

Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Motorist news for April 14-21, 2007

*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: Interstate 4 through Ybor City

Lane closed on eastbound I-4 at night week of April 15

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- Two of four lanes will be closed on eastbound I-4 from I-275 to 40th Street from 11:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19).

Lanes closed on westbound I-4 at night week of April 15

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- Two lanes will be closed on westbound I-4 from 50th Street to east of I-275 from 11:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19).

Westbound I-4 Exit 3 to 50th Street closed several nights

TAMPA -- The westbound I-4 exit to 50th Street (Exit 3) will be closed between 11:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Sunday night (April 15) and Wednesday and Thursday nights (April 18 and 19). Traffic will be detoured to Exit 5 and go west one mile on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. to 50th Street.

Columbus Drive/50th Street ramp to westbound I-4 closed Monday/Tuesday nights

TAMPA -- The entrance ramp to westbound I-4 from Columbus Drive/50th Street will be closed between 11:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. Monday and Tuesday nights (April 16 and 17). Motorists should use the MLK or 21st Street entrance ramps to access westbound I-4.

Sunday night lane closure on 50th Street at I-4

TAMPA -- One of two northbound lanes will be closed on 50th Street from south of I-4 to Melbourne Boulevard between 8 p.m. Sunday (April 15) and 6 a.m. Monday (April 16).

-- MORE ON FOLLOWING FIVE PAGES --



Interstate Construction Office

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TBI is Tampa Bay Interstates

Night lane closures on Columbus Drive

TAMPA -- One of two eastbound lanes will be closed on Columbus Drive from 51st Street to east of 52nd Street between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19).

Night lane closures on 21st/22nd streets at I-4

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- Two lanes may be closed on both 21st Street and 22nd Street in the I-4 area between 6:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Wednesday nights (April 15-18).

Night lane closures on Melbourne Boulevard

TAMPA -- One of two eastbound lanes will be closed on Melbourne Boulevard from 21st Avenue to 50th Street between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19).

Daytime lane closures on 21st/22nd streets at I-4

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- One lane may be closed on both 21st Street and 22nd Street in the I-4 area between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday (April 16-19).

Day lane closures on 34th Street at I-4

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- One of two lanes in each direction will be closed on 34th Street from Columbus Drive to 13th Avenue between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday (April 16-21).

Lane to be closed on 15th Avenue north of I-4 two nights

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- Flaggers will direct traffic on 15th Avenue between 20th Street and 22nd Street from 6:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. Monday and Tuesday nights (April 16 and 17).

Lane to be closed on 36th Street under I-4 Wednesday night

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- One lane will be closed on 36th Street from 12th Avenue to Columbus Drive from 6:30 p.m. Wednesday (April 18) to 6 a.m. Thursday (April 19). Traffic will be directed by flag persons.

Traffic impacts on 14th and 15th streets under I-4

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- Local detours remain in place for 14th and 15th streets from Palm Avenue to 14th Avenue (under I-4) until further notice for construction work.

26th Street closed under I-4

TAMPA (Ybor City) -- 26th Street remains closed under I-4 (between Columbus Drive and the south side of I-4) until further notice. Southbound 26th Street is being detoured east on Columbus Drive, then south on 34th Street, then west on 7th Avenue back to 26th Street. Northbound 26th Street is being detoured east on 7th Avenue, then north on 34th Street, then west on 18th Avenue, which curves over onto 17th Avenue and continues west back to 26th Street.

Lanes closed on 40th Street under I-4

TAMPA -- Two of four lanes remain closed on 40th Street under I-4 until further notice. All traffic has been shifted to the east side of 40th Street, allowing one lane for each direction.

50th Street to be closed under I-4 weekend of April 20

TAMPA -- 50th Street will be closed under I-4 from 8 p.m. Friday (April 20) to 6 a.m. Monday (April 23) to remove the old westbound I-4 bridge. Northbound 50th Street traffic will be detoured onto eastbound I-4 to Exit 5 (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard), then west on MLK back to 50th Street. Southbound 50th Street traffic will be detoured west on Melbourne Boulevard, then south on 40th Street/39th Street, then east on State Road 60 (Adamo Drive) to 50th Street.

All ramps will remain open at the 50th Street interchange, but motorists will still have to use the detours if they need to pass under I-4.

Interstate maintenance: I-375 at I-275 in St. Petersburg

Southbound I-275 ramp to eastbound I-375 remains CLOSED

ST. PETERSBURG -- A tanker fire March 28 on the southbound I-275 ramp to eastbound I-375 (Exit 23A) has that ramp closed until further notice, likely in early May.

DETOUR: Southbound I-275 motorists can use I-175 (Exit 22) to access the downtown area. All other ramps at that interchange are open.

Restoration is underway. All 11 replacement beams have been installed. Various form work, steel placement, deck pours, and concrete repairs are ongoing. Site clean up is almost completed. Work is going on around-the-clock; all repairs are expected to be completed around May 1, weather permitting. For more information, contact the Public Information Office at (813) 975-6060.

project news: I- 275 from 54th Ave. N. to Kennedy Blvd. (Freeway Mgmt. System)

Traffic pacing / lane closures on I-275 Sunday and Monday nights: LONG Delays

TAMPA/ST. PETERSBURG -- There will be lane closures and traffic pacing in both directions of I-275 between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday and Monday nights (April 15 and 16) to install a sign structure that spans the entire highway just off the Howard Frankland Bridge on the St. Petersburg side of Tampa Bay. The structure will be installed Sunday night and the changeable message signs will be mounted Monday night. The signs are an important part of the Florida Department of Transportation's Intelligent Transportation System.

The closure schedule could change depending on work progress, weather, etc., but no closures/traffic pacing will be done on Friday or Saturday nights. Pacing could occur Tuesday through Thursday nights (April 17-19) if the work is not completed by the morning of April 17. Schedule updates will be posted on myTBI.com.

Here are the traffic impacts to expect Sunday and Monday nights:

- * Traffic pacing on northbound I-275 from 22nd Avenue North (Exit 12) to the work site just south of the Howard Frankland Bridge.

- * Traffic pacing on southbound I-275 from downtown Tampa (Tampa Street/Ashley Drive area) to the work site just south of the Howard Frankland Bridge.

- * All entrance ramps within the pacing zone will be blocked until the front of the pace passes.

- * Two lanes will be closed on northbound and southbound I-275 for about one half mile approaching the work area.

Long delays of 40 minutes or more are expected during two or more traffic paces each night.

Motorists are highly encouraged to seek alternate routes such as Gandy Boulevard or the Courtney Campbell Causeway when traveling across the Bay. Drivers may also want to avoid I-275 in Tampa and St. Petersburg by using roads off the interstate system.

Night lane closures on Howard Frankland

TAMPA/ST. PETERSBURG -- Two lanes may be closed in each direction of I-275 on the Howard Frankland Bridge between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday nights (April 17-19).

project news: I-75 from I-275 to State Road 56 and I-275 from Bearss to I-75

Night lane closures on I-75 and I-275 near Hillsborough/Pasco line

TAMPA -- One of two lanes may be closed for paving operations on northbound and southbound I-275 and I-75 between the very north end of I-275 and State Road 56 (I-75, Exit 275) Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19). Southbound closures will be from 8:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. each night; northbound closures will be from 9:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. nightly.

-- MORE ON FOLLOWING TWO PAGES --

project news: I-75 from north of State Road 60 to south of I-4

I-75 Exit 260 to MLK to be closed this weekend and Monday/Tuesday nights

BRANDON -- The southbound I-75 exit ramp to State Road 574 (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Exit 260) will be closed from 8 p.m. Friday (April 13) to 6 a.m. Monday (April 16). It will also be closed from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Monday and Tuesday nights (April 16 and 17).

Come Monday morning (April 16), drivers need to be alert to several changed conditions at Exit 260:

1. Motorists will exit southbound I-75 at Exit 260 a little sooner (further north toward I-4).
2. There will be a 2-lane right turn onto westbound MLK.
3. Traffic turning right onto MLK will be controlled by traffic signals.

DETOUR: When Exit 260 is closed, traffic will be detoured to the next exit, which is State Road 60 (Exit 257). Motorists will exit to State Road 60 by getting in the right lane of the 3-lane left turn area of the ramp. From there, proceed under I-75 and take the first right to enter the ramp to northbound I-75. Proceed north and exit at either Exit 260A (eastbound on MLK/SR 574) or Exit 260B (westbound on MLK/SR 574).

Night lane closures on I-75 between SR 60 and I-4

BRANDON -- One to two lanes (of three lanes) will be closed on northbound and southbound I-75 between State Road 60 (Exit 257) and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (Exit 260) between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (April 15-19).

Weekend lane closures on MLK at I-75

BRANDON -- One lane will be closed in either direction of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (State Road 574) at I-75 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (April 14 and 15).

MLK ramp to southbound I-75 closed weekend of April 20

BRANDON -- The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (State Road 574) entrance ramp to southbound I-75 will be closed from 8 p.m. Friday (April 20) to 6 a.m. Monday (April 23). Traffic will be detoured west on MLK, then north on U.S. Highway 301, then east on I-4 to Exit 9 (southbound I-75).

project news: Tampa Airport Interchanges (State Road 60)

Westbound State Road 60 to be closed near TIA early mornings

TAMPA -- Westbound State Road 60/Memorial Highway will be closed between I-275 and Tampa International Airport (TIA) from 12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m. Thursday through Saturday mornings (April 19-21) for bridge work over the roadway.

DETOURS:

Northbound I-275 to westbound State Road 60: Use Exit 39A to eastbound State Road 60 (Kennedy Boulevard). Go east on Kennedy, then north on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Spruce Street and use the ramps to TIA or westbound State Road 60.

Southbound I-275 to westbound State Road 60: Use Exit 40A (Westshore Boulevard). Go north on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Spruce Street and use the ramps to TIA or westbound State Road 60.

Kennedy Boulevard to westbound State Road 60: Go north on Westshore Boulevard, then west on Spruce Street and use the ramps to TIA or westbound State Road 60.