



For Immediate Release  
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## Florida's Turnpike Pompano Beach Service Plaza Reopens Wednesday, June 6

*~New restaurants, energy-efficient design features of new 11,500 sq.-ft. facility~*

**Ft. Lauderdale** — After 18 months of construction, the Turnpike's Pompano Beach Service Plaza, located at milepost 65, reopened Wednesday, June 6.

The \$16 million upgrade of the facility is part of a larger \$163 million overhaul encompassing all eight of the Turnpike's service plazas, last updated in 1988.

Florida Turnpike Executive Director Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said that the reopening of the Pompano plaza, which serves about 1.5 million motorists per year, is great news for drivers traveling the Turnpike in Broward County. "The reopened plaza features all the comforts a traveler could wish for—a place to relax and stretch their legs or walk their pet, popular food choices, Shell-branded fuel, and a modern, light-filled building. Additionally, it will employ about 80 permanent workers, adding to Broward's work force."

She noted that even though the plaza was closed for 18 months, the project provided about 350 construction jobs during the renovation, and more indirect jobs through local suppliers of construction materials.

The service plaza renovations are a joint project of FDOT and Areas USA. Areas, in 2009, was awarded a 30-year concession agreement to run the fuel, food and retail operations along the Turnpike. Reconstruction of the plazas was part of the concession agreement. The Pompano plaza was constructed in 1957 and was last upgraded in 1988.

Xavier Rabell, president of Areas USA stated "We are extremely pleased that Pompano Beach is the first of the eight plazas to be reopened and that we can offer our customers a completely new experience on Florida's Turnpike."

The new building features Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building was designed and built using strategies aimed at achieving high performance in key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Food concepts at Pompano Beach include a new Dunkin' Donuts, Wendy's and Pizza Hut. The convenience store/fuel station, now wrapped into the restaurant building, offers deli-style sandwiches, fresh pastries, and a wide selection of snack foods, soft drinks, and bottled and flavored water.

Each of the Turnpike's eight service plazas showcases unique components tailored especially for its location. Pompano features a water (blue) theme, including a custom-designed water fountain, a 300-gallon saltwater aquarium, cushioned lounge seating, tile mosaics and a sunlight-washed atrium. Larger, modern restroom facilities, and a fenced pet exercise area are a few of the many elements fashioned with the customer in mind.

Work continues at the Snapper Creek, West Palm Beach, Ft. Drum, Canoe Creek and Turkey Lake plazas. Renovations at these facilities are scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. At that time, the Ft. Pierce and Okahumpka plazas will begin reconstruction.

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**NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS:** To tour the new Pompano Beach Plaza and arrange for an on-camera interview, please call Kim Poulton at 954-934-1288 or Chad Huff at 954-934-1289.