



Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Motorist news for April 2 - 10, 2010

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*Because of weather and other circumstances, the information contained in this release will occasionally change. For the latest information, check out the "closures/detours" section at www.myTBI.com. **ON SITE VISITS: Please contact us before parking in the construction zones so that we may help you find a safe location.***

Project news: I-275 from Himes Avenue to the Hillsborough River

Major impacts this weekend for southbound I-275 lane and exit switches

TAMPA -- Southbound I-275 traffic will be switched to the old northbound lanes between the Hillsborough River and Himes Avenue this weekend. Lane closures will be needed around-the-clock from Friday night (April 2) into Sunday morning (April 4) in order to make the switch.

Here's what motorists should expect: One lane of southbound I-275 will close from the Hillsborough River (downtown) to Himes Avenue, beginning around 10 p.m. Friday night, April 2. A second lane will close around 11:30 p.m. Friday, leaving just one lane of traffic open until Sunday morning, April 4. Motorists traveling on southbound I-275 and westbound I-4 approaching I-275 will face major delays throughout most of this period from Friday night to Sunday morning and should consider alternate routes.

Sunday morning (currently estimated at 4 a.m.), all lanes will be open and traffic will be in the final alignments as described below:

- 1) Three lanes of through-traffic will curve to the left after passing over Willow Avenue (west of North Boulevard and the Hillsborough River) onto the old northbound lanes. Traffic will remain on the old northbound lanes and rejoin the existing southbound lanes near Himes Avenue.
- 2) Traffic exiting to both Howard/Armenia avenues and Himes Avenue will continue on the existing southbound lanes where through-traffic curves to the old northbound lanes. Follow signs from this point to exit at Howard/Armenia (Exit 42) or Himes Avenue (Exit 41C). [Important! This exit point is much further to the east, especially for Himes Avenue. If drivers pass this exit, the next opportunity to exit southbound I-275 will be at Dale Mabry Highway, Exit 41B.]

3) Drivers entering southbound I-275 from Armenia Avenue will use the ramp just north of the new northbound interstate lanes and will enter onto the interstate from the left side into a new traffic lane.

Maps of the changes are available on the myTBI.com web site.

Night lane closures on northbound and southbound I-275 downtown

TAMPA -- One lane will be closed on both northbound and southbound I-275 between the Hillsborough River (downtown) and Himes Avenue (Exit 41C) between 10 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday (April 5 - 8) nights. One lane may also be closed on the new southbound I-275 exit ramp alignment to Howard/Armenia avenues (Exit 42) and Himes Avenue (Exit 41C).

Project news: Northbound I-275 Connector to CR 296 / SR 686

Night lane closures on I-275 north and south of Roosevelt Boulevard

ST. PETERSBURG -- One lane will be closed on northbound and/or southbound I-275 between Gandy Boulevard (Exit 28) and Ulmerton Road (Exit 31) from 8 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (April 5 - 8) nights. [Northbound I-275 lane closures will not start until about 1 1/2 hours after Tampa Bay Rays' home games Tuesday through Thursday nights to allow traffic to clear.]

Southbound I-275 exit to CR 296 to be closed early mornings

ST. PETERSBURG -- The portion of southbound I-275 Exit 30 that connects to County Road 296 (118th Avenue) will be closed from 12:01 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday (April 6 - 9) mornings.

DETOURS: Use Exit 31 and take Ulmerton Road (State Road 688) west to Roosevelt Boulevard (State Road 686), go east on Roosevelt, then turn right on 28th Street North and continue to County Road 296 / 118th Avenue. Another option is to exit at Exit 30, go west on Roosevelt, then turn left on 28th Street North and continue to County Road 296 / 118th Avenue.

maintenance: Interstate 275

Daytime lane closures on the northbound Howard Frankland Bridge

ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA -- The right lane will be closed for maintenance work on northbound I-275 on the Howard Frankland Bridge about 2.3 miles west of State Road 60 (Exits 39 A/B) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (April 5 - 9).

Lane to be closed Monday on Bearss entrance ramp to southbound I-275

TAMPA -- The left lane will be closed for maintenance work on the Bearss Avenue entrance ramp onto southbound I-275 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday (April 5).

Project news: Interstate 75 Interchange at County Road 54

Night lane closures on northbound I-75 at CR 54

WESLEY CHAPEL -- The right lane will be closed on northbound I-75 from south of County Road 54 (Exit 279) to north of the interchange between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday (April 6 - 8) nights. Be alert to lane shifts.

Project news: Interstate 75 from County Road 54 to Hernando County line

Night lane closures on I-75 in northern Pasco County

PASCO COUNTY -- One lane will be closed for guardrail work on both northbound and southbound I-75 for about two miles (mile marker 280 to 282, which is north of County Road 54, Exit 279) between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (April 4 - 8) nights.

Project news: Interstate 75 from Pasco / Hernando County line to Lockhart Road

Night lane closures on northbound I-75 in southern Hernando County

HERNANDO COUNTY -- One lane will be closed for paving on northbound I-75 in various locations between the Pasco County line and Lockhart Road (almost four miles north of Pasco County) between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (April 4 - 8) nights.