



Florida Department of Transportation

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FDOT's June 29 Updates on Roosevelt Bridge

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) provided the following updates related to the Roosevelt Bridge and the work to re-configure Dixie Highway:

The bridge remains open to four lanes of traffic following initial and second-level calculations that indicated it is safe to traverse. The department has coordinated with law enforcement to enforce a 5-ton weight restriction on the Roosevelt Bridge. Emergency service vehicles, including ambulances and fire trucks, are permitted to cross the bridge as well as sport utility vehicles, pick-up trucks, and private vehicles towing single or double axle trailers. Trucks need to continue to follow the truck detour routes until the work on Dixie Highway is completed.

Testing and inspections continue and a timeline for re-opening the southbound bridge is yet to be determined. Preliminary findings on the southbound bridge still indicate that a closure for an extensive period of time will be necessary.

The work to widen Dixie Highway continues at this time. This widening work, including the removal of existing curbs and sidewalks in some locations, is anticipated to be completed this Friday, weather permitting. Upon completion of this re-configuration work, Dixie Highway is anticipated to re-open to all traffic. The final detour routes will be announced as soon as they are finalized with the city and county.

FDOT efforts also include:

- Sending samples to the FDOT laboratory in Gainesville to analyze the bridge materials and assist in identifying the cause of the issues.
- Monitoring the traffic on the detour routes and compiling recommendations to improve traffic flow.

The next update via press release will be provided later this week once work on Dixie Highway nears completion.

Additionally, the June 2018 inspection reports for both spans of the Roosevelt Bridge can now be found online [here](#). In an effort to protect Florida's transportation infrastructure, Section 119.071(3)(b), Florida Statutes, provides that building plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, and diagrams, including draft, preliminary, and final formats, which depict the internal layout and structural elements of a building, arena, stadium, water treatment facility, or other structure owned or operated by an agency are exempt from the requirements of Florida's Public Records Law. The redactions included in the inspection documents have been made pursuant to this law.

Finally, motorists traveling on Florida's Turnpike who are eligible to receive suspended tolls because of the Roosevelt detour, but do not have a SunPass transponder, MUST proceed as they typically would through the cash lane and obtain a paper ticket. When they exit the Turnpike, they must then give that ticket to the attendant so they will not be charged.

Recent actions FDOT has taken in response to the Roosevelt Bridge:

- **June 16**
 - During a routine biennial inspection period, and based upon feedback from local partners, FDOT inspectors found cracks on the southernmost span of the southbound Roosevelt Bridge. The Roosevelt Bridge is two separated bridges (three lanes each) over the St. Lucie River. In an abundance of caution, the Department closed the southbound bridge until a thorough safety inspection could be completed.
- **June 17**
 - Initial inspections of the northbound bridge identified areas of concern and the northbound bridge was also closed. FDOT immediately assembled a statewide team of bridge experts who began assessing the situation and performing a full structural review. The waterway and FEC railroad corridor remain unaffected. Motorists looking to cross the St. Lucie River on S.R. 707/Dixie Highway were instructed to follow detour signs. Law enforcement was also on-site providing assistance.
 - FDOT suspended tolls for traffic entering and exiting Florida's Turnpike between milepost 133 (Monterey Rd) and milepost 142 (Port St. Lucie Blvd) to facilitate the detour of traffic in and around the City of Stuart.
 - FDOT completed the initial interior visual and sounding inspection of the northbound and southbound portions of the Roosevelt Bridge. From there, experts began analyzing the results and completing a full structural review.
 - FDOT alerted the public there was no impact to marine traffic traveling underneath the Roosevelt Bridge.
- **June 18**
 - Bridge engineering experts arrived to assist in the full structural review and assessment of the Roosevelt Bridge. Experts include structures materials engineers from the FDOT Gainesville Materials Office, bridge engineering experts from the FDOT Central Office in Tallahassee, and consultant partners and contractors with expertise in bridge inspection, bridge analysis, materials testing, structures repair bridge shoring and construction. Ground penetrating radar equipment was used to check specific areas of the bridge, which were identified by bridge inspectors to allow FDOT to see inside the bridge deck to identify any potential corrosion areas.
 - FDOT began working on plans to support the southernmost span of the southbound bridge over Dixie Highway with the goal of safely opening Dixie Highway to traffic.
 - Inspections revealed the first span of the southbound bridge had severe corrosion causing the steel tendons that support the bridge to be severely deteriorated. FDOT advised road users that no individuals should be under, over or anywhere near this segment of the bridge and fenced off the entire area immediately.
 - The FDOT concrete inspection team used two "Snooper" trucks on Roosevelt Bridge to inspect the sides and underneath the bridge as part of a full structural review.
- **June 19**
 - Coordinated with local municipalities to adjust traffic signal timing and alleviate congestion due to the detour routes.
 - Transported equipment used to support a portion of the first span of the southbound bridge. Crews worked throughout the night to get equipment in place as soon as possible.
- **June 20**

- Began the installation of several towers that will be used to support a portion of the southbound bridge.
- Continued to carefully drill into concrete to determine the locations of steel tendons to check for damage.
- Brought in additional crew members and an additional snooper truck to inspect the exterior sides and bottom of the bridges.
- Began the preparations on the northbound bridge to allow traffic in both directions.
- **June 21**
 - Coordinated with FEC to conduct an inspection of the underside of the bridge over the railroad tracks. Train speed was reduced to 10mph through the area.
 - Equipment, including light poles, was removed in order to allow for the shoring equipment to be installed.
 - Continued to carefully drill into concrete to determine the locations of steel tendons to check for damage.
 - Began the preparations on the northbound bridge to allow traffic in both directions.
 - Began the preparations on Dixie Highway to allow it open to traffic once a section of the first span of the southbound bridge is supported and safe.
- **June 22**
 - Continued to carefully drill into concrete to determine the locations of steel tendons to check for damage.
 - Continued the preparations on the northbound bridge to allow traffic in both directions.
 - Continued the preparations on Dixie Highway to allow it open to traffic once a section of the first span of the southbound bridge is supported and safe.
- **June 23**
 - Began re-configuration work, including removal of existing medians, on US-1.
 - Continued to carefully drill into concrete to determine the locations of steel tendons to check for damage.
 - Completed the preparations on the northbound bridge to allow traffic in both directions. FDOT striped the road for four lanes (two in each direction).
 - Continued the preparations on Dixie Highway to allow it open to traffic once a section of the first span of the southbound bridge is supported and safe.
 - Brought the FDOT load testing trucks to have them test actual loading on the northbound bridge and serve as a second level of verification in regard to load calculation.
- **June 24**
 - Completed testing, inspections, and bridge load capacity analysis on the northbound bridge.
 - Began minor work to be completed prior to the northbound bridge re-opening.
 - Continued the re-configuration work, including removal of existing medians, on US-1.
 - Continued inspection work on the southbound bridge.
 - Continued the preparations on Dixie Highway to allow it open to traffic once a section of the first span of the southbound bridge is supported and safe.
- **June 25**
 - Continued minor work to be completed prior to the northbound bridge re-opening.
 - Continued the re-configuration work, including removal of existing medians, on US-1.
 - Continued inspection work on the southbound bridge.
 - Continued the preparations on Dixie Highway to allow it open to traffic once a section of the first span of the southbound bridge is supported and safe.
- **June 26**
 - Finalized minor work prior to the re-opening of the northbound bridge.
 - Completed the re-configuration work, including removal of existing medians, on US-1.
 - Continued inspection work on the southbound bridge.

- Continued the work to widen Dixie Highway and allow it to re-open to traffic.
- **June 27**
 - Re-opened the bridge to four lanes of vehicles weighing less than 5 tons.
 - Continued inspection work on the southbound bridge.
 - Continued the work to widen Dixie Highway and allow it to re-open to traffic.
- **June 28**
 - Continued inspection work on the southbound bridge.
 - Continued the work to widen Dixie Highway and allow it to re-open to traffic.

For additional real-time updates on the Roosevelt Bridge, follow FDOT District Four on social media:

- Twitter: [@MyFDOT_SEFL](#)
- Facebook: [@MyFDOTSEFL](#)
- Instagram: [@myfdot_sefl](#)

Members of the public wishing to receive these updates can also subscribe online by providing their email address on fdot.gov/Roosevelt.

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