

Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Motorist news for October 4 - 11, 2008

*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 John McShaffrey before parking in the construction zones so that we may help you find a safe location.***

project news: Tampa Airport Interchanges (State Road 60)

Eastbound SR 60 exit to TIA to switch back to right lane on October 7

TAMPA -- Drivers exiting eastbound State Road 60 (southbound Veterans Expressway/Memorial Highway) to Tampa International Airport will do so from the RIGHT lane once again beginning Tuesday morning, October 7.

Currently, motorists exit to the LEFT going to Tampa International Airport (TIA) or eastbound Spruce Street. This temporary exit configuration was put into place on September 15. While the TIA exit will return to a right side exit next week, Spruce Street will not switch to a right exit until later this year.

Drivers are reminded to remain alert and pay attention to signs and other vehicles as motorists adjust to the new conditions.

TIPS -- Beginning Tuesday, October 7

* If going to TIA on EB SR 60/southbound Memorial Highway -- get into the right lane when it is safe to do so.

* If going to Spruce Street on EB SR 60/southbound Memorial Highway -- get into one of the two left lanes when it is safe to do so.

* If continuing south to I-275 or Kennedy Boulevard, stay in one of the right two lanes.

* Watch your speed! The speed limit has been reduced to 40 MPH in this area.

Lane closures on eastbound SR 60 approaching I-275

TAMPA -- One lane will be closed on eastbound State Road 60 / southbound Memorial Highway over Cypress Street (approaching I-275) between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Saturday (October 5 - 11) nights.

-- MORE ON FOLLOWING FOUR PAGES --



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Ramp from Cypress Street to southbound I-275 to be closed early mornings

TAMPA -- The entrance ramp to southbound I-275 from Cypress Street will be closed from 12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m. Monday through Sunday (October 6 - 12) mornings. DETOUR: East on Cypress to Westshore Boulevard, west on Kennedy Blvd. to the southbound ramp near Westshore Plaza. Also, expect periodic delays these mornings on Cypress Street at the State Road 60 overpass.

Lane closures and detours on State Road 60 near TIA

TAMPA -- Lane closures or complete closures of eastbound and/or westbound State Road 60/Memorial Highway may occur near the Spruce Street/Tampa International Airport (TIA) interchange as needed Friday through Sunday (October 3 - 12). Lane closures will occur between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m.; complete closures will happen between 12 a.m. and 4 a.m.

DETOUR for EASTBOUND SR 60 CLOSURE: All traffic will be directed off at the Spruce Street/TIA exit. Traffic can continue east on Spruce Street to Westshore Boulevard, then south on Westshore Boulevard to Cypress Street, northbound I-275, or Kennedy Boulevard. To access southbound I-275, continue south on Westshore Boulevard, then turn right onto Kennedy Boulevard, continue west and use the entrance ramp on the west side of Westshore Plaza.

DETOUR for WESTBOUND SR 60 CLOSURE: Northbound I-275 traffic will be directed off at Kennedy Boulevard (exit 39A). Southbound I-275 traffic will be directed to Exit 40A. All traffic will be directed north on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Spruce Street to westbound State Road 60 or Tampa International Airport.

Watch closely for lighted message signs on I-275 and State Road 60 that will state which directions are closed and guide you to the detour routes.

Eastbound SR 60 exit to Spruce Street / TIA closed early mornings

TAMPA -- The eastbound State Road 60/Memorial Highway exit to Spruce Street and Tampa International Airport may be closed between 12:01 a.m. and 4 a.m. Saturday through Sunday (October 4 - 12) mornings. Traffic will be routed to Kennedy Boulevard, then to northbound Westshore Boulevard, then to Spruce Street. Motorists going to TIA can enter via the westbound Spruce Street ramp. [This exit will not be closed at the same time when eastbound State Road 60 is closed; one or the other will be open. See previous item.]

Night lane closures on east end of Courtney Campbell

TAMPA -- Two lanes will be closed on eastbound State Road 60 on the Courtney Campbell Parkway west of Bayport Drive from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Saturday (Oct. 5 - 11) nights.

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Night detours for SR 60 connection to Memorial/Veterans

TAMPA -- Traffic heading east or west on State Road 60 on the Courtney Campbell Parkway may be detoured at the traffic signal to northbound Memorial Highway/Veterans Expressway from 12 to 4 a.m. Saturday through Sunday (October 4 - 12) mornings.

DETOUR: Eastbound traffic will be directed east to the Spruce Street exit, where it will u-turn at O'Brien Street, then enter westbound State Road 60 and continue to Memorial Highway or the Veterans Expressway.

TIA exit road may be closed very early mornings

TAMPA -- Southbound George Bean Parkway (outbound roadway from Tampa International Airport) may be closed between 12:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. Saturday through Sunday (October 4 - 12) 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 State Road 60 using local roads including Spruce Street, O'Brien Street, Cypress Street, and Westshore Boulevard. Please see myTBI.com for more specific detour route information.

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

North Boulevard to be closed under this weekend

TAMPA -- North Boulevard will be closed from Arch Street to Green Street from 7 p.m. Friday (October 3) to 4 a.m. Monday (October 6). DETOUR: Northbound traffic will be detoured using Laurel and Green streets. Southbound traffic will be detoured using Main Street, Willow Avenue, and Cypress Street.

Northbound I-275 lane closures at night

TAMPA -- One to two lanes will be closed on northbound I-275 from Howard Avenue to Ashley Drive (Exit 44) from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (October 5 - 9) nights.

Half of I-275 Exit 44 to be closed at night

TAMPA -- The northbound I-275 exit ramps to Ashley Drive and Scott Street may alternately close between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (October 5 - 9) nights. The Scott Street exit will also be closed during these same hours Friday and Saturday (October 10 and 11) nights.

Detour when Scott Street exit (left half of Exit 44) is closed: Traffic will be detoured to Ashley

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Drive (right ramp of Exit 44), then east on Cass Street, then north on Florida Avenue to Scott Street.

Detour when Ashley Drive exit (right half of Exit 44) is closed: Traffic will be detoured to Scott Street, then south on Tampa Street, then west on Tyler Street to Ashley Drive.

Southbound I-275 Ashley ramps to be closed Wednesday night / Oct. 10 weekend

TAMPA -- The southbound I-275 exit ramp to Ashley Drive and the Ashley Drive entrance ramp to southbound I-275 will be closed between 11 p.m. Wednesday (October 8) and 5 a.m. Thursday (October 9). The ramps will also be closed around-the-clock from 11 p.m. Friday (October 10) until sometime before noon on Sunday (October 12).

Detours: for the southbound I-275 exit ramp closure: Use Exit 45A to Doyle Carlton Drive. Turn right at bottom of ramp onto Doyle Carlton, turn right onto Henderson Avenue, turn right onto Tampa Street and go south, turn right and go west on Tyler Street to Ashley Drive.

For northbound Ashley Drive entrance ramp closure to southbound I-275: Going north on Ashley Drive, turn right and go east on Cass Street, turn left and go north on Florida Avenue, turn left on Kay Street and go west to the I-275 entrance ramp at the Tampa Street/Kay Street intersection.

Daytime lane closures on Himes Avenue

TAMPA -- The right lane will be closed on northbound Himes Avenue near the entrance ramp to northbound I-275 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (October 6 - 10). Access to the entrance ramp will still be available.

Day lane closures on Mac Dill Avenue

TAMPA -- One lane of both northbound and southbound Mac Dill Avenue may be closed from La Salle Street to Arch Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (October 6 - 10).

Armenia Avenue to be closed south of I-275 at night

TAMPA — Armenia Avenue will be closed between Laurel Street and La Salle Street from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Tuesday (October 5 - 7) nights.

DETOUR: Through-traffic on Armenia Avenue will be detoured west on Main Street, south on MacDill Avenue, then east on Cypress Street back to Armenia. All interstate ramps at the Armenia/Howard avenues interchange will remain open. However, traffic may be very congested in the Howard/Armenia area at I-275. In order to avoid delays, motorists are advised to consider alternate routes.

Howard Avenue to be closed at I-275 at night

TAMPA -- Howard Avenue will be closed from La Salle Street to the south side of I-275 from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (October 5 - 9) nights.

DETOURS: Howard Avenue traffic will be detoured east on Cypress Street, north on Rome Avenue, then west on Main Street back to Howard. Traffic wishing to access I-275 will continue west on Main Street, then south on Armenia Avenue. Motorists going south on I-275 will use the ramp at Green Street. Motorists accessing northbound I-275 will continue south on Armenia Avenue, then go east on Laurel Street to the northbound I-275 entrance ramp.

Willow Avenue to be closed under I-275 for six weeks

TAMPA -- Willow Avenue will be closed under I-275 from Monday (October 5) to approximately Sunday (November 16) for utility construction. DETOUR: Traffic will be detoured using Cypress Street, Rome Avenue, and Main Street back to Willow. Truck traffic should use Armenia Avenue (southbound route) and Howard Avenue (northbound route) instead of using Rome Avenue.

Daytime lane closures on North Boulevard at I-275

TAMPA -- Intermittent closures of one lane on northbound and southbound North Boulevard between Arch Street and Main Street may occur between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (October 6 - 10).

Doyle Carlton Drive may be closed under I-275

TAMPA -- Doyle Carlton Drive may be closed to traffic under I-275 between midnight and 5 p.m. Sunday through Friday (October 5 - 10) as needed. Traffic will be detoured as follows:

Northbound: East on Laurel Street, north on Ashley Drive, east on Scott Street, north on Franklin Street, then west on Henderson Avenue to Doyle Carlton.

Southbound: East on Henderson Avenue, south on Tampa Street, then west on Laurel Street.

project news: Interstate 4 Weigh-in-Motion Stations

Night lane closure on I-4 between Exit 10 and Exit 14

SEFFNER -- One lane will be closed on eastbound or westbound I-4 between County Road 579 (Exit 10) and McIntosh Road (Exit 14) Sunday through Thursday (October 5 - 9) nights.

Eastbound closures will be between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; westbound closures will be between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

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