



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Scott: It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget Makes Historic Transportation Investments**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Governor Rick Scott today highlighted the It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget's strategic investment of \$10.1 billion to improve Florida's infrastructure – including the largest DOT work program in state history.

**Governor Scott said**, "Florida's infrastructure is ranked the best in the nation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. The It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget will help ensure we stay number one by fully-funding the Department of Transportation's Work Program at the highest level in state history. The Budget also includes more than \$139.3 million for development and enhancement of our seaports. We must build on the work we've started at our seaports to prepare for the post-Panama Canal expansion, which will create new job creation opportunities."

The It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget supports Governor Rick Scott's commitment to making important transportation investments with the following priorities:

- **Seaport Funding:** The It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget provides more than \$139.3 million to continue our state's commitment to develop and enhance Florida's 15 seaports.
- **DOT Work Program:** The It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget includes \$9.4 billion for the following proposed transportation projects:
  - Transportation Improvements:
    - \$4.1 billion for construction resulting in 311 additional lane miles of roadway;
    - \$610 million to resurface/reconstruct 2,923 lane miles of existing roadway;
    - \$193 million for repair of 68 bridges and replacement of 13 bridges;
    - \$139 million for seaport infrastructure improvements; and
    - \$337 million for aviation improvements.

- West Central Florida projects include:
  - \$52.7 million to improve the existing system-to-system interchange at the Turnpike Mainline and I-75 in Sumter County to provide additional capacity, reduce congestion and increase safety at the interchange.
  - \$89.5 million to add lanes and reconstruct I-75 (SR 93) from South of US 98/SR 50/Cortez to North of US 95/SR 50/Cortez in Hernando County to enhance commerce and provide interregional connectivity along one of the most critical corridors of the state from the Tampa Bay Region to the Georgia State line.
- East Central Florida projects include:
  - \$255 million to add lanes on Interstate 95 from 0.5 miles North of State Road 44 to 1.6 miles North of US 92 in Volusia County to increase safety and efficiency for merging, exiting and through-traffic in Daytona Beach.
  - \$108.4 million to construct a new, full system-to-system interchange on the Turnpike Mainline at SR 417 (Central Florida Greeneway) in Orange County to create high capacity access between the two systems.
- Southeast Florida projects include:
  - \$155 million to add lanes and reconstruct SR 821 from Bird Road to SR 836 (Dolphin Expressway) in Miami-Dade County to include express lanes and interchange improvements that will relieve congestion, enhance access and provide motorists with alternatives.
  - \$158.2 million to add managed lanes on I-95 from South of Broward Boulevard to Atlantic Avenue in Broward County to relieve congestion, provide alternate travel routes through congested urban areas and expand the regional managed lanes network in South Florida.
  - \$58 million to add lanes and reconstruct SR 997/Krome Avenue from SR 94/Kendall Drive to one mile North of SR 90/SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Miami-Dade County to provide additional capacity and enhance the safety and movement of people and goods.
  - \$90.3 million to construct a bridge on SR 90/Tamiami Trail from Milepost 13.868 to Milepost 24.618 (West of Krome Avenue) in Miami-Dade County via a partnership agreement with the National Park Service to remove existing ground level roadway and to provide an elevated structure for people and goods in order to

reestablish the natural sheet flow of water in this portion of the Everglades.

- Southwest Florida projects include:
  - \$32.7 million to add lanes and rehabilitate pavement on US 41 (SR 45) from Enterprise Drive to Sarasota County Line in Charlotte County to promote opportunities of growth and stability in this depressed area.
  - \$34.6 million to add lanes and rehabilitate pavement on US 17 from CR 760A (Nocatee) to Heard Street in Desoto County to promote opportunities of growth and stability in this corridor improving the movement of people and goods.
- Northeast Florida projects include:
  - \$179.5 million to add lanes and reconstruct I-295 (SR 9A) in Duval County from SR 202/J Turner Butler Boulevard to SR 9B (Managed Lanes) to increase traffic capacity, mobility of people and goods and to relieve congestion.
  - \$15.5 million to add lanes and reconstruct SR 21 (Blanding Boulevard) in Clay County from South of Branan Field to Old Jennings Road to directly support the First Coast Outer Expressway project and increases capacity and relieve congestion.
- Northwest Florida projects include:
  - \$95 million to add lanes and reconstruct SR 30 (US 98) at SR 368/23<sup>rd</sup> Street intersection Phase I and II in Bay County to relieve congestion with elevated eastbound and westbound roadways.
  - \$19 million to add lanes and reconstruct SR 77 from Clayton Road to North of Blue Lake in Washington County to provide four-laning of vital north-south corridor segment.

**Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Ananth Prasad said,** “I appreciate Governor Scott’s leadership in making transportation a priority. Governor Scott knows that good transportation infrastructure is a key ingredient for a thriving economy.”

**Florida Ports Council President Doug Wheeler said,** “The economic impact of Florida’s ports continues to grow under the remarkable leadership of Governor Scott and FDOT Secretary Prasad. With Florida ports now making up 13 percent of Florida’s GDP, the numbers prove that the state’s investment in port infrastructure is working to grow our economy and jobs. This year’s investments will further support our ports strategic enhancements aimed at solidifying Florida’s position as a global hub for international trade.”

**Florida Transportation Builders' Association President Bob Burleson said,** "Governor Scott consistently has shown he understands the importance of a good transportation system to Florida's continued economic growth. This Budget provides for the construction of projects that will allow Floridians to move about the state more quickly, move products to and from our ports and improve our quality of life, while also putting thousands of our citizens to work."

**Floridians for Better Transportation President Matthew D. Ubben said,** "We applaud the Florida Legislature for advancing Governor Scott's pro-transportation 2013-2014 Budget recommendations during the recently concluded 60-day legislative session. The \$9.5 billion dedicated to the transportation sector provides nearly \$8.6 billion for projects throughout the state and allows the Florida Department of Transportation to make good on the Governor's commitment to job creation."

**President of the Florida Concrete & Products Association Mike Murtha said,** "Governor Scott and his administration are to be applauded by creating a dynamic Budget that has moved our industry out of the darkness and into the dawn."

**Florida Transportation Commission Chairman Ron Howse said,** "Our state leadership has shown great vision that in order for Florida to remain strong, as well as encouraging the expansion of out-of-state company interests, supporting local businesses and families, and protecting our quality of life, it may only be accomplished by expanding and strengthening a viable public transportation network through roads, highways, airports, rail and waterways. The Florida Transportation Commission applauds Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature for their unwavering commitment of transportation funding in order to realize these economic development incentives and priorities which make Florida a better place to work and live."

**Florida MPO Advisory Council Executive Director Howard Glassman said,** "The Governor's increase in the state's transportation Budget supports needed improvements in Florida's metropolitan areas as recommended by a revenue study developed by the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council."

**Florida Public Transportation Association Executive Director Lisa M. Bacot said,** "On behalf of the members of the Florida Public Transportation Association and all public transit users in the State of Florida, we greatly appreciate Governor Scott and the Legislature's continued strong support for transit as shown in the 2013-2014 transportation Budget. With record ridership numbers continuing across the state, we look forward to expanding and improving the transit services we provide, which not only advances the economy in Florida, but also decreases the cost of living for its citizens."

**Bill Johnson, Executive Director of the Florida Airports Council said,** "I applaud Governor Scott for continuing to make Florida's aviation industry a top priority. The benefits of Florida's airports are far reaching. This investment will ensure they will be able to meet the needs of the communities and businesses they serve."

**Mark Wilson, President and CEO of the Florida Chamber of Commerce said,** “Governor Scott recognizes that every family and every business in Florida is impacted by transportation. I commend the Governor for his continued investments in Florida’s transportation infrastructure which are essential for future economic growth and making Florida more competitive.”

**Eric Eikenberg, CEO of the Everglades Foundation said,** “Governor Rick Scott’s approval of \$90 million for the construction of 2.6 miles of bridges along Tamiami Trail is a significant step forward in the restoration and protection of America’s Everglades. These bridges remove the man-made obstructions to the flow of water into Florida Bay and Everglades National Park. Returning the River of Grass to its natural southerly flow will have a major impact on improving the health of America’s Everglades.”

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