



EXPRESSWAY NAVIGATOR

We get you there...We bring you home.

Summer 2003



BEE LINE EXPRESSWAY

Goldenrod Road Extension Now Open



Pictured left to right: Orange Co. Chairman Richard Crotty; Mayor of Orlando Buddy Dyer; Former OOCEA Chairman Wayne Rich; Orange Co. Commissioner Linda Stewart; OOCEA Chairman Allan Keen; OOCEA Executive Director Hal Worrall; and GOAA Chairman Jeffry Fuqua.

Traveling to and around the Orlando International Airport (OIA) just got much easier, thanks to the Goldenrod Road Extension **A**. This two-mile roadway, which opened on March 12, links Goldenrod Road to State Road 528 (Bee Line Expressway) and OIA—providing a much needed alternative to the heavily traveled State Road 436. Locally, access to the extension is free, but south of Lee Vista Blvd., there is a 50-cent toll to access the airport or State Road 528. The toll will be removed once the \$38 million project has been paid for, at which point the road will be turned over to the City of Orlando. This project demonstrates the regional cooperation between the Expressway Authority, Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, Orange County, City of Orlando and private developers. The Authority was able to provide funding that was not expected to be available from tax revenue for several years. ◀



Best Seat in the House: Magic Contest Winners Enjoy the Game in Style!

The two lucky winners (and their guests) of our Night of Magic contest were treated to an evening they won't soon forget. Shabbir Merchant and Binh Nguyen each won a pair of courtside tickets to see the Magic vs. the Chicago Bulls on February 21, dinner for two in the exclusive Arena Club, plus Magic T-shirts and hats. Another 75 winners each received a pair of upper bowl tickets for the same game. In all, more than 4,500 entries were received. Congratulations to all our winners—and look out for our next great contest, coming this fall! ◀

OUR MISSION: It is the mission of the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority to implement an expressway system that will improve the mobility and quality of life in Central Florida and provide access to major economic centers consistent with growth management and environmental objectives and to accomplish this mission in a manner which is financially sound and cooperative with other modes of transportation and governmental jurisdictions.

For Current Updates: <http://www.expresswayauthority.com>

New Speeder Policy Working to Keep Your Roads Safe

Paying tolls with E-PASS helps keep traffic moving because drivers don't need to stop—they can maintain a safe speed while they pass through the plaza. But a small percentage of E-PASS users abuse the system by speeding through the lanes at more than the posted limit of 35 mph. The Authority has adopted a stricter penalty program to convince those individuals to slow down. The first phase, which included mailing warning letters to

speeders, showed great results. In October 2001, 60,000 drivers were clocked speeding through E-PASS lanes. But by November 2002, after launching the program, only 10,700 speeders were detected. Phase two, which began in November 2002, includes even more enforcement. Here's how it breaks down:



	5th SPEEDING VIOLATION	10th SPEEDING VIOLATION
LEVEL 1	Warning Letter Sent	Suspension of E-PASS transponder for 30 days with a \$15 reinstatement fee
LEVEL 2	Warning Letter Sent	Suspension of E-PASS transponder for 60 days with a \$20 reinstatement fee
LEVEL 3	Warning Letter Sent	E-PASS transponder revoked

From December 2002 to February 2003, we've issued 977 Level 1 warning letters and 86 Level 1 suspension letters. ◀



ON-THE-GO!

Quick news about the Expressway Authority

- Major enhancements are being planned for State Road 417 (Central Florida GreeneWay) at International Drive, including innovative landscaping and other scenic upgrades. Look for this \$1 million project to begin sometime next year.
- Be hands-free! Remember, if you hold your E-PASS transponder in your hand as you pass through the plazas, you run the risk of not being detected by our systems, which could result in violations and penalties. Your transponder should be affixed to your windshield. Need more Velcro? Just stop by either of the E-PASS Service Centers—it's free!

E-PASS Service Centers

East: 762 South Goldenrod Road

West: 5050 W. Colonial Drive

Phone (407) 823-7277 or 1-800-353-7277

e-pass@oocea.com

E-PASS Service Center Restored and Reopened After Fire



On March 3, the East E-PASS Service Center off Goldenrod Road celebrated a grand reopening. The Service Center was forced to close last June when a fire swept through the shopping plaza where the Center is located, causing severe damage to several businesses. Since the fire, a temporary modular office had been open to service E-PASS customers while the original office was being restored. The permanent East Service Center is now open for all E-PASS customers. Thanks for your patience during the rebuilding process. ◀

Expressway Authority Issues \$1.1 Billion in First Independent Bond Sale

After approval from Florida legislature last May, the Expressway Authority now has the power to issue its own bonds. Previously, state bond officials had to clear the bonds for sale. In mid-February, bond transactions totaling \$1.1 billion began. Proceeds from these bond sales, which were negotiated at a very low interest rate, will refund current Expressway debt and will be applied toward the Authority's ongoing 85-project, \$781 million Five-Year Work Plan. This is how the Authority is able to fund such an aggressive work plan—by selling bonds to

investors. A bond is like an IOU, a pledge to pay back investors at a certain rate of return and by a certain date. And because the Authority can now issue its own bonds without going through the State, it has much more control over the way the issues are structured. "Completing this bond issue internally increases efficiencies of operations and allows us to update and modernize finance capabilities, which ultimately benefits customers and improves transportation in Central Florida," says Harold W. Worrall, Ph.D., P.E., the Authority's Executive Director. ◀

Governor Bush Appoints New Expressway Board Member

The Expressway Authority is pleased to welcome Arthur J. Lee to its Board of Directors. Governor Jeb Bush appointed Mr. Lee to the Authority's Board for a four-year term. Mr. Lee has subsequently been elected as secretary/treasurer by fellow board members. Arthur J. Lee is the president of Lee, Wesley & Associates Inc., and managing partner of Orlando Foodservice Partners. In addition to the Expressway Authority Board, Mr. Lee also serves on the Florida Black Business Investment Board, as chair of the Frontline Outreach Board and trustee of the Greater Orlando Leadership Foundation. ◀



Arthur J. Lee, Secretary/Treasurer OCEA board.



State Road 429 Extension Study Evolving

A proposed extension of State Road 429 (Western Expressway) north of Apopka may once again reach into Lake County. In March, the Lake County Commission agreed to reinstate an agreement allowing the Expressway Authority to study potential alignments **1** that could stretch as far north as State Road 44A east of Eustis.

The Lake County vote follows completion of a Wekiva Basin Area Task Force Report that recommended a number of guiding principles for design and construction of the extension and a potential Western Beltway connection

back to Interstate 4 in Seminole County.

With a few clarifications, the Expressway Authority Board has adopted the recommendations of the Task Force. The Task Force Report defined the S.R. 429 extension as the U.S. 441 Bypass and defined the Western Beltway connection as the Wekiva Parkway.

The recommendations include formation of a working group of concerned citizens, city and county governments, and environmental organizations to provide input to the U.S. 441 Bypass study process. The study should be completed sometime in 2004. ◀



Second Leg of State Road 429 Begins

Phase II of State Road 429 (Western Expressway) **2** is now underway.

This portion will extend the roadway from County Road 535 south to U.S. 192 and is being constructed in

partnership with Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. Work will be completed by the end of 2005. The last and final leg of the project, from U.S. 192 south to Interstate 4, could open by 2008. ◀





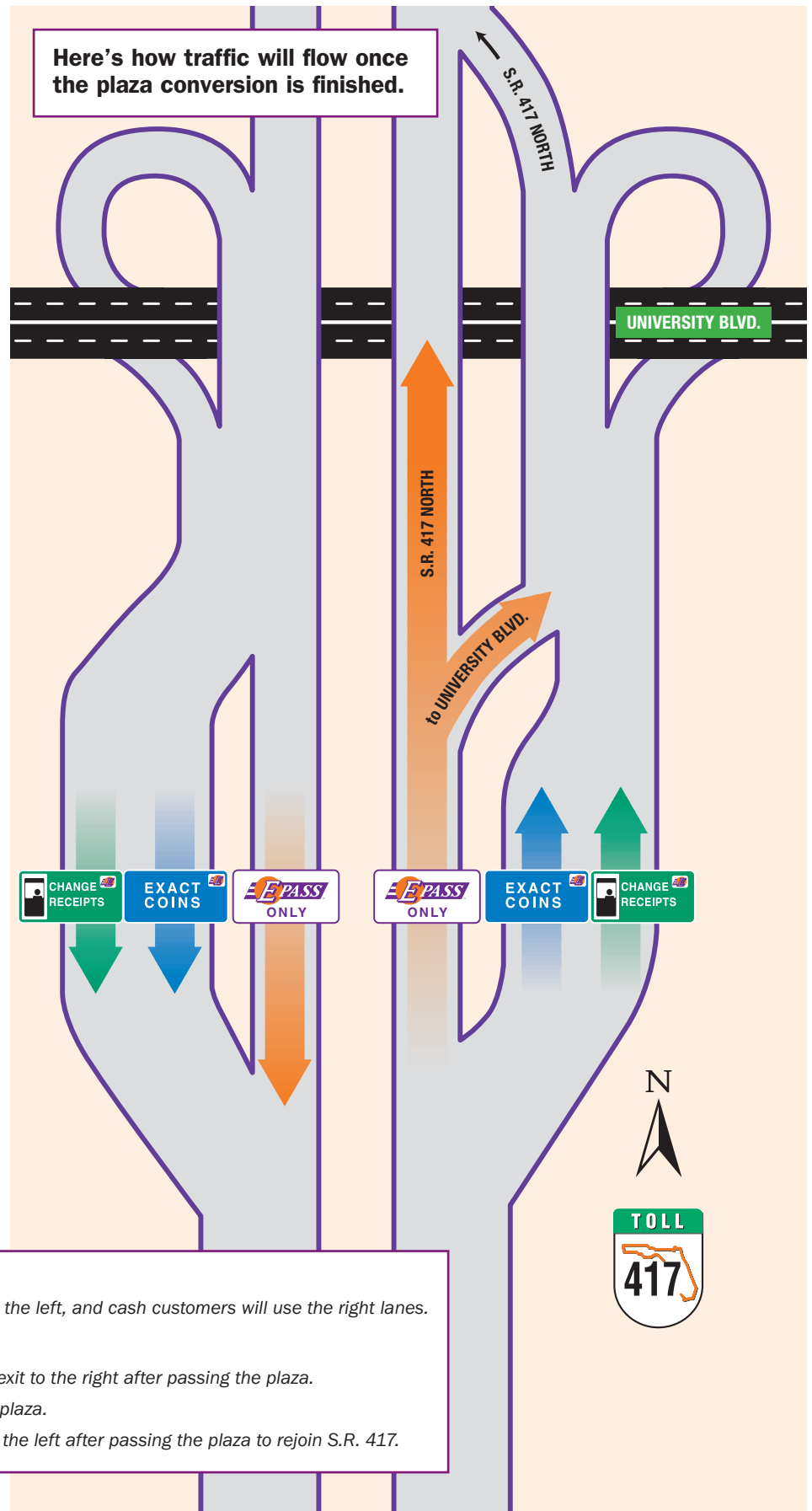
Full Speed Ahead: Updated University Plaza Nearly Complete

The countdown is on! Within weeks, the newly improved University Plaza will be fully operational, complete with highway speed E-PASS tolling. This is the first plaza to be converted to Open Road tolling—but is by no means the last. In fact, nearly all existing mainline toll plazas are scheduled to undergo the conversion by 2006 as part of the Authority's Five-Year Work Plan. Want more details on upcoming projects? You can access our work plans online at www.expresswayauthority.com/future/plans.php3.

This diagram to the right shows how traffic will flow through the remodeled plaza. ◀



Conversion to express tolling nearly complete.



To drive through the plaza:

E-PASS customers will use the express lanes on the left, and cash customers will use the right lanes.

To exit at University Boulevard:

E-PASS drivers: Stay in the right hand lane and exit to the right after passing the plaza.

Cash drivers: Stay to the right after passing the plaza.

Cash customers continuing on S.R. 417: Stay to the left after passing the plaza to rejoin S.R. 417.

INSIDE NEWS

Summer 2003



- Goldenrod Road Extension Opens
- University Plaza Nearly Complete
- E-PASS Service Center Reopens



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