



NEWS RELEASE

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Governor

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Construction on Turnpike's first open-road tolling plaza and new NW 74 St. interchange to begin the week of January 22 in Miami-Dade County

FORT LAUDERDALE — Construction is set to start the week of January 22 on what will be the first open-road tolling (ORT) plaza on Florida's Turnpike, transportation officials announced today.

The project entails converting the Turnpike's Okeechobee toll plaza, located at Milepost 32 between the Northwest 106th Street and Northwest 41st Street interchanges, into a high-tech plaza — no gates, tollbooths nor need to slowdown for drivers with SunPass.

The converted toll plaza will allow motorists with SunPass to travel at highway speeds while their toll is collected via SunPass equipment overhead. Cash-paying motorists will need to pull off the highway onto ramps with traditional tollbooths and then merge back onto the travel lanes.

A new Turnpike interchange will be constructed at Northwest 74th Street, in conjunction with the conversion of the Okeechobee mainline toll plaza into an open-road tolling plaza. The new interchange will have SunPass-only (no cash) toll plazas on the northbound exit and southbound entrance ramps. Motorists entering the northbound Turnpike and southbound motorists exiting the Turnpike at Northwest 74th Street will have the option to pay cash at the Okeechobee mainline toll plaza.

In addition, sound barrier walls will be constructed along existing residential areas that met the need and feasibility criteria for noise abatement.

The work will take approximately three years to complete.

Motorists may encounter nighttime lane closures beginning Tuesday, Jan. 23. One lane in each direction will be closed between the Okeechobee mainline toll plaza and the Northwest 41st Street interchange from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Tuesday through Friday. The lane closures are needed for milling and resurfacing work.

It is anticipated the project will be completed by the end of 2009.

The \$63.4 million construction contract was awarded to Condotte America.



EXHIBIT C



**HOMESTEAD EXTENSION
FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE (SR 921)
MP 32 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

**OKEECHOBEE
MAINLINE TOLL PLAZA
EXPRESS LANE CONVERSION
FPID 415905-1-52-01**

**DESIGN INFORMATION MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH, 2005 @ 6:00 PM
EUGENIA B. THOMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5950 N.W. 114TH AVE
DORAL, FLORIDA**

