



LATEST NEWS

Tollway rolls out Frisco extension

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By **JIM GETZ** / The Dallas Morning News
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The northbound lanes of the new Frisco section of the Dallas North Tollway opened at 2:40 p.m. Friday, giving hope for a smoother rush-hour commute for Collin County residents.



Sam Lopez, a spokesman for the North Texas Tollway Authority, said crews put the finishing touches on the northbound lanes, working from U.S. Highway 380 toward Highway 121, and then declared the extension open. Now, the teams will start working on the southbound lanes.

For the last few years, traffic has inched along on two-lane service roads with traffic lights next to the new phase of the tollway, which has been under construction since February 2005.

The goal is to have both directions of the nearly 10-mile extension open by the end of the day. The tollway authority

estimates the average commute time will be cut by 10 minutes in each direction.

"We're hopeful (drivers) are going to love it," Mr. Lopez said.

Meanwhile, planning on the next phase of the tollway – from U.S. 380 north to the Grayson County line – is under way.

EXTENSION STATS

9.6: Length in miles of the new tollway segment

32: Complete length of the tollway from U.S. 380 to downtown Dallas

1968: Year the first section of the tollway opened, from LBJ Freeway to Interstate 35E

43,000: Estimated number of motorists who will go through the Eldorado Main Toll Plaza in Frisco daily

IT WILL SAVE TIME ...

For commuters who live near U.S. 380, the new segment of the tollway could shorten your commute by 10 minutes in each direction, transportation officials say. It's not much, but if you ride the highway twice daily, factoring a 21-day work month and a 50-week work year, that would amount to:

- An hour and 40 minutes a week
- About seven hours
- About three days, 14 hours and 40 minutes a year...

Also Online

[Map: Tollway route \(.pdf\)](#)

BUT IT WILL COST YOU

Riding the new tollway segment twice daily will cost you **\$10.50** a week, **\$44.10** a month and about **\$525** a year with a TollTag. If, like many commuters, you plan to take the entire length of the road to downtown Dallas to work and back, factoring a 21-day work month and a 50-week work year, it would cost:

- \$6.10 a day
- \$30.50 a week
- About \$128.10 a month
- About \$1,525 a year

Staff writer Linda Leavell contributed information to this report.