

## FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

JEB BUSH Governor

DENVER J. STUTLER, JR., P.E. Secretary of Transportation

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE OPENS NEW SUNPASS®-ONLY INTERCHANGE AT STATE ROAD 710 (BEELINE HIGHWAY) THURSDAY, JULY 27

FT. LAUDERDALE (For immediate release July 26, 2006) — Officials from Florida's Turnpike Enterprise today joined elected representatives from the City of Palm Beach Gardens the Palm Beach County Commission in cutting the ribbon to officially open the newest Turnpike interchange at State Road 710 (Beeline Highway) in northern Palm Beach County.

Florida's Turnpike Chief Operating Officer Chris Warren joined Palm Beach Gardens Vice-Mayor Jody Barnett and Palm Beach County Commissioners Karen Marcus and Jeff Koons in snipping the ribbon to launch the toll agency's first full, SunPass®-only interchange in the Sunshine State.

Heralding the event as the culmination of a true cooperative effort with the Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization, Warren said that the \$27.5 million interchange, four years in planning and two in construction, was "a shining example of how businesses, homeowners, government agencies and elected officials can all come together to accomplish a project that benefits thousands of Floridians."

Warren also noted that the Turnpike expects about 7,000 motorists to use the new interchange daily, helping alleviate congestion at the interchanges located at PGA Boulevard (three miles north) and Okeechobee Boulevard (seven miles south).

Other SunPass-only projects are scheduled to open over the next year, including a partial interchange at Jog Road in Palm Beach County, and a full interchange at Becker Road in St. Lucie County, reported Warren. "Since almost 60 percent of our customers are already using SunPass, building electronic toll-only interchanges makes sense because it allows us to help get a new interchange up and running at considerably less cost and in significantly less time than a traditional, staffed, cash interchange," he added.

The new State Road 710 interchange, located midway between State Road 710 and Northlake Boulevard, opens to traffic at 6 a.m., Thursday, July 27.

For more information on the State Road 710 interchange, call Chad Huff, Turnpike public information manager at 954-934-1289.







Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, part of the Florida Department of Transportation, oversees a 454-mile system of limited-access toll highways: the Florida's Turnpike, extending north from Homestead in Miami-Dade County to Wildwood in Sumter County, the Seminole Expressway and Southern Connector (Toll 417) in Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties, the Beachline Expressway West (Toll 528) in Orange County, the Polk Parkway (Toll 570) in Polk County, the Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway in Hillsborough, Pasco and Hernando counties (Toll 589), the Sawgrass Expressway (Toll 869) in Broward County, and the Daniel Webster Western Beltway Part C (Toll 429) in Orange County.

SunPass is the Florida Department of Transportation's innovative Prepaid Toll Program. SunPass may be used on Florida's toll roads and most toll bridges. For information on SunPass®, please contact 1-888-TOLL-FLA (865-5352).

Travelers on the Florida's Turnpike system of roads may view real-time traffic information by visiting our website at <a href="http://www.floridasturnpike.com">http://www.floridasturnpike.com</a>. While traveling in the Orlando, South Florida and Tampa Bay regions, motorists should dial 511 for real-time regional traffic information on the Turnpike and other major roads. This information system is voice-activated; motorists should speak the name of the road they wish to use. They may also visit <a href="http://www.fl511.com">http://www.fl511.com</a> for information. This free service of the Florida Department of Transportation is available 24/7.