

# media release

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## Scheduled toll increase to take effect on Pocahontas 895

RICHMOND, Va. (Dec. 19, 2008) – Tolls on [Pocahontas 895](#) will rise 25 cents on Jan. 5, 2009, as [Transurban](#), the parkway's operator, completes a phased-in price increase that began in January 2008.

“We know economic conditions are tough,” said Pocahontas 895 Director Andi Kuhn. “We’ve implemented our scheduled toll increase in two phases to make it a little easier for our customers to adjust.”

Pocahontas 895 tolls are controlled and capped by an agreement reached between Transurban and the [Virginia Department of Transportation](#), established when Transurban acquired management rights to the parkway in June 2006. The agreement caps toll increases and ensures toll schedules are transparent to the public so that customers know what to expect over the long term. Under this schedule, no further toll increases are possible before January 2011.

Transurban, in consultation with VDOT, chose to introduce the January 2008 increase in two stages over a 12-month period, to help make it easier for customers to adjust to the new prices. In January 2008, the toll at the main plaza was raised 25 cents – half the scheduled maximum – and the toll at the New Market/Laburnum exit was left unchanged. On Jan. 5, 2009, the toll at the main plaza will be raised by the remaining 25 cents, and the Laburnum toll will increase 25 cents.

At the main plaza, the new toll will be \$2.75 for two-axle vehicles, with \$1 added for each additional axle, payable by cash, credit card (Visa and Mastercard) or E-ZPass. All vehicles exiting at Laburnum without first passing through the main plaza will pay \$1, payable in coins or by E-ZPass. (See chart below.)

“Our process for communicating toll price increases is very open and straightforward,” Kuhn said. “Scheduled increases are publicly available on our Web site. We think it’s important that our customers know what to expect.”

Kuhn said using Pocahontas 895 offers value by providing drivers with substantial savings in time and gas. The road, which connects Chippenham Parkway in Chesterfield County with Interstate 295 in Henrico County, includes an elevated bridge that provides the only James River crossing for six miles in either direction.

“Pocahontas 895 offers a convenient, congestion-free route to Richmond International Airport and other area destinations,” Kuhn said. “In addition, we are continually enhancing the road – for example, we are installing sophisticated weather sensors on the bridge, and cameras along the roadway.”

Kuhn added, “We’re building the [Airport Connector](#) road, which will offer more convenience and time savings, and will help our economy by providing construction jobs and stimulating business growth.”

The 1.6-mile, four-lane Airport Connector will link Pocahontas 895 to Charles City Road and lead directly into the heart of RIC airport. The new road is expected to be completed in early 2011.

Among the improvement projects recently completed or under way on Pocahontas 895 are:

- Installation of security cameras from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge to the New Market/Laburnum exit.
- Additional sensors on the bridge, tied in with VDOT’s [Transportation Operations Centers](#), to detect wind, temperature and form of precipitation, and to provide added safety to drivers during inclement weather.
- Purchase of variable message signs to aid in communicating with motorists.
- The second year of a five-year landscaping program designed to beautify the roadway and provide environmental benefits.
- Increased security and camera protection in the toll plaza and office areas.
- Safety, signage and environmental audits, and the addition of new directional and safety signs along the roadway.

More information, including the [schedule of toll price increases](#), is available at [www.pocahontas895.com](http://www.pocahontas895.com).

## NEW TOLL PRICES – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2009

TOLL POINT	NEW TOLL
Main Plaza	\$2.75 *
Interstate 295 to/from Laburnum Avenue (no Main Plaza toll)	\$1.00 (coins only)

\* Main Plaza toll is for 2-axle vehicles. Add \$1.00 for each additional axle.

For more information, go to [www.pocahontas895.com](http://www.pocahontas895.com) or call (804) 822-3420

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