



# FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

CHARLIE CRIST <i>Governor</i>  STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS <i>Secretary of Transportation</i>	<h2>MEDIA ADVISORY</h2>	Contacts: Christa Deason Phone: 407-264-3492
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For Immediate Release

## Central Florida Weekly Lane Closures and Work Zone Advisory

OCOE, FL (December 18, 2008) — Florida's Turnpike announces lane closures and work zone information for construction and maintenance projects in Central Florida beginning Sunday, December 21, 2008.

Florida's Turnpike strives to maintain traffic flow in work zones; however, motorists may encounter heavier traffic near construction sites. 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; rain or temperatures below 65 degrees may delay or cancel paving operations.*

*All regularly scheduled construction and maintenance-related lane closures and restrictions on Florida's Turnpike-operated roads are suspended from 6 a.m., Wednesday, December 24, through 6 a.m., Monday, January 5, 2009, in anticipation of heavy traffic volumes. Motorists should expect heavy congestion at the mainline toll plazas on the busiest travel days, and be prepared for sudden, intermittent stops, especially near the Leesburg (milepost 288), Three Lakes (milepost 236) and Lake Worth/Lantana (milepost 88) mainline toll plazas. Visit [www.floridasturnpike.com](http://www.floridasturnpike.com) for information on the free coffee safety breaks being offered to motorists at selected times and dates during the holiday travel period.*



## Turnpike Mainline

### ORANGE COUNTY

#### TURNPIKE WIDENING PROJECT—INTERSTATE 4 TO GOTHA ROAD (MILEPOSTS 259-265)

- Construction activities continue from the Interstate 4 bridges to north of the Turkey Lake Service Plaza at the Gotha Road Bridge.
- Be alert for lane shifts in both Northbound and Southbound directions between Kirkman Road and Gotha Rd overpass.
- Motorists should be alert for day-and nighttime closures on Apopka-Vineland Road.
- Motorists should be alert for nightly rolling traffic pacing operations, both north- and southbound between Interstate 4 and SR 408.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This \$128.6 million project adds two lanes in each direction between Interstate 4 and the SR 408 Interchange. Construction includes widening the existing bridges over Interstate 4 and Apopka-Vineland Road, and replacing the Kirkman Road and Gotha Road bridges over the Turnpike. Additionally, improvements will be made at the Interstate 4 and SR 408 (East-West Expressway) interchanges. This project is scheduled to be complete in August 2010. Click here for a map of soundwall installation locations: [http://floridasturnpike.com/pdfs/I-4\\_Gotha\\_Noise%20Map.pdf](http://floridasturnpike.com/pdfs/I-4_Gotha_Noise%20Map.pdf)

#### TURNPIKE WIDENING PROJECT – SR. 408 TO NORTH OF BEULAH ROAD (MILEPOST 265-270)

- Watch for construction vehicles entering and exiting traffic at locations along the project.
- Be aware of the single laning on the State Road 50 Connector Rd. and the merging traffic at the on- and off-ramps.
- Be alert for lane shifts in both directions on the Turnpike as well as the northbound ramps from SR 408.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This \$68.8 million project consists of widening of Florida's turnpike (SR 91) from four to eight lanes and six to 12 lanes from milepost 266 to milepost 269 in Orange County. The construction includes widening of the bridges over Beulah Rd. and reconstruction of the State Road 50 connector bridge over Florida's Turnpike, resurfacing existing pavement, construction of storm water retention ponds, signing and marking, lighting, landscaping, sound barriers, ITS and utilities. This project is expected to be complete in August 2010.

### SUMTER COUNTY

#### ROADWAY RESURFACING PROJECT (MILEPOSTS 296-309)

- Watch for intermittent, single lane closures to accommodate milling and paving operations during the daytime hours.
- Watch for single-lane closures during the daytime as crews complete paving operations. Paving operations resume on January 5, 2009.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This \$13.5 million resurfacing project, which began March 3, includes milling and resurfacing the roadway, including drainage and guardrail improvements, is nearing completion. For more information on the Sumter County resurfacing project, visit <http://www.sumterconstruction.com/index.html>

### Beachline West Expressway BEE LINE WEST WIDENING (Mileposts 4-8)

- Be alert for intermittent lane closures on McCoy Road. Construction crews are placing the new bridge deck on the Beachline overpass.
- Watch for intermittent lane closures on Orange Avenue and at the CSX overpass. Crews are working on the Beachline overpass bridge superstructure.
- Watch for single lane closures, both east-and westbound to accommodate paving operations.
- Work continues until 6 a.m., December 24, and resumes on January 5.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Florida's Turnpike Enterprise is currently performing improvements to the Bee Line West Mainline Toll Plaza near Milepost 6. These improvements include open road tolling and widening the roadway between the Turnpike and McCoy Road as part of a series of enhancements scheduled for construction over the next several years. The current project consists of the demolition and reconstruction of the existing mainline toll plaza with major capacity improvements and additional lanes.

Upon completion in the spring of 2009, the plaza will feature two SunPass-only express lanes in each direction, with the capacity to add an additional lane when the Beachline is widened to three lanes in each direction. With the added open road tolling feature, SunPass customers will be able to travel at highway speed in the express lanes.

Included in the toll plaza improvements is the construction of four mixed-use lanes to provide additional lanes for cash customers.

In June 2008, a \$49 million project began to widen the Beachline from the Turnpike (Milepost 4.3) to McCoy Road. Improvements include widening the existing bridge structures at US 441, Landstreet Road, CSX Railroad, CSX Railroad Taft Yard, Orange Avenue and McCoy Road. A new bridge will also be constructed for the access ramp over the CSX Railroad.

### SEMINOLE EXPRESSWAY LAKE JESUP TOLL PLAZA RECONSTRUCTION (Milepost 47)

- Watch for overnight lane closures in both directions near the mainline toll plaza through 6 a.m., December 24.
- Overnight work resumes January 5, 2009.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Florida's Turnpike Enterprise has begun a project to convert the Lake Jesup mainline toll plaza to open road tolling. This \$40.5 million project consists of the demolition and reconstruction of the existing mainline toll plaza with major capacity improvements and additional lanes.

## Regional Projects

### POLK COUNTY

## TOLL ROAD 570—THE POLK PARKWAY

### SUNPASS TOLL PLAZA CONVERSION PROJECT (Mileposts 0-18)

- The outside lanes remain closed at all ramp plazas from Airport Rd. to Old Dixie Hwy, with the exception of South Florida Avenue and Lakeland Highlands Road.
- Work will be suspended from 6 a.m., December 24 until January 5.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Florida's Turnpike began on March 10 a project to add SunPass-only lanes at the ramp toll plazas. Crews are completing final installation of sign panels and new SunPass-only lane equipment

This \$3.2 million project is scheduled for completion in February 2009.



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.

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.