

VETERANS EXPRESSWAY WIDENING

Memorial Highway to Van Dyke Road

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This improvement project will widen 11 miles of the Veterans Expressway in Hillsborough County providing much needed congestion relief to this regionally significant corridor. The improvements, which are divided into six separate projects, double the capacity of the highway from four to eight lanes. Part of the widening improvements include reconstruction of 38 existing bridges and the building of three new bridges. The widening project also includes a concurrent project to convert the section from Memorial Highway to Van Dyke Road to all-electronic tolling (AET) providing non-stop travel to the nearly 150,000 customers who travel the Veterans Expressway on a daily basis. The project will also introduce the Express Lane concept to the region. A congestion management tool, Express Lanes offer motorists a choice that provides an opportunity for a through-trip, with greater trip reliability and safety.

FAST FACTS

- ✓ *Project Cost: \$386 Million*
- ✓ *Project Length: 11 Miles*
- ✓ *County: Hillsborough*
- ✓ *Construction Begins 2013*
- ✓ *Current Customers: 150,000 Daily Users*



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES / PROJECT BENEFITS

- ✓ Doubles capacity with the addition of four new travel lanes, two in each direction
- ✓ Provides ease and convenience of all-electronic toll collection
- ✓ Improves vital link to economic activity areas in Tampa Bay
 - Tampa Bay International Airport
 - Westshore Area
 - Downtown Tampa
- ✓ Improves system connectivity to I-275S into St. Petersburg, S.R. 60 (Courtney Campbell Causeway) into Clearwater, and I-275N/I-4 into Downtown Tampa
- ✓ Upgrades primary arterial for residential communities in Northwestern Hillsborough County
- ✓ Encourages future economic development in this region by reducing congestion
- ✓ Incorporates a critical future congestion management tool without the need for a future construction project, eliminating future motorist inconvenience and saving valuable construction dollars
- ✓ Allows for immediate response to developing congestion to help mitigate major traffic delays in peak travel periods