Frequently Asked Questions
2017 Indexing of SunPass, TOLL-BY-PLATE and Cash Toll Rates

Why is FDOT indexing SunPass and TOLL-BY-PLATE tolls on its facilities?

Florida Statute 338.165(3) mandates that all FDOT-owned toll roads and bridges index tolls on a periodic basis to keep pace with inflation. This statute, which was enacted in 2007, provides for all FDOT owned facilities to adjust SunPass and TOLL-BY-PLATE rates annually based on the year-over-year change in Consumer Price Index (CPI). The current toll rates will be indexed by the 2016 CPI (1.3%), resulting in an extra penny or two at most tolling locations. The new rates will go into effect at 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 29, 2017. Despite the toll adjustment, the SunPass rate will continue to always be the lowest rate.

Why is the cash toll rate also changing?

While the law allows FDOT to adjust cash rates every year, it is both impractical and costly. Indexing every 5 years using the cumulative CPI over the five-year period is more efficient. As a result, the cash toll adjustment is scheduled to take place on October 29, 2017, five years (2012 to 2017) since the last cash adjustment.

We already pay gasoline taxes. Doesn’t a portion of those taxes go to the toll roads?

Toll roads and bridges are not eligible to receive funds from gasoline or other transportation taxes. Operation and maintenance of the road or bridge, widening projects, new interchanges, new alignments and all debt service obligations are paid for through the user fees (tolls) collected.

Some of these roads have been around a long time, so they must be paid for. Why can’t the Department just remove the tolls?

Tolls continue to support improvements to the existing toll facilities, as well as the construction of new facilities that provide customer convenience and help reduce congestion.

Are the express lane tolls on I-95 and I-595 in Miami-Dade and Broward counties going to be indexed in addition to the variable rate we already pay?

No, the I-95 and I-595 Express Lanes are exempt from the toll rate indexing. In addition, toll rates on the Mid Bay Bridge/Spence Parkway and the Garcon Point Bridge will not be affected on October 29, 2017.
Where can I go to learn more about this?

To find out more about toll rate indexing and to see the new SunPass and TOLL-BY-PLATE rates please visit: http://www.floridasturnpike.com