



## *News from the Ohio Turnpike*

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### ***Turnpike waives E-ZPass® maintenance fee for customers who travel more often***

**December 11, 2013 (Berea, OH)** - The Ohio Turnpike is pleased to announce that beginning January 1, 2014, any *E-ZPass*® customer who uses the Turnpike at least 30 times a month (15 roundtrips or 30 single trips) will no longer pay a monthly maintenance fee. At the November Commission meeting, members reviewed the proposed reduction and voted unanimously to waive this fee as a way to reward our most loyal customers.

*E-ZPass*®, the system that allows customers to pay tolls electronically, was launched on the Ohio Turnpike on Oct. 1, 2009. Since that time the number of overall users and vehicle miles travelled with *E-ZPass*® has increased steadily. Now, more than 44% of passenger car customers who travel the Turnpike use this method of toll payment.

Turnpike Executive Director Rick Hodges reflected on the benefits that this technology provides, stating, “*E-ZPass*® has brought tremendous value to our customers over the past four years, not only by reducing congestion at interchanges, but also offering lower toll rates for those motorists.” He is pleased that the new monetary incentive will start in January, stating, “Some customers who didn’t use *E-ZPass*® before may express interest now when they realize that they can save time and money too.” “Perhaps it’s worth a few extra trips on the Turnpike,” added Hodges.

While the Ohio Turnpike's *E-ZPass*® program has been an added convenience and noticeable toll savings for many Turnpike motorists, some customers who travel between just one or two interchanges may not have realized any savings until now. This initiative to waive the \$ 0.75 monthly maintenance fee for more frequent Ohio Turnpike *E-ZPass*® customers will hopefully encourage drivers to re-examine the *E-ZPass*® program and potentially entice some customers who may have been wavering about whether or not *E-ZPass*® is a worthwhile option for them.

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