



Veterans Expressway/SR 589 Roadway Widening & Express Lanes FPID: 429350-1 & 429350-4

March 2015

Description:

These two projects are a continuation of the widening of the Veterans Expressway/SR 589 from four to eight lanes between Memorial Highway and the Suncoast Parkway/SR 589 in Hillsborough County. The widening of the expressway from Memorial Highway to Gunn Highway is currently underway, and is scheduled for completion in the Fall of 2016. The improvements also include a conversion to all-electronic tolling, which removes all toll plazas and replaces them with automated toll gantries.

These two projects, the widening between Gunn Highway to the Sugarwood Toll Plaza (FPID 429350-1) and the widening from the Sugarwood Toll Plaza to the beginning of the Suncoast Parkway/SR 589 at Van Dyke Road (FPID 429350-4) will complete the Veterans Expressway/SR 589 widening. These widening projects are approximately five miles in length, and include landscaping and noise walls in select areas. Major bridge and storm-water drainage improvements are also included as part of these projects.

Benefits:

- Increases capacity with the addition of four new travel lanes. One express lane and one general toll lane will be added in each direction between Gunn Highway and Hutchison Road.
- Enhances travel options for Veterans Expressway/SR 589 customers by providing an express lane in addition to a general toll lane.
- Improves the capacity of a heavily travelled commuter corridor for the Tampa Bay Area. This facility also serves as a hurricane evacuation route and is part of the State's Strategic Intermodal System (SIS).

Status:

The widening from south of Gunn Highway to the Sugarwood Toll Plaza is programmed for construction in FY 2014, while the widening from the Sugarwood Toll Plaza to Van Dyke Road is programmed for construction in FY 2015. Both projects have been awarded to separate design build teams and they are both active in construction.

Investment:

The Turnpike has funded \$97.4 million for the Design-Build phase of these two projects.

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