# IMPROVING CITIES THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

**Toronto Forum For Global Cities December 2008** 





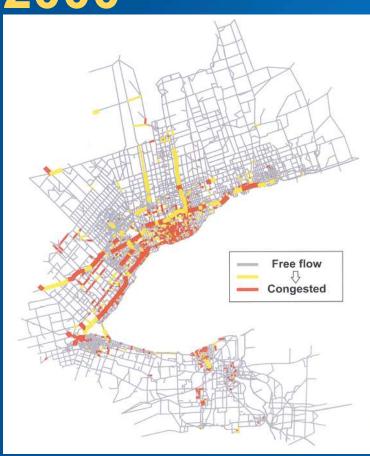
#### TORONTO'S CHALLENGE

- GTA suffers from traffic congestion
- The average Torontonian spends seven hours a week in their car – nearly 15 days of the year!
- Fourth most-congested urban area in North America – behind Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago.
- The cost of congestion is currently estimated to be over \$3.5 billion annually
- The problem is only going to get worse the Ontario Government estimates that the GTA will increase by **2.6 million by 2031**
- By 2031, more than a million more cars will be on the road



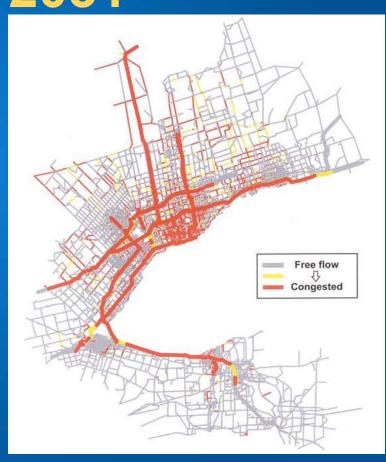
#### **ROAD CONGESTION**

# 2000



Source: Province of Ontario

2031



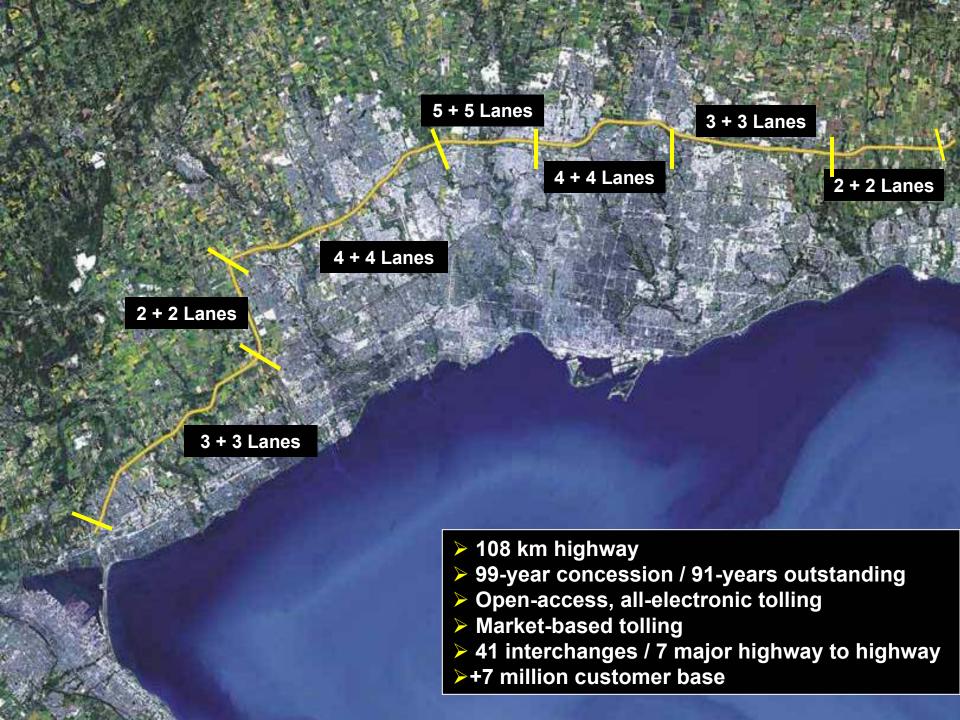
407 ETR helps

# save you time...

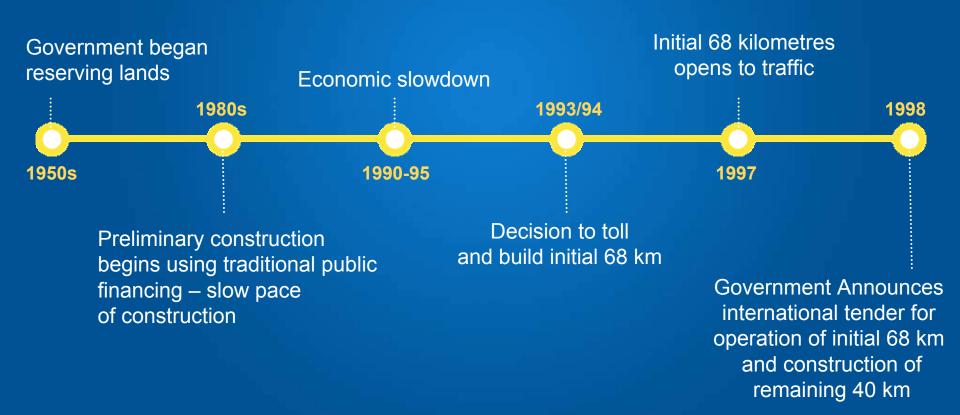
...time for things that matter,

like family and your career.

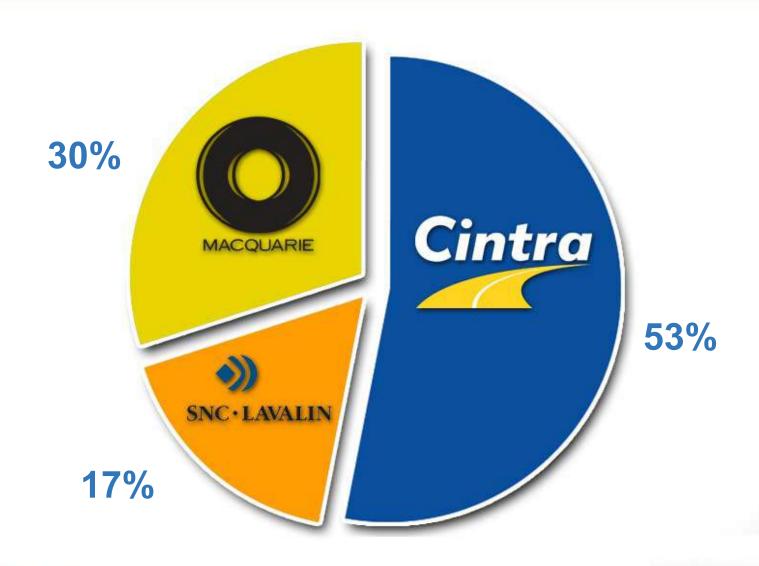




#### **HISTORY OF PROJECT**



## **407 INTERNATIONAL INC**





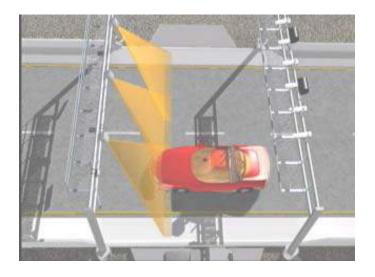
#### **BENEFITS OF PRIVATIZATION**

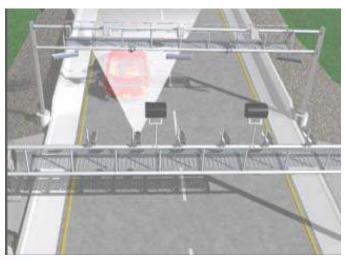
- **3.1B** payment helped Government balance budget, pay for services
- > \$1.1B invested by 407 ETR to build 420 new lane kilometres
- Highway extensions completed 20 years ahead of schedule
- **\$110** *million* of customer service improvements all paid by company
- Company pays for all maintenance and long-term improvements
- All policing and enforcement paid by company

Since 1999, taxpayers have saved over \$2 billion!



#### WORLD'S 1ST





- NO toll-booths, "closed ticket" tolling scheme (on/off ramps)
- NO stopping or slow-downs to pay
- ALL vehicles able to use highway
- Transponder not required. If a valid transponder is not detected, digital images are taken at entry and exit
- Tolls billed monthly
- Still the world's most-sophisticated electronic toll highway

### **VIDEO IMAGE**













#### **TRANSPONDERS**

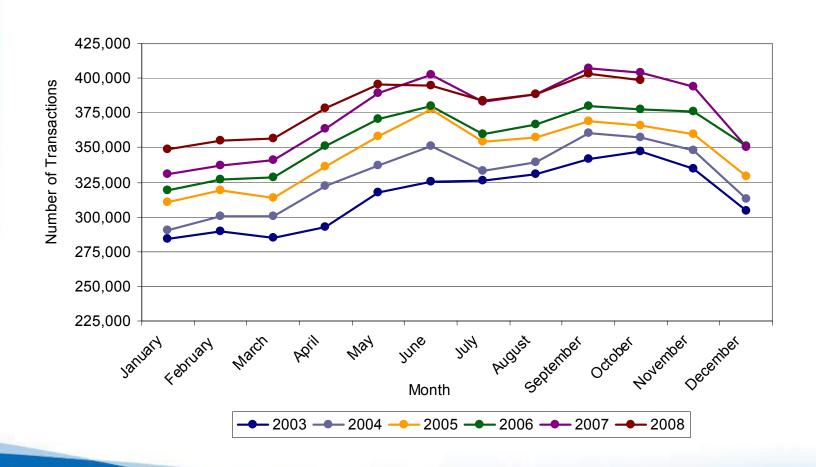
- Over 900,000 transponders in circulation
- Battery operated with proactive management
- Encrypted to protect privacy
- Read-write



#### TYPICAL TRAFFIC DISTRIBUTION

#### **Average Workday Trips**

Weekday Trips by Month



#### **TRIPS**

- 374,348 average trips per workday in 2007 – an increase of 4.7%
- 445,822 trips on October 5, 2007 – a one day trip record!
- Over 112 million trips and 2.2 billion VKT in 2007



Total VKT in 2007 equals 54,621 trips around the Earth!

900 million trips and 17 billion VKT since 1999

#### **CONGESTION RELIEF**

- Toronto has the most modern congestion relief mechanism in the world
- 407 ETR is required to attract a set number of cars in order to relieve congestion from other public highways
- At the same time, 407 ETR has the freedom to set tolls to keep 407 ETR free of congestion
- Agreement includes possible penalties if 407 ETR does not attract certain traffic levels
- Agreement requires the company to build additional lanes within two years after congestion levels are reached



#### **VALUE OF TIME PROPOSITION**

- Average trip (20km) costs roughly \$3.85
- Customers are seeing the value of the service we offer
- 50% of drivers say they save 30 minutes or more per trip
- 95% of drivers say they save 15 minutes or more per trip
- Independent comparisons of similar 40 km trips on 407 ETR and Highway 7 in York Region show:
  - >> Saving of 33 minutes on 407 ETR (24.5 minutes vs. 58)
  - >> 50% reduction in carbon footprint on 407 ETR (5 vs. 9 tons of carbon)
  - 3 litres per trip gas savings on 407 ETR (4 litres vs. 7 litres)
  - >> (Gas savings pay for the much of the cost of the toll)
  - >> 50% less vehicle wear and tear (brakes, tires, transmission, etc.)
  - >> 11 less days commuting annually on 407 ETR (8 days vs. 19.3 days or 196 hours vs. 464 hours)
  - "Commuter compares pay, toll roads", *Markham Economist & Sun*, (York Region.com), January 25, 2008.







• 410,000 hours of labour



375,000 cubic metres of excavation



• 44 existing bridge structures widened



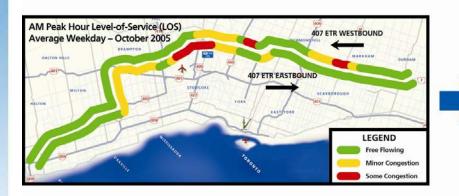
• 183,000 cubic metres of concrete



11 kilometres of storm sewer pipes

#### **MOST RECENT WIDENINGS**

#### **LEVEL OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS**









#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

#### 1999

- 21 workstations
- 21 telephone lines
- Long wait time
- 1,400 sq. ft. call centre
- Legacy computer system
- Telephone only service channel
- 237,000 avg. workday trips
- 300,000 transponders issued
- Inherited roadside/back office equipment
- No front counter monitoring or metrics
- No Escalations or Business Units

#### 2008

- 174 workstations
- 640 telephone lines
- <30 sec. wait since 2003</p>
- 13,800 sq. ft. call centre
- New billing system
- Online, IVR, email, epost, etc.
- 374,348 avg. workday trips
- 900,000 transponders issued
- \$110M in new billing system and projects to improve customer service
- Detailed front counter/CSR monitoring
- Customer Advocacy Group,
  Business Accounts Unit, Ombudsman



#### **SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS**

- Roughly 1.3 million bills sent each month
- 759,753 calls received in 2007 answered in average of 28 seconds
- Number of callers has decreased by 44 percent in three years
- Current call drivers: account balance, bill payments, billing inquires, etc.
- Escalated complaints have decreased 28% in three years 2 complaints per 100,000 trips
- Satisfaction with customer service has increased by 22 percentage point in just three years



#### **ETR Rewards**

- \$40 million loyalty program
- Top tier of frequent users can save up to 10-15% off their bill
- Program designed after significant customer market research and a four-month pilot



- Savings in the form of gas discounts from Petro-Canada and free weekend kilometres from 407 ETR
- Over 100,000 customers eligible for program
- Each month, top tier customers save 9 cents per litre off up to 140 litres of gas and 140 free weekend kms
- Research shows Rewards members understand program and like it
- 70% aided and unaided customer awareness after just 11 months



#### **SUMMARY**

- Award-winning highway
- World-leading congestion relief mechanism
- Fair, competitive tender and privatization
- Attracts 375,000 drivers each workday
- \$2 billion of savings for taxpayers since 1999
- A good example for Ontario, Canada and other countries to follow...





# **THANK YOU!**

