



Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Motorist news for August 15- 22, 2009

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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: Tampa Airport Interchanges (State Road 60)

Northbound Memorial Highway / Westbound SR 60 Traffic Switch

TAMPA -- Northbound Memorial Highway and westbound State Road 60 traffic will be switched to a new alignment from west of Tampa International Airport to the Veterans Expressway between midnight and 5:30 a.m. Wednesday (August 19). Here are the main changes drivers need to know:

1. Traffic coming from Kennedy Boulevard or I-275 on northbound Memorial Hwy. / westbound SR 60 will now exit to the RIGHT (a 2-lane exit ramp) to go onto the Courtney Campbell Parkway (towards Clearwater). This replaces the existing "triple left" turn onto the Courtney Campbell.
 - a. Traffic going to Independence Parkway, Memorial Highway, Hillsborough Avenue, etc. will exit to the RIGHT north of the Courtney Campbell Parkway.
 - b. Drivers should closely watch for signs and know where they want to go. After the combined exit to Independence/Memorial/Hillsborough, drivers will be on the Veterans Expressway and will PAY TOLLS.
2. For traffic coming from Spruce Street and Tampa International Airport (TPA), they will continue to exit to the left (one-lane exit ramp) for about one-to-two additional weeks. [After this period, these drivers will also be put into the new alignment and exit right to Clearwater.]
3. For these one-to-two weeks, Spruce Street and TPA traffic will NOT be able to exit to Independence Parkway -- instead, it will continue north and use the Memorial Highway exit.

Detours on State Road 60 near TPA

TAMPA -- Eastbound or westbound State Road 60/Memorial Highway may be closed near the Spruce Street/ Tampa International Airport (TPA) interchange as needed Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights. Eastbound closures will happen between 10:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m.; westbound closures will occur between 11:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. Watch closely for lighted message signs alerting of the closures and to guide you to the detours.

- DETOUR for EASTBOUND SR 60 CLOSURE: Traffic will be directed off at the Spruce Street/TPA exit, continue east on Spruce St. to Westshore Blvd., then south on Westshore Blvd. to Cypress St., northbound I-275, or Kennedy Blvd. To access southbound I-275, continue south on Westshore Blvd., then turn right onto Kennedy Blvd., continue west and use the entrance ramp on the west side of Westshore Plaza.
- DETOUR for WESTBOUND SR 60 CLOSURE: Traffic will be directed off at the Spruce Street exit, then u-turn at O'Brien Street and use the westbound Spruce Street entrance ramp to westbound SR 60.

Night lane closures on Courtney Campbell

TAMPA -- One to two lanes will be closed on eastbound and westbound State Road 60 on the Courtney Campbell Parkway between Memorial Highway and Rocky Point Drive from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights.

Eastbound and westbound Courtney Campbell to be detoured early mornings

TAMPA -- Eastbound State Road 60 traffic on the Courtney Campbell Parkway continuing east towards Spruce Street, Tampa International Airport and I-275 may be detoured from 12 a.m. to 4 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights as crews do bridge work over the road.

DETOUR: Traffic will be directed north on Memorial Highway to the Independence Parkway exit, north on George Road, then east and south on Memorial Highway to eastbound State Road 60.

Westbound State Road 60 / northbound Memorial Highway traffic going onto the Courtney Campbell Parkway may also be detoured these same hours and nights. DETOUR: Continue north, exit to Independence Parkway, go north on George Road, then east and south on Memorial Highway to the westbound State Road 60 exit towards Clearwater.

Night lane closures on Independence Parkway under Memorial Highway

TAMPA -- One lane may be closed on westbound/northbound Independence Parkway under Memorial Highway (south of the Veterans Expressway) from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights.

Northbound Memorial Highway exit to Independence to be closed at night

TAMPA -- The northbound Memorial Highway exit to Independence Parkway may be closed between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights. Traffic will remain northbound on Memorial, exit left to Memorial at the Eisenhower Boulevard intersection, and then head south on George Road back to Independence Parkway.

Lane closures on westbound SR 60 near Courtney Campbell

TAMPA -- One to two lanes will be closed on westbound State Road 60 / northbound Memorial Highway between the Courtney Campbell Causeway and the Veterans Expressway between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Saturday (August 16 - 22) nights.

Southbound Veterans to be detoured early Friday

TAMPA -- Southbound Veterans Expressway (SR 589) will be closed at Memorial Highway between 12 a.m. and 4 a.m. Friday, August 21 (Thursday night into Friday morning). Traffic will

be detoured west on Hillsborough Avenue, south on Dale Mabry Highway, then west on Spruce Street to State Road 60 / Memorial Highway.

Lane closures on northbound Veterans

TAMPA -- One to two lanes may be closed on the south end of the northbound Veterans Expressway (SR 589) between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Saturday (August 16 - 22) nights.

Lane and complete closures of westbound SR 60 exit to airport

TAMPA -- One of two lanes may be closed on the westbound State Road 60/northbound Memorial Highway exit to George Bean Parkway (roadway into Tampa International Airport) between 11 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights. The entire ramp may be closed between 11:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. the same nights. DETOUR: Take the ramp split onto eastbound Spruce Street. Get into the left lane, u-turn at the traffic signal at O'Brien Street, and use the westbound Spruce Street ramp into the airport.

Eastbound SR 60 exit to airport may be closed at night

TAMPA -- The eastbound State Road 60/southbound Memorial Highway exit to Tampa International Airport may be closed between 10:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights. DETOUR: Exit to Spruce Street. Get into the left lane, u-turn at the traffic signal at O'Brien Street, and use the westbound Spruce Street ramp into the airport.

Lane closures or complete closure on TPA exit road at night

TAMPA -- One lane may be closed on southbound George Bean Parkway (outbound roadway from Tampa International Airport) between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights. Also, the entire exit may be closed between 12:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. Monday through Sunday (August 17 - 23) mornings. Traffic will be routed to the service roads, then out to Spruce Street at the O'Brien Street intersection. Depending on the destination, traffic will then be routed to I-275 or S.R. 60 using local roads including Spruce, O'Brien, and Cypress streets, Lois Avenue, or Westshore Boulevard.

Night lane closures on Spruce Street bridge near Tampa International Airport

TAMPA -- One to two lanes (of 4 lanes) may be closed on the eastbound SR 60/southbound George Bean Parkway (roadway out of Tampa International Airport) bridge over SR 60 from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights.

Night lane closures on Spruce Street near Tampa International Airport

TAMPA -- One lane may be closed in each direction of Spruce Street between O'Brien Street and State Road 60 from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights.

Night closure of westbound Spruce Street near TPA

TAMPA -- Westbound Spruce Street may be closed just east of State Road 60 between 12 a.m. and 4 a.m. Saturday through Sunday (August 15 - 23) mornings. DETOUR to westbound SR 60/northbound Memorial Highway: Go south on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Kennedy Boulevard (SR 60) which turns into Memorial Highway at I-275.

Lane closures on Cypress Street

TAMPA -- One lane may be closed in each direction of Cypress Street under State Road 60 from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Friday through Saturday (August 14 - 22) nights and from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday through Sunday (August 15 - 23).

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

Left exit lane closed on northbound 275 Exit 30 ramp to Roosevelt

ST. PETERSBURG -- The left lane has been closed on the northbound I-275 Exit 30 ramp to Roosevelt Boulevard (State Road 686). This lane will remain closed on the ramp into 2010 for widening and the construction of the new ramp to County Road 296. Traffic exiting northbound I-275 to Roosevelt Boulevard should be in the right lane to exit; the next lane to the left is now a through-lane only for upcoming construction phases.

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

ST. PETERSBURG -- One lane will be closed on northbound and southbound I-275 between Gandy Boulevard (Exit 28) and Ulmerton Road (Exit 31) from 8 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (August 17 - 22) nights. Northbound I-275 lane closures will not start until about two hours after Tampa Bay Rays' home games to allow traffic to clear.

Lane closures on CR 296

ST. PETERSBURG -- One lane may be closed in either direction of County Road 296 between 118th Avenue and I-275 at any time Monday through Sunday (August 17 - 23).

Day and night lane closures on Roosevelt Boulevard at I-275

ST. PETERSBURG -- One lane may be closed in each direction of Roosevelt Boulevard (State Road 686) from I-275 to 28th Street North from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday through Sunday (August 17 - 23).

Project news: Northbound I-275 Exit Ramps to State Road 60

Lane closures on northbound I-275 coming off Howard Frankland

TAMPA -- Lane closures will occur on northbound I-275 between the east end of the Howard Frankland Bridge and Exit 39B (Westbound SR 60/northbound Memorial Highway) between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Saturday (August 16 - 22) nights. Crews will be setting barrier wall and shifting traffic.

For information on this new project, please visit www.myTBI.com and look for "Northbound I-275 Exit Ramps to State Road 60" after clicking on the I-275 shield on the home page.

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

Traffic impacts this weekend (August 14-16) as additional lanes open on northbound I-275

TAMPA -- Beginning tonight (Friday, August 14), weather permitting, work will begin to put northbound I-275 between Howard Avenue and Ashley Drive into its final traffic alignment.

Traffic will be reduced to one lane in the overnight hours between 11:30 p.m. tonight (August 14) and 8 a.m. Saturday (August 15). Motorists are strongly encouraged to seek alternate routes to avoid potential long delays during these hours.

For the remainder of the weekend, traffic may be reduced to just two lanes in that area as workers restripe the roadway into its final configuration. All lanes are expected to be open no later than 5:30 a.m. Monday (August 17). Slow traffic can be expected on northbound I-275 all weekend, with the worst period being Friday night into Saturday morning.

When the work is completed, there will be four through-lanes on northbound I-275 from the Dale Mabry Highway entrance ramp past the Hillsborough River in downtown Tampa. A fifth lane on the right will allow traffic to enter from the Howard Avenue entrance ramp exit to Scott Street and Ashley Drive.

Wednesday night (August 12), traffic was put into the final alignment from Dale Mabry Highway to east of Howard Avenue. This area now has four through-lanes from Dale Mabry Highway to east of Howard Avenue, as well as a fifth lane on the right that allows traffic to enter from Himes Avenue and exit to the Armenia/Howard avenues interchange.

Night and day lane closures on North Boulevard at I-275

TAMPA -- One of two lanes may be closed in each direction of North Boulevard between Green and Laurel streets from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (August 16 - 20) nights and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (August 17 - 21).

Day lane closures on Laurel Street

TAMPA -- The left lane will be closed on eastbound Laurel Street from North Boulevard to Green Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (August 17 - 21).

Day lane closures on Green Street at I-275

TAMPA -- One of two lanes will be closed on Green Street between Laurel Street and North Boulevard (at 275) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (August 17 - 21).

Project news: Interstate 4 Weigh-in-Motion Stations

Night lane closures on I-4 near Exit 19

PLANT CITY -- One to two lanes may be closed on eastbound I-4 between Branch Forbes Road (Exit 17) and Thonotosassa Road/S.R. 566 (Exit 19) between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Wednesday (August 16 - 19) nights. One to two lanes may also be closed on westbound I-4 between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. these same nights.