



## Florida Department of Transportation/Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

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### **Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Extends Suncoast Parkway From US 98 in Hernando County to SR 44 in Citrus County** *~ Enhances connectivity between Tampa Bay and the Nature Coast ~*

**OCOE, Fla.** – Drivers traveling through Citrus County now have a new option to and from the Tampa Bay area, increasing their mobility and connectivity, with the extension of the Suncoast Parkway/State Road (SR) 589. The road opened today with a ribbon-cutting event.

This 13-mile limited-access roadway built by Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE), under the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), extends the existing Suncoast Parkway northward for 13 miles from US 98 to (SR) 44 in Lecanto, improving mobility and enhancing connectivity for drivers.

"The Suncoast Parkway serves millions of drivers every year – offering a safe, efficient, and convenient travel option for residents and visitors," said **FDOT Assistant Secretary Will Watts, P.E.** "This extension provides additional transportation infrastructure to support Florida's continued growth and reflects the department's unwavering commitment to the people of West Central Florida."

"The Suncoast Parkway extension is a substantial piece to building regional connectivity in West Central Florida, specifically for the residents in Hernando and Citrus counties," said **FTE Executive Director and CEO Nicola Liquori.** "The extension increases options for residents and also for the millions of visitors our state sees each year."

The project also expanded the very popular and award-winning Suncoast Trail from Hernando County into Citrus County, ending at (SR) 44. The trail is part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, which provides for conservation of native habitats and species in addition to outdoor recreation. Completion of the Suncoast Trail is expected in Spring 2022.

To learn more about the project, visit: <https://SuncoastParkway2>.

Tolls will be collected electronically using a SunPass or an interoperable transponder. For more information about SunPass, visit [SunPass.com](https://SunPass.com).

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