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I-295 to State Road 9B Traffic Shift

Jacksonville – Drivers traveling southbound on I-295 and proceeding to State Road 9B will be temporarily shifted to the inside lanes and then up to SR 9B Tuesday night, August 8, weather permitting, as part of the Florida Department of Transportation’s I-295 Express Lanes project. The shift is occurring to complete work on the I-295 Express Lane ramp that will take drivers from the express lane to southbound I-295 towards Orange Park. The ramp will be constructed under the current I-295/State Road 9B connection. The shift is expected to remain in place until the beginning of next year.

While the area has a mix of temporary and existing lighting, motorists are encouraged to be mindful and alert throughout the construction zone. The shift is not expected to have a major impact to traffic once complete. Two (2) southbound State Road 9B lanes will remain through the shift.

The Express Lanes project began in May 2016 and consists of two new 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, the addition of noise walls along I-295 in various locations, the construction of drainage ponds and the installation of electronic tolling systems at various locations to collect tolls. The project will offer a choice for travelers to use an express lane for a fee, or remain on the non-tolled portion of I-295.

Express lanes are known as an “expressway within an expressway” where express lanes are separated from general use lanes. The toll rate for express lanes will vary depending on the amount of traffic within the express lanes. Generally, fewer cars using the lanes means a less expensive toll. Dynamic message signs will show the current toll rate. Due to electronic tolling cars are not required to stop to pay the toll.

The \$139.9 million project was awarded to the Archer-Western Contractors design-build team and is expected to be completed in spring 2019.