



183A will no longer be a free ride

Austin Business Journal - 2:51 PM CDT Thursday, May 31, 2007

The new 183A toll road that TxTag holders have been trying out for free since March will start charging tolls tomorrow.

The Central Texas Mobility Authority used the toll-free months to advertise TxTag toll stickers and allow drivers to become used to the new road.

Steve Pustelnyk, director of communications for CTRMA, says 75 percent of 183A's drivers now use the TxTag.

In March and April, all drivers were able to use the road for free. In May, cash customers began paying regular tolls while TxTag users continued to drive for free. Starting June 1, TxTag users will pay 50 percent of the regular toll, and on July 1 regular toll rates will take effect for everyone.

"In June we will begin mailing notices of non-payment to drivers who don't pay their toll. In addition, the Cedar Park Police Department, which patrols the 183A project, will begin pulling over drivers who don't have a TxTag sticker," says Pustelnyk.

183A is an 11.6 mile, \$238 million toll road constructed by CTRMA. The project's funding came primarily through the sale of toll revenue bonds. The road, which runs from RM 620 at US 183 to US 183 at the south San Gabriel River, features all-electronic tolling. A portion of 183A near Lakeline Mall Drive only accepts electronic payments.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin