



Veterans Expressway

Express Lanes Overview



Why Express Lanes?

- ✓ Presents an innovative, long term congestion management tool for the Veterans Expressway
- ✓ Constant road widening is not sustainable due to costs and limited availability of additional right of way
- ✓ Offer drivers travel choices and provide more travel time predictability

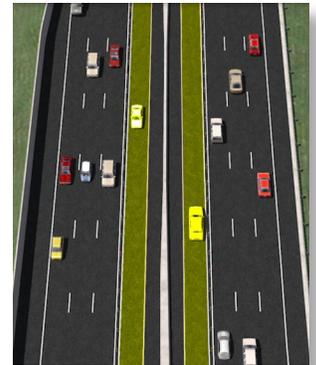
Things to Consider

- The Veterans Expressway serves more than 167,000 customers per day.
- Implemented as a part of the 11-mile Veterans Expressway widening project.
- Construction began in spring 2013.
- Express Lane construction is concurrent with the implementation of All-Electronic Tolling on the Veterans, resulting in the replacement of the Anderson and Sugarwood mainline toll plazas and all ramp plazas with overhead gantries.
- Provide increased connectivity and more efficient travel between Hillsborough and Pasco Counties.



Express Lane Project Facts

- Express Lanes extend from Hillsborough Avenue (Exit 4) to Hutchison Road (Exit 12).
- Express Lane and widening projects require the renovation and widening of 38 existing bridges and construction of three new bridges.
- Project doubles current roadway capacity by adding two new lanes in each direction (one general toll and one Express Lane).
- All-Electronic Tolling implementation on Toll 589 begins on the Veterans Expressway and extends to include the entire Suncoast Parkway.
- As with all Florida's Turnpike projects, no tax revenues finance the project.



Public Support

- In February 2013, Florida's Turnpike conducted focus groups to gauge local opinions on Express Lanes.
- Area residents were introduced to Express Lane plans for the Veterans Expressway:
 - Most participants agreed that rush hour congestion is a serious issue on the Veterans, especially at toll plazas.
 - Majority of participants favored Express Lanes as a congestion management tool, particularly because they liked having a choice to bypass congested traffic when they are pressed for time.
 - A participant, referring to the Express Lanes and faster trips stated, "I would use it, because it will actually increase productivity for me because I can service more clients that way."



Other Considerations

- Local transit buses will be allowed to use the Express Lanes.
- Express Lanes increase safety on the roadway by reducing weaving between vehicles entering or exiting the local road network.
- Commuters and drivers making longer trips benefit from Express Lanes because they eliminate congestion at toll plazas, enabling travel at more consistent speeds.

