

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2020

**MEDIA CONTACT** 

Tanya Sheres (571) 335-3511 tsheres@transurban.com

## TRANSURBAN PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS COMMUNITY BENEFITS ONE YEAR AFTER 395 EXPRESS LANES OPENING

Toll road operator reinvests millions in corridor transit improvements, delivers public infrastructure upgrades and announces additional community grant opportunity

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** – The 395 Express Lanes, opened in November of 2019, are the latest in a series of critical infrastructure projects delivered on-time and on-budget through a successful partnership between global toll-road operator Transurban and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Prior to and throughout the pandemic, Transurban has continued its work for the region, including an annual \$15 million payment towards I-95/395 corridor transit improvements, widening of portions of the regular I-395 travel lanes and support of over 70 community organizations with \$280,000 in grant funding.

Recognized by the Virginia Transit Association with the Outstanding Contribution by a Business award, Transurban's annual \$15 million transit payment will generate billions of dollars in public transportation investment over the course of the decades-long concession, with many funded projects already realized. The transit projects are chosen by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission through their Commuter Choice Program. The 2019 inaugural investment led to an expansion of new bus service in Stafford County, expanded DASH service to Alexandria's West End and funded Pentagon Commuter Store improvements. These and future projects are expected to lead to:

- Moving 700 additional riders through the corridor daily, saving 89,000 hours of daily travel per year;
- Diverting over 2.4 million trips to public transit every year, taking 20.5 million passenger miles off local roads; and
- Reducing Northern Virginia's greenhouse gas emissions by more than 3,000 metric tons annually.

The second-year payment will be directed towards delivering transit infrastructure improvements and additional local transportation programs for the Commonwealth.



Transurban remains dedicated to continuing community investment and will work towards creating even more benefits for the region in the years ahead. Most recently, the company announced a new \$15,000 grant that builds on its \$280,000 community investment and comes on the heels of their partnership with Northern Virginia Family Service to help families impacted by COVID-19. To learn more and apply for the grant, visit the website.

"The Commonwealth's partnership with Transurban to deliver the 495, 95 and 395 Express Lanes illustrates the power of public-private partnerships to develop innovative transportation solutions," said Virginia Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine. "As Virginia continues to build a multimodal network, these partnerships continue to play an important role in the transformative infrastructure investments that will help the Commonwealth modernize transportation assets, meet increasing travel demand and move our economy forward."

The 395 Express Lanes project is estimated to create more than \$1 billion in economic activity and more than 8,700 jobs for the region throughout construction. The project also utilized more than \$110 million worth of contracts with disadvantaged businesses and small, women- and minority-owned businesses.

"Our longstanding partnership allowed us to accelerate the delivery of the 395 Express Lanes and many other critical projects for the region," said Jennifer Aument, president of Transurban North America. "In spite of this year's unprecedented challenges, Transurban is committed to the communities we operate in, and by supporting annual transit payments, we are working to ensure that Virginia's public transportation infrastructure remains well-funded for the next generation. We look forward to keeping commuters and communities moving."

In addition to the conversion of two HOV lanes to three Express Lanes, the \$475 million project also delivered more than a dozen additional projects and improvements in the I-395 corridor, including:

- Widening of I-395 South with the addition of a fourth general purpose lane between Duke Street and Edsall Road. The elimination of this bottleneck is expected to improve travel times by 50% and reduce accidents by 18%;
- Enhancements to the South Parking Lot of the Pentagon Reservation, with the creation
  of new dedicated transit and car-pool/slugger lanes that will enhance traffic flow,
  connectivity and safety where more than 1,800 buses and about 3,400 "sluggers" on
  average pass through each day; and
- Numerous safety and road improvements, including a long-standing challenge with the street light infrastructure on I-395, joint repair and re-surfacing of more than 14 bridges, overpasses and local roads and upgrading select barriers and guardrails throughout the corridor.



## About 395 Express Lanes, operated by Transurban

Transurban is one of the world's largest toll-road operators and developers, working to get people where they want to go, as quickly and safely as possible. By embracing collaboration with the government, our public-private partnerships are delivering transformative infrastructure solutions across five markets with an additional \$19 billion of projects in development. In fiscal year 2020, our customers saved 339,000 hours on average each workday across 2 million trips on our roads with faster, more predictable travel options. With a leading market share of transportation P3 investment in North America, we are pioneering travel solutions like dynamically tolled Express Lanes. The 395, 495 and 95 Express Lanes provide drivers in Northern Virginia with faster and more predictable travel options. The Express Lanes stretch more than 53 miles and thanks to a public-private partnership between the Virginia Department of Transportation and Transurban, the Express Lanes give drivers reliable choices on three of northern Virginia's most congested highways.

Learn more about Transurban and the Express Lanes at: <a href="mailto:Transurban.com">Transurban.com</a> | <a href="mailto:Expresslanes.com">Expresslanes.com</a>