep traffic moving

Learn about effective transportation solutions and how your choices can make a difference



*The cost of adding lanes to an existing highway can be more than **10 times the yearly cost of effective management.***

AGENCY LOGO

This road is a parking lot!

More and more, drivers are facing longer trips at all times of the day. Constructing more roads has been the primary way to relieve congestion, but this option carries a heavy price tag and it can take a long time to improve the situation. Fortunately, technological advances are providing more options to address unexpected delays at a lower cost.

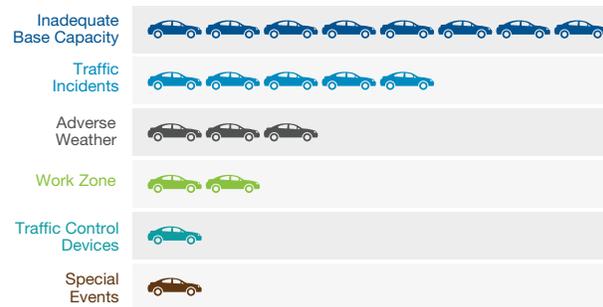


Smartphone traffic apps provide drivers with current road conditions, incidents, and travel time estimates. **Message signs and traffic cameras** alert drivers to changing conditions.

Transportation agencies are making the most of existing pavement by using innovative technologies to respond to problems in real time. Drivers provided with current traffic information can become part of the solution by making choices about how, when, and where they travel.

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Causes of Congestion



How early should I leave?

There are many sources of traffic delays. Heavy volume, work zones, crashes, disabled vehicles, weather, and special events all play a part in slowing traffic.

Consistently heavy traffic on certain roads at certain times of day may be the norm for your area. But when a typical 15-minute trip takes 30 minutes on some days and 10 minutes on others, frustration sets in.

Transportation agencies continuously work to keep traffic moving. Here are some things you may have noticed:

- **Incident management patrols**—respond quickly to crashes or disabled vehicles
- **Express lanes**—allow buses and carpools only in designated lanes
- **Synchronized traffic signals**—maintain consistent traffic flow on major roadways
- **Message signs**—alert travelers to changes in conditions or incidents ahead
- **Electronic toll collection**—reduce the wait to move through the toll plaza

What you may not know

In addition to these visible activities, transportation agencies are working behind the scenes to make improvements. Many agencies provide 24-hour traffic monitoring on major corridors. Traffic control center operators can observe changes as they occur and adjust signals, speed limits, lane direction, and other strategies to quickly respond to specific needs. They provide this information to travelers via message signs and other real-time traffic updates, enabling people to make informed travel decisions.

*Many transportation agencies provide **24-hour traffic monitoring** on major corridors and supply the public with real-time traffic information to make informed travel decisions.*



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