

NEWS RELEASE



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View of the Sawgrass Expressway, from Florida's Turnpike, after the tollbooths are removed and the project is completed.

All-electronic, cashless tolling on the Sawgrass Expressway is scheduled to start April 19. Everyone will use SunPass or TOLL-BY-PLATE.

FORT LAUDERDALE — The removal of the cash option to pay tolls on the Sawgrass Expressway/S.R. 869 is scheduled to start early evening Saturday, April 19, and be completed by 6 a.m. Sunday, April 20, transportation officials announced today. This is the next phase of conversion of the Florida's Turnpike System to all-electronic toll collection.

The conversion process will require several construction crews to work overnight as they deactivate all cash tollbooths and coin baskets at the Sunrise toll plaza, the Deerfield toll plaza and 15 ramp plazas.

By Sunday morning, once the conversion to all-electronic tolling is complete, motorists on the Sawgrass Expressway will pay tolls with either <u>SunPass</u> or <u>TOLL-BY-PLATE</u>. All motorists will have the benefit of paying tolls without having to stop.

(more)

Complete removal of the toll plaza structures at the Sunrise and Deerfield mainline toll plazas is anticipated to take several months.

Following the conversion to all-electronic tolling, northbound traffic exiting at Pat Salerno Drive and traffic headed to and entering from Florida's Turnpike will continue to flow through the deactivated tollbooths for several weeks. Motorists should neither stop at the tollbooths nor exceed the 25 mph speed limit.

The installation of new ramp toll gantries, demolition of ramp toll plazas and removal of existing toll gantries are anticipated to continue for the duration of the project, currently scheduled for completion in early 2015.

SunPass, Florida's prepaid electronic toll collection system, is the most cost effective way to pay tolls electronically. Customers pay the lowest toll rates available and are not assessed any administrative fee. The system utilizes small, credit card size electronic devices, called SunPass transponders. When a SunPass-equipped vehicle goes through a tolling location, the transponder sends a signal and the toll is deducted from the customer's account.

Customers without SunPass will be invoiced using TOLL-BY-PLATE, a collection system that takes a photo of a vehicle's license plate as it travels under tolling equipment installed overhead and mails a bill for the tolls incurred. A \$2.50 administrative charge per invoice is assessed to cover the cost of invoicing. Invoices are mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle.

The SunPass Mini transponder costs \$4.99 and is available at thousands of retail locations including Publix, CVS/pharmacy, Navarro Discount Pharmacies, Sedano's Supermarkets, Amscot, all AAA locations in Florida, all Turnpike service plaza gift shops and Turnpike convenience stores. It is also available at www.SunPass.com and at 1-888-TOLL-FLA (865-5352).

In Miami-Dade County, all-electronic tolling on Florida's Turnpike went into effect in February 2011 from U.S. 1 (Exit 1) to County Line Road (Exit 47) and in January 2014 at the Golden Glades interchange.

For more details about all-electronic, no-cash tolling on Florida's Turnpike and the Sawgrass Expressway, go to www.FloridasTurnpike.com and click on the green "all-electronic" button or call 1-800-749-PIKE.

www.dot.state.fl.us

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