



December 19, 2007

Toll violations begin on January 3

Motorists have a few more weeks to get current on their bills for using state toll roads. Beginning January 3, the Texas Department of Transportation will step up efforts to get people to pay their past due bills by mailing violation notices.

Instead of waiting for toll violations, motorists are encouraged to pay past due toll invoices now.

“For about a year, motorists have experienced the conveniences and time savings of the new toll roads and most have been paying,” said Phillip Russell, TxDOT’s turnpike director “Now, it’s time for others to do the same.”

To lower their past due bills, motorists can choose between two options. One option includes waiving of all fines associated with each toll violation and discounting all unpaid tolls to the lower electronic toll rate, if the customer chooses to open a TxTag account.

The other option is waiving all but one \$5.00 violation fee if all past due tolls are paid at once. Customers choosing this option will pay their tolls at the Pay by Mail rate.

To take advantage of the incentive offers, customers must call the TxTag Customer Service Center at 1-888-468-9824. Customers can also pay violations online (www.TxTag.org), however the incentive offer can only be processed by calling the customer service center.

Tolls have been in place for approximately a year on state toll roads and customers have been receiving monthly toll invoices listing current and past due balances.

The violation notice will include a picture of the vehicle’s license plate as it passed through the tolling point. It will also list the past due toll charge and a \$5.00 violation fee. For each past due toll charge, a motorist may receive a separate violation notice.

Violations will first be processed for SH 121 in Dallas and Loop 49 in Tyler. Violations for the SH 130, SH 45 and Loop 1 in Austin will begin a few weeks later.

State law prohibits motorists to drive a state toll road without paying and allows fines to be assessed. Drivers who fail to pay violation notices on time are subject to collection fees and court fines. Administrative fees and court fines can total up to \$350, plus applicable court fees.