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Commuters Asked to Prepare for First Coast Expressway North Project Traffic Shift

Duval County – Traffic shifts are planned this week in sections of the First Coast Expressway (State Road 23 or FCE) in the FCE North project area. Commuters are asked to prepare for these changes which will impact their normal traffic pattern especially in the area of 103rd Street. All traffic shifts described below will take effect after 9 p.m., Friday, June 30. The FCE North project area includes the span of State Road 23 from I-10 to north of Argyle Boulevard.

These traffic shifts are a sign of construction progress as contractors now focus on building new shoulders on the southbound side and barrier walls along the southbound lanes of the expressway. These traffic shifts will include the following changes:

- In the area of 103rd Street, northbound and southbound drivers on State Road 23 will pass under the bridge in the future northbound lanes (northbound traffic will now travel straight ahead and southbound traffic will pass under toll gantry #4 as well)
- Westbound drivers on 103rd Street using the large, circular ramp (Ramp N2) to go southbound on State Road 23 will now cross the median to tie into lanes going south
- Eastbound drivers on 103rd Street using Ramp K to access State Road 23 southbound lanes will now stay on the south side

When completed in late 2017, this FCE North project will become part of a fifteen-mile-long SunPass administered toll road that connects I-10/U.S. 90 in Duval County to Blanding Boulevard (State Road 21) in Duval County. FDOT hired Dragados USA to complete this project at an estimated cost of \$77 million. Once opened, FCE commuters will pass through all-electronic overhead toll plazas (also known as gantries) without stopping. Electronic systems will either detect the vehicle's SunPass transponder device or scan the vehicle's license plate for a toll-by-plate invoice in the mail (no stopping and no cash required on site). The FCE from US90/I-10 to New World Avenue will not be tolled.

Up-to-date lane closure information is available at www.firstcoastexpressway.com. The Florida Department of Transportation urges motorists to always follow the speed limit and stay within the limits of orange cones and barrels while traveling through construction zones.