

Florida Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 19, 2007

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I-4 Freeway Management System project underway in Hillsborough/Polk counties

TAMPA -- A project is now underway along the Interstate 4 corridor from Park Road in Plant City to U.S. Highway 27 in Polk County to install equipment to monitor traffic and provide motorists with current traffic information. This \$10.9 million project covers 31 miles of I-4 and should be completed by mid-2009.

The Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) contractor, World Fiber Technologies, Inc., will be installing dynamic message signs, closed circuit television cameras, microwave vehicle detectors, and fiber optic cable as part of the Tampa SunGuide Freeway Management System.

The SunGuide Freeway Management System provides the tools to help FDOT manage traffic. The sensors and cameras provide data to view traffic speed and volume, allowing SunGuide operators the ability to provide motorists and traffic reporters "real time" traffic information. It also enables quicker response to traffic incidents such as accidents, disabled vehicles, and other roadway problems, which can enable traffic flow to be restored to normal conditions faster. The information is relayed to motorists using the 511 system and the changeable message signs (Dynamic Message Signs) mounted over the travel lanes. When completed, this project area will feature 13 message signs, 22 cameras, and 77 vehicle detection systems.

Traffic impacts during construction are expected to be minimal. There will be occasional night lane closures and traffic paces between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., especially for installing the signs over the travel lanes. Lane closure notices will be released to the media and posted on the myTBI.com Web site. Additional project information is also available on this site.

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