



Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Motorist news for November 26 – December 6, 2008

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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.***

Holiday travel news

No interstate closures in Tampa Bay area over Thanksgiving holiday weekend -- Remember to use 511 for your travel plans --

TAMPA/ST. PETERSBURG -- No closures are scheduled in the Tampa Airport Interchanges project area or on the interstate system in Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend from Wednesday (November 26) afternoon through Monday (December 1) morning.

Know before you go -- drivers are encouraged before they start their vehicles to call 511 or visit 511tampabay.com for traffic and travel information over the holiday.

Project news: Tampa Airport Interchanges (State Road 60)

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

TAMPA -- The entrance ramp to southbound I-275 from Cypress Street may be closed from 12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m. Monday through Sunday (December 1 - 7) mornings. DETOUR: East on Cypress to Westshore Boulevard, south on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Kennedy Boulevard to the southbound ramp near Westshore Plaza.

Lane closures and detours on State Road 60 near TIA

TAMPA -- Westbound 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 Monday through Saturday (December 1 - 6) nights. Westbound lane closures will be between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m.; complete closures with detours will be between 10:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m.

DETOUR for EASTBOUND SR 60 CLOSURE: Traffic will be directed off at the Spruce Street/TIA exit, 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 alerting of the closures and to guide you to the detours.

Lane closures on Veterans' frontage road

TAMPA -- One to two lanes may be closed on the southbound Veterans Expressway frontage lanes approaching Memorial Highway between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 - 6) nights.

Lane closures on Cypress Street

TAMPA -- One lane will be closed in each direction of Cypress Street under State Road 60 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 – 6) and from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 - 6) nights.

Eastbound SR 60 exit to Spruce Street closed at night

TAMPA -- The eastbound State Road 60/Memorial Highway exit to Spruce Street may be closed between 10:30 p.m. and 5 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 - 6) nights. 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.

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 5 a.m. Monday through Sunday (December 1 - 7) 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.

Lane closures on SR 60 near I-275

TAMPA -- One to two lanes may be closed on eastbound State Road 60 / southbound Memorial Highway from Cypress Street to I-275 between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 – 6) nights.

Night lane closures on east end of Courtney Campbell

TAMPA -- One to two lanes may be closed on eastbound and/or westbound State Road 60 on the Courtney Campbell Parkway between Rocky Point and Memorial Highway from 8:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 – 6) nights.

Night lane closures on northbound Memorial/Veterans

TAMPA -- One to two lanes of northbound Memorial Highway may be closed from State Road 60 (Courtney Campbell) to the Veterans Expressway between 8:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday (December 1 - 6) nights.

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

Himes entrance ramp to northbound I-275 to close December 1

TAMPA -- The entrance ramp to northbound I-275 from Himes Avenue will close for several months, beginning Monday, December 1, 2008. Motorists will need to use other interchanges to access northbound I-275, such as Dale Mabry Highway to the west of Himes Avenue or Howard Avenue to the east.

No access to northbound I-275 from Himes Avenue will be available until the new lanes and a new ramp open in the spring of 2009.

The current entrance ramp must be closed as the connection from the existing interstate alignment to the new lanes will be built across the ramp.

Northbound I-275 lane closures between Lois and Mac Dill

TAMPA -- Two lanes will be closed on northbound I-275 from Lois Avenue (Exit 40B) to Mac Dill Avenue (east of Himes Ave.) from 12:01 a.m. to 5 a.m. Monday (December 1) and from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Monday through Thursday (December 1 - 4) nights. Watch for lane shifts in this area.

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. Monday through Thursday (December 1 - 4) 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 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Monday through Thursday (December 1 - 4) nights.

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

Traffic to be paced early December 4 on northbound I-275 towards downtown

TAMPA – Traffic will be paced slowly on northbound I-275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge to Ashley Drive (Exit 44) between 12:01 a.m. and 4 a.m. Thursday, December 4. The pace will last about 20 minutes, during which all ramps along the route entering northbound I-275 will be closed until the front of the pacing operation passes. Crews will be installing an overhead sign structure.

Southbound I-275 Ashley ramps to be closed Thursday night, December 4

TAMPA -- The southbound I-275 exit ramp to Ashley Drive and the Ashley Drive entrance ramp to southbound I-275 will be closed from 10 p.m. Thursday (December 4) to 5 a.m. Friday (December 5).

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.

Day lane closures on Himes Avenue

TAMPA -- The right lane may be closed on both northbound and southbound Himes Avenue from Green Street to La Salle Street (under I-275) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (December 1 - 5).

Mac Dill Avenue to be closed at I-275 several nights

TAMPA -- Mac Dill Avenue will be closed from La Salle Street to Green Street (under I-275) for bridge work from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday (December 2 - 4) nights. DETOUR: Mac Dill Avenue traffic will be detoured around the closure area using Cypress Street, Armenia Avenue (southbound) or Howard Avenue (northbound), and Main Street back to Mac Dill Avenue.

Lanes closed during day on Mac Dill Avenue

TAMPA -- The right lane may be closed in each direction of Mac Dill Avenue from La Salle Street to Green Street (under I-275) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday (December 1 - 4).

Day lane closures on North Boulevard at I-275

TAMPA -- One lane may be closed in each direction of North Boulevard between La Salle Street and Green Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (December 1 - 5).

Lane closed on Green Street Monday and Tuesday

TAMPA -- One lane will be closed on Green Street between Laurel Street and North Boulevard from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (December 1 - 5).

Doyle Carlton Drive to be closed under I-275

TAMPA -- Doyle Carlton Drive will be closed to traffic under I-275 between 12:01 a.m. Monday (December 1) and 5 p.m. Friday (December 5). 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 closures on I-4 between Exits 10 and 14

TAMPA -- The right lane may be closed in either direction of I-4 between County Road 579 (Exit 10) and McIntosh Road (Exit 14) Monday and Tuesday (December 1 and 2) nights. Westbound closures will occur between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.; eastbound closures will be from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Project news: I-75 at Bruce B. Downs (County Road 581) Flyover

Northbound I-75 to be closed Monday night at Bruce B. Downs

NEW TAMPA -- Northbound I-75 will be closed at Bruce B. Downs Boulevard (County Road 581, Exit 270) from 9 p.m. Monday (December 1) to 5 a.m. Tuesday (December 2).

DETOUR: Traffic will exit at Bruce B. Downs/C.R. 581 (Exit 270), cross Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, and re-enter the interstate using the entrance ramp.

Traffic may be slow in on northbound I-75 approaching the interchange and motorists on Bruce B. Downs Boulevard may have lengthy delays as priority will be given to I-75 traffic crossing Bruce B. Downs.

Bruce B. Downs to be closed at I-75 two nights

NEW TAMPA -- Bruce B. Downs Boulevard (County Road 581) will be closed under I-75 from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday (December 2 and 3) nights. During the closure, no traffic will be able to pass under I-75. Motorists will be directed onto I-75 on either side of the interstate.

DETOUR: Enter I-75, exit at the next interchange (either SR 56 - Exit 275 or Fletcher Avenue - Exit 266), enter the other direction of I-75, and exit at Bruce B. Downs Boulevard (Exit 270).