



ABOUT PALMETTO EXPRESS

What is Palmetto Express?

The Palmetto Express project by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six will add variable tolled express lanes along the SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from W. Flagler Street to NW 154 Street and along I-75 from the Palmetto Expressway to NW 170 Street in Miami-Dade County. The project is approximately 13 miles in length and provides continuity to the recently opened I-75 Express Lanes (75 Express) by FDOT District Four, from NW 170 Street in Miami-Dade County to I-595 in Broward County.

What is the purpose of this project?

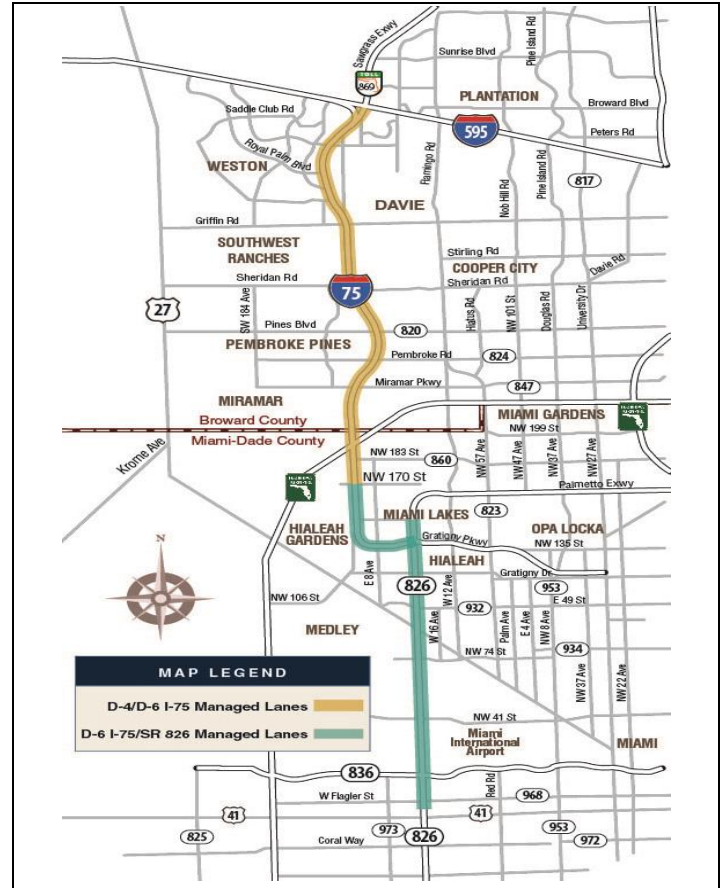
The purpose of the project as envisioned in the emerging South Florida Express Lanes Network is to provide users with travel options, offer more predictable travel time, deliver a long term solution to manage traffic demand, and improve regional travel by providing highway-to-highway connection in South Florida.

What are the overall improvements of this project?

Tolled express lanes will be incorporated with moderate widening along the Palmetto Expressway mainline. Overall improvements include:

- One to two tolled express lanes in each direction along the Palmetto Expressway, from W. Flagler Street to NW 154 Street and one tolled express lane in each direction along I-75 from Palmetto Expressway to NW 170 Street

I-75/Palmetto Express Project Map



- Construction of a new flyover connecting Palmetto Express and 75 Express
- Access points to/from the express lanes system
- Ramp metering at entrance ramps from NW 25 Street to NW 154 Street along the Palmetto Expressway
- Installation of noise barrier walls at specific locations on the east side of I-75
- New lighting along 75 Express

Florida Department of Transportation, District Six

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Miami, Florida 33172-5800

When did the design-build phase begin and when will it end?

The design-build phase started on March 31, 2014 and it is anticipated to end in summer 2019. The estimated cost is \$262 million.

What are the benefits?

Express lanes provide an innovative alternative to traditional highway construction with a variety of options for managing congestion. Express lanes offer drivers a choice for a faster, more reliable trip, especially during peak hours. Express lanes use dynamic pricing, which means the toll rate increases as traffic begins to build in the express lanes and decreases as traffic reduces. Dedicated express lanes staff at the Transportation Management Center (TMC) will monitor the highway 24/7 and provide motorists assistance and incident management services 24/7.

How are the express lanes separated from the non-tolled general use lanes?

The Palmetto Express Lanes will be located on the far left side of the road and separated from the non-tolled general use lanes by express lanes markers. The 75 Express Lanes are located in the I-75 median and are separated from the non-tolled general use lanes by sodded areas or concrete barrier wall.



ACCESS POINTS (Access maps enclosed)

Where can I enter the Palmetto Express Lanes northbound?

Please note: the northbound entry/exit points are currently being changed from three to two locations:

- Between W. Flagler Street and SR 836/Dolphin Expressway (*First entry point for drivers coming from SW 8 Street and further south*)
- Between Okeechobee Road and NW 74 Street (*First entry point for drivers coming from NW 58 Street, NW 74 Street, and Palmetto Metrorail Station*)

Northbound drivers entering the Palmetto Expressway from NW 103 Street and NW 122 Street will not have access to the Palmetto Express lanes northbound and will have to use the non-tolled general use lanes.

Where can I exit the Palmetto Express Lanes northbound? At two locations:

- South of NW 154 Street (*Exit point for drivers heading to NW 67 Avenue/Ludlam Road or any other location on Palmetto Expressway east of NW 67 Avenue*)
- By connecting directly from the Palmetto Express Lanes to the 75 Express Lanes; first exit from the 75 Express Lanes northbound is just south of NW 170 Street in Miami-Dade County (*This exit point is for drivers heading to Miami Gardens Drive, Florida's Turnpike, Miramar Parkway or further north on I-75*)

Where can I enter the Palmetto Express Lanes southbound?

At two locations:

- North of NW 154 Street (*This is the only entry point for drivers coming from NW 67 Avenue, or from any location east of NW 67 Avenue. Drivers south of NW 154 Street will not have access to the express lanes southbound and must use the non-tolled general use lanes*)
- By connecting directly from the 75 Express lanes to the Palmetto Express lanes (*The I-75 entrance to the 75 Express Lanes southbound in Miami-Dade County is just south of NW 170 Street*)

Where can I exit Palmetto Express Lanes southbound?

At three locations:

- Between NW 103 Street and Okeechobee Road *(Exit point for drivers heading to NW 74 Street, Palmetto Metro Rail Station, NW 58 Street, and NW 36 Street)*
- Between NW 58 Street and NW 36 Street *(Exit point for drivers heading to NW 25 Street, State Road 836/Dolphin Expressway, Miami International Airport, West Flagler Street and SW 8 Street)*
- Between SR 836/Dolphin Expressway and West Flagler Street *(Exit point for drivers heading to SW 24 Street/Coral Way and locations further south)*

HOW TO USE PALMETTO EXPRESS

The I-75/Palmetto Express lanes are tolled facilities with no exemptions. Only vehicles with two axles are permitted. When using the express lanes be alert and pay attention to all advisories, signage, pavement markings and posted speed limits. The express lanes have limited entry/exit points. Once you enter the express lanes:

- You cannot exit until the next exit point
- You cannot cross the express lanes markers to leave the express lanes; it is ILLEGAL and DANGEROUS

What can I do if I accidentally enter the express lanes?

Remain calm and continue driving to the first available exit. However, you will be charged for each tolling point you pass before exiting. In order to avoid additional fees for driving in the express lanes without a transponder, please call SunPass at 1-888-TOLL-FLA.

Will there be a speed limit in the express lanes?

Express lanes have the same minimum and maximum speed limits as the non-tolled general use lanes.

Do the Palmetto Express Lanes guarantee travel speeds of 45 mph or above?

Travel speeds are not guaranteed on the express lanes. The main goal is to optimize the express lanes' vehicle throughput by moving the highest number of vehicles possible in the safest and most efficient manner.

What if my vehicle breaks down or there is a crash in the express lanes?

The express lanes will always be monitored for incidents. If your car breaks down, do not stop in the middle of the road. Safely pull over to the side of the road and call the Florida Highway Patrol Communication Center at *347. Depending on your needs, a Road Ranger or Florida Highway Patrol officer will be dispatched to help you. When there is a crash in the express lanes blocking traffic, the entrance to the express lanes will be closed.

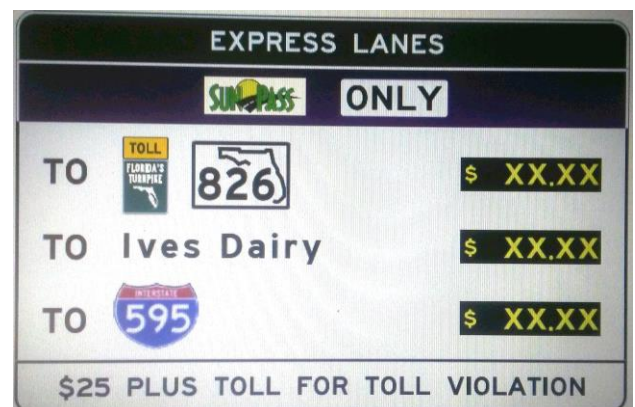
TOLLS

Will it be the same toll all the time on Palmetto Express?

No. Toll rates will vary based on real-time traffic conditions monitored by roadway sensors. This is called Dynamic Pricing. All express lanes users will be charged an applicable toll rate. The minimum toll per segment is \$0.50. Toll rates increase or decrease depending on traffic levels in the express lanes. Toll rates increase as traffic begins to build in the express lanes and decrease as traffic is reduced in the express lanes.

How will I know the toll amount?

Tolls are posted for the destinations shown on the overhead signs. The overhead signs will show up to three destinations. Drivers pay the rate displayed on the sign until they reach the next decision point. You never pay a higher toll amount than the rate displayed on the sign.



How will tolls be collected on Palmetto Express?

Tolls on express lanes are collected electronically with an active, properly mounted SunPass® or other interoperable transponder (listed on SunPass.com). Drivers cannot pay for tolls in the express lanes using cash or Toll-by-Plate, as they will be considered a violator and subject to additional fees.

How do I purchase or activate a SunPass:

You may:

- Go to SunPass.com
- Call Customer Service at 1-888-865-5352
- Visit kiosks in Turnpike Service Plazas or in Florida's Welcome Centers
- Visit one of the 5,000 retail locations in Florida, including Publix Super Markets, CVS Pharmacy and Walgreens
- Download the SunPass mobile app

TRANSIT



How will Palmetto Express benefit bus riders?

FDOT is providing the infrastructure for Miami-Dade Transit and Broward County Transit to implement bus service on the I-75/Palmetto Express Lanes. A new Park-and-Ride lot on Miami Gardens Drive, west of I-75 was constructed for commuters using this service.

The Northwest Miami-Dade Express – Route C, provided by Miami-Dade Transit, offers Express Bus service between the Palmetto Metrorail Station and the Miami Gardens Drive Park-and-Ride, west of I-75. Bus fare is \$2.65 one way (without monthly pass).

Coordination is ongoing with Broward County Transit for future route implementation on I-75/Palmetto Express Lanes.

RAMP SIGNALING

Ramp Signals will be installed at entrance ramps along the Palmetto Expressway from NW 25 Street to NW 154 Street in Miami-Dade County. Signals will be activated after express lanes open.

How does Ramp Signaling work?

- The signals alternate between red and green lights (no yellow)
- Pull up to the white line; stop on red; go on green
- Failure to obey ramp signals is a violation of Florida law and can result in fines and penalties

What are the benefits of Ramp Signaling?

Ramp Signals reduce bottleneck congestion caused by unregulated traffic entering the highway.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PALMETTO EXPRESS, PLEASE VISIT: www.palmettoexpresslanes.com

www.floridaexpresslanes.com

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