



FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

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For Immediate Release

Lane Closures for Toll Road 589—Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway

Land O'Lakes (May 30, 2008)—Florida's Turnpike announces lane closures and work zone information for projects in West Central Florida **beginning Friday, May 30, 2008.**

Florida's Turnpike strives to maintain traffic flow in work zones; however, motorist may encounter heavier traffic near construction sites and toll plazas. Motorists should drive with caution through the work zones, and adhere to posted detour signs and speed limits. Speeding fines double in construction zones when workers are present. All paving-related lane closures are dependent on weather conditions; temperature below 60 degrees or rain may delay or cancel paving operations.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Intelligent Transportation System—Milepost 13

- Motorists traveling north-and southbound on the Suncoast Parkway should expect delays due to lane closures and traffic pacing operations to install overhead dynamic message signs beginning late Thursday evening, June 5, and continuing until 6 a.m. on the morning of June 6. While the sign structures are lifted into place traffic may be halted for short periods of time.

- Motorists should be alert for large construction equipment and construction vehicles entering and exiting traffic at this location.

Project Description: Florida's Turnpike is installing Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) equipment on the Polk Parkway (SR 570), Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway (SR 589). The \$27 million contract includes installation of fiber optic cables, cameras, transponder readers and overhead dynamic message signs (DMS).

Interchange Design and Preliminary Construction Activities at Lutz Lake Fern Road

- Motorists may notice that the contractor is beginning to stockpile materials north of Lutz Lake Fern Road in the vicinity of the Suncoast Parkway's northbound lanes.

Project Description: Florida's Turnpike has begun an \$8.7 million Design-Build contract for construction of a new Suncoast Parkway Interchange at Lutz Lake Fern Road. The contractor, Cone and Graham, Inc., is currently working on the design phase of the project. Construction activities are expected to begin this fall and project completion is scheduled for August, 2009.

PASCO COUNTY Intelligent Transportation System—Milepost 20

- Motorists traveling southbound on the Suncoast Parkway should expect delays due to lane closures and traffic pacing operations to install overhead dynamic message signs beginning late Tuesday evening, June 3, and continuing until 6 a.m. on the morning of June 3. While the sign structures are lifted into place traffic may be halted for short periods of time.
- Motorists should be alert for large construction equipment and construction vehicles entering and exiting traffic at this location.

Project Description: Florida's Turnpike is installing Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) equipment on the Polk Parkway (SR 570), Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway (SR 589). The \$27 million contract includes installation of fiber optic cables, cameras, transponder readers and overhead dynamic message signs (DMS).

PASCO COUNTY SunPass Equipment Upgrades at Spring Hill Mainline Plaza

- Beginning Friday, June 6, and continuing until Sunday, June 8, all southbound SunPass-only lanes will be closed at the Spring Hill Mainline Toll Plaza in northern Pasco County.
- Beginning Friday, June 13 and continuing until Sunday, June 15, all northbound SunPass-only lanes will be closed at the Spring Hill Mainline Toll Plaza in northern Pasco County.
- Beginning Friday, June 20 and continuing until Sunday, June 22, all southbound SunPass-only lanes will be closed at the Anclote Mainline Toll Plaza in southern Pasco County.
- Beginning Friday, June 27 and continuing until Sunday, June 29, all northbound SunPass-only lanes will be closed at the Anclote Mainline Toll Plaza in southern Pasco County.

Crews will install and test new tolling equipment in the SunPass Only lanes. All SunPass customers will be directed through the toll plaza's SunPass lanes

SunPass Challenge - Toll Plaza Conversion Project

- Beginning Monday, June 2, the outside toll lane of the northbound exit ramp at State Road 54 (Exit 19) will be closed for SunPass equipment upgrades.
- Beginning Wednesday, June 4, the left toll lane of the southbound entrance ramp at State Road 54 (Exit 19) will be closed for SunPass equipment upgrades.
- The lane closures will remain for four to six weeks. Motorists are advised to allow extra time for traveling through the ramp plazas at State Road 54. During peak traffic hours toll collectors may be stationed at the ramp plazas to facilitate toll transactions and Florida Highway Patrol will monitor traffic conditions at the ramp plazas.

Project Description: In late 2007 work began to add one SunPass-only lane to ramp plazas on Toll Road 589/Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway. The SunPass Challenge is a \$1.25 million project to improve capacity and reduce congestion at the ramp plazas. The project should be complete by late summer, 2008. The outside lanes at the following toll plazas will be converted to SunPass-only lanes:

- Hillsborough Avenue, Exit 4
- Wilsky Road, Exit 8
- Gunn Highway, Exit 9
- Hutchison Road, Exit 12
- Van Dyke Road, Exit 14
- State Road 54, Exit 19
- Pasco-Hernando County Line Road, Exit 37
- State Road 50 (Cortez Boulevard), Exit 46

HERNANDO COUNTY
SunPass Equipment Upgrades at Oak Hammock Mainline Plaza

- From today until the last week in June, 2008, all north-and southbound SunPass-only lanes will be closed at the Oak Hammock Mainline Toll Plaza in northern Hernando County.
- Crews will install and test new tolling equipment in the SunPass Only lanes. All SunPass customers will be directed through the toll plaza's SunPass lanes.



Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, part of the Florida Department of Transportation, oversees a 460-mile system of limited-access toll highways: Florida's Turnpike, extending north from Homestead in Miami-Dade County to Wildwood in Sumter County; the Seminole Expressway and Southern Connector (Toll 417) in Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties; the Beachline Expressway West (Toll 528) in Orange County; the Polk Parkway (Toll 570) in Polk County; the Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway in Hillsborough, Pasco and Hernando counties (Toll 589); the Sawgrass Expressway (Toll 869) in Broward County; and the Daniel Webster Western Beltway (Toll 429) in Orange and Osceola Counties.

SunPass is the Florida Department of Transportation's innovative Prepaid Toll Program. SunPass may be used on all Florida's toll roads and most toll bridges. For information on SunPass®, call 1-888-TOLL-FLA (865-5352) or visit <http://www.sunpass.com>.

Travelers on the Florida's Turnpike system of roads may view real-time traffic information by visiting our website at <http://www.floridasturnpike.com>. While traveling in the Orlando, South Florida and Tampa Bay regions, motorists should dial 511 for real-time regional traffic information on the Turnpike and other major roads. This information system is voice-activated; motorists should speak the name of the road they wish to use. They may also visit <http://www.fl511.com> for information. This free service of the Florida Department of Transportation is available 24/7.