



June 2, 2017

Mary Justino, 904-360-5480
Mary.Justino@dot.state.fl.us

**West Side Drivers Should Prepare for New Traffic Pattern on 103rd Street at
State Road 23
(First Coast Expressway North Project)**

Duval County - The opening of a new bridge over State Road 23 on Jacksonville's west side is imminent. The newly-constructed 103rd Street bridge (overpass) will open this weekend, allowing eastbound and westbound drivers on 103rd Street to shift from temporary asphalt lanes to the new bridge over the First Coast Expressway (FCE). Drivers traveling northbound and southbound on State Road 23 will now notice new exit signs for accessing 103rd Street. We ask the driving public to slow down and pay close attention to this new traffic pattern, looking out for this signage in the project area.

When completed in late 2017, this FCE North project will be 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. Construction began in September 2013 on this first phase of the First Coast Expressway which spans six miles from north of Argyle Forest Boulevard to just south of I-10. 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. Call (904) 831-FDOT for information on this or any project in FDOT District Two.