



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.
SECRETARY

**INVEST 97L (Tropical Cyclone Four)
FDOT EMERGENCY ORDER 24-04
(Pursuant to Executive Order Nos. 24-156 and 24-157)**

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-156 regarding a tropical wave identified as Invest 97L, now Potential Tropical Cyclone Four; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-157, amending the counties that are included in the emergency; and

WHEREAS, based on meteorological reports, highly conducive environmental conditions are forecast to organize and develop Invest 97L (Potential Tropical Cyclone Four) into a tropical depression over the weekend and early next week over the eastern Gulf of Mexico near the Florida Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, based on meteorological reports, there is significant threat of heavy rainfall over most of the state of Florida, with the possibility of at least twelve (12) inches of rainfall over the next seven (7) days; and

WHEREAS, prolonged heavy rainfall will result in flash flooding, river flooding, coastal flooding, erosion, and gusty winds; and

WHEREAS, these conditions could damage the operational capability of critical infrastructure to include major interstates and roadways, bridges, airports, schools, hospitals, power grids, and other critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the water tables in the affected areas are already nearing peak capacity and incoming heavy rainfall will cause significant river flooding that may last for several weeks; and

WHEREAS, the incoming heavy rainfall, flooding, and gusty winds will cause widespread power outages due to downed trees and powerlines; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation is prepared to deploy resources to support the disaster response efforts related to Potential Tropical Cyclone Four.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JARED W. PERDUE, P.E., Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, hereby find that the Department of Transportation's timely performance of disaster response functions related to Potential Tropical Cyclone Four is hindered by the application of procedures imposed by statute, rule, or order.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order Nos. 24-156 and 24-157, I hereby:

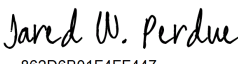
1. Waive and suspend the following rules and statutes: sections 316.515(1)-(3), 316.535(1) and (3), 316.545(2) and (4), 316.550(1), and 337.401(1)(a), Florida Statutes, and Rules 14-28.002(4) and (5), and 14-46.001(2), Florida Administrative Code, to the extent needed to allow the establishment of alternate size and weight restrictions for divisible loads on any vehicles transporting emergency equipment, services, supplies or personnel, or to transport FEMA mobile homes or office style mobile homes, and agricultural commodities and citrus as recommended by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and as needed to waive by special permit the warning signal requirements in the Utility Accommodation Manual to accommodate public utility companies from other jurisdictions to render assistance in restoring vital services, subject to the limitations expressed in Executive Orders 24-156 and 24-157.
2. Waive and suspend sections 112.061, 216.292, 216.313, 287.055, 287.056, 287.057(1)-(10), (12), (17), (20) and (25), 287.0823, 287.15, 337.02(2), 337.107, 337.11, 339.08, and

339.135(6), Florida Statutes, and Rules 60A-1.002, 60A-1.017, 60A-1.021, 60A-1.043, and 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, as they relate to leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, the conditions of employment and the compensation of employees, or the use of State Transportation Trust Funds off the State Highway System, to the extent necessary to ensure the timely performance of the Department of Transportation's disaster response functions as prescribed in the State Comprehensive Management Plan or as directed by the State Coordinating Officer.

3. In accordance with section 1 of Executive Order No. 24-156, as amended by Executive Order No. 24-157, the foregoing waivers and suspensions of statute are limited to Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton and Washington counties.
4. All actions taken by the Florida Department of Transportation with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Emergency Order are hereby ratified.

This order shall expire on August 16, 2024, the expiration or rescission of Executive Order Nos. 24-156, and 24-157, or my further order, whichever is earlier.

Effective Date: August 2, 2024

DocuSigned by:

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Jared W. Perdue, P.E., Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation