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For Immediate Release October 3, 2024 Contact: FDOT District 6 Communications Office (305) 470-5225 | FDOT-D6comm@dot.state.fl.us

## SR 826/Palmetto Expressway Capacity Project to Relocate Southbound Express Lane Entrance

Full Lane Closures Begin Wednesday, October 9, 2024

**MIAMI, Fla.** – As part of the ongoing State Road (SR) 826/Palmetto Expressway Capacity Improvement Project, contractors for the Florida Department of Transportation will commence relocation of the southbound express lane entrance from NW 154 Street/Miami Lakes to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street beginning Wednesday, October 9.

To relocate the express lane entrance safely, it will be necessary to close travel lanes and detour traffic as follows:

Wednesday night – New Express Lane Marker (ELM) Installations between SR 93/Interstate 75 (I-75) and SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street

- Full closure of southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 122 Street/W 68 Street to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street, 12 a.m. 6 a.m., Wednesday, October 9. See detour map #7 attached.
- Full closure of southbound Palmetto express lanes at NW 154 Street, from 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 9 to 5 a.m. Monday, October 14.
- Full closure of southbound SR 93/Interstate 75 (I-75) express lanes at NW 186 Street, including entrance at NW 154 Street, 8 p.m. 5 a.m. Wednesday, October 9.
- Two southbound lanes closed on SR 826/Palmetto Expressway at NW 122 Street/W 68 Street, 9 p.m. 5 a.m. Wednesday, October 9.

Thursday night – ELM removal from NW 154 Street to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street

- Full closure of southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 122 Street/W 68 Street to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street, 12 a.m. 6 a.m., Thursday, October 10. See detour map #7 attached.
- Full closure of southbound SR 93/Interstate 75 (I-75) express lanes at NW 186 Street, including entrance at NW 154 Street, 8 p.m. 5 a.m. Thursday, October 10.
- Two southbound lanes closed on SR 826/Palmetto Expressway at NW 122 Street/W 68 Street, 9 p.m. 5 a.m. Thursday, October 10.

Friday night – Traffic shift at new express lane entrance between SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street and SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road

- Full closure of southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 122 Street/W 68
   Street to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street, 11 p.m. 6 a.m., Friday, October 11. See detour map #7 attached.
- Full closure of southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street to SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road, 12 a.m. - 6 a.m., Friday, October 11. See detour map #9 attached. Will not occur at the same time as full closure above.

 Full closure of southbound SR 93/Interstate 75 (I-75) express lanes at NW 186 Street, including entrance at NW 154 Street, from 8 p.m. Friday, October 11 to 5 a.m. Monday, October 14.

Saturday night – Traffic shift at new express lane entrance between SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street and SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road

- Full closure of southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 122 Street/W 68
   Street to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street, 11 p.m. 6 a.m., Saturday, October 12

   See detour map #7 attached.
- Full closure of southbound SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street to SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road, 12 a.m. 6 a.m., Saturday, October 12. See detour map #9 attached. Will not occur at the same time as full closure above.

Sunday night – Traffic shift at new express lane entrance between SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street and SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road

• Full closure southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 122 Street/W 68 Street and SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street, 11 p.m. - 6 a.m., Sunday, October 13. See detour map #7 attached.

Visit www.826palmetto.com for additional lane closures scheduled during this period. Detours will be clearly marked. Please follow all posted signage and note that this schedule may change due to weather or other unexpected conditions.

Once completed, drivers entering southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway from NW 154 Street/Miami Lakes Drive and NW 122 Street/W 68 Street will have the option of staying in the non-tolled general-use lanes or use the express lanes. Drivers should stay right, to stay in the general-use lanes.

Drivers in the express lanes, must follow the following safety tips:

- Use designated entrance and exit points
- If you enter the express lanes accidentally, remain calm and continue driving until the next available exit point
- Do not drive through the express lane markers it is ILLEGAL and subject to \$179 fine and four points on your license
- Be alert and pay attention to all advisories, signage, pavement markings and posted speed limits
- If you are involved in a crash or your vehicle breaks down, pull over to the shoulder and dial \*FHP (\*347) on your cellphone. Stay in your vehicle and wait for assistance.

SR 826/Palmetto Expressway Capacity Improvement Project includes modifying the southbound flyover from westbound NW 103 Street/W 49 Street to southbound SR 826/Palmetto Expressway and widening the SR 826/Palmetto Expressway bridge over SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street to create an additional general-purpose lane. In addition, the express lane entrance at NW 154 Street/Miami Lakes Drive will be relocated to SR 932/NW 103 Street/W 49 Street to allow access to the express lanes from NW 154 Street and NW 122 Street/W 68 Street. Construction began in April 2022 and costs an estimated \$66 million.

For more information, please contact FDOT's Communications Office at (305) 470-5349 or Construction Community Outreach Specialist Maria Camacho at (305) 731-7699 or at Maria.Camacho@dot.state.fl.us or visit our website at www.826palmetto.com.

For real-time traffic and lane closure information, drivers are encouraged to visit www.fl511.com..

Remember, wearing a safety belt is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. Always be safe and remain alert while driving in construction zones.

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe statewide transportation system that promotes the efficient movement of people and goods, supports the state's economic competitiveness, prioritizes Florida's environment and natural resources, and preserves the quality of life and connectedness of the state's communities.