

## **Moscow Could Get Toll Roads**

By The Moscow Times

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Tolls for motorists could soon be levied on a number of new highways inside the capital, in addition to those currently being built outside the city limits, a news report said Friday.

Kutuzovsky Prospekt, one of the busiest roads in Moscow, may get a toll-charged bypass if private investors are willing to provide funding for its construction, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin told the Vesti 24 television channel.

The bypass, starting at the Moskva City business district and running parallel to Kutuzovsky Prospekt, will have a link to the 18.5 kilometer Odintsovo bypass that connects the Moscow Ring Road to the M1 Belarus highway, to the south of Moscow.

The fees, around 5 rubles per kilometer, will be introduced from September.

Toll booths may also be installed on a section of the Moscow-St. Petersburg highway inside the city, Sobyanin said.

However, it is not yet known exactly which part of the highway will be subject to the toll regime.

The first part of the highway running from the MKAD's Businovskaya junction to Solnechnogorsk is being built by the North-West Concession Company, partly owned by the country's largest bridge builder Mostotrest and French infrastructure company Vinci Group.

The road is to be completed next year with tolls, averaging 3.6 rubles (10 cents) per kilometer, expected to be charged from the fall of 2014.

The only toll road currently operating in the Moscow region is a 23-kilometer stretch of the M4 Don highway that runs parallel to Kashirskoye Shosse to the south of the capital.

Fees have been levied there since October 2012. Car drivers have to pay 30 rubles during the day and 10 rubles at night. Payments vary from 20 to 60 rubles for trucks and buses and from 40 to 120 rubles for freight vehicles.

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