

# Florida Department of Transportation

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Governor



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Bruce B. Downs bridge to southbound I-75 scheduled to open Thursday morning**

NEW TAMPA - The Florida Department of Transportation's contractor is scheduled to open one lane on the bridge that will take southbound Bruce B. Downs traffic onto southbound Interstate 75 by 5 a.m. on Thursday, July 24.

When this new connection onto southbound I-75 opens, the current double left turn lanes to southbound I-75 at the traffic signal will close permanently. All southbound Bruce B. Downs traffic entering southbound I-75 will now exit to the right just south of Dona Michelle Drive. Motorists need to be extra alert in this area as drivers get used to the changed entrance ramp conditions.

In the coming months, a second lane will be opened on the bridge. Meanwhile, this early opening of one lane on the bridge now will allow free-flowing access to southbound I-75 and allow signal timing to be adjusted on Bruce B. Downs to increase the amount of time Bruce B. Downs traffic has green signals.

This \$42 million Florida Department of Transportation project is running ahead of schedule; the contractor is anticipating completing the project before the original spring 2009 contract date.

Additional project information is available at [www.myTBI.com](http://www.myTBI.com) ; look for "Interstate 75 at County Road 581 (Bruce. B. Downs Blvd.)" after clicking on the I-75 shield on the home page.

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