



FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

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For Immediate Release

ORLANDO, FL (June 3, 2009) — Florida Secretary of Transportation Stephanie Kopelousos today announced that Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, an integral part of the Florida Department of Transportation, has awarded a 30-year Concessions Agreement to operate the fuel, food and retail operations along Florida's Turnpike.

The contract was awarded to Areas USA FLTP, LLC, a partnership comprised of Areas, USA and Florida Turnpike Services. Florida Turnpike Services will provide Shell branded fuel and operate the eight proposed convenience stores, while Areas, USA will operate the food, beverage, and retail concessions at the eight service plazas located along the 312-mile Turnpike mainline.

In awarding the contract, which goes into effect today, Secretary Kopelousos said that the new contract represents "one of the most significant contracts awarded in the history of the 52-year-old Turnpike, affecting millions of customers for more than a quarter of a century."

Turnpike Chief Executive Officer Jim Ely noted that "This is the best public-private sector partnership ever undertaken by the Turnpike. This long-term relationship ultimately benefits the 30 million customers who visit the service plazas each year. We look forward to a rewarding and successful relationship with Areas and Florida Turnpike Services."

Areas USA CEO Xavier Rabell said that winning the contract was an event that may never be repeated in the careers of the young Areas team. He also noted that Areas faces "many new and important challenges. In a very short timeframe, we will take over operations, construct the new facilities and buildings, and ultimately operate a profitable business."

Joe Chambliss, C.E.O. of Florida Turnpike Services, who partnered with Areas U.S.A. and will provide fuel services, noted that his company has a 15-year proven track record with the Turnpike. "We especially look forward to providing our customers with state-of-the-art Shell Oil branded products in the new convenience stores and at the pump, as well as replacing those buildings designed for the '50s and '60s with new modern facilities."

Under the new contract, the Turnpike will receive a guaranteed minimum of \$180 million during the term of the concession agreement. The new contract includes a construction commitment of an estimated \$162

million by Areas USA FLTP, LLC, and features a combination of renovated, expanded and newly-constructed restaurant buildings and new convenience stores and fuel stations. The existing gas stations were originally constructed between 1957 and 1964, while the restaurant buildings were last reconstructed in 1988.

Secretary Kopelousos noted that while the project guarantees upgrading the aging facilities, more importantly, the new contract will produce more than 1,500 construction-related jobs as a result of the Areas USA proposed capital expenditures. More than \$100 million in labor income will be produced by this contract.

The new buildings will feature Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. (Visit <http://www.usgbc.org/> for more information on LEED certification.)

Additionally, Areas, which also operates concessions at the Orlando and Miami International airports, has made a strong commitment to the Florida Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program. Nationally, Areas regularly ranks high in strong MBE participation in its concession contracts.

Among the wide variety of food outlets, many of them featuring healthy selections, will be seven companies nationally headquartered and originated in Florida:

- Checkers
- Earl of Sandwich
- Cheeburger Cheeburger
- Nature's Table
- Tony Roma's
- Chicken Kitchen
- Vicky Bakery, Inc.

Construction on the service plazas is scheduled to begin by the fourth quarter of 2010. Many of the new food brands will begin appearing in the service plazas on June 3.



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 southern 11 miles of the Daniel Webster Western Beltway (Toll 429) in Orange and Osceola Counties.

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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.