



NEWS RELEASE



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Construction of new Golden Glades all-electronic tolling gantry to begin the week of Aug. 26; project also will add SunPass-only ramp at Hollywood Blvd. and widen Homestead Extension connector

FORT LAUDERDALE — Construction of a new Golden Glades all-electronic tolling gantry on Florida's Turnpike in northern Miami-Dade County is scheduled to begin the week of Aug. 26, transportation officials announced today.

The new gantry will replace the Golden Glades toll plaza, and is anticipated to go into operation in late 2013. Once all-electronic toll collection begins at the gantry, the existing toll plaza will be demolished over a period of several months.

The \$29.9 million construction contract was awarded to Community Asphalt Corp. As part of the project, a new SunPass-only ramp will be constructed for southbound Turnpike traffic exiting at Hollywood/Pines Boulevard (Exit 49) and heading west. It is estimated that 5,200 vehicles per day will use the new ramp, reducing backups at the existing ramp toll plaza.

Additional work includes:

- Widening the ramp that connects the northbound/eastbound Homestead Extension to the northbound Turnpike from one to two lanes.
- Pavement milling and resurfacing on the Turnpike at the Hollywood Boulevard interchange, in the vicinity of the Turnpike Mainline/Homestead Extension interchange and from Miami Gardens Drive south to the Golden Glades interchange ramps.

While construction is underway, motorists will encounter nighttime lane closures, generally between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., at the three work zones.

This is the latest in a series of projects to convert Florida's Turnpike into an all-electronic tolling road. In February 2011, all-electronic, no cash tolling went into effect on the southern 47 miles of Florida's Turnpike in Miami-Dade County.

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For more information about all-electronic tolling on Florida's Turnpike, visit the website at www.FloridasTurnpike.com/all-electronic-tolling or call 1-800-749-PIKE (7453). Drivers may dial 5-1-1 for real-time traffic information or visit www.FL511.com before traveling.

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The new Golden Glades tolling gantry will look similar to the one shown below.

